

David M. Upham

~ Curriculum Vitæ ~

Personal/Contact Information

12 Littlehale Road
Durham, NH 03824
uphamd@gmail.com
425/442-6538

Wife – Elsa Upham
Daughter – Louisa
Son – Gabriel

Educational Background

Doctor of Musical Arts, Instrumental Conducting; June 2007
Principal Teacher: Peter Erös
University of Washington; Seattle, Washington

Post-graduate study (towards a Doctor of Arts Degree), Orchestral Conducting
Principal Teachers: Dr. David MacKenzie, Germán Gutiérrez
University of Northern Colorado; Greeley, Colorado

Master of Music, Orchestral Conducting; August 1995
Principal Teachers: Dr. David MacKenzie, Germán Gutiérrez
University of Northern Colorado; Greeley, Colorado

Bachelor of Arts: Music; July 1992
Luther College; Decorah, Iowa

Primary Instrument: Trombone

Professional Experience

Director of Orchestral Activities (Asst. Prof.), Univ. of New Hampshire, August 2010 – present

- Rehearse and conduct the University Symphony Orchestra in performances.
- Responsible for all aspects of program management including budget and recruiting.
- Initiated and developed collaborative performances with the UNH Opera Workshop, UNH Choral Program, and UNH Dance Department (ballet).
- Serve on search committees and the Recruiting, Retention, & Scholarship committee.
- Organized the UNH Fall Orchestra Festival in 2011, 2013, and 2015-17, in partnership with NH-ASTA. Responsible for most aspects of the festival from recruiting, to formation of the orchestras, repertoire and part preparation, festival logistics, etc. Attracted nearly 100 high school students to the UNH in Fall 2017.
- Initiate and administer all recruiting activities for the string department.
- Organized the 2015-2017 String Teachers Conferences at UNH, in conjunction with NH-ASTA. Arranged presenters, organized conference logistics, publicity, and more.
- Teach courses in music theory (non-majors), orchestration, music appreciation, and orchestral/string methods. Teach independent studies as needed/requested.
- Teach graduate conducting to students with both wind and orchestral emphases.
- Attend and participate in all required faculty and College of Liberal Arts meetings.

Founding Music Director, UNH Youth Symphony Orchestras, August 2013 – present

- Responsible for the launch of the university's youth orchestra program, from conception through organizing, recruiting potential students, arranging for auditions, programming, publicizing, and more.
- Serve as Music Director for the program and as conductor for the Concert Orchestra, (grades 4-8), and Symphony Orchestra, (grades 8-12).
- Provide instruction during weekly planning and pedagogical meetings to UNH music education majors who serve as youth symphony coaches.
- Communicate with all constituents from parents to UNH colleagues and staff.
- From its beginning in the Fall of 2013, the youth symphony program has grown to include nearly 70 string students across three orchestras, and regularly performs both string and full orchestra repertoire.

Conductor, Great Bay Philharmonic Orchestra (GBPO)

- Conducted the inaugural performance of the GBPO, a fully-professional orchestra in the Seacoast region of New Hampshire.
- Wrote program notes for the concert program, as well as performed interviews for print and radio (online) media.
- Performed various administrative tasks in collaboration with the concert organizer and promoter, David Wold Associates, LLC, including discussion about future seasons and concert performances.

Summer Festivals and Academies

- Summer Youth Music School (University of New Hampshire), 2010-present. Conduct the SYMS Orchestra and String Orchestra during the high school festival. SYMS is a program run by the UNH Music Department.
- Lutheran Summer Music Academy, 2010-2016. Conducted the LSM Festival Orchestra, coached chamber music ensembles, taught musicianship and conducting courses, and participated in Academy meetings and activities. The LSM Academy is a month-long festival for high school aged students that is held in the Midwest.
- Vivace Chamber Players, 2008-2012. Conducted the Vivace Senior Orchestra (middle and high school students) and Junior Orchestra (ages 8 to middle school), coach chamber music.

Music Director, Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra (Seattle, WA); 2007 – 2010

- Selected repertoire, conducted rehearsals and performances. Worked with Orchestra Manager to set rehearsal and performance schedule. Worked with Personnel Manager to recruit and audition musicians. Determined seating of musicians.
- Worked with the staff of the Bainbridge Performing Arts (BPA) on matters pertaining to publicity, development, and budget maintenance.
- Acted as advocate for the arts and served as liaison to the broader community.
- In first season, reached out to significant music organizations in the community (the Bainbridge Island Youth Orchestra and Bainbridge Chorale) by organizing collaborative concerts with both ensembles.
- Developed the Opera Gala concert to close the 35th Anniversary Season, including the selection of vocal soloists, working with the Bainbridge Chorale, authoring a script for the Master of Ceremonies, and addressing production and equipment needs.
- Engaged local students of all ages in the "Student Art at the Symphony" program, featuring drawings and artwork inspired by Edward Elgar's *Wand of Youth Suites*.

