

Stephen Holley

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Music Learning and Teaching 2023

Arizona State University

Dissertation: *How Popular Musicians Teach: A narrative mixtape*

M.M., Double Concentration in Jazz/Classical Bass Performance 1998

Tertiary Concentration in Musicology

The University of Memphis

B.M., Double Concentration in Jazz/Classical Bass Performance 1995

Minor in Music Business

The University of Memphis

RESEARCH/TEACHING INTERESTS

Exploring the orientations of professional musicians to examine how their experiences—both intramusical and extramusical—inform and influence their teaching practice.

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

Incorporating contemporary teaching practices and musical genres into the music education paradigm to cultivate a culturally relevant, transformative music education experience for students that is both equitable and accessible.

Identifying and troubling emerging practices around ways of learning and teaching in popular music through a lens of critical pedagogy in an effort to nurture deeper connections between practice and theory.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Longy School of Music of Bard College, Cambridge, MA

2024–present

Adjunct Faculty, School of Music

Develop and facilitate a week-long, intensive summer course titled Learning and Teaching in Popular Music. The course explores various topics centered around incorporating popular music into the classroom through modeling the skills and pedagogical approaches essential to facilitating these types of learning experiences.

Babson College, Wellesley, MA
Adjunct Faculty — Arts and Humanities Division

2024–present

Develop and facilitate a course on global popular music, supporting non-music majors as they discover the world of popular music beyond the United States while taking into account the social, cultural, and political landscapes that impacted the music.

University of Arkansas, Monticello, AR
Adjunct Faculty — Department of Music

2018–present

Teach online and in-person electric/ acoustic bass lessons to undergraduate and graduate students in the jazz program
Facilitate discussions around jazz pedagogy including ensemble rehearsal techniques, arranging, incorporating technology, entrepreneurship, improvisation, music industry, 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

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

2019–2022

Developed a number of courses taught in person and online, including Popular Music Education Lab, The Art of Teaching the Contemporary Musician, Introduction to Music Education, Instrumental Literature and Pedagogy for Schools, and Engaging Music Learners in Online Hybrid Environments, among others.
Supervised pre-serve music teacher education students
Program Director - J Dilla Music Technology Grant, a joint initiative of VH1's Save The Music Foundation and Arizona State University

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, culturally responsive pedagogies, 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

Caleb Chapman's Soundhouse, Denver, CO
Executive Producer

2015–2017

Implemented a popular music-focused, after-school music program in the Denver area
Developed and initiated a marketing plan, recruited musicians, and coached rehearsals
Recognized twice by the DownBeat Student Music Awards in our first year
Organized and led trips to perform at the Telluride Jazz and Porretta (IT) Soul Festivals

The University of Memphis, Memphis, TN
Adjunct Faculty — School of Music

1996–1999

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

Rhodes College, Memphis, TN
Adjunct Faculty — Department of Music

1997–1999

Taught private electric/acoustic bass lessons to majors and non-majors

SELECTED TEACHING COMPETENCIES

Jazz Pedagogy Lab	Careers in Music	Intro to Music Technology
Popular Music Pedagogy Lab	Finance for Musicians	Recording Studio Techniques
Entrepreneurship in Music	Intro to Music Education	Research in Music Ed
Qualitative Research Approaches	Curricular Innovation in Music Education	Contemporary Topics in Music Education
Copyright and Licensing in Music Education	Contemporary Rehearsal Techniques	Teaching Neurodivergent Learners

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

MusicFirst
Curriculum Development

2024–present

Compose an innovative, student-focused popular music curriculum series based on my book *Coaching a Popular Music Ensemble*, focusing on creating connections between how popular musicians learn, create, and perform music while exploring how these approaches can be incorporated into the music learning space while taking advantage of MusicFirst’s vast technological resources.

