

Matt LaBerge

Composer/Lyricist - Conductor/Music Director - Music Educator - Singer/Actor

Portland, Maine, USA - MattLaBerge.com

MUSIC DIRECTION & MUSIC COMPOSITION/ARRANGING (SELECTED)

- **PSO Children's Chorus Director, Portland Symphony Orchestra - Portland, Maine (Aug. 2022-Present)**
Direct and conduct an auditioned ensemble of singers ages 9-16 in weekly rehearsals to prepare for various performances throughout the year with the Portland Symphony Orchestra. The PSO Children's Chorus regularly performs under the direction of world-renowned conductors, often alongside other professional choirs and highly acclaimed guest artists.
- **Music Director & Music Arranger, *A Christmas Carol: National Tour* - USA (2018, 2019, 2023)**
Compose additional music, provide musical arrangements, coach performers, and direct all musical numbers for a 7-week-long national touring production. Produced by Perseverance Productions National Tours.
- **Music Director, Maine State Music Theatre - Brunswick, Maine (Apr. 2022-Present)**
Oversee, direct, and conduct all musical activities for Theater for Young Audience (TYA) productions, including award-winning productions of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *Matilda JR.*, *Willy Wonka JR.*, and *Disney's Frozen JR.*
- **Music Director / Associate Music Director, Ogunquit Playhouse - Ogunquit, Maine (May 2024-Aug. 2024)**
Oversee, direct, and conduct all musical activities for OP Arts Academy productions, including *Seussical*, *Broadway Beat*, and *How Does Your Garden Groove*.
- **Music Director, Four Corners Musical Theatre Company - Farmington, New Mexico (Dec. 2023-Aug. 2024)**
Oversee, direct, and conduct all musical activities for productions of *A Christmas Carol*, *Baby*, and *The Wizard of Oz*.
- **Composer-In-Residence & Music Director, *The Big Maine Event* - South Portland, Maine (July 2014-July 2017)**
Compose songs, oversee, and direct musical activities for an annual fundraising concert which brings young Maine performers together with leading theatre professionals. Featured artists include: Tony Award winner Trent Kowalik, cast members from the Broadway productions of *Billy Elliot The Musical*, *Fun Home*, *Mary Poppins*, *NBC's The Sound of Music Live*, and more.
- **Freelance Composer & Arranger (July 2014-Present)**
Highlights include commissions by the Portland Symphony Orchestra, the Maine MMEA All State Music Festival, ChoralArt, and performances of original works by various school, community, and professional ensembles throughout the U.S. and Europe.

TEACHING & EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH (SELECTED)

- **Chorus Teacher & Music Director, Scarborough Middle School - Scarborough, Maine (Sept. 2024-Present)**
Design/teach choral music curriculum to grades 6-8 students and music direct the annual spring musical theater production.
- **Education Programs Narrator & Coordinator, Portland Symphony Orchestra - Portland, Maine (Nov. 2016-Present)**
Write scripts, arrange music, develop lesson plans, and act as the host/narrator for various programs teaching music and musical concepts to students of all ages using fun and interactive methods of storytelling.
- **Choral Director, Sanford High School - Sanford, Maine (Sept. 2022-Sept. 2023)**
Design and teach music curriculum to grades 9-12 students in classes/activities such as chorus, chamber singers, vocal techniques, guitar, theater, history of pop music, and contemporary ensembles.
- **Music Teacher, Windham Primary School (RSU 14) - Windham, Maine (Sept. 2021-Sept. 2022)**
Design and teach music curriculum to grades K-3 students in general music. Classes consist of scaffolded learning using various vocal/instrumental techniques, movement/dance, listening/responding, critical thinking, and standard and iconic notation.
- **Music Director of Musical Theater, South Portland High School - South Portland, Maine (Sept. 2019-Sept. 2020)**
Organize and direct all musical activities for the musical theater program, including teaching/coaching singers in the cast and conducting instrumentalists in the pit orchestra.
- **Tenor/Bass Choir Director, Southern Maine Choral Music Academy (USM) - Gorham, Maine (July 2022-Present)**
Direct/conduct singers in rehearsals and performances, oversee sound production, attend to needs of the piano accompanist, provide music engraving and composition/arranging services, and oversee an original student group composition project.

