

Christopher S. Ramaekers

Conductor

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EDUCATION

- Doctor of Music, Orchestral Conducting
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
ensembles conducted: Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Contemporary Music Ensemble
anticipated 2014
- Master of Music, Orchestral Conducting
NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
ensembles conducted: Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Philharmonia, Chapel Choir
2007
- Bachelor of Music, Performance
WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
ensembles conducted: University Orchestra, Concert Band, Flute Choir
2004

CONDUCTING POSITIONS

- Allentown Symphony Orchestra*
Conducting Fellow
The ASO Conducting Fellowship was established to offer experienced conductors the opportunity to learn about being Music Director of a regional orchestra. In addition to this mentoring, Conducting Fellows assist the Music Director as needed in rehearsals and performances.
2012
- Peninsula Music Festival*
Assistant Conductor - Emerging Conductor Program
The Assistant Conductor assists Music Director Victor Yampolsky as needed throughout the festival. Responsibilities include:
 - coordinating pre- and post-concert talks
 - assisting with guest artists and choirs
 - assisting with setup and concert preparation
 - offstage conducting and assisting in rehearsals2012, 2013
- Hyde Park Youth Symphony*
Music Director
The Music Director is in charge of the overall artistic and educational direction of HPYS.
 - created and implemented the annual HPYS Resident Artist Program which includes a Resident Chamber Ensemble and Resident Composer.2008 – present

Hyde Park Youth Symphony (continued)

- Created and continued collaborations with local and national organizations
- improved the overall size and level of performance
- responsible for hiring and overseeing artistic staff
- manage auditions and recruitment

Ravenswood Community Orchestra

2007 – present

Principal Conductor

The Principal Conductor conducts the major works during the RCO season, and works with the Music Director to program and schedule the season as well as obtain, prepare and distribute parts.

- improved the overall level of the orchestra through creative programming and effective rehearsals
- contributed to the balancing of the orchestra budget
- Planned and conducted the 10-year anniversary celebration

Camp Encore/Coda

2010 – present

Director of Orchestras/Conservatory Program Chair

A non-competitive music camp offering a variety of ensembles, lessons, and non-musical activities. The Director of Orchestras conducts the Senior and Chamber Orchestras, coordinates run-out concerts, oversees assistants and sectional coaches, and coordinates the Conservatory program for the most advanced campers.

Orchestra of St. Vincent's

2006 – 2012

Music Director

The Orchestra of St. Vincent's is a community chamber orchestra in downtown Chicago and gives 2-3 concerts per season. The Music Director is responsible for all aspects of these concerts including programming, engaging guest artists, preparing and distributing music, and conducting all rehearsals and concerts.

ENGAGEMENTS AND GUEST APPEARANCES

Ensemble Vulpine Lupin - 2012

Palomar Ensemble - 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2012

Chicago Composers Orchestra – 2011, 2012

The Savoyaires – 2012

Salt Creek Chamber Orchestra – 2011

Chicago Opera Vanguard – 2008, 2009, 2010

Night Blue Theater Company – 2010

Ensemble dal niente - 2010

Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra – 2008

North Shore Chamber Orchestra – 2006, 2007

Paradise Lost (Eric Whitacre) – 2006

Millar Brass Ensemble – 2005, 2006

TEACHERS AND MENTORS

Victor Yampolsky – Northwestern University, Peninsula Music Festival
Mallory Thompson – Northwestern University
Joe Miller – Westminster Choir College
Raymond Harvey – Kalamazoo Symphony
Diane Wittry – Allentown Symphony
Robert Spradling – Western Michigan University
Scott Thornburg – Western Michigan University
Gordon Simmons – Michigan Opera Theater

HONORS AND AWARDS

Winner, The American Prize in Orchestral Conducting	2011
Conducting Fellow, Northwestern University	2011-2013
Conducting Assistantship, Northwestern University	2005-2007
Prizewinner, Harper C. Maybee Choral Conducting Competition	2003