

ROBERT E. WILLS

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PROFESSIONAL MUSIC EXPERIENCE:

ACTOR / MUSICAL THEATER MUSIC DIRECTOR

- 1) Past acting credits with Maui OnStage include – Nostradamus in *Something Rotten*, Colonel Jessup in *A Few Good Men*, Nicely Nicely in *Guys and Dolls*, Judge in *Inherit the Wind*, George in *La Cage Aux Folles*. ProArts of the Pacific – Santa in *The Reluctant Elf*, El Gallo in *The Fantasticks*, MAPA (Maui Academy of Performing Arts) – Narrator/Mysterious Man in *Into the Woods*
- 2) Music Director for numerous productions at the Historic Iao Theater for Maui OnStage including *Saturday with Sondheim*, *The Rocky Horror Show* twice, *Matilda the musical*, *Annie*, *The Sound of Music*, *The King and I*, and the 80th anniversary of the Iao Theater
- 3) Music director for the MAPA production of *Les Misérables* – Castle Theater at the Maui Arts & Cultural Center. Over 6000 people attended this production. Hailed as the best musical production in the history of Maui. 26-member orchestra for that production (large by any Broadway musical standard). Video of dress rehearsal – One Day More - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mLa8_vCWe40

ORCHESTRA DIRECTOR

- 1) Founder and Music Director Emeritus for the Maui Chamber Orchestra.

Founded the orchestra and was music director from 2010 – 2019.

Founded the Board and secured the status of a 501C3 charity. Inaugural year was the 2014-2015 season. Preceding that were four years of establishing the Maui Masterworks Festival (summer every year). The size of the orchestra, chorus and audience grew.

Exceptional musicianship and conducting skills, Audience Growth, Fund Raising,

Developed a series entitled “Conversations with the Conductor” meeting with the audience before every Sunday concert – explaining what to listen for, how the piece came to be written, demonstrations, history, etc.

Established artistic objectives – growing the concert season from three concerts per year to six concerts per year in just three years, all the while building audience demand in a climate that is unfamiliar with classical music. Many of the pieces performed between 2010 – 2019 were Maui premieres.

Developed the “Young Artist Showcase” series and concerto competition. This concert featured a Hawaii music student in performance with the orchestra.

Developed a “Musicals in Concert” series – first performance was WEST SIDE STORY in concert – the entire show in May 2017 (In the show’s 60th anniversary year). According to Music Theater International (the business granting licenses to a majority of Broadway musicals), the only other

orchestras given this rare license to do the entirety of West Side Story in concert are San Francisco Symphony in 2014, New York Philharmonic in 2016 and the Philadelphia Orchestra in 2017. In the next year we performed Gershwin *Crazy for You*

- 2) September 1989 - June 1990: Orchestral Director for the Greater Minneapolis Jewish Community Center. Orchestra director for the 40-piece orchestra.

PROFESSIONAL BARITONE SOLOIST MUSIC EXPERIENCE:

Proficiency singing in 6 languages – English, Latin, Spanish, Italian, German, French. Some experience (minimal) in Polish, Hebrew, Arabic, Russian

Soloist with the Minnesota Orchestra, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Austin Symphony, Rochester Symphony, Dakota Valley Symphony, Maui Choral Arts Association, Maui Chamber Orchestra.

Works as a baritone soloist include –

Brahms - Requiem
Handel – Messiah
Vaughan Williams – Dona Nobis Pacem, Five Mystical Songs
Mahler – Lieder eines fahrenden Gesellen
DuBois - The seven last words of Christ
Mendelssohn – Elijah (role of Elijah)
Faure' - Requiem
J.S. Bach – Magnificat, Christmas Oratorio, many Cantatas
Copland Old American Songs (both sets)

Overseas concerts in Dachau, Lucerne, Vienna, Rome, Assisi, Florence, Venice, Jerusalem

Former member of Minnesota Opera Company and Minnesota Chorale (section leader)

CHORAL DIRECTOR

- 1) August 2010 – May 2019 - Founder, Director and Conductor of the Maui Chamber Orchestra Chorus and Summer Maui Masterworks Festival Chorus

This was held every summer from 2010 – 2014. This chorus developed into the Maui Chamber Orchestra Chorus. Mr. Wills was the founder and director of that chorus from its inception through May 2018. Choral works not only included classical repertoire (Handel: Messiah, Haydn: Creation, Bach: Christmas Oratorio, Vivaldi: Gloria, Mozart: Requiem, Faure: Requiem, Mozart: Mass in C Minor “Great Mass”) but also included music for the theater (Bernstein: West Side Story, Gershwin: Crazy For You).

