

Long Bio

Michigan-born conductor and baritone PJ Uhazie has had the privilege of performing opera, oratorio, musical theater, and choral music throughout the Midwest. Praised as having “considerable acting chops” by the Michigan Daily Press, Uhazie has enjoyed portraying operatic characters in Bernstein’s *Candide*, Britten’s *Beggar’s Opera*, Menotti’s *The Medium*, and Weill’s *Street Scene*. In the summer of 2017, Uhazie sang as a young artist with the Pine Mountain Music Festival’s UPstarts program. In 2018, Uhazie performed with the 150-voice South Shore Chorale of Fond du Lac, WI as the baritone soloist for John Rutter’s *Mass of the Children*. Most recently, Uhazie performed under the baton of Maestro Robert Spano in Berlioz’s *Grande Messe de Morts* and with the Miami-based Seraphic Fire as part of the 2022 Aspen Summer Music Festival.

As a conductor and educator, Uhazie is grateful to have led ensembles to success on both the concert and theatrical stage. As a 5th-year public school teacher, Uhazie’s ensembles have received awards for both their arts advocacy and musical excellence, including the [2020 national gold medal for community engagement](#) through Music for All’s *Arts in Advocacy* program and perfect scores at state festivals. In 2020, Uhazie was also awarded “Best Musical Direction of a Musical” through the Wisconsin *Jerry Awards* for Mukwonago High School’s production of *Hello Dolly!* Uhazie’s ensembles were also thankful to have performed the 2019 American premier of Howard Skempton’s “Alice is One” and have commissioned 2 new works by composer Christian Messier. Uhazie currently teaches at Mukwonago High School where he teaches 4 curricular choirs, a show choir, individual voice lessons, and 5 extracurricular chamber ensembles. Uhazie’s ensembles have appeared at 2 state WCDA conventions (2021, 2022). Other conducting credits include: a masterclass with Ola Gjeilo through the Green Lake Festival of Music, guest conductor with the Fond du Lac South Shore Chorale, finalist in the WCDA student choral conducting competition, and was invited to the Aspen Summer Music Festival to attend Seraphic Fire’s Professional Choral Institute as a conducting student.

From 2014-2021, Uhazie served as Co-Director of Music Ministries for the First United Methodist Church of Appleton where he directed the Sanctuary Choir and the Bass Clef ensembles. During this time, Uhazie and the ensembles of FUMC performed various large masterworks such as Dan Forrest’s *Requiem for the Living*, *Jubilate Deo*, and *LUX* with orchestra. Currently, Uhazie serves as Chancel Choir director for the Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church where he has been since 2022.

Uhazie graduated *magna cum laude* from Lawrence University’s Conservatory of Music in 2017 where he received his undergraduate degree in music education and was the one of the first students to receive a minor in Vocal Pedagogy and Science under the tutelage of Kenneth Bozeman. In 2018, the university chose Uhazie as the recipient for the *Pi Kappa Lambda* award for excellence in music education.

Short Bio

Michigan-born conductor and baritone PJ Uhazie has had the privilege of performing opera, oratorio, musical theater, and choral music throughout the Midwest.

As a conductor and music educator, Uhazie is grateful to have led ensembles to success on both the concert and theatrical stage. As a public school teacher, Uhazie's ensembles have received awards for both their arts advocacy and musical excellence, including the 2020 national gold medal for community engagement through Music for All's *Arts in Advocacy* program and perfect scores at state festivals. In 2020, Uhazie was also awarded "Best Musical Direction of a Musical" through the Wisconsin *Jerry Awards* for Mukwonago High School's production of *Hello Dolly!* Uhazie's ensembles were also thankful to have performed the 2019 American premier of Howard Skempton's "Alice is One." Uhazie currently teaches at Mukwonago High School where he teaches 5 curricular choirs, a show choir, individual voice lessons, and 5 extra-curricular ensembles.

Uhazie served as the Director of Music for the First United Methodist Church of Appleton Wisconsin from 2014 until May of 2021. Together, the ensembles of FUMC and orchestra performed masterworks such as: Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living*, *Jubilate Deo*, and *LUX*. Currently, Uhazie serves as Chancel Choir director for the Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church where he has been since 2022.

Uhazie graduated *magna cum laude* from Lawrence University's Conservatory of Music in 2017 where he received his undergraduate degree in music education and a minor in Vocal Pedagogy. In 2018, the university chose Uhazie as the recipient for the Pi Kappa Lambda award for excellence in music education.

(Continued Below)

Super Short Bio

Michigan-born conductor and baritone PJ Uhazie has had the privilege of performing solo and choral music throughout the Midwest. Uhazie currently teaches at Mukwonago High School where he teaches 5 curricular choirs, individual voice lessons, a unified music class, and 5 extracurricular ensembles. Uhazie served as the Director of Music for the First United Methodist Church of Appleton Wisconsin from 2014 until 2021 where his ensembles performed large masterworks such as: Handel's *Messiah* and Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living, Jubilate Deo, and LUX*. Believing that musical excellence goes beyond the performance, Uhazie's ensembles are grateful to have received awards for both their arts advocacy and musical performance. In 2020 and 2021, Uhazie's ensembles performed at the state WCDA conference and were thankful to have performed the 2019 American premier of Skempton's "Alice is One." Uhazie has performed at the Aspen Summer Music Festival with Miami-based Seraphic Fire, Milwaukee-based Chant Claire, and was a young artist for the Pine Mountain Music Festival. Uhazie graduated *magna cum laude* from Lawrence University's Conservatory of Music in 2017 and was chosen as the recipient for the Pi Kappa Lambda award for excellence in music education.

Resume Blurp

PJ Uhazie has had the privilege of performing opera, oratorio, musical theater, and choral music throughout the Midwest. Uhazie's ensembles have received awards for both their arts advocacy and musical excellence. In addition to performing at state conference in both 2021 and 2022, Uhazie has also been awarded "Best Musical Direction of a Musical" through the Wisconsin Jerry Awards. Uhazie's ensembles were also thankful to have performed the 2019 American premier of Howard Skempton's "Alice is One." Uhazie currently teaches at Mukwonago High School where he teaches 5 curricular choirs, individual voice lessons, and 5 extra-curricular ensembles. Uhazie served as the Director of Music for the First United Methodist Church of Appleton Wisconsin from 2014 until May of 2021. The ensembles of FUMC have also performed large works with orchestras such as: Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living, Jubilate Deo, and LUX*. Uhazie graduated *magna cum laude* from Lawrence University's Conservatory of Music in 2017. The university chose Uhazie as the recipient for the Pi Kappa Lambda award for excellence in music education.