

TYLER BICKFORD | CURRICULUM VITAE

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- 2021– Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh
affiliated with Programs in Children’s Literature; Film and Media Studies; and
Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies
- 2018–21 Associate professor with tenure, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh
- 2013–18 Assistant professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh
- 2011–13 Adjunct instructor, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU;
Lecturer, Core Curriculum, Columbia University
- 2009–11 Preceptor, Core Curriculum, Columbia University

EDUCATION

- 2011 PhD in ethnomusicology (with distinction), Columbia University
- 2007 MPhil in ethnomusicology, Columbia University
- 2006 MA in ethnomusicology, Columbia University
- 2001 BA (*magna cum laude*), Bard College at Simon’s Rock

WRITING

Books

- 2020 *Tween Pop: Children’s Music and Public Culture*, Duke University Press
<https://doi.org/10.1215/9781478009177>
Children’s Literature Association Recommended Book; IASPM-US Woody Guthrie
Book Award Finalist; reviewed in [Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth](#),
[Notes: Quarterly Journal of the Music Library Association](#), [Popular Music History](#),
[Journal of Popular Culture](#), and [Journal of American Culture](#)
- 2017 *Schooling New Media: Music, Language, and Technology in Children’s Culture*,
Oxford University Press <http://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780190654146.001.0001>
Honorable mention for the Iona and Peter Opie Prize from the American Folklore
Society; reviewed in [Popular Music](#), [Children & Society](#), and [Communication
Booknotes Quarterly](#)

Articles and chapters

- [in press] Tyler Bickford*, Emily Murphy*, Ani Almario, Justyna Deszcz-Tryhubczak, Gabriela
Lee, Devika Mehra, and Nithya Sivashankar, “Ethics and Children’s Literature

- Studies,” *Companion to Children’s Literature Studies: The Essential Guide to Getting Started and Building a Career*, edited by Kimberley Reynolds, Matthew O. Grenby, and Emily Murphy, Bloomsbury (*lead author/chapter editor)
- 2023 Kai Arne Hansen and Tyler Bickford, “Negotiating Girlhood in Rock Music: Nandi Bushell, Prodigy Discourse, and Adult Mentor-fans,” *Popular Music* 42 (2): 123–42 <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0261143023000338>
- 2022 Ryan Bunch and Tyler Bickford, “Children’s Musical Cultures: Industries and Audiences,” in *The Routledge International Handbook of Children, Adolescents, and Media*, second edition, edited by Dafna Lemish, pp. 135–43, Routledge <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003118824-18>
- 2019 “The Kindie Movement: Independent Children’s Music in the United States Since 2000,” in *Music in Early Childhood: Multi-disciplinary Perspectives and Inter-disciplinary Exchanges*, edited by Beatriz Ilari and Susan Young, pp. 223–33, Springer https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-17791-1_14
- 2016 “Justin Bieber, YouTube, and New Media Celebrity: The Tween Prodigy at Home and Online,” in *Musical Prodigies: Interpretations from Psychology, Education, Musicology, and Ethnomusicology*, edited by Gary E. McPherson, pp. 749–67, Oxford University Press <https://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199685851.003.0035>
- 2015 “Tween Intimacy and the Problem of Public Life in Children’s Media: ‘Having It All’ on the Disney Channel’s *Hannah Montana*,” *WSQ: Child* 43 (1/2): 66–82 <https://doi.org/10.1353/wsqr.2015.0022>
- 2014 “Earbuds Are Good for Sharing: Children’s Headphones as Social Media at a Vermont School,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Mobile Music Studies*, vol. 1, edited by Jason Stanyek and Sumanth Gopinath, pp. 335–55, Oxford University Press <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780195375725.013.015>
- 2013 “Tinkering and Tethering in the Material Culture of Children’s MP3 Players,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Children’s Musical Cultures*, edited by Patricia Shehan Campbell and Trevor Wiggins, pp. 527–42, Oxford University Press <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199737635.013.0032>
- 2013 “Children’s Music Culture: Commerce, Technology, and Tradition,” in *The International Handbook of Children, Adolescents, and Media*, edited by Dafna Lemish, pp. 134–40, Routledge <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203366981-29>
- 2012 “The New ‘Tween’ Music Industry: The Disney Channel, Kidz Bop, and an Emerging Childhood Counterpublic,” *Popular Music* 31 (3): 417–36 <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0261143012000335>
- 2007 “Music of Poetry and Poetry of Song: Expressivity and Grammar in Vocal Performance,” *Ethnomusicology* 51 (3): 439–76 <https://doi.org/10.2307/20174545>

Reviews and other writing

- 2023 Review of *Mozart and the Mediation of Childhood* by Adeline Mueller, *Eighteenth-Century Music* 20 (2): 191–93 <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1478570623000040>

