

Gentry Leigh Ragsdale

EDUCATION

University of Colorado at Boulder (Boulder, CO) Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education	2021-present
University of North Texas (Denton, TX) Master of Music in Performance Major: Clarinet Cognate: Ethnomusicology	2016-2018
University of Texas at Arlington (Arlington, TX) Bachelor of Music, <i>magna cum laude</i> Major: Music Education Certifications: EC-12 Music, EC-12 Special Education, 7-12 English	2007-2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

COLLEGIATE TEACHING

University of Colorado at Boulder (Boulder, CO) <i>Graduate Part-Time Instructor</i>	2021-2025
Courses Taught as Instructor of Record:	
MUSC 4103 Introduction to Student Teaching	2022-2024
MUSC 3023 Teaching Woodwinds	2021-2025
MUSC 3153 Teaching Woodwinds	2021-2025
Courses Assisted:	
Practicum Supervision: MUSC 4103 Introduction to Student Teaching	2024
Course Assistant: MUSC 4193 Student Teaching Seminar	2023
Course Assistant: MUSC 4443 Teaching Instrumental Methods	2022
Practicum Coordinator: MUSC 4323 Differentiated Instruction	2022
Practicum Supervision: MUSC 4323 Differentiated Instruction	2021-2024
Practicum Supervision: MUSC 2103 Introduction to Music Education	2021-2024
Additional Duties:	
Music Education Social Media Coordinator	2024-2025
Faculty Outreach Coordinator	2023
ASTA Facilitator: CU Boulder chapter	2022-2023
Student Teaching Supervisor for Luther College	2022
Trying on Teaching Program: Lead Coordinator	2021-2025

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHING

S&S High School (Sadler, TX)

2026-present

Head Director of Bands

Direct all aspects of the HS band program; asst. MS program

Teaching responsibilities include

- Directing varsity ensemble
- Assisting non-varsity ensembles
- Instructing beginner band students

Served on campus committees:

- Teacher Advisory Committee
- Teacher Incentive Allotment Committee

2026-2027

2026-2027

Anna Middle School (Anna, TX)

2019–2021

Assistant Director of Bands

Assisted with all aspects of the 6th – 8th grade band program

Teaching responsibilities included concert band comprised of 7th and 8th graders and six homogenous beginner classes

Created and instructed beginner double reeds class

UIL Music Memory coach

Collaborated with Social Studies department to integrate world music studies aligning with Social Studies curriculum

Served on campus committees:

- Campus Improvement Committee
- Discipline Committee
- Culture and Climate Committee, Fine Arts Representative

Denison High School (Denison, TX)

2018-2019

Assistant Director of Bands

Teaching responsibilities included a concert band comprised of

9th -12th graders, assisting with marching band, three homogenous beginner woodwind classes, and elementary music classes

Taught HS jazz band

Created and instructed double reeds program

Assisted marching band to a first division rating at UIL marching contest

Wills Point Junior High (Wills Point, TX)

2013–2016

Head Director of Bands

Directed all aspects of the junior high band program

Assisted marching band to Texas State Marching Contest

(9th at State, 2014, 4th at State, 2016)

Teaching responsibilities included a 7th grade band, 8th grade band, four homogeneous beginner classes, and marching band

Beginner and concert bands received superior ratings at contests

Increased All-Region membership from approximately ten per year to over 35 students per year MS/HS

Created woodwind chamber ensembles and coordinated chamber recitals

ADDITIONAL TEACHING

Denison ISD (Denison, TX) Private Bassoon/Saxophone Teacher	2026
Celina ISD (Celina, TX) Private Flute/Oboe Teacher, In-Person & Virtual	2019-2023
Denison ISD (Denison, TX) Private Oboe Teacher	2019-2021
Music and Arts (Lewisville, TX) Private Lesson Teacher	2018
Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD (Bedford, TX) Private Lesson Teacher	2017-2018
Frisco ISD (Frisco, TX) Private Lesson Teacher	2016-2017
Acton MS (Granbury, TX), Asst. band director	2012-2013
The Montessori Academy of Arlington, coached beginner band	2009-2011

CONSULTANT WORK

Dillinger Research and Development 2024

Research Consultant

Worked collaboratively in a team setting in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
Provided research assistance for Colorado Department of Education grant project
Solicited participation and information from external stakeholders
Crafted and refined memos, interim reports, and final reports
Attended meetings with internal and external stakeholders
Designed and distributed surveys

SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

INVITED PUBLICATIONS

- Berg, M. H., Graves, G., Oldenkamp, C., & **Ragsdale, G. L.** (2025). Graduate student core reflection applications to preservice teaching. *Journal of Music Teacher Education*, online ed. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10570837251349527>
- Ragsdale, G. (2024). Letting go to gain control: Ameliorating burnout via self-compassion. *Colorado Music Educator*, 71(1), 24-36.
- Shaw, R., Bohn, A., Hedgecoth, D., Irby, N., Moler, E., Oldenkamp, C., **Ragsdale, G.**, Sanchez-Gatt, L., Thomas, A. (2024). Are they engaged? Describing engagement in the instrumental ensemble. *Journal of Research in Music Education*, online ed. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00224294241228213>
- Ragsdale, G. (2023). Performance assessment anxiety in young music students. *Colorado Music Educator*, 69(2), 18-23.

