

# BRANDON CHASE DI NOTO

## Conductor | Vocalist | Educator | Composer

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### Education

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- 2021      **M.M. Choral Music, University of Southern California Thornton School of Music**  
Concentrations: Composition, Conducting & Music Education  
Instructors:  
Composition: Neal Desby and Frank Ticheli  
Choral Conducting: Cristian Grases, Jo-Michael Scheibe, Tram Sparks and Nick Strimple  
Orchestral Conducting: Larry Livingston  
Voice: Mary Mattei Scheibe
- 2019      **B.A. Music, Point Loma Nazarene University**  
Concentrations: Composition, Conducting & Vocal Performance  
Instructors:  
Composition: Victor Labenske  
Choral Conducting: Daniel Jackson and Keith Pedersen  
Orchestral Conducting: Philip Tyler  
Vocal Coach: Melva Morrison  
Voice: John Craig Johnson, Amy Mein and Michael Sokol
- 2019      **B.A. Managerial & Organizational Communication, Point Loma Nazarene University**  
Concentrations: Marketing, Organizational Management
- Independent      **Other Major Instructors**  
Composition: Z. Randall Stroope, Dale Trumbore  
Choral Conducting: Michelle Jensen  
Choral/Orchestral Conducting: Jo Anne Wasserman  
Opera Conducting: Bruce Stasyna  
Voice: Isabel Bayrakdarian

### Professional Experience

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#### Academic Appointments

- 2023 – Present      **Adjunct Professor of Choral Music**, School of Music  
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA

## **Professional Experience – Continued**

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### **Academic Appointments – Continued**

- 2023 – Present **Director of Choral & Vocal Ensembles**, Classical Academy High School  
The Classical Academies, Escondido, CA
- 2022 – 2023 **Interim Conductor & Instructor**, UCSB Singing Gauchos Choral Ensemble  
University of California Santa Barbara Department of Music, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2022 **Assistant School Director**  
Bach to Rock: America's Music School, Encinitas, CA
- 2021 **K-12 Substitute Music Teacher**  
Maranatha Christian Schools, San Diego, CA
- 2019 – 2021 **Associate Conductor**, USC Thornton University Chorus  
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA
- 2017 – 2019 **Associate Conductor & Teaching Assistant**, Point Loma Nazarene University Orchestra  
Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA
- 2017 – 2019 **Associate Conductor & Teaching Assistant**, Point Loma Nazarene University Chorale  
Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

### **Professional Appointments**

- 2023 **Assistant to the Conductor**  
Santa Barbara Choral Society, Santa Barbara, CA
- 2022 – 2023 **Sing! Children's Choral Director**, Music Academy of the West  
Santa Barbara, CA
- 2022 **Assistant Conductor**, San Diego Opera  
San Diego, CA
- 2020 – 2022 **Founder & Artistic Director**, Pacific Harmonix  
San Diego, CA
- 2021 – 2022 **Executive Development & Production Assistant**, Bach Collegium San Diego  
San Diego, CA
- 2021 – 2022 **Director of Choral Music**, Oceanside First Presbyterian Church and Preschool  
Oceanside, CA

## Professional Experience – Continued

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### Other Relevant Employment History

2019 – 2021     **Cover Conductor**, USC Thornton Chamber Singers  
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA

### Conducting Activities

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#### Awards, Grants, Fellowships and Competitions

2020             Participant, USC Thornton School of Music Mentorship Program, a program matching USC students with professionals in the same field, was mentored by Grant Gershon, USC Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA

2019             Recipient, Thornton School of Music Conducting Scholarship, USC Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA

#### Conducting: Regional

2023             **“The Tide”**; Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles’ spring concert, conducted the World Premiere of *One Heart*, by GRAMMY-WINNING composer Danaë Xanthe Vlasse, featuring GRAMMY-WINNING soprano Sangeeta Kaur as the soloist

**“Mythologies”**; a live production of the GRAMMY-WINNING Album *Mythologies* by Danaë Xanthe Vlasse, featuring GRAMMY-WINNING Sopranos Hila Plitmann and Sangeeta Kaur, one of the rehearsal conductors who prepared the singers and instrumentalists for their performance in Huntsville, AL

