

Stephen Holley

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EDUCATION

Arizona State University

Ph.D. student in Music Learning and Teaching, *expected graduation 2022*

Tempe, AZ

The University of Memphis

M.M., Jazz/Classical Bass Performance
Secondary Concentration in Musicology

Memphis, TN
December, 1998

The University of Memphis

B.M., Jazz/Classical Bass Performance
Minor in Music Business

Memphis, TN
August, 1995

RESEARCH/TEACHING INTERESTS

Identifying and exploring the lived experiences of musicians and how these experiences—both intramusical and extramusical—inform and influence their teaching practice

Blending formal, non-formal, and informal approaches in the rehearsal to nurture a differentiated, democratic, learner-centered environment

Incorporating facets of popular music education into the current music education paradigm in an effort to cultivate a more culturally relevant, transformative music education experience for students that is both equitable and accessible

Considering the residue produced by the shift to hybrid and online learning modalities and exploring ways to integrate these technologies into the music classroom

Identifying and troubling emerging practices around ways of learning and teaching in popular music through a lens of critical pedagogy

BOOKS

Holley, S., Reinhert, K., and Moir, Z. (2021) *Action-based approaches in popular music education*. F-flat Books.

Holley, S. (2020). *Coaching a popular music ensemble: Blending formal, non-formal, and informal approaches in the rehearsal*, (2nd ed.). F-flat Books.

Holley, S. (2019). *Coaching a popular music ensemble: Blending formal, non-formal, and informal approaches in the rehearsal*. McLemore Ave Music.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Holley, S. (in press). Intersections and roundabouts; Connecting in-school and out-of-school experiences to teaching practices. In G. D. Smith & B. Powell (Eds.), *The places and purposes of popular music education*. Intellect Books.

Holley, S. (2021, August). Exploring notational models in the popular music ensemble. In S. Holley, K. Reinhert, & Z. Moir (Eds.), *Action-based approaches in popular music education*. Fflat Books.

INVITED ARTICLES

Gulish, S. & Holley, S. (2021, January). Come together; Weaving a popular music ethic into a conventional music program. *Teaching Music*.

Holley, S. (2020) Eight-part series based on *Coaching a Popular Music Ensemble*. *InTune Monthly*.

Holley, S. (2019, August). Blending formal, non-formal, and informal approaches in the rehearsal. *Teaching Music*, 37-41.

Holley, S. (2019, August). Choosing a popular music performance program that's right for you. *MajoringInMusic.com*.

Holley, S. (2019, August). Creating and nurturing a student-centered learning environment. *Fflat-books.com*

Holley, S. (2018, November). Towards a more inclusive music education. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.

-- invited reprint in *CMEA Magazine* (2020, Fall). California Music Educators Association, 30-32.

Holley, S. (2018, April). Lessons in our shared history through music. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.

Holley, S. (2017, November). The popular / commercial music ensemble cheat sheet. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.

Holley, S. (2017, October). How to teach commercial and popular music in schools. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.

Holley, S. (2017, September). A life changing trip to Cuba. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.

Holley, S. (2017, August). Blending traditional and contemporary teaching methods. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.

-- invited reprint in *Bluegrass Music News* (2018 Summer). Kentucky Music Educators Association, 10-11.

-- invited reprint in *UMEA Journal* (2018 Spring). Utah Music Educators Association, 12-13.

- Holley, S. (2017, June). Going commercial. *InTune Monthly*, 14-18.
- Holley, S. (2014, February). How to establish a jazz program and ideas to jumpstart your existing program! *Jazz Education Network newsletter*, JazzEdNet.org.
- Holley, S. (2012, November). Meaningful student travel, parts 1 and 2. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.
- Holley, S. (2012, September). Jazz education as it relates to life skills. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.
- Holley, S. (2012, August). Five must-dos for the first week of class. *Music in a Minuet*, NAFME.org.
- Holley, S. (2011, August). Recruiting for a jazz band. *Music Educators National Conference*, MENC.org.
- Holley S. (2011, August). Paying attention to the musical conversation. *Music Educators National Conference*, MENC.org.
- Holley, S. (2010, August). Five must-dos for the first week of class. *Music Educators National Conference*, MENC.org.
- Holley, S. (2010, August). Get your students a gig! Parts 1 and 2. *Music Educators National Conference*, MENC.org.

