

Christopher G Keene (Topher Keene)

[LinkedIn](#)

Phone: (207) 233-8301

TopherKeene@gmail.com

TopherKeene.com

Education

- Masters in Education: Instructional Design – Western Governor’s University** **ABD**
- Graduate Kodály Certification: Level III – New England Conservatory – GPA: 4.0** **2008-2010**
Studied advanced Aural Skills, Conducting, and Pedagogy incorporating the Kodaly Philosophy of Music Education.
- Bachelor’s of Music Education: Voice - University Of Maine – GPA: 3.78 - *Summa cum Laude*** **2006-2010**

Honors and Professional Memberships

- MENSA** (Top 2% IQ Internationally)
Triple 9 Society (Top 0.1% IQ Internationally)
SAT: 2300
ACT: 35
- ACDA:** American Choral Director’s Association
NAfME: National Association for Music Education
OAKE: Organization of American Kodály Educators
National: Chair of Membership and Tech. Comm.
AZ Branch of OAKE: President
Toastmasters International: Competent Communicator

Business | Consulting | Media

- Phoenix Boys Choir – Director of Education | BoysChoir.org/Education** **2017-Present**
Delivering workshops for students and teachers in dozens of schools across Arizona. Leading recruitment efforts for the world-renown Grammy Award winning Phoenix Boys Choir and directing one of their Neighborhood Choir programs.
- Choir Unlimited Publishing – Co-Founder and CEO | ChoirUnlimited.com** **2015-Present**
Along with partner Christian Giddings, Choir Unlimited Publishing was created to empower choral musicians, educators, and composers to come together and improve the world of music education. Specializing in *Flex Pieces*, a special style of choral arrangement that is adaptable to unison, 2 part, 3 part, and SATB choruses, Choir Unlimited Publishing offers a radical membership model where teachers, schools, choirs, and churches can gain unlimited access to the full catalogue for an affordable monthly or yearly fee.
- Embark – Co-Founder and Lead Coach | EmbarkTogether.com** **2014-Present**
Startup focused on career coaching and personal/professional development for emerging adults.
- Cleaver Company - Learning and Development | CleaverCompany.com** **2014-Present**
Right hand to CEO, head of Learning and Development team leading research and curriculum development around sales, leadership, and best practices in corporate training and education. Created a new diagnostic tool and coaching program around learning styles and developmental skills. Currently contracted as resident Instructional Design/Curriculum specialist.

For more information please visit: TopherKeene.com

Choral Conducting

Artistic Director – Simple A Cappella Sweet Adeline’s Chorus **2017-Present**

A competition chorus of approximately 30 female barbershop singers.

Artistic Director – Fountain of the Sun Community Choir **2016-Present**

Mixed chorus of age 55+ singers based in Fountain of the Sun Retirement Community. Built choir from 35 members to 60 in first season, projected to more than 80 members for '17-'18 season. Premiered several works by living composers. Multiple sold-out (360+ seats) concerts each season.

Co-Director – Sounds of the Mouth Men’s Ensemble/Women’s Ensemble/Vocal Collective **2015-Present**

Men’s, Women’s, and mixed ensembles of ~50 college age students focusing on barbershop and contemporary choral music. (Gold Medals in Harmony International Midwinter Youth Barbershop Festival 2016: Men’s, 2017: Women’s)

Festival Conductor – Maine District III Elementary Honors Festival **2012-2016**

Led 100 elite 4th/5th graders from multiple school districts in a full day honors festival and concert four years in a row.

Founding Director – Dover Youth Chorale **2012-2014**

Formed and built a 20-voice K-12 community choir, in charge of youth music program

Choir Director – Dover Sherborn Regional High School **2011-2013**

Rebuilt a program that had been removed due to budget cuts, doubled enrollment first semester, tripled in first year.

Conducting Apprentice – Berkshire Choral Festival **Summer 2011**

Highly competitive 4-Week paid apprenticeship under the guidance of internationally acclaimed conductors and musicians.

Musical Theatre Music Directing

Music Director – Phoenix Theatre Summer Camp **2016-Present**

Direct, Coach, and Accompany ~35 students per week in musical theatre productions.

Age groups include 8-10 year olds and 6-8 year olds.

Shows include “The Little Mermaid”, “Matilda”, “The Wizard of Oz”, and “A Year with Frog and Toad”

Music Director/Vocal Coach – Act One Youth Theatre, Pinnacle Creative Arts, etc. **2016-Present**

Direct, Coach, and Accompany small to medium musical theatre productions for community theatres in the valley.

