ANDREW J. NOVAK

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WORK EXPERIENCE

- Bay Village City School District (2020-present)
  - Director of Choirs for Bay Middle School (grades 5-8).
  - Planned and implemented a variety of lessons derived from state standards for in-person, virtual, and hybrid instruction.
  - Presented 4 on-campus concerts per year, and various outreach concerts for the Chamber Choir (a 7th/8th grade auditioned ensemble).
  - Planned and coordinated a variety of off-campus learning experiences, including a day trip to Columbus, Ohio in spring of 2023 and 2025 and day trips with competition performances to Cedar Point in spring of 2022 and 2024.
  - Music directed and accompanied the high school spring musical.
  - Prepared students for adjudication at large group and solo and ensemble contests, where they consistently received superior and excellent ratings.
  - Prepared students for district honor choir events.
- Vermilion Local School District (2018-2020)
  - Taught 5th through 12th grade choir.
  - Planned and implemented a variety of lessons, concerts, and off-campus opportunities for seven different choirs.
  - Accompanied students in rehearsals and other school events.
  - Assistant directed the spring musical.
- Twinsburg City School District (2016-2018)
  - Taught 4th through 6th grade choir and general music.
  - Assisted the high school show choir program.

EDUCATION

- Master of Arts in Music Education – Case Western Reserve University
  - Currently in the process of completing the degree *(degree expected to be conferred May of 2026)*.
  - Completed a comprehensive exam defense in the fall of 2025, consisting of a music materials project with repertoire for an advanced junior high school mixed choir, and a research article analysis.
  - Coursework included Scholarship in Music Education, Music Theory for Music Educators, Curriculum and Assessment for Music Educators, Philosophy of Music Education, and Qualitative Research in Music Education.
  - Completed IRB-approved research project on synesthesia and color associations in fall of 2023.
  - Gave a public research presentation during the fall of 2023.
- Bachelor of Music in Music Education – Capital University (Class of 2016)
  - Cumulative average: 3.790
  - Coursework included Choral Conducting, Choral Methods, Keyboard Skills, Musicianship/Audiation, Introduction to Theatre
  - Student Teaching (Spring of 2016)
    - Pickerington High School Central (Heather Wilkins)
    - Finland Middle School (Cameron Baker)
  - Study Abroad (Fall 2014) – Kodály Institute of the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music (Kecskemét, Hungary).

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Choral
  - Trinity Cathedral Choir (2023-2025, dir. Todd Wilson and Shiloh Roby)
    - Sang Tenor and Baritone for weekly Sunday services
    - Sang evensong services with both Chamber Singers and the Cathedral Choir
    - Sang monthly at solemn sung eucharist
  - Quire Cleveland (2022-2023, dir. Jay White, DMA)
    - Sang Tenor for two concert cycles, which both consisted of sacred Renaissance repertoire.
  - Cleveland Chamber Choir (2017-present, dir. Greg Ristow, DMA)

