

# LAURA KLEIN, MM, NCTM

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## Performer / Musicologist / Academic / Teacher

*Nationally Certified Teacher of Music through Music Teachers National Association  
Recording Secretary of Jane Austen Society of North America, Denver/Boulder Region*

Dynamic pianist and educator recognized for inspiring a high standard of musical excellence over 20 years of performance and 17 years of teaching. Curious and committed researcher on music, performance practices, and music history (particularly the Baroque and Classical periods). Extensive leadership experience in academic organizations, including Colorado Christian University, Westminster Choir College of Rider University, and Walla Walla University. Lifelong advocate for music education, passionate about promoting a collaborative and creative atmosphere of musicianship between colleagues, students, and teachers.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- ❖ Strong artistic performance skills in solo and collaborative settings
- ❖ Enthusiastic research in music history in performance practices and its relation to the zeitgeist.
- ❖ Wide variety of pedagogical experiences that provide superior training to students and mentees
- ❖ Expertise in establishing and cultivating goals to foster students' growth and self-motivation
- ❖ Accomplished creating syllabi/curricula and managing multiple students in lessons and classroom settings
- ❖ Extensive musicianship skills including coaching, accompanying, improvising, and modern music technology
- ❖ Dedicated involvement in Music Teachers National Association, including leadership at state and local levels.

## EDUCATION & CERTIFICATION

**Doctor of Philosophy in Historical and Performance Practice Musicology, in progress**  
University of Colorado Boulder College of Music, Boulder, CO

**Master's Degree in Piano Pedagogy and Performance, 2010**  
GPA: 3.98, with high honors | Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Princeton, NJ

**Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance, 2006**  
GPA: 4.0, summa cum laude | Mars Hill College, Mars Hill, NC

**Nationally Certified Teacher of Music, 2007-present**  
Music Teachers National Association

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

### PERFORMER, COLLABORATOR, AND RESEARCHER: 1998-present

- ❖ Create, provide solo performances, and collaborate with performers (both regional and at large) in solo concerts, lecture recitals, and other events
- ❖ The Jane Austen Playlist—research and musical output derived from the Austen family music books:
  - Discover and examine a chronological sequence of music that parallels Jane Austen's literary output
  - Digitize and edit scores to create a relevant publication of manuscripts
  - Create and perform programs highlighting the influence of collection on her literature and life
  - Provide historically accurate companion recordings for the works in the collection
  - Establish and maintain relationships with historical societies and organizations, Jane Austen and regency-era related events, and educational music research programs, such as Jane Austen's House Museum, University of Southampton

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER COLLEGE OF MUSIC | BOULDER, CO

### RESEARCH AND TEACHING ASSISTANT 2022-present

- ❖ Researcher for the American Research Music Center, including archival and research assistance
- ❖ Teaching assistant in the musicology department

COLORADO CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC | LAKEWOOD, CO

### AFFILIATE FACULTY 2019-present

- ❖ Provide individual and class instruction in performance, proficiency, literature, musical theater, and music history
- ❖ Evaluate and grade students' weekly progress, performances, proficiency, and other course materials

### ACCOMPANIST 2017-present

- ❖ Accompany students in private lessons, open student recitals, and other performances throughout the semester
- ❖ Assist students in successfully preparing and performing their end-of-semester voice juries

APPASSIONATA PIANO STUDIO, LLC | ARVADA, CO [Princeton, NJ; Walla Walla, WA; Asheville, NC]  
**PIANIST, EDUCATOR, AND SOLE PROPRIETOR** 1998-present

- ❖ Create weekly lessons and adapt teaching methods for traditional and adult students of all levels and interests
- ❖ Teach performance, history, and theory classes relevant to age and level of students
- ❖ Prepare students for further development by encouraging them to explore their own personal musical interest and to persevere with challenging tasks
- ❖ Provide participation and successfully prepare students for performance in multiple competitive and non-competitive performance opportunities

