

SHANA MASHEGO, DMA

ETHNOMUSICOLOGIST SOPRANO EDUCATOR

Curriculum Vitae

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Weblinks:

Online Masterclass: "The Origin, History, and Performance Practice of The Negro Spiritual" (Masterclass)
Southwestern Oklahoma State University School of Music, Weatherford, OK

<https://youtu.be/5XbqofTNU50>

Education

08/2005-12/2010

Doctor of Musical Arts: Ethnomusicology & Voice

The University Of Arizona - Tucson, AZ

Studied Vocal Performance and Ethnomusicology with focus upon Africana Studies and African American Female Musicians

- Received The University of Arizona School of Music Graduate Student Scholarship which included a full tuition stipend for the entirety of the doctoral journey
- Awarded full sponsorship for research and presentations on the African American Spiritual at the Center for Black Music Research in Chicago, IL
- Awarded a full Graduate Associate Teaching Appointment: Taught American Popular Music History, and worked as a mentor for Fulbright Scholars

08/2003-05/2005

Master of Arts: Research Methods & Music

Texas Southern University - Houston, TX

Studied Research Methods in the English, Communications and African American History Departments while studying Vocal Music in the Music Department.

- Awarded The Texas Southern University Department of Fine Arts Graduate Scholarship
- Aided in organizing the first Texas Southern University International Symposium on the Life and Works of Ralph Ellison

08/1991 - 08/2003

Bachelor of Arts: Music

Texas Southern University - Houston, TX

Explored the full range of music study while contributing to the student government of the Department of Fine Arts and the Texas Southern University Student Government Association.

- Received the Texas Southern University Fine Arts Student Tuition Scholarship
- Served as President of The Fine Arts Student Government Association

07/2020 - 09/2020

US Public Policy Certificate Program: United States Public Policy

Harvard University - HarvardX Online Initiative

Received comprehensive instruction related to U.S. public policies including social policy, welfare and income policy, fiscal and monetary policy, and foreign policy which has proven highly valuable for work as an African American social justice and equity research consultant.

Faculty, Research & Administrative Experience

08/2022 - Current

Adjunct Professorial Lecturer

Department of Performing Arts

American University, Washington D.C.

- Teach and develop curricula for Understanding Music and World Music courses included within the American University Core Curriculum with special focus on the chronological history of the African Diaspora, African American musicians, the vast music genre contributions made by the African American, the underlying socio-cultural narrative of the African American with focus upon historical memory, and the copious musical contributions made by African American women.

07/2020 - Current

Cultural Research Consultant

African American Community Initiatives

Kansas Interfaith Action, Lawrence, KS

- Teach, source, create and prepare materials and planning documents for the organization's racial justice initiatives
- Develop lesson plans, instructional materials and oral presentations for Cultural Sensitivity and Inclusion online training courses
- Lead social justice teams in developing innovative and cutting-edge approaches at all levels with effective resource allocation and strategic planning

10/2019 - 05/2021

Faculty Member-Instructor

Stratford University|Stratford Language Institute, Falls Church, VA

- Delivered 18 hours per week of classroom lectures in both online and in-person formats while instructing students from Tunisia, Morocco, Mongolia, Serbia, Saudi Arabia, and Côte d'Ivoire in American English, University Writing Mastery, and Research Concepts
- Constructed in-person and online course curricula
- Created materials and exercises to illustrate the application of cross-cultural communication concepts
- Contributed to planning appropriate and engaging lessons for both classroom and distance learning applications
- Planned, prepared and delivered lessons on American English mastery, American literature, and grammar to students daily
- Led student recruitment and retention activities in order to maintain a high-quality student body population
- Established the University's first Cross-Cultural Student Research Program

11/2011 - 11/2018

Diversity & Worship Arts Director

Spring Woods UMC, St. Luke's Gethsemane UMC, First United Methodist Church Westchase, Houston, TX

- Directed and managed all administrative areas related to music, worship and diversity for three United Methodist Churches
- Directed and managed all music and arts activity on each campus
- Managed all budgets, grants and special funds related to worship, arts and diversity initiatives
- Educated clergy and staff on cultural sensitivity principles with special emphasis on Black, Indigenous and People of Color
- Improved cultural competency by effectively managing communication and correspondence with diverse parish community members
- Developed partnerships with global clergy leaders, minority businesses and organizations to build awareness, increase support and share resources
- Acted as a diversity lead for the Texas Annual Conference Worship Committee
- Planned, facilitated and executed music and logistics for large scale events and services of worship

08/2012 - 03/2017

Faculty Member-Instructor

Lone Star College System, Houston, TX

- Delivered 18 hours per week of classroom lectures, instructing over 30 students per semester in English for Speaker of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Conducted intensive summer courses in analysis of English texts
- Led committee creating school-wide assessments and producing exams used throughout English for Speakers of Other Languages department