Association for Popular Music Education
President and Executive Board member

2019–present

Provide leadership in organizing our multiple domestic and international hybrid conferences, including serving as the lead to our university co-hosts, securing corporate sponsorships, maintaining conference budgets, nurturing partnerships, curating presentations, and contracting keynote speakers under the auspices of nurturing a welcoming, inclusive community of learners.

Coordinate with our Board and various working groups in restructuring and refining our governance and operational processes, developing and defining our brand, and amplifying the voices of experience found within our membership and beyond in an effort to advocate for arts education on a local, state, national, and international level.

In collaboration with the Executive Committee, cast a vision for the future, identify member resources and benefits, seek out new partnerships and opportunities, and determine the arc of the organization.

Actively seek opportunities to connect the often-divergent areas of performance, research, and educational practice through diversifying the demographics and areas of expertise of our Board, working groups, and membership.

Developed and co-direct the APME LIVE Student Festival. Supervise all aspects of the Festival, including community outreach, digital and print media marketing and promotion, travel support, contracting/support of teaching artists, and evaluation and feedback of student submissions.

Served as Vice President (2021–2023), Secretary (2019–2021), Membership Committee Chair (2017–2023) and Performance Coordinator (2017-2019)

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. (2023). Incorporating popular music practices into the modern music rehearsal. In F. Abrahams (Ed.), *A music pedagogy in the key of C: Conversation and critique* (pp. 205–240). GIA.

Holley, S. (2023). Thinking of band...differently. In F. Abrahams (Ed.), *A music pedagogy in the key of C: Conversation and critique* (pp. 270–279). GIA.

Holley, S. (2022). Intersections and roundabouts; Connecting in-school and out-of-school experiences to teaching practices. In G. D. Smith & B. Powell (Eds.), *Places and purposes of popular music education: Perspectives from the field*. Intellect Books.

Holley, S. (2021). 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

Holley, S. (2023, December). Considering innovation in music education. *Massachusetts Music Educators Journal*.

- Holley, S. (2023, February). Finding your people: Learning and teaching in popular music. *Louisiana Music Educators Journal*, 88(3), 8–9.
- 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.
-- invited reprint in *Louisiana Music Educators Journal* (2022, Spring). Louisiana Music Educators Association, 30-32.
- 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

- "How Popular Musicians Teach; Exploring the Orientation of the Popular Musician as Teacher." International Society for Music Education, Helsinki, FI. July 2024.
- "The What, When, and How of Popular Music in the Secondary Music Classroom." Panel discussion Sasha White, Sarah Fard, and Kevin Coyne; moderated by Ruth Debrot and Steve Holley. Massachusetts Music Educators Association, Worcester, MA. March 2024.
- "Coaching a Popular Music Ensemble LIVE." California Music Educators Association, Sacramento, CA. February 2024.
- "The What, When, and How of Popular Music in the Secondary Music Classroom." Panel discussion with Amy Lui and Dennis Feinland; moderated by Tamara Thies and Steve Holley. California Music Educators Association, Sacramento, CA. February 2024.
- "Coaching a Popular Music Ensemble LIVE." Fflat Books Back to School Symposium, West Chester, PA. August 2023.
- "Examining A Different Kind Of 360: Popular Music Education in the United States." International Society for Music Education, Brisbane, AU, Online. July 2022.
- "Love And Theft: Moving from Appropriation to Appreciation in Popular Music Education." International Society for Music Education, Brisbane, AU, Online. July 2022.
- "The Miseducation of Popular Music Education." Association for Popular Music Education, Detroit, MI. June 2022.
- "Five humans. One track. The art of virtual collaborative songwriting and recording." Panel presentation with Cassandra O'Neal, Sarah Gulish, José Valentino Ruiz, Kat Reinhert, and Steve Holley. Association for Popular Music Education, Detroit, MI. June 2022.

