

David Wilson Bio and CV



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FB/IG/YT: The Wilson Method

FULL BIO

David Wilson (B.Mus, M.Mus, Yoga Dip) is a Singer, Conductor, Professional Voice Teacher, Certified Yoga Instructor/Teacher Trainer, Breath Therapist, as well as the Founder and Principal of The Wilson Method for Voice. He is recognized across Canada as the leading authority on the use of Yoga, Functional Vocal Work, Core Empowerment and Breath Therapy to aid proper singing and speaking techniques. David has been singing for over 35 years as a chorister and soloist, appearing most recently the University of Alberta Vocal Area Faculty presentation J.S. Bach – A Celebration, and as the Prince and the Wolf in Sondheim's Into the Woods. He has also sung with the Edmonton Opera Chorus and for the Banff Centre for the Arts. He has served as Artistic Director/Conductor of Vocal Alchemy, Edmonton Recorder Orchestra (six years), Edmonton Metropolitan Orchestra, Calgary Renaissance Singers (ten years), Debut Opera Society (three seasons) and SPIRITUS Chamber Choir (Founder - winning a 1999 International Contemporary A cappella Recording Award for their CD 'Crossing Bridges'). In October 2004, David was invited to the Évora Cathedral Music School to present his Master's Thesis, 'Manuel Cardoso of Portugal'. From 2003-2008 David served as Director of Music at Concordia High School, and from 2006-2010 served as Vocal-Yoga Instructor for Opera Nuova's Summer Festival Program. He has conducted numerous operas and musical productions, including Messiah, La Bohème, Carmen, La Traviata, My Fair Lady, Mikado, and most recently, RENT. Currently David teaches for Edmonton Musical Theatre, Cowtown Opera Summer Academy, the Voice Program at the University of Alberta, and he is enjoying his ninth year as sessional instructor for the Theatre Arts program at Grant MacEwan University. At his Edmonton teaching studio David offers Professional Voice Lessons, Functional Vocal Transformation, Support System Pedagogy for Singers and Actors, Empowerment & Confidence Training for Public Speakers, Breath Therapy for Trauma, Performance Tuning, Breath Therapy for Better Health, Creative Flow Work, and Restorative Yoga for Health and Well-Being. He has created his Wilson Method Breath Balls and User Manual to assist Singers, Actors and Professional Speakers in finding their full vocal potential. He is currently working on his DVD/book: The Wilson Method for Voice.

CONDENSED BIO

David Wilson (BMus, Mmus) is a Singer, award-winning Conductor, Voice Teacher, Senior Yoga Instructor/Teacher Trainer and Breath Therapist, and the founder and principal of The Wilson Method for Voice. He is recognized across Canada as the leading authority on the use of Yoga, Functional Vocal Work, Core Empowerment and Breath Therapy to aid healthy singing and speaking techniques. He has served as Artistic Director/Conductor of Edmonton Recorder Orchestra (six years), Calgary Renaissance Singers & Players (ten years), Debut Opera Society (three seasons) and is the founding conductor of SPIRITUS Chamber Choir winning the 1999 International Contemporary A cappella Recording Award for their CD 'Crossing Bridges'). David currently holds voice area teaching positions with Edmonton Musical Theatre, University of Alberta, Cowtown Opera Summer Academy and MacEwan University. At his Edmonton teaching studio David offers professional voice lessons, while also travelling across Canada leading over 20 workshops every year to singers, actors, teachers and professionals on vocal power, emotional and creative freedom, anxiety and asthma relief, respiratory health, core stability and empowerment, somatic movement and public speaking. He has created his Wilson Method Breath Balls and User Manual to assist singers, actors and professional speakers in finding their full vocal potential, and is currently working on his DVD/book: *The Wilson Method for Voice*.

