

Hannah Marks (Bassist, Composer, Bandleader, Educator)

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Professional Summary

Expertise in multiple genres of music, including jazz, classical, funk/soul, rock, and folk. 10+ years of bandleading experience resulting in an ability to manage different personalities, communicate effectively, and develop projects. Highly creative and flexible individual that is able to work in fast paced environments under pressure. Passionate about arts education and community outreach through the arts.

Teaching & Presenting Experience

Bass, Combo, and Big Band Instructor

2023-present

Jazz House Kids, New York City, NY and Montclair, NJ

- Instructor for low-income high school students from all five boroughs of New York City
- Planned and led beginner group electric/double bass lessons focused on establishing walking basslines and navigating basic jazz forms
- Planned and led jazz programming for stringed instruments
- Assisted in leading a big band of beginner students, focused on sight-reading and improving rhythm section communication
- Assisted in leading a big band of advanced students, focused on ensemble blend and sight-reading
- Assisted in leading a combo and improvisation class of beginner students, focused on learning standards by ear, the modes of the major scale, and different jazz styles
- Planned and implemented empowering, community-building curriculum for 6-week all girls “Chica Power” workshop

Private Lessons Instructor

2019-present

Self-Employed, Brooklyn, NY

- Recruited beginner, intermediate, and advanced students from across the country to join my online private lessons studio
- Taught lessons in electric and double bass with focus on jazz improvisation, classical technique, and ear training

Mentor Fellow

2022, 2023

Stanford Jazz Workshop, Palo Alto, CA

- Planned and led advanced and intermediate jazz theory classes, with an emphasis on applying theory concepts to composition and improvisation
- Led an intermediate combo focused on learning standards by ear and soloing using motivic development
- Planned and led advanced and beginner bass lessons, with topics like “Sound and Technique”, “Transcription”, “History of Jazz Bass”, and “Walking Basslines 101”
- Participated in professional development training for early career jazz educators via daily Mentor Fellow meetings, shadowing and being observed by other Stanford Jazz Faculty members

Instrumental Music Faculty

2020-present

The Spence School, New York, NY

- Led and expanded the Middle School Rock Band program at a private all-girls school
- Encouraged student growth and autonomous learning through facilitating breakout groups and assigning section leaders
- Taught electric bass lessons to beginner students focusing on sight-reading, learning songs by ear, and improvising functional rock basslines, and memorizing the fretboard

Teaching Artist-in-Residence**2022***Brown University, Providence, RI*

- Performed as a guest artist for a collegiate big band concert of Charles Mingus' music
- Led rhythm section masterclasses focusing on clarifying instrument roles and developing listening awareness
- Provided career counseling to students and discussed how to apply for funding, book a tour, and make connections in a big city

Teaching Assistant**2017-2019***Music in General Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington, IN*

- Graded tests and assisted during lectures for History of the Beach Boys, History of Rock and Roll III (1970s-1980s), History of Rock and Roll I (1950s), and History of the Blues
- Received a Hutton Honors College grant to research and develop curriculum for a History of Rock and Roll IV (1990s) class
- Facilitated discussions and graded weekly essays for the History of Rock and Roll III Honors section

Musical Masterclass Appearances

- Reno Jazz Festival, 2024
- California State University Northridge, 2024
- Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, 2024
- Fort Hamilton High School, Brooklyn, NY, 2023
- Metro State University, Denver, CO, 2023
- University of Denver, Denver, CO, 2023
- SheBop Workshop at Colorado Conservatory for the Jazz Arts, Boulder, CO, 2022
- Bloomington North High School Jazz I, 2020
- Girls Rock! Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2017
- Chicago Jazz Philharmonic Jazz Academy, Chicago, IL, 2016
- Girls Rock! Des Moines, Des Moines, IA, 2015

