

# LENORA HELM HAMMONDS

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## Curriculum Vitae

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### VOCAL MUSICIAN | COMPOSER | EDUCATOR

*An accomplished, innovative musician and educator named as a 2018 Who's Who Lifetime Achievement Award recipient for achievements in music and music education spanning more than three decades. Honored with such accolades as "voice of her generation" and "national treasure" by Jazziz Magazine.*

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*A distinguished trailblazer who has received recognition as: the first Black woman vocal musician to earn a film scoring degree from Berklee College of Music; the first Black vocal musician to be awarded Chamber Music America New Jazz Works Composer award; the first Black woman to earn a Master of Music, Jazz Performance degree from East Carolina University; and the first Black woman to direct North Carolina Central University's Vocal Ensemble.*

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*Established background performing in renowned jazz festivals and venues around the world, including Jazz at Lincoln Center, Schomburg Center's Women in Jazz Festival, JVC Jazz Festivals, Mellon Jazz Festival, Clifford Brown Jazz Festival, Cape Town Jazzathon Festival (South Africa), Fiji Jazz & Blues Festival, and annual appearances for Aruba's International Jazz Day.*

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### EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALS

**Doctor of Musical Arts in Music Education, Expected 2020**  
Boston University, Boston, MA  
*All coursework completed*

**Master of Music in Jazz Performance, 2010**  
East Carolina University, Greenville, NC  
*Pi Kappa Lambda Honor Society*

**Bachelor of Music in Film Music Composition and Vocal Performance, 1982**  
Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA

#### — Certifications —

Somatic Voicework, The LoVetri Method, Level 1,  
The Contemporary Commercial Music Vocal Pedagogy Institute, Shenandoah Conservatory

#### — Appointments —

**Mellon Foundation: John Hope Franklin Digital Humanities Fellow, Duke University – NCCU Partnership,**  
2017 to 2018

**Fulbright Senior Music Specialist, Denmark and South Africa, 2013 to 2018**

**Global Citizen Fellow, Salzburg Global Seminar, Salzburg, Austria, 2014**

**United States Jazz Ambassador, Southeastern Africa, 1998 to 1999**

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## ADMINISTRATION AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

North Carolina Central University (NCCU), Durham, NC

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, TENURE-TRACK | DIRECTOR, VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE AND NCCU RESOLUTION, JAZZ STUDIES PROGRAM | ONLINE COURSE INSTRUCTOR (2013 to Present)**

Oversee, compose, and arrange for NCCU Vocal Jazz Ensemble, twelve to sixteen voices and rhythm section; and NCCU Resolution, vocal subset group. Create and implement curriculum for graduate and undergraduate courses in Classical and Jazz Applied Voice, Vocal Jazz Ensemble Performance, Rhythm Section & Vocal Combos, Graduate Jazz Vocal Ear Training, and Classroom Voice Methods.

Advise and organize graduate capstone projects and undergraduate senior recitals for vocal jazz majors while acting as liaison with instrumental faculty. Plan and coordinate faculty-led study abroad for jazz studies, vocal, and instrumental majors. Mentor graduate and undergraduate research projects for annual NCCU Research Symposium. Lead planning of yearly faculty recital.

- Designed and implemented Teaching Artist Certificate program to aid artists in dance, music, theatre, and literature in becoming community and cultural activists and educators.
- Refereed author with research that concentrates on the intersection of jazz, global classrooms, intercultural competence, and ethnorelativism; ultimately focused on using art to contribute toward a global respect between all peoples.
- Created accessible curriculum for distance education courses in Composing, Songwriting, Arranging in a Global Network, and Jazz Contemporary Vocal Music.

### VOCAL JAZZ COORDINATOR

Craft meaningful vocal jazz studies curriculum for undergraduate and graduate level courses for Jazz Studies program; oversee instruction, recruitment, performances, recording, and international touring activities for vocal jazz component of program. Coordinate special event planning activities for senior and graduate recitals, culminating semester performances, annual jazz festival concert series, annual Vocal Jazz Summit, and tours with NCCU vocal majors.

- Assist Director of Jazz Studies with planning, designing, and implementing marketing and public relations efforts for Jazz Studies program events, activities, international touring, and recruiting to increase national awareness of program.
- Lead fundraising efforts for capital and resources through effective grant writing for Vocal Jazz, Jazz Studies, and Department of Music.

NCCU, College of Arts and Sciences, Durham, NC

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR | CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR (2010 to Present)**

Cultivate meaningful relationships and coordinated activities between community-based organizations and NCCU's College of Arts and Sciences. Collaborate with international universities to establish MoUs facilitating projects while creating resources for underserved constituents of partner members, non-traditional students, and faculty.

