

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

David Daniels, professor of music, without tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for the granting of tenure to be held with his title of professor of music, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

M.M.	1992	University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
B.M.	1988	University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music

Professional Record:

2015 - present	Professor of Music (without tenure), Department of Music, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan
1992 - 2015	Professional Artist and Private Voice Instruction

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Daniels' knowledge of all voice types, vast and prestigious professional experience, and amiable character make him one of the most sought-after teachers within our school. He is a seasoned mentor for his students and is an advocate for them both in and outside of school. Student feedback reflects a great admiration for Professor Daniels, and students routinely comment that they enjoy working with him and benefit greatly from his instruction. Professor Daniels' colleagues confirm the students' declarations and report that there is a noticeable and positive improvement in the students' progress. Professor Daniels' deep knowledge of vocal technique, numerous languages, and musical styles are considered extraordinarily beneficial for the students, and he continues to recruit and teach a full studio of singers at all levels, genders, and voice types.

Professional Activities: Professor Daniels is the foremost countertenor in the world today. He is credited with reestablishing the countertenor voice as a major force in opera and art song. *The New York Times* wrote, "To say that he is the most acclaimed countertenor of the day, perhaps the best ever, is to understate his achievement. He is simply a great singer." Professor Daniels has been lauded as "today's gold standard among countertenors" by the *Chicago Tribune*, and *Gramophone* magazine named him one of the "Top Ten Trailblazers" in classical music today. His professionalism and artistry have earned him repeat performances with all of the major opera houses and concert and recital stages in the world including the Metropolitan Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Francisco Opera, Los Angeles Opera, Bayerische Staatsoper, Wiener Staatsoper, Paris Opera, Royal Opera, English National Opera, Santa Fe Opera, Houston Grand Opera, and Liceu Barcelona. His performances in concert have included the New York Philharmonic, Berlin Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, BBC Orchestra and the St. Louis Symphony with such conductors as James Levine, Harry Bicket, Nikolaus Harnoncourt, Michael Tilson Thomas, Sir Andrew Davis, Christopher Hogwood and John Nelson. His highly acclaimed recordings include: *The Enchanted Island*, *Operatic Arias*, *A*

Quiet Thing: Songs for Voice and Guitar, the Handel operas Theodora, Serse, Rinaldo, and Hercules and his recital of songs by Beethoven, Gounod, Poulenc, Schubert and others with collaborative pianist Martin Katz, entitled Serenade. He has a number of high-profile recordings to his credit that have been favorably received.

Service: In his relatively brief time at the University of Michigan, Professor Daniels is steadily increasing his service-related activities. Since his arrival, he has been the coordinator of the Voice Department's recitals, and is currently a member of the opera director search committee. He is also providing valuable assistance to the Friends of Opera committee, finding opportunities to increase audience participation and supporters of opera.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "David has reached an ultimate level of vocal performance. The quality, quantity and focus of his artistry continues to impact the profession. He stands at the forefront of his peer group, setting the standards and inspiring those he works with. He is known around the world, and continues singing in the great theaters and concert halls."

Reviewer B: "David Daniels' list of outstanding accomplishments is extensive: roles written specifically for him in new operas, award winning audio and video recordings, performances in virtually every major opera house in the world, being the first American countertenor to be invited to sing at the Bolshoi Theatre in Russia. There is no question that David Daniels is a historic singer. It is not an exaggeration to state that he changed the way that professionals in the opera field view the countertenor voice. He is, quite simply, the gold standard for his voice type."

Reviewer C: "Professor Daniels has an international reputation for virtuosity, elegance, refinement, and technical perfection. David established his international career in record time and cemented his professional reputation with repeat engagements. David stands among the top tier of singing artists of his generation. The scope and breadth of his international career serves as an inspiration to students and other professionals."

Reviewer D: "I was impressed by his ability to connect to [junior] singers and to articulate vocal technical/anatomical concepts in combination with ideas of text and dramatic intent – his approach is completely synergistic and he makes everything he teaches interesting, inspiring and fun. He is doing well, balancing the demand of academia and teaching while still maintaining the required field of service and professional contracts, and that he brings the vitality of his artistic career back to his teaching."

Reviewer E: "David's artistry is – without question – of world class stature. He is wildly popular in the most revered opera houses in the world, and is a favorite of the most intellectual and successful musicians in the field. He has an enormous knowledge, experience, and a wonderful capacity for teaching."

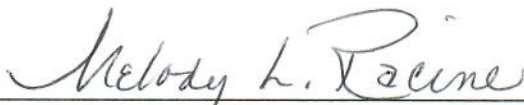
Reviewer F: "He is one of the leading performers in the field of baroque music. He has performed in the world's greatest opera houses and his portfolio of professional recordings would be the envy of all professional singers. Daniels is indeed a world-class artist on all levels."

The accomplishments of his students are excellent as are the student evaluations. His dedication to excellence in teaching and his dedication to the student is something that any university would like to hear about a professor.”

Reviewer G: “As a singer/artist, David must be placed at the top of his field. It is no surprise that I can see the same qualities that make him such a successful singer come to fruition in his teaching style. His students clearly adore him and feel strongly that they are moving ahead and progressing.”

Internal Review: It is the overall consensus of the Voice Department and the school in general that Professor Daniels is thought to be an extraordinarily talented and committed teacher. His impressive national and international reputation are recognized and are deemed highly relevant for the advancement of our students' progress. The Executive Committee's review of the promotion of Professor Daniels was uniformly enthusiastic and positive.

Summary of Recommendation: Professor David Daniels is a supportive, contributing, and exceedingly talented colleague. His commitment to the students is evident, and he is an inspiration to both students and faculty alike. Already at the peak of his professional career, Professor Daniels brings a wealth of knowledge and stage experience to the classroom. It is with great enthusiasm and with the support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend David Daniels for the granting of tenure to be held with his title of professor of music, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



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Melody L. Racine  
Interim Dean  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

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