

Dr. Elissa Johnson-Green

Assistant Professor of Music and Music Education

- Coordinator, Program in Music Education
- Project Lead, the EcoSonic Playground Project
- Director, the Lowell String Project, Creative Sound Play Children's Chorus
- Faculty Advisor, cNAfME

35 Wilder Street

Durgin Hall 318

Lowell, MA 01854

Email: elissa_johnsongreen@uml.edu

Phone: 978-934-3829

Website: https://sites.uml.edu/ecosonic_project/



Department of Music

EDUCATION

2003-2012	Teachers College, Columbia University New York, New York Doctor of Education in Music and Music Education <i>summa cum laude</i> Dissertation Supervisor: Lori Custodero Dissertation title: <i>Ordinary magic: The musical foundations of transition in family life</i>
2000-2003	Teachers College, Columbia University New York, New York Master of Education in Music and Music Education <i>summa cum laude</i> Master's Thesis Advisor: Lori Custodero Master's Thesis Title: <i>One more thing: Parents reflect on musical parenting of infants</i>
1992-1994	Oberlin College Oberlin, Ohio Master of Music in Historical Performance and Musicology Baroque Flute Master Teacher: Michael Lynn
1988-1992	The Peabody Institute of Music of The Johns Hopkins University Baltimore, Maryland Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance with a minor in Vocal Performance Master Teacher: Robert Willoughby
1984-1988	The Juilliard School, Preparatory College New York, New York Performance Certificate in Flute Master Teacher: Bradley Garner

EXPEREINCE

University

2015-present	Assistant Professor of Music University of Massachusetts Lowell College of Fine Arts, Humanities and Social Science Department of Music
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Coordinator, Program in Music Education
Graduate Student Coordinator, Program in Music Education
Transfer Student Coordinator, Program in Music Education

Developed and taught the following courses:

Undergraduate level:

General Music Methods 1
Observation Laboratory 3
General Music Methods 2
Observation Laboratory 4
Introduction to Music Education
Observation Laboratory 1
Progressive Performance and Production Pedagogy

Graduate level:

Foundations of Music Education
Research in Music Education

2006-2007;
Spring 2008

Instructor in Music Education

Teachers College, Columbia University
New York, NY

Graduate course taught: Children's Musical Development

Elementary and Middle School

2015-present

Director and Master Teacher

The Lowell String Project, Creative Sound Play Children's Chorus
Lowell, MA

2011-2015

Music Teacher

The Rashi School
Dedham, MA

Created and implemented a composition-focused, general music education curriculum for grades k – 8.

Population included children with special needs.

2009-2011

Music Teacher

The Anderson School, PS 334
New York, NY

Created and implemented a composition-focused, general music education curriculum for grades k – 3.

City-identified gifted and talented population.

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2006-2007

Music Teacher

Columbia University Head Start Program
New York, NY
Taught pre-school music classes.

Administrative

2019-present

Program Coordinator, Music Education

2019-present

Graduate Studies Coordinator, Music Education

2016-present

Transfer Student Coordinator, Music Education

Fall 2016

Interim Program Coordinator, Music Education

Fall 2016

Interim Graduate Studies Coordinator, Music Education

HONORS AND AWARDS

2019-2021

The Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Klarman Foundation Music Educators/Teaching Artists Fellowship

Nominated for the EcoSonic Playground Project
Stipend: \$2000.00
Professional Development: \$3000.00

2017

UML Music Department Excellence in Teaching Award

Stipend: \$1000.00

2016

National and International Partnerships in Sustainability Workshop

Invited
Led to international collaboration on the EcoSonic Playground Project.