Associate Conductor, Rainier Symphony Orchestra, Tukwila, WA; March 2009 – May 2010

- Prepared all scores to assist or cover the Music Director at rehearsals or performances.
- The Rainier Symphony Orchestra is one of the premiere community orchestras in the region. Repertoire at that time included Mahler's *Symphony No.2*, *Firebird Suite (1919)*, *La Mer*, and Strauss's *Eine Alpensinfonie*.

Orchestra Director & Classroom Instructor, Seattle Conservatory of Music, Seattle, WA; August 2009 – June 2010

- Music director and conductor of the "Young Virtuosi" Chamber Orchestra.
- Recruited top students to be placed in the chamber orchestra.
- Taught courses in ear training and music history.
- Taught private conducting lessons, integrating score reading, score analysis and baton technique into a comprehensive program.

Orchestra Director, Newport High School, Bellevue, WA; August 2003 – June 2008

- Conductor of three orchestras.
- Expanded orchestra from 80 to nearly 120 students in two years.
- Led orchestra to 1st place finish in Northwest Orchestra Festival in March 2004, 2005, 2007 and 2008, and 2nd place in 2006. The Newport Chamber Orchestra won 2nd place in the 2005 Washington State Ensemble Contest and 1st place in 2006.
- Arranged and led two Fall Retreats annually. Arranged and led tours to Anaheim, CA (2004 & 2006), and a tour to New York City (2008).
- Organized annual fundraisers in collaboration with orchestra boosters, including "Knights in Vienna," an evening of dancing and musical performances.
- Taught AP Music Theory course. Course syllabus for 2007-08 was adopted by Collegeboard as a "model curriculum" to be featured in future training publications.
- Participated in district-level development of the orchestral curriculum, Honors Music curriculum, and Music History curriculum and assessments.
- Led a \$45,000 fundraising drive to purchase a Boston grand piano for the new PAC.

Conductor, Classical Orchestra; March 2003 – June 2007. Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestras

- Selected repertoire, auditioned membership, conducted rehearsals and performances.
- Organized and conducted the Classical Orchestra's annual Concerto Competition.
- Expanded the orchestra's range of repertoire and number of performances.
- Actively participated in board meetings, staff meetings, and all conductor meetings.
- Served as cover/substitute conductor for rehearsals of all orchestras, including the organization's flagship ensemble, the Youth Symphony Orchestra.
- Served on the conducting and administrative staff (Chamber Music Coordinator) of SYSO's Marrowstone Summer Music festival in July and August, 2006.
- Participated in numerous fundraising events and initiatives.

Conductor, Debut Symphony Orchestra; January 2001 – June 2003. SYSO

- Selected repertoire, auditioned orchestra membership, conducted all rehearsals and performances, including appearances in Benaroya Hall and Meany Hall.

Orchestra Director, Kent School District; August 1998 - 2003

Kentridge High School, Meeker Jr. High School, and Lake Youngs Elementary.

- Music director and conductor/instructor for 5 ensembles, grades 5-12.
- Music director and conductor of musical theater performances.
- Organized and participated in district-wide orchestra festivals and activities.
- Arranged and led tours to Los Angeles and Hawaii.

Music Director, Georgetown Gilbert and Sullivan Society; January - March, 1998
Georgetown University Law Center; Washington, D.C.

- Music director and conductor, *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

Music Director, Little Theater of the Rockies; Summers 1995, 1996
University of Northern Colorado; Greeley, Colorado.

- Music director and conductor of Stephen Sondheim's *Company*.
- Music director of *Forever Plaid*. Chorusmaster for *The King and I*.

Graduate Assistant, University Orchestras; August, 1993 to May, 1996
University of Northern Colorado; Greeley, Colorado.

- Music director and principle conductor, University Sinfonietta.
- Assistant conductor, University Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra.
- Librarian, Personnel manager, Productions manager, and Publicity assistant.
- Assistant Director, UNC Orchestra's annual "Weekend for Strings" honors festival.

