

LARA SALDANHA

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EDUCATION AND AWARDS

Stony Brook University	2023
<i>Doctorate of Musical Arts in Piano, studio of Christina Dahl</i>	
Fully funded (half tuition scholarship and half teaching assistantship)	
Mannes School of Music	
<i>Professional Studies Diploma in Piano, studio of Vladimir Valjarević</i>	2020
- Newton-Swift Piano Award for exceptional collaboration - President's Scholarship - MTNA Ohio Competition Honorable Mention - Mannes Piano Department Concerto Competition Winner (Mozart K. 488)	
<i>Master of Music in Piano, studio of Vladimir Valjarević</i>	2018
Metropolitan International Competition Honorable Mention	2018
Northwestern University	2015
<i>Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Bachelor of Music in Piano, studio of Alan Chow</i>	
B.A. Cum Laude, B.M. Magna Cum Laude	
International School of Geneva/Geneva Conservatory of Music, Switzerland	2011
<i>I.B. Diploma, Conservatory Diploma with Honors, studio of Serguei Milstein</i>	
Geneva Conservatory Liszt, Schumann, and Mendelssohn Competition First Prize with Distinction	2011
Geneva Conservatory Chopin Competition First Prize	2010

WORK EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Professor of Music, Meredith College	2026-present
- Instructor for MUA040 Beginning Class Piano. Introduce students to the basics of keyboard technique, music notation, and build performance skills - Instructor for the music major keyboard proficiency sequence (MUS140, MUS141, MUS242, and MUS243.) Build skills in functional theory and harmony, transposition, improvisation, score reading, and the ability to perform intermediate piano repertoire	
Repetiteur, UNC Chapel Hill Opera Department	2026-present
- Coach, accompany, and perform in fall opera scenes and spring full opera production - Accompany lessons for voice majors - Play for beginning and intermediate group voice classes	
Collaborative Piano Fellow, Bard Conservatory	2024-2026
- Responsible for accompanying vocal and instrumental students in classes, lessons, vocal coachings, recordings, concerto competition, degree recitals, auditions, and studio classes - Repetiteur for graduate Vocal Arts Program scenes and special projects - Coach students through pitch, rhythm, and performance issues in rehearsal	

- Receive guidance from collaborative piano faculty on orchestral reduction, vocal diction, and interpretation of standard repertoire
- Teach non-major students private piano lessons, prepare for juries, submit grading

Teaching Assistant, Stony Brook University Department of Music 2020-2023

- Students have gained employment in music teaching and administration jobs, Fulbright Scholarship in music, and PhD programs
- Taught a non-credit undergraduate pedagogy seminar and provided one-on-one coaching to students starting first teaching jobs
- Taught non-major undergraduate and graduate students weekly private piano lessons
- Prepared students for juries, masterclasses, honors recitals, and coached chamber groups
- Initiated studio classes for undergraduates with limited performing opportunities
- Accompanied undergraduate juries, masterclasses, and Camerata Chorus

Graduate Teaching Fellow, Class Piano, Mannes School of Music 2017-2018

- Instructed weekly freshman group piano class, teaching scales, harmony, sight and score reading, ensemble and solo repertoire, improvisation, harmonization, and transposition
- Received higher ed-specific pedagogical training over semester-long course

Piano Instructor, Private Studio, NYC and NC 2016-present

- Teach weekly lessons to students aged four through adult. Prepare students for monthly studio classes and recitals every other month
- Students have passed over 60 Royal Conservatory practical and theory exams, testing skills in scales, repertoire, ear training, sight reading, and theory. Students have received top scores in NY state
- Piano Star top teacher of the year in 2022 and 2023, earned for students receiving top scores from adjudicators in international Piano Star Competition
- Students have been accepted to Met Opera Children's Chorus, NYC Arts High Schools, Luzerne Music Festival, and played in Weill Hall
- Invited to adjudicate competitions at Bloomingdale School of Music and Newark School of the Arts
- Initiated masterclass series to provide opportunities for performance and feedback. Taught masterclasses for precollege programs nationwide
- Emphasize chamber music skills, arranging duos and trios for students as young as five
- Substituted for teachers at Mannes Prep and the Bronx Conservatory
- Professional affiliations with In the Pocket Teaching Artist Collective, Piano Teacher's Congress of NYC, and Leschetizsky Association
- Complete all scheduling, billing, recital organization, and venue rentals for the studio

