Xinmeng (Simone) Li

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Education

Johns Hopkins University Peabody Institute *Sep. 2026 – Jun. 2028*
Master of Music in Choral Conducting

University of Michigan *Aug. 2021 – May 2025*
Bachelor of Musical Art in Classical Voice Performance
Bachelor of Music in Music Theory
Bachelor of Art in Economics

- GPA: 3.93/4.00
- Conducting Teachers: Mark Stover, Eugene Rogers, Julie Skadsem
- Voice Teacher: Rose Mannino
- Music Theory Advisor: Áine Heneghan
- **Core Coursework:** Elementary Choral Conducting (COND 315 & 316), Choral Conducting Techniques and Repertoire (COND 442), French Diction (VOICELIT 203), Orchestration (THEORY 454)

Conducting Experience

Frederick Chorale *Frederick, MD*
Assistant conductor *Sep. 2026*

Lead vocal warm-ups and choral rehearsals, emphasizing vocal technique, intonation, balance, and musical expression. Collaborate with the music director in concert programming and repertoire selection.

Eastman School of Music, Choral Masterworks: Bach's Mass in B Minor *Rochester, NY*
Instructors: Jerry Blackstone, Bill Weinert *Jun. 2026*

Participated in an intensive choral conducting program focused on J. S. Bach's Mass in B Minor, studying conducting technique, score analysis, rehearsal strategies, and stylistic interpretation with both instructors.

Westminster Choir College Conducting Intensive *Lawrenceville, NJ*
Instructors: Donald Nally, Beth Willer, Steven Spinelli *Jul. 2025*

Participated in masterclasses with all three instructors, developing more informative breath cues, strengthening gestural clarity, and refining rehearsal technique. Observed diverse conducting and rehearsal approaches while expanding knowledge of Baroque and contemporary repertoire.

SMTD Choral Conducting Symposium *Ann Arbor, MI*
Instructors: Eugene Rogers, Mark Stover, Julie Skadsem *Jul. 2024*

Attended masterclass with Eugene Rogers, refining gesture and interpretation. Studied Dalcroze techniques for movement-based musicianship. Refined expertise in choral voicing and rehearsal methodologies.

University of Michigan Arts Chorale *Ann Arbor, MI*
Assistant Conductor *Aug. 2023 – Apr. 2024*

Supported the conductor and assisted in the leadership of this 60-voice non-majored choir. Independently rehearsed and conducted one piece per semester with orchestra. Led sectionals, offered guidance for singers who did not have professional training, and designed program notes.

The Northville Chorale *Northville, MI*
Conductor *Dec. 2022*

Served as the first conductor of the 45-voice new community choir. Led warm-ups, rehearsed repertoire, and conducted performances. Taught vocal parts and refiend ensemble sound. Directed an outdoor Chirstmas caroling event in downtown Northville.

Performances

Canticle of the Sun, Griswold Hall, *Baltimore, MD*
NEXT Ensemble at Johns Hopkins University Peabody Institute *Sep. 2027*

Yuja Wang and Thomas Ades, Lincoln Center - New York Philharmonic *New York City*
University of Michigan Chamber Choir *Jan. 2026*

In Love, We Shine, Stamps Auditorium *Ann Arbor, MI*
Senior Recital: Conductor, Soprano *Mar. 2025*

Words of Love, Peace and Joy, Hill Auditorium *Ann Arbor, MI*
Assistant Conductor *Mar. 2024*

Words of Wisdom, Strength, and Hope, Stamps Auditorium *Ann Arbor, MI*
Assistant Conductor *Nov. 2023*

Durante: Et misericordia (Magnificat in B-flat major), Stamps Auditorium *Ann Arbor, MI*
Alto soloist *Nov. 2023*

Ravel: Trois beaux oiseaux du paradis (Trois Chansons), Bethlehem UCC *Ann Arbor, MI*
Alto soloist *Apr. 2023*

Bonds: Ballad of the Brown King, The First Congregational Church *Ann Arbor, MI*
Alto soloist *Dec. 2022*

Mendelssohn: Elijah Reimagined, The Kennedy Center Concert Hall *Washington, DC*
Alto, University of Michigan Chamber Choir *Jun. 2024*

Mendelssohn: Elijah Reimagined, Auditorio Nacional CCK *Buenos Aires, Argentina*
Alto, University of Michigan Chamber Choir *Jun. 2024*

Okoye: When the Caged Bird Sings, World Premiere, Hill Auditorium *Ann Arbor, MI*
Alto, University of Michigan Chamber Choir *Feb. 2024*

Botti: Vespers, World Premiere, Hill Auditorium *Ann Arbor, MI*
Alto, University of Michigan Chamber Choir *Nov. 2022*

Marsalis: All Rise, Hill Auditorium *Ann Arbor, MI*
Alto, University of Michigan Chamber Choir *Oct. 2022*

Mahler: Symphony No.2 "Resurrection", Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center *Detroit, MI*
Alto, Detroit Symphony Orchestra *Nov. 2022*

Ensemble Experience

Conductor's Choir at Johns Hopkins University Peabody Institute *Baltimore, MD*
Alto *Aug. 2026 – Jun. 2028*

NEXT Ensemble at Johns Hopkins University Peabody Institute *Baltimore, MD*
Alto *Aug. 2026 – Jun. 2028*

Chamber Choir at University of Michigan *Ann Arbor, MI*
Alto *Aug. 2022 – Jun. 2024*

Orpheus Singers at University of Michigan *Ann Arbor, MI*
Alto *Aug. 2021 – Apr. 2022*

Midwest Young Artists *Highwood, IL*
Alto, featured soloist *Aug. 2019 – May 2020*

Lake Forest Academy Choir *Lake Forest, IL*
Alto, featured soloist *Aug. 2017 – May 2020*

Beijing Philharmonic Choir *Beijing, China*
Alto, featured soloist *Aug. 2008 – May 2017*

Musical Awards and Honors

NATS Michigan Student Auditions, First Place — *Oakland, MI*
Upper College Classical Treble — *Nov. 2024*

NATS Competition Chicago Chapter, Thrid Place — *Chicago, IL*
Upper Highschool Classical Treble — *Apr. 2023*

Everett E. Grace Music Prize — *Lake Forest, IL*
Lake Forest Academy — *May 2021*

Miscellaneous

Leadership

President of Annapella A-cappella group, University of Michigan — *Ann Arbor, MI*
Led the first and only Chinese a-cappella group at the U. of Michigan. — *2021-2024*

Founder of Unaccompanied Minors A-cappella group, Lake Forest Academy — *Lake Forest, IL*
Led the mixed-voice a-cappella group at Lake Forest Academy. — *2017-2020*

Languages

Mandarin (Native), English (Professional)

Music Skills

Computer Graphic Design (Photoshop), Electronic Music Production (Ableton Live)