



Sarona has one goal in life, and that is to truly make a difference in the lives of the singers she works with. She firmly believes that through music a teacher or conductor does not only have the opportunity to teach music literacy and musicianship skills, but life skills and qualities that are universally important. Those of love, compassion, humanity, respect, discipline, passion and joy!

Born and raised in South Africa, Sarona completed her education degree in Pretoria. In 1996 she immigrated with her husband and two children to Canada where Sarona founded the White Rock Children's Choir, which had Choirs at several levels under her artistic direction for 20 years. The Choir participated regularly in International Festivals, and she conducted them in prestigious venues across the world. Highlights included a performance for Archbishop Desmond Tutu in Cape Town, and a performance in Carnegie Hall when the Choir was invited by Henry Leck to be part of a Children's Festival Chorus under his direction in April 2014, and where he invited her to the stage to conduct a South African piece.

Sarona organized two Children's Choir Festivals celebrating diversity and world music. Both festival choirs had over 300 singers representing community choirs across BC. Sarona has taught Music in both the public and private school systems, she was on the board for the BC Choral Federation for five years and received the BCCF Willan award for outstanding service to the BCCF in 2015. She regularly serves as a Guest Conductor for Honour and Festival choirs, Adjudicator at Music Festivals, and Clinician for Conductor and Choral workshops. Sarona has taught Vocal, Choral and Leadership workshops across BC and Alberta, and on several trips to Taiwan and South Africa. She was on the faculty for the BCCF Choral Directorship Courses from 2006 - 2021.

Sarona has participated in and completed level three of Creating Artistry – Conducting Courses and Master Classes with Henry Leck and Vocal Training with Steven Rickards at Butler University in Indianapolis. She is a registered teacher of SongShine, a program for singers experiencing neurological challenges as well as those dealing with aging voices. The program is based on leading edge science of neuroplasticity and the brain's ability to reorganize and change itself through singing and music.

Sarona moved to the Sunshine Coast in 2017, where she founded the Inspirito Women's Vocal Ensemble, organized a women's choir festival in 2019, and BC Chorfest in 2023. When she is not conducting, working with Parkinson's patients, or teaching voice at her private studio you will find her paddling the Coast Salish Sea in an outrigger canoe.