- 2020 “Children’s Music Industry,” in *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Children and Childhood Studies*, edited by Daniel Thomas Cook, SAGE
<http://doi.org/10.4135/9781529714388.n175>
- 2019 Review of *Voicing Girlhood in Popular Music: Performance, Authority, Authenticity*, edited by Jacqueline Warwick and Allison Adrian, *Journal of the Society for American Music* 13 (1): 117–19 <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1752196318000561>
- 2013 “Children’s music,” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music*, 2nd edition, edited by Charles Hiroshi Garrett, Oxford University Press
<https://doi.org/10.1093/gmo/9781561592630.article.A2227978>
- 2012 Review of *Pop Music, Pop Culture* by Chris Rojek, *Journal of Consumer Culture* 12 (3): 373–75 <https://doi.org/10.1177/1469540512456937>
- 2010 “MP3 Players, Music, and Children’s Material Culture,” photo essay for *Material World Blog* (July 5): <http://www.materialworldblog.com/2010/07/mp3-players-music-and-childrens-material-culture>
- 2010 “Call and Response—Revisited,” reply to “Ethnomusicology and Empiricism in the Twenty-First Century,” by Judith Becker, *Ethnomusicology* 54 (2): 348–49
<https://doi.org/10.5406/ethnomusicology.54.2.0345>
- 2009 Review of *The Musical Playground: Global Tradition and Change in Children’s Songs and Games* by Kathryn Marsh, *Journal of Folklore Research* (Aug 25):
<https://web.archive.org/web/20090910233654/http://www.indiana.edu/~jofr/review.php?id=838>
- 2009 Review of *Generation Digital: Politics, Commerce, and Childhood in the Age of the Internet* by Kathryn C. Montgomery, *Resource Center for Cyberculture Studies* (April): <https://web.archive.org/web/20100620163936/http://rccs.usfca.edu/bookinfo.asp?BookID=414&ReviewID=576>
- 2008 Review of *Musical Childhoods and the Cultures of Youth*, edited by Susan Boynton and Roe-Min Kok, *Current Musicology* 86: 167–78
<https://doi.org/10.7916/D8S75DZ0>
- 2008 “Kidz Bop, ‘Tweens,’ and Childhood Music Consumption,” *Consumers, Commodities, and Consumption: A Newsletter of the Consumer Studies Research Network* 10 (1):
<http://csrn.camden.rutgers.edu/newsletters/10-1/bickford.htm>

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2025 Hewlitt “Major Impact” International Grant, University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh
- 2024 Award for Excellence in Graduate Mentoring, Dietrich School for Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
- 2022 Finalist, Woody Guthrie Book Award Past the First Book, International Association for the Study of Popular Music—US Branch, for *Tween Pop*
- 2022 Recommended Book, Children’s Literature Association, for *Tween Pop*
- 2022 Global Academic Partnership grant, Global Studies Center, University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh

- 2019 Hewlett International Grant, University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh
- 2018 Honorable mention, Iona and Peter Opie Prize from the Children's Folklore Section of the American Folklore Society, for *Schooling New Media*
- 2016 ACLS Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies, for *Tween Pop*
- 2016 Third Term Research Award, Type I (stipend), Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
- 2014 Third Term Research Award, Type II (expenses), Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
- 2012 Runner up, Outstanding Dissertation Award, Council for Anthropology and Education, American Anthropological Association
- 2011 Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching by Graduate Students, Columbia University
- 2010, 2009 Alternate, Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2009 Lise Waxer Prize for best student paper in the ethnomusicology of popular music, Popular Music Section of the Society for Ethnomusicology
- 2009 Hewitt Pantaleoni Prize for best student paper, Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology
- 2009 Contemporary Civilization Preceptorship, Columbia University
- 2009 Whiting Dissertation Fellowship, Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation (declined)
- 2008 Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2008, 2007 Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2005–08 Teaching Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2004 Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University

PRESENTATIONS

Invited talks

- 2025 "Aesthetic possibilities and economic alternatives in twenty-first century independent children's music in the United States" (keynote), conference on "Encuentro de Musicología," Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago, Chile, January 23
- 2024 "Adult Taste and the Aesthetics of Independent U.S. Children's Musicians in the 2000s" (keynote), International Children's Literature Symposium, Institute for Children's Literature Studies, Ocean University of China, Qingdao, October 24
- 2023 "Organizing and Forming a Union" (plenary session panelist), annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Chicago, March 17
- 2022 "Adult Taste and the Business Models of Independent U.S. Children's Musicians in the 2000s," Center for Ethnomusicology, Columbia University, New York City, September 28

