

MEET THE FACULTY



Dr. Craig John Ralston, Dean of Performing Arts:

Dr. Ralston has been in education for over 30 years and at Yavapai College since 2014. In addition to serving as the Dean of Performing Arts, Dr. Ralston is also the Programming Director of the Yavapai College Performing Arts Center. Furthermore, he teaches private piano and voice lessons as well as directing musical productions, including *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Little Women*, *A Christmas Carol*, and more. Dr. Ralston serves as a judge for the International Piano Guild along with holding clinics and masterclasses across the country and oversees, and has written and published numerous choral works.

Piano & Theory Artist Diplomas, London Royal Schools of Music; B.S. Music Education, Bob Jones University; M.Mus. Piano Performance Bob Jones University; DMA Music Composition & Theory, University of Alabama.
Craig.Ralston@yc.edu



Dr. Joshua Harper, Director of Choral Activities & Associate Professor of Choral Music:

Singing is a lifelong passion for Dr. Harper, which he eagerly shares with aspiring singers – young and old – through the many choirs he directs, including Chamber Singers, Master Chorale, Vocal Ensemble, and Community Chorale. In addition to choral music, Dr. Harper also teaches music theory, music appreciation, and private voice and well as serving as Musical Director of many productions, including *The Phantom of the Opera*. He also enjoys working on local community outreach projects alongside colleague Chris Tenney.

B.A. Vocal Performance & Music Composition and Theory, Lipscomb University; M.Mus. Choral Conducting, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Conducting Fellowship, Yale University; D.Mus. Choral Conducting, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Joshua.Harper@yc.edu



Nanette Hofer, Associate Professor of Musical Theater:

An educator as well a performer, Professor Hofer has been performing as a singer and actress professionally since high school, as well as teaching on all levels in academia. Since her arrival at Yavapai College, she has directed multiple productions including *The Music Man*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and many more. She also enjoys performing in department and local productions, including YC's *The Phantom of the Opera* and the YC Master Chorale performance of Ralph Vaughan Williams' *Dona Nobis Pacem*. Professor Hofer teaches Singing for the Actor, Acting, and Acting for Musical Theater, along with several other theater classes.

B.A. Music Education, University Sioux Falls; M.A. Music-Vocal Performance & M.F.A. Theatre Direction, University South Dakota. Nanette.Hofer@yc.edu



MEET THE FACULTY

Nathaniel Patterson, Associate Professor of Technical Theater:

Nathaniel Patterson is a technical theater director and artist originally from Dayton, Ohio. He has worked professionally in the theater industry since he was 18 and has made his career as a technician, playwright, actor, performer, scenic and lighting designer, director, and technical director. His previous scenic works include: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Radium Girls*, *Avenue Q*, and more. Professor Patterson's technical expertise has taken him backstage for a litany of large-scale touring events including working for: *Cirque Du Soleil*, Sir Elton John, Sir Paul McCartney, Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, Jay-Z, The Foo Fighters, and Ed Sheeran, among others. He is a proud veteran of the United States Navy and served onboard the submarines *USS San Francisco* and *USS Helena*.

B.A. Political Science & Global Politics, Washington State University; M.S. Technical Theatre/Theatre Design & Technology, Portland State University. Nathaniel.Patterson@yc.edu



~

Christopher Tenney, Associate Professor of Instrumental Music:

Professor Tenney is a multi-instrumental and vocalist who began his musical career with the Tucson Boys Choir at the age of eight. Prior to joining Yavapai College, he worked at Bradshaw Mountain High School in Prescott Valley, receiving multiple Excellent and Superior awards for his ensembles there. An enthusiastic addition to Yavapai College, Professor Tenney teaches music theory and appreciation, as well as conducting the symphonic band, orchestra, and jazz ensembles, and serving as Musical Director on various productions. He currently serves as the Prescott Center for the Arts Scholarship Program's Musical Theatre Chairperson and in his spare time, he also plays trombone and performs locally in The High Desert Brass Quintet, which he co-founded in 2018.

B.A. Music Education, University of Arizona; M.Mus., Boston University.
Christopher.Tenney@yc.edu



~