CURRICULUM VITAE

PROFESSIONAL CAREER

Awards

- 2000) SPIRITUS – Semi-Finalist, CBC National Choral Competition 2000
- 1999) Alberta Choral Federation Con Spirito Award
- 1999) “Best Classical Selection” - 1999 Contemporary A Cappella Recording Award for SPIRITUS’ *“Crossing Bridges”*
- 1981 & 85) Award of Outstanding Merit - WCHS Music, Calgary Boys Choir “Outstanding Chorister”

Presentations/Papers

- 2020) University of Alberta Voice Area – “Functional Support Pedagogy for Voice”
- 2019) Cowtown Opera Summer Academy – “Appoggio for Singers”
- 2018) Cowtown Opera Summer Academy – “The Wilson Method for Voice”
- 2018) University of Alberta Voice Area – “Functional Support Pedagogy for Voice”
- 2017) Cowtown Opera Summer Academy – “Functional Support Pedagogy for Voice”
- 2016) Choral Canada Symposium: “The Free Choral Voice”
- 2016) Early Childhood Development Support Services
- 2016) Cowtown Opera Summer Academy – “The Science of Support for the Voice”
- 2015) Grant MacEwan University CAFÉ – “Speaking with Power: Voice Care for Teachers and Professionals”
- 2015) Cowtown Opera Summer Academy – “Appoggio for Singers”
- 2015) Head Start Aboriginal Services – “Vocal Power and De-stressing for Social Workers”
- 2014) Cowtown Opera Summer Academy – “The Science of Breath”
- 2014) Early Childhood Development Support Services – “Help Ourselves, Help Others: The 10-Minute Solution for Stress”
- 2013) University of Alberta Vocal Pedagogy Class: “Valsalva Maneuver and the Voice”
- 2005) Alberta Music Educator’s Conference: “Warm-ups that Work”.
- 2004) Invitation to Symposium: Escola de Musica de Se de Evora, Evora, Portugal. Thesis Presentation.
- 2002) Association of Canadian Choral Conductors, Toronto “Breath and the Voice: Effortless Mastery”
- 2001) Alberta Music Conference, Edmonton “Breathing and Yoga for Singers and Conductors”

Published Works

- 2020) 2010) Yoga Bridge Magazine “Breath & Voice: Harmony in our Practice”
- 2012) Business in Edmonton Magazine
- 2010) Yoga Bridge Magazine “Flirting with Ecstasy: Yoga for the Voice”
- 2006) Calgary Herald / Edmonton Journal Articles: (“Breathe Deeply” & “Waiting to Exhale”)
- 2005) Yoga Bridge Magazine Vol.5, Issue 2: “The Authentic Voice”.
- 2004) Twist & Shout Alberta – “Breathing for a Healthier Life”
- 2003) Canadian Voice Care Foundation Vol 7, Issue 2: “Yoga and Breath for Musicians”
- 2002) Music Alberta Magazine: pts 1&2. vol 3 #3, vol 4 #1. “Yoga and Breath for Musicians”
- 1999) Quires (Alberta Choral Federation): Review of CD; Trobairitz: Seasons of Love and Song

Audio Recordings

- 2001) SPIRITUS CD “*Never the Same River Twice*”
- 1998) SPIRITUS CD “*Crossing Bridges*”
- 1995) C.R.S.P. 25th Anniversary CD, “*The Spirit of Musick*”