Entrepreneurship Masterclass Appearances

- Reno Jazz Festival, 2024
- Metro State University, Denver, CO, 2023
- Project Jumpstart at Indiana University, 2021
- Detroit Jazz Festival, 2020
- Project Jumpstart at Indiana University, 2020

Selected Performing Experience**Hannah Marks Quartet/Trio**

- Iowa City Jazz Festival, Iowa City, IA
- Center City Jazz Festival, Philadelphia, PA
- Smalls Jazz Club, New York, NY
- The Jazz Gallery, New York, NY
- Sam First, Los Angeles, CA
- The 55 Bar, New York, NY
- Bar Bayeux, Brooklyn, NY
- Bar Lunatico, Brooklyn, NY
- Ornithology Jazz Club, Brooklyn, NY
- Lafayette Bar, Easton, PA
- Duck Creek Arts, East Hampton, NY

Hannah Marks: Outsider, Outlier

- 80/35 Music Festival, Des Moines, IA
- The Jazz Gallery, New York, NY

- Rhizome, Washington D.C.
- Radio Bean, Burlington, VT
- Station Bar and Curio, Woodstock, NY
- An Die Musik, Baltimore, MD
- Noce, Des Moines, IA

Nasheet Waits Trio feat. Miles Okazaki

- Ars Nova Workshop, Philadelphia, PA
- The Jazz Gallery, New York, NY
- Bar Lunatico, Brooklyn, NY

Geoffrey Keezer Trio

- Schenectady County Community College, Schenectady, NY
- Jazz Forum, Tarrytown, NY

Kalia Vandever

- Creative Music Studio Festival, Woodstock, NY
- The Stone, New York, NY
- Hunter College, New York, NY
- The Jazz Gallery, New York, NY

Morgan Guerin

- Roulette, Brooklyn, NY
- The Jazz Gallery, New York, NY
- Scholes Street Studio, Brooklyn, NY

Sasha Berliner Quintet

- The Side Door, Old Lyme, CT
- Cafe Bohemia, New York, NY

Hannah Marks' Heartland Trio

- Detroit Jazz Festival
- Hyde Park Jazz Festival
- Indianapolis Jazz Festival
- Iowa City Jazz Festival, Iowa City, IA
- First Thursdays Festival, Bloomington, IN

Tide Pools

- The Jazz Gallery, New York, NY
- Blue Llama Jazz Club, Ann Arbor, MI
- The Blockhouse, Bloomington, IN
- Bop Stop, Cleveland, OH
- Noce, Des Moines, IA

Marcus Printup Quartet

- WBGO Jazz Series, Newark, NJ
- Hailey's Harp & Pub, Metuchen, NJ

Rajna Swaminathan

- Cafe Apollo, New York, NY

Terri Lyne Carrington Quartet

- Columbia University, New York, NY

Miles Okazaki Trio feat. Dan Weiss

- Bar Lunatico, Brooklyn, NY

Anna Webber/Angela Morris Big Band

- Pioneer Works, Brooklyn, NY

Arthur Verocai

- Summer for the City Festival, New York, NY

Relevant Work Experience**Program and Administration Manager, Mannes****2022-2023***The New School, New York, NY*

- Managed private lessons program and course registration for department of 400+ students
- Matched students to private lesson instructors for 1,000 auditioning students
- Provided administrative support to Dean of Mannes
- Created and managed large spreadsheets of student data

Instrumental Ensembles Associate of Jazz Arts**2019-2023***Manhattan School of Music, New York, NY*

- Scheduled big bands and managed personnel
- Provided administrative support for jazz department of 110 students
- Managed first line of communications for all aspects of the jazz program

Artist-in-Residence/Curator**2021-2022***Green Lung Studios, Brooklyn, NY*

- Curated bi-monthly music series featuring avant-garde jazz, rock, and singer-songwriters
- Prioritized booking a diverse lineup of bandleaders

Artist-in-Residence**2021-2022***Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church, Stewartville, NJ*