**“Gala Concert”**; a fundraising concert for the Santa Barbara Choral Society featuring the 11-voice a cappella ensemble, VOCTAVE, one of the conductors who prepared the Santa Barbara Choral Society for the event

**“Eden”**; a touring production of mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato’s album of the same name, one of the conductors who prepared the Sing! Children’s Choir for the event on the song, *Seeds of Hope*

2022             **“Divine Encounters”**; a two-concert production of Schubert’s *Mass in G Major* & Courtney’s *Divine Encounter* in a collaboration between Oceanside & Solana Beach Presbyterian Churches, served as Conductor and conducted the Schubert

**“Mozart, *Così fan tutte*, K. 588”**; a four-production run of Mozart’s opera, served as Assistant Conductor and conducted the offstage chorus

## **Conducting Activities – Continued**

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### **Conducting: Guest Clinics & Workshops**

- 2022      **University of San Diego Department of Music**  
Clinic with the USD Choral Scholars; workshopped *Steal Away* by Stacey V. Gibbs, *I Love You/What a Wonderful World* by Craig Hella-Johnson, and *My Heart Be Brave* by Marques L.A. Garrett
- 2021      **Oceanside Presbyterian Church**  
Clinic with the Oceanside Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir, workshopped *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by Peter Lutkin and *O Clap Your Hands* by Kevin McChesney
- 2018      **Solana Beach Presbyterian Church**  
Clinic & performance with the SBPC Chancel Choir, workshopped and conducted *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* by John Rutter

### **Conducting: Azusa Pacific University**

- 2023      **“Amazing Grace: Men’s Chorale Command Performance”**; the APU Men’s Chorale spring concert, conducted *Bound for Jubilee*, by Joyce Elaine Eilers

### **Conducting: SING! Children’s Choir**

- 2022      **“Winter Concert”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title, conducted *Haida*, by Henry Lock

### **Conducting: University of California: Santa Barbara**

- 2022      **“Choose Something Like a Star”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title, conducted works by Adam, J.S. Bach, Hairston, and others with the UCSB Singing Gauchos

### **Conducting: Pacific Harmonix**

- 2021      **“Canticles & Carols on the Coast: A Holiday Choral Spectacular”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title, conducted works by Britten, Hairston, Lauridsen, Smith-Moore, Walton, Wieck-Schumann, and others
- “Sing the Earth to Sleep: Songs of Morning, Elements & Evening”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title and two world premieres, conducted works by Boulanger, Gibbs, Hailstork, Lauridsen, Rheinberger, Thompson, and others
- “Peace, Love & Joy Everlasting”**; a concert showcasing works related to the aforementioned title and two world premieres, conducted works by Lauridsen, Liszt, Mozart, and Wieck-Schumann

## Conducting Activities – Continued

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### Conducting: Pacific Harmonix – Continued

- 2020            **“Quarantunes”**; a concert showcasing works related to the COVID-19 Pandemic, conducted works by Barber, Hairston, Lauridsen, Rachmaninoff, Reger, Rheinberger, and Walton

### Conducting: University of Southern California

- 2021            **“Virtual Spring Choral Festival”**; a concert showcasing the work of the USC Thornton School of Music Choral Ensembles, conducted *Under the Willow Tree* from *Vanessa*, Op. 32 by Barber with select members of the USC Thornton Chamber Singers
- 2020            **“Joint Conducting Recital”**; a concert showcasing the work of first year graduate students, conducted the third movement of *Chichester Psalms* by Bernstein and *Rorando coeli* by Vodnansky

