

Hanan Aseelah Davis

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Education (Ed.D) in Music and Music Education; Expected May 2027

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

Master of Education (Ed.M) in Music and Music Education; 2023

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY

Master of Music (MM) in Vocal Performance; 2014

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Music and Psychology; 2012

Spelman College, Atlanta, GA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of African Diaspora and the World, Spelman College

2016- 2022; 2025-present

Duties include leading meaningful and critical class discussions/conversations about sensitive topics related to the past and present dispersal of African peoples, including, but not limited to educational systems, gender identity, government policies, racism, sexism, colonialism, resistance, and wellness twice a week. The department encourages students to explore history through different mediums; research, museum visits, writing, audio narratives, group facilitation, and the performing arts. Students are also exposed to songs, musicals, and spirituals of African-descended peoples by using music as a historical marker.

AMPLify Sectionals Coach, Atlanta Music Project

2025-present

Duties include working with the Senior Youth Choir to improve choral sound and performance quality. Responsibilities include supervising student-led warm ups, leading SATB sectionals, reinforcing appropriate vocal technique across genres, rehearsing choreography, and helping students make connections between text and body/vocal expression. Occasional responsibilities include auditioning and working one-on-one with student soloists to enhance vocal musicianship and performance engagement qualities.

AMPLify Teaching Artist, Atlanta Music Project

2017- 2022; 2025-present

Duties include teaching private voice lessons for underserved youth (elementary, middle, and high school) in Southwest Atlanta. Responsibilities include working on one-on-one with students to enhance vocal musicianship and vocal technique. For all students, duties include preparing students for jury assessments at the end of each semester, student recitals for public viewing, and semester showcases. Students are also exposed to African American art song, musicals, and spirituals in an effort to educate students on underrepresented music genres.

Diverse Leadership Certificate Program, eSpelman at Spelman College

2016- 2025

Duties include facilitating critical online discussions that encourage personal awareness and perceptions of power through identity, implicit biases, microaggressions, systemic and structural racism, classism, ethnicity, gender, age, sexuality, intersectionality, and ableism and their impact on the workplace and workplace interactions. The examination and interrogation of these ideas are explored through the lens of the global African diaspora, with an emphasis on the positionality of Black women.

Department of Music and Music Education, Teachers College, Columbia University

2022- 2025

Duties include teaching private voice lessons to enhance vocal musicianship and vocal technique. For majors and non-majors, duties may include improving technical ability, preparing students for performance and/or professional auditions.

Department of Music, Agnes Scott College

2020- 2022

Duties include teaching private voice lessons to enhance vocal musicianship and vocal technique. For majors and minors, duties include preparing students for jury assessments at the end of each semester, junior and senior student recitals for public viewing, and semester recitals and master classes.

Department of Music, Clark Atlanta University

2018- 2023

Duties include teaching private voice lessons, opera workshop, and a performance seminar for music majors/minors to enhance vocal musicianship and vocal technique. For majors and minors, duties include preparing students for jury assessments at the end of each semester, junior and senior student recitals for public viewing, and semester showcases and master classes. Students are also exposed to African American art song, musicals, and spirituals in an effort to educate students on underrepresented musicians in the Western music canon and to inspire student compositions.

Department of Music, Spelman College

2015- 2021

Duties include teaching private voice lessons for music majors/minors and non-music students to enhance vocal musicianship and vocal technique. For majors and minors, duties include preparing students for jury assessments at the end of each semester, junior and senior student recitals for public viewing, and non-major semester showcases. Departmental duties include heading the Sophomore Barrier Committee, which assesses the rising junior major/minor's accomplishments and challenges within the department academically and in live performance. An emphasis is put on assigning African American art song, musicals, and spirituals in an effort to educate students on personal heritage and underrepresented musicians in the Western music canon.

Graduate Teaching Associate

2012 – 2014

School of Music, Ohio State University

Duties include observing and teaching private voice lessons for non-music students to enhance vocal musicianship and vocal technique. Duties include preparing students for jury assessments at the end of each semester, and preparing aspiring non-majors for entry into the School of Music and auditions.

Instructor and Choreographer

Uhuru Dancers, Incorporated

2004- 2016

Duties include teaching groups of dancers of all levels about traditional West African cultures through dance, rhythm/drum, and song. Responsibilities include taking West African dance classes locally and nationally to sharpen skills, teaching and/or assisting a regular Saturday dance class, creating and teaching original choreographies, creating and/or assisting in the teaching of songs and their respective harmonies, and cleaning existing choreographies for a professional West African dance company in Atlanta, GA.

RELATED SCHOLARLY EXPERIENCE

Cooper, T. & Davis, H. "Black Music 101: Preparing Black Repertoire for your K-12 Choral Classroom and Vocal Studio." *Oral Presentation, New Jersey Music Educator Association State Conference, Atlantic City, NJ, February 2023.*

Davis, H. "Shifting Contexts: HBCU Faculty and Student Perspectives on Solo Vocal Repertoire." *Roundtable Presentation, International Conference on Urban Education, Cancún, Mexico, November 2023.*

Davis, H. "Not Just an American Problem": Black Student Affirmation in Vocal Repertoire". *Paper Presentation, International Society for Music Education, Montreal, Canada, July 2026.*

Mothersil, A., Davis, H., & Cooper, T. "Not New to This": (Re)membering Black Praxis in Music Education." *Panel Presentation, International Society for Music Education, Montreal, Canada, July 2026.*

RELEVANT METHODS COURSEWORK

Qualitative Research Methods: Data Analysis and Reporting, Teachers College, Columbia University	2024
Qualitative Research Methods, Teachers College, Columbia University	2023
Synthesizing Research in Music Education, Teachers College, Columbia University	2023
Research Methods in Arts Education, Teachers College, Columbia University	2021
Research Methods and Bibliography, Ohio State University	2013

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS)
Georgia Alliance of Musicians and Music Advocates (GAMMA)
National Association for Music Education (NAfME)