Director of Student Services, Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival, Tampa, FL 2019-2021

- Assisted in coordinating logistics for around 35 university students and 25 faculty
- Took a leadership role in mentoring undergraduates and managing student emergencies
- Provided resume, cover letter, and interview assistance to post-doctorates during three-day job training seminar in January 2020
- Contributed to fundraising efforts through donor campaigns and performing concerts

Mannes Sounds Festival Coordinator, Mannes School of Music 2018-2019

- Coordinated performers, publicity, and programs for over 30 concerts, lectures, and masterclasses all over New York City
- Served as a Research Assistant, finding appropriate repertoire for upcoming programs

Walmart Team Intern/Costco Account Manager, Procter & Gamble, Fayetteville, AR and Seattle, WA 2014, 2015-2016

- Recommended strategies as an intern to increase sales to low-income consumers, drive ecommerce, and develop new product launches in international Walmart stores
- Quadrupled P&G's sales on Costco.com (\$2.3M to \$9.7M), increased Business Centers sales by 19% (\$7.8M to \$9.1M)
- Trained P&G team on eCommerce fundamentals and influenced Costco buying team's online strategy, optimized online content, and created online sales and marketing analytics
- Completed 1st year training in sales, marketing, finance, and communication fundamentals

Singapore Lyric Opera, Marketing Intern 2013

- Wrote and edited press releases, contracts, educational guides, and online content
- Recruited for Children's Choir and Opera Chorus through schools

International Student Association/Orientation Leader, Northwestern University 2012-2015

- Coordinated four-day orientation for 250 students and 150 parents through the International Office
- Served as president of International Student Association, overseeing over \$35,000 in funding and over 30 programs over 2014-2015

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES/PRESENTATIONS

Analytical and Historical Research

- Doctoral oral exam on a premiere by Kt Allenbaugh, Beethoven's *Waldstein* Sonata, Ravel's *Tombeau de Couperin*, and Berg's *Sonata, op. 1*
- Doctoral essay: "A Micro-Macrocosmic Analysis of John Cage's *Sonatas and Interludes for Prepared Piano*." Invited to present to Stony Brook undergraduate analysis students. Performed the complete *Sonatas and Interludes* with new interlude by E. Sandresky in 2020
- Lecture recital on the structure and performance practice of the Piano Sonata in A major by Marianne Martines

Collab/Chamber/Orchestral

- Two piano recital with Dr. Jean Park (Brahms, Rachmaninoff, Bolcom) at Meredith College, Steinway Greensboro, Ruggero Piano, and Campbell College 2026-2027
- Repetiteur for Opera Middlebury's *La Traviata* 2026
- Repetiteur for Bard Opera's *Amelia Goes to the Ball* 2026
- Recital at Wethersfield Estate, Amenia, NY 2026
- American Song Recital, P.S. 21, Chatham, NY 2025
- 3 Dellarte Opera Art Song Productions 2024-2025
- Kurtag Festival, Bard Conservatory (Schubert) 2025
- Collaborative pianist for Elite Competition Recitals, Carnegie Weill Hall 2024-present
- Repetiteur for The Orchestra Now's *Sondheim and Friends* 2024

