### **AMBER JAMES**

501 W. 189<sup>th</sup> St. Apt. 3H New York, NY 10040 amberyouthmusic@gmail.com 863.651.2494

## **EDUCATION**

Doctor of Musical Arts, Vocal Performance and Pedagogy
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Student of Dr. Maryann Kyle

Master of Music, Vocal Performance
University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia
Student of Dr. Gregory Broughton

Bachelor of Music Education, major concentration in Piano
Southern Wesleyan University, Central, South Carolina
Student of Jane Palmer Dill

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### **Private Voice and Piano Instructor**

New York, NY 2015

- Teach one-on-one voice and piano lessons to various ages and levels
- Workshop creator and presenter
- Student performance organizer

#### **Teaching Assistant**

University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

2012-2015

- Teach major and non-major voice lessons
- Accompany music majors
- Vocal Coach and accompanist for the University Theater and Dance Department
- Music Director and Camp Supervisor of the Theater Department's MMTE summer program (2013-2015)
- Assistant to Dr. Jay Dean, the Director of Orchestral Activities
   Projects include: compiling and designing the Natchez Festival of Music Program; fundraising material for Mississippi Opera; compiling and assisting in design of the symphony program; artist liason for Deborah Voigt

## **Private Piano and Voice Instructor**

Bass Memorial Academy, Purvis, Mississippi

2012-2015

Teach weekly private lessons in voice and piano

• Prepare students for semester recitals

#### **Church Pianist**

Woodland Presbyterian Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

2013-2015

 Play hymns, preludes, offertories, and postludes for Sunday morning, evening, and Wednesday night services

Music Director 2011-2012

Grace Lutheran School, Winter Haven, Florida

2004-2007

- Teach weekly music classes
- Direct middle school chorus, band, and guitar classes
- Entered middle school chorus in various competitions
- Direct and conduct all school spring musicals and Christmas programs
- Accompany Pre-school programs
- Conduct weekly chapel anthems
- Started the school's first Performing Arts Guild, an organization that raises money to fund activities which promote an understanding and appreciation of the arts
- Co-directed the school's annual Spring Arts Festival
- Directed the Drama Club

Staff Accompanist 2008-2011

Southern Wesleyan University, Central, South Carolina

- Accompany music majors in private lessons, weekly practice sessions and recitals
- Coach voice students

Staff Accompanist 2010-2011

Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina

- Accompany Men's and Women's Glee Choirs
- Accompany student showcases and recitals

#### **Church Choir Director**

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, Central, South Carolina

2009-2011

- Direct the church choir
- Lead congregational singing
- Schedule and participate in special music during services
- Responsible for all administrative duties pertaining to music

Church Musician 2007-2008

Greenville First Wesleyan Church, Greenville, South Carolina

- Play piano for worship services
- Accompany choir practice
- Direct some choir cantatas
- Youth leader during 2008

## Teacher

Lakeview Christian School, Pickens, South Carolina

2007-2008

- Teach 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade mixed academic class
   Direct school Christmas programs
- Direct end of school year programs
- Leader over groups of children in summer camp 2008-2010

# **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

| New York Summer Scenes   | New York, NY                       | 2017      |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| International Performing | Kiefersfelden, Germany             | 2013-2014 |
| Arts Institute           |                                    |           |
| Operafestival di Roma    | University of Florida, Rome, Italy | 2012      |
| Festival South Opera     | University of Southern Mississippi | 2011      |

# **PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE**

# **Vocal Solos/Recitals/Opera**

| Brünnhilde, <i>Götterdämmerung</i>     | New York Opera Forum                | 2017 |
|--|-------------------------------------|------|
| Doctoral Lecture Recital               | University of Southern Mississippi  | 2016 |
|  | New York City                       |      |
| Elisabetta, Don Carlo                  | New York Opera Forum                | 2016 |
| Leonore, Fidelio                       | New York Opera Forum                | 2016 |
| Amelia, Un Ballo in Maschera           | New York Opera Forum                | 2016 |
| Rosalinda, Die Fledermaus              | New York Opera Forum                | 2016 |
| Elettra, <i>Idomeneo</i>               | New York Opera Forum                | 2015 |
| Chrysothemis, <i>Elektra</i>           | New York Opera Forum                | 2015 |
| Hanna Glawari, The Merry Widow         | Southern Opera and Musical          | 2014 |
|  | Theatre Company                     |      |
| Doctoral Recital                       | University of Southern Mississippi  | 2014 |
|  | Works by Wagner, Handel, Massenet,  |      |
|  | Debussy, Puccini, Strauss, and Wolf |      |
| Fiordiligi, Così fan tutte             | Southern Opera and Musical          | 2013 |
|  | Theatre Company                     |      |
| Suor Angelica, Suor Angelica           | Operafestival di Roma               | 2012 |
| Second Lady, Die Zauberflöte           | Festival South Opera                | 2011 |
| Come Ye Sons of Art: alto              | Greater Anderson Musical Arts       | 2011 |
| Purcell                                | Consortium                          |      |
| Mass in C Major, mezzo-soprano         | Southern Wesleyan University        | 2011 |
| Beethoven                              |                                     |      |
| Duet Recital                           | Southern Wesleyan University        | 2011 |
| <b>Graduation Commencement Soloist</b> | University of Georgia               | 2010 |
|  |                                     |      |

