

Nikisha Williams

Education

Freed-Hardeman University Teaching Licensure Program	2013-2015
The University of Southern Mississippi Master of Music, Choral Conducting	2011-2013
The University of Southern Mississippi Bachelor of Music, Vocal Performance <i>Soprano</i> Minor: Theater	2008-2011

Additional Education

Faulkner State Community College	2007-2008
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Teaching Experience

Adjunct Voice Professor/Ensemble Director Molloy University – Collaborative Arts Project 21	since 2025
• <i>Teach basic vocal pedagogy for healthy vocal production: breathing, vowel shapes, diction, vocal register distinction, nervous system regulation, etc</i> • <i>Create vocal warmups specific to student needs</i> • <i>Coach students on audition material and audition room etiquette</i> • <i>Teach proper self-taping techniques for auditions</i> • <i>Select appropriate repertoire for individual students</i> • <i>Select appropriate repertoire for ensemble singers</i> • <i>Create group vocal warm-ups</i> • <i>Work with a mixed voice group on techniques to sing within an ensemble in a musical: how to blend with other voices, keeping individual vocal line in with different vocal parts, reading and comprehending various music notations, how to follow a music conductor</i> • <i>Conduct songs with ensemble in a performance setting</i>	

Level 1 Music Theory Professor**2022**

NYU Tish – New Studio on Broadway

- *taught basic reading and writing of music notation*
- *Introduced solfege and sight singing*
- *Taught basic keyboard skills*
- *Created own curriculum based on Tonal Harmony 7th Edition Textbook*

Director of Choral Activities**2014-2016**

White Station High School

- *Director, featured performance: International Champions of High School A Cappella Competition New York City, NY 2016*
- *Conductor, featured performance: Tennessee Music Education Association Conference Memphis, TN 2015*
- *Conductor, featured performance: Holocaust Day of Remembrance Tennessee Holocaust Commission Nashville, TN 2015*
- *Director, featured performance: National A Cappella Convention Memphis, TN 2015-2016*
- *Rehearse, 9th Grade Women's Beginning Choir, Honors Intermediate Women's Choir, Honors Advanced Women's Choir, Honors Mixed Chorale, Key of She A Cappella choir*
- *Arrange travel plans for tours*
- *Connect with parents and guardians about the program*
- *Recruit potential choir members from middle schools*
- *Register students for competitions and honor choirs*
- *Plan performances*

Assistant Director of Choral Activities**2013-2014**

White Station High School

- *Conductor, featured performance: American Choral Directors Association Regional Convention Jacksonville, FL 2014*
- *Assistant in rehearsals and teaching for 9th Grade Women's Beginning Choir, Honors Intermediate Women's Choir, Advanced Mixed Choir, Men's Choir, Advanced Women's Choir*
- *Taught Elective Music Appreciation Class*

Graduate Assistant**2011-2013**

The University of Southern Mississippi

- *Conduct Women's Choir and Chamber Singers*

- *Rehearse Advanced Mixed Ensemble*
- *Arrange travel plans for tours*
- *Assistant conductor for a cappella girl group*

Additional Assistant Conducting Jobs

Broadway Inspirational Voices NYC, NY	since 2024
• <i>Rehearse Choir</i> • <i>Conduct various pieces for concerts</i>	
Rhodes Master Singers Section Leader Memphis, TN	2016
• <i>Rehearse Soprano Section</i>	
Mississippi Boulevard Baptist Church Memphis, TN	2013-2015
• <i>Rehearse choir</i>	
Parkway Heights United Methodist Hattiesburg, MS	2012-2013
• <i>Rehearse choir</i> • <i>Conduct music during services</i>	

Additional Music Teaching Experience

Voice Teacher	since 2011
• <i>Coach Broadway performers on auditions</i> • <i>Teach high school and non-music majors at collegiate level</i> • <i>Musical theater coaching with high school and college students around the country</i>	
Guest Voice Teacher Actor's Therapy NYC	2026
• <i>Coach young professional preparing to step into musical theatre industry through voice lessons</i>	
Youth Praise Team Director	2014-2016
• <i>Rehearsed 4th and 5th grade singers</i> • <i>Chose repertoire for Sunday services</i>	
Show Choir Soloist Judge Purvis High School Show Choir Invitational	2012
• <i>Judge middle school and high school students on intonation, diction, poise, and overall performance value</i>	
Show Choir Middle School Counselor Southern Experience Show Choir and Choral Camp The University of Southern Mississippi	2011-2012
• <i>Assist with teaching music and choreography to middle school show choir</i>	
Vocal Coach, Rehearsal Technician for Musicals White Station High School Memphis, TN	2014-2016

- *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*
- *Fame*
- *Hairspray*

Performance Experience/Training

TV/FILM

The Gilded Age	Kirkland Church Choir Singer	HBO
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Commercial/Voice Over Work

Arbella Insurance Group	Jingle Singer	Element/TC Shadowlight
Bratz Goin' Out	Vocalist	Bear Studio/MGA Entertainment
Spring Fashion Campaign	Vocalist	Knock It Out Music/Bloomingtondale's

Broadway National Tours

Hamilton	Eliza Hamilton	Philip National Tour
The Color Purple	Swing, U/S Celie	Broadway National Tour

Regional

The Color Purple	Swing, U/S Celie	Paper Mill Playhouse
Candlelight Processional	Voices of Liberty	Walt Disney World Resort
Memphis	Felicia Farrell	Playhouse on the Square
Pagliacci	Ensemble	Opera Memphis
Don Giovanni	Ensemble	Opera Memphis
Hairspray	Dynamite	Playhouse on the Square

Training

Voice: Classically Trained	J. Taylor Hightower, Lexa Ferrill
On Camera Acting	T. Schreiber Studios
Basic level: Hip-Hop, Tap	Broadway Dance Center
Commercial/TV Film training	Bill Coelius

Additional Performance Experience

Soloist, Carnegie Hall	2024
• Distinguished Concerts Internation New York	

Customer Service Experience

Singing Server	2016-2017
Ellen's Stardust Diner	
• <i>Provide customer service to guests</i> • <i>Perform for the guests while simultaneously tending to guests needs</i>	

- *Take orders and make sure items are delivered to table in timely manner*
- *Heavy lifting of stocked food items*
- *Clean and organize restaurant*
- *Work with management to immediately address customer related concerns*
- *Familiar with restaurant computer software*
- *Assist with large parties in restaurant*

Honors and Awards

S.S. Murphy High School Hall of Fame Inductee <i>MHS Alumni Association</i>	2026
Outstanding Young Music Educator Award <i>Tennessee Music Education Association</i>	2016
Outstanding Music Direction – 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee <i>Memphis High School Musical Theater Awards (Nomination)</i>	2016
Lead Actress in a Musical – Memphis the Musical <i>Memphis Ostrander Award (Nomination)</i>	2016
First Place, Upper-Level Musical Theatre <i>National Association of Teachers Singing, State Competition</i>	2013

Professional Affiliations

Sag-Aftra Eligible	since 2026
Actors' Equity Association	since 2016
Contemporary A Cappella Society	2015-2016
National Association for Music Educators	2013-2016
Tennessee Music Educators Association	2013-2016
West Tennessee Music Educators Association	2013-2016
American Choral Directors Association	2012-2016

Other Non-Music Related Skills

- Familiar with Microsoft Office program

References

Dr. J. Taylor Hightower
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