- 2) October 1994 to 2007 - Church of The Maternity of the Blessed Virgin

Under my direction, the adult choir received and accepted a Papal invitation to sing at St. Peter’s in the Vatican on June 21, 1998. This concert tour of Italy included concerts in Rome, Assisi and Venice. During this concert tour, the choir gave the world premiere of “Earth Turns Inside Out” by Denise Rippenrop. Produced and directed four choir CD’s; a live concert recording of Dvorak, Vierne, F.M. Christiansen & Rutter works; also a

live recording of Magnificat by J.S. Bach and Gloria by Vivaldi, a live concert of Requiem by John Rutter, a live recording of Mass in C K258. by W.A. Mozart and a live recording of an all Vaughan Williams concert – English Folk Song Suite, Five Mystical Songs, Dona Nobis Pacem.

2) November 1978 to October 1994 - Church of The Nativity of Our Lord

I have produced, directed and recorded three record albums with the adult choir, the first in 1981, the second in 1985, and the third in 1990. I initiated a choir exchange program with nearby parishes of all Christian faiths & Jewish faiths. The Nativity Choir has sung with the St. Olaf College Choir, under the direction of Robert Shaw, in a performance of Bach's "Passion according to St. Matthew".

The Nativity Choir has performed for Pope John Paul II as the featured choir for solemn Sunday liturgy at St. Peter's in Rome on June 21, 1992.

The Nativity choir also had a 1987 concert tour of Germany, Austria and Switzerland with concerts in Dachau, Vienna, Laufen and Lucerne. This tour also included a performance of the Schubert G major Mass at the Lichtentaler Kirche in Vienna where Schubert was the organist and choirmaster.

3) August 1986 to May 1987 - MN. Mining and Manufacturing

During my tenure as director of the 3M's women's chorus I conducted 3M'S sixty-piece orchestra and one hundred voice combined chorus in two sold-out Christmas performances at the Ordway Music Theater. I also did the stage and musical direction for their annual Spring show.

CONDUCTED WORKS

Conducted [orchestral](#) works include:

Bach J.S.

- Brandenburg Concerto 2
- Brandenburg Concerto 3
- Brandenburg Concerto 4

Barber - Knoxville: Summer of 1915

Beethoven

- Symphony #1
- Symphony #2
- Symphony #4
- Symphony #6
- Symphony #8

Bernstein - West Side Story

Brahms

- Academic Festival Overture
- Serenade #2

Britten - Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra

Charpentier - Noël pour les instruments, H531 & 534

Chopin - Piano Concerto no. 1

Copland

Fanfare for The Common Man

Hoe Down

Saturday Night Waltz

Corral Nocturne

Variations on a Shaker Melody

An Outdoor Overture

Appalachian Spring – original 13 instrument chamber version

Corelli - Concerto Grosso in G minor, Op. 6 No. 8, “Christmas Concerto”

Debussy – Sarabande

Faure - Pelleas et Melisande Suite

Gershwin – Lullaby

Glinka - Spanish Overture #2: Summer Night in Madrid

Gounod - Petit Symphonie

Greig

Peer Gynt Suite 1

Peer Gynt Suite 2

Holberg Suite

Handel

Water Music Suite #1 in F major, HWV 348

Concerto Grosso, Op. 6 No.1

Haydn

Symphony #94

Trumpet Concerto

Symphony #102

Cello concerto

Mendelssohn

Hebrides Overture (Fingal’s Cave)

Violin Concerto

L. Mozart - Toy symphony

W. A. Mozart

Marriage of Figaro Overture K. 492

Overture to The Magic Flute K. 620

Piano Concerto #20 K. 466
Symphony #41 "Jupiter" K. 551
Symphony #40 K. 550
Symphony #35 "Haffner" K. 385
Overture – La Clemenza di Tito K. 621
Horn Concerto no. 2 in E-flat K. 417
Clarinet Concerto K. 622

Porter - 100th Birthday Tribute to Cole Porter

Prokofiev

Peter and The Wolf
Overture on Hebrew Themes

Ravel - Ma Mère l'Oye (Mother Goose) Suite

Rodgers - Victory at Sea

Rodrigo - Concierto de Aranjuez

Rossini - Overture to William Tell

Schubert - Symphony #5

Stravinsky - Pulcinella Suite

Telemann

Viola Concerto
Concerto in B-flat Major for 2 oboes, 2 flutes, and 2 strings
Concerto for 3 trumpets, 2 oboes, timpani, strings & b.c.