WESTMINSTER CHOIR COLLEGE | PRINCETON, NJ  
**AFFILIATE PIANO FACULTY, CLASS PIANO INSTRUCTOR** 2011-2013

- ❖ Taught private and class piano for enrolled students, ultimately administering the piano proficiency exams
- ❖ Prepared course materials such as syllabi, homework assignments, and handouts
- ❖ Selected and obtained materials and supplies in support of the piano proficiency examination requirements
- ❖ Assisted in maintaining and expanding the piano proficiency syllabus

MUSICIANS IN THE MAKING | PLAINSBORO, NJ  
**PIANO PROGRAM DIRECTOR** 2011-2012

- ❖ Organized and managed the workload and lesson/class fulfillment of teachers and staff
- ❖ Designed class schedules and related documents to assure uniformity of goals and curricula of the studio
- ❖ Monitored classes, lessons, curricula development, and related documents
- ❖ Conducted interviews and hiring of staff, as well as handled teacher orientation and performance reviews
- ❖ Supervised and managed faculty members in lessons and performance classes
- ❖ Oversaw and smoothly managed parent and staff meetings

**TEACHER** 2009-2012

- ❖ Prepared and fulfilled studio curriculum lesson plans in lessons to enrolled students of all levels and ages
- ❖ Monitored students' progress to ensure improvement and to provide creative approaches for musical growth
- ❖ Team-taught performance, musicianship, and ensemble classes from beginner to advanced students
- ❖ Successfully prepared students for achievement in events such as adjudications, competitions, and recitals

WESTMINSTER CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC | PRINCETON, NJ  
**PIANO INSTRUCTOR** 2008-2013

- ❖ Provided private instruction to enrolled students of all levels
- ❖ Created the class curriculum and served as instructor for the Piano Plus Class
- ❖ Oversaw and mentored private lessons of intern pedagogy teachers assisting with the Piano Plus Class

WALLA WALLA UNIVERSITY | COLLEGE PLACE, WA  
**PIANO PREPARATORY PROGRAM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** 2006-2008

- ❖ Assisted the director of the Piano Preparatory Division in designing and overseeing the curricula and program
- ❖ Advised collegiate intern teachers in lesson curricula, lessons, pedagogical approaches, and management
- ❖ Taught monthly instruction lessons to enrolled students for intern teacher observation and development
- ❖ Mentored students of intern teachers in practice expectations, performance preparation, and adjudications

**AFFILIATE PIANO FACULTY, CLASS PIANO INSTRUCTOR** 2006-2008

- ❖ Provided individual instruction in performance and technique for majors and minors
- ❖ Successfully prepared students for performances in collegiate and regional performance events
- ❖ Taught class piano to students requiring completion of the piano proficiency exam
- ❖ Planned, evaluated, and revised curricula, course content, course materials, and methods of instruction

**FACULTY ACCOMPANIST** 2006-2008

- ❖ Served as faculty accompanist for the choir, orchestra, band, and faculty/student soloists and ensembles
- ❖ Performed for collegiate events and on regional/national tours
- ❖ Mentored student accompanists for each group

OTHER NOTABLE POSITIONS: *Pianist, Accompanist, and Ensemble Director, Arvada United Methodist Church, Arvada, CO (2015-2019); Accompanist, American Boychoir School, Princeton, NJ (2008-2010); Assistant Accompanist and Outreach Coordinator, Asheville Lyric Opera, Asheville, NC (2004-2005)*

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- Roser Musicology Scholarship at University of Colorado Boulder (2023)**
- Center for British and Irish Studies Fellowship Award at University of Colorado Boulder (2023)**
- The Dean's Graduate Student Award at University of Colorado Boulder (2022)**
- The Entrepreneurship Center of Music Award at University of Colorado Boulder (2022)**
- MTNA's Student Achievement Recognition 'StAR' Award at Westminster Choir College (2010)**