REFEREED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- Ragsdale, G. L. (2025, October). *A case study of a teacher's transition from teaching band to orchestra*. [Poster session]. Society for Music Teacher Education National Conference, Indianapolis, IN.
- Ragsdale, G. L. (2025, February). *Perspectives in music education recruiting, admissions, and retention*. [Poster session]. Suncoast Music Education Research Symposium, Tampa, FL.
- Shaw, R., Bohn, A., Hedgecoth, D., Irby, N., Moler, E., Oldenkamp, C., **Ragsdale, G.**, Sanchez-Gatt, L., Thomas, A. (2024, April). *Are they engaged? Describing engagement in the instrumental ensemble*. [Paper presentation]. American Educational Research Association Conference, Philadelphia, PA.
- Berg, M., Oldenkamp, C., **Ragsdale, G.**, and Graves, G. (2024, January). *A self-study of graduate student core reflection applications to preservice teaching*. [Paper presentation]. Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Colorado Springs, CO.
- Berg, M., Oldenkamp, C., **Ragsdale, G.**, and Graves, G. (2023, October). *A self-study of graduate student core reflection applications to preservice teaching*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Music Teacher Education National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Shaw, R., Bohn, A., Hedgecoth, D., Irby, N., Moler, E., Oldenkamp, C., **Ragsdale, G.**, Sanchez-Gatt, L., Thomas, A. (2023, October). *Are they engaged? Describing engagement in the instrumental ensemble*. [Poster presentation]. Society for Music Teacher Education National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.
- Austin, J. R., Oldenkamp, C. R., **Ragsdale G. L.**, and Graves, G. C. (2022, November). *Music education doctoral student motivation, identity, learning experiences, confidence, and career intentions*. [Paper presentation]. National Association for Music Education National Conference, Washington D. C.
- Austin, J. R., **Ragsdale G. L.**, Graves, G. C., and Oldenkamp, C. R. (2022, November). *A survey of preservice music teachers' formal and informal field experience*. [Paper presentation]. National Association for Music Education National Conference, Washington D. C.
- Ragsdale, G. L. (2022, January). *A survey of Texas music educators' culturally responsive teaching practices*. [Paper presentation]. Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Colorado Springs, CO.

INVITED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

- Ragsdale, G. L. (2023, May). *Potential and promise: Perspectives in music education recruiting initiatives of first-generation students*. [Colloquium presentation]. University of Colorado at Boulder Music Education Department for faculty and graduate students.
- Oldenkamp, C. R., & **Ragsdale, G. L.** (2022, March). *University music education approaches to inclusion and access*. [Colloquium presentation]. University of Colorado at Boulder Music Education Department for faculty and graduate students.

INVITED PRACTITIONER PRESENTATIONS

- Ragsdale, G. L. (2025, February). *Adaptations for woodwind students: Small changes that can make a big difference*. [Conference session]. Kansas Music Educators Association, Wichita, KS.
- Ragsdale, G. L. (2023, May). *Performance assessment anxiety in young music students*. [Conference session]. Iowa Bandmasters Conference, Des Moines, IA.
- Ragsdale, G. L. (2023, March). *Teaching double reeds in woodwind methods courses*. [Conference session]. The College Music Society Central Regional Conference, Wichita, KS.
(Accepted, unable to attend due to illness)
- Ragsdale, G. L. (2022, May). *Culturally responsive teaching: Practical applications for classroom use*. [Poster session]. Instrumental Music Teacher Educators Colloquium, Perrysville, OH.
- Ragsdale, G. L. (2022, January). *Culturally responsive teaching in music education: A practical guide*. Association for Popular Music Education Graduate Student Conference. Virtual.

GUEST PRESENTATIONS

- Ragsdale, G. L. (2025, March). *Going beyond the easy: Effective communication in large ensembles*. [Seminar session]. Middle School Ensemble Program, Boulder, CO.
- Ragsdale, G. L. (2022, March). *Music education repertoire*. [Panelist]. National Association for Music Education Collegiate Chapter, Boulder, CO.
- Ragsdale, G. L. (2018, May). *Musical acoustics and sound: Woodwinds*. [Guest lecturer]. Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, Fort Worth, TX.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- Ragsdale, G. R. (20__). A Historical Content Analysis of Female Band Director Representation at Texas State Marching Band Contests (1979-2025). [Dissertation in progress].
- Ragsdale, G. R. (20__). The experiences of music education PhD students with invisible disabilities: A phenomenology.
- Ragsdale, G. R. (20__). Ameliorating teacher burnout with compassion cultivation training.
- Ragsdale, G. R. (20__). Clarinet pedagogical problem diagnosis: Effect of modality on preservice teacher perception.
- Ragsdale, G. R. (20__). Swapping specialties: Overcoming the challenges of switching from teaching band to teaching orchestra.
- Austin, J. R., Oldenkamp, C. R., **Ragsdale, G. L.**, & Graves, G. C. (20__). Music education doctoral student motivation, identity, learning experiences, and career commitment.

