

## Tyler Bickford | Curriculum Vitae

University of Pittsburgh  
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### ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh, 2018–  
(affiliated with Programs in Children’s Literature; Film and Media Studies; Cultural Studies;  
and Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies)

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh, 2013–2018

Adjunct Instructor, Department of Media, Culture, and Communication, NYU, 2011–13

Lecturer, Core Curriculum, Columbia University, 2011–13

Preceptor, Core Curriculum, Columbia University, 2009–11

### EDUCATION

2011 PhD in ethnomusicology (with distinction), Columbia University

2007 MPhil in ethnomusicology, Columbia University

2006 MA in ethnomusicology, Columbia University

2001 BA (*magna cum laude*), Bard College at Simon’s Rock

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

*Tween Pop: Children’s Music and Public Culture*, Duke University Press (under contract)

2017 *Schooling New Media: Music, Language, and Technology in Children’s Culture*,  
Oxford University Press

#### Articles and chapters

2016 “Justin Bieber, YouTube, and New Media Celebrity: The Tween Prodigy at Home and  
Online,” in *Musical Prodigies: Interpretations from Psychology, Education, Musicology,  
and Ethnomusicology*, edited by Gary E. McPherson, pp. 749–67, Oxford University  
Press (10000 words) <http://doi.org/10.1093/acprof:oso/9780199685851.003.0035>

2015 “Tween Intimacy and the Problem of Public Life in Children’s Media: ‘Having It All’ on  
the Disney Channel’s *Hannah Montana*,” *WSQ: Women’s Studies Quarterly* 43 (1/2):  
66–82 (6000 words) <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43958468>

2014 “Earbuds Are Good for Sharing: Children’s Headphones as Social Media at a Vermont  
School,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Mobile Music Studies*, vol. 1, edited by Jason  
Stanyek and Sumanth Gopinath, pp. 335–55, Oxford University Press (10000 words)  
<http://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780195375725.013.015>

- 2013 “Tinkering and Tethering in the Material Culture of Children’s MP3 Players,” in *The Oxford Handbook of Children’s Musical Cultures*, edited by Patricia Shehan Campbell and Trevor Wiggins, pp. 527–42, Oxford University Press (7500 words)  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199737635.013.0032>
- 2013 “Children’s Music Culture: Commerce, Technology, and Tradition,” in *The International Handbook of Children, Adolescents, and Media*, edited by Dafna Lemish, pp. 134–40, Routledge (4000 words)
- 2012 “The New ‘Tween’ Music Industry: The Disney Channel, Kidz Bop, and an Emerging Childhood Counterpublic,” *Popular Music* 31 (3): 417–36 (12000 words)  
<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0261143012000335>
- 2007 “Music of Poetry and Poetry of Song: Expressivity and Grammar in Vocal Performance,” *Ethnomusicology* 51 (3): 439–76 (16000 words) <http://www.jstor.org/stable/20174545>

### Book reviews and other publications

- 2013 “Children’s music,” in *The Grove Dictionary of American Music*, 2nd edition, edited by Charles Hiroshi Garrett, Oxford University Press (1000 words)  
<http://www.oxfordmusiconline.com/subscriber/article/grove/music/A2227978>
- 2012 Review of *Pop Music, Pop Culture* by Chris Rojek, *Journal of Consumer Culture* 12 (3): 373–75 <https://doi.org/10.1177/1469540512456937>
- 2010 “MP3 Players, Music, and Children’s Material Culture,” photo essay for *Material World Blog* (July 5): <http://www.materialworldblog.com/2010/07/mp3-players-music-and-childrens-material-culture> (1500 words)
- 2010 “Call and Response—Revisited,” reply to “Ethnomusicology and Empiricism in the Twenty-First Century,” by Judith Becker, *Ethnomusicology* 54 (2): 348–49 (350 words)  
<https://doi.org/10.5406/ethnomusicology.54.2.0345>
- 2009 Review of *The Musical Playground: Global Tradition and Change in Children’s Songs and Games* by Kathryn Marsh, *Journal of Folklore Research* (Aug 25):  
<http://www.indiana.edu/~jofr/review.php?id=838>
- 2009 Review of *Generation Digital: Politics, Commerce, and Childhood in the Age of the Internet* by Kathryn C. Montgomery, *Resource Center for Cyberculture Studies* (April):  
<https://web.archive.org/web/20100620163936/http://rccs.usfca.edu/bookinfo.asp?BookID=414&ReviewID=576>
- 2008 Review of *Musical Childhoods and the Cultures of Youth*, edited by Susan Boynton and Roe-Min Kok, *Current Musicology* 86: 167–78 <https://currentmusicology.columbia.edu/article/review-of-susan-boynton-and-roe-min-kok-eds-2006-musical-childhoods-and-the-cultures-of-youth-musicculture-middletown-ct-wesleyan-university-press>
- 2008 “Kidz Bop, ‘Tweens,’ and Childhood Music Consumption,” *Consumers, Commodities, and Consumption: A Newsletter of the Consumer Studies Research Network* 10 (1):  
<http://csrn.camden.rutgers.edu/newsletters/10-1/bickford.htm> (3000 words)

**AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- 2016 ACLS Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies
- 2016 Third Term Research Award, Type I (stipend), Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
- 2014 Third Term Research Award, Type II (expenses), Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pittsburgh
- 2012 Runner-up, Outstanding Dissertation Award, Council for Anthropology and Education, American Anthropological Association
- 2011 Presidential Award for Outstanding Teaching by Graduate Students, Columbia University
- 2010, 2009 Alternate, Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship
- 2009 Lise Waxer Prize for best student paper in the ethnomusicology of popular music, Popular Music Section of the Society for Ethnomusicology
- 2009 Hewitt Pantaleoni Prize for best student paper, Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology
- 2009 Contemporary Civilization Preceptorship, Columbia University
- 2009 Whiting Dissertation Fellowship, Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation (declined)
- 2008 Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2008, 2007 Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2005–08 Teaching Fellowship, Columbia University
- 2004 Faculty Fellowship, Columbia University

**PRESENTATIONS****Invited talks**

- 2018 “Doing Childhood Studies in the Humanities,” presented at “The Present and Future of Childhood Studies,” Department of Childhood Studies, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ, May 4
- 2018 “Tinkering and Tethering: Children, Mobile Music, and Material Culture,” Musicology, Ethnomusicology, and Music Theory Colloquium, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, March 1
- 2017 “Inappropriate and Inarticulate: Schooling, Childhood, and the Poetics of New Media,” Center for Ethnomusicology, Columbia University, New York City, Oct 13
- 2017 “New Media Poetics and the Politics of Childhood: Doing Media Ethnography in School,” Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, Oct 5
- 2016 “The Turn to ‘Tween’: An Age Category and Its Cultural Consequences” (with Meryl Alper, co-panelist), MIT Communications Forum, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, Oct 20
- 2015 “Inappropriate and Inarticulate: Public Childhoods, Education, and New Media Poetics,” Music Education Colloquium and Ethnomusicology Roundtable, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto, Oct 29

**Campus talks**

- 2018 “Meet the author” session for *Schooling New Media: Music, Language, and Technology in Children’s Culture* at “Playing with Childhood in the Twenty-First Century,” a conference hosted by the Gender, Sexuality, and Women’s Studies Program and Children’s Literature Program, University of Pittsburgh, April 7
- 2016 “The Whiteness of Tween Innocence: Taylor Swift’s Racialization of Childhood,” Faculty Collaborative Research Colloquium on “Beloved Consumers, Fraught Cyphers: Young People, Material Culture, and Media History,” Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, Sept 9
- 2016 “Children’s MP3 Players as Material Culture,” Media and Material Practices Focal Area roundtable on “Sound,” Department of English, University of Pittsburgh, March 16
- 2015 “Popular Music and the Transformation of the Disney Channel,” Pittsburgh Film Colloquium, Film Studies Program, University of Pittsburgh, Jan 15

