

Amy Symes

Bio

Amy Symes is in her 14th year as the choral director at K.O. Knudson Academy of the Arts in Las Vegas, Nevada and in her 16th year as a teacher for the Clark County School District. She is a 2005 graduate of The University of South Dakota where she received a Bachelor of Music Education degree, with an emphasis in vocal performance and a 2013 graduate of Lesley University with a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Arts Integration. Mrs. Symes served as co-chair of the Nevada Music Educators Association Middle School All-State Choir for 4 years. She has crafted professional development trainings on Arts Integration Best Practices that have been presented at the local, state and national levels including; The Smith Center ConFABulation Summer Institute and Magnet Schools of America National Conferences. Mrs. Symes has been a member of the Nevada Department of Education Leadership Network, and the Public Education Leadership Foundation. In addition, at her school site, Mrs Symes is involved as a Department Chair, Arts Integration Co-Chair, and School Organizational Team Member.

Under Mrs. Symes direction, her students have performed with The Tenors, Tim McGraw, Clint Holmes, and Elisa Fiorillo. Her students have had countless opportunities to work with professionals such as Greg Gilpin, composer and Otis Williams from The Temptations and master classes with many performers; such as the company of Matilda to Alvin Alley's Dance Troupes.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Symes has been involved in choir, band, orchestra, and musical theatre and has served as a director/coordinator for various performances. She is well versed and has a strong K-12 musical background, with a passion for music education at all levels.