Austin, J. R., **Ragsdale, G. L.**, Graves, G. C., & Oldenkamp, C. R. (20__). A survey of preservice music teachers' formal and informal early field experiences.

Ragsdale, G. R. (20__). A content analysis of the Colorado all state band programs from 1952-2022.

FUNDING RECEIVED

Music Education Department Travel Grant Funded: \$900	2025
Music Education Department Travel Grant Funded: \$600	2025
Music Education Department Travel Grant Funded: \$800	2024
Music Education Department Travel Grant Funded: \$500	2023
Eaton Graduate Student Research Award Funded: \$700	2023
Music Education Department Travel Grant Funded: \$911.22	2022
Teaching Excellence Award Funded: \$400	2022
Graduate and Professional Student Government Travel Grant Funded: \$300	2022
Music Education Department Travel Grant Funded: \$600	2022

SERVICE

Announcer, International Trumpet Guild competition hosted by CU Boulder	2023
Reviewer, "Double Reed Method Book" by Jennifer Auerbach and Sally Bohls.	2014

GUEST CLINICS/TEACHING

B. McDaniel Intermediate School (Denison, Texas) Double Reed Clinic	2026
Scott Middle School (Denison, TX) Mouthpiece Testing	2026
Westlake Middle School (Westminster, CO) Mouthpiece Testing	2023
STEM Launch (Thornton, CO) Masterclass Teacher	2023
Association of Texas Small School Bands All-State Bands (San Antonio, TX) Clarinet Masterclass Teacher, Top All-State Ensemble	2019
Melissa Middle School (Melissa, TX) Mouthpiece Testing	2019
Crowley High School (Crowley, TX) Masterclass Teacher	2013
South Grand Prairie High School (Grand Prairie, TX) Masterclass Teacher	2012

ADJUDICATION

Scott Middle School (Denison, TX) Solo & Ensemble Contest, Texas	2026
TMEA Region 3 Woodwind Auditions, Rockwall, Texas	2026
Denison ISD Solo and Ensemble Contest, Texas	2019-2020
Anna Middle School Solo and Ensemble Contest, Texas	2018
TMEA Region 25 Woodwind Auditions, Texas	2018
Sunnyvale Junior High Solo and Ensemble Contest, Texas	2014
ATSSB Region 23 Woodwind Auditions, Texas	2013-2016
Woodwind Committee Member, 2015, 2016	
TMEA Region 30 Woodwind Auditions, Texas	2012-2013

SELECTED PERFORMING ENSEMBLES

CU Boulder Wind Symphony, Boulder, CO; cond. Dr. Donald McKinney <i>Clarinet</i>	2022
Toccare Winds, Anna, TX; cond. Nancy Davis <i>Principal clarinet/Eb</i>	2020-2021
UNT Wind Symphony, Denton, TX; cond. Eugene Corporon <i>Clarinet</i>	2017-2018
UNT Flute Choir, Denton, TX; <i>Flute</i>	2017
New Texas Symphony Orchestra, Dallas, TX <i>Oboe</i>	2015
UT Arlington Wind Ensemble, Arlington, TX <i>Bass clarinet</i>	2009-2010
UT Arlington Jazz Ensemble, Arlington, TX <i>Alto saxophone</i>	2007-2009

COMMERCIAL EXPERIENCE

Greater Lewisville Community Theatre, Denton, TX <i>Pit performer: piccolo, flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe</i>	2018
Denton ISD Theatre, Denton, TX <i>Pit performer: flute, clarinet, tenor saxophone</i>	2017-2018

RECORDINGS

"Concerto for Hope," for Ryan Anthony, North Texas Wind Symphony	2018
"Voices," by Stephenson, North Texas Wind Symphony	2017
"Opa" and "The Hearthstone" by Julie Giroux <i>Featured soloist</i>	2017
"Making Music Matter, Book 2," by Frank Ticheli	2016

AWARDS AND HONORS

Teacher of the Month, S&S High School, Sadler, Texas	2026
National Society for Leadership and Success	2022-2024
Teaching Excellence Award, The University of Colorado at Boulder	2022
Jessie & Albert Henry Memorial Scholarship, The University of Colorado at Boulder	2021-2023
Golden Key Honour Society, The University of Texas at Arlington	2009-2011
Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Fraternity, The University of Texas at Arlington (Editor, 2008)	2008-2011
UT Arlington Music Department Librarian Scholarship	2008-2010
Achievement Scholarship, The University of Texas at Arlington	2007-2011
Top Ten Percent Scholarship, The University of Texas at Arlington	2007-2011
Robert D. Riley Academic Scholarship, The University of Texas at Arlington	2007-2011

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Association for Music Education	2021-present
Colorado Music Educators Association	2021-2025
College Music Society	2021-2025
Society for Ethnomusicology	2021-2023
National Association for Music Education – CU Boulder Chapter	2021-2023
Graduate Society of Musicology – CU Boulder Chapter	2022-2023
Association of Popular Music Education	2022-2023
Texas Bandmasters Association	2012-2020
International Clarinet Association	2008-2021
Texas Music Educators Association	2007-2026