MUSIC JOURNALISM ARTICLES

- Holley, S. (2019, May). The write stuff – How to write a metal song. *InTune Monthly*.
- Holley, S. (2019, April). Players – Jake Leschinsky. *InTune Monthly*.
- Holley, S. (2019, April). The write stuff – How to write an R&B song. *InTune Monthly*.
- Holley, S. (2019, April). Players – Nick Smith. *InTune Monthly*.
- Holley, S. (2019, April). Alternatives for classroom management. *Teaching Music*, 55.
- Holley, S. (2019, April). The habits of a successful high school string ensemble. *Teaching Music*, 53.
- Holley, S. (2018, October). Loss and redemption at Stoneman Douglas High School. *Teaching Music*, 44-47.
- Holley, S. (2018, October). Teaching string students how to arrange from scratch. *Teaching Music*, 50.
- Holley, S. (2018, October). Video games and creation in the ensemble classroom. *Teaching Music*, 52.

- Holley, S. (2018, August). Building better human beings through music. *Teaching Music*, 55.
- Holley, S. (2018, August). Using nonstandard guitars in student ensembles. *Teaching Music*, 52-53.
- Holley, S. (2018, August). Rocking out with the Lakewood Project. *Teaching Music*, 40-44.
- Holley, S. (2018, April). Finding a way at Franklin High. *Teaching Music*, 32-35.
- Holley, S. (2018, April). Teaching the Harlem Renaissance through technology. *Teaching Music*, 46.
- Holley, S. (2018, January). Hip-hop in music education. *Teaching Music*, 52.
- Holley, S. (2018, January). Paving the path to success. *Teaching Music*, 42-46.
- Holley, S. (2017, December). Education Through Music. *InTune Monthly*, 42-46.
- Holley, S. (2017, October). Rallying and honoring through music. *Teaching Music*, 42-46.
- Holley, S. (2017, September). Keith Hancock, Grammy Music Educator Profile. *Teaching Music*, 9-10.

INVITED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Popular Music Pedagogy: A Loving Critique.” Panel discussion with Cassandra O’Neal, Sarah Gulish, José Valentino Ruiz, and Kat Reinhert. Symposium on Music Teacher Education, Online. September 2021.
- “Experiences in Music Education; an auto-ethnographic mixtape.” Association for Popular Music Education conference, Chicago, IL. June 2021.
- “Action-based Approaches in Popular Music Education: a panel discussion with Steve Holley, Kat Reinhert, and Zack Moir.” Association for Popular Music Education conference, Chicago, IL. June 2021.
- “Supporting Diverse Learners in the Popular Music Ensemble.” Co-presentation with Andrew Pfaff. Association for Popular Music Education conference, Chicago, IL. June 2021.
- “Beyond Three Chords and the Truth: Adding elements of popular music education to your program.” National Association for Music Education Eastern Division conference, Online. April 2021
- “How Popular Musicians Teach.” Research in Music Education conference, London, UK/Online. April 2021.
- “Developing Hybrid Practices in Popular Music Education.” Co-presentation with Shane Colquhoun. Music Research and Teacher Education conference, Online. February 2021.

- “Intersections and roundabouts; Connecting in-school and out-of-school experiences to teaching practices.” Colorado Music Education Association conference, Online. January 2021.
- “Incorporating Popular Music into the School.” Prince Edward Island Music Education Association, Online. November, 2020.
- “You’ve Got Questions, We’ve Got Answers – Popular Music in the Classroom.” Fflat Books Popular Music Education Summit, Online. November 2020.
- “Engaging Students Through Technology.” Solfeg.io Teaching Popular Music Digitally!, Online. September 2020.
- “Engaging Students in Blended Musical Environments.” Fflat Books Symposium, Online. August 2020.
- “Popular Music Pedagogies; Blending formal, non-formal, and informal approaches in the rehearsal.” International Society for Music Education, Helsinki, FI. July 2020 (Conference cancelled).
- “Action-Based Pedagogies for Popular Music Education: A panel discussion with Steve Holley, Kat Reinhert, and Zack Moir.” Association for Popular Music Education conference, Edinburgh, UK. July 2020. (Conference cancelled)
- “Bridging the Pond in Popular Music Education: a dialogical comparison of HPME programs in the US and UK.” Association for Popular Music Education conference, Edinburgh, UK. July 2020. (Conference cancelled)
- “Crafting a Learner-centered PM Rehearsal: Altering your role through blended approaches.” Association for Popular Music Education conference, Edinburgh, UK. July 2020. (Conference cancelled)
- “Crafting a Learner-centered Rehearsal; Altering your role through blended approaches.” International Music Education Summit, Online. June 2020. (Conference cancelled)
- “Beyond Three Chords and the Truth: Adding elements of popular music education to your program.” California Music Educators Conference, Fresno CA. February 2020.
- “A Paradigm Shift - Where does music education go from here?” California Music Educators Conference, Fresno, CA. February 2020.
- “Blending Formal, Non-formal, and Informal Approaches in the Ensemble Rehearsal.” Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Colorado Springs, CO. January 2020.
- “Crowdsourcing a Secondary Popular Music Curriculum – panel discussion with Shane Colquhoun, Judy Lewis, and David A. Williams.” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, New York City, NY. June 2019.