Interim Instructor of Instrumental Music (Wind/Percussion); January to May, 1993
Price Laboratory School, University of Northern Iowa; Cedar Falls, Iowa.

- Served as music director of four ensembles, and taught private and group lessons.

Related/Other Experience

Guest Conducting Engagements:

- Massachusetts Eastern District M.S. Honors Orchestra, March 2017
- Massachusetts Southeast District H.S. Honors Orchestra, January 2017
- Connecticut MEA Middle School Festival Orchestra, March 2016
- Maine District 2 Music Festival Orchestra Conductor, January 2106
- Massachusetts Central District High School Honors Orchestra, January 2016
- New Hampshire All-State Chamber String Ensemble, January 2016
- Alabama ASTA Honors String Festival, November 2014
- Hays Symphony Orchestra, September 2014
- South Central New Hampshire Middle School Orchestra Festival, May 2013
- Massachusetts Northeast District Junior Honors Orchestra, March 2013
- New Hampshire All-State Orchestra, April 2012
- Maine District 1 Music Festival Orchestra Conductor, January 2012
- New Hampshire All-State Chamber String Ensemble, January 2012
- Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra, Guest Conductor, June 2011
- Festival *Aujourd'hui Musiques* (Perpignan, France); November, 2008

Guest Conducting Engagements, cont.:

- Emerald Ballet Theater (Tchaikovsky: *The Nutcracker*), December 2008
- Ballet Bellevue; December, 2007 (Blake: *The Snowman*); also December 2008
- Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra; April 2007, April 2006 and May 2005
- Western Kansas Orchestra Festival; November, 2006
- Marrowstone Summer Music (Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra); August, 2006
- Northwest Mahler Festival reading session; June, 2006
- Marrowstone-In-The-City Camp (Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra); August 2001

Adjudicating/Clinician Engagements:

- Massachusetts Music Educator' Conference Presenter (4 sessions), March 2017
- Massachusetts Instrumental & Choral Conductor Assn.'s Festival, April 2013-17
- NHMEA Large Group Orchestra Festival (NH), March 2011
- Manchester's Queen City Festival (NH), Orchestra Contest, March 2011
- Performing Arts Festival Eastside (WA) Contest Playoffs, April 2010
- WMEA Eastshore League Region (WA) M.S. Orchestra Festival, March 2010
- WMEA Olympic League Region (WA) H.S. & M.S. Orchestra Festival, March 2010
- Central Washington University Orchestra Festival; March 2009
- WMEA Sno-King Music Region (WA) H.S. Orchestra Festival; March 2009
- WMEA Sno-King Music Region (WA) M.S. Honors Orchestra; January, 2009
- WMEA Green River Music Region (WA) H.S. Orchestra Festival; May 2008
- Northshore School District (WA) M.S. Orchestra Festival; May 2008
- Utah State Fair Woodwind/Brass/Percussion Solo Adjudicator; August, 2007 & 2005
- WMEA Green River Music Region (WA) M.S. Orchestra Festival; May 2006
- Northshore School District (WA) M.S. Orchestra Festival; May 2006
- WMEA Eastshore Music Region (WA) H.S. Orchestra Festival; March 2003

Other Related Experience:

- Curriculum Developer (Orchestra, Music History, Honors) – Bellevue School District

Professional Honors and Awards

As Conductor/Music Director:

- 2017 – Carlo A Sperati Award for Outstanding Achievement in Instrumental Music.
Granted by Luther College (Decorah, IA)
- 2013 – Conducting Fellow, Allentown (PA) Symphony Orchestra
- 2008 – Northwest Orchestra Festival: Three 1st Place Awards, Newport H.S.
- 2007 – Northwest Orchestra Festival: 1st Place (Div. IV) and 3rd Place (Div II) – Newport H.S.
- 2006 – WMEA State Contest: Large String Ensemble, 1st Place – Select Chamber Orchestra
- 2006 – Northwest Orchestra Festival: 2nd Place (Div. III) and 3rd Place (Div. II) – Newport H.S.
- 2005 – WMEA State Contest: 2nd Place (Large String Ens.), 3rd Place (Small String Ens.)
- 2005 – Northwest Orchestra Festival: 1st Place (Div. III) – Newport H.S.
- 2004 – Northwest Orchestra Festival: 1st Place (Div. III) – Newport H.S.

