



DUSTIN LUCAS

MUSICIAN | CONSULTANT | CLINICIAN

Nice to meet you

Behind every amazing resume is a story of challenges, sacrifices, and A LOT of hard work. My story is no different. From an early age, I knew that I was born to perform. My gift was music, whether playing the piano, writing songs, or singing my heart out, I wanted an audience. As a teenager I saw my love for music as a way to meet girls so I joined our high school's pop group. At that age I had no idea that eventually I would come to know that a life of performing and teaching was my truest calling. Over the next fifteen years I followed an indirect route to get to my current job as a performer at the Metropolitan Opera. Along the way I learned how to elevate my work as a performer and how to navigate my way through the ups and downs of the industry, picking up invaluable lessons about leadership along the way. The culmination of these experiences have led me to the next chapter as a consultant and clinician.

If I were to draw you a map of my career and how I got from point A to B to C and so on, you might think I was either crazy or lucky, maybe both.

I understood at a young age that my success path would be forged by me. Raised by a single mom in Garland, TX (outside Dallas, TX) I had a big dream with little resources to get there. Like many kids with talent, I found myself a BIG fish in a LITTLE pond in my high school music and theater programs. After high school, I pursued my studies at the University of North Texas. I funded all of my college, first with a full time job as the youth music director at a church just a few miles from campus. When that job became part time, I added two more part time jobs just to get by. I left college determined to pursue music and with a pile of debt. After a serendipitous encounter with a friend who joined the United States Air Force Singing Sergeants in Washington D.C., I did my research and found an opening in the United States Navy Band Sea Chanters Chorus in Washington D.C.. They needed a tenor. I was a tenor. My audition led to an invitation. This prodigious moment changed my life. Over time I began to understand how the industry worked and a new dream emerged in me, an audacious one to say the least: try out for a coveted spot with the Metropolitan Opera. Looking back it is nothing short of incredible the experiences I picked up along the way about performing and learning what it means to be a leader. After fifteen years in the business, I want to pass on the invaluable lessons I have learned about the industry, the life of a performer, and leadership insights to students who have their own dream.

Your school is filled with kids who dream. Within every dream there are practical and necessary steps that have to be taken to get there. While social media leads us to think there is such a thing as the overnight sensation, I can assure you that is not the case. Some dreams are bigger than life, others more traditional. But every kid, no matter who they are, wants big things for themselves.

I feel called to share the lessons I have learned as a professional performer with these students and their support systems. The good. The bad. And yes, the ugly. Within each of these are insights about life and what it means to be a great leader. These experiences developed my character and who I am today.

I work with students, parents, and schools to help MOLD dreams based on the level of commitment and work a student is ready to invest. Whether it is through inspiring with my story, working with a performer one-on-one to build a fantastic resume, or coaching through the confusing and overwhelming parts of the business, I bring years of experience fueled by my passion to share what I know. **Read on to learn more about what I can bring to your school or organization.**



DUSTIN LUCAS

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STRENGTHS

Coach
Deliver
Empathize
Believe
Optimism

EDUCATION/CERTIFICATIONS/ACCOLADES

—M.Ed. Educational Leadership
—BA in Music, University of North Texas, 2006
—Metropolitan Opera National Council Audition-district first place winner 2009, 2010
—Metropolitan Opera National Council Audition regional final encouragement award 2010
—National Association of Teachers for Singing, Two Time Finalist

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Metropolitan Opera, New York, New York, 2011 to Current

Wolf Trap Opera Company, 2011

Performed in over 50 productions as a tenor chorister including Grammy Award winning productions of Wagner's *Götterdämmerung* and Ades's *The Tempest*. Soloist: *La bohème*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Francesca di Rimini*, *Turandot*, and the world premiere of Nico Muhly's *Marnie*. As a Studio Artist at Wolf Trap Opera, sang the roles of Almoro in *Le donne curiose*, Cochenille in *Les contes d'Hoffman*, and Beadle Bamford in Wolf Trap Opera's production of *Sweeney Todd* with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Filene Center in Vienna, Virginia

United States Navy Band Sea Chanters Chorus, Washington D.C., 2008—2011

Navy Sea Chanter tenor chorister/soloist and Enlisted Conductor. Performed at the White House for President George W. Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney, First Lady Laura Bush, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen, the Chief Naval Officer of the Navy, Admiral Gary Roughhead, and countless world leaders and naval counterparts on many occasions. Performed at inauguration of President Barack Obama and performed for the dedication of the Pentagon Memorial in honor of those that perished on September 11. As an Enlisted Conductor, rehearsed & conducted music for concerts, special events and national tours. Served as Concert Coordinator for the Sea Chanters calling sponsors and venues in the creation of new partnerships, generating audience growth and interest in the Washington D.C., Virginia, and Maryland tri-state area. Clinician for high school and middle school programs and acted as the point person for a Sea Chanters special concert with Canon Michael McCarthy of Washington National Cathedral, creating a lasting and prosperous relationship between the Navy & WNC.

