Chelsea Zak

Teaching Resume

Boston, MA 02115 ▪ chelseazak.com ▪ 516-816-0060
Personal Email: chelseapaige1@gmail.com ▪ School Email: czak@berklee.edu

EDUCATION

Boston Conservatory at Berklee Boston, MA
Master of Fine Arts: Musical Theater Vocal Pedagogy **Expected 2027**

Webster University St. Louis, MO
Bachelor of Music: Music Direction for Musical Theatre **May 2025**
GPA: 3.87 / 4.0 - Magna Cum Laude

Vassar College Poughkeepsie, NY
Bachelor of Arts: Music and Drama with Creative Writing Correlate **May 2023**
GPA: 3.84 / 4.0

SELECT TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Full Work Resume Available On Request)

Usdan Summer Camp for the Arts **Wheatley Heights, NY**
Music Director (Lead Teacher, Theater Department) June 2022 – present

- Music directs one or more musical theatre productions each summer featuring students ages 8 – 17
- Teaches music to students in preparation for the production, while also providing individual coaching
- Acts as a rehearsal pianist and accompanies performances
- Current Department Chair: James Crichton; directors worked with include Marie Danvers Gallagher, Carolyn Popadin, Christina Pawl

Boston Conservatory Vocal Academy
Boston, MA
Vocal Academy Instructor September 2026 – present

- Teaching weekly 1-1 vocal lessons to students ages 18 and up
- Guiding students toward efficient and functional vocal technique
- Supporting students in singing repertoire in musical genres of their choosing
- Providing accompaniment on piano for warmups and repertoire
- Helping students determine ideal practice strategies to reach their goals

Boston Conservatory at Berklee
Boston, MA
Graduate Pedagogy Assistant, Voice for Non-Majors September 2026 – present

- Teaching vocal performance course geared toward undergraduate non-majors
- Building syllabi comprising of weekly lectures on voice-related topics
- Giving group voice lessons to the class each week
- Coaching individual students in repertoire of all genres
- Grading assignments, evaluating student performances, and taking attendance
- Providing accompaniment on piano for warmups and repertoire

Boston City Singers **Boston, MA**
Graduate Teaching Fellow September 2025 – June 2026
- Taught remote voice lessons to choral students ages 8-17
- Coached students on choral repertoire as well as solo repertoire in all genres

Webster University **St. Louis, MO**
Collaborative Pianist August 2023 – May 2024
- Served as a piano accompanist for individual voice lessons and juries
- Accompanied musical theatre, popular music and classical repertoire
- Gave feedback to students on technique and musicianship as needed

Vassar College **Poughkeepsie, NY**
Drama Music Specialist October 2021- September 2022
- Provided piano accompaniment for student auditions; guided students toward appropriate audition repertoire for department productions; and fielded questions about the audition process
- Served as piano accompanist and sound operator for rehearsals and final showcase of a comedy class taught by Prof. Shona Tucker

Studio Theater of Long Island **Lindenhurst, NY**
Music Director August 2021
- Music directed a production of *High School Musical: On Stage!* for a three qeek summer musical theater intensive for children ages 10-14
- Acted as rehearsal pianist; taught music to the cast; and provided individual coaching to students

Children's Acting Academy **New York, NY**
Music Director July 2021
- Music directed a musical theatre showcase of solo repertoire for a weeklong musical theatre intensive for students ages 8 – 17; supervised by Mimi Stuart
- Acted as a counselor; supervising students and leading them in theatre games
- Accompanied showcase and rehearsals on piano, teaching students the music and providing individual coaching

Smithtown Center for the Performing Arts **Smithtown, NY**
Music Intern (Summer) July 2020 – August 2020
- Took notes for rehearsals and led select rehearsals for a monthlong musical theatre intensive for students ages 8-17
- Provided individual coaching for students and accompanied individual coachings on piano
- Program supervised by Marie Danvers Gallagher, collaborators included Tommy Raneri (director) and Matthew Castello (Music Director)
- Created instrumental tracks on Logic Pro X for the final showcase

Children's Acting Academy **New York, NY**
Music Direction Intern/Guitarist (Contract) *March 2017 – May 2017*
- Played guitar in the pit of the Children's Acting Academy production of *Godspell* directed by Mimi Stuart
- Acted as an intern to music director Mitch Raftery; observing and assisted in leading music rehearsals for students ages 11 – 14

AWARDS AND HONORS (Selected)

Nominee for Best Music Direction of a Musical **March 2025**
For music direction of *Anything Goes* t Kirkwood Theatre Guild
Issued by Arts for Life St. Louis

Molly Thatcher Kazan Memorial Prize **May 2023**
for music direction of *Pippin: The Musical*
Issued by Vassar College Drama Department

Wendy Rae Breslau Award **April 2021**
For service to the college and community
Issued by Vassar College

AREAS OF INTEREST

Vocal Performance and Pedagogy (Musical Theatre, Popular Music, Classical Music, Choral Music); Music Direction for Musical Theatre; Collaborative Piano; Musical Theatre Audition Technique; Acting; Musicianship, Music Composition