

Durrell Bowman 519-722-5425 [db@durrellbowman.com](mailto:db@durrellbowman.com) <http://durrellbowman.com>

To Whom It May Concern:

I am looking for full-time employment that combines musicology (i.e., music history and culture) with information technology (i.e., software development). I have a Ph.D. in musicology (UCLA, 2003) and used computers extensively in my research, presentations, and course instruction involving popular music, film and television music, jazz, classical music, and so on. However, I am also a recent graduate of a certificate program in Computer Applications Development (2009-10), in which I received a GPA of 3.97 and contributed to a media-related software system that won two awards. My skills would be most usefully applied to music-related software development (such as systems analysis, user interfaces, testing/QA, and programming: PHP, SQL, C#, etc.), web content development (HTML, CSS, CMSs, etc.), and/or support. In 2011, I completed a small business course, learned the CMS framework Drupal, and combined them to develop the Music Discussion Network (MDN)—<http://music-discussion.net>, which I based on music content types that incorporate media links, other required and optional fields, taxonomies, and so on.

During my contract position with the American Musicological Society (2010), I substantially reorganized an important web database, both by modernizing it and by developing a brand-new, web-based interface for it:

- Importing Data, Creating New Fields, String Processing (MySQL)
- Developing Forms for Basic and Advanced Searches, Results Pages, Details Pages, Sorts, Filters (PHP)
- Organizing the System according to the Society's Larger Website Design and Templates (server-side includes)
- Interacting with the Executive Director and Others, Requirements Gathering, Testing

My new version of the web database—<http://ams-net.org/ddm/>—replaced one that originated in 1996.

In the position, I also developed a website of program notes for the Bowdoin International Music Festival:

- Producing Web Pages with Links to Further Information, Time-Lines, and Recordings (XHTML & CSS)
- Collecting and Editing Suitable Image Files, Researching Available Online Recordings
- Interacting with the Executive Director and Others, Requirements Gathering, Research, Writing, Editing

My program notes—<http://ams-net.org/bimf/>—were used for dozens of concerts, both in-print and online.

During my period of studies in Computer Applications Development, my systems project team used MS Visual Studio, C# (object-oriented and very similar to Java), and SQL Server to develop a media management system for a direct-response broker. The system accounted for TV stations, clients & products, scheduling & air-times, and reporting. I participated in developing the system's user interface and system diagrams (e.g., analyzing requirements), worked on programming the data access layer for the TV stations, contributed to the system testing, and compiled the help files. The system won a Tech@Work Best Project award, as well as a computer industry-judged Award of Excellence for systems projects in Computer Applications Development. I am also familiar with UML, JavaScript, Linux, networking, and ASP.NET.

In my initial career as a musicologist, I frequently used Word, PowerPoint, Dreamweaver, HTML, media software, and web-based course tools (WebCT and Blackboard). I also worked as a technology consultant for individuals and organizations, including web-based research and instructional tools, software configuration, and setting up office networks. My professional background in the humanities contributed to my strong skills in language, communications, organization, teamwork, attention-to-detail, confidence, maturity, discipline, and learning and applying new skills. It also provided an initial context for my responsibility and dedication to large-scale projects and further provoked my enthusiasm for information technology.

I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss my qualifications for a suitable position. I can be contacted at 519-722-5425 or [db@durrellbowman.com](mailto:db@durrellbowman.com). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Durrell Bowman