

# MARISSA SIMMONS

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website: <http://www.marissasimmons.com>

## EDUCATION

**San Francisco Conservatory of Music**, M.M., 2016. Voice Performance.

**University of Miami Frost School of Music**, B.M., 2014. Classical Voice Performance / Music Theory & Composition.

## PRIVATE TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Director of OTA Music Studio (2017-2021)**

Managed all operations at the OTA Music Studio

- Interviewed and hired private teachers for guitar, ukulele, and bass lessons
- Organized monthly payment system for clients
- Recruited new students for the studio
- Designed website for studio to create an online presence
- Answer inquiries about lessons for new and existing clients
- Organized studio recitals to showcase progress of students

Taught private music lessons for piano, voice, and violin, and general musicianship to ages 5 – adult

- Taught note reading and basic music theory
- Taught advanced music theory and musicianship
- Focused on technical and musical proficiency

### **Dr. Chang's Piano Studio (2016-2017)**

Taught private music lessons for piano, voice, and violin, and general musicianship to ages 5 – adult

- Taught note reading and basic music theory
- Taught advanced music theory and musicianship
- Focused on technical and musical proficiency

### **Flatts and Sharpe (2016-present)**

Taught piano and voice to ages 5 – adult

- Taught young singer-songwriters
- Advised students in writing arrangements for covers songs
- Focused on technical and musical proficiency

### **Alex's Music Studio (September 2016-January 2016)**

Taught beginning piano and voice to children ages 3-10

- Taught note reading and beginning music theory
- Worked on breathing technique for young singers

### **Chinese American International School (2016-present)**

Instructed private music lessons for voice and piano for children in kindergarten through fifth grade

- Focused on technical and musical proficiency
- Identified and solved technical issues by designing specific exercises, customized to each individual student's needs
- Taught students:
  - The mechanics of their instrument to provide a thorough understanding of its function
  - To recognize technical issues and jointly create solutions

### **Bird School of Music San Francisco (2014-2016)**

Instructed private music lessons for voice, piano, violin, composition, music theory, and aural skills to 15-20 students, ages 6-45+

- Created an emotionally safe and productive environment to allow students to feel at ease while learning new techniques
- Focused on technical and musical proficiency
- Identified and solved technical issues by designing specific exercises, customized to each individual student's needs
- Provided students with a variety of appropriate repertoire based on their voice type/instrument, age, interests, and abilities
- Taught students:
  - The physiology/mechanics of their instrument to provide a thorough understanding of its function
  - To recognize their technical issues and jointly create solutions
  - How to use their bodies efficiently, healthily, and safely to help them make a more free and beautiful sound with less physical effort.

## **SAN FRANCISCO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC (2014-2016)**

### **Vocal Pedagogy Teaching Assistant**

Taught emerging opera singers how to teach voice.

- Coached student teachers by observing their teaching, providing guidance, and offering technical and pedagogical feedback.
- Suggested specific exercises and vocalises based on student teacher's lesson and student's vocal technique needs
- Taught student teachers how to:
  - Diagnose and solve vocal technique issues while maintaining a positive environment for their students
  - Assign appropriate repertoire for various voice types, ages, and abilities
  - Focus on technique as well as healthy and efficient singing for their students
  - Communicate the physiology of the instrument so their students have a thorough understanding of the vocal mechanism
  - Enable their students to become problem solvers
- Presented vocal pedagogy lectures on female voice change, male voice change, tongue tension, jaw tension, and alternative pedagogical methods.

## **UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI FROST SCHOOL OF MUSIC (2011-2014)**

### **Music Director of BisCaydence (a cappella group)**

- Facilitated sectionals and group learning
- Worked on vocal technique with group
- Arranged music for this ensemble

## **OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **University of Miami: Sigma Alpha Iota (2012-2014)**

#### **Sergeant at Arms**

- Keeper of by-laws
- Mediated crisis between members
- Conducted voting on amendments or chapter related matters

### **Keshet: A Rainbow of Hope for Children and Adults with Special Needs (2010-2011)**

#### **One-on-one overnight-camp counselor**

- Specialized in work with Autism/Aspergers, Down Syndrome, ADD/ADHD, etc.
- Mentored campers and acted as a liaison between the child and his/her peers

**Teachers:** Catherine Cook, Esther Jane Hardenbergh, Timothy Filliman, Mark Aliapoulios, Marilynne Horne, Lansing McLoskey

**Coaches:** Steven Bailey, Gary Fry, Ross Barentyne-Truluck, Codrut Birsan, John Fisher, Hemdi Kfir, Sherrill Milnes

## **AWARDS/HONOR SOCIETIES**

- Barry and Margaret Kemp Full Scholarship (Music Academy of the West)
- SFCM Professional Development Grant
- Tri-M Music Honor Society
- Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society
- Golden Key International Honour Society
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- Dickinson Scholarship (University of Miami)
- Goldie Lotz Grant (University of Miami)
- San Francisco Conservatory of Music Scholarship