

When she's not refereeing for her roller derby teammates or boxing a few rounds on the heavy bag, Angela Young Smucker (mezzo-soprano) brings her voice to the stage, arts administration, and education. Her tone has been described as having a "Robust, burnished, timber" (Chicago Classical Review) and a "luscious mezzo voice" (Chicago Tribune) with a "powerful stage presence" (The Plain Dealer).

As a classical singer, Angela has been a featured soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Music of the Baroque, Oregon Bach Festival, Bach Collegium San Diego, Les Délices, Carmel Bach Festival, Newberry Consort, and Haymarket Opera Company. The joy of ensemble-singing has also brought her to stellar ensembles such as Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Conspirare, Seraphic Fire, VocalEssence Ensemble Singers, and more. She has also appeared on *A Prairie Home Companion* and Chicago's WFMT and WTTW programming.

Working both on and off stage with Third Coast Baroque (TCB), Angela serves as the executive director and resident artist to "Chicago's most accomplished period instrumentalists and singers." (Chicago Tribune). Under the auspices of TCB, she works with her co-founders, Rubén Dubrovsky and Nathalie Colas, to use 17th and 18th century repertoire as a tool to explore our 21st century lives. Through the principles of collaboration, context, and community, Angela looks forward to exploring more of the entangled aspects of music history and their links to the present world.

With a commitment to lifelong learning, Angela received her Bachelor of Music Education from Valparaiso University and Master of Music from University of Minnesota. She has also held faculty positions at Stetson University and Valparaiso University where she not only guided students in developing their vocal technique but also in the skills needed to be an entrepreneurial artist. Recently, Angela received her Doctorate in voice and opera from Northwestern University, where she presented a lecture-recital centered on Vivaldi's rarely heard opera *Orlando furioso*.