

# Alex Marthaler

---

Composer, performer, educator • Curriculum vitae

## **Academic History**

### **Master of Music in Music Composition, 2016**

Carnegie Mellon University • Pittsburgh, PA

*Principal teacher: Nancy Galbraith*

### **Bachelor of Music in Music Theory & Composition, 2014**

West Chester University of Pennsylvania • West Chester, PA

*Summa Cum Laude, Piano concentration, Music History Minor*

## **Professional Experience**

### **Program Director**

Carnegie Mellon University School of Music Pre-College

*2021 – present • Pittsburgh, PA*

Led the renowned summer program catering to high-school musicians from around the world, overseeing all academic aspects for 70+ students living the life of a music major.

- Successfully managed student recruitment and admissions, resulting in a notable ~20% increase in enrollment in 2024.
- Developed and supported student course scheduling to ensure a cohesive academic experience.
- Established and maintained a program budget, managing expenses totaling approximately \$100k.
- Recruited, supervised, and collaborated with course faculty, masterclass guests, and ensemble musicians.
- Orchestrated "Concert Week," featuring nightly festival-style performances, contributing to the program's vibrant musical atmosphere

### **Executive Director**

Dalcroze Society of America

*2021 – present • remote role*

Oversee and support operations, fundraising, event coordination, and strategic planning for an organization dedicated to promoting the Dalcroze method of music education.

- Successfully managed the planning and execution of national conferences in 2023 and 2024 (upcoming).
- Designed and laid out *Dalcroze Connections*, a digital and print magazine, resulting in consistent growth in readership.
- Spearheaded fundraising campaigns and events to secure student scholarships.
- Managed membership, including overseeing website migration and redesign efforts.

### **Freelance Consultant in Arts Nonprofits**

Chatham Baroque, Carnegie Mellon University Preparatory School, Real Time Interventions.

### **Tranquillo Music Spa**

**Artistic Director & Project Manager**

*2015 – 2020 • Pittsburgh, PA*

Created a therapeutic and immersive concert experience that provides relaxation & stress relief for busy adults.

### **Artistic Director & Conductor**

**Musical Storytime Concert**

*2015*

Planning & production of a performance for local kindergarten children, included an in-class workshop.

### **Artistic Director**

**1st-3rd annual “Smyrna Alumni Concerts”**

*2013–15*

Performances at the Smyrna Opera House in Smyrna, DE.

## **Teaching Experience**

### **Artist Lecturer**

**Carnegie Mellon University School of Music**

*2019 – present • Pittsburgh, PA*

Instructed undergraduate courses in Orchestration I, Orchestration II, 20th/21st Century Techniques, and Counterpoint in Theory & Application, involving curriculum design and development.

### **Composition Studio Teacher**

**Carnegie Mellon University School of Music**

*2019 – present • Pittsburgh, PA*

Provided personalized instruction to high-school and college students, fostering their compositional skills and artistic development.

**Group Class Teacher: Creative Expression**

Carnegie Mellon University Preparatory School

2016 – 2021 • Pittsburgh, PA

Developed and taught "Creative Expression," a popular group class aimed at cultivating composition, improvisation, and musicianship skills among young musicians aged 5–16.

**Private Piano Teacher**

Kathy's Music, LLC

2015 – 2016 • Mount Lebanon, PA

Provided individual studio lessons to 10 students/wk, ages 5–16 (Faber Piano method books)

**Teaching Assistant**

Carnegie Mellon University School of Music

2014 – 2016 • Pittsburgh, PA

Orchestration I, Score Reading (tutoring)

**Private Piano Teacher**

Michael Good Music

2012 – 2014 • Exton, PA

Provided individual studio lessons to 10 students/wk, ages 5–16 (Faber Piano method books)

**Performing Experience**

Specializes in improvisation and ensemble playing, including excellent sight-reading skills.

**Staff Accompanist**

Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama

2016 – present • Pittsburgh, PA

Provide skilled piano accompaniment for various dance classes including ballet, modern, tap, and social dance, as well as voice lessons.

**Lead Accompanist**

Pittsburgh Youth Chorus

2016 – present • Pittsburgh, PA

Provide skilled piano accompaniment for various dance classes including ballet, modern, tap, and social dance, as well as voice lessons.

**Staff Accompanist**

Point Park University

2016 – 2020 • Pittsburgh, PA

Provided piano accompaniment for modern dance and ballet classes

### **Additional performances with**

- Butler Symphony
- Westmoreland Symphony
- Real Time Interventions
- Front Porch Theatricals
- CMU Contemporary Ensemble
- CMU Wind Ensemble
- CMU School of Drama; "The Full Monty" Musical, Asst. Music Director, Kbd. 1
- University of Pittsburgh Carpathian Ensemble (keyboards/percussion)

### **Principal Teachers**

#### **Composition Teachers**

Nancy Galbraith, Larry Nelson, Robert Maggio, Mark Rimple, Adam Silverman, Van Stiefel

#### **Orchestration Teachers**

Leonardo Balada, Stephen Story

#### **Piano Teachers**

Theresa Klinefelter, Benjamin Whitten, Oleg Maslov

### **Selected Presentations & Performances**

#### **Composition: "The Willed & the Wild"**

Commissioned by NAT 28

*June 28, 2023*

#### **Composition: "Tethers, Capsules, & Collisions"**

Performed by Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble

July 2022

#### **Composition: "Tethers, Capsules, & Collisions"**

Commissioned by the Point Park University Dance Department

*February 2017*

Choreography by Rubén Graciani

#### **Arrangement: "soniChroma"**

*February 2017*

Wind ensemble arrangement of Gene Koshinski's percussion concerto

**Sound Design, Composition, & Music Production: "Eurydice"**  
Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama, directed by Alex Frantz  
*April 20–22, 2016*

**Presentation: "Being a Composer"**

With Pittsburgh Public Schools  
*February 4, 2016 • Pittsburgh, PA*

Presentation on being a composer and the composition of my piece "Turning in Air" for wind ensemble.

**Presentation: "Understanding Contemporary Music"**

Carnegie Mellon University Osher Lifelong Learning Institute  
*April 7, 2015 • Pittsburgh, PA*

**Composition: "the music in their strings"**

Composition & music production  
*2014*

CD length work inspired by the art & poetry of Egon Schiele.

**Arrangement: "Alternating Current"**

Piano reductions of Adam Silverman's saxophone concertos.  
*2013*

**Awards & Honors**

**NAT 28 Pittsburgh Composers' Project, Winner**

"Tethers, Capsules, and Collisions"  
*February 2020*

**NAT 28 Pittsburgh Composers' Project, Winner**

"Unorganized Lightning"  
*February 2017*

**Carnegie Mellon University ProSEED Grant Recipient**

"playinaround"  
*2015*

**Student Research & Creative Activities Award**

"Imprints & Abstractions"  
*2014*

**Young Artist Composition Award, PMTA**

West Chester University of Pennsylvania, "Turning Leaves" Chamber Opera  
2014

**Professional Affiliations**

**Dalcroze Society of America**

2016 - present

**American Society of Performers, Composers, and Publishers (ASCAP)**

2011 - present

**Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society**

2014 - present

**Software Proficiencies**

**Music Software**

Ableton Live, Digital Performer, Dorico, Finale, MAX/MSP, MuseScore, ProTools/sound recording technology, qLab, Reason, Sibelius.

**Software**

Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, InDesign, Illustrator, Premiere, Express), Google Suite, Microsoft Office, Slack, NeonCRM, WordPress. Mac and Windows.

---

*References available on request.*