08/2007 - 12/2013

Faculty Member-Adjunct Professor

Texas Southern University, Houston, TX

- Taught African American Fine Arts Appreciation, African American Song Literature, Music Fundamentals, and Cross Cultural Communication to classes of 50-60 students
- Taught Applied Voice, Class Voice and acted as the Music Director for the Theater Department
- Evaluated student learning by creating and applying course competencies and accurately evaluating student progress
- Probed, encouraged and facilitated class discussions by building discussions into lessons, asking open-ended questions and using techniques to track student participation and actively solicit input
- Assisted and identified at-risk students to eliminate student barriers to learning.
- Led student recruitment and retention activities in order to maintain a high-quality student body population

08/2005- 05/2007

Graduate Teaching Associate

The University Of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

- Instructed general music courses including American Popular Music History
- Acted as an administrative assistant for two full professors
- Helped to develop and implement academic incentives geared toward retention and degree completion
- Worked as a mentor and instructor with the Fulbright Student Program in connection with the Center for English as a Second Language
- Conducted research in Africana studies with faculty mentors
- Led student recruitment and retention activities in order to maintain a high-quality student body population

05/2003 - 05/2005

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Texas Southern University, Houston, TX

- Checked assignments, proctored tests, and provided grades according to university standards
- Prepared music lessons according to course outline to convey all required material and deepen student understanding of subject matter
- Liaised between music faculty and students to answer questions and optimize faculty time
- Supported department members with administrative, research and academic assistance
- Led student recruitment and retention activities in order to maintain a high-quality student body population

Publications

- Dr. Shana Mashego & The Sacred Ensemble, *The Hymn Project*, A Seven Volume Set of Internationally Celebrated Hymns set for Piano Quintet, String Quartet, Winds, Organ, Harp & Soprano. Produced by Sacred Records, Vol. 1 2015, Vols. 2 & 3 2016.
- Dr. Shana Mashego, “Formality meets Hip Hop: The Influence of the Hip Hop Generation on the Music Liturgy of Euro-African Church Denominations” *The Black Church and Hip-Hop Culture: Toward Bridging the Generational Divide*. ed. Emmett G. Price III, Scarecrow Press. January 2012.
- Dr. Shana Mashego, “The Music of the Black Church” *The Encyclopedia of African American Music*. ed. Emmett G. Price III, Greenwood Press. December 2010.
- Shana Thomas Mashego *Music From The Soul of Woman: The Influence of The African American Presbyterian And Methodist Church Traditions on The Classical Compositions of Florence Price and Dorothy Rudd Moore*, DMA Dissertation-Lecture Document, The University of Arizona 2010.

Work In Progress

- Dr. Shana Mashego, *The Origin Story of The African American Musician: From African Origins to Post-George Floyd America*. Forthcoming 2025
- Dr. Shana Mashego & The Sacred Ensemble, *The Hymn Project*, A Seven Volume Set of Internationally Celebrated Hymns set for Piano Quintet, String Quartet, & Soprano. Sacred Records, Vol 4,5,6,7 Projected Recording Period 2021-2025

Certifications

- Title IX Coordinator Certification for Students & Faculty-Higher Education, EmPower EEO Solutions, August 2018
- Clery Act Training Certification Campus Security Authority-Higher Education, EmPower EEO Solutions, August 2018
- Certified TEFL & Cross Cultural Communication Educator, IARC 9/2019

Languages

- Native English Speaker
- Pronunciation Proficiency in German, French, Italian & Spanish

Presentations

Selected Recent Presentations

- Shana Mashego, DMA (2022) "Racism in America: The History of Racist Ideas in the United States" Kansas Interfaith Network, Lawrence, KS
- Shana Mashego, DMA (2020) "The Origin, History, and Performance Practice of The Negro Spiritual" (Masterclass) Southwestern Oklahoma State University School of Music, Weatherford, OK
- Shana Mashego, DMA (2020) "The State of African Americans in Post Presidential Election America" St. Mark United Methodist, Wichita, KS
- Shana Mashego, DMA (2020) "The History of The African in America" Black Empowerment Black Female Coaches Association, Claremont, CA
- Shana Mashego, DMA (2020) "African Americans and The 21st Century Church" The Society for Faith and Justice, Philadelphia, PA
- Shana Mashego, DMA (2019) "The Anatomic Beauty of the Vocal Instrument" University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg, Greensburg, PA
- Shana Mashego, DMA (2018) "The Singer's Breath: A Vocal Intensive" (Masterclass) Presented by The Private Voice Studio of Dr. Shana Mashego, Trinity Lutheran Church, Houston, TX
- Shana Mashego, DMA (2016) "What Wondrous Love is This" Arranged by Christopher T.F. Hanson, A Commission Honoring the Artist and the Artpiece *The Resurrection* by Artist Kermit Oliver For The Sake of Art Wearable Art Gala and Competition, Houston, TX
- Shana Mashego, DMA (2011) "Oh Freedom: A Freedom Song Collaboration Including Dance, Poetry & Song" Presented for the opening of *The Whole World Was Watching* Photography Exhibit, The African American Library at the Gregory School, Freedmen's Town, Houston, TX

