

SAM BIVENS, PH.D.

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EDUCATION

- 2018 **Eastman School of Music**, *Doctor of Philosophy in Music Theory*
“Form and Forms in Wagner’s *Die Walküre*,” advised by William M. Marvin
- 2013 **Eastman School of Music**, *Master of Arts in Music Theory Pedagogy*
“A Compendium of Chromatic Techniques,” advised by Steven G. Laitz
- 2009 **Butler University**, *Bachelor of Music in Tuba Performance*
High Honors with an Emphasis in Music Theory

WORK EXPERIENCE

CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

- 2022–Present Associate Dean of the Conservatory
- 2017–Present Music Theory Faculty
- 2020–2022 Coordinator and Instructor, Preparatory and Pre-College Music Theory Divisions

EASTMAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

- 2010–2017 Graduate Instructor of Music Theory and Music Theory Teaching Assistant

MUSICAL RESEARCH

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2022 “Teaching Narrative with Coleridge-Taylor’s *Ballade*.” Paper presented at the Theorizing African-American Music Conference, Cleveland, Ohio, 18 June.
- 2021 “A Corpus Approach to Mode in Vicentino’s Chromatic Madrigals.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Gesellschaft für Musiktheorie, Basel, Switzerland, 2 October.
- 2020 “Synthesizing the Tonal and Rhetorical Dramas of Franz Clement’s D-minor Violin Concerto.” Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Music Theory, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 7 November. Co-authored with Tim Cutler.
- 2017 “Time–Pitch Isomorphisms in *Die Walküre*.” Paper presented at the 9th European Music Analysis Conference (EuroMAC), Strasbourg, France, 1 July.
- 2016 “Wagner’s Manifold Sentences.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of Music Theory Midwest, Fayetteville, Arkansas, 7 May.
- 2016 “Tonality and Temporality in the *Todesverkündigung*.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Music Theory Society of New York State, New York, New York, 2 April.
- 2015 “Tonality and Temporality in the *Todesverkündigung*.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Gesellschaft für Musiktheorie, Berlin, Germany, 3 October.

- 2011 “Titular Synthesis in the First Movement of Jennifer Higdon’s Violin Concerto.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the GAMMA-UT, Austin, Texas, 26 March.

INVITED AND INTERNAL ENGAGEMENTS

- 2023 “Analysis, Performance, and Cone’s Three Readings.” Cleveland Institute of Music, Cleveland, Ohio, 5 October. Lecture.
- 2020 Black Student Union Benefit Concert. Cleveland Institute of Music, Cleveland, Ohio, 18 October. Round-table discussion with Drs. Susan McClary and Keith Fitch.
- 2020 “Studying the Score: Performance and Analysis.” Cleveland Institute of Music, Cleveland, Ohio, 20 August. Lecture with Phil Setzer of the Emerson String Quartet.
- 2017 “Understanding Contemporary Music Theory.” Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio, 11 October. Lecture.

HIGHER-EDUCATION RESEARCH

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 “Embracing a Culture of Assessment at an Arts Conservatory.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Assessment Institute, Indianapolis, Indiana, 30 October. Co-authored with Dean Southern and Alex Cooke.

AWARDS

- 2017 **Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student**, University of Rochester
- 2016 **Presser Graduate Music Award**, Eastman School of Music
- 2012 **Teaching Assistant Prize for Excellence in Teaching**, Eastman School of Music
- 2008 **Presser Undergraduate Scholarship**, Butler University

GRANTS

- 2016 **Professional Development Committee Grant**, Eastman School of Music, \$300
- 2015 **Professional Development Committee Grant**, Eastman School of Music, \$400
- 2011 **Professional Development Committee Grant**, Eastman School of Music, \$765

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (SELECT)

ADMINISTRATION

- 2023–Present **“Business Model 2.0” Task Force**, Staff Chair
- 2021–2022 **Core Curriculum Division**, Division Head
- 2021–2022 **Theory Faculty Search Committee**, Chair

COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES

- 2023–Present **Title IX Advisor**
- 2022 **“Prep 2.0” Curriculum Committee**, Member
- 2021–Present **Provost’s Faculty Advisory Council**, Member
- 2021–2022 **Faculty Senate**, Assistant Secretary
- 2021–2022 **Title IX Committee**, Member

- 2020–2021 **Provost Search Committee**, Member
- 2019–2024 **Kulas Hall Renovation Task Force**, Member
- 2018–2022 **DMA Committee**, Member
- 2018–2021 **Faculty Senate**, At-Large Voting Member

COMPETITION ADJUDICATION

- 2021–Present **Milhaud Competition**, Juror (×2)
- 2020–Present **Concerto Competition**, Juror (×3)