        - Sang Tenor and Baritone for a number of concert series.
        - Repertoire highlights: *Credo* (Bonds), *Great Mass in C Minor* (Mozart), *Considering Matthew Shepard* (Johnson), *Mass in C* (Beethoven), *Hymn to St. Cecilia* (Britten)
    - Cathedral Choir of St. John the Evangelist (2016-2024, dir. Greg Heislman)
        - Sang Tenor for weekly Sunday masses; repertoire mostly consisted of sacred unaccompanied music.
        - Occasionally conducted the ensemble and led sectionals.
        - Composed a motet for performance during the Easter season.
    - Capital University Chapel Choir (2012-2016, dir. Lynda Hasseler, DMA)
        - Sang Baritone for all four years.
        - Made appearance in 2016 at Carnegie Hall.
        - Made appearance in 2014 at OMEA Conference.
        - Made appearance in 2014 at ACDA Regional Conference in Cincinnati.
        - Sang in three Christmas Festivals (2012, 2013, 2015).
- Music Director/Accompanist
    - Bay High School: *Chicago: Teen Edition* (2021), *Bye Bye Birdie* (2022), *Newsies* (2023), *Something Rotten* (2024), *The Music Man* (2025), *Anything Goes* (2026)
        - Taught music to the cast of each production.
        - Accompanied rehearsals on the piano.
        - Collaborated with the orchestral director on combining the pit orchestra with the on stage performers.
    - Beacon Theatre Company: *Chicago: Teen Edition (2025)*
    - Shaker Heights High School: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (2024), *Chicago: Teen Edition (2025)*
    - Vermilion United Church of Christ: Guest Organist (Summer of 2023-2025)
    - The Singing Angels: Assistant Director/Lead Accompanist (2021-2022)
    - FBC of Greater Cleveland: *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (2018), *Into the Woods* (2022)
    - Chagrin Valley Little Theatre: *The Addams Family* (2016), *Sister Act* (2018), *Kinky Boots* (2023)
    - Interim Music Director at St. Ambrose Parish (2020)
    - *The FEST* with the Diocese of Cleveland (2018, 2019)
    - *Annie Jr.* with Penguin Project for special needs students at St. Joan of Arc Catholic School (2018)
    - *Grease* at Notre Dame College (2017)
    - Interim Organist at Solon Community Church (2016)
- Adjudication
    - OMEA Solo and Ensemble Contest Adjudicator - Vocal and Piano (January 2024-Present)

PRESENTATIONS

- Novak, A. (2026, March). *You Sound Forest Green: Exploring the Connection Between Sound and Colors in Choral Music.* **Invited presenter** at the 29th Annual Graduate Students in Music Conference at the CUNY Graduate Center (New York, NY).
- Novak, A. (2023, December). *The Search for Sight-singing Success: Finding the Best Assessment Strategies for Evaluating Sight-singing in Secondary Level Choirs.* **Invited educator/presenter** at Case Western Reserve University's Department of Music Colloquium Series in Cleveland, OH

SPECIAL SKILLS

- Piano (accompaniment, sight-reading, improvisation), composing/arranging, conducting, score study, diction (English, Spanish, Latin, Italian, German), vocal pedagogy, Spanish language proficiency, public speaking, Microsoft® Word/Excel/PowerPoint, Finale® notation/composition software, PowerSchool grading software, Google Classroom

HONORS and MEMBERSHIPS

- Bay High School productions of *Newsies, Something Rotten,* and *The Music Man,* as well as Shaker Heights High School production of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* all received a Playhouse Square Dazzle Awards Nomination for Best Ensemble under his direction in spring of 2023, 2024, and 2025.
- Bay Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Choir earned "Superior" rating at OMEA Large Group Adjudicated Event in 2025.
- Bay Middle School Chamber Choir performed the National Anthem at Cleveland Monsters hockey game in 2023 and Cleveland Guardians baseball game in 2025.

- Bay Middle School Chamber Choir earned "Superior" ratings at OMEA Solo and Ensemble Adjudicated Event in March of 2024 and 2025.
- Bay Middle School 7th and 8th Grade Choir earned "Superior" rating at Trills and Thrills performance festival in spring of 2022 and 2024.
- Vermilion High School Chorale earned "Superior" Rating at district and state level contests in 2019.
- Vermilion High School Chorale performed the National Anthem at a Cleveland Cavaliers basketball game in 2019.
- "Accomplished" and "Skilled" ratings on OTES since 2016.
- Member of OMEA/NAfME, ACDA, and Pi Lambda Theta Education Society

REFERENCES

- Dr. Christopher Clark
  - Director of Choirs/Lecturer in Music Education
  - Case Western Reserve University
  - 419-789-2507
  - clc161@case.edu
- Mr. Gregory Heislman
  - Director Emeritus
  - Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
  - 216-773-9152
- Mr. Mark Awad
  - Instrumental Music Teacher
  - Bay Village City Schools
  - 330-360-1048
  - mawad@bayschoolsohio.org