| Graduate Voice Recital  Works by Bach, Schubert, Liszt, Copland, Puccini, and Moses Hogan Soloist, original composition By Zac Weaver, doctoral candidate When Peace Flows, doctoral candidate When Peace Flows, doctoral candidate When Peace Flows, doctoral recital Guest Soloist Vocal Recital  Southern Wesleyan University Works by Handel, Mozart, Schubert, Strauss, Ravel, and Menotti Baccalaureate Chapel  University Concert Band Program University Pops Concert Southern Wesleyan University Various music competitions  Southern Wesleyan University Works by Handel, Mozart, Schubert, Strauss, Ravel, and Menotti Southern Wesleyan University Works by Handel, Mozart, Schubert, Strauss, Ravel, and Menotti Southern Wesleyan University Works by Bach, Mozart, Schubert, Southern Wesleyan University Works By Bach, Mozart, Mala Program University Pops Concert Various music competitions  Southern Wesleyan University Works by Bach, Mozart, Kabalevsky, and Rachmaninoff Various music competitions  North Carolina, Florida, Ohio, South Carolina  Musical Theatre Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoot Quilters Lead Role Bye, Bye, Birdie Mrs. MacAfee Southern Wesleyan University Works Bye, Bye, Birdie Mrs. MacAfee Southern Wesleyan University Works Bye, Bye, Birdie Mrs. MacAfee Southern Wesleyan University Works Bye, Bye, Birdie Mrs. MacAfee Southern Wesleyan University Works Bye, Bye, Birdie Mrs. MacAfee Rockingham County High School  Accompanying Tosca (brass parts) Mississippi Opera Accompanying Tosca (brass parts) Mississippi Opera The Music Man  Morestity of Southern Mississippi The Music Man  |                       |              |                                 |           |
|--|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Messiah, mezzo-soprano<br>Soloist, original composition<br>By Zac Weaver, doctoral candidate<br>When Peace Flows, doctoral recital<br>Guest Soloist<br>Vocal RecitalSouthern Wesleyan University<br>Greenville Concert Band<br>Works by Handel, Mozart, Schubert,<br>Strauss, Ravel, and Menotti2009<br>2008Baccalaureate ChapelSouthern Wesleyan University<br>Works by Handel, Mozart, Schubert,<br>Strauss, Ravel, and Menotti2004University Concert Band Program<br>University Pops Concert<br>International Crusade Service<br>Various music competitionsSouthern Wesleyan University<br>Morth Carolina, Florida, Ohio,<br>South Carolina2003<br>2003<br>2003<br>2004Piano Recitals/Solos<br>Senior Undergraduate Recital<br>Various music competitionsSouthern Wesleyan University<br>Morth Carolina, Florida, Ohio,<br>South Carolina2003<br>2003<br>2003<br>2003<br>2004<br>2003<br>2004<br>2005<br>2006<br>2007<br>2008<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009<br>2009 <br< td=""><td>Graduate Voice Recit</td><td>al</td><td>Works by Bach, Schubert, Liszt,</td><td>2010</td></br<>  | Graduate Voice Recit  | al           | Works by Bach, Schubert, Liszt, | 2010      |
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| Godspell Lead Role Southern Wesleyan University 2000 Dr. Newhart's Dr. Newhart Shady Grove Wesleyan Church 1998 Christmas Cure Bye, Bye, Birdie Mrs. MacAfee Rockingham County High School 1998  Accompanying Tosca (brass parts) Mississippi Opera 2015 Assassins University of Southern Mississippi 2013 Theater Department The Music Man Southern Wesleyan University 2011  | •                     |              | •                               |           |
| Dr. Newhart's<br>Christmas Cure<br>Bye, Bye, BirdieDr. NewhartShady Grove Wesleyan Church1998Accompanying<br>Tosca (brass parts)Mississippi Opera<br>University of Southern Mississippi<br>Theater Department2015<br>2013<br>2011The Music ManSouthern Wesleyan University2011   |                       |              | •                               |           |
| Christmas Cure Bye, Bye, Birdie Mrs. MacAfee Rockingham County High School 1998  Accompanying Tosca (brass parts) Mississippi Opera 2015 Assassins University of Southern Mississippi 2013 Theater Department The Music Man Southern Wesleyan University 2011  | •                     |              | •                               |           |
| Bye, Bye, BirdieMrs. MacAfeeRockingham County High School1998Accompanying<br>Tosca (brass parts)Mississippi Opera<br>University of Southern Mississippi<br>Theater Department2015<br>2013<br>Theater DepartmentThe Music ManSouthern Wesleyan University2011   |                       | Dr. Newhart  | Shady Grove Wesleyan Church     | 1998      |
| AccompanyingTosca (brass parts)Mississippi Opera2015AssassinsUniversity of Southern Mississippi<br>Theater Department2013The Music ManSouthern Wesleyan University2011   |                       |              |                                 |           |
| Tosca (brass parts)  Assassins University of Southern Mississippi Theater Department  The Music Man  Mississippi Opera 2015 2013 Theater Department 2011   | Bye, Bye, Birdie      | Mrs. MacAfee | Rockingham County High School   | 1998      |
| Assassins University of Southern Mississippi Theater Department Southern Wesleyan University 2013 2013 2014  | Accompanying          |              |                                 |           |
| Theater Department  The Music Man  Southern Wesleyan University  2011  |                       |              | • • •                           |           |
| The Music Man Southern Wesleyan University 2011  | Assassins             |              |                                 | 2013      |
| •  |                       |              | •                               |           |
|  |                       |              | •                               |           |
| Grease Oconee Community Theater 2010   | Grease                |              | Oconee Community Theater        | 2010      |