- “Workinonit: Creating and learning with J Dilla.” Panel discussion with Evan Tobias, Steve Holley, Eric Dalio, Julio Sequeira, and Tom Wilson. Association for Popular Music Education, Detroit, MI. June 2022.
- “Popular Music Pedagogy: A loving critique.” Panel discussion with Society for Music Teacher Education Symposium, Online. September 2021.
- “Experiences in Music Education; an auto-ethnographic mixtape.” Association for Popular Music Education, 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, Chicago, IL. June 2021.
- “Supporting Diverse Learners in the Popular Music Ensemble.” Co-presentation with Andrew Pfaff. Association for Popular Music Education, 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, Online. April 2021
- “How Popular Musicians Teach.” Research in Music Education, London, UK, Online. April 2021.
- “Developing Hybrid Practices in Popular Music Education.” Co-presentation with Shane Colquhoun. Music Research and Teacher Education, Online. February 2021.
- “Intersections and roundabouts; Connecting in-school and out-of-school experiences to teaching practices.” Colorado Music Education Association, 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.” Solfege.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, 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, Edinburgh, UK. July 2020. (Conference cancelled)
- “Crafting a Learner-centered PM Rehearsal: Altering your role through blended approaches.” Association for Popular Music Education, 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 Association, Fresno CA. February 2020.
- “A Paradigm Shift - Where does music education go from here?” California Music Educators Association, Fresno, CA. February 2020.
- “Blending Formal, Non-formal, and Informal Approaches in the Ensemble Rehearsal.” Colorado Music Educators Association, 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, New York City, NY. June 2019.
- “What’d I Say? How to protect your most important instrument.” Association for Popular Music Education, New York City, NY. June 2019.
- “Discussing Diversity in Musical Literacy – panel discussion with Danielle Collins, Paul Fleet, Corbin Jones, and Jarritt Sheel; moderated by Steve Holley” Association for Popular Music Education, 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, New York City, NY. June 2019.
- “Adding arrows to your quiver: Blended rehearsal strategies to improve your ensemble coaching.” Association for Popular Music Education, 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, Colorado Springs, CO. January 2019.
- “Where do we go from here? Thoughts on Inclusion and Popular Music Education.” (poster) National Association for Music Education, 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, Nashville, TN. June 2018.
- "Developing Alternative Pedagogies - panel discussion with Richard Frank, Jarritt Sheel, and Judy Lewis," Association for Popular Music Education, Nashville, TN. June 2018.
- "Home of the Blues: Using Memphis Music in Commercial Music Education," Association for Popular Music Education, Nashville, TN. June 2018.
- "Developing a Strong Foundation in Your Band - Start with the Bass Player," Association for Popular Music Education, Nashville, TN. June 2018.
- "Including elements of commercial music in your program," Colorado Music Educators Association, Colorado Springs, CO. January 2018.
- "Music Education in Cuba - Exploring Similarities and Differences," Colorado Music Educators Association, Colorado Springs, CO. January 2018.
- "Where do we go from here? Infusing commercial music education into your program," Jazz Education Network, Dallas, TX. January 2018.
- "Rhythm Section Woes: How to Develop the Pocket in Your Band," Association for Popular Music Education, Denver, CO. June 2017.
- "Creating and Developing a Commercial Music Program," Association for Popular Music Education, Denver, CO. June 2017.
- "Flipping the Classroom with PlayingtheGroove.com," Association for Popular Music Education, Denver, CO. June 2017.
- "Get Your Students a Gig!" Association for Popular Music Education, Denver, CO. June 2017.
- "Conversations on the state of Latin music education," Jazz Education Network, Louisville, KY. January 2015.
- "Developing a Jazz Program and Ideas to Jumpstart Your Existing Program," Arkansas Music Educators, Hot Springs, AR. November 2014.

INVITED LECTURES AND CLINICS

Guest Director – NAFME All-Eastern Honors Modern Band Ensemble, NAFME Eastern Division. April 2025

Guest Director – All State Modern Band, Tennessee Music Education Association. March 2025

Guest Director – All State Modern Band, Vermont All State Music Festival. May 2024

Guest Presenter – Augsburg University. Minneapolis, MN. February 2024

Guest Presenter – Longy School of Music of Bard College. January 2024.