RESEARCH

Projects

Inventor, Project Lead, and Lead Investigator

The EcoSonic Playground Project (ESPP)

The ESPP focuses on working with children of all ages to design, build, and play large-scale, multi-player musical instrument structures made from reusable materials. It incorporates

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musical exploration, engineering, science, math, design thinking, and open creativity into an immersion learning curriculum. The ESPP is open access; materials and teaching are provided at no cost to project partners. To date, I have implemented the ESPP with 12 schools in the US, Canada, and Ireland and I am in the process of implementing 3 programs in Lowell, 1 in Seattle, WA, and 1 in Croatia. Research on the ESPP focuses on its impact on participating students and communities.

Please see the website for information: https://sites.uml.edu/ecosonic_project/

Lead Investigator

[Children's Composition Laboratory](#)

Immersion learning in the composition-focused music classroom; a 4-year longitudinal study of children's musical development and thinking, with participants ages 5-10 years.

Director of Research, Lead Investigator

[We've Got the World on a String](#)

A documentary film on the Lowell String Project (LSP). The research for the film provided a foundation to study the LSP as an ecological entity, with far-reaching impact on its participants and community.

Publications

Johnson-Green, E. (in process). The EcoSonic Playground Project Curriculum.

Johnson-Green, E. (In process). Synthesis and embodiment: The Lowell String Project as complex musical ecosystem. In J. Southcott & L. d. Bruin (Eds.), *Community music: Musical ecologies in action*. Routledge.

Johnson-Green, E. (Accepted). *Keep singing out: Families' use of popular music in parenting for resilience*. *Journal of Popular Music Education*.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (In press). iAssess: Using mobile technology for student self-assessment in a k-5 music composition curriculum. In Greher, G. R. and Burton, S. L. (Eds.), *Creative Music Making at Your Fingertips! A Mobile Technology Guide for Music Educators*. Oxford University Press.

Custodero, L. A. & Johnson-Green, E. A. (In press). Caregiving in counterpoint: Reciprocal influences in the musical parenting of younger and older infants. In, W. Gruhn & W. Brodsky (Eds.), *Music in the Lives of Young Children: An Annotated Anthology of Research Papers from Early Child Development and Care*. Routledge.

Johnson-Green, E. (2020). The child as musical *affector*: Sound perception and manipulation as artistic process in primary school music education. In Walzer, D. A. and Lopez, M. J. (Eds.), *Audio Education: Theory, Culture, and Practice* (pp. 17-44). Routledge.

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Johnson-Green, E., Lee, C. & Flannery, M. (2020). A musical perspective on STEM: Evaluating the EcoSonic Playground Project from a co-equal STEAM integration standpoint. *International Journal of Education and the Arts*, 21(14), 1-52.

Johnson-Green, E. (2020). Music composition as immersive learning in K-5 music education: Results of a 4-year study. *Visions of Research in Music Education*, 35(Special conference issue), 1-41.

Johnson-Green, E. (2018). Musical architects: Immersive learning through design thinking in a kindergarten music composition curriculum. *Visions of Research in Music Education*, 31, 1-38.

Johnson-Green, E. (2018). From not knowing to understanding: An exploration of effective teaching in a music educator preparation program. *Massachusetts Music Educators Journal*, 66(3), 17-18.

Johnson-Green, E. (2017). The EcoSonic Playground: Project description and development. *The 8th Conference of the European Network of Music Educators and Researchers of Young Children*, 186-194.

Johnson-Green, E. (2016). STEAM: Where A is for composition. *Massachusetts Music Educators Journal*, 64(4), 27-29.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (2013). *Beyond Bebop: Iconic composition as music curriculum*. In *Educating the Creative Mind Conference Report*. Kean University: Union, NJ.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (2012). *Musical transitions: Parenting practices through change*. In *International Society for Music Education, Early Childhood Music Education Conference Proceedings*. Corfu, Greece.

Stevens Zur, S. & Johnson-Green, E.A. (2008). Time to transition: The connection between musical free play and school readiness. *Childhood Education* 2008, 84(5), 295-300.