| Pirates of Penzance    | Southern Wesleyan University     | 2010 |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|------|
| SWUsical               | Southern Wesleyan University     | 2009 |
| Kismet                 | Clemson Little Theater           | 2008 |
| Joseph and the Amazing | Southern Wesleyan University     | 2008 |
| Technicolor Dreamcoat  |                                  |      |
| The Sound of Music     | Oconee Community Theater         | 2007 |
| Kneel at the Manger    | Greenville First Wesleyan Church | 2008 |
| The Wizard of Oz       | Star/Iva Middle School           | 2002 |
| Annie Get Your Gun     | Rockingham County Theater        | 1999 |

# **MUSICALS CONDUCTED AND DIRECTED**

2014

Joseph and the Amazing Hattiesburg Civic Light Opera

| Technicolor Dreamcoat      | (Music Director and Orchestra Conductor) |      |
|----------------------------|--|------|
| L.O.S.T.                   | Grace Lutheran School                    | 2012 |
| God of Wonders             | Grace Lutheran School                    | 2011 |
| Follow the Star            | Grace Lutheran School                    | 2011 |
| The Music Man              | Southern Wesleyan University             | 2011 |
|                            | (Assistant Music Director)               |      |
| Grease                     | Oconee Community Theater                 | 2010 |
| Pirates of Penzance        | Southern Wesleyan University             | 2010 |
|                            | (Assistant Music Director)               |      |
| Joseph and the Amazing     | Clemson Little Theater                   | 2009 |
| Technicolor Dreamcoat      | (Music Director)                         |      |
| SWUsical                   | Southern Wesleyan University             | 2009 |
|                            | (Assistant Music Director)               |      |
| God of Wonders             | Lakeview Christian School                | 2008 |
| Christmas Around the World | Lakeview Christian School                | 2008 |
| Kismet                     | Clemson Little Theater                   | 2008 |
|                            | (Music Director)                         |      |
| Joseph and the Amazing     | Southern Wesleyan University             | 2008 |
| Technicolor Dreamcoat      | (Assistant Music Director)               |      |
| Fear Not Factor            | Lakeview Christian School                | 2007 |
| The Sound of Music         | Oconee Community Theater                 | 2007 |
|                            | (Assistant Music Director)               |      |
| Good News Cruise           | Grace Lutheran School                    | 2007 |
| Annie Jr. Broadway         | Grace Lutheran Drama Club                | 2007 |
|                            | (Co-director)                            |      |
| Stranger in the Manger     | Grace Lutheran School                    | 2006 |
| Come, Lord Jesus           | Grace Lutheran School                    | 2006 |
|                            |  |      |

| Joseph: From the Pit to the Palace | Grace Lutheran School | 2006 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|------|
| Away in A Manger                   | Grace Lutheran School | 2005 |
| The Trees of Christmas             | Grace Lutheran School | 2005 |
| Power Play                         | Grace Lutheran School | 2005 |
| Journey to Bethlehem               | Grace Lutheran School | 2004 |
| Ring Out the Good News             | Grace Lutheran School | 2004 |

# **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Awarded a Graduate Teaching Assistantship at the University of Southern Mississippi Graduated Cum Laude Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges Received 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Regional NATS in Maryland in 2000 1<sup>st</sup> place at Central Florida NATS in 2012