

September 2016 Alumnus of the Month

Emily Conrad Ibershoff

I spent a large part of my childhood and adolescence as a member of ACC (known then as UCCC-University of Charleston Children's Chorus). I had opportunities to develop my voice and sing in exciting venues all around the country. The deep love and appreciation for music which I developed in childhood led me to pursue a career in music therapy.

To this day, one of my greatest joys is connecting with people through music. Just as I loved singing with ACC, I now love making music with clients of all ages and abilities. I learned great singing technique at ACC, but more importantly, I experienced the love and emotion that is at the heart of all great music. Since finding my passion for music, I am now able to help others meet their goals and find their way in my work as a music therapist. And I thank both Selina and ACC for starting me on that path.

Selina shared this memory of Emily:

"After Emily received her degree in music therapy, she was doing her internship in New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina hit. Her employer decided to leave before the full impact of the storm. They took their clients (children with special needs) and left New Orleans. They all ended up being displaced and scattered. Emily called her mom to ask me for the lyrics to the "Storm is Passing Over". The song meant so much to her and felt it would help bolster her spirits."