- CD Recording of Ravel *La Ma mère l'Oye* with Kessa Mefford at Oktaven Studios 2024
- Over 40 collaborative recitals and juries at Stony Brook University 2020-present
- Orchestral Pianist for Chelsea Symphony (Frank, Fernandez, Decruck), DiMenna Center 2024
- Repetiteur for Kollektive366 concerts (Mozart, Britten) 2023, 2024
- National Federation of Music Clubs Competition Pianist, Winners Concert, Norfolk, VA 2023
- Rites of Spring Festival, (Bernstein/Musto), North Fork, NY 2023
- Stony Brook Piano Project (Bernstein/Musto, Messiaen, Cage) 2022, 2023
- Colin Carr Trio Seminar Showcase (Mendelssohn Piano Trio no. 2), Stony Brook 2023
- DMA Recital 4 (Beethoven "Kreutzer" and Prokofiev F minor Violin Sonata) 2022
- Mannes Sounds Festival (Mazzoli), German Consulate, NYC 2019
- Piano Cantabile Series Curated by Simone Dinnerstein (Bach/Reger), NYC 2018
- Honors Chamber Music Concert at Round Top (Dvorak), Texas 2018
- Faculty Concerts at Round Top Festival Institute (Bartok), Texas 2018

Contemporary Music/Premiers

- US premiere of Montsalvatge's *Babel 46* with Opera Middlebury 2026
- *Music for 18 Musicians* with Metropolis Ensemble, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens 2025
- *Canto Ostinato* by ten Holt with Metropolis Ensemble, Brooklyn Botanical Gardens 2024
- Orchestral/rehearsal pianist for premiers of two concertos by Michael Boyman 2024, 2022
- Commissioned and premiered *Blue Salvia* by Kt Allenbaugh 2023
- Leschetizsky Association Live Music by Living Composers, Tenri Institute, NYC 2022
- Premiered K. Allenbaugh's *Ghost on the Line* for Stony Brook Contemporary Players 2021
- DMA Recital 1 (Cage Sonatas and Interludes for Prepared Piano) 2020
- *Pierrot Lunaire* with Mannes American Composers' Ensemble 2019
- Piano Cantabile Curated by Simone Dinnerstein (Glass), NYC 2019
- Piano Cantabile Series Curated by Blair McMillen (Cage, Sandresky), NYC 2018
- Soloist in Joan Tower's *Black Topaz* for Piano and Seven Instruments, in 80th birthday celebration and rehearsals with composer 2018
- Soloist in Vijay Iyer's *Radhe Radhe* with Mannes American Composers' Ensemble 2018
- Piano Cantabile Series Curated by Vladimir Valjarevic (Vir), NYC 2016

Solo

- Piano at Peekskill Series (Schubert) 2026
- Festival Napa Valley Piano Recital at CIA at Copia 2025
- Princeton Sound Kitchen (Berg), Princeton, NJ 2024
- DMA Dissertation Recital (Allenbaugh premier, Ravel, Berg, Beethoven), Stony Brook 2023
- Valley Cottage Young Masters Series, (Ravel, Berg, Beethoven) Valley Cottage, NY 2023
- DMA Recital 2 (Bach, Schubert, Brahms), NYC 2021
- Salon 21 Series, Aronoff Center, Cincinnati (Takemitsu, Messiaen, Bach, Beethoven, C. Schumann) 2019
- Piano Cantabile Series Curated by Yuri Kim (Grieg), NYC 2019
- Piano Cantabile Series Curated by Blair McMillen (Cowell), NYC 2019
- New School Centennial Celebration (Cage, Sandresky), NYC 2019
- Poona Music Society, India (Bach, Haydn, Schumann) 2018
- Menezes Braganza Hall, Goa, India (Bach, Haydn, Schumann) 2018
- Piano Cantabile Series Curated by Vladimir Valjarevic (Couperin, Grieg), NYC 2018
- Master's Graduation Recital (Bach, Haydn, C. Schumann), NYC 2018
- Piano Cantabile Series Curated by Vladimir Valjarevic (Messiaen), NYC 2017
- National Center for the Performing Arts (Couperin, Debussy, Liszt, Vir), Mumbai, India 2017