- 2022 “The Impossibility of Children’s Music? What Jacqueline Rose (Still) Has to Offer Children’s Music Scholarship” (keynote), international symposium on “Ways Ahead for Research in Children’s Music,” Music Education and Cultural Studies Research Group, Department of Art and Cultural Studies, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, Grue Finnskog, Norway, August 9
- 2021 “The Aesthetics and Economics of Independent Children’s Music in the United States,” Music Education and Cultural Studies research group, Department of Art and Cultural Studies, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, May 20 (remote)
- 2020 “The Whiteness of Tween Innocence,” Newcastle University–University of Pittsburgh symposium on “Thinking Internationally about Social Justice in Children’s Literature and Culture,” hosted by Newcastle University, November 20 (remote; planned in-person in Newcastle upon Tyne for April 23 but canceled due to COVID-19)
- 2019 “The Tween Moment: The Rise (and Fall) of Popular Music for Children in the 2000s,” Peabody Institute, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, April 23
- 2018 “Doing Childhood Studies in the Humanities,” international symposium on “The Present and Future of Childhood Studies,” Department of Childhood Studies, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ, May 4
- 2018 “Tinkering and Tethering: Children, Mobile Music, and Material Culture,” Musicology, Ethnomusicology, and Music Theory Colloquium, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, March 1
- 2017 “Inappropriate and Inarticulate: Schooling, Childhood, and the Poetics of New Media,” Center for Ethnomusicology, Columbia University, New York City, October 13
- 2017 “New Media Poetics and the Politics of Childhood: Doing Media Ethnography in School,” Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, October 5
- 2016 “The Turn to ‘Tween’: An Age Category and Its Cultural Consequences,” MIT Communications Forum, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, October 20
- 2015 “Inappropriate and Inarticulate: Public Childhoods, Education, and New Media Poetics,” Music Education Colloquium and Ethnomusicology Roundtable, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, October 29
- 2014 “Roots and Branches: Growing into the Future of Children’s Music” (keynote panel), Children’s Music Network International Conference, Leesburg, VA, September 20
- 2013 “What’s Next?” Kindiefest Family Music Conference, New York, April 27

Campus talks

- 2021 Respondent for colloquium on “Childhood in Sociolinguistics: Developmental or Ideological?” Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, December 2
- 2018 Respondent for colloquium on “Early British Children’s Literature and Atlantic Capitalism,” Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, October 19
- 2018 Meet the author session for *Schooling New Media* at “Playing with Childhood in the Twenty-First Century,” a conference hosted by the Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program and Children’s Literature Program, University of Pittsburgh, April 7

- 2016 "The Whiteness of Tween Innocence: Taylor Swift's Racialization of Childhood," Faculty Collaborative Research Colloquium on "Beloved Consumers, Fraught Cyphers: Young People, Material Culture, and Media History," Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, September 9
- 2016 "Children's MP3 Players as Material Culture," roundtable on "Sound," Department of English, University of Pittsburgh, March 16
- 2015 "Popular Music and the Transformation of the Disney Channel," Pittsburgh Film Colloquium, Film Studies Program, University of Pittsburgh, January 15

Conference presentations

- 2022 Workshop leader, "Music Scholarship and Labor Organizing," Joint Session for the combined meeting of the American Musicological Society, Society for Ethnomusicology, and Society for Music Theory, New Orleans, November 11
- 2022 Respondent for "Who is this for? Critical Childhood Studies and Music," Childhood and Youth Study Group Session, annual meeting of the American Musicological Society, New Orleans, November 10
- 2022 with Kai Arne Hansen, "Nandi Bushell: Negotiating Girlhood in Rock Music," international symposium on "Ways Ahead for Research in Children's Music," Music Education and Cultural Studies Research Group, Department of Art and Cultural Studies, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, Grue Finnskog, Norway, August 10
- 2021 Respondent for "Equity in the Study of Childhood and Youth," Childhood and Youth Study Group Session, annual meeting of the American Musicological Society (remote), Chicago, November 21
- 2019 Roundtable on "Valuing Musical Childhoods: Methods and Multiplicities," annual meeting of the American Musicological Society, Boston, October 31
- 2019 Roundtable on "Ethnography and the Musical Past," International Council for Traditional Music World Conference, Bangkok, July 15
- 2016 "Musical Intimacy and Public Childhoods in US Children's Music," annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, November 18
- 2016 "Pop Intimacy and Public Childhoods in US Children's Music," annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Washington, DC, November 11
- 2016 "The Infantilization of the Public Sphere," annual meeting of the Children's Literature Association, Columbus, OH, June 10
- 2015 "Pop Music, Tween TV, and the Transformation of Disney," annual meeting of the Children's Literature Association, Richmond, VA, June 18
- 2015 "Tween Media and the Infantilization of the Public Sphere," annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Seattle, March 27 (Part of a seminar on "Childish Forms" organized by Natalia Cecire and Julian Gill-Peterson)
- 2014 "Kindie Pop: Distinction and Domesticity in the US Independent Children's Music Scene," annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Pittsburgh, November 15 (Part of a panel on "Ethnomusicological Perspectives on Children's Musical Frameworks," organized by Natalie Sarrazin)

