

Edward A. Broms

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AT A GLANCE

Objective

To establish work and professional collaborations in the New York area that allow for the integration of expansive skills and interests in teaching, music, interdisciplinary arts, and yoga

Descriptive Overview

- Teaching Artist/Educator
- Music Director/Choral Director
- Multi-Instrumentalist: piano, organ, bass, percussion, guitar, voice
- Multiple Styles: Rock, Jazz, Pop, World, Classical, Sacred, Avant-Garde, Experimental, Theater, Multi-media
- Performing and Recording Artist
- Composer and Songwriter
- Yoga Instructor

Recent Notable Positions Held

- 1) Convent Avenue Baptist, Harlem, NY: **Organist**, 2018
- 2) South Shore Conservatory, Hingham, MA; **Piano Faculty and Chair; Jazz, Rock, Pop Department**, 2012-2018
- 3) The Cathedral Church of St. Paul (Episcopal), Boston, MA; **Music Director and Organist**, 2006-2013
- 4) Blue Man Group, NY, NY; **Musician**, 1998-2005
- 5) Open Doors Yoga, Braintree, MA; **Yoga Instructor**, 2010-present

In Detail

Professional Experience

CONVENT AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH, HARLEM, NY APRIL 2018-PRESENT

Convent Avenue Baptist Church (www.conventchurch.org/) is an historic church in Harlem with over 70s years of achievement. The eclectic and comprehensive music program is led by Music Director, Dr. Gregory Hopkins.

Organist

Primary Responsibilities:

- Perform for weekly services on pipe organ, Hammond organ and piano
- Perform repertoire and improvisations ranging from the large scale works of the classical pipe organ literature to modern Gospel in a highly improvisatory and extemporaneous atmosphere
- Accompany primarily the Sanctuary Choir in choral masterworks: and other choral groups and soloists as needed
- Work closely with a dynamic team of devoted and highly skilled musicians

SOUTH SHORE CONSERVATORY, HINGHAM/DUXBURY, MA 2012 - PRESENT

South Shore Conservatory (www.sscmusic.org) is the largest community music school in New England with a budget of \$4.6 million. Founded in 1970, the organization serves 3500 students from 32 towns at its 3 campuses and at various offsite locations. SSC employs 100 faculty members, 5 Creative Arts Therapists and has a staff of 25. In addition to our anchor private instruction program, SSC has developed an educational continuum that begins with comprehensive early childhood programs (including an arts integrated preschool) and moving through group and ensemble programming for school age children, adults and seniors. SSC's Community Partnerships serve 700 children annually in the city of Brockton through an arts based literacy program. SSC holds 60 professional performances a year.

Piano and Jazz Rock Pop Faculty 2012- present

Primary Responsibilities:

- Manage and teach a large diverse studio of all ages and levels, covering major styles utilizing personally designed syllabi for Classical, Jazz, Contemporary, and World Music
- Collaborate with a diverse and skilled faculty, and gifted students in teaching, events, and performance
- Engage students in enhancement programs in theory, masterclasses and various performance opportunities
- Provide motivation and direction for beginning students
- Experience teaching students who learn differently

Co-Chair Jazz, Rock, Pop Department 2012- present

Primary Responsibilities:

- Strategic Planning, Annual Budget, and Hiring
- Onboarding and Mentoring of new faculty
- Management of a dynamic team of 19 faculty
- Community building through events and programming
- Member of the Faculty Council

Achievements during tenure at SSC:

- Grew a private studio of a handful of students and one day of teaching to the largest private studio at SSC (over 40 students) in two years, ages 6 to 85.