Custodero, L. A., & Johnson-Green, E. A. (2006). Caregiving in counterpoint: Reciprocal influences in the musical parenting of younger and older infants. *Early Child Development and Care*, 176(1), 1-25.

Johnson-Green, E.A. (2006). Does music make you smart? In *Harmony: Kaufman Center Newsletter*, Spring, 1& 3.

Johnson-Green, E. A. & Stevens, S. (2006). *Time to transition: The connection between musical free play and school readiness*. In *International Society for Music Education, Early Childhood Music Education Conference Proceedings*. Taipei, Taiwan.

Custodero, L. A., & Johnson-Green, E. A. (2003). Passing the cultural torch: Musical experience and musical parenting of infants. *Journal of Research in Music Education*, 51(2), 102-114.

Johnson-Green, E. A., & Custodero, L. A. (2002). The toddler top 40: Musical preferences of babies, toddlers, and their parents. *Zero to Three*, 23(1), 47-48.

Ilari, B., & Johnson-Green, E. A. (2002). Musical resources for children. *Zero to Three*, 23(1), 49-52.

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Presentations

Johnson-Green, E. (August 2020). The EcoSonic Playground Project: Impact of an open-access, community outreach, music education program. Paper accepted for the International Society of Music Education: Visions of Equity and Diversity. Helsinki, Finland. (Conference online due to COVID-19.)

Cali, C., Sole, M., & Johnson-Green, E. (August 2020). Observing children's spontaneous music making: Current developments and impact on research and teaching. Symposium accepted for the International Society of Music Education: Visions of Equity and Diversity. Helsinki, Finland. (Conference online due to COVID-19.)

Johnson-Green, E. (July 2020). Composing for inclusion: Immersive music education in a kindergarten general music classroom. Poster accepted for the Early Childhood Music Education Commission, International Society of Music Education: Visions of Equity and Diversity. Helsinki, Finland. (Conference online due to COVID-19.)

Johnson-Green, E. & Rosales, R. (April 2020). The EcoSonic Playground Project: STEAM education for children with ASD. Paper accepted for the ABLE Assembly: Arts Better the Lives of Everyone. Boston, MA. (Conference postponed due to COVID-19.)

Johnson-Green, E. (March 2020). Building Immersive Musical Experiences through the EcoSonic Playground Project. Workshop presented at the Massachusetts Music Educators Association, All State Conference. Boston, MA.

Johnson-Green, E. (October 2019). Music at the Center: Creating Meaningful and Relevant Music Education through STEAM Immersion Learning. Paper presented at the Association of Technology in Music Instruction: The College Music Society, National Conference. Louisville, KY.

Johnson-Green, E. (May 2019). Children's musical development in a composition-focused, STEAM- integrated immersion learning environment: Results from a four-year study. Paper presented at the Visions of Research in Music Education, the Conference. Princeton, NJ.

Johnson-Green, E. & Lee, C. (May 2019). The EcoSonic Playground: Social action through music education, sustainability, and STEAM immersive learning. Paper presented at the Visions of Research in Music Education, the Conference. Princeton, NJ.

Johnson-Green, E. (March 2019). *Music at the foundation of being human: Studying children's development in and through music*. Talk given at University of Massachusetts Lowell River Talks Symposium. Lowell, MA.

Johnson-Green, E. (October 2018). *iAssess: iPads as a tool for self-assessment in a K-5 music composition curriculum*. Paper presented at the Association of Technology in Music Instruction: The College Music Society, National Conference. Vancouver, Canada.

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Johnson-Green, E. (March 2018). *"I went from not knowing to understanding:" Effective teaching in a music educator preparation program?* Paper presented at the Massachusetts Music Educators Association, All State Conference. Boston, MA.

Johnson-Green, E. (March 2018). *The EcoSonic Playground: An immersive, music focused, STEAM integrated, environmentally conscious, inquiry-based community project – development and research.* Paper presented at the Massachusetts Music Educators Association, All State Conference. Boston, MA.