- 2013 “Justin Bieber, YouTube, and New Media Celebrity: The Tween Star at Home and Online,” annual conference of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA), Washington, DC, March 30 (Part of a panel on “Collision, Collusion, and Convergence: The Intersection of Television and Music in American Popular Culture,” organized by the Television Area and Music Area)
- 2013 “‘The Best of Both Worlds’: *Hannah Montana*, ‘Having It All’ and Postfeminist Tween Domesticity,” annual conference of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Chicago, March 7 (Part of a panel on “The Problematics of Postfeminist Girlhood,” organized by Amanda Rossie)
- 2012 “US Children, Music Technology, and Discourses of the ‘Digital Native,’” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, New Orleans, November 4 (Part of a roundtable on “Children as Cultural Agents: Informed or Unformed?” organized by Trevor Wiggins)
- 2012 “The Children’s Popular Music Industry and Child Counterpublics,” annual meeting of the Society for American Music, Charlotte, NC, March 15 (Part of a panel on “Children, Music, and the ‘Mainstream,’” organized by Diane Pecknold)
- 2011 “Intimacy and Inarticulateness: Entertainment versus Literacy in Constructions of Age-based Identities at a Vermont Primary School,” annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Montreal, November 17 (Part of a panel on “Constructing Age Differences: Language Ideology and Language Socialization,” organized by Elise Berman)
- 2010 “Musical Consumerism in School: Expressive Negotiations of Institutional Authority During Classroom Lessons at a Vermont Elementary School,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Los Angeles, November 14
- 2010 “Mobile Music in School: Interactivity and Intimacy in Children’s Uses of MP3 Players at a Vermont Elementary School,” Teachers College Educational Technology Conference on “Media and Designs for Learning,” New York, May 15
- 2009 “Competing Public Childhoods: Entertainment Media, Consumerism, and Children’s Expressive Practices at a Vermont Primary School,” annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, December 2
- 2009 “Tinkering and Tethering: Children’s MP3 Players as Material Culture,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Mexico City, November 19
- 2008 “Children’s Media Consumption and Institutional Identities at a New England Primary School,” annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, November 23 (Part of a panel on “Disjunctive Childhoods: Children’s Agency in Cultural Reproduction,” organized by Heather Rae-Espinoza)
- 2008 “Media Consumption as Social Organization in a New England Primary School,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Middletown, CT, October 27 (Awarded the 2009 Lise Waxer Prize from the Popular Music Section of the Society for Ethnomusicology)
- 2008 “Media Consumption as Social Organization in a New England Primary School,” Consumer Studies Research Network conference on “The Contested Terrain of Consumer Studies,” Boston, July 31

- 2008 “The Social Economy of Headphone Use in a New England Primary School,” annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology, New York, March 30 (Awarded the 2009 Hewitt Pantaleoni Prize for the best student paper)
- 2007 “‘Twins,’ Kidz Bop, and Childhood Music Consumption,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Columbus, OH, October 26
- 2007 “Phonology and Singing: Grammar, Markedness, and Expressive Vocal Performance,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, “New Directions in Cognitive Ethnomusicology,” Columbus, OH, October 24
- 2007 “Kidz Bop, ‘Twins,’ and Middle-childhood’s Position in Popular Culture,” joint meeting of the US and Canadian chapters of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music (IASPM-US and IASPM-Canada), Boston, April 27
- 2006 “Unsettling Mediation in New York City Karaoke,” annual meeting of the Humanities and Technology Association, New York, October 6
- 2006 “Why Is Karaoke So Strange? Amateur Performance in New York City,” annual meeting of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music, US Branch (IASPM-US), Nashville, February 18

Conference panels organized

- 2022 with Shannon Garland, “Music Scholarship and Labor Organizing,” Joint Session, combined meeting of the American Musicological Society, Society for Ethnomusicology, and Society for Music Theory (sponsored by the AMS Committee on Career-Related Issues, the SMT Scholars for Social Responsibility Interest Group, and the SEM Economic Ethnomusicology Special Interest Group), New Orleans, November 11
- 2016 with Farzaneh Hemmasi, “Musical Publics and/as Intimate Publics,” annual meeting of the American Anthropological Society, Minneapolis, November 18
- 2016 with Farzaneh Hemmasi, “Music, Intimacy, and Publics,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Washington, DC, November 11
- 2015 “The High Stakes of Children’s Media in the US: Film, Television, Music,” annual meeting of the Children’s Literature Association, Richmond, VA, June 18
- 2010 “Music in ‘Total’ Institutions,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Los Angeles, November 14 (sponsored by the Music and Violence Special Interest Group)
- 2009 with Micah Gilmer, “Schooling Which Child? Contested Constructions of Childhood and Youth in Educational Settings,” annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, December 2 (sponsored by the Anthropology of Children and Childhood Interest Group)
- 2009 “Contested Musical Mobilities: Ethnomusicologies of Portable Listening and Technology,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Mexico City, November 19 (sponsored by the Popular Music Section and the Sound Studies Special Interest Group)