**Conference presentations**

- 2016 “Musical Intimacy and Public Childhoods in US Children’s Music,” paper presented at the 115th annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Minneapolis, Nov 18
- 2016 “Pop Intimacy and Public Childhoods in US Children’s Music,” paper presented at the 61st annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Washington, DC, Nov 11
- 2016 “The Infantilization of the Public Sphere,” paper presented at the 43rd annual meeting of the Children’s Literature Association, Columbus, OH, June 10
- 2015 “Pop Music, Tween TV, and the Transformation of Disney,” paper presented at the 42nd annual meeting of the Children’s Literature Association, Richmond, VA, June 18
- 2015 “Tween Media and the Infantilization of the Public Sphere,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Comparative Literature Association, Seattle, March 27 (Part of a seminar on “Childish Forms” organized by Natalia Cecire and Julian Gill-Peterson)
- 2014 “Kindie Pop: Distinction and Domesticity in the US Independent Children’s Music Scene,” paper presented at the 59th annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Pittsburgh, Nov 15 (Part of a panel on “Ethnomusicological Perspectives on Children’s Musical Frameworks,” organized by Natalie Sarrazin)
- 2013 “Justin Bieber, YouTube, and New Media Celebrity: The Tween Star at Home and Online,” paper presented at the annual conference of the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association (PCA/ACA), Washington, DC, March 30 (Part of a panel on “Collision, Collusion, and Convergence: The Intersection of Television and Music in American Popular Culture,” organized by the Television Area and Music Area)
- 2013 “‘The Best of Both Worlds’: *Hannah Montana*, ‘Having It All’ and Postfeminist Tween Domesticity,” paper presented at the annual conference of the Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Chicago, March 7 (Part of a panel on “The Problematics of Postfeminist Girlhood,” organized by Amanda Rossie)

- 2012 “US Children, Music Technology, and Discourses of the ‘Digital Native,’” paper presented to the 57th annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, New Orleans, Nov 4 (Part of a roundtable on “Children as Cultural Agents: Informed or Unformed?” organized by Trevor Wiggins)
- 2012 “The Children’s Popular Music Industry and Child Counterpublics,” paper presented to the annual meeting of the Society for American Music, Charlotte, NC, March 15 (Part of a panel on “Children, Music, and the ‘Mainstream,’” organized by Diane Pecknold)
- 2011 “Intimacy and Inarticulateness: Entertainment versus Literacy in Constructions of Age-based Identities at a Vermont Primary School” Paper presented at the 110th annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Montreal, Nov 17 (Part of a panel on “Constructing Age Differences: Language Ideology and Language Socialization,” organized by Elise Berman)
- 2010 “Musical Consumerism in School: Expressive Negotiations of Institutional Authority During Classroom Lessons at a Vermont Elementary School,” paper presented at the 55th annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Los Angeles, Nov 14
- 2010 “Mobile Music in School: Interactivity and Intimacy in Children’s Uses of MP3 Players at a Vermont Elementary School,” paper presented at the Teachers College Educational Technology Conference, “Media and Designs for Learning,” New York, May 15
- 2009 “Competing Public Childhoods: Entertainment Media, Consumerism, and Children’s Expressive Practices at a Vermont Primary School,” paper presented at the 108th meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, Dec 2
- 2009 “Tinkering and Tethering: Children’s MP3 Players as Material Culture,” paper presented at the 54th annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Mexico City, Nov 19
- 2008 “Children’s Media Consumption and Institutional Identities at a New England Primary School,” paper presented at the 107th annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, Nov 23 (Part of a panel on “Disjunctive Childhoods: Children’s Agency in Cultural Reproduction,” organized by Heather Rae-Espinoza)
- 2008 “Media Consumption as Social Organization in a New England Primary School,” paper presented at the 53rd annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Middletown, CT, Oct 27 (Awarded the 2009 Lise Waxer Prize from the Popular Music Section of the Society for Ethnomusicology)
- 2008 “Media Consumption as Social Organization in a New England Primary School,” paper presented at “The Contested Terrain of Consumer Studies,” a conference of the Consumer Studies Research Network, Boston, July 31
- 2008 “The Social Economy of Headphone Use in a New England Primary School,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology, New York, March 30 (Awarded the 2009 Hewitt Pantaleoni Prize for the best student paper)
- 2007 “‘Tweens,’ Kidz Bop, and Childhood Music Consumption,” paper presented at the 52nd annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Columbus, OH, Oct 26
- 2007 “Phonology and Singing: Grammar, Markedness, and Expressive Vocal Performance,” paper presented at the pre-conference symposium of the 52nd annual meeting of the