First United Methodist Church of Denton Youth Music Director, Texas 2003—2007

Rehearsed and Conducted Credo Choir (grades 6th-12th) during Sunday morning worship services, special worship services, joint concerts with Adult Chancel Choir, youth events, and yearly tour.

Planned and managed yearly tour with youth and adults performing concerts and mission projects throughout the United States; Credo toured Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Chicago, and New York City. Conducted Credo Choir at the 2006 United Methodist Annual Conference Worship Service.

Organized, rehearsed, and managed Youth Praise Band performing at special events, UMYF events, and UMYF retreats and camps.

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Soloist *Marnie*, The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD, 2018
- Soloist *Berlioz Requiem*, North Carolina Master Chorale, 2018
- Soloist *Der Rosenkavalier* wit Renee Flemming,
The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD, 2017
- Soloist *La boheme*, The Metropolitan Opera Live in HD, 2017
- Soloist Sweeny Todd with National Symphony Orchestra, 2011

United States Navy Band Sea Chanter Chorus, Washington D.C. 2007—2001

- Soloist, President, Vice President, Chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff,
and CNO of Navy
- Soloist, Internationally aired broadcast United States Navy Birthday
celebration
- Soloist, Internationally aired broadcast United States Christmas
Concert at Constitution Hall

Washington National Cathedral, Washington D.C. 2007—2011

- Soloist, J.S. Bach's St. Mark Passion (World Premiere)
- Nationally Aired Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Broadcasts
- Inauguration Presidential Prayer Service

Washington Back Consort, Washington D.C. 2007—2001

- Soloist, J.S. and C.P.E. Bach Magnificat
- Soloist, Bach Easter Oratorio

Washington Choral Arts Society 2010—2016

- Soloist, *Berlioz Requiem*
- Soloist, *Fynsk Forar* (Springtime on Funen)
- Soloist, *Beethoven Missa Solemne*

TEACHERS & COACHES

David Sundquist
Francois Loup
Dr. Jerry McCoy
Stan McGill
Michael Baitzer
Jeremy Frank.
Grant Loehnig
Michael McCarthy
Kathy Olsen
Stephanie Rhodes
Dr. Harold Heiberg
Donald Palumbo

CONDUCTORS

Marco Armiliato
Larry Blank
J. Reilly Lewis
James Levine
Fabio Luisi
Michael McCarthy
Donald Palumbo
Simon Rattle
Harry Bicket
Robert Spano
Joseph Colaneri
Bertrand de Billy
Plácido Domingo
Gustavo Dudamel
Sir Mark Elder
James Gaffigan
Yannick Nézet-Séguin
Gianandrea Noseda
Carlo Rizzi
Emmanuel Villaume

DIRECTORS

Pat Diamond
Andrew Eggert
Tara Faircloth
David Kneuss
Peter McClintok
David McVicar
Dan Rigazzi
Robert Carson
Michael Mayer
Bartlett Sher
Francois Gerrard
Laurent Pelly
Richard Eyre
Robert Lepage

LET'S WORK TOGETHER

I have seen students make wrong choices about their careers without any guidance from a parent, teacher, counselor, or principal. Trying to figure it all out on your own is exhausting and demoralizing. What every student needs is an advocate and mentor who can help them start from where they are now and chart a path to get to where they want to go, avoiding some of the common mistakes and decisions that derail career hopes and dreams. After twenty years as a musical performer, I have learned invaluable lessons. With hindsight comes wisdom. Today I know the kinds of conversations that should take place around choosing the best educational route and how to finance it, how to break into your chosen career field, and when it is best to modify your dream to best suit the kind of life you want to live. As the Youth Music Director at a church, I saw the heartfelt dedication and trust my students put in me and the reward I felt working with them is a feeling I have not had since, including working at the greatest opera house in the world. **I am an advocate and champion for every student that has a dream. When I work with a student,**

1. She gains a personal advocate for her educational, arts, and life journey.
2. My heart is in the business of serving him to reach his full potential in whatever field he chooses.
3. I bring my education, experience, and skillset that are unlike any counterpart in my field, guaranteed. This total package will give her countless insights and learnings from years of struggle and figuring it out on my own.