Thomson - Suite: The River

Tchaikovsky

Nutcracker Suite #1
Piano Concerto #1

Vaughan Williams

English Folk Song Suite
Fantasia on Greensleeves

Vivaldi - Concerto for two trumpets

Warlock - Capriol Suite

Conducted works for [choir and orchestra](#):

Bach, J.S

Magnificat
Christmas Oratorio

DuBois - The seven last words of Christ

Faure'

Cantique de Jean Racine, Op. 11, arranged for MCO inaugural concert by Layton "Skip" James
Requiem
Pavane

Gershwin - Crazy for You

Handel – Messiah

Haydn

Missa Brevis de Sti Johanni de Deo 'Kleine Orgelmesse'
The Creation

Mendelssohn – Elijah

W. A. Mozart

Missa Brevis in Bb K. 275
Vesperae sollene de confessore K. 339
Mass in C major K. 317 "Coronation"
Mass in C K. 258
Requiem K. 626
Mass in c minor K. 427, "Great Mass"

Parry - Ode on the Nativity

Pergolesi – Magnificat

Rutter

Requiem
Brother Heinrich's Christmas

Schubert

Mass in G major
Mass in C major
Mass in A flat major

Vaughan Williams

Dona Nobis Pacem
Five Mystical Songs

Vivaldi - Gloria

EDUCATION:

1. Master's Degree - University of St. Thomas, May 1996
2. BA - College of St. Thomas, May 1986

Professional references attached. Recordings and videos available at www.robertewills.com

Other recordings and videos available upon request.

PROFESSIONAL MUSIC REFERENCES:

- 1) Steven Dascoulias (Former Technical Director – Maui On Stage)
Owner
Camp CenterStage
295 Maple Lane
Livermore, ME 04253
steven@campcenterstage.org
207-500-2233

- 2) Alexis Dascoulias (Former Executive Director – Maui On Stage)
Camp Director / Owner
Camp CenterStage
295 Maple Lane
Livermore, ME 04253
alexis@campcenterstage.org

- 3) Layton “Skip” James, Music Director/Bethel Lutheran Church
42 seasons as Principal Keyboardist (Retired), Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra
2019 Lilac Lane
Hudson, WI 54016-7279
(715) 690-4503
kplmstr1@mac.com
He was the featured harpsichordist on “Messiah” recordings with Robert Shaw and the Atlanta Symphony.

- 4) Benjamin Verdery
Professor of Guitar
Yale School of Music
Artistic Director of the 92 Y
Art of the Guitar Series
www.benjaminverdery.com
Twitter and Instagram: @benverdery
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- 5) Laurence Paxton, Professor
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<http://manoa.hawaii.edu/music/about-us/faculty/larry-paxton/>

- 6) Lynn Erickson, DMA
Trumpet, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra (25 years)
Currently playing with MN Orchestra
4811 W 28th St
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- 7) Rona Landrigan
Concertmistress, Maui Chamber Orchestra
590 Punakea Loop
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rlviolin28@gmail.com
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- 8) Audrey Luna, Soprano
91-1160 Kaileolea Drive #2F2
Ewa Beach, HI 96706
audreyluna@yahoo.com
[808-829-6422](tel:808-829-6422)
Grammy award winning soprano. Metropolitan Opera, Salzburg Festival, the London Symphony Orchestra, the Berlin Philharmonic, and the Royal Opera House – Covent Garden.
<http://audrey-luna.com/>

- 9) John Mount, Professor of Voice / Director of Opera Workshop
University of Hawaiian Manoa
Bass baritone singing with Hawaii Opera Theatre, Santa Fe Opera, Opera Hong Kong, San Francisco Opera. Honolulu Symphony, Denver Symphony.
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- 10) Dr. Maya Hoover, Mezzo Soprano
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