

Dr. Emilie Bertram

Emilie Bertram serves as Director of Choral Activities, Music Department Co-Chair and Assistant Professor of Music at Waldorf University in Forest City, Iowa, where she conducts the Waldorf University Choir, Schola Cantorum and teaches courses in conducting and choral methods.

Prior to her appointment at Waldorf, Dr. Bertram conducted ensembles during her studies at the University of Colorado Boulder, including Treble Chorus, University Choir and University Singers. She has taught in public and private school systems in Minnesota, New York, and California, instructing general music, piano, voice and choral music. Dr. Bertram's ensembles have performed in San Francisco, Anaheim, Seattle, Vancouver, Ireland, New York City and were featured at the 2017 California ACDA State Convention. Dr. Bertram enjoys creating intergenerational, community-based music experiences and has collaborated with groups such as the ASTER Women's Chamber Choir, NordKor Children's Choir, North Iowa Choral Society and Austin Symphony Orchestra. In addition, she has sung as a chorister with Concordia Choir, CU University Singers, and The Choral Project (San José, CA).

An active clinician and scholar, Dr. Bertram has presented various research and pedagogy topics at National Collegiate Choral Organization National Conference, Iowa Music Educators Association Conference, California Music Educators Conference, has led workshops on the collaborative pianist/choral conductor relationship, and is an adjudicator for the Iowa High School Music Association. Her research on "Utilizing the Principles of Storytelling to Create Engaging Concert Programs" was published as a featured article in the *Choral Journal* (2021). She was also chosen as a contributing author to *In Search of Inspiration: Interviews with Notable Choral Conductors* (GIA, 2021). Dr. Bertram believes in employing ensemble pedagogy focused on active listening, technical skill development, musical nuance, the intentional fostering of intrinsic motivation and the building of community, resulting in communicative, authentic performance experiences. She aspires to positively impact the profession of choral music by cultivating a model of longevity and vitality for the art form.

Dr. Bertram holds degrees from the University of Colorado Boulder (DMA, Choral Conducting and Literature), Ithaca College (MM, Music Education), and Concordia College (BM, Secondary Vocal Music Education). She has been privileged to study with conductors Ann Howard Jones, Gregory Gentry, Joan Conlon, René Clausen, Janet Galván, Sharon Hansen and Richard Bjella.