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SINGING & ACTING (SELECTED)

National & International Tours (SELECTED)

<u>Show/Production</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Company & Director</u>
<i>A Christmas Carol</i> (U.S. National Tour)	Bob Cratchit	Perseverance Productions (Dir. Lowell Williams)
<i>Mozart's Missa Brevis in F</i> (European Tour)	Bass Soloist	ChoralArt Singers (Dir. Robert Russell)

Regional Theater (SELECTED)

<u>Show/Production</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Company & Director</u>
<i>A Grand Night for Singing</i>	Bass Soloist/Ensemble	Maine State Music Theatre (Dir. Curt Dale Clark)
<i>Jack and the Beanstalk</i>	The Giant	Maine State Music Theatre (Dir. Curt Dale Clark)
<i>The Hunchback of Notre Dame</i>	Choir	Ogunquit Playhouse (Dir. Shaun Kerrison)
<i>Broadway at the Good Theater</i>	Bass Soloist/Ensemble	Good Theater (Dir. Brian P. Allen)
<i>La Traviata</i>	Commissioner	Opera Maine (Dir. Dona D. Vaughn)
<i>Tosca</i>	Jailer	PORTopera (Dir. Dona D. Vaughn)
<i>Carmen</i>	Chorus	PORTopera (Dir. Dona D. Vaughn)
<i>La Bohème</i>	Chorus	PORTopera (Dir. Dona D. Vaughn)
<i>The Summer King</i>	Bass Soloist/Chorus	Portland Ovarions (Dir. Lemuel Wade)

Symphonic & Concert Productions (SELECTED)

<u>Show/Production</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Company & Director</u>
<i>Circus Ship</i>	Narrator	Boston Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Kevin Owen)
<i>Carnival of the Animals Remix</i>	Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Eckart Preu)
<i>Symphonic Superheroes</i>	Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Conner G. Covington)
<i>The Composer is Dead</i>	Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Nicholas Hersh)
<i>The Magic of Christmas</i>	Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Robert Moody)
<i>Idomeneo (Selections)</i>	Bass Soloist	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Robert Moody)
<i>Liberty for All</i>	Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Bruce Hangen)
<i>Ellis Island: Dream of America</i>	Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Andrew Crust)
<i>The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra</i>	Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. Andrew Crust)
<i>The Grinch Redux & The Night Before Christmas</i>	Singer & Narrator	Casco Bay Wind Symphony (Dir. Will Kinne)

Film, TV, & Digital Media (SELECTED)

<u>Show/Production</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Company & Director</u>
<i>PSO Digital KinderKonzert Series</i>	Host & Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. John Elliott)

Theater for Young Audience (SELECTED)

<u>Show/Production</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Company & Director</u>
<i>PSO KinderKonzert Series</i>	Host & Narrator	Portland Symphony Orchestra (Dir. McKenzie Blanchard)

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AWARDS & HONORS (SELECTED)

- **Richard Maltby Jr. Award for Musical Theatre Excellence**
Nominee and showcase participant (2017).
- **National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), Maine Chapter**
1st Place Winner and recipient of the Linda Freeman Award (2016). Finalist (2014, 2015, 2016).
- **The American Prize in Composition**
Semi-finalist (2014). *Guiding Light*, for SATB choir with divisi, a cappella.
- **Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival - Award for Sound Design Excellence**
Nominee (2015). *Beyond Belief*, Original Score and Sound Design.

RELEVANT SKILLS & EXPERIENCE (SELECTED)

Music Notation/Engraving, Recording, & Production

- **Finale Music Notation Software:** Advanced Proficiency and Professional Capability.
- **Logic Pro:** Advanced Proficiency and Professional Capability.
- **Garage Band:** Advanced Proficiency and Professional Capability.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Degrees

- **B.M. in Music Education, University of Southern Maine**
- **B.A. in Music, University of Southern Maine**
Primary Studies: Voice, Music Composition, Music Technology, Theater.

Certifications

- **Maine Professional Teaching Certification - Music (K-12)**

Workshops / Additional Studies

- **Songwriting Tools and Techniques, Berklee College of Music - Boston, Massachusetts (Jan. 2024-March 2024)**
Class exploring melodic composition, harmonic considerations, and lyric composition, all focused through the lens of prosody.
- **Arranging 1: Rhythm Section, Berklee College of Music - Boston, Massachusetts (Sept. 2019-Dec. 2019)**
Class exploring all aspects of arranging for the rhythm section (drums, bass, guitar, keyboards/synthesizers).
- **Producing Music With Logic, Berklee College of Music - Boston, Massachusetts (July 2018-Sept. 2018)**
Class exploring all of the functions in Logic Pro, one of the leading Digital Audio Workstations for professional music production.
- **Palomar Film Music Workshop - San Diego, California (June 2015-July 2015)**
Intensive workshop on the art of film scoring under the guidance of world-renowned film, television, and video game composers, including Larry Groupé, Roger Neill, and Garry Schyman. Composed music for several scenes, participated in various presentations and masterclasses with guest artists, and recorded a full music cue with a union Hollywood orchestra.

Union & Organization Membership

- **NAfME (National Association for Music Education)**
- **ACDA (America Choral Directors Association)**
- **MMEA (Maine Music Educators Association)**
- **ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers)**
- **DG (Dramatists Guild)**

References, full list of musical works, perusal scores, and additional materials available upon request.