- Facilitated application and receipt of successfully funded grant from Association of American Colleges & Universities: Bringing Theory to Practice, a program to advance learning, discovery, and well-being of each individual student.

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## Collaborative Online Institute of Learning (COIL) **LEAD RESEARCH FELLOW (2011 to 2013)**

Directed 12-person team of educators, IT specialists, and international programs staff to create globally networked learning environment embodied in online courses. Co-authored, planned, and implemented Fall 2012 online learning course: *Jazz! Born in America, Created Internationally and Composing, Arranging and Songwriting in a Global Network*; a collaborative project between NCCU, University of Pretoria in South Africa, and Royal Academy of Music in Aarhus, Denmark.

- Collaborative course required cross-functional coordination across humanities coursework including NCCU educators in Music, History, Political Science, and Mass Communications; served 63 students internationally and enabled students' cultural exchange and exploration around the subject of jazz.
- Published papers and presentations on research findings from course creation; presented at Collaborative Online Institute of Learning (COIL) conference in NYC in 2013 and NAFSA Conferences in 2013 and 2015.

## **LECTURER, DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC | CO-DIRECTOR, VOCAL JAZZ ENSEMBLE, JAZZ STUDIES PROGRAM (2005 to 2013)**

Led jazz and classical private voice instruction while teaching classes at undergraduate and graduate levels in Applied Voice, Voice Ensemble Performance, Rhythm Section & Vocal Combo Performance, Jazz Vocal Ear Training, Classroom Voice Methods, and Twentieth Century Music.

- Planned and coordinated performances for bi-annual NCCU jazz festival concert series and tours with NCCU vocal majors; led yearly faculty recital.
- Assisted with marketing and publicity efforts for Jazz Studies program events and recruiting.

## Independent Projects **OWNER | CREATOR | CLINICIAN (2000 to Present)**

Throughout 19-year teaching artist career, took passions surrounding the betterment of the global population and jazz music to create and implement evocative projects that ultimately serve to uplift communities using knowledge and accessibility to the arts.

- Great Artists Past and Present (2018 to Present): digital humanities project which provides anyone with curated set of materials to learn about current and past artists in the arts.
- Lenora Zenzalai Helm & The Zenzalai Project (2000 to Present): deliver jazz instruction to youth and adults in communities by tailoring and presenting information in varying lengths to students K-12, university students, general audience, music student populations, and family workshops.
- Harmony Program Inc. (2003- 2007): created and implemented curriculum for non-profit youth music program to elevate children in under-served communities and public housing in K-9. Collaborated program with Office of the Mayor of New York, local NYC-based colleges and universities, NYC cultural arts organizations, and NYC community centers.

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*Prior experience includes:*

- Teaching Artist** • Brooklyn Philharmonic (2004 to 2006)
- Teaching Artist** • Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (2005 to 2006)
- Teaching Artist & Performing Artist** • Young Audiences (1999 to 2006)
- Teaching Artist** • Def Dance Jam Workshop (2003 to 2005)
- Vocal Jazz Instructor** • Long Island Performing Arts High School (2000 to 2004)

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## SCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

### **JAZZ VOCAL ADVISORY BOARD** – The Julliard School (2018 to Present)

*Advise senior administrative staff and Artistic Director of Julliard Jazz on developmental aspects of vocal jazz component of Master of Music degree.*

*Prescreen applicants, suggest audition repertoire, and advise on curriculum development.*

### **TEACHING ARTIST CERTIFICATE PROGRAM COORDINATOR** – NCCU (2016 to Present)

*Developed certificate program to train Teaching Artists, offering job preparation and entrepreneurship skills to artists in dance, music, theatre, and literature to become community and cultural activists and educators*

*Crafted documentation for presentation of program to decision-making senior administrative councils.*

### **VARIOUS COMMITTEES** – NCCU (2005 to 2019)

*During 14-year tenure, served on many committees; Primary Faculty Senator and Department of Music Representative, while serving on Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Committee, Global Citizen's Certificate Committee, and Carnegie Commission Service Learning Committee.*

### **FOUNDER, OWNER, & INSTRUCTOR** – Vocal Jazz Online & Face-to-Face Summer Camp (2015 to Present)

*Design and implemented week-long annual summer camp for vocalists.*

*Promote feature of online content providing daily streamed sessions and guest webinar series.*

### **BOARD MEMBER** – Classical Voice of North Carolina (2010 to 2014)

*Support mission of providing online journal, calendar, and networking information to Triangle Area.*

*Create content for calendar, aid in marketing efforts, and serve on website committees.*

## RECORDING AND PERFORMING EXPERIENCE

Since 1983, performed as soloist and bandleader of rhythm section and guest artist on six solo commercially available recordings. Recognized as Lenora Zenzalai Helm & The Zenzalai Project in duo, trio, and quartet configurations; appeared in concert and club venues, music festivals; primary, secondary, and university school settings; and on radio and television. Since 1982, honored as guest performer and background vocalist; performing and recording with major artists on international tours, live performances, and studio sessions. Jazz artists include: Donald Brown, Ron Carter, Antonio Hart, Andrew Hill, David Liebman, and Branford Marsalis. Pop artists include: Freddie Jackson, Emmanuel, Michael Franks, Sixun, Jiro Yoshida, Keiko Matsui, and Rick Astley.