- Poona Music Society, India (Couperin, Debussy, Liszt, Vir) 2017
- Kala Academy (Couperin, Debussy, Liszt, Vir), Goa, India 2016
- Bohemian National Hall (Couperin), NYC 2016
- Undergraduate Senior Recital (Beethoven, Prokofiev, C. Schumann, Schumann), Lutkin Hall, Northwestern University 2015
- Geneva Conservatory Competition Winners' Concert, Place Neuve, Switzerland 2010, 2011
- Bodmer Foundation (Beethoven), Cologne, Switzerland 2010

Concertos

- Soloist in Beethoven's *Triple Concerto* with Kollektive 366, NYC 2024
- Winner of Mannes Piano Department Concerto Competition (Mozart K. 488) 2019
- Soloist in Saint-Saens *Carnival of the Animals* with the Texas Festival Orchestra 2018
- Soloist in Beethoven Piano Concerto no. 2, I with Perugia Festival Orchestra 2017

Historical Performance

- Harpsichord lessons with Arthur Haas 2021-2022
- Virginia Baroque Academy Masterclasses and Concerts (Bach, Couperin, Telemann) 2022
- DMA Recital 3 on harpsichord (works by J.S. Bach, M. Ponce, and L. Boccherini) and fortepiano (works by M. Clementi, M. Martines, and C.P.E. Bach) 2022
- DMA Lecture Recital on Sonata on A major by M. Martines 2021
- Sfzp Fortepiano Festival at DiMenna Center, New York (C.P.E. Bach) 2019
- Fundraiser for Academy of Fortepiano Performance (C.P.E. Bach), Rhinecliff, NY 2019
- Fortepiano lessons with Audrey Axinn and Yi-Heng Yang 2018-2019
- Harpsichordist for Mannes Baroque Players 2016-2018

Outreach/Educational Concerts

- Over 25 house concerts for Groupmuse and other series 2016-present
- Over 40 concerts in senior centers and assisted living facilities 2007-present
- Ongoing partnership with DOROT and Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, NYC 2018-present
- Six-month residency at P.S. 321 in Brooklyn 2018
- Organized and played an assembly and fundraising concert for P.S. 345 in Queens 2018
- Make Music New York at World Trade Center Plaza, New York (Bach), NYC 2017

FESTIVALS

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- Toronto Summer Music Art of Song Fellow 2026
 - Pianist for Opera Middlebury Mainstage and YAP 2026
 - Festival Napa Valley Manetti Shrem Opera Scenes Program Piano Fellow 2025
 - Assistant Music Director, Dellarte Opera, NYC 2024-2025
 - Cincinnati Song Initiative Fellowship of the Song, Cincinnati, OH 2024
 - Music Iowa City Festival Pianist, Iowa City, IA 2023
 - Icicle Creek Piano Intensive, Leavenworth, WA 2023
 - Rebecca Penneys Piano Festival, Tampa, FL 2015, 2019
 - Round Top Festival Institute, Round Top, TX 2018
 - MusicFest Perugia, Italy 2017
 - Beijing International Music Festival and Academy, China 2012, 2015
 - Musicalta Music Festival and Academy, France 2011
 - Interharmony International Music Festival, Germany 2009, 2011
 - Brevard Music Center Institute 2010
 - New York Summer Music Festival 2008

MASTERCLASSES

- Warren Jones, 2026
- Sasha Cooke, 2026
- William Christie, 2026
- Erin Morley, 2026
- Stephanie Blythe, 2025
- Pierre Vallet, 2025
- John Churchwell, 2025
- Martin Katz, 2025
- Sholto Kynoch, 2025
- Margo Garrett, 2024
- Arthur Haas (harpsichord), 2022
- Eteri Andjaparidze, 2019
- Lydia Artimiw, 2019
- Inna Faliks, 2019
- John O'Connor, 2019
- Steven Lubin (fortepiano), 2019
- Bernadene Blaha, 2018
- Irina Morozova, 2018
- Simone Dinnerstein, 2018
- Inessa Zaretsky, 2018
- Yuri Kim, 2017
- Christopher Harding, 2015
- Kristof Jablonski, 2009
- Michael Chertock, 2009
- Elizabeth Pridonoff, 2009