

UC **SANTA BARBARA**  
Department of Music

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**UC SANTA BARBARA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC WELCOMES NICOLE LAMARTINE AS TEACHING PROFESSOR AND SORENSEN DIRECTOR OF CHORAL MUSIC**

*Renowned choral director and voice instructor to lead UC Santa Barbara Choral Music Program, including directing the UCSB Chamber Choir and overseeing the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting*

Santa Barbara, CA (July 14, 2020)—The UC Santa Barbara Department of Music has appointed Dr. Nicole Lamartine as Teaching Professor and Sorensen Director of Choral Music, beginning Fall 2020. As the Sorensen Director of Choral Music, Dr. Lamartine will conduct the flagship choir, the UCSB Chamber Choir, integrate relevancy into graduate choral studies for 21st century conductors, and teach studio conducting and voice. Dr. Lamartine will also oversee the Doctor of Musical Arts degree program in Choral Conducting, an emphasis that has not been available to incoming students for several years.

Dr. Lamartine will serve as the inaugural Sorensen Director of Choral Music, a title that was established in 2018 by Shannon P. and D. Stephen Sorensen to ensure that there is a permanent position and resources available to the Director each year to support teaching and programmatic excellence in UC Santa Barbara's choral program within the Department of Music.

"The UCSB Department of Music is excited and honored to have Dr. Nicole Lamartine join us as the new Sorensen Director of Choral Music," noted Robert Koenig, Chair of the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music. "Dr. Lamartine's wealth of experience with choral music and many years of successfully building notable choral programs throughout the U.S. is at the highest level of accomplishment. Our faculty, staff, and students offer her a warm welcome to UCSB and look forward to her dynamic contributions to our choral programs."

Passionate about creating innovative, engaging, and diverse choral performances for ensemble members and audiences alike, Dr. Lamartine strives in every musical experience to illuminate meaning and impact of the commonalities of being human.

"I am thrilled to be joining the world-renowned UCSB music faculty as Sorensen Director of Choral Music," said Dr. Lamartine. "It is an honor for me to reinvigorate the choral program to meet the 21st century needs of our community of music students, non-majors, and graduate students. I look forward to a future full of collaboration, innovation, inclusivity, diversity, excellence, and inspiration!"

Prior to joining the UC Santa Barbara faculty, Dr. Lamartine served as Professor and Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wyoming from 2008-2020, where her choirs were honored to sing at several national and regional conferences (American Choral Directors Association, National Association for Music Education, National Collegiate Choral Organization) and where she won the University of Wyoming's highest teaching award, the Ellbogen Award for Meritorious Classroom Teaching.

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As a clinician and guest conductor of three international honor choirs (Germany, Oman, United Arab Emirates) and nine All-State choirs, Dr. Lamartine seeks to positively impact the next generation of choral musicians all over the world. An avid champion for music education, she has headlined music conferences in the US and Hong Kong (Association for Music in International Schools) and is a recognized expert in females conducting male choirs, rehearsal technique, and anatomy and movement for conductors. Her YouTube channel, “The Choral Eye,” contains self-produced videos written as a resource for choral musicians and educators.

Dr. Lamartine has enjoyed abundant opportunities to commission and premiere new works from leading composers such as Craig Hella Johnson, Libby Larsen, Jennifer Higdon, Gerard Schwarz, Forrest Pierce, Gabriela Lena Frank, John Muehleisen, and Karen Thomas. Dr. Lamartine believes it is imperative to bring the experience to her students of bringing a new piece to life under the guidance of the living composer.

Dr. Lamartine conducts Chor Anno (Washington) providing choral music educators in the NW a creative outlet for ensemble singing. An active performer, she has sung professionally with Conspirare, the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, and Colorado Bach Ensemble.

As a voice teacher committed to building marketable skill, Dr. Lamartine’s students have been admitted to prestigious doctoral programs and sung on stages in Europe and the US. She is an active vocal adjudicator and has given masterclasses across the US.

In service to the profession, Dr. Lamartine has served the American Choral Directors Association as President of the Northwestern region. She holds world, national, and state records in powerlifting, demonstrating that creativity is intertwined with strength of body and mind.

Dr. Lamartine holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Choral Conducting (minor in Voice) and a Master of Music in Voice from the University of Arizona, as well as a Bachelor of Music in Voice from New Mexico State University.

### **ABOUT THE UC SANTA BARBARA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**

From an institution that began life dedicated to training the next generation of music educators, to what is now a multi-faceted department with a fully established research and professional graduate program with degrees in composition, ethnomusicology, musicology, music theory, and performance, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music has produced many hundreds of graduates who have distinguished themselves both nationally and internationally. Alumni have gone on to teach on faculties of major colleges and universities in the United States and abroad, or in outstanding secondary school positions. Many graduates of the program have published extensively and become widely renowned, prize-winning scholars, while others are award-winning and frequently performed composers writing for television and film. Alumni are also establishing fine reputations as conductors of orchestras, opera, and choruses. Graduates of the instrumental programs have gone on to solo and orchestral careers with leading orchestras, and graduates of the voice program can be heard in opera companies around the world.

With over 150 events presented annually, the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music offers something for every music lover. The department boasts 26 unique performing ensembles, many with a quarterly concert calendar. Chamber music, large ensembles, opera, contemporary groups, world music, and jazz ensembles make up the department’s rich performance calendar, along with lectures, master classes, and presentations from the ethnomusicology, musicology, theory, and composition programs. For a complete listing of performances and lectures for the quarter, please visit the UC Santa Barbara Department of Music website at [music.ucsb.edu](http://music.ucsb.edu).

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**“NICOLE LAMARTINE” 3-3-3**

For additional information, photos, or to request an interview with an artist, please contact Adriane Hill at [adrianehill@ucsb.edu](mailto:adrianehill@ucsb.edu) or by phone (*please email to request remote work number*). To sign up for the Department of Music's newsletter, please visit [eepurl.com/dcrvRr](http://eepurl.com/dcrvRr). Follow the Department of Music on Facebook ([@UCSBDepartmentofMusic](https://www.facebook.com/UCSBDepartmentofMusic)), Twitter ([@UCSBMusicDept](https://twitter.com/UCSBMusicDept)), and Instagram ([@ucsbmusicdept](https://www.instagram.com/ucsbmusicdept)).

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