Clinics / Educational Hirings / Positions

- 2020) Brott Opera Music Festival – Yoga for Voice, Hamilton, Ontario
- 2020) Vocal Alchemy Choral Ensemble – “How to Sing Better”, Edmonton, AB
- 2020) University of Alberta Wind Ensemble – “Breathing and Support for Wind Players”
- 2020) Chronos Choral Society – “Support for Professional Singers”
- 2020) Azimuth Theatre Company (Series of 2 workshops) – “The Wilson Method for Actors”
- 2019) Saskatchewan Teaching Tour – Swift Current, Weyburn, Regina
- 2019) Resonate Music Studio Workshops – “Finding your Big Voice”
- 2019) University of Alberta Voice Area “Appoggio for the Voice”
- 2019) Cowtown Opera Summer Academy Faculty – “The Wilson Method for Voice”
- 2019) Wordsworth Summer Kamp – “Empowerment - Finding your Voice for Teens”
- 2019) Edmonton Musical Theatre – “Find Your Core Power”
- 2019) Citadel Young Theatre Company – “Acting with the Voice: Finding your Truth”
- 2019) University of Alberta Wind Ensemble – “Breathing and Support for Wind Players”
- 2019) Azimuth Theatre Company (Series of 4 workshops) – “The Wilson Method for Actors”
- 2019) Yoga for Today – “Breathing and Chanting for Better Health”
- 2019) GETCA Teacher’s Conference – “The Wilson Method for Voice”
- 2019-‘20) Chronos Choral Society – Ongoing workshops
- 2017) VASTA Conference Singapore – Featured Speaker / Workshop – “The Wilson Method”
- 2015) NATS Edmonton “The Science of Support for Singers & Speakers”
- 2015) University of Alberta Faculty of Arts “Office Yoga & Voice for Professionals”
- 2015) University of Alberta Faculty of Humanities “Office Yoga & Voice for Professionals”
- 2014-2018) Over 100 clinics with Churches, Community Choirs, High Schools throughout Canada
- 2013-con’t) University of Alberta Voice Area – Ongoing Collaborative Relationship
- 2012-con’t) Grant MacEwan University (Vocal Instructor, THAR)
- 2010-con’t) Cowtown Opera Summer Academy (Vocal Yoga Instructor)
- 2010-con’t) Edmonton Musical Theatre - Vocal Coach
- 2006-’10) Opera Nuova’s Summer Festival Program - Vocal Yoga instructor
- 2003-’08) Concordia High School - Music Class Instructor & Choir Teacher
- 2001) Music Camrose: Intermediate Choir
- 2001) Knox Presbyterian presents – Guest Conductor
- 2000) Calgary Montessori School: Breath and Voice for Acting – April 2000
- 2000) University of Calgary Drama Dept: Voice, Breath & Yoga for Actors
- 2000) University of Calgary General Studies Dept: Acoustic Ecology
- 1998) University of Calgary Music Dept: Advanced Choral Techniques
- 1998-2001) University of Calgary Concert Choir
- 1991-2001) Thirty-seven clinics in fifteen High Schools throughout Canada
- 1996-2001) Twenty-one clinics with Churches and Community Choirs throughout Alberta
- 1996) “Thanksgiving in Song” – C.I.O.F., with Calgary Philharmonic Chorus, Foothills Brass
- 1996) “Carmina Burana” with Calgary Philharmonic Chorus
- 2000-2001) Calgary Boys Choir: Vocal Coach
- 2000) Banff Centre for the Arts: Voice, Breath & Yoga for Musicians

2000) University of Calgary Drama Dept: Voice, Breath & Yoga for Actors 500
2000) University of Calgary General Studies Dept: Acoustic Ecology 301.08
1999-2000) University of Calgary Concert Choir, Feb. & Mar.'99/ Oct.'99/ Feb '00 - Clinician
1998) University of Calgary Music Dept: Advanced Choral Techniques 401
1991-1998) Clinician: Ernest Manning H.S., "In the Pink" vocal ensemble, Canmore, First Baptist Church, DAREARTS Project, March 9-20, Green Fools Theater Troup, (voice training/yoga workshops), Western Canada H.S., (Five Vocal Workshops) Robert McClure United Church, James Fowler High School, (Three Choral Workshops) Rosemary Elem, Jr. High School, Rosemary AB. (Five Vocal Workshops), "Singing through the Breath" workshop; Milton Williams Jr. High, Rideau Music Sacred Choral Reading Session, (x2), R.T. Alderman Jr. High, St. Francis High School (x3), Weekend workshop with "BRAVO", Medicine Hat, AB, St. Mary's High School, Bishop Grandin High School (1991-'98).