Professional Development

Conducting workshops:

- 2012 *Beyond the Baton Seminar* with the Norwalk Symphony (CT), led by Diane Wittry
- 2010 *Workshop at the Conductors Guild Annual Conference*, Royal Danish Academy of Music (Copenhagen), with Jorma Panula and Giancarlo Andretta
- 2009 *California Conducting Institute*, with John Farrer and Don Thulean
- 2009 *Conducting Masterclass at Ithaca College*, with Maestro Alexander Polishchuck of the St. Petersburg (Russia) Conservatory
- 2009 *Conducting Symposium at the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra*, with Maestri Alexander Mickelthwate, Larry Rachleff, and Carl Topilow
- 2004 *Conductor's Institute at Bard College*, with Harold Farberman, Apo Hsu, Karen Lynn Deal, Guillermo Figueroa, and Ramon Harvey

Conducting workshops, cont.:

- 2002 *Cabrillo Music Festival Conductor's Workshop*, with Gustav Meier and Marin Alsop
- 1997 *Hot Springs Music Festival*. Conducting Apprenticeship. Mentoring with festival Music Director, Richard Rosenberg. Performed Dvorak's string and wind serenades with the festival chamber ensembles
- 1996 *Schweitzer Institute of Music*. Sandpoint, Idaho, with Gunther Schuller
- 1996 *Conducting masterclass with Marin Alsop*, on Copland: "Appalachian Spring"

Research/Scholarly Activities:

- The Lesser-Known Orchestral Works of Vaclav Nelhybel.
 - Researching and analyzing the works of Vaclav Nelhybel, a Czech immigrant to the United States in the 1950s. Nelhybel embraced composing for student orchestras as well as professional ensembles. Few of his orchestral works are widely-known or performed.
 - Compiling a list of all known orchestral works, in collaboration with the composer's widow, Dorothea Nelhybel.
 - Publications planned for the near future include articles focused on the compositional structure of Nelhybel's orchestral works and their value to orchestras of varying difficulty levels, authoritative performing editions of scores and parts, and a CD of recordings of selected works.
- Arrangements for educational orchestras:
 - Rimsky-Korsakov: *Capriccio espagnole*. An abridged version of the original work with two levels of difficulty in the string parts.
 - Dvorak: Quartet in F major, "American", finale. An unabridged and un-simplified version with modifications made for orchestral performance.
 - Rimsky-Korsakov: *Russian Easter Overture*. An abridged version of the original work with two levels of difficulty in the string parts.
- Article: "String Teaching for the Non-String Player". New Hampshire Music Educators Association publication, *Quarter Notes*, (awaiting publication).

Research/Scholarly Activities, cont.:

- Topics for Doctoral General Examination:
 - § Conducting Baton Technique – Exercises and system for analysis.
 - § Conducting Literature Review – Analysis of five modern conducting textbooks.
 - § Intonation Tendencies of Modern Orchestral Wind and Brass Instruments.
 - § Orchestration Literature Review – Analysis of five orchestration textbooks.
 - § Instrumentation Literature Review – Analysis of five instrumentation textbooks.
 - § Music Theory Literature Review – Analysis of the sections on diatonic harmony of five modern music theory textbooks.
 - § Music Theory Literature Review – Analysis of the sections on chromatic harmony of five modern music theory textbooks.
 - § Presentation of an outline of Berhard Ziehn’s treatise, *Five- and Six-Part Harmonies, and How to Use Them*, and a comparison of its approach to that of the same author’s *A Manual of Harmony*.
 - § An analysis of H.P. Robert Platz’s composition for unaccompanied violin, *Ikar*.
 - § Olivier Messiaen’s influence on the compositions of Toru Takemitsu.
 - § The spiritual aspects of Gustav Mahler’s worldview, and its impact on his work.
 - § Principles of Programming for Youth and Educational Orchestras.
 - § Rehearsal Planning for Youth and Educational Orchestras.
 - § Presentation of a System for Integrating Instruction on Music History into a High School Instrumental Music Program.
 - § Presentation of a Method for Teaching Phrasing – The technique of “note grouping” was presented as a method of drawing expressiveness from young performers.
 - DMA Thesis Topic: “Mahler, The Mystic” – An examination of the life and works of Gustav Mahler through the filter of recent research on mysticism, in an attempt to deepen the understanding of Mahler’s religious or spiritual beliefs.
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Affiliations and Memberships:

- || Secretary of Executive Board, American String Teachers Association (NH chapter)
- || String Council Member, National Association for Music Education (NH chapter)

Secondary Languages:

- || French – Conversational speech
- || German – Foundation in conversational speech and reading proficiency