

Kyle Liss

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A young, experienced keyboardist, instructor, manager, performer, composer, and producer with a strong work ethic, attention to detail, indomitable passion, and a creative, flexible approach to Music Education.

Objective

Seeking a position as an instructor of piano, keyboard, synthesizer, and/or electronic music production.

Education

Bachelor of Music, Jazz Studies 2011

Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts

◆ CCPA Honors

- Member of the CCPA Jazz Orchestra (highest ensemble) for 3 years
- "Outstanding Soloist" award at Elmhurst College Jazz Festival
- 3.6 GPA (4.0 Scale)

◆ Other Music Education

- 9 years of classical piano instruction
- 2 summers of blues instruction w/ Erwin Helfer, a Chicago blues legend
- 4 years of piano, improvisation, and small ensemble jazz instruction (pre-college)
- 8 years of classical violin instruction and orchestral experience

Oak Park River Forest High School Diploma 2008

◆ OPRF Honors:

- Exemplary marks on all standardized testing, including a 35 combined ACT score, and 5's (highest score) on 3 AP exams
- 2008 Illinois State Scholar, National Merit Scholar
- Member of The Cum Laude Society

Experience Pertinent to this Position

House Call Music, LLC (Chicago, IL) 2013 – Present

Piano and Music Production Instructor

- Detailed work with students of all ages to discern their goals, and instruct them in topics such as:
 - Note/sight reading
 - Classical and jazz music theory, tailored to each student's musical interests

- Transcription and ear training techniques/approaches
- Improvisation concepts and techniques
- Rhythmic sensibility and musical feel
- Ableton/Pro Tools fundamental skills, composition techniques, advanced production and mixing concepts
- Positive feedback from students and parents on ability to develop a unique curriculum for every student that suits their individual needs.

Empowerment Church (Melrose Park, IL)

2016 – 2017

Musical Director

- Transcription and co-arrangement with Worship Leader of each week's selection of Gospel & Contemporary Christian songs.
- Lead musician during service and in pre-service rehearsals.
- Leader of weekly rehearsal with Worship Team vocalists.
- Leader of rehearsals with backing band, as needed.
- Management of backing band, including arranging substitutes and payment.

Chicago College of Performing Arts (Chicago, IL)

2016 – 2017

Contracted Accompanist, Band Leader

- Accompanist in a variety of styles (jazz, Latin jazz, soul, etc.) for the New Deal Vocal Ensemble.
- Creative leadership of the backing band.

IndigoSun, Touring Band (Chicago, IL)

2009 – 2015

Keyboardist, Composer/Producer, Booking Agent, Manager

- Composed and was a lead producer on two studio albums of original music.
- Composed over 25 original songs, including many long-form through-compositions.
- As booking agent, responsible for communication with venues, contract negotiation, and maintaining a professional demeanor with a quick turnaround time.
- As manager, responsible for cultivating brand identity, and promoting the band through social media outlets.
- As producer, fluent in Ableton, VST instruments, Pro Tools, synthesizer programming, sound design, and mixing techniques.

First United Church of Christ (Forest Park, IL)

2007 – 2012

Choir Director, Pianist/Organist

- Led weekly choir rehearsals, which involved teaching non-formally trained vocalists new material and concepts each week (e.g., pitch, rhythm, ensemble blending, musical markings, etc.).
- Accompanist for choir at weekly services.

- Organist/pianist for weekly services, which included frequent sight reading in services.

Lissin' Jazz Quartet (Oak Park, IL)

2006 – 2008

Pianist, Bandleader, Booking Agent

- Two studio albums and one live album of original music.
- Extensive gigging throughout the Chicago area.
- Bandleader role required management of group's goals and band members' availability, scheduling of rehearsals, composition, booking, communication with venues, etc.

Caltera School of Music (Berwyn, IL)

2006 – 2008

General Manager

- Creation and editing of lesson and theory instruction materials in Sibelius.
- Scheduling of lessons and small group rehearsals.
- Communication with parents regarding payment and scheduling.
- Payroll management, bank deposits, and other financial work.

Volunteer Work

Vajrayana Kadampa Buddhist Center (Chicago, IL)

2013 – 2017

Webmaster and Education Program Coordinator

- Work with our Resident Teacher to create class, workshop, and retreat programming to bring benefit to those interested in meditation.
- Copy creation for all classes, retreats, and workshops.
- Coordination of our volunteer base to assist with classes and special events.
- Executed a total re-vamp of our WordPress based website (www.MeditateInChicago.org) to make it more modern, clean, and functional.
- Creative thinking and problem solving to present information in the best possible way.

References

- Jason Patera. The Chicago Academy for the Arts, Head of School and Past Employer.
 - jasonpatera@mac.com
- Kevin Kozol. House Call Music LLC, President and Current Employer.
 - housecallmusic@gmail.com
- Eric Sharvelle. Safigel Contact Lenses, President and Past Employer.
 - esharvelle@gmail.com
- Theodore Matthews. Empowerment Church, Pastor and Past Employer.
 - pastor@empowerment.church