- Retained students by involving them in a wealth of programming and performance opportunities including, recitals, open mics, competitions, concerts, and achievement programs
- Transformed a faculty of a relatively new department into a cohesive group
- Hired new department faculty going from 12 to 19 members, and a student body from 140 to over 250 in two years
- Developed all departmental events into thriving, over-attended events including Open Mics, Monster Jams, and the annual Spotlight Festival
- Created the first annual JRP Day, focusing on the future of music, and featuring workshops and performances by area professors and professionals
- Directed and performed in numerous faculty performances, including Hingham Music Festival and the Duxbury Music Festival
- Designed and implemented a Rock Band and Ensemble program by hiring a Coordinator and growing student engagement from 14 to 50 students

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL (EPISCOPAL) AND THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MASSACHUSETTS, BOSTON, MA 2006-2013

The Cathedral (www.stpaulboston.org/) functions as the center of mission for the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Massachusetts. As such, it offers liturgy and music in the best of the Anglican tradition—past and present. The Cathedral is a site of gatherings of leaders from throughout the Diocese, community, and the world. Amid the very active life of the Diocese, one of the largest in the United States, the Cathedral's doors remain open to all, with scheduled worship and quiet sanctuary available nearly every day. More than a building, it upholds its mission as a house of prayer for all people. The cathedral has historically been looked to as the standard for musical and liturgical quality, tradition, and innovation for New England, and has been described by some as arguably one of the most influential liturgical centers in America.

Musician, Music Director, Choral Director, and Organist 2006-2013

Primary Responsibilities:

- Perform as Pipe Organist for all services, including hymns, masterworks from the literature, improvisations, and all choral and solo accompaniments (directed from the console), and regular recitals
- Direct and Manage 3 Professional Choral ensembles in weekly liturgies
- Engineer and Record all services live, including sermons
- Edit live recordings and Produce a local weekly broadcast on WGBH Boston, airing at 730AM on Sunday mornings, at the time the longest running religious broadcast in the US. Number 2 in the market, this broadcast had a weekly audience of 15,000 listeners throughout Eastern MA.
- Produce and Curate a weekly recital series featuring local and international touring acts
- Plan the music and hire musicians for all services including Sunday mornings, Evensongs, Ordinations, Confirmations, numerous special and civic events, and private weekly services for the Bishop
- Hire and collaborate with the Cathedral Composer-in Residence on performances of new works
- Develop, program, and direct music for *The Crossing* service each week, (www.thecrossingboston.org/) featuring music based in ancient chant and urban soul
- Manage an annual music budget each year in excess of \$40,000
- Work with clergy and staff regularly on visioning for the cathedral, diocese, and the wider church
- Direct annual Messiah Sing!

Achievements during tenure at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul

- Designed, programmed and directed numerous services and events for the regional and national church
- Founded three distinct professional choral ensembles:
 - **The Cathedral Scholars**, focused on the works of living composers, and difficult and unusual choral works

- **Blessed**, the Cathedral Gospel Choir and Ensemble, explored the gamut of Gospel music
 - **Cantorum**, a quartet of the most diverse vocalists from the cathedral choirs, explored the use of popular music in a sacred setting
- Adopted a mission to explore music from ‘all times and all lands’ and to seek out the sacred in all music
- Drew from a classical choral repertoire of over 700 distinct compositions
- Worked with three Composers-in-Residence; Carson Cooman, Karl Henning, and Kile Smith; and numerous other working composers
- Commissioned, composed and premiered numerous choral and instrumental works
- Created a new and unique blend of ancient chant and urban soul for **The Crossing**, released **Songs at The Crossing CD**
- Curated three concert series:
 - **Jazz Series** of 40 concerts in 4 years, performing the complete recorded works of John Coltrane in chronological order – 400 distinct compositions
 - **Summer concert series** featuring the complete compositions of Thelonious Monk – over 80 compositions
 - Hosted weekly recital series featuring international touring acts
- Developed a uniquely personal style of American organ improvisation through weekly improvisations of preludes and postludes
- Composed and recorded live “Organ Symphony #1: Ainulindale” based on the works of J.R.R. Tolkien
- Innovated Messiah Sing! through the use of a period string quintet
- Performed several masterworks including: Bach B Minor Mass, Handel’s Messiah, Faure Requiem, Duruflé Requiem, Britain’s Ceremony of Carols, and Pergolesi’s Stabat Mater