- Society for Ethnomusicology, “New Directions in Cognitive Ethnomusicology,”  
Columbus, OH, Oct 24
- 2007 “Kidz Bop, ‘Tweens,’ and Middle-childhood’s Position in Popular Culture,” paper presented at the joint meeting of the US and Canadian chapters of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music (IASPM-US and IASPM-Canada), Boston, April 27
- 2006 “Unsettling Mediation in New York City Karaoke,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Humanities and Technology Association, New York, Oct 6
- 2006 “Why Is Karaoke So Strange? Amateur Performance in New York City,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music, US Branch (IASPM-US), Nashville, Feb 18

### **Conference panels organized**

- 2016 (with Farzaneh Hemmasi) “Musical Publics and/as Intimate Publics,” panel organized for the 115th annual meeting of the American Anthropological Society, Minneapolis, Nov 18
- 2016 (with Farzaneh Hemmasi) “Music, Intimacy, and Publics,” panel organized at the 61st annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Washington, DC, Nov 11
- 2015 “The High Stakes of Children’s Media in the US: Film, Television, Music,” panel organized at the 42nd annual meeting of the Children’s Literature Association, Richmond, VA, June 18
- 2010 “Music in ‘Total’ Institutions,” panel organized at the 55th annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Los Angeles, Nov 14 (Sponsored by the Music and Violence Special Interest Group)
- 2009 (with Micah Gilmer) “Schooling Which Child? Contested Constructions of Childhood and Youth in Educational Settings,” panel organized at the 108th meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, Dec 2 (Sponsored by the Anthropology of Children and Childhood Interest Group)
- 2009 “Contested Musical Mobilities: Ethnomusicologies of Portable Listening and Technology,” panel organized at the 54th annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Mexico City, Nov 19 (sponsored by the Popular Music Section and the Sound Studies Special Interest Group)
- 2008 (with Jennifer A. Woodruff) “Techniques of Consumption: Rethinking Kids and Commercial Music,” panel organized at the 53rd annual meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology, Middletown, CT, Oct 27 (Sponsored by the Popular Music Section)
- 2008 “Children, Music, and Media in the Contemporary United States,” panel organized at the annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ethnomusicology, New York, March 30

## **TEACHING**

Major areas: childhood studies, children's literature and culture, media studies, social and cultural theory, popular music, ethnographic methods

### **University of Pittsburgh**

Seminar in Composition (first-year writing), ENGCMP 0200 (Spring 2018)

Children's Literature (graduate), ENGLIT 2800 (Spring 2018)

Childhood's Books, ENGLIT 0562 (Fall 2013, Fall 2017)

Project Seminar, "Against Adulthood," ENGLIT 1900 (Fall 2017)

Children and Culture, ENGLIT 0560 (Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015, Spring 2016)

Senior Seminar, "Reading the Public Sphere," ENGLIT 1910 (Spring 2016)

Children and Media, ENGFLM 1479 (Fall 2015)

Directed Study (graduate), "Theory into Practice: Telling and Creating Stories with Children in the Community," ENGLIT 3902 (Spring 2015)

Children, Media, and Technology (graduate), ENGLIT 2801 (Fall 2014)

### **New York University**

Music and Media, MCC-UE 1037 (Spring 2013)

Media and Cultural Analysis, MCC-UE 0014 (Fall 2012)

Kids in Media Culture, MCC-UE 1018 (Spring 2012)

Media and Identity, MCC-UE 1019 (Fall 2011)

### **Columbia University**

Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West II, COCI C1102 (Spring 2010, Spring 2011, Spring 2012, Spring 2013)

Introduction to Contemporary Civilization in the West I, COCI C1101 (Fall 2009, Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2012)

Masterpieces of Western Music (teaching assistant), HUMA W1123 (Fall 2005, Spring 2006)