- “What’d I Say? How to protect your most important instrument.” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, New York City, NY. June 2019.
- “Discussing Diversity in Musical Literacy – panel discussion with Danielle Collins, Paul Fleet, Corbin Jones, and Jarritt Sheel.” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, New York City, NY. June 2019.
- “Hip-Hop Culture and the School: Beyond products and process, towards values and ethics – panel discussion with Queen D Scott, Chris Manik, Eric Dalio, and Steve Holley; moderated by Jarritt Sheel.” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, New York City, NY. June 2019.
- “Adding arrows to your quiver: Blended rehearsal strategies to improve your ensemble coaching.” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, New York City, NY. June 2019.
- “Differentiated Instruction in the Ensemble Rehearsal.” International Music Education Summit, Online. June 2019.
- “How to Add Elements of Popular Music Education to Your Program.” International Music Education Summit, Online. June 2019.
- “Where do we go from here? What is the future of music education?” Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Colorado Springs, CO. January 2019.
- “Where do we go from here? Thoughts on Inclusion and Popular Music Education.” (poster) National Association for Music Education Conference, Dallas, TX. November 2018.
- “From Monticello to Montreux - the story of the most acclaimed PME ensemble in the country.” Modern Band Colloquium, Ft Collins, CO. July 2018.
- “Advocacy in Commercial Music Education.” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, Nashville, TN. June 2018.
- “Developing Alternative Pedagogies - panel discussion with Richard Frank, Jarritt Sheel, and Judy Lewis,” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, Nashville, TN. June 2018.
- “Home of the Blues: Using Memphis Music in Commercial Music Education,” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, Nashville, TN. June 2018.
- “Developing a Strong Foundation in Your Band - Start with the Bass Player,” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, Nashville, TN. June 2018.
- “Including elements of commercial music in your program,” Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Colorado Springs, CO. January 2018.
- “Music Education in Cuba - Exploring Similarities and Differences,” Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Colorado Springs, CO. January 2018.

“Where do we go from here? Infusing commercial music education into your program,” Jazz Education Network Conference, Dallas, TX. January 2018.

“Rhythm Section Woes: How to Develop the Pocket in Your Band,” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, Denver, CO. June 2017.

“Creating and Developing a Commercial Music Program,” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, Denver, CO. June 2017.

“Flipping the Classroom with PlayingtheGroove.com,” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, Denver, CO. June 2017.

“Get Your Students a Gig!” Association for Popular Music Education Conference, Denver, CO. June 2017.

“Conversations on the state of Latin music education,” Jazz Education Network Conference, Louisville, KY. January 2015.

“Developing a Jazz Program and Ideas to Jumpstart Your Existing Program,” Arkansas Music Educators Conference, Hot Springs, AR. November 2014.

INVITED LECTURES AND CLINICS

Guest Presenter – VH1 Save the Music Foundation. Online. May 2021

Guest Presenter – Arizona State University. Tempe, AZ. March 2021

Guest Presenter – University of Colorado-Boulder. Boulder, CO. April 2020

Guest Lecturer – University of Hawai‘i-Mānoa, Honolulu, HI. December 2019

Guest Lecturer – Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA. April 2019

Adjudicator/Clinician – Mid-South Popular Music Festival, Memphis, TN. November 2018

Guest Lecturer – University of Memphis, Memphis, TN. November 2018

Guest Presenter – University of Colorado-Boulder. Boulder, CO. October 2018

Guest Lecturer – Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, UK. October 2018

