

Bassoonist Casey Stamm has been making musical connections in the community since she moved to Pittsburgh in 2016. She has performed interactive concerts for a wide variety of audiences including dinner guests at the Smallman Galley, rehab residents at Manor Care, students from Sacred Heart Elementary School and Pittsburgh Urban Christian School, visitors of the Oakland Public Library, members of the Bruderhof Community and guests of the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh. It is through these musically engaging projects Casey found her niche in the classical music world. After being influenced by books such as, "Reaching Out: A Musicians Guide to Interactive Performance" by David Wallace, "The Music Teaching Artist's Bible" & "The Everyday Work of Art" by Eric Booth, as well as "Young People's Concerts" by Leonard Bernstein, Casey started working with classmates to write and perform scripted chamber programs. The mentors she found, including Monquie Mead, Lance LaDuke and Jennie Dorris, as well as the classes she took in her graduate studies propelled her into a search for a deeper meaning in music. She developed the desire for her audience to connect with the music, regardless of their own musical background. Realizing how incredibly fortunate she had been to study music and play the coolest instrument in the world, the bassoon, she wants to develop a career around giving back to her community. Currently, Casey is sharing her love of music by teaching piano lessons to her 15+ students of all ages, volunteering on the board of advisors for *'Burg Vivant: Pittsburgh Culture Talk Magazine*, and performing interactive concerts around The Steel City with her amazing team at Ears Engaged.

Casey graduated with a Bachelors of Music in Bassoon Performance as well as a Bachelors of Music in Voice from Liberty University in 2016. She studied with Nancy Goeres and graduated with her Masters of Music from Carnegie Mellon University in Bassoon Performance in 2018. She then earned an Advanced Musical Studies in Music Entrepreneurship Certificate from CMU in 2019. When she is not making reeds, teaching or practicing Casey enjoys crocheting, baking, and spending time with her husband.