

Sarah Younker, *French horn*

Teaching Artist Resume

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Teaching Philosophy

To meet each student where they are; to enhance and beautify students' lives through rewarding and appropriately challenging musical education; to instill and encourage a lifelong appreciation and participation in music and the arts; to use music as a creative tool to promote resilience, critical thinking, acceptance, and appreciation.

Education

Boston University Tanglewood Music Festival, 2005

Bachelor of Music Performance, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (*Kazmierz Machala*)

Fine & Applied Arts Talented Student Scholarship, 2005-2009

Merit Band Scholarship, 2005 - 2008

Mariam Ekbohm Scholar, 2005 - 2007

Professional coachings (*Jon Boen, Neil Kimel of Lyric Opera, Greg Flint of Elgin Symphony, etc*), 2014 - present

Private Lesson Experience

Private French horn lesson instructor, 2004 - present

- *Special Needs Piano (2006 - 2013)*: In addition to French horn and general brass lessons, I specialized in lessons for students on the autism spectrum. Most of my students, ages 4-16, were non-verbal. I was able to teach my students to play and read simple to moderately challenging music on their own through gentle (and sometimes very silly!) teaching methods I devised to suit each individual.
- *Downers Grove North High School (2013 - present)*: In addition to Downers Grove North HS and related feeder school students, I regularly draw students from Downers Grove South HS, Westmont HS, Hinsdale Central HS, and Naperville Central HS, as well as each high school's affiliated feeder schools.
- *Metropolis Center for the Performing Arts, French horn faculty (2016 - 2018)*
- *Glenbrook South High School (2016 - 2021)*
- *Hoffman Estates High School (2016 - 2017)*
- *Washington Brass Institute, French horn faculty (2011-2013)*
- *Music & Arts (Falls Church, VA), brass & piano instructor (2010 - 2013)*

Ensemble & Sectional Coaching, Classroom Experience

Downers Grove North High School Mosaic Horn Choir, 2014, 2017 (*coach*)

Various high school, middle school, and elementary school sectionals & outreach, 2014 - present

Young Musicians, 2010 - 2013 (*instructor for a hands-on 8-week after school program to introduce k-4 students to different instruments and basic music theory*)

Illinois Summer Youth Music, 2007 - 2008 (*sectional coach*)

Clinician, Adjudicator, Mentoring Artist Experience

Harper Community College, 2022 (*mentoring artist*)

Moraine Valley Community College, 2021 (*mentoring artist*)

Elgin Community College, 2019, 2021 (*mentoring artist*)

Elgin Youth Symphony Orchestra, 2021 (*mentoring artist*)

Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras, 2016 - 2019 (*audition adjudicator, mentoring artist*)

Midwest Philharmonic Orchestra, 2018, 2021 - present (*mentoring artist*)

Protege Philharmonic, 2019 (*mentoring artist*)

Indian Prairie School District 204, 2016 - present (*solo day adjudicator & clinician*)

Downers Grove South High School, 2018 - present (*band placement adjudicator*)

Publications

Featured Artist, *The Savvy Music Teacher* by David Cutler, published 2015