BLUE MAN GROUP 1998-2006

Blue Man Productions (www.bluemangroup.com) is a global entertainment company best known for the award-winning Blue Man Group show, performed in 15 countries and seen by more than 35 million people worldwide since 1991. A dynamic combination of music, comedy and technology, the show appeals to a broad range of age groups and cultural backgrounds. It is continually refreshed with new music, new stories, new instruments and new technology. Blue Man Group has had theatrical productions, most permanent, in Tokyo, Toronto, Las Vegas, Orlando, Boston, Chicago, New York and Berlin, and a North/South American Tour

Musician (Chapman Stick) 1998-2006

Primary Responsibilities:

- Learned the Blue Man “score” with an entirely aural/apprentice method, a process requiring several weeks of closely trailing and observing other band members, and no written music
- Played the Blue Man show 3-14 times each week, working with a team of 3 musicians, and 3 Blue men
- Performed show in NYC and Boston
- Coached new musicians in learning the score
- Worked with founders, creative development team, and musicians on development and implementation of new material
- Took part in daily rigorous “Notes” sessions for each show played and observed

Achievements during tenure at Blue Man Group:

- Composed and recorded material for the Chicago lobby music installation
- Composed and recorded material for the famous “FEAST” portion of the Berlin show.
- Based on my recommendations BMG moved from a model of central quality control and music direction out of NYC to a model designating a Music Director in each city having a permanent production

Other Sacred Music Experience

St. John the Evangelist (Episcopal), Duxbury, MA: 2015-2018; Music Director and Organist

Worked with an elderly and physically challenged lay choir focusing on engagement and accessibility to choral masterworks

St. Mary's Parish (RCC), Holliston, MA; 2003-2006; Music Director and Organist

Worked with highly capable lay choir in performances of my own psalter, performed the complete Handel's Messiah, and the Faure Requiem

Holy Name Parish (RCC), West Roxbury, MA 1996-2003; Organist

500 services annually, many for heads of state, and later private services for Cardinal Sean O'Malley. Initiated and Coordinated Development campaign that raised \$300,000 for the complete restoration of the historic Wicks organ at Holy Name. Recorded "The Holy City" CD as a fundraising tool, which itself generated \$60,000 in donations

First Congregational Church, Beverly, MA 1996; Interim Organist and Choir Director

Christ Church, Lutheran, Hanover, MA 1994-1996; Organist and Choir Director

St. Joseph's (RCC), Jamaica, Queens, NY 1991-1992; Organist

St. Mary's Abby (Non-Denominational), Mechanicsville, MD 1981-1983; Organist

Other Professional Experience

Open Doors Hot Power Yoga, Braintree, MA: Yoga Instructor, Hot Power Yoga; 2011-present

(<http://www.opendoorsyogastudios.com/>)

Men in Black, Boston, MA 1998-2018; Bassist and Keyboardist

Top of the market wedding and function band performing throughout New England (<https://hankagency.com/>)

Camp Rising Sun, Rhinebeck NY 1994; Music Director

Taught and directed a production of the musical "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown" with 50 high school students from around the globe, many with no prior musical training (<http://www.lajf.org/>)

Black Dog, Ithaca, NY 1992-1994: Bassist

Two national US tours with this celebrated jam-band power trio featuring guitarist Jon "Blackdog" Ridnell (<http://www.blackdogband.com/bio.htm>)

American Festival of Microtonal Music 1991-1992, Administrative Intern, and Member of the Board of Directors

Assisted Founder and Director, visionary Johnny Reinhard (www.afmm.org)

Warren Gorham and Lamont, Cambridge, MA 1992 and 1994 Telefundraiser

One of the top 5 weekly fundraisers, personally raised \$30,000 for the Cleveland Museum of Art

New York Philharmonic, NYC, NY 1991-1992; Group Sales Representative

Grew group sales from scratch to \$250,000 annually with a small dedicated team