### Conducting: Point Loma Nazarene University

- 2019            **“All About Felix”**; a concert of works composed or inspired by Felix Mendelssohn, conducted *Symphony No. 2 in Bb Major “Lobgesang”*
- 2018            **“Handel’s Messiah”**; a performance of Handel’s masterpiece, prepared the university Chamber Orchestra for the performance
- “Idyll”**; a performance of Classical & Romantic era orchestral and concerti music, rehearsed Beethoven’s *Piano Concerto No. 4 in G Major*, Janacek’s *Idyll*, Mozart’s *Andante in C for Flute and Orchestra* and Saint-Saëns’ *Piano Concerto No. 2 in G Minor*
- “Scheherazade”**; a performance of orchestral pieces concluding with Rimsky-Korsakov’s masterpiece, conducted the Tchaikovsky *Serenade for Strings*
- 2017            **“Schubert’s Mass in G and Robert Ray’s Gospel Mass”**; a performance of the Schubert and Ray masses, prepared the university Chamber Orchestra for the performance
- “Handel’s Messiah”**; a performance of Handel’s masterpiece, prepared the university Chamber Orchestra for the performance
- “Viva Vivaldi”**; a performance of Vivaldi’s orchestral music, conducted the *Violin Concerto in A Minor* and the *Double Violin Concerto in A Minor*

**\* A complete list of conducting repertoire is available upon request**

## **Conducting Activities – Continued**

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### **Masterclasses Attended**

- 2023      **Anton Armstrong**, Choral Conductor and Professor in the Department of Music at St. Olaf College, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *Sing O Ye Heavens* by Handel, Azusa, CA
- 2020      **Grant Gershon**, Artistic Director of the Los Angeles Master Chorale, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *Arbolucu, te sequeste* by Chávez, Los Angeles, CA
- 2019      **Jerry Blackstone**, Choral Conductor and Lecturer, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *The Dark Eyed Sailor* by Vaughan Williams, Los Angeles, CA
- Rodney Eichenberger**, Choral Conductor and Lecturer, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *Barechu* by Rossi, Los Angeles, CA
- Jo-Michael Scheibe**, Choral Conductor and Emeritus Professor in the Department of Choral & Sacred Music at the USC Thornton School of Music, participated in a Masterclass and conducted *The Coolin* by Barber, Los Angeles, CA

## **Voice Activities**

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### **Awards, Grants, Fellowships and Competitions: Voice**

- 2018      **Recipient**, Chester C. and Alice E. Crill Endowed Vocal Scholarship, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA
- Recipient**, Keith and Betty Pagan Endowed Scholarship for Outstanding Music Student of the Year, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA
- 2015 – 2019      **Recipient**, Department of Music Voice Scholarship, Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA

### **Selected Choral Experience**

- 2023 – Present      **Chamber Singers**, sung Baritone under Michelle Jensen  
Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA
- 2022 – Present      **Sterling Ensemble**, sung Baritone under Michelle Jensen  
Los Angeles, CA
- 2021 & 2023      **High Holy Days Choir**, sung Tenor & Baritone, and acted as section leader under Myles Mayfield & Cantor William Tiep  
Temple Solel, Encinitas, CA

## **Voice Activities – Continued**

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### **Selected Choral Experience – Continued**

- 2021 – 2022     **Sacra/Profana**, sung Tenor & Bass under Juan Carlos Acosta, Aaron Burgett & Krishan Oberoi  
San Diego, CA
- 2022 – 2023     **Santa Barbara Choral Society**, sung Tenor II and acted as section leader under Jo Anne Wasserman  
Santa Barbara, CA
- 2021             **Chancel Choir**, sung Tenor and acted as section leader under Dr. Keith Pedersen  
La Jolla Presbyterian Church, La Jolla, CA
- 2019 – 2021     **Chamber Singers**, sung Tenor II & Bass I under Dr. Jo-Michael Scheibe  
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA
- 2015 – 2019     **Choral Union**, sung Tenor and acted as section leader under Dr. Keith Pedersen  
Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA
- 2015 – 2019     **Concert Choir**, sung Tenor I and acted as section leader under Dr. Daniel Jackson  
Point Loma Nazarene University, San Diego, CA
- 2017             **Bach Collegium San Diego**, sung Tenor under Dr. Ruben Valenzuela  
Bach Collegium San Diego, San Diego, CA