Conducting Positions

2013) Cosmopolitan Chamber Choir & Orchestra – Faure – Guest Conductor
2008) Sherard musical Theatre – Mikado (Gilbert & Sullivan)
2008) Elope Theatre – Dream King (Randy Mueller)
2005-'06) Vocal Alchemy Chamber Choir
2003) Richard Eaton Singers
1995-2001) SPIRITUS Chamber Choir & Performing Arts Ensemble Founder, Artistic Director.
Highlights; 1999 CARA Award, CDs: "*Crossing Bridges*", "*Never the Same River*"
1991-2001) Calgary Renaissance Singers & Players - Artistic Director
Highlights; Thomas Tallis 40-part "Spem in Alium" - Calgary Premiere Performance
1996) "Thanksgiving in Song" with the Calgary Philharmonic Chorus, Foothills Brass, Terry Fullerton and SPIRITUS Chamber Choir
1993-'95) Debut Opera Society – Musical Director - "The Gondoliers", "Messiah", "La Boheme", "Carmen", "La Traviata", "The Mikado"
1992-'94) Bonfield Gregorian Chant Choir, St. Elizabeth of Hungary / Pius X
1991-'92) St. Boniface Catholic Church - Director of Music
1991) Conductor: University of Calgary; "Orca" by Allan Bell, for Chamber Orchestra
1991) Conductor: William Aberhart H. S. Kiwanis Festival: rating "Excellent"
1988-1990) Christ Church Youth Choir - Director of Music

Interviews/Airplay

1998) CBC National; "The Music Room" (1 hour devoted to SPIRITUS and its Director)
'95-2000) CBC 2 Alberta; recorded for "Our Music" on twelve occasions
1995-'99 CKUA; four interviews. CJSW; two hour long specials on SPIRITUS

Festival Adjudication Positions

1998 - 2012) Battlefords, Drayton Valley, Saskatoon, Airdrie Kiwanis Festival, Red Deer & Grand Prairie Festivals, Olds, Coronation, Lac LaBiche, Medicine Hat, Vermillion Festivals, Red Deer Kiwanis Festival, Drayton Valley Festival, Sherwood Park Music Festival, Drumheller Music Festival, Lacombe Music Festival

Professional and Amateur Singing Experience & Hirings

2013) Robertson Wesley United – Baritone Soloist “The French Requiem”

2011) Into the Woods by Stephen Sondheim (Roles of Cinderella’s Prince and The Wolf)

1999) Soloist: Banff Centre for Fine Arts “Penderecki Festival” – “Strophies” (Thomas Rolston)

1995) Soloist: Cathedral Chamber Choir International Organ Festival Concert (Terry Fullerton)

1992-‘93) Soloist: Bonfield Gregorian Chant Choir, St. Elizabeth of Hungary / St. Pius X 1990-‘92)

Cantor: St. Mary's Catholic Church

1988 & 1990) National Youth Choir (Wayne Riddell, James Fankhauser)

1985-1992) Alberta Youth Choir (Brian Trevor, Jonathan Mohr, Leonard Ratzlaff, George Evelyn, Robert DeFrece, James Fankhauser)

1986-1992) Ad Libitum Vocal Ensemble 12 vv, unconduted. (Includes workshops with Simon Carrington (2), Jon Washburn, Wayne Riddell, Denise Narcise-Mayer, Diane Loomer, Peter Phillips)

1984-‘89) Mount Royal Youth Choir, Madrigal Singers (David Ferguson)

1983) Mikado in "Mikado" by G&S, WCHS (David Ferguson) Mar. '83.

1982-‘85) Western Canada High School Fest. Chorus, Concert Chorus, Madrigal Singers (D. Ferguson)

1978-81) Calgary Boys Choir (Douglas Parnham)

EDUCATION

Post Secondary Education

2001-’03) Master of Music in Conducting: University of Alberta, Edmonton Alberta

2000) University of Manitoba Summer Academy in Advanced Choral Conducting

1995-’97) Yoga Centre of Calgary Teacher Training Certification

1987-’91) Bachelor of Music: University of Calgary, Alberta

Conducting Clinics Attended

2000) Ivars Taurins (with SPIRITUS)

2000) Wayne Riddell (with SPIRITUS)

2000) Participant: MCA “Advanced Choral Conducting”. Frieder Bernius

2000) Participant: ACCC Messiah Masterclass. Ivars Taurins

1996) Participant: ACF “The Conductor”. Eric Ericson

1995) Tonu Kaluste (with CRSP)

1992) Participant: VCC International Conducting Workshop. Jon Washburn

1991) Participant: MusiCamrose Adult Summer Conducting School. Len Ratzlaff

1988) Auditor: VCC International Choral Conducting Workshop. Jon Washburn