Johnson-Green, E. (March 2018). *The EcoSonic Playground Project: Where music education meets sustainability and STEAM.* Talk given at University of Massachusetts Lowell River Talks Symposium. Lowell, MA.

Johnson-Green, E. (October 2017). *The EcoSonic Playground: STEAM integration through musical instrument design.* Paper presented at the Association for Technology in Music Teaching, College Music Society national conference. San Antonio, TX.

Johnson-Green, E. (July 2017). *Structure and play: Teaching engineering through music composition.* Paper presented at the National Science Teachers Association, STEM Symposium. Orlando, FL.

Johnson-Green, E. (June 2017). *The EcoSonic Playground: Project description and development.* Paper presented at the Music Educators and Researchers of Young Children (MERYC) Conference. Cambridge University, England.

Johnson-Green, E. (March 2017). *The EcoSonic Playground.* Paper presented at the Massachusetts Music Educators Association, All State Conference. Boston, MA.

Johnson-Green, E. (July 2016). *Patterns and play: Teaching kindergarteners music composition through musical-mathematical design.* Paper presented at the International Society for Music Education. Edinburg, Scotland.

Johnson-Green, E. (July 2016). *It's Greek to me: Subject integrated, project-based education in a fifth-grade music classroom.* Poster presented at the International Society for Music Education. Edinburgh, Scotland.

Johnson-Green, E. (June 2016). *Engaging hearts and minds: Collaborative composition as teaching, learning, and performing technique in a children's choral program.* Webinar given for the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), In-service Conference.

Johnson-Green, E. (March 2016). *STEAM: Where A is for composition.* Paper presented at the Massachusetts Music Educators Association, All State Conference. Boston, MA.

Johnson-Green, E. (March 2016). *The Musical Playground.* Talk given and poster presented at the UMass Lowell Faculty Research Symposium. Lowell, MA.

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Johnson-Green, E. (February 2016). *The Musical Playground (Pilot 1)*. Talk given at University of Massachusetts Lowell River Talks Symposium. Lowell, MA.

Johnson-Green, E. (July 2015). *This is your brain on music: The emotional/social/cognitive outcomes of musical participation from prenatal to kindergarten*. Paper presented at the National Association for the Education of young Children: The Power of The Profession, Orlando, FL.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (July 2014). *There's a story here: Integrating language arts into a first-grade music classroom using an innovative system of music composition*. Paper presented at the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Conference: Delivering on the Promise of Early Learning. Dallas, Texas.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (May 2013). *Beyond Bebop: Iconic composition as music curriculum*. Paper presented at the Educating the Creative Mind Conference: Developing Capacities for the Future. Kean University, Union, New Jersey.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (December 2013). *Sing a new song unto the Lord: Music composition in the Jewish day school music classroom*. Workshop given at the Limmud Boston. Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (July 2012). *Musical transitions: Parenting practices through change*. Paper presented at the International Society of Music Education, Early Childhood Music Education Seminar: Passing on the Flame: Making the World a Better Place Through Music. Corfu, Greece.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (2009). *Music and English Language Literacy: A Sound Connection*. Paper presented at the Teaching English Language Learners in New York City Symposium. Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, New York.

Johnson-Green, E.A. (July 2008). *Musical cognition: When does it start?* Discussant for the International Society for Music Education, Early Childhood Music Education Seminar: Music in The Early Years: Research, Theory, and Practice. Frescati, Italy.

Johnson-Green, E. A. & Stevens, S. (July 2006). *Time to transition: The connection between musical free play and school readiness*. Paper presented at the International Society for Music Education, Early Childhood Music Education Seminar: Touched by Musical Discovery: Disciplinary and Cultural Perspectives. Taipei, Taiwan.

