

## Meet the Fort Lewis College Voice, Choral, and Music Theatre Faculty



**Dr. Brendan Barker** serves as Director of Choral Activities at Fort Lewis College. Originally from Philadelphia, he holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Music from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign where he pursued a cognate in Historical Music Theory division.

Prior to his work at UIUC, he served as Director of Music and Organist at Holy Trinity Catholic Parish (Robinson Township, PA) as well as Adjunct Professor at Duquesne University’s Mary Pappert School of Music where he conducted the Pappert Men’s Chorale. Brendan holds a Master of Sacred Music degree from the University of Notre Dame and a Bachelor of Science in Music Education degree from Duquesne University. As a conductor, Brendan has studied with Andrew Megill (UIUC), Andrea Solya (UIUC), Carmen-Helena Téllez (University of Notre Dame), Nancy Menk (St. Mary’s College), Jan Harrington (Indiana University), and Christine Jordanoff (Duquesne University). In addition to choral music, his professional interests include early music transcription, keyboard restoration, and basso continuo.

**Dr. Wesley Dunnagan** serves as Assistant Professor of Music at Fort Lewis College.



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*Caius*), *Così fan tutte* (Ferrando), *Don Giovanni* (Don Ottavio), *Der Schauspieldirektor* (Vogelsang), *Gianni Schicchi* (Rinuccio), Henry Cowell’s *The Commission* (Jonathan), and the world premiere of Giancarlo Aquilanti’s *First Night at the Opera* (Jonathan). A passionate recitalist, he has presented diverse art song repertoire and chamber music from Medieval to contemporary works.

Wesley received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Voice and Opera at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he was also a Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellow in Italian. He holds a Bachelor of the Arts with Distinction in German Studies and Music from Stanford University and a Master of Sacred Music from the University of Notre Dame. In addition, he spent a year as a DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Scholar at the Berlin University of the Arts, where he studied under Berliner Kammersänger Peter Maus of the Deutsche Oper Berlin.

**Dr. Michael McKelvey** is Director of Musical Theatre at FLC. Before coming to The Fort, he served as the Artistic Director of Summer Lyric Theatre and a Professor of Practice in Voice and Musical Theatre at Tulane University in New Orleans. While in New Orleans, he produced, directed and music directed over 30 productions and concerts in six seasons for SLT, The Story Road Project (its musical theatre outreach program), and the Tulane Musical Theatre program. He has also served as a tenured faculty member at the Conservatory of Performing Arts at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA, where he was the Head of Voice, and St. Edward's University in Austin, TX, serving as the Coordinator of the Music Department and Director of Musical Theatre. His students have gone on to appear on Broadway, national tours, regional theatre across the U.S., international cruise lines, television, and film.

Apart from his work in academia, Michael stays busy working as a producer, director, music director, sound designer/composer, and performer. He is the producing artistic director of Doctuh Mistuh Productions (a.k.a. The Storyville Collective), which specializes in off-Broadway, rarely produced, and chamber musicals, and the co-founder and former artistic director of Summer Stock Austin, an award-winning education-based theatre company. In addition to these companies, some of the other companies he has worked with include Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre, Jefferson Performing Arts Society, Penfold Theatre Company, Austin Playhouse, Zilker Theatre Production, Interlakes Theatre, Austin Shakespeare Festival, Vortex Theatre, Dallas Opera, Opera in the Ozarks, Abilene Opera, Austin Lyric Opera, Shreveport Opera, Deep Ellum Opera Theatre, Dallas Lyric Opera, and Theatre Three.