Elsa Swanson holds a Bachelors of Music Education from Northern State University, and a Masters of Music in vocal performance from the University of Memphis. In Memphis, she performed the roles of Suzel (*L'Amico Fritz,*) Donna Elvira (*Don Giovanni,*) and Mimi (*La Boheme,*) and appeared as Suor Dolcina (*Suor Angelica*) with Opera Memphis. She has also performed as a featured soloist with the Aberdeen University/Civic Symphony and the South Dakota Intercollegiate Band. She was an Upper Midwest regional finalist for both the 2018 and 2019 Metropolitan Opera Laffont Competitions.

Currently, Elsa teaches in the Rockford Area Schools in Rockford, Minnesota. She directs two curricular choirs and a chamber choir at Rockford High School and is the 1st and 2nd grade music specialist at Rockford Elementary Arts Magnet School. She also teaches private voice and piano lessons. On the podium, Elsa has served as an assistant conductor for the River City Singers (Chaska, MN) and was the founder and conductor of the Rainy Lake Community Choir (International Falls, MN). She recently appeared as an emerging conductor with Vox Nova Chorale (Minneapolis, MN) in the summer of 2025.

Elsa maintains her performing career as a soprano in Twin Cities based group The Singers-Minnesota Choral Artists directed by Matthew Culloton. Recent performances with The Singers include Bach's *Magnificat* and Handel's *Messiah* with the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra.