Music of humor and passion are the hallmarks of Randall Davidson's catalogue. His works have enjoyed hundreds of performances and have attracted the attention of performers, audiences, and critics alike for their dramatic and accessible language. The catalogue encompasses nearly every genre: dozens of choral works, opera, ballets, an oratorio, a guitar concerto, chamber works, orchestra works, television commercials, incidental music for theater and puppets, sound installations, jazz and rock.

Born in Pueblo, Colorado and raised in Iowa, Nebraska and Missouri, he received his undergraduate degree at Cornell College. Moving to Minneapolis-St Paul, Minnesota in 1975, he has held positions in arts administration: executive director of Composers Institute, director of the Northern Voice Festival, administrative director at the National Lutheran Choir, Managing Composer at the American Composers Forum (formerly Minnesota Composers Forum), at the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Schubert Club, Minnesota Public Radio, and the University of Minnesota School of Music. He studied music composition at the University of Minnesota with Dominick Argento, Eric Stokes, Paul Fetler and musicology with Susan McClary.