## **SERVICE**

### **Department of English, University of Pittsburgh**

Director of Graduate Studies, 2018–21

Graduate MA/PhD Admissions Committee, 2017–18

Graduate Procedures Committee, 2014–15, 2017–18

Judge, Graduate Student Writing Award, Composition Program, 2018

Co-convener, Digital Media Reading Group, 2014–16, 2017–present

Internship and Undergraduate Placement Committee, 2015–16

Pedagogy and Best Practices Committee, Literature Program, 2014–15

Children's Literature Search Committee, 2014–15

Judge, Distinguished Teaching Award for Graduate Student Teachers, 2014

Graduate Placement Committee, 2013–14

### **University of Pittsburgh**

Budget Policies Committee, University Senate, 2015–19 (secretary 2017–19)

Lillian B. Lawler Dissertation Fellowship Selection Committee, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, 2018

Tenure-stream representative for Oakland campus, Pitt AAUP chapter, 2017–18

English Department Liaison, Cultural Studies Program, 2015–16

Judge, Undergraduate Paper Prize, Film Studies Program, 2015

Director, Children's Literature Program, 2014–15

Humanities Council, 2014–15

Faculty Organizing Committee, 2014–present

Judge, Undergraduate Paper Prize, Children's Literature Program, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2018

### **National/international**

Article referee, *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*, 2018

Article referee, *Childhood: A Journal of Global Child Research*, 2018

Article referee, *Journal of the Society of American Music*, 2012, 2017

Article referee, *Jeunesse: Young People, Texts, Cultures*, 2017

Monograph referee, Routledge, 2017

Article referee, *Journal of Children and Media*, 2016, 2017

International Advisory Board, *Ethnomusicology Forum*, 2013–16

Article referee, *International Journal of Music Education*, 2016

Article referee, *MUSICultures: Journal of the Canadian Society for Traditional Music*, 2015

Article referee, *Journal of Consumer Culture*, 2014

Local Arrangements Committee, Pittsburgh conference, Society for Ethnomusicology, 2014

Article referee, *Research Studies in Music Education*, 2013

Annual meeting program referee, Council on Anthropology and Education, American Anthropological Association, 2009

Editor-in-Chief (issues 84–85), Assistant Editor (issues 81–83), *Current Musicology*, 2006–08

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

An Inclusive Classroom: Practical Lessons and Techniques for Constructing a Truly Open Learning Environment for LGBTQIA Students, Provost's Diversity Institute for Faculty Development, University of Pittsburgh, June 7–8, 2016



Intergroup Dialogue Training, Provost's Diversity Institute for Faculty Development, University of Pittsburgh, May 4–5, 2016

Race in America: Teaching to College Students, Provost's Diversity Institute for Faculty Development, University of Pittsburgh, June 3–4, 2015

Allies Network Training, Division of Student Affairs and Rainbow Alliance, University of Pittsburgh, Nov 21, 2014

### **MEDIA AND PUBLIC OUTREACH**

Interviewed for “The Rise and Fall of the Pop Star Purity Ring” by Hazel Cills, *Jezebel*, Jan 25, 2018, <https://themuse.jezebel.com/the-rise-and-fall-of-the-pop-star-purity-ring-1822170318>

Interviewed for “Unlikely Savior for the Music Industry: Your 12-Year-Old” by John Schaefer, as part of WNYC/New York Public Radio series on “Being 12,” aired on *Soundcheck* and *Morning Edition*, March 12–13, 2015, <http://www.wnyc.org/story/12-year-old-pod>

Keynote panelist, “Roots and Branches: Growing into the Future of Children’s Music,” Children’s Music Network International Conference, Leesburg, VA, Sept 20, 2014

Interviewed for “Plus-Size Princess? Rethinking Disney’s Relationship with Body Image” by Isaiah Thomas, *The Eye: The Magazine of the Columbia Spectator* 16: 6, Feb 27, 2014, <http://columbiaspectator.com/eye/2014/02/26/plus-size-princess>

Panelist, “What’s Next?” Kindiefest Family Music Conference, New York, April 27, 2013

### **RELATED EMPLOYMENT**

Elementary music teacher (K–8), Bennington County, VT, 2002–3, 2007–8 (Designated “Highly Qualified Teacher—Music Education” by the Vermont State Department of Education, 2007)

Researcher, Ross Archive of African Images, 2005–07

### **AFFILIATIONS**

Children’s Literature Association

Society for Ethnomusicology

American Anthropological Association

American Association of University Professors

*June 2018*