Professional Development – Boston Public Schools. Boston, MA. November 2023–January 2024

Professional Development – Peabody Public Schools. Peabody, MA. August 2023

Guest Presenter – Boston University, Boston, MA. July 2023

Guest Presenter – Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA. July 2023

Guest Presenter – Northwestern University, Chicago, IL. May 2023

Guest Presenter – University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK. November 2022

Guest Lecturer – University of Memphis, Memphis, TN. October 2022

Guest Presenter – Berklee College of Music, Boston, MA. October 2022

Guest Lecturer – University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA. October 2022

Guest Lecturer – Montclair State University, Montclair, NJ. October 2022

Guest Presenter – Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO. October 2022

Guest Presenter – Augsburg University. Minneapolis, MN. April 2022

Guest Presenter – University of Colorado-Boulder. Boulder, CO. March 2022

Guest Presenter – Arizona State University. Tempe, AZ. March 2022

Guest Lecturer – University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, Honolulu, HI. September 2021

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

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

Guest Presenter – Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO. April 2020

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

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

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

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

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Frankel, J. (Host). (2024, February 29). Profiles in Teaching with Technology with Dr. Jim Frankel (6:13) [Audio podcast episode]. In *MusicFirst, Profiles in Teaching with Technology*. <https://soundcloud.com/musicfirstpodcast/s6-e13-steve-holley>

Arizona Depart of Education Standard Professional PreK-12 Music Education certificate, 2023

Graduate Teaching Assistantship – Arizona State University, 2019-2021

Reinking, A. & Knowlton, D. (Hosts). (2020, November 1). Popular music education: The music, social justice, and developing student passions (No. 15) [Audio podcast episode]. In *Learning Vibes*. <https://learningvibespodcast.weebly.com/episodes.html>

Janson-Jones, E. (Host). (2019, April 12). Incorporating pop music into your ensemble (NO. 45). [Audio podcast episode]. In Music Ed Mentor. <https://www.musicedmentor.com/show-notes/music-ed-mentor-podcast-045-incorporating-pop-music-into-your-ensemble>

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

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Performed over 10,000 professional gigs in a multitude of commercial, jazz, and classical styles as a professional electric/acoustic bassist

Participated in hundreds of recording sessions in Denver, Memphis, Nashville, and Santa Barbara, 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, Vinnie Colaiuta, Eugie Castrillo, Arturo Sandoval, Doug Wamble, 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

House Band at the Orpheum Theatre, Memphis, TN - performed numerous touring Broadway shows including Chicago, Grease, Oklahoma, Annie, Victor, Victoria, and many more, 1992-1996

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

SELECTED DISCOGRAPHY

Updated discography available at SteveHolleyMusic.com

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY & PROFESSION

Massachusetts Music Education Association, Conference Committee Chair – Contemporary Music, 2023–present

Massachusetts Music Educators Journal, Editorial Board member, Innovations Editor, 2023–present

Play On! Music Festival (MA), Festival Committee, 2023–present

Journal for Popular Music Education, Reviewer, 2022–present

Journal for Jazz Education in Research and Practice, Editorial Review Board Member, 2018–present

Administrator, *Popular and Commercial Music Educators* Facebook group, 2017–present

Founder and Administrator, Bankie Holley Memorial Fund, a scholarship in the memory of my mother that is awarded to support a senior music education major in deferring costs associated with student teaching, 2014–present

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

National Association for Music Education, Council for Jazz Education Southwest Representative, 2012–2014

Jazz Education Network, JENerations Jazz Festival clinician, 2013-2018, Membership Committee Chair, 2014–2016

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

International Society for Music Education

Massachusetts Music Education Association

National Association for Music Education

Society for Music Teacher Education

Colorado Music Education Association

Jazz Education Network