- 2008 with Jennifer A. Woodruff, “Techniques of Consumption: Rethinking Kids and Commercial Music,” annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Middletown, CT, October 27 (sponsored by the Popular Music Section)
- 2008 “Children, Music, and Media in the Contemporary United States,” annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology, New York, March 30

TEACHING

Major areas: childhood studies, children’s literature and culture, media studies, social and cultural theory, popular music, ethnographic methods

University of Pittsburgh

Children and Culture, ENGLIT 0560 (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025)

Critical Approaches to Children’s Literature, ENGLIT 1645 (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2024)

Childhood’s Books, ENGLIT 0562 (Fall 2013, Fall 2017, Spring 2020–CAPA/Pitt in London, Spring 2024)

Directed Study (graduate), “Dark Girlhood,” ENGLIT 3902 (Spring 2024)

Childhood Games, ENGLIT 0762 (Fall 2023)

Introduction to Graduate Studies (graduate), ENGLIT 2993 (Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020)

Introduction to Science Fiction, ENGLIT 0626 (Spring 2020–CAPA/Pitt in London)

Directed Study (graduate), “Disney and Girlhood Studies,” GSWS 3902 (Summer 2019)

Seminar in Composition (first-year writing), ENGCOMP 0200 (Spring 2018)

Children’s Literature (graduate), ENGLIT 2800 (Spring 2018)

Childhood’s Books, ENGLIT 0562 (Fall 2013, Fall 2017)

Project Seminar, “Against Adulthood,” ENGLIT 1900 (Fall 2017)

Senior Seminar, “Reading the Public Sphere,” ENGLIT 1910 (Spring 2016)

Children and Media, ENGFLM 1479 (Fall 2015)

Directed Study (graduate), “Theory into Practice: Telling and Creating Stories with Children in the Community,” ENGLIT 3902 (Spring 2015)

Children, Media, and Technology (graduate), ENGLIT 2801 (Fall 2014)

New York University

Music and Media, MCC-UE 1037 (Spring 2013)

Media and Cultural Analysis, MCC-UE 0014 (Fall 2012)

Kids in Media Culture, MCC-UE 1018 (Spring 2012)

Media and Identity, MCC-UE 1019 (Fall 2011)

Columbia University

Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West II, COCI C1102 (Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013)

Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West I, COCI C1101 (Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012)

Masterpieces of Western Music (teaching assistant), HUMA W1123 (Fall 2005, Spring 2006)

PhD dissertation committees

Member, Hebah Uddin (in progress)

Chair, Gabriela Lee, “Tracing Genre Transformations in 20th Century Philippine Children’s Literature” (in progress)

Member, Syeda Momina Masood, “Genre, Exhibition, and Spectatorship in Pakistani Cinema, 1979–1999” (in progress)

Member, Andrea Paolini, “Naming Human Rights in Writing,” October 2023

Chair, Christine Case, “Composite Bodies: Race, Gender, and Dis/Ability in Fairy Tale Performance,” May 2023

Outside member, Ryan Bunch, “Swinging on a Star: Imagining Music and Contemporary Childhood in the United States,” Department of Childhood Studies, Rutgers University–Camden, April 2023

Outside examiner, Mary Catherine Stoumbos, “Student Citizens: Whiteness, Inequality, and Social Reproduction in Marketized Music Education,” Department of Music, Columbia University, September 2022

External examiner, Matthew John Holmes, “Growing Songs: Australian Sound Media for Children from Parlour Music to Podcasts,” School of Historical and Philosophical Studies, University of Melbourne, June 2022

Chair, Brittney Knotts, “Labor, Play, and Futurity of the Twenty-First Century Girl Coder,” May 2022

External evaluation committee member and first opponent, Friederike Merkelbach, “Cyborg Talentification: YouTube as a Hotspot for Child Pop Stars, Their Fans, and Critics,” Faculty of Education, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences, February 2022

Member, Sreemoyee Dasgupta, “Nationalism, Genre, and Childhood in Colonial India,” August 2021

Member, Jiwon Rim, “Saving the Stuffed Animal: Narratives of Violence, Fictions of Comfort,” May 2021

Member, Ariana Brazier, “‘Yea. I’m in my hood. No strap’: Black Child Play as Praxis and Community Sustenance,” February 2021

Co-chair, Jordan Hayes, “Trajectories of Belonging: Literacies and Intersectionality in the Mobile Phone and Home-building Practices of Syrian Refugees in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq,” June 2020

Chair, Mary Gryctko, “‘Eternal Innocence’: The Victorian Cult of the Dead Child,” May 2020

