

**MARTIN CONNOR**  
72 Cushing St., Waltham, MA 02453  
(267) 664-3389 | mepc36@brandeis.edu

**EDUCATION:**

- 2017–2018                    **BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY**                    Waltham, MA  
*Master’s Degree in Fine Arts, Musicology; May 2018*  
• Grants & Fellowships: Merit-based scholarship; Master’s Degree Thesis Research Grant.
- 2008–2012                    **DUKE UNIVERSITY**                    Durham, NC  
*Bachelor of Arts, Music, May 2012*  
• Graduated with high distinction for a senior thesis composition that raised hundreds of dollars in charitable donations for victims of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.  
• Grants & Fellowships: Benenson Award in the Arts; Duke Senior Thesis Grant; Duke Creative Arts Grant; Schuman Award for a Senior Composition.

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:**

- 2016–2017                    **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**                    Cambridge, MA  
*Musicological Research Assistant*  
• Assisted W.E.B. Du Bois fellow Harry Allen on his audio documentary *The Hypertext*.  
• Developed and used a rap notating system in order to gain new insights into prosody, rhythm, and the ability of rappers to balance verbal meaning with musical expression.
- 2015                    **UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, BOULDER**                    Boulder, CO  
*Musicological Research Assistant*  
• Served as a contracted expert musicological consultant for Dr. Adam Bradley’s RAPLab humanities research center.  
• Analyzed the interaction of prosody, rhythm, and phonology in Polish and German rap.

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS & EMPLOYMENT:**

- 2018                    **“THE MUSICAL ARTISTRY OF RAP” (MCFARLAND PRESS, 2018)**                    Jefferson, NC  
*Author*  
• Wrote a book-length study that applies principles of music theory and a new notation system to rap while synthesizing previous scholarship into a thorough description of this genre’s musical aspects.
- 2016–2017                    **UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE’S POPULAR MUSIC JOURNAL**                    Cambridge, UK  
*Article Author*  
• Reviewed the first textbook on rap designed for classroom use, Fernando Orejuela’s “Rap and Hip Hop Culture” (Oxford University Press, 2014).
- 2012–Present                    **ST. JOSEPH’S HIGH SCHOOL; LESSONFACE ONLINE; ETC.**                    Philadelphia, PA  
*Music Teacher*  
• Teaches students of all ages and abilities both private and group music lessons in voice, piano, and music theory.
- 2011–Present                    **BET, VOX, & MTV**                    Philadelphia, PA  
*Music Journalist*  
• Helped launch a Vox Media YouTube series, with over 10 million views, that focuses on accessible musicology analysis.  
• Writes articles and interviews rappers for a wide array of music journalism outlets.

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**EXTENDED PUBLICATIONS, PERFORMANCES, & MEDIA:**

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|--------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 2018               | <b>THE VERGE INDUSTRY CONFERENCE</b><br><i>Keynote Speaker</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invited to Vox media's pop culture-focused industry conference, The Verge.</li><li>• Will musicologically analyze a rap performance as it happens in real-time.</li></ul>   | Huntington Beach, CA  |
| 2017               | <b>"CHECK OUT MY MELODY" (FORTHCOMING 2018)</b><br><i>Author</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wrote a trade version of scholarly findings that translates scholarly research into a fun, easily intelligible read geared towards a popular audience.</li><li>• Represented by John Fitzgerald of the NYC Literary Agency.</li></ul>                                   | New York City, NY     |
| 2014               | <b>"EMINEM &amp; RAP, POETRY, RACE" (MCFARLAND PRESS, 2014)</b><br><i>Contributing Author</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wrote a chapter for an anthology edited by Scott F. Parker that compared Eminem's rhythms and intonation to the melodies of classical music composers.</li></ul>   | Jefferson, NC         |
| 2013               | <b>"PRAYER FOR GENEROSITY" CONCERT PREMIERE</b><br><i>Composer</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioned to compose an original choral composition based on texts by the founder of the Catholic Jesuit order priest, St. Ignatius of Loyola.</li><li>• Premiered at the Church of the Gesu in Philadelphia, PA, on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013.</li></ul>     | Philadelphia, PA      |
| 2013               | <b>EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY</b><br><i>Guest Professor</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Invited to present an original lecture, "The Liberation of Accent In Rap," that describes changes in the prosody of rap over the past five decades using statistical analysis.</li></ul>  | Richmond, KY          |
| 2012<br>Durham, NC | <b>"REQUIEM FOR VICTIMS OF THE HAITIAN EARTHQUAKE" PREMIERE</b><br><i>Composer &amp; Producer</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Composed a 9-movement requiem for brass quintet, choir, percussion, and carillon.</li><li>• Oversaw a budget of \$8,500 while producing a benefit concert that raised donations for victims of the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.</li></ul> |                       |
| 2012               | <b>DUKE ALUMNI MAGAZINE</b><br><i>Media Appearance</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In an article called "Sounding The Bells For Haiti," profiled by university media for the Haitian requiem concert.</li></ul>  | Durham, NC            |
| 2012               | <b>DUKE TV</b><br><i>Media Appearance</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In a segment entitled "Student Composition Memorializes Haitian Victims," profiled by the university press about Duke's use of higher education to effect positive societal change.</li></ul>  | Durham, NC            |
| 2012               | <b>THE MUSICIANS INSTITUTE</b><br><i>Guest Professor</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Co-taught a class in popular music songwriting by explaining the techniques and processes used by rappers like 2Pac and Lil Wayne.</li></ul>  | Hollywood, California |
| 2012               | <b>"CHRISTMAS CANTATA" CONCERT PREMIERE</b><br><i>Composer</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioned to compose a Christmas cantata of the nativity story for choir and organ.</li><li>• Premiered at the United Methodist Church of Tennessee on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012.</li></ul>   | Ten Mile, TN          |
| 2010               | <b>"SCHERZO" CONCERT PREMIERE</b><br><i>Composer</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Won 1<sup>st</sup> place in a competition based on new music for medieval instruments.</li></ul>  | Durham, NC            |