



Dr.

Keith Hodgson, Ed.D.



EDUCATOR, CONDUCTOR, CLINICIAN

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

AMERICAN MUSIC ABROAD

1998- present

New Hope, PA

- Director of Creativity and Recruitment
- Head Director, Gold Tour to Europe
- Head Director Adult Community to Europe

ZESWITZ MUSIC COMPANY

2020- present

Reading, PA

- Director of Education and Professional Development

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS

2016-2024

Philadelphia, PA

- Associate Professor of Music Education
- Director of the Masters of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program
- Coordinator of Graduate Student Teaching
- Graduate and undergraduate conducting
- Percussion methods and field experiences

ADJUNCT FACULTY/ STAFF: (Through the years)

- Ithaca College
- College of New Jersey
- Villanova University
- Rowan University
- Stockton University
- Jersey City University
- Rutgers University

MAINLAND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

1995-2016

Linwood, NJ

- Director of Instrumental Music
- Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band, Musical Theater
- AP Music Theory and Chamber Ensemble Program
- Guitar & Keyboard classes and lesson program
- TRI-M Music Honor Society Advisor

VERNON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

1992-1995

Vernon, NJ

- Director of Instrumental Music
- Concert Band, Marching Band, Musical Theater
- Music Theory and Chamber Ensembles
- Group Lessons

POMPTON LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

1990-1992

Pompton Lakes, NJ

- Director of Bands
- Concert Band, Marching Band, Jazz Band
- Group Lessons

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EDUCATION:

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION 2021-2024

Aspen University, Phoenix, AZ 4.0

Ed.D. in Leadership and Learning with a specialization in Organizational Leadership

MASTERS DEGREE 2005-2009

Rowan University, Glassboro, NJ 4.0

Masters in Educational Administration and School Leadership with Principal and Supervisor Certifications in New Jersey

BACHELORS DEGREE 1987-1991

William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ

Bachelors degree in Music and Music Education with K-12 State Teaching Certification

PERSONAL SKILLS:

- Leadership
- Conducting
- Strong Communication
- Relationship Building
- Design Thinking/ Creativity
- Problem-Solving



South Jersey Area
Wind Ensemble

1997 - present

- Founding Conductor
- Artistic Director



BIOGRAPHY



Dr. Keith W. Hodgson is a highly experienced music educator, clinician, and conductor with a distinguished teaching career spanning over 26 years in New Jersey and eight years as a professor of Music Education at the University of The Arts in Philadelphia. During his tenure at the university, he served as the Director of the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program and taught graduate and undergraduate courses in conducting and percussion methods. He also coordinated student teaching, supervising graduate student teachers in their elementary and secondary field placements.

As the Conductor and Music Director for the South Jersey Area Wind Ensemble (SJAWE), Dr. Hodgson has led this ensemble of music educators and professional musicians since its founding in 1997. Under his leadership, the ensemble received the Sudler Silver Scroll Award from the John Philip Sousa Foundation in 2006, was a 2021 finalist for The American Prize in the Community Band Division and recently declared the 2024 national winner! The SJAWE has performed at national and state conventions, including the 2014 and 2019 Association of Concert Bands national conventions, and has a rich history of commissioning new works and collaborating with guest conductors. The ensemble has also performed at the Kennedy Center for the Sousa Band Festival and toured Austria and Germany in 2007.

Dr. Hodgson is also the Head Director of the American Music Abroad Gold Tour, an annual three-week summer tour featuring band, choral, and orchestra students performing in six European countries. With over 25 years of experience leading group tours, he has conducted performances for European audiences in countries including Austria, Belgium, Croatia, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Slovenia, and Switzerland. In 2024, he led AMA's first adult community band and choir tour to Europe, involving musicians from 14 states, and will be expanding these adult performance opportunities abroad.

In addition to his work with ensembles, Dr. Hodgson is deeply involved with music education organizations. He is a Past-President of the New Jersey Music Educators Association (NJMEA), Past President of the Eastern Division of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), and has served as Chair of NAfME's Professional Learning and Partnerships Committee (PLPC). He sits on the Boards of Directors for the Bushwackers Drum and Bugle Corps, NJMEA's Crescendo Foundation, and the South Jersey Area Wind Ensemble. As a Conn-Selmer Educational Clinician and Director of Education for Zeswitz Music, he is actively engaged in professional development, guest conducting, and presenting at conferences across the country. His expertise is further recognized through his presentations at prestigious events like the Midwest Clinic in Chicago.

Academically, Dr. Hodgson holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from William Paterson University, NJ, and a Master's Degree in School Leadership and Administration from Rowan University, NJ, with certifications as a supervisor and principal. In 2024, he earned his Doctorate in Leadership and Learning with a specialization in Organizational Leadership from Aspen University in Phoenix, Arizona. His dissertation, "All The World's a Stage: A Global Classroom" explored the transformative potential of cultivating global citizenship through travel, culture, music, and social engagement. This research investigated the perceptions and experiences of high school musicians traveling and performing on a three-week music tour through Europe and focused on the impact of these experiences on their basic psychological needs and their global citizenship mindset.

