

Alyssa Barna
Curriculum Vitae
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124 Ferguson Hall
2106 S. 4th St.
Minneapolis, MN 55455

EDUCATION

- 2019 Ph.D. in Music Theory
 Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY
 Dissertation: "Examining Contrast in Rock and Popular Music"
 Advisor: John Covach
- 2014 M.M. in Music Theory
 Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
- 2012 B.M. in Music Theory, Clarinet Performance, and Music Education
 Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- 2020 "The Dance Chorus in Recent Top-40 Music." *SMT-V* 6.4.
- 2020 "Graduate Student Peer Observation in Music Theory Pedagogy."
Journal of Music Theory Pedagogy 34, co-authored with Sam
 Reenan.

Book Chapters

- Online* 2021, "Music Theory and Mainstream Digital Journalism," in *The Oxford*
In print, 2022 *Handbook of Public Music Theory*, edited by J. Daniel Jenkins. Oxford
 University Press.

Popular Press

- 2020 "These are the musicological reasons Taylor Swift's new album sounds
 dull." *The Washington Post*, December 16, 2020.
- 2019 "Bach-lash! Music theorists are furious about a Google Doodle
 celebrating the famous composer. *Slate*, March 22, 2019.
- 2019 "How great singers elevate 'The Star Spangled Banner' — and bad ones
 ruin it." *The Washington Post*, February 1, 2019.
- 2018 "No, iPhone ringtones aren't bad. They're musically sophisticated."
 The Washington Post, June 7, 2018.

Book Reviews

forthcoming
(Oxford 2021)

Review of Drew Nobile, *Form as Harmony in Rock Music*
University Press, 2020), *Music Theory Online*.

2015

Review of Victor Svorinich, *Listen to This: Miles Davis and Bitches Brew*
(University of Press of Mississippi, 2015). *Association for Recorded
Sound Collections Journal* 46 no. 2: 325–327.

PRESENTATIONS

2020

"The Classical Topic in American Popular Music."
Poster, Society for American Music, Minneapolis, MN. (Postponed due
to COVID-19)

2020

"The Bridge is Out: Contrast and Form in Recent Popular Music." Music
Theory Southeast, Boone, NC. (Postponed due to COVID-19)

2019

"Graduate Instructor Peer Observation in Music Theory Pedagogy."
Pedagogy into Practice Conference, Santa Barbara, CA (co-authored with
Sam Reenan)

2018

"Music Theory's Role in Mainstream Digital Journalism."
Joint meeting of SMT/AMS, San Antonio, TX.

2018

"The Dance Chorus in Recent Top-40 Music."
Music Theory Midwest Annual Conference, Western University,
London, Ontario.

2018

Invited Participant: "Panel Discussion: Music Theory and Online
Discourse."
Public Music Discourse Conference, University of South Carolina,
Columbia, SC.

2018

"The Dance Chorus in Recent Top-40 Music."
Music Theory Southeast Annual Conference, University of South
Carolina, Columbia, SC. *Winner, Irna Priore Prize for Graduate
Student Research*

2018

"Music Theory's Role in Mainstream Digital Journalism."
Public Music Discourse Conference, University of South Carolina,
Columbia, SC.

2017

"Modular Form in Popular Music."
The Ninth European Music Analysis Conference (EuroMac 9),
University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France.

2016

"The Engaged and the Absurd: Narrative Clarity and Listener
Engagement in the Music of System of a Down."
Music Society of New York State Annual Conference, Mannes School of
Music, New York, NY.

- 2015 "Structural and Surface Analytical Techniques in Two Late Songs of Milton Babbitt."
Symposium of Research in Music Theory, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN.
- 2014 "Associative Polyphony and the All-Partition Array in the Unaccompanied Music of Milton Babbitt."
Approaches to Analysis and Interpretation, Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, Music Theory and Musicology Society, Cincinnati, OH.

