

**Joshua Shepherd, DMA**  
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JoshuaShepherdConductor.com | JoshuaDShepherd@gmail.com | 786-877-2801

Accomplished and inspiring conductor/administrator/performer/educator who collaborates productively with musicians from all walks of life. Passionate about education and sharing orchestral music with newcomers. Experience working with vocal and instrumental soloists.

Converts crisis into opportunity: during the pandemic, created a new community orchestra with Nashville musicians, which provided live orchestral music experiences for musicians and audiences alike. Cultivates relationships with local news media and concert venues. Seasoned leader of both musical and administrative tasks.

As string player, knowledgeable of orchestra operations, performance practice, repertoire and union work environment parameters. Skillfully balances structure and order with genuine warmth and humor during rehearsals. 2022 and 2023 American Prize in Conducting finalist and American Prize in Orchestral Performance finalist.

### **Current Position**

**The People's Orchestra of Nashville (Nashville, TN)** 2020-Present  
(formerly the Nashville Reading Orchestra)  
Music Director and Conductor

- *Conducts each rehearsal and performance, speaks with the audience, selects repertoire, writes program notes/scripts, manages personnel and music librarian tasks, creates social media presence, writes press releases, secures donations and local news coverage of events, and develops relationships with the concert venues.*
- *Music performed: from standard symphonic, operatic, ballet and pops repertoire, and lesser known works, often featuring vocal and instrumental soloists.*

### **Cover and Guest Conducting Experience**

**Orchestra Kentucky (Bowling Green, KY)** 2023  
*Cover conductor for December concert (conducted rehearsal and concert due to Music Director illness).*

**Huntsville Symphony Orchestra (Huntsville, AL)** 2023  
*Cover conductor for April and September 2023 concerts.*

**Butler Philharmonic Orchestra (Hamilton, OH)** 2022-2023  
*Cover conductor for December 2022, May and December 2023 concerts.*

**Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra (Murfreesboro, TN)** 2022-2023  
*Cover conductor for November and December 2022, and April and December 2023 concerts.*

**Belmont University (Nashville, TN)** 2022  
*Cover conductor for the musical production, Into the Woods.*

**Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra (Murfreesboro, TN)** 2021  
*Guest Conductor for Veterans Concert, first performance since COVID lockdown was lifted.*

**Light Opera Theatre of Sacramento (Sacramento, CA)** 2019  
*Cover conductor for Gilbert & Sullivan production, Yeomen of the Guard.*

**Sacramento Youth Symphony (Sacramento, CA)** 2019  
*Guest Conductor for the 'Classic Orchestra' rehearsal.*

**Orchestral Experience** 2002-Present

22 years' experience performing as violinist/violist in professional orchestras throughout the USA and China. More information upon request.

**Teaching Experience** 2002-Present

Experience teaching K-12 and college students in the individual and group settings. Has taught at music camps in FL, AL, NY and TN, and at Union University and Belmont University.

**Education**

University of Miami (FL)  
**Doctor of Musical Arts in Viola Performance** 2011  
University of South Florida  
**Master of Music in Instrumental Conducting & Viola Performance** 2004  
**Graduate Certificate in Viola Performance** 2004  
Florida Atlantic University  
**Bachelor of Music Education (Violin/Viola/Voice)** 2002

**Workshops**

International Conductors Guild/Fort Wayne Philharmonic Conductor Workshop 2023  
CCM Opera Bootcamp at University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory 2021  
Cortona Sessions for New Music Virtual Summit 2020  
Cascade Conducting Online Seminar 2020  
Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music 2019  
Conductor's Institute at the University of South Carolina 2018

**Conducting Teachers**

Dr. William Wiedrich, Cristian Măcelaru, Octavio Más-Arocas, Dr. Donald Portnoy, Peter Jaffe, Paul Vermel, Sarah Ioannides, Mark Gibson, Andrew Constantine, Ennio Nicotra, Aaron Kula

**Memberships**

International Conductors Guild  
League of American Orchestras

**Honors**

Finalist: The American Prize in Conducting-community/school orchestra, 2022 & 2023  
Finalist: The American Prize in Orchestral Performance-community division, 2022 & 2023