I promise to utilize every ounce of my talent to make you, your students, and your program better in every way. I know I can because I have been taught by the best and learned from each experience.

KEYNOTE

"Transforming and Empowering Today's Young Artists for Tomorrow." There are four pillars of success: Education, Acumen, Information, and Preparation. With all four pillars in place, you have set the stage for your long term success. In this talk, you will learn how to prepare for your dream now.

CONSULTING

For schools and educators

- Building Something from Nothing: A Guide to Building a Successful Music Program*
- Forming a Booster Club and Developing a Support System
- Working in Partnership with the Community
- Designing a Holistic Music Curriculum for the 21st Century Student

For Students

- Student Engagement and Empowerment
- Leadership Development
- Navigating Complex Systems: Ideal for students pursuing careers in industries that deliberately make it hard to breakthrough
- Strategize and Plan Your Future

For Families

- Design Individual Plans for educational, artistic, and life choices
- Financial Planning for Your Educational and Artistic Future
- Individual Evaluation and Advocacy
- CV, Educational, and Audition Evaluation, Coaching, and Consulting

CLINICIAN

- Vocal Training and Coaching
- Classical and Pop Music Coaching
- Choral Group Coaching
- Conducting Training and Coaching

A leader communicates a vision that is so compelling that people realize and even exceed their potential.

There is positive growth, development, and outcomes.

This is the work of the service-minded leader.



The thing that makes Dustin such a valuable mentor to young people who are seeking careers in the performing arts is his vast experience in the music field, not only as a highly successful professional vocalist but as a teacher. As a youth choir director working under my supervision I witnessed the easy rapport he established with his young singers, helping

them develop into a superb choir while teaching the discipline of ensemble performance as well as other valuable life lessons. His drive is infectious, his attention to detail inspiring, his musicianship is superb and his commitment to helping others see their way to a meaningful career in music most admirable.

—JOHN PRIDDY

*Director of Worship & Music,
First United Methodist Church, Denton, Texas*



Dustin is many things: a teacher, a friend, a musician, and he puts passion behind every role he takes on. It is rare to come across someone as dedicated and hardworking as Dustin is. Under his direction as a choir member, I was

always amazed at his level of skill and how he balanced talent and sheer ability with pure joy and fun. I know that Dustin continues to inspire all who are lucky enough to work with him.

—SALLY MCGUIRE

Credo Choir Member



I have known Dustin for fifteen years and during that time I witnessed him lead and serve in various capacities. He has a heart for giving back and supporting others. His level of talent sets him apart from others but above that is his dedication to keeping the arts alive for the next generation of performers.

—LIZZY ASBURY

Owner, Transcend 4 and parent to Kloe, future Broadway performer



I have known Dustin for over ten years! I first met him when I was in middle school and he was serving as the youth choir director at our church in Denton. Dustin is highly creative and innovative - he was always helping

us recognize and identify our unique gifts, whether in music or leadership, and then provided us with opportunities to show and share our gifts with our community. Dustin is kind, loving and authentic in everything that he does. He is an incredible guide, mentor, teacher and friend. Although he was our choir director many, many years ago, he made a lasting impact on my life and the lives of many other young people through his leadership.

—DORIAN ALBERT

*Credo Choir Member, First UMC of Dallas
Minister of Youth and Their Families*



I have worked alongside Dustin Lucas for many years, and have always been impressed by him. Dustin is that rare breed which finds excitement and joy in everything he does, and as such, is always hungry to explore and to grow as a musician, as a friend, as an educator, and as a person. I recently had the privilege to start a business with Dustin. As an entrepreneur, Dustin's creative mind and process, his tireless work ethic, and his mission to help people to use music and the arts to make a difference in the world and in people's lives...these are the elements of a significant and benevolent legacy already in the making.

—JEREMY LITTLE

*Founder and Partner of The State Singers and Metropolitan
Opera Artist*

LET'S CONNECT:



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