Kelsey D. Burkett

Director of Voci & Principal Conductor

Raised in Solon, OH, Kelsey D. Burkett is a 2006 Graduate of Capital University, where she majored in Music Education and served as the alto section leader in the renown Chapel Choir. She completed her Masters of Music in Music Education and Kodaly Certification from Capital University in 2019. In her 21st year of teaching, she has a passion for the developing voice and middle school singers. She serves as the Director of Choirs at Hilliard Memorial Middle School, where she directs the 7th Grade Treble Choir, 8th Grade Treble Choir, and Blue Notes A Cappella. She also worked with Shades of Blue A Cappella, who were the 2023 ICHSA National Champions and 2025 ICHSA National Runner Up.

Choirs under her direction have consistently received Superior and Excellent ratings and Grand Championships at the District, State, and National Contest levels. In June 2016, the MMS Choirs made their Carnegie Hall Debut as a part of the Songs of Inspiration and Hope Concert under the director of Mrs. Lori Loftus. In Summer of 2018, the MMS 8th Grade Treble Choir performed for the Ohio Choral Director's Association Summer Conference at Otterbein University. In 2021 and 2025, the 8th Grade Treble Choir was invited to perform at the Ohio Music Education Professional Development Conference. Recently, she served as the Program Chair for the 2026 American Choral Directors Association Midwest Conference and the Middle School Honor Choir Chair for the Ohio Choral Directors Association. As of 2026, she will serve as President-Elect of the Midwest Region of the American Choral Directors Association.

In March 2020, she was awarded the 2020 Country Music Association Foundation's Music Teachers of Excellence, one of only 10 teachers from across the United States.

Above all her professional accomplishments, her greatest joy is being mom to 7-year-old Harper, wife to Jen, and dog mom to Biscuit Kevin Van Burkett.