### **Vocal Performances – National/International**

- 2023             **Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod**, competed for Choir of the World & Pavarotti Trophy, sung Bass I and in a solo quartet with the Azusa Pacific University Chamber Singers under the direction of Professor Michelle Jensen
- Daniel Jackson Conducts in Carnegie Hall**, performed and served as Tenor II section leader with current and alumni Point Loma Nazarene University Concert Choir singers under the direction of Dr. Daniel Jackson
- American Choral Director's Association National Conference**, performed with Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles under the direction of Michelle Jensen

### **Vocal Performances – Regional**

- 2022             **Point Loma Nazarene University**, hired as a Tenor soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*

## Voice Activities – Continued

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### Vocal Performances – Regional – Continued

- 2022      **San Diego Comic-Con 2022**, selected as one of sixteen singers to sing for the preview of *The Lord of the Rings: The Rings of Power* Amazon Prime TV Show with series composer, Bear McCreary, conducting
- 2021      **Point Loma Nazarene University**, hired as a Tenor soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*
- 2019      **Point Loma Nazarene University**, hired as a Tenor soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*
- University of Southern California Thornton School of Music**, selected as the Tenor soloist in a performance of Pachelbel's *Nun Danket alle Gott*
- Point Loma Nazarene University**, selected as the Tenor soloist in a performance of J.S. Bach's *Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit* and Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*
- Senior Voice Recital**, gave a 60-minute solo voice recital including works by Bernstein, Mendelssohn, Poulenc, Vaughan Williams, and others.
- Bernstein Centennial Concert**, selected as the Tenor soloist in an all Bernstein concert including selections from *Candide*, *Chichester Psalms*, *Mass*, *Trouble in Tahiti* & *West Side Story*
- 2018      **Point Loma Nazarene University**, selected as the Tenor soloist in a performance of Schubert's *Mass in G Major*
- Point Loma Nazarene University**, selected as a Tenor and Bass soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*
- Junior Voice Recital**, gave a 30-minute solo voice recital including works by Bach, Donizetti, Handel, Mozart and others
- 2017      **Bach Collegium San Diego**, selected as one of four Tenors in a performance of Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass*
- 2016      **Point Loma Nazarene University**, selected as the Tenor soloist in a performance of Handel's *Messiah*

\* A complete list of voice repertoire is available upon request



## **Voice Activities – Continued**

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### **Masterclasses Attended**

- 2019      **Ginger Costa-Jackson**, Opera Singer, participated in a Masterclass and sung *A Simple Song* by Bernstein, San Diego, CA
- 2018      **Dominic Chenes**, Opera Singer, participated in a Masterclass and sung *Die Forelle* by Schubert, San Diego, CA

### **Recordings**

- 2023      ***American Choral Director's Association National Conference 2023 (LIVE)***, Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles, Michelle Jensen, director, sung Bass I
- 2021      ***Gregorian Meditations: Choral Works of Forgotten French Masters Desenclos and Langlais***, USC Thornton Chamber Singers, Jo-Michael Scheibe, director, sung Tenor II

## **Composition Activities**

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### **Masterclasses Attended**

- 2020      **Stephen Hartke**, Chair of the Composition Department at Oberlin Conservatory, participated in a Masterclass and presented *Violin Concerto in Bb Major*, Los Angeles, CA

**\* A complete list of original compositions is available upon request**

## **Research Activity**

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### **Invited Presentations**

- 2023      **"Post-Tonal Choral Repertoire: History, Analyzation and Preparation"**  
Azusa Pacific University School of Music, Azusa, CA – April 13 & 18
- 2021      **"Irish Influences on Samuel Barber's *Reincarnations*, Op. 16"**  
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – April 26
- 2020      **"Looking Back: A Fresh Perspective on Three Standard and Four Overlooked Choral Works – Lecture Recital"**  
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – October 23
- "The Choral Music of African American Composers"**  
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – October 7

## **Research Activity – Continued**

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### **Invited Presentations – Continued**

- 2020            **“The Choral Music of Sergei Prokofiev”**  
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – April 23
- 2019            **“The Choral Music of Heinrich Schütz”**  
University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, Los Angeles, CA – December 5

### **Publications: Writings**

- 2023            **“Stories we Should Tell Program Notes.”** Program notes for Sterling Ensemble Los Angeles’ performance at the 2023 ACDA National Conference. Program notes on Trumbore’s *Lodestar* and Coleridge-Taylor’s *Summer is gone* by Brandon Chase Di Noto.
- 2021            Dillane, Aileen; O’Malley, Michael; Neely, Daniel; and Spencer, Scott (eds). **“Captain Francis O’Neill Crowdsourcing Project.”** Paragraphs on Sgt. James Early by Brandon C. Di Noto. Irish Traditional Music Archive.

