

Andrew Melton

Seeking a music position in international schools

Age: 47
Nationality: USA
Certified: The College of New Jersey
E-mail: aemelton@aol.com
Phone: 81 080 4362 3629
Skype: aellismelton
Website/Podcast/Youtube
<https://andrew-melton-5402.squarespace.com/>

Education:

- Bachelor of Music with Honors, Berklee College of Music, 1999 (Conducting, Composing, Percussion)
- Graduate Diploma, University of Southern California (USC) Film Scoring Program, 2007
- ESL Teaching Certificate from The College of New Jersey, 2009
- Master of Education, The College of New Jersey, 2011
- IB Music Training, Oxford, 2016

Teaching:

- **Secondary School Band & Choir Teacher**, Canadian Academy 2020 - present
- **HS Band, Choir, Composition, & IB Music Teacher**, Shanghai American School, 2015-2020
- **Band, Choir & Strings Teacher**, Secondary, FDR (American School of Lima, Peru), 2012-2015
- **Band, Choir & General Music Teacher**, K-12 American School of Marrakech, Morocco 2010-2012
- **Teacher of Musical Improvisation & Voice** at IO West & Second City, Los Angeles, CA, 2003-2009

Professional Experience & Initiatives:

- **Music Director** of theater productions at FDR, SAS and CA, including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *James & The Giant Peach*, *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *Hairspray*, and *Into The Woods*, 2012-present
- **ASIJ Summer Passport Program Music Teacher**, 2022 & 2023
- **Judge** of student compositions for Association of Music in Int. Schools Young Composer's Competition (2016-present)
- **Teacher/Combo Leader**, AMIS Jazz Workshop, Singapore 2017 & Frankfurt 2018
- **Percussion Coordinator**, AMIS Festivals 2017-2019
- **Band & Choir Coordinator**, SAAC Performing Arts Festival, Lima, Peru, March 2013
- **Organized** guest musician visits: pianist Patricia Ramirez-Gaston (Sept. 2012), harpsichordist Kathleen McIntosh (Nov. 2012), pianist Jiovanni de Pedro (Apr. 2013), brass quintet Brazen Brass 5 (Dec. 2016), Charl Du Plessis Trio (Nov. 2017), trombonist Nick Marshall (Oct. 2022), trumpeter Miki Hirose (Oct. 2023)
- **Director**, *The Fantasticks*, FDR (Amer. School of Lima), 2014
- **Musical Director & Composer**, *Open House* (feature film, musical starring Sally Kellerman)
- **Producer**, *Symphonic Sherpa* (music education podcast), 23 episodes
- **Guest lecturer**, American School In Japan, Tokyo, in 2008, 2009, 2010, & 2015
Instrumental performance, improvisation, composition in the high school

Musical Compositions:

- *Train Through Hokkaido* commissioned by The Villages Orchestra, Florida, 2018
- **Winner**, Frank Ticheli International Band Competition with *Game Time*, 2014
- *Rejoice*, a piece for band, choir and strings, performed at the SAAC fine arts festival in Chile, 2014, in honor of Nelson Mandela
- Pieces for concert band (MS & HS levels), published by C Alan, Grand Mesa Music, Manhattan Beach Music, and CL Barnhouse
- Arrangements for choir, band, and musical theater for performances at The American School In Japan, FDR, and Shanghai Amer. School

Other Interests:

- I grew up in international schools (Riyadh and Tokyo)
- I speak Japanese, Spanish and basic Mandarin
- I am a skilled user of professional music software including *Finale*, *Digital Performer* and *Sibelius*

My Story

I grew up overseas in Riyadh and Tokyo while my parents were international school teachers. I have many of the third culture kid characteristics: I love exploration, I have no problem with transitions, and I look at the world from an international perspective.

I was graduated from Berklee College of Music (Boston) in 1999 and immediately returned to Japan to teach in a Japanese middle school. I then moved to Los Angeles to teach, compose, and serve as musical director of a theater. There I earned a master's level certificate from the University of Southern California and teaching certification from TCNJ.

I then spent two wonderful years at the American School of Marrakech, three in Lima, and five at Shanghai American School, Pudong.

I am now teaching band and choir at Canadian Academy, Kobe, Japan.

I have been married to Jen Van Ness since 2015. She is a librarian.

I am able to teach band, choir, composition, and music technology. In Japan, Morocco, Peru and China I have been called upon to work in all of these areas. I bring my experiences as a professional musician in Los Angeles into the classroom, which hopefully adds extra resonance for the students. I encourage creative ideas in students, which has lead to innovative arrangements for choir and various combinations of instruments.

I am able to direct and/or conduct musical theater.

Outside of the classroom I have a track record of attracting students of all ages to after school musical groups such as jazz bands, pop choirs, guitar classes, composition, and activities centered on the local culture. I am also a big believer in community service, and have supervised students in grades 7-10 working with organizations such as Techo and CreaMas.

My goal as a teacher in international education is to teach the curricular material, give students performance opportunities, and help them develop a global perspective. More specifically, I have successfully balanced the IB curriculum with performance preparation. International schools are wonderful and culturally diverse places. I want to share my excitement for the world of music with my students.

References:

Jon Schatzky, Head of School, Canadian Academy, jschatzky@canacad.ac.jp

Brian Combes, Secondary Principal, Canadian Academy, bcombes@canacad.ac.jp

Ben Lee, High School Principal, Shanghai Amer. School blee@vvsaz.org

Russ Jones, former Head of School, Colegio Roosevelt, 1senojr@gmail.com

Kerry Jacobson, Head of School, Colegio Roosevelt, kjacobso@amersol.edu.pe