



Shawn Kirchner is a composer, arranger, and songwriter based in Los Angeles whose choral works are performed throughout the world. His long creative relationship with the Los Angeles Master Chorale and Artistic Director Grant Gershon culminated in his tenure as the ensemble's Swan Family Composer in Residence from 2012-2015. Equally active as a performer, Kirchner has sung twenty seasons as a tenor with the Los Angeles Master Chorale and the Los Angeles Philharmonic in concerts featuring the world's leading conductors, composers, and soloists. As a pianist, Kirchner appears throughout the country in performances of his music with collaborating choirs and is celebrated for his wide stylistic range, improvisation, and musicianship.

Kirchner's composing commissions have included numerous premieres with the Los Angeles Master Chorale at LA's Disney Hall, as well as writing for Conspirare, San Antonio Chamber Choir, Atlanta Master Chorale, Fort Worth Chorale, Lorelei Ensemble, Tonality, Princeton Chapel Choir, Rockefeller Chapel Choir, Golden Bridge, Choral Arts Northwest, and WomenSing. His work has been performed by such acclaimed international choirs as the Ansan City Choir (Rep. of Korea), Elektra Women's Choir, the Vancouver Youth Choir, Montreal's Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul for the CBC's Christmas Sing-In broadcast, and by the Nairobi Chamber Choir for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's 2012 Diamond Jubilee Pageant events at Windsor Castle. Kirchner's music can be heard on recordings by the LA Master Chorale, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Tonality, Oasis Chorale, Wartburg Choir, and Sacra/Profana, and his publishers are Boosey & Hawkes, Oxford University Press, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and Shawn Kirchner Publishing



Dr. Amanda Weber (she/her) is passionate about uniting music, art, and community through her work as a conductor, teacher, performer, artist, and social activist. Weber currently serves as the Director of Worship and the Arts at Westminster Presbyterian Church in downtown Minneapolis, where she oversees a unique array of arts programming.

Weber is the Founder and Artistic Director of Voices of Hope, an organization that builds choral singing communities in correctional facilities in the state of Minnesota. Her doctoral dissertation, which focused on this work, was awarded the Julius Herford Dissertation Prize in 2018. Weber holds degrees from the University of Minnesota (DMA, 2018), the Yale School of Music (MM, 2013), and Luther College (BA, 2008).

Beyond her identity as a professional musician, Amanda finds deep joy in her family. She resides in South Minneapolis with her partner Zeb and two young children. They love to travel, cook (eat), spend time outdoors, dance, and rest.



Dr. Andrew Last is an Associate Professor of Music at Luther College where he conducts the Nordic Choir and teaches conducting. He also serves as the Director of Choral Activities at Luther. Dr. Last is part of a vibrant choral program at Luther College that includes four choral faculty and over 500 singers in six choral ensembles. Luther choirs participate in the annual *Christmas at Luther* celebration, perform in biennial oratorios, and are featured at regional and national American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) conventions.

Prior to his appointment, Last served on the voice faculty of Concordia University (NE). Last holds a DMA in choral conducting from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he was named a Hixon-Lied Fellow. He received his Master of Music from Northern Arizona University and his Bachelor of Arts in music education and voice from Luther College. Dr. Last is a member of the music honor society Pi Kappa Lambda and the academic honor society of Phi Kappa Phi.