MM Introduction

Kyle Conley

My name is Kyle Conley. I have performed in several groups in my life, including the Cincinnati Boychoir, May Festival Youth Chorus, and Great Miami youth Symphony, Wright State University Chamber Orchestra, Wright State University Men’s Chorale and the Hamilton Fairfield Chorale. My primary instruments are violin and voice, although I do some choral accompaniment on the piano, and I teach lessons on all of these. Here are a couple of youtube links so you can hear some of my solo work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=00LXp_554Ag>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y_vu30H36Zw>

I attended Wright State University for my bachelor’s degree, and I am the first ever blind student to graduate from the music department.

Currently, I am only a substitute teacher, as finding jobs in music in Ohio is difficult to do. As I mentioned before, I teach private lessons. I currently have 1 voice, 2 violin and 1 piano student, but I will be adding an additional violin student, and a student who will be doing violin and voice.

I am interested in this degree because I am always interested in furthering my education. I like to discover new things and ideas to teach my students. Even as a substitute teacher, I like to make connections with my students, even if it is just a fifth grade language arts class. I also believe that earning this degree will help me get some kind of employment, as employers will see that I am willing to put in the time and do whatever it takes to be successful.

My goal is to be a middle school orchestra director. I love the middle school students. Since I have had a chance to sub in several places, I have seen several districts that don’t have an orchestra program, and kids that want to play a string instrument but cant in that school. I have often thought about starting my own string orchestra for those students that don’t have a school orchestra, and students that want something extra to do in the districts that do have it.

I am a huge baseball fan, and currently have a 40 game package to go and watch my Cincinnati Reds play. For the past 10 years, I have sung the national anthem once a year, and this year, I will be singing for the men’s basketball team at the University of Cincinnati, as well as the FC Cincinnati. My friend and I have a full season package for Cincinnati Bearcats men’s basketball games.

Currently, I sing with the Hamilton Fairfield Chorale, and I probably bring the average age of the group down to 50, as I am only 26. I also sing with the men’s group of the Cincinnati Boychoir, but we are currently taking a break, as the Boychoir is in a transition period. Last year was the 50th anniversary season, and we performed the Messiah, Chichester Psalms and we had a brand new piece written for us for our 50th celebration by Dominick Diorio called a Horizon Symphony. The boychoir serves over 250 boys in the Cincinnati area, and they just brought in some new staff, so once everything settles down again, we will get back to work. The hope is to serve over 400 boys in 5 more years.

I currently live with my parents, and I have an older brother who coaches high school sports. My sister in-law teaches high school math.

As I mentioned earlier, I am visually impaired, and when I was born, I only had a 10 percent chance to survive. Obviously, I have had to overcome a lot in my life, including districts telling me I can’t sub because of my blindness. In terms of significant influences, I would say anyone who has to overcome such challenges as I had. We all work together to make everything equal for everyone.

I am looking forward to getting to know all of you.