Guest Lecturer – University of Colorado-Boulder. Boulder, CO. March 2018

Guest Clinician – Stax Music Academy, Memphis, TN. 2015, 2010, 2006, 2005, 2004

Adjudicator and Clinician – Peaks Jazz Festival, American Fork, UT. February 2016

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Teaching Assistantship - Arizona State University, 2019-present

Kent Denver School named a Best Community for Music Education in 2018 by the NAMM Foundation

Quarterfinalist - Grammy Music Educator of the Year, 2018, 2017

D'Addario Teaching Artist - 2017-2019

Subject of Featured Article – “Hitting the Right Notes.” *The University of Memphis Magazine*, Spring 2015

Kent Denver Faculty Merit Award - 2002, 2006, 2009, and 2012

Invited to travel to Cuba with National Association for Music Association delegation to research the Cuban education system, 2011

Teaching Assistantship – University of Memphis, 1996-1999

STUDENT AWARDS & PERFORMANCES

Featured Performer - Quincy Ave Rhythm Band, Five Points Jazz Festival, Denver, CO. May 2018

Featured Performer - Soul'd Out, Capitol Hill People's Fair, Denver, CO. June 2018

Featured Performer - Quincy Ave Rhythm Band, Capitol Hill People's Fair, Denver, CO. 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008

Featured Performer - the Azucartones, Capitol Hill People's Fair, Denver, CO. 2018, 2017, 2016

Featured Performer - KUVO High School/Collegiate Series, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011

DownBeat Student Music Awards - Best High School Pop/Rock/Blues Band, Quincy Ave Rhythm Band, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2006

Featured Performer - the Azucartones, Association for Popular Music Education, Denver, CO. June 2017

Featured Performer - Quincy Ave Rhythm Band, Association for Popular Music Education, Denver, CO. June 2017

Featured Performer - Soul Confluence, Association for Popular Music Education, Denver, CO. June 2017

Featured Performer - Soul Confluence, Capitol Hill People's Fair, Denver, CO. June 2017

Featured Performer - Groove Trader, Capitol Hill People's Fair, Denver, CO. June 2017

Featured Performer - Soul Confluence, Five Points Jazz Festival, Denver, CO. May 2017

Featured Performer - the Azucartones, Festival del Tambor, Denver, CO. 2017, 2016, 2015

DownBeat Student Music Awards - Best High School Pop/Rock/Blues Band, Soul Confluence, 2016

DownBeat Student Music Awards - Best High School Pop/Rock/Blues Band, Groove Trader, 2016

Featured Performer - Soul Confluence & Groove Trader, Telluride Jazz Festival, Telluride, CO. August 2016

Featured Performer - Soul Confluence & Groove Trader, Porretta Soul Festival, Porretta, IT. July 2016

DownBeat Student Music Awards - Best High School Latin Band, the Azucartones, 2015

Featured Performer - the Azucartones, Colorado Music Educators Association, Colorado Springs, CO. January 2015

Performer - Quincy Ave Rhythm Band, JENerations Jazz Festival, Jazz Education Network Conference, San Diego, CA. January 2015

Performer - the Azucartones, JENerations Jazz Festival, Jazz Education Network Conference, San Diego, CA. January 2015

Performer - Blackmer Big Band, JENerations Jazz Festival, Jazz Education Network Conference, San Diego, CA. January 2015

Clinician/Performer - Quincy Ave Rhythm Band, Vail Soul Festival, Vail, CO. 2014, 2012, 2011

Featured Performer - Quincy Ave Rhythm Band, Montreux Jazz Festival, Montreux, CH. July 2014

Featured Performer - Quincy Ave Rhythm Band, Porretta Soul Festival, Porretta, IT. July 2014

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ
Instructor of Record – School of Music

2019-present

Introduction to Music Education
Popular Music Education Lab
The Art of Teaching the Contemporary Musician
Instrumental Literature and Pedagogy for Schools
Topics in Secondary Music Education
Engaging Music Learners in Online Hybrid Environments
Music Education Doctoral Seminar
Program Director - J Dilla Music Technology Grant, a joint initiative of
VH1's Save The Music Foundation and Arizona State University

University of Arkansas, Monticello, AR
Faculty – Department of Music

2018-present

Teach online upright/electric bass lessons to Masters students in the jazz program
Facilitate discussions around jazz pedagogy including ensemble rehearsal techniques,
arranging, incorporating technology, improvisation, and repertoire selection, among
other topics
Perform in an all-star jazz band comprised of multiple Grammy Award-winning
musicians
Conduct numerous presentations on pedagogy, jazz history, and jazz theory