Highlights of major jazz festival and venue appearances: All that Jazz with Durham Symphony Orchestra, Art of Cool Jazz Festival, Aruba International Jazz Day, Cape Town Jazzathon, Clifford Brown Jazz Festival, Copenhagen Jazz Festival, Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola Women's Jazz Festival, Essentially Ellington Regional Jazz Festival, Fiji Jazz & Blues Festival, Girl Power Jazz Festival, Jazzpar Prize Tour, Denmark; Jazz Standard, JVC Jazz Festivals, Merkin Hall, and Schomburg Women's Jazz Festival.

## COMPOSING EXPERIENCE

As a TV and film composer, recent music credits include writing musical score for *Indigo Blue: A Reimagining of the Pied Piper* for Walltown Children's Theater; scoring music for the film, *After Life* by Lana Garland featuring Marva Hicks, Tunie Tamara, and Ezra Knight; and writing music for several Black History Month Promo Campaigns

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on ESPN Network. Penned lyrics to compositions of John Coltrane, Andrew Hill, Jason Moran, Wayne Shorter, and Branford Marsalis. Presented composing and arranging workshops for the Composer, Arranging and Band (CAB) symposium at Royal Academy of Music, Alborg, Denmark. Awarded as a MacDowell Composer Fellow.

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Refereed**

1. Christensen, T.N., **L. H. Hammonds**, "Jazz, Constructionism, and Music Composition: Building Cultural Competencies in a Global Classroom Through the Performing Arts," *Globally Networked Teaching in the Humanities*, Chapter 16. 2015.
2. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Two Traditions: The Three P's of Vocal Jazz Pedagogy Impacting Vocal Educators, *INTED2014 Proceedings*, pp.7723-7728, 2014.
3. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Jazz as a Lens for Cultural Learning: Humanities Coursework in Globally Networked Learning Environments, *INTED2014 Proceedings*, pp.4670-4677, 2014.
4. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Technology and the Humanities in a Globally Networked Classroom: A Qualitative Study of Two Courses Taught Amongst Three Countries in the Performing Arts, *INTED2014*, Interlink Alliance. 2014.
5. **Hammonds, Lenora**, E. Oritsejafor. Navigating the Performing Arts in Globally Networked Learning Environment: The Case of Jazz! Born in America. *Global Innovation of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education: Transgressing Boundaries*, Chapter 9. 2014.
6. **Hammonds, Lenora**, E. Oritsejafor, B. Tymas. Incorporating Technology and Jazz in Globally Networked Learning Environments. *NAFSA Conference*, Boston, MA. 2015.
7. **Hammonds, Lenora**. New Global Partnerships Through Online Collaborations: Results from the COIL Institute. *NASFA Conference*, St. Louis, MO. 2013.
8. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Asynchronous & Synchronous eLearning: A Case Study in Globally Networked Learning Environments. *4<sup>th</sup> Annual Jazz Educator's Conference*, Atlanta, GA. 2013.
9. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Process vs. Result: Closing the Gap Between Vocalists and Instrumentalists. *Jazzed Magazine*, pp. 30-34. 2013.
10. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Asynchronous & Synchronous eLearning: A Case Study in Globally Networked Learning Environments. *Future Teach Conference*, NCCU. 2012.

### **Non-Refereed**

1. **Hammonds, Lenora**, Astrid Elbek. eLearning: A Case Study in Globally Networked and Learning Environments. *Newtime Conference*, Royal Academy of Music, Aarhus, Denmark. 2016.
2. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Organizational Leadership: Jazz as a Business Model. University of Aruba, Oranjested, Aruba. 2016.
3. **Hammonds Lenora**. COIL: Creating Access to Global Learning for All and COIL Programs at NCCU. *10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary COIL Conference*, City University of New York, New York, NY. 2016.
4. **Hammonds, Lenora**. The Business of Working as a Musician in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. *Essentially Ellington Regional Jazz Festival*, Brigham University, Provo, UT. 2016.
5. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Life and Leadership Lessons from Jazz. University of Aruba, Oranjested, Aruba. 2016.
6. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Grasping the Globalization Initiative: Situating NCCU for a New Dawn in Research and Learning. *The COIL Project @ NCCU, Multidisciplinary Symposium*. 2013.
7. **Hammonds, Lenora**. Asynchronous & Synchronous eLearning: Best Practices Collaborative Online Coursework. *The Interlink Alliance Conference: Teaching and Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. 2012.