Johnson-Green, E.A. & Stevens, S. (July 2006). *Time to transition: The connection between musical free play and school readiness*. Poster presented at the International Society for Music Education Conference: Touched by Musical Discovery: Disciplinary and Cultural Perspectives. Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Johnson-Green, E. A., & Custodero, L. A. (July 2004). *One more thing: Parents reflect on musical parenting of infants*. Poster presented at the International Society for Music Education, Early Childhood Music Education Seminar: The Musical Worlds of Children. Barcelona, Spain.

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Johnson-Green, E. A., & Custodero, L. A. (July 2004). *One more thing: Parents reflect on musical parenting of infants*. Poster presented at the International Society for Music Education Conference: The Musical Worlds of Children. Tenerife, The Canary Islands.

Johnson-Green, E. A. (July 2004). Paper. *Recent research in early childhood music education: Summation of work presented at the International Society for Music Education, Early Childhood Commission*. Paper presented at the International Society for Music Education Conference: The Musical Worlds of Children. Tenerife, The Canary Islands.

Custodero, L. A., Johnson-Green, E. A., & Timmer, F. L. (July 2004). Poster. *Cultural contexts as musical worlds: Intersections and connections in the lives of parents and young children*. Poster presented at the International Society for Music Education Conference: The Musical Worlds of Children. Tenerife, The Canary Islands.

Custodero, L. A., Johnson-Green, E. A., & Timmer, F. L. (May 2003). *There's no place like home: Singing practices in three families with young children*. Poster presented at the National Association for Music Education: Music Educators National Conference. Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Custodero, L. A. & Johnson-Green, E. A. (May 2002). *Passing the cultural torch: Musical experience and musical parenting of infants*. Poster presented at the National Association for Music Education: Music Educators National Conference. Nashville, Tennessee.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Grants

2020-2021	The Doug Flutie, Jr. Foundation for Autism In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Grant: \$5000.00
2019-2020	International Society for Music Education Research Grant In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Grant: \$6000.00
2018	Boston Mayor's Office Urban Planning Commission: Play Around the City Community installation of the EcoSonic Playground Project in Dorchester, MA Juried Selection Grant: \$2000.00
2018	UML 2020 Community Impact Grant In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Girls Incorporated of Greater Lowell Grant: \$2000.00

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2017-2018	University of Massachusetts Sustainability Grant In support of the EcoSonic Playground project international partnership with Michael Flannery of the Marino Institute of Education, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. Grant: \$8500.00
2017	The Thelonious Monk Foundation Support to develop a website for the EcoSonic Playground Project Gena Greher, PI Grant: \$1500.00
2016	University of Massachusetts Lowell Internal Seed Grant Supporting funds for The Lowell String Project Documentary Grant: \$5000.00
2016	Lowell Cultural Council Grant Supporting funds for The Lowell String Project Documentary Grant: \$1500.00
2015-2016	University of Massachusetts Lowell Chancellor's 2020 Challenge Grant Start-up grant for The Musical Playground project Grant: \$1000.00
2012-2013	Peerless Education Grant Funding for music classroom keyboard laboratory Grant: \$25,000.00

Fellowships

2020-2021; 2019-2020	Emerging Scholars Program UML Sociology Department, Center for Women and Work In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Undergraduate research assistantships: \$2500.00; \$3000.00
Summer 2020	Immersive Scholars Program UML Provost's Office of Signature Programs and Experiential Learning In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Undergraduate research assistantship: \$4000.00
Spring 2020	FAHSS Student Assistantship Program In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Undergraduate research assistantship: \$1530.00

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2019-2020	Honors College Fellowship In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Undergraduate research assistantship: \$1200.00
2017-2019	Community Engaged Scholars Program Interdisciplinary, research development peer cohort The EcoSonic Playground Project: 2018-2019 <i>We've got the world on a string</i> documentary film: 2017-2018 Grants totaling: \$2000.00
2017-2018; 2016-2017	Emerging Scholars Program UML Sociology Department, Center for Women and Work In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Undergraduate research assistantships: \$2500.00; \$2500.00
2016	Service-Learning Integrated throughout the College of Engineering (SLICE) Co-op Fellowship In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Undergraduate research assistantship: \$2500.00
2015	University of Massachusetts Lowell FAHSS Honors College Fellowship In support of the EcoSonic Playground Project Undergraduate research assistantship: \$1000.00