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 Northwestern University, Music Theory Colloquium Series
- 2021 University of Texas at Austin, "Bridges in Recent Popular Music"
- 2021 University of Iowa Colloquium Series (*postponed from 2020 due to COVID-19*)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019 – present University of Minnesota
Assistant Professor of Music Theory
Theory and Analysis of Tonal Music 1 (Course Supervisor)
Ear-Training and Sight-Singing 1 (Course Supervisor)
Music After 1945 (Graduate)
Contrast in Music (Graduate)
Theory and Analysis of Popular Music (Graduate)
- 2018 – 2019 Instructor, University of Rochester Department of Music
Music Theory 1 (non-majors)
Music Theory 2 (non-majors)
- 2018 Visiting Assistant Instructor of Music Theory, Appalachian State University
Music Theory II
Aural Skills I
- 2014 – 2019 Eastman School of Music
Instructor of Record:
Model Composition and Tonal Analysis I, Intensive
Model Composition and Tonal Analysis II, Intensive

Teaching Assistant:
Model Composition and Tonal Analysis III
Aural Skills III
Aural Skills IV
Model Composition and Non-Tonal Analysis
Analysis of Rock and Popular Music
- 2012 – 2014 Associate Instructor, Indiana University

Music Theory I
Music Theory II
Aural Skills II
Aural Skills III

AWARDS & HONORS

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| 2022 | Recipient of a Single-Semester Leave, College of Liberal Arts (Spring 2022) |
| 2019 | Nominee, Teaching Assistant Prize (for Aural Skills Instruction), Eastman School of Music |
| 2018 | Irna Priore Prize for Graduate Student Research, Music Theory Southeast |
| 2015 | Nominee, Teaching Assistant Prize (for Aural Skills Instruction), Eastman School of Music |
| 2012 – 2014 | Supplemental Academic Scholarship for Merit, Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University |
| 2012 | Inductee, Kappa Kappa Lambda Music Honors Society |
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PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & DEVELOPMENT

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| 2020 – present | Publications Committee, Editorial Board, Music Theory Society of the Mid-Atlantic |
| 2020 | Accepted Participant, Junior Faculty Research Symposium, hosted by the American Musicological Society's Popular Music Interest Group |
| 2020 | Rater, AP Music Theory Exam |
| 2019 – present | Subventions Committee, Society for Music Theory |
| 2018 – 2019 | Program Committee, Music Theory Southeast |
| 2017 – present | Webmaster, Popular Music Interest Group of the Society for Music Theory |
| 2014 – 2019 | Editorial Staff, <i>Intégral: The Journal of Applied Musical Thought</i> |
| 2014 | Graduate Student Search Committee, Tenure-Track Theory Position, Eastman School of Music |
| 2013 – 2016 | Volunteer, Society for Music Theory Annual Conference |
| 2013 – 2014 | Circulations Manager, <i>Indiana Theory Review</i> |

2013 – 2014 Editorial Assistant, *Indiana Theory Review*

UNIVERSITY SERVICE & ADVISING

- 2021 – present UMN Imagine Fund, Proposal Reviewer
- 2021 – present Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship Faculty Reviewer
- 2019 – present Community Engagement Leadership Team, School of Music
- 2019 – present Undergraduate Studies Committee, School of Music
- 2019 – present Advisor to: Madison Stepherson (MA Theory); Dominic Valadez (MA Theory); Nathan Stidham (BA Music, Academic); William Davini (BA Music, Academic); Alex Stephenson (BA Music, Academic Capstone Project)
- 2019 – present Exam Committee Member:
Matthew Abernathy (DMA Conducting); Ranita Badudu (MM Performance); Jordan Buchholtz (DMA Performance); Austin Comerford (MM Performance); Elgin Lee (MM Performance); Fei Ma (DMA Performance); Andrew Nelson (MM Performance); Isaac Portoghese (MM Performance); Seokho Park (DMA Performance); Ryan Rowe (MM Performance); Koki Sato (MM Performance); Dora Tsang (DMA Performance); Preston Weber (MM Conducting)
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LANGUAGES

Spanish: Reading, writing, and speaking proficiency

French: Reading and writing proficiency

German: Reading proficiency

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society for Music Theory; Music Theory Midwest; Society for American Music;

Pi Kappa Lambda