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## AWARDS

Excellence in Research Award, NCCU Department of Music (2019)  
Dean's Research Fellowship, NCCU College of Arts and Sciences (2019)  
International Javett Jazz Music Scholar Award, Pretoria South Africa (2018)  
Best Choir Award, HBCU Digest; NCCU Vocal Jazz Ensemble, (2018/19)  
Innovation Award, Academic Affairs, NCCU (2017-18)  
Marquis Who's Who Lifetime Achievement Award (2017)  
Mayor's Award for Promoting International Understanding (2017)  
Professional Development Mini-Grant, NCCU Faculty Senate (2016)  
North Carolina Central University Award for Teaching Excellence (2015)  
UNC Global Educator Fellow, University of North Carolina (2015)  
Quarter-Finalist, GRAMMY Music Educator of the Year Award (2015)  
Hayti-NCCU Cultural Arts Partnership Signature Community Service Project Award (2015)  
Collaborative Online Institute of Learning Signature Community Service Project Award (2015)

## CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS

Jazz Education Network Conference, Reno, NV (2019)  
Jazz Education Network Conference, Dallas, TX (2018)  
Jazz Symposium, University of Pretoria, South Africa  
Women in Music Panelist, Chamber Orchestra of the Triangle, Durham, NC (2018)  
International Jazz Day, Oranjested, Aruba (2015 to 2018)  
Chancellor's International Symposium, NCCU, Durham, NC (2018)  
American Choral Directors' Association, Southern Regional Conference, Louisville, KY (2018)  
International Jazz Symposium, University of South Africa, Pretoria (2017)  
International Society of Jazz Composers and Arrangers Conference, Tampa, FL (2017)  
Global Audiences and Vocal Jazz Lecture, University of Cape Town, South Africa (2017)  
Essentially Ellington Jazz Festival, Vocal Jazz Lecture, Brigham Young University (2016)  
American Council on Education, COIL Conference, New York, NY (2016)  
NAFSA Conference, Boston, MA (2015)  
Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA (2014)  
NASFA Conference, St. Louis, MO (2013)  
Jazz Educators Network Conference, Atlanta, GA  
Future Teach: Preparing 21<sup>st</sup> Century Educators as Technology Leaders, Durham, NC  
Interlink Alliance: Teaching and Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Durham, NC  
Aaron Davis Hall, Harlem, NY  
American Museum of Natural History, New York, NY  
Capital Jazz Festival, Jefferson, MO  
Face to Face Conference, Arts in Education Roundtable, New York, NY  
International Associate of Jazz Educators Convention, New York, NY  
Mellon Jazz Festival  
Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia, PA  
Richland County Library, Columbia, SC

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Salve Regina University Jazz Symposium, Newport Jazz Festival, Newport, RI  
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Harlem, NY  
JazzTimes Magazine Convention, New York, NY  
JVC Jazz Festival, New School University, New York, NY

## RESIDENCIES

Arts Council of Wilson, Wilson, NC  
Jazz Institute at Brevard, Brevard Music Center, Brevard, NC  
Chattanooga High School Center for Creative Arts, Chattanooga, TN  
Colquitt County High School, Moultrie, GA  
Def Dance Jam Workshop, Harlem, NY  
Duke Ellington High School, Washington, DC  
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA  
Fiji Jazz and Blues Festival, Fiji Islands, South Pacific  
New York City Public School, New York, NY  
North Carolina AT&T University, Greensboro, NC  
North Carolina Central University, Raleigh, NC  
Parkdale High School, New Carrollton, MD  
Ruffin High School, Walterboro, SC  
Spelman College, Atlanta, GA  
Thomas O, Hopkins Middle School, Burlington, NJ  
UNISA International Jazz School, Pretoria, Soweto, and Soshanguve, South Africa  
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Chattanooga, TN  
University of Pretoria, South Africa  
Walterboro High School, Walterboro, SC

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA)  
Alliance for Women Film Composers  
American Society of Composers, Artist and Publishers (ASCAP)  
GRAMMY in the Schools Committee, NARAS  
Global Network for Higher Music Education (GLOMUS), Steering Committee  
Golden Key Honor Society, East Carolina University Chapter  
Chamber Music America  
International Women in Jazz (IWJ), President 1995-2000  
International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers (ISJAC)  
Jazz Education Network (JEN), Area Unit Vice President for North Carolina  
Japan Central Music Publishing  
National Academy of Recordings Arts and Sciences (NARAS/GRAMMY)  
National Association for Music Education, (NAfME)  
National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS)  
Society of European Songwriters, Artists, and Composers (SESAC)