Member, Shawna McDermott, “Visualizing the Future: Childhood, Race, and Imperialism in Children’s Magazines, 1873–1939,” April 2020

External member, Tyler Briggs Brunette, “A (Subaltern) Space of Their Own: Public Space, Middle-Class Childhood, and Mass Media in Late Capitalism,” August 2019

Member, Matthew Kelly, “The Game of Subjectivity and the Subjectivity of Games: Balancing the Artistic, Critical, and Pedagogical Potential of Video Games,” June 2017

Member, Swathi Sreerangarajan, “Working Around Ethnographic Entanglements: South Asian American Literature and Popular Culture,” June 2016

External member, Alexandra Klaren, “Invisible to the Eye: Rhetorics of Ethical Emotionality in Fred Rogers’ Neighborhood,” Department of Communication, April 2016

Member, Kerry Mockler, “Neighborhoods of Make-Believe: Place, Play, and Possibility in Disneyland, *Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood*, and *The Magic City*,” April 2015

SERVICE

Department of English, University of Pittsburgh

Graduate Admissions Committee, 2018, 2019 (chair), 2023, 2024

Third-year Review (tenure-stream) Subcommittee, 2020, 2024

Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Global/Transnational Children’s Literature and Childhood Studies, 2022–23

Chair, Graduate Advising Committee, 2021–22

Director of Graduate Studies, 2018–21

Non-tenure-stream Mentoring Committee, 2019–22

NTS Renewal/Promotion Subcommittees (2), 2021–22

Tenure Review Subcommittee, 2024

Planning and Budget Committee (elected), 2020–21, 2021–22

Directors Committee, 2018–21

Graduate Procedures Committee, 2014–15, 2017–18, 2018–21 (chair)

Judge, Graduate Student Writing Award, Composition Program, 2018

Co-convener, Digital Media Reading Group, 2014–16, 2017–18

Internship and Undergraduate Placement Committee, 2015–16

Pedagogy and Best Practices Committee, Literature Program, 2014–15

Search Committee, Assistant Professor of Children’s Literature (tenure-stream), 2014–15

Judge, Distinguished Teaching Award for Graduate Student Teachers, 2014

Graduate Placement Committee, 2013–14

University of Pittsburgh

Unit President, Union of Pitt Faculty–USW Local 1088-04, 2024–2027

Judge, Grad Expo, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2018, 2025

Selection Committee, Dietrich School Award for Excellence in Graduate Mentoring, 2025
Full Professor Promotion Committee, Department of Communication, 2023–25
Chair, Bargaining Committee, USW–Union of Pitt Faculty, 2022–2024
Council of Representatives (elected), USW–Union of Pitt Faculty, 2022–2024
Reviewer, Momentum Funds Microgrants, 2023
Faculty Mentor, True Co-equal x Transformative Collaborations (TC2) Generative Workshop, 2023
Director, Children’s Literature Program, 2014–15, 2021–22
University Senate Budget Policies Committee, appointed member 2015–16; elected member 2016–22; secretary 2017–19; co-chair 2019–20; chair 2020–22
Faculty Assembly (ex officio as SBPC chair/co-chair), 2019–22
University Planning and Budget Committee (ex officio as SBPC chair), 2020–21, 2021–22
Faculty Organizing Committee, 2014–2021
Hewlett International Grant Review Committee, University Center for International Studies, 2021
Travel Advance Policy Committee, Office of Policy Development and Management, 2020–22
Full Professor *ad hoc* Committees, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2022, 2024 (chair)
Tenure/Promotion *ad hoc* Committees, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2020, 2021 (chair)
Faculty Lead, Pitt in London Study Abroad Program, University Center for International Studies, Spring 2020
Planning Committee and Curriculum Working Group, “Humanities Careers: Re-Imagining Doctoral Education in the Humanities,” NEH Next Generation Humanities PhD Planning Grant, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2018–19
Graduate Council, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2018–19 (by appointment)
Lillian B. Lawler Dissertation Fellowship Selection Committee, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2018
Tenure-stream representative for Oakland campus, Pitt AAUP chapter, 2017–24
English Department Liaison to the Cultural Studies Program, 2015–16
Judge, Undergraduate Paper Prize, Film Studies Program, 2015
Humanities Council, 2014–15, 2021–22 (as Children’s Literature Program Director)
Judge, Undergraduate Paper Prize, Children’s Literature Program, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2024, 2025

National/international

Referee, *Ethnomusicology*, 2025
Judge, Shirley Henn Award for Critical Writing, Francelia Butler Conference, Hollis University, 2024
Referee, *Journal of Consumer Culture*, 2014, 2024

External reviewer, Academic Program Review, Department of English, Virginia Commonwealth University, 2023

Referee, *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*, 2018, 2019, 2021