### **Selected Original Research**

- 2021            **“Irish Influences on Samuel Barber’s *Reincarnations*, Op. 16”**
- 2020            **“The Choral Music of Alberto Ginastera”**
- 2019            **“An Annotated Guide to R. Vaughan Williams’ *Songs of Travel*, Movements II – IV”**  
  
**“The Importance and Significance of Handel’s English Oratorios”**
- 2016            **“The Similarities of Gluck’s *Alceste* and Handel’s *Admeto*, Two Operas on the Same Libretto”**

## **Teaching**

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### **Courses Taught at Azusa Pacific University**

Bel Canto Women’s Choir (Conductor)  
Chamber Singers (Rehearsal Conductor)  
Choral Literature (Multiple Guest Lectures)  
Graduate Choral Conducting Lessons (Multiple Lessons)  
Graduate Choral Conducting Seminar (Multiple Sessions)  
Introduction to Conducting (Guest Lecturer)  
Men’s Chorale Club (Conductor & Faculty Advisor)

## Teaching – Continued

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### Courses Taught at Classical Academy High School Escondido

Caiman Chorale  
Chamber Singers  
Men's Ensemble  
Women's Ensemble

### Courses Taught at Maranatha Christian Schools

Beginning Band (Elementary School Level)  
Concert Band (Middle & High School Levels)  
Choir (Middle & High School Levels)  
Jazz Band (Middle & High School Levels)  
Theatre (K-12 Levels)

### Courses Taught at University of California, Santa Barbara

Lumina SSAA Choral Ensemble (Rehearsal Conductor)  
Singing Gauchos TTBB Choral Ensemble (Conductor)

**\* Concert Recordings, Lecture Recordings, and Syllabi available upon request**

## Service

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### Service to Maranatha Christian Schools

2021 – 2022     **Committee Member**, Musical Audition Committee, responsible for auditioning and aiding in casting and admission for the elementary, middle and high school music ensembles and musical theatre productions

### Service to Music Academy of the West

2022 – 2023     **Sub-Committee Member**, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, responsible for assisting Music Academy of the West leadership with responses and initiatives to increase DEI resources throughout the campus and programs

### Service to Point Loma Nazarene University

2022 – Present     **Graduate Thesis Committee Member**, PLNU School of Education, responsible for advising music education graduate students on their final research project/thesis

2017 – 2019     **Committee Member**, The Vice Provost's Committee for Major Exploration, responsible for advising university leaders on how to help undergraduates choose a major

## **Service – Continued**

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### **Service to the USC Thornton School of Music**

2020 – 2021     **Committee Member**, Department of Choral & Sacred Music Graduate Student Audition Committee, responsible for advising the Choral & Sacred Music faculty on what to look for in the incoming graduate student auditions

### **Service to the San Diego Community**

2010 – Present     **Worship Leader**, The Church at Rancho Bernardo, Horizon Christian Fellowship, La Jolla Presbyterian Church, Oceanside First Presbyterian Church, Solana Beach Presbyterian Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church, responsible for leading congregations in song during weekly worship services

### **Service to the Santa Barbara Community**

2022 – 2023     **Guest Worship Leader & Singer**, Coast Community Church of the Nazarene and San Roque Catholic Church, responsible for leading congregations in song during weekly worship services

## **Professional Affiliations**

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### **Organizations**

American Choral Directors Association (ACDA)  
Chorus America  
College Music Society (CMS)  
National Collegiate Choral Organization

## **References**

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\* Full list of references available upon request