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Johnson-Green, E. & Beatrice, A. (2018). *Juried competition.* The EcoSonic Playground Project sound sculpture installation at a public-school bus stop at the intersection of Geneva Avenue and Westville Street, Dorchester, MA. The Boston Mayor's Office of New Urban Mechanics *Play Around the City* initiative.

Director of Research and Executive Producer

We've got the world on a string
Documentary film on the Lowell String Project
Community premiere at the Luna Theater, Lowell, MA
April 2017

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PERFORMANCES

Concerts with the Lowell String Project, Creative Sound Play Children's Chorus

December 2019	Winter Showcase Concert: Durgin Concert Hall
December 2018	Winter Showcase Concert: Durgin Concert Hall
April 2018	Spring Showcase Concert: Durgin Concert Hall
December 2017	Winter Showcase Concert: Durgin Concert Hall
May 2017	Spring Showcase Concert: Durgin Concert Hall
December 2016	Winter Showcase Concert: Durgin Concert Hall
May 2016	Spring Showcase Concert: Lowell High School, Auditorium
December 2015	Winter Showcase Concert: Durgin Concert Hall
November, 2016	Producer Chancellor's Concert Series: Reaching Out!: UTECH Theater. Lowell, MA

SERVICE

Professional Activities

2016-2022	Editorial Board Member International Journal of Music Education
2019-present	Community Engagement Committee The College Music Society
2019	Chapter Reviewer Oxford University Press
2019	Book Proposal Reviewer Springer
2019	Presider The College Music Society, National Conference, Louisville, KY
2018-2019	Committee on Music Performance The College Music Society National Conference, Louisville, KY
2016-2017	Editorial Reviewer Psychology of Music

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Teaching

2016-2017	Faculty Advisor <i>Fermata Nowhere</i> Women's a cappella singing group
2015-present	Undergraduate Student Advisor, Music Education
2015-present	Graduate Thesis Advisor: Master of Music Education
2015-present	Honors College: Honors Project Advisor, Music Education
2015-present	Faculty Advisor UML collegiate chapter of the National Association for Music Education

Committees

2017-present	Department of Music Annual Concerto Competition Committee
2016-present	Department of Music Curriculum Committee
2015-present	The Lowell String Project Advisory Committee
2015-present	Panel Evaluation Adjudicator
2015-present	Music Department Audition Adjudicator
2017-present	Department of Music Annual Concerto Competition Committee

College of Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Science

2019-present	Creative Venture Competition Planning Committee
2016-present	Undergraduate-Studies Committee; Undergraduate Policy Committee
2016-2017	Society, Technology and Human Values Planning Committee Helped to develop a cross-disciplinary minor within the College of Fine Arts, Humanities, and Social Science.

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University

2020-present	Center for Autism Research and Education, Faculty Member
2018-present	The Center for Community Engagement and Research Planning Committee
2017-present	2020 University Strategic Planning Commission
2017-present	University Sustainability Steering Committee
2016-2017	Program Coordinating Team: Accreditation The Graduate School of Education

Community

2017-present	City of Lowell Earth Day Committee
2017, 2018	Participant: City of Lowell Earth Day Celebration, Sustainability Fair
2016	Workshop leader: Lowell Public School Music Teachers
2015-ongoing	Director: Lowell String Project, Creative Sound Play Children's Chorus

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

International Society for Music Education
International Society for Music Education: Early Childhood Commission
National Association for Music Education
Music Educators and Researchers of Young Children (European cohort)
The College Music Society
Association of Technology in Music Instruction
National Association for the Education of Young Children