

# Greg Watkins

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*“My objective is to always inspire my students to achieve the seemingly impossible, for it is our dreams that excite us, hope that encourages us, communal support that engages us, obstacles that ignite us, and the hard work that matures us. When much has failed us, it is the music and the discipline thereof that re-admits our focus.” ~Gregory J. Watkins~*

## EDUCATION

Howard University, Washington, DC  
Bachelor of Music, Music Education (May 2014)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### Mount Ennon Baptist Church

March 2016 – March 2017

*Assistant Director of Worship and Arts*

- Supports the vision of the Senior Pastor and Director of Worship and Arts
- Provides musical direction for three (3) adult choirs
- Works in tandem with Media, Drama, and Dance ministries
- Composes literature for ministry needs and affairs including uniform policy, special announcements, agendas, reports
- Directs and supervises in-house productions and other collaborative projects

### The New Macedonia Baptist Church

May 2014 – January 2016

*Director of Music and Creative Arts*

- Supported the vision of the Senior Pastor and Minister of Music
- Provided musical direction for all adult and youth choirs (7)
- Worship leader
- Planned and prepared music for choirs
- Oversaw dance and drama ministries

### Alice Deal Middle School

August 2013 – May 2014

*Chorus Instructor/General Music Intern*

- Planned repertoire and taught music of various genres to chorus (grades 6-8)
- Choreographed and stage performances
- Coordinated collaborative performances with instrumental instructors
- Won 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the 2014 Hershey Park Music In the Parks Festival

### Washington Performing Arts' Children of the Gospel Choir Summer Workshop

July 2013 and July 2015

*Guest Clinician and Director*

- Supported the vision of the Artistic Director
- Taught and conducted music
- Led instructions for Team-Building classes (grades 7-12)

**Isle of Patmos Baptist Church***Director of Music and Arts*

February 2011 – April 2014

- Supported the vision of the Senior Pastor
- Oversaw and managed a ministry comprised of voice (seven adult choirs and one youth choir), instrumental (3-4 piece band), multimedia, and dance.
- Conceived and articulated the vision of the ministry.
- Played (piano/Hammond organ), sung, and directed music for the worship experience, every Sunday.
- Taught, conducted, and accompanied music during rehearsals and performances.
- Organized and planned annual events; prepared repertoire; created choir schedule.
- Developed annual ministry budget.
- Interviewed candidates for staff positioning.
- Scheduled and moderated planning meetings for liaisons and project management team.
- Conceived, produced, and artistically directed the following events: Love Affair (Valentine's Day) Dinner, WinterFest, KIDZ' CHOICE Variety Showcase, and Bound for Sound Campaign Benefit Concert (raising \$80,000 in 80 days in support of a revitalized multimedia project).

**The MusicianShip Washington Youth Choir**

October 2009 – present

*Music Director/Artistic Director*

- Provides leadership, guidance and vision for the organization. Implement strategic plans with a focus on long-range planning and growth.
- Organizes and plan annual concerts; prepares repertoire spanning several genres.
- Teaches, conducts, and accompanies music during rehearsals and performances.
- Recruits and auditions students.
- Locates, hires, and rehearses musicians to accompany the choir.  
Performed for the annual Christmas In Washington taping for the U.S. President, Christmas Party of Vice President Joe Biden, Cathedral Choral Society's Annual High School Choir Festival, Beat the Odds Awards Program hosted by Dr. Marian Wright-Edleman and the Children's Defense Fund, the Centennial Commemoration of the Children's Bureau as hosted by Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the grand opening of the Ford's Theater Center for Education and Leadership, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Teach for America Gala, and Hinton Battle's stageplay LOVE LIES starring Brian MckNight, Angie Stone, and Elise Neal.

**The Children's Theater Workshop**

June – July

*Musical Theater Instructor/Composer/Lyricist/Musical Director*

(2007 - 2010, 2012 - 2017)

- Implements daily (music and musical theater) instruction for grades 3-12.
- Accompanies performers during rehearsals and performances.
- Assists the playwright, director(s), and choreographer(s) in rehearsals.
- Conducts, composes, arranges, and plays music for production.

- Developed weekly lesson plans
- Implemented daily instruction for grades 11-12
- Assigned and managed group projects
- Created and facilitated quizzes, tests, and written/oral/performance exams
- Prepared students for special school performances (assemblies, musical productions)

*“What good are we as mere mortals to consume such a vast amount of knowledge in the building of our own intellect, and (we) never strive to reach out and sow into the lives of other individuals we encounter? We MUST do what we can, TODAY to make a healthy contribution to society in the building of our tomorrow.” ~Gregory J. Watkins~*

## **PROFESSIONAL FIELD EXPERIENCE**

### **Actor/Singer**

*Aida* – Zoser – Constellation Theater Company  
*Regina* – Jazz – Washington National Opera  
*Rock of Ages* – Stacey Jaxx – Workhouse Arts Center  
*Sister Act* – Curtis Jackson – Arts Centric  
*The Lyrics of Sunshine and Shadows* – Paul Laurence Dunbar - Opera North (Philadelphia, PA)  
*The Poet* – Paul Laurence Dunbar – Steven M. Allen presents  
*Dreamgirls* – Toby’s Dinner Theater  
*Blues for a Royal Flush* – Stanford in Washington  
*King Lear* – WSC Avant Bard  
*Black Nativity* – Theater Alliance DC  
*Qadar* – Omani - Smithsonian National Museum of African Art  
*The Gospel at Colonus* – WSC Avant Bard  
*Amalfi Coast Music and Arts Festival* – Networks Production, Voices of Inspiration, U.S. State Dept.

### **Musical Director**

*When a Tree Grows In Brookland* – The Children’s Theater Workshop  
*The Wiz/Dreamgirls* – Duke Ellington School of the Arts  
*The Poet Warriors* – Capital Fringe Festival  
*Crowns* – Delaware Theater Company  
*Four Little Girls* – Project One Voice and The John F. Kennedy Center

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- Special guest feature, The Afro (2005)
- Inductee, National Archives of The Society Incorporated (2013)
- Special guest feature, emPower Magazine (2010)
- Recipient of the ASCAP Foundation/Cherry Lane Foundation Music Alive Scholarship in honor of Quincy Jones (2008)
- Judge, NAACP Local ACT-SO Competition (2011, 2012)
- Special guest feature, The Washington Post (2015)
- Emerging Artist Award, Coalition for African-Americans in the Performing Arts (2015)
- Helen Hayes Award Nomination – *The Gospel At Colonus*, WSC Avant Bard (2018)

**\*References available upon request.**