Referee, *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures*, 2017, 2020

Referee, *MUSICultures: Journal of the Canadian Society for Traditional Music*, 2015, 2020

Referee, *Journal of Popular Music Studies*, 2019

Chapter referee, Oxford Handbooks, 2019

Monograph referee, MIT Press, 2018, 2019

Referee, *Childhood: A Journal of Global Child Research*, 2018

Referee, *Journal of the Society of American Music*, 2012, 2017

Monograph referee, Routledge, 2017

Referee, *Journal of Children and Media*, 2016, 2017

International Advisory Board, *Ethnomusicology Forum*, 2013–16

Referee, *International Journal of Music Education*, 2016

Local Arrangements Committee, Pittsburgh conference, Society for Ethnomusicology, 2014

Referee, *Research Studies in Music Education*, 2013

Annual meeting program referee, Council on Anthropology and Education, American Anthropological Association, 2009

Editor-in-Chief (issues 84–85), Assistant Editor (issues 81–83), *Current Musicology*, 2006–08

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Mental Health First Aid USA Certificate, Center for Diversity in the Curriculum, University of Pittsburgh, September 12, 2018

Connected Academics: Humanistic Study and Careers, preseminar workshop on English Graduate Curricula and Careers, Association of Departments of English Summer Seminar, Atlanta, June 13–17, 2018

An Inclusive Classroom: Practical Lessons and Techniques for Constructing a Truly Open Learning Environment for LGBTQIA Students, Provost's Diversity Institute for Faculty Development, University of Pittsburgh, June 7–8, 2016

Intergroup Dialogue Training, Provost's Diversity Institute for Faculty Development, University of Pittsburgh, May 4–5, 2016

Race in America: Teaching to College Students, Provost's Diversity Institute for Faculty Development, University of Pittsburgh, June 3–4, 2015

Allies Network Training, Division of Student Affairs and Rainbow Alliance, University of Pittsburgh, November 21, 2014

MEDIA AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Invited panelist, "Federal Workers Warn of Attacks on Labor Rights," United Steelworkers International Convention, Las Vegas, April 9, 2025

Invited panelist, “Collective Bargaining Developments and Challenges in Higher Education,” Pennsylvania Bureau of Mediation annual conference, State College, March 13, 2025

Interviewed for “A ‘School Dance for Adults’ Embraces the Aughts,” by Frank Rojas, *The New York Times*, October 5, 2023, <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/10/05/style/tween-pop-music-2000s.html>

Interviewed for “Fall’s Mask Mandate Outlook,” by Colleen Flaherty, *Inside Higher Ed*, August 29, 2022, <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2022/08/29/covid-19-masking-policies-fall-are-all-over-place>

Interviewed for “Organizing Academia: A Conversation with Pitt Faculty Union Activists,” by Chelsey Engel, *Solidarity Works* podcast, October 27, 2021, <https://solidarityworks.libsyn.com/organizing-academia-a-conversation-with-pitt-faculty-union-activists>

Interviewed for “A Huge Unionization Vote Is Looming at the University of Pittsburgh,” by Alex N. Press, *Jacobin*, September 10, 2021, <https://jacobinmag.com/2021/09/higher-education-university-of-pittsburgh-unionization-vote-plrb>

Interviewed for “Female full business professors continue to earn higher average salaries than males,” by Ishani Chettri, *The GW Hatchet*, February 22, 2021, <https://www.gwhatchet.com/2021/02/22/female-full-business-professors-continue-to-earn-higher-average-salaries-than-males/>

Interviewed for “Radio Disney, Launching Pad for Young Stars, Will Shut Down Next Year,” by Allyson Waller, *The New York Times*, December 4, 2020 <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/12/04/business/radio-disney-operations-closing.html>

“Pitt can and should use its endowment to get us through this crisis” (op-ed), *The Pitt News*, May 27, 2020 <https://pittnews.com/article/157984/opinions/op-ed-pitt-can-and-should-use-its-endowment-to-get-us-through-this-crisis/>

Interviewed for *New Books in Popular Culture* podcast by Rebekah Buchanan for New Books Network, May 5, 2020 <https://newbooksnetwork.com/tyler-bickford-tween-pop-childrens-music-and-public-culture-duke-up-2020/>

Interviewed for “Frozen 2’s standout song likely won’t be the earworm hit that ‘Let It Go’ was,” by Dave McGinn, *The Globe and Mail* (Canada), November 20, 2019, <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-frozen-2s-standout-song-likely-wont-be-the-earworm-hit-that-let-it/>

Interviewed for “The Rise and Fall of the Pop Star Purity Ring” by Hazel Cills, *Jezebel*, January 25, 2018, <https://themuse.jezebel.com/the-rise-and-fall-of-the-pop-star-purity-ring-1822170318>