DISCIPLINARY SERVICE

- 2023–2025 **Society for Music Theory**
Professional Development Committee, Chair
- 2022–2023 **Society for Music Theory**
Professional Development Committee, Member
- 2021–Present **Outside Reviewer**
Journal of Music Theory (×1), *Music Analysis* (×2)
- 2018–Present **Educational Testing Service**
AP Reader in Music Theory
- 2014–2017 ***Intégral***, Editor
Volumes 28/29 (2014–2015), 30 (2016), and 31 (2017)
- 2013 ***Intégral***, Subscriptions Manager
Volume 27 (2013)
- 2012 ***Intégral***, Reviews Editor
Volume 26 (2012)

ADVISING

- 2019–Present **Cleveland Institute of Music**

DMA Documents

- Katelyn Croft (2026, Harp): TBD
- Konrad Kowal (2024, Violin): “Paweł Kochański’s Influence on Karol Szymanowski’s Musical Style”

DMA Lecture Recitals

- Sarah Hyo-kyung Ha (2019, Piano): “*Davidsbündlertänze*: Poetic Schumann in Transition”

Undergraduate Senior Theses

- Will Beardslee (2023): “Exoticism in Dvořák’s American Period”
- Huan Zhang (2022): “The Subconsciousness of Music in Support of the Words: An Analysis of Monteverdi’s *Il ritorno d’Ulisse in patria*, Act I, Scene 1”
- Xiaoge Zhang (2022): “Music and Drama in *Rigoletto*”
- Philipp Elssner (2021): “Embodied Virtuosity: A Corporeal Study of Paganini’s 24 Caprices”
- Juan Riveros (2021): “Theory of the Harp: An Integrated Approach to Music Theory at the Harp”
- Eric Juneau (2020): “Neo–Neo-Riemannian Theory and the Forgotten Seventh Chord”
- Martha Mulcahy (2019): “Seeking Closure in Mahler’s Sixth Symphony”

RELEVANT TRAINING

- 2023 Quattro Leadership Program
Partners in Performance
- 2021 Basic Title IX Investigator Training, Advanced Title IX Investigator Training
Bricker & Eckler

ADDITIONAL COURSEWORK

- 2024 Mahler
Dr. Susan McClary, Case Western Reserve University
- 2022 The Racial Politics of Classical Music
Dr. Chris Jenkins, Oberlin College and Conservatory
- 2021 Pretonal Theory and Analysis
Dr. Susan McClary, Case Western Reserve University

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

- 2008–2011 **Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra**, Evansville, IN
Substitute musician for both subscription and pops concerts
- 2008–2011 **Owensboro Symphony Orchestra**, Owensboro, KY
Substitute musician for both subscription and pops concerts

LANGUAGES

- GERMAN C1; conversationally fluent with full reading knowledge
- SPANISH B1; intermediate
- DUTCH A2; beginner
- MANDARIN A1; beginner

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- 2023–Present Pre-Concert Lecturer
Cleveland Chamber Music Society (×1)

CIVIL SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERING

- 2024–Present City of Cleveland Heights
Member, Citizens Advisory Committee
- 2021 Advisor, High School Job Shadowing Week for the Toledo School for the Arts
- 2020–2022 Ohio Secretary of State
Precinct Election Official (×1) and Voting Location Manager (×4) for General, Primary, and Special Elections

INTERESTS

- RESEARCH Wagner, Dvořák, Verdi, the late nineteenth century, opera, music theory pedagogy, technology in music theory, the role of cognitive biases in perception and analysis, issues of data visualization
- PERSONAL Aviation, the history of spaceflight, beekeeping, veg(etari)anism, open-source technology, reading

TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS

- PYTHON** Multiple small projects coded as pedagogical aids.
- LINUX/FOSS** Fedora and Ubuntu operating systems, Inkscape, GIMP, LibreOffice, Shell/Bash.
- LILYPOND** Advanced knowledge of this text-input music notation software. Some freelancing experience preparing musical examples and Schenker graphs. Contributor to the Mutoxia Project.
- L^AT_EX** Extensive typesetting experience with L^AT_EX, X_YL^AT_EX, LuaL^AT_EX, and Beamer. Some freelancing experience preparing theses, résumés, curricula vitæ, and bibliographies.
- TikZ** Intermediate knowledge of this powerful graphic component of L^AT_EX.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Gesellschaft für Musiktheorie
Music Theory Midwest
Music Theory Society of New York State
Society for Music Theory

REFERENCES

Dean Southern, DMA

Dean of the Institute
Cleveland Institute of Music
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Hallie Moore

Associate Dean for Student Success
Cleveland Institute of Music
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Elliot Korth

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Alex Cooke, DMA

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