Shows include “Elf Jr.”, “Annie Get Your Gun”

Musical Theatre Director – Dover Sherborn Regional High School and Middle School **2011-2013**

Double-Cast Productions with full orchestra include “West Side Story”, “Carousel”, and “Children of Eden”.

Music Director – Open Fields Community Theatre **2011-2013**

Responsible for music and vocal coaching for 130-member musical theatre cast ranging from elementary age to adults.

Productions include “Wizard of Oz”, “Broadway Rocks!” and “13!”

For more information please visit: TopherKeene.com

Conferences | Festivals | Speaking

Raise Every Voice: Strategies for Teaching "Tone Deaf", "Droners", and "Non-Singers"

Presented in Pennsylvania at Organization of American Kodály Educators' Eastern Division Conference.

Directing Your First Musical

Presented at University of Massachusetts Lowell

Singing Through Shame: Overcoming Bullying and Building Self-Esteem With Singing

Presented at Rockland Middle School in Maine

Community Sings

Leading group singing with "non-singing" amateur audiences ranging from small groups to crowds of thousands.

Aural Literacy: Teaching the Language of Music Through Solfège

Presented at Massachusetts and Maine Music Educator's Conference, Boston Kodály Music Institute, and ACDA Voices United Conference in Virginia.

Big Sing! Connecting Communities through Group Singing in the Aural Tradition

Presented at Massachusetts and Maine Music Educator's Conference.

Undergraduate Conducting Masterclass

Presented at Maine Music Educator's Conference.

Nurturing Your Artistic Child

Presented at homes of parents, churches, schools and community organizations.

Vocal Performance Highlights

Worship Leader – Spirit of Hope Lutheran Church

Performed as pianist and vocal soloist leading worship in a ~80 person congregation.

2017-Present

Tenor – GoodeTimes Carolers

Performed in quartets as a tenor with the premiere Christmas Caroling Company in AZ.

2016-Present

Tenor/Baritone Section Leader & Featured Soloist – Love of Christ Lutheran Church

Performed as a tenor and baritone in multiple Cantatas and other church musical productions.

2015-Present

Tenor & Featured Soloist – Ktizo UCC Church

Performed as a tenor in multiple music productions, as well as several solo performances and recitals.

2013-Present

Tenor & Featured Soloist – Boston Symphony Orchestra Tanglewood Festival Chorus

Performed as a tenor with the official chorus of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in dozens of performances including the Christmas shows, Verdi Requiem, and other masterworks.

2014-2015

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Teaching

Private Coach – Voice/Conducting/Aural Skills/Beginning Piano 2005-Present
Coached hundreds of students in building their confidence, performance, and communication skills through music.

Private Tutor – Math/Chemistry/Test-Anxiety/SAT Prep 2005-Present
Helped hundreds of students raise grades, prepare for exams, and improve standardized test scores

Mini Music Makers Instructor – Musical Instrument Museum 2015-Present
Early Childhood music instructor for parents and children in small classes of less than 15 children.
Age ranges include 3 months – 1 year, 1-3 years, and 3-5 years.
Each month's curriculum is from a different World Music tradition including US, Africa, Asia, South America, etc.

High School Chorus/Music Theory– Mesa Preparatory Academy, Mesa AZ 2013-2014
Mesa Preparatory Academy is a charter school in the Great Hearts school system.
Responsible for mandatory music theory/history/choir classes for all enrolled 9th and 10th grade students.

High School Chorus, HS/MS Musical Theatre – Dover-Sherborn Regional Schools, MA 2011-2013
Dover-Sherborn is ranked the #1 academic public high school in MA by Boston Magazine. The choral program was removed due to budget cuts before my hire, rebuilt choral program from 7 students to 16 in first two weeks of the semester, increased to 25 in first year. Responsible for High School chorus and middle/high school musical theatre programs.

Middle School Math – Dover Sherborn Regional School System, Dover MA 2011-2012
Responsible for Title 1 math instruction at the eighth grade level. Created curriculum designed to improve performance on MCAS (State standardized test) with demonstrable results.

Adjunct Voice Faculty – Dover-Sherborn/Newton Community Extension, MA 2011-2013
Taught classes in singing, theory, and careers in music through multiple adult learning extensions.

References

Josie Torres
President of Fountain of the Sun Retirement Community Choir.
sheboxer5401@yahoo.com

Nathan Richard
High School Choir/Music/Orchestra Teacher, Musical Theatre Director, Composer, professional colleague, collaborated on multiple projects.
Nathan.D.Richard@gmail.com

Christian Giddings
Music Teacher, Former student, DMA in Choral Conducting at University of Arizona. Cofounder of UnNamed Publishing.
GiddingsCC2@Yahoo.com

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