Interviewed for “Unlikely Savior for the Music Industry: Your 12-Year-Old” by John Schaefer, as part of WNYC/New York Public Radio series on “Being 12,” aired on *Soundcheck* and *Morning Edition*, March 12–13, 2015, <http://www.wnyc.org/story/12-year-old-pod>

Interviewed for “Plus-Size Princess? Rethinking Disney’s Relationship with Body Image” by Isaiah Thomas, *The Eye: The Magazine of the Columbia Spectator* 16: 6, February 27, 2014, <http://columbiaspectator.com/eye/2014/02/26/plus-size-princess>

Local news:

The Pitt News: “Pitt hiring freeze causes research and academic uncertainty,” March 30, 2025; “Pitt unions express concern for the future of Pitt faculty and staff under the Trump

administration,” February 28, 2025; “Pitt unions react to federal diversity, equity and inclusion rollbacks,” February 16, 2025; “‘I couldn’t count on it’: Faculty express concerns about waitlist for University-provided daycare,” November 29, 2022; “Faculty assembly talks faculty union criticisms, IPA policy,” November 4, 2022; “Faculty union protests outside bargaining room, talks job security and fair contracts,” October 27, 2022; “Phil Wion: A labor of love,” April 18, 2022; “Pitt to move forward with new budget model amid concerns over ‘rushed’ process,” November 19, 2021; “Students should pay attention to Pitt unionization efforts,” September 29, 2021; “Pitt faculty to vote on unionization beginning next month,” July 16, 2021; “Pitt faculty prepare for union election, adjust campaigning amid pandemic,” February 17, 2021; “A look at the back-and-forth between Pitt, faculty union organizers,” October 17, 2019; “Who did Pitt include on its list of union-eligible faculty?” October 16, 2019; “Pitt professors talk faculty unionization at Frick Fine Arts,” October 25, 2018; “No hearing for Pitt faculty union, organizers plan appeal,” April 18, 2019; “Union plans still not finalized,” September 21, 2016

University Times: “Most not surprised by hiring freeze, but there’s still lots of confusion,” March 21, 2025; “USW members from Pitt detail potential impacts of federal cuts,” March 10, 2025; “Pitt institutes hiring freeze at least through June in response to funding uncertainties,” March 10, 2025; “Faculty union agreement sets \$60,000 salary floor, outlines raises and much more,” May 3, 2024; “Both sides report progress on faculty union talks,” September 22, 2023; “Bargaining committee decisions draw Senate officers’ ire,” November 4, 2022; “After big win for faculty union, electing bargaining committee is next,” October 21, 2021; “Union’s impact on shared governance is a big question,” August 27, 2021; “OPINION: Several Senate committee chairs speak out in support of union,” August 13, 2021; “10 things to know about Pitt’s 2021-22 budget,” July 16, 2021; “Pay raise plan greeted with little enthusiasm,” July 16, 2021; “Pitt lecturer salaries have lagged behind average for years,” January 28, 2021; “In-person classes right for some faculty, but many opting out,” September 25, 2020; “Remote teaching, health risks and extra work concern faculty,” July 2, 2020; “PLRB denies hearing on Pitt faculty union,” April 18, 2019; “Administration, faculty union organizers dispute size of bargaining unit,” March 7, 2019; “Faculty union turns in signed cards asking Pennsylvania labor board for an election,” January 23, 2019

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: “Bid to organize Pitt faculty falls short, but union contests ruling,” April 18, 2019; “Campaign underway to unionize Pitt faculty,” October 27, 2015

Pittsburgh City Paper: “Why your adjunct professors are unionizing and what it means for you,” August 23, 2017

Public Source: “More professors lack job security. How does that impact teaching, learning and working in Pittsburgh?” April 30, 2024

Pittsburgh Business Times: “Researchers, lawmakers rally against NIH cuts impacting Pittsburgh's biomedical sector,” March 3, 2025

KDKA News (CBS): “NIH funding uncertainty leaving Pitt researchers and graduate students worried,” March 3, 2025

WTAE News (ABC): “Pitt Staff Union leader talks hiring freeze amid potential NIH funding cuts,” March 12, 2025

WESA News (NPR): “At Steelworkers HQ, Deluzio and Lee speak with Pitt researchers about impact of NIH funding cuts,” March 3, 2025

TribLive: “College faculty, students, union members rally in Pittsburgh to defend higher education,” April 17, 2025; “Uncertainty swirling for university researchers impacted by proposed NIH cuts,” March 3, 2025

Axios Pittsburgh: “How NIH cuts could stall Pittsburgh’s economy,” March 5, 2025

RELATED EMPLOYMENT

Elementary music teacher (K–8), Bennington County, VT, 2002–3, 2007–8 (Designated “Highly Qualified Teacher—Music Education” by the Vermont State Department of Education, 2007)

Researcher, Ross Archive of African Images, 2005–07

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