Selected National Conferences During Graduate Studies

- Shana Thomas Mashego (2006) “Dismantling Stereotypes of African-American Cultural Groups” Cottonwood de Tucson, Tucson, AZ
- Shana Thomas (2006) “The Spirituals of Harry Burleigh” Center for Black Music Research Conference, Chicago IL
- Shana Thomas (2005) “A Look Into the Lives of Two Black Female Composers; Florence Price and Margaret Bonds.” Texas Southern University
- Shana Thomas (2004) “Out of the Hospital and Under the Bar; Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Chapter in “Invisible Man”. Ralph Ellison Symposium, Texas Southern University
- Shana Thomas (2004) “The Life and Works of Joseph Evans-African American Neo-Classical Composer.” Texas Southern University

Memberships

- The Society for Ethnomusicology (SEM)
- The College Music Society (CMS)
- The Society for Faith and Justice (SFJ)
- University of Arizona Alumni Association (UAAA)

Biography

Dr. Shana Mashego holds the Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music & the Master of Arts Degree in Music & Research from Texas Southern University, as well as the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Ethnomusicology & Voice from The University of Arizona. During Dr. Mashego's doctoral degree journey, her interest in the lives of African Americans came into full focus. Shana's initial research concentrations were primarily centered in Ethnomusicology and Voice with a focus upon the lives and works of Black Female Composers, so, therefore, she was given the opportunity to receive extensive instruction in Anthropology with an emphasis on African American culture from the Research Faculty of The University of Arizona Africana Studies Program. This specialized education combined with a Graduate Assistantship with The University of Arizona Center for English as a Second Language led Dr. Mashego to a love for the beauty of ethnicity.

Upon receiving her first university teaching appointment, Dr. Mashego made a commitment to serve as an advocate for underrepresented and international students. Dr. Mashego believes that if each student is given the proper amount of attention and equitable opportunities, they will become whole and balanced scholars. To this end, Dr. Mashego has worked in the college classroom for her entire career, even while balancing concurrent diversity consultancy appointments.

As a faculty member, Dr. Mashego has served students at Texas Southern University, The University of Arizona, Lone Star College System, the Stratford University Language Institute and most recently, American University. During her

teaching appointment at Texas Southern University, Dr. Mashego developed additional curricula to accompany the standard academic planning for the music department's Fine Arts Appreciation core course and for the department's Song Literature course. This additional curricula gave students an overview of the accomplishments of African American musicians and fine artists and allowed each student to explore the compositional output and lives of African American classical composers. This curricula has now become the outline of a comprehensive 'live' textbook project that encompasses the vast contributions of the African American musician while describing their historical chronology.

Dr. Mashego's work probes into the origin story of African Americans, as well as their contributions, struggles, triumphs, and disparities while living inside of the United States of America. She also studies and disseminates information related to the US Political System as it relates to African Americans, Indigenous Americans, and People of Color. Dr. Mashego has contributed research and designed diversity and inclusion training programs for many organizations including ongoing work with Kansas Interfaith Action, a multi-faith, advocacy organization committed to eradicating social injustice. For over seven years, Dr. Mashego worked with various congregations of The Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church as a Worship Arts and Diversity Administrator. During this time, Dr. Mashego aided churches in their overall worship arts programming management as well as their diversity and inclusion efforts in worship, music, arts, and staffing.

In 2014, Dr. Mashego founded Dr. Shana Mashego & The Sacred Ensemble, A Christian Hymn Preservation Ensemble where she serves as Soprano and Visionary. The Ensemble includes Soprano & Piano Quintet, and together they enjoy a variety of recording opportunities including the completion of three album recordings as part of a seven-volume hymn and spirituals preservation project, and performances on a wide range of stages.

As a private voice instructor, Shana believes that the vocal instrument is one of the strongest and most delicate of musical instruments. She is a strong proponent of vocal health and ensures that every student she encounters is equipped with a thorough knowledge of the vocal anatomy and the unique physics of the vocal instrument. Dr. Mashego is also an expert on the preservation and performance practice of the Negro Spiritual.

Her ongoing study of the complex system of American Social Policy and the vast musical contributions of the African American musician is a testament to Dr. Mashego's allegiance to the continual research of the African American. Dr. Shana Mashego's hope is to continue to live a life filled with music, teaching, research, and the work of diversity and inclusion.