Dr. Hodgson's contributions to music education have been recognized with numerous accolades, including the 2014 New Jersey Governor's Award in the Arts for Leadership in Music and the 2016 Distinguished Service Award from the New Jersey Music Educators Association. Dr. Hodgson is a National Board Certified Teacher, was a Grammy-Nominated Music Educator Quarter-Finalist in 2014, and most recently was awarded the Outstanding Conductor Award by the Association of Concert Bands. He resides in Egg Harbor Township, NJ, with his wife Jennifer, also a music educator, and their four dogs: Jack, Buddy, Mya, and Mindy.

LEADERSHIP

PERSONAL LEADERSHIP STATEMENT

An outstanding leader combines personal integrity, effective communication, strategic vision, and adaptability to inspire teams, manage resources, and achieve organizational goals. A successful leader sets a clear direction, fostering a supportive environment through active listening and empathy while making informed, timely decisions under pressure. Key skills include strong communication, organizational abilities, and problem-solving, ensuring information is conveyed clearly, feedback is valued, and conflicts are resolved with tact.

Leaders manage time and resources efficiently, complete tasks accurately, and encourage creative problem-solving to improve processes. A leader's integrity and trustworthiness establish ethical standards, promoting teamwork and respect across all levels. Additionally, they remain flexible and proactive, open to new ideas, and dedicated to lifelong learning, allowing them to adapt to challenges and continuously enhance their effectiveness. This combination of personal values and professional skills enables administrators to lead dynamically and cultivate a productive, positive work culture.

PERSONAL GROWTH AND DIVERSITY STATEMENT

With eight years of teaching experience at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, I am deeply committed to fostering an inclusive environment for a diverse student body. Located in one of the nation's most culturally rich and diverse urban areas, the University of the Arts brings together students from varied backgrounds, creating a unique learning community that profoundly shapes my teaching philosophy.

Throughout my tenure, I have been privileged to work with students from numerous ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds. This diversity has underscored the transformative potential it brings to education, as I witness firsthand how a classroom enriched with diverse perspectives enhances creativity, critical thinking, and a broader understanding of the world.

As a music educator, I prioritize inclusivity, designing a curriculum that honors diverse musical traditions and cultural contexts. My goal is for every student to feel valued and represented, fostering a learning environment that celebrates the richness of global music and promotes empathy and global awareness.

I am also committed to ongoing personal and professional growth, actively pursuing development opportunities centered on equity, inclusion, and cultural competence. Recognizing diversity as an evolving commitment, I strive to adapt continually to meet the needs of my students and community. My experiences at the University of the Arts have solidified my dedication to building a supportive, dynamic, and inclusive learning space for all students.



A LIFETIME OF PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP SERVICE

- **Eastern Division President of the National Association for Music Education** (2017-2022)
- **NAfME National Executive Board** (2011-2022)
- **NAfME Professional Learning and Partnerships Comm. Chair** (2020-2022)
- **NAfME All-Eastern Honor Ensembles Chair** (2017)
- **President of the New Jersey Music Educators Association** (2009-2015)
- **President of the South Jersey Band & Orchestra Directors Association** (2003-2009)
- **Atlantic-Cape Honor Band Founder and Coordinator** (2011-2016)
- **SJBODA Senior High Band Coordinator** (2001-2004)
- **NJMEA All-State Transportation Coordinator** (1992-1995)
- **NJMEA All-State Chaperone Atlantic City** (1991-2005)
- **Sussex County Honor Band Chairperson** (1992-1995)





Dissertation Research 2024

All The World's a Stage: A Global Classroom

Exploring the Transformative Potential
of a Multifaceted Experiential
Global Classroom Approach

A Collaborative Research Investigation into
the Development of a Global Citizenship
Mindset via Travel, Cultural Immersion,
Musical Exploration, and Social Engagement

by

Dr. Keith William Hodgson

Abstract

The potential impact that educational travel and study abroad programs may have on the global citizenry, especially American students, must be considered. Fostering awareness for global citizenry is critical to humankind. Particularly, calls and initiatives to educate American students to become global citizens have been echoed by government agencies, higher education, and business sectors. Research has shown that the growth and development of people's mindset is significantly associated with experiential opportunities to learn, the influence of socialization, and the meeting of one's basic psychological needs. Further, the impetus of global citizenship awareness engages students when they are introduced to beliefs and values different from their own, causing a shift in their thinking and perception. Through a rich phenomenological investigation of experiential and transformative learning, this study aimed to understand and capture individual and group experiences, perceptions, and worldview learning of sixteen high school-aged student musicians while traveling and performing music abroad in Europe. Additionally, this study developed a framework for providing real-world opportunities abroad to explore, interact, and witness life globally through multiple lenses. Do the experiences of international travel, musical performance, cultural experiences, and social relatedness interact to influence global citizenship in high school students? Together, the experiences of these four lenses provided a transformational shift of mindset that will inform a lifetime.

Keywords: experiential learning, transformative learning, music performance abroad, global citizenship, cultural competency, global awareness, social relatedness

**I look forward to the discussing opportunities of leadership,
education, music, or entrepreneurial endeavors with you in person.**

- Thank you for your consideration.


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