Kent Denver School, Englewood, CO
Producer – Commercial Music Program

1999-2018

Established the Commercial Music Program, 40+ performances per year, recognized
15 times by the DownBeat Student Music Awards, acclaimed as the top secondary
popular music program in the U.S.
Developed a forward-thinking curriculum that embraced music, entrepreneurship,
production, and performance, utilizing music as a vehicle to impart student
autonomy and independence
Twice served as Performing Arts department chair
Organized and led over thirty ensemble trips, both domestic and abroad
Arranged over 750 tunes in a variety of commercial styles
Secured sponsorships with major music instrument manufacturers, becoming the only
high school in the country to partner with several leading music companies

Caleb Chapman's Soundhouse, Denver, CO
Executive Producer

2015-2017

Implemented the Soundhouse after-school music program in the Denver area
Initiated marketing plan, recruited musicians, and coached rehearsals
Recognized twice by the DownBeat Student Music Awards in our first year

The University of Memphis, Memphis, TN
Adjunct Faculty

1996-1999

Taught private bass lessons to non-majors in the jazz department
Performed in multiple faculty and graduate ensembles

Rhodes College, Memphis, TN
Adjunct Faculty

1997-1999

Taught private bass lessons to majors and non-majors

ADDITIONAL TEACHING COMPETENCIES

Popular Music Pedagogy	Popular Music History	Digital Hybrid Lab
Commercial/Jazz Arranging	Popular/Jazz Theory	Rhythm Section Lab
Entrepreneurship in Music	Intro to Music Education	Intro to Music Ed Research
Intro to Music Copyright, Licensing, and Contracts	Intro to Digital Audio Workstations	Contemporary Teaching Methods

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Performed over 10,000 professional gigs since 1986 in a multitude of commercial, jazz, and classical styles

Hundreds of recording sessions in Denver, Memphis, Nashville, and Los Angeles, contributing to dozens of master releases, demos, and projects

Worked with a multitude of Grammy Award-winning recording artists, producers, and engineers

Performed and/or recorded with dozens of Grammy-caliber musicians from a wide variety of styles including James Williams, Bill Mobley, Sean Jones, Javon Jackson, Eugie Castrillo, Arturo Sandoval, Rudy Royston, Jeff Coffin, Charles Thomas, Helen de la Rosa, Tom "Bones" Malone, Ruben Alvarez, Tia Fuller, and Tony Reedus, et al.

Numerous television and radio appearances in the US and abroad

Professional touring musician for Benson Record Company, Nashville, Tennessee.
Recorded and toured with Dove Award-winning band, performed approximately 200 dates throughout the United States, 1996-1998

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY & PROFESSION

Association for Popular Music Education, Vice President and Executive Board member, 2021-current, Secretary and Executive Board Member, 2019-2021

Journal for Jazz Education in Research and Practice, Editorial Review Board Member, 2018-current

Administrator, *Popular and Commercial Music Educators* Facebook group, 2017-current

Developed the Guest Artist Program at the Kent Denver School, providing thousands of Denver metro area music students the opportunity to attend free master classes and performances featuring Grammy-caliber musicians, 2004-2018

Established the Dazzle Commercial Music Series, providing high school commercial ensembles the opportunity to perform in an established jazz venue, 2016-2017

Coordinated and led a group of 25 Kent Denver students and faculty to Havana, Cuba, to work with their Cuban peers and donate musical instruments and supplies, March, 2014

Organized and led a group of 26 Kent Denver students and faculty to work with Habitat for Humanity in Chalmette, Louisiana, in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, March 2006

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Popular Music Education

Vice President and Executive Board member, 2021-present

Secretary and Executive Board member, 2019-2021

Performance Coordinator, 2019-present

Membership Committee chair, 2020-present

National Association for Music Education

Council for Jazz Education Southwest Representative, 2012-2014

Jazz Mentor, September 2013, September 2012

Jazz Education Network

Membership Committee Chair, 2014-2016

JENerations Jazz Festival clinician, 2013-2018

International Society for Music Education

Colorado Music Education Association

Colorado Bandmasters Association

REFERENCES

Dr. Evan Tobias

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Arizona State University
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Chad Zullinger

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