- Presented a variety of jazz bands from NYC to a rural church community
- Arranged hymns for jazz ensembles

Booker**2021***Room 623, New York, NY*

- Booked 70 acts for Harlem jazz club
- Managed artist contracts and communications
- Prioritized booking female bandleaders and POC artists from local Harlem community

Curator**2017-2019***Oddball Fermentables, Curator, Bloomington, IN*

- Curated bi-monthly music series featuring various jazz, creative music, folk, and rock performers at a local craft meadery
- Increased sales by 50-150% on music-related nights

Intern**2017***Hyde Park Jazz Festival, Chicago, IL*

- Provided administrative support prior to three day jazz festival in Hyde Park, Chicago
- Wrote weekly newsletters featuring different festival artists

Intern**2017***Girls Rock! Chicago, Intern, Chicago, IL*

- Compiled list of national bands with female, LGBTQ, and POC members
- Provided administrative support before and during a weeklong camp at Suder Montessori

Intern**2016***Chicago Jazz Philharmonic Intern, Chicago, IL*

- Managed all donor data via Salesforce
- Provided administrative support for weeklong camp and in-schools program

Education

Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music, Bloomington, IN, 3.69 GPA, *Bachelors of Jazz Studies (Double Bass)*

- Studied classical bass with Kurt Muroki
- Studied jazz bass with Jeremy Allen and Todd Coolman
- Studied composition with Walter Smith III and Felipe Tovar-Henao

Fellowships

- **Yaddo Fellowship**, Saratoga Springs, NY, 2024
- **MacDowell Fellowship**, Peterborough, NH, 2023
- **Stanford Mentor Fellowship**, Palo Alto, CA, 2023
- **This Is A Movement: Collective Imagining Working Groups Initiative**, Online, 2023
- **Next Jazz Legacy Semi-Finalist**, Online, 2022
- **Stanford Mentor Fellowship**, Palo Alto, CA, 2022
- **The Woodshed Network**, Online, 2021
- **Betty Carter Jazz Ahead**, Washington, D.C., 2019
- **Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music**, Banff, Alberta, 2018
- **Dave Brubeck Institute Summer Jazz Colony**, Lake Tahoe, NV, 2014

Awards and Grants

- Chamber Music America Performance Plus grant, 2024
- John Lennon Songwriting Contest Finalist, 2024
- South Arts Jazz Road touring grant, 2023
- Pathways to Jazz recording grant, 2022
- South Arts Jazz Road touring grant, 2021
- Collegiate Combo Competition Winner (Heartland Trio), Detroit Jazz Festival, 2019
- Undergraduate Creative Activity Grant, Hutton Honors College, 2019
- Undergraduate Teaching Internship Grant, Hutton Honors College, 2018
- Undergraduate Research Grant, Hutton Honors College, 2018
- David N. Baker Jazz Scholarship, Jacobs School of Music, 2017-present
- Undergraduate Professional Experience Internship Grant, Hutton Honors College, 2017
- Undergraduate Research Partnership Grant, Hutton Honors College, 2016
- Premier Young Artist Award, Jacobs School of Music, 2015-2019

Discography

- *Arabé*, Amanda Ekery, forthcoming
- *Outsider, Outlier*, Hannah Marks, 2023, Out Of Your Head Records
- *Playdate*, Geoffrey Keezer & Friends, 2022, MarKeez (Grammy Award Winner: Best Instrumental Composition)
- *Falling*, Kristen Lee Seargent, 2022, Independent
- *Year One*, Heartland Trio, 2018, Independent

Notable Press

On *Outsider, Outlier*:

“...a very mature record from a young artist with very strong ideas who does not hold back anything.”

— **Franpi Barriaux, *Citizen Jazz***

“...an astonishing piece of multi-layered music.”

— **JL, *Turn Up the Volume***

On Hannah Marks:

“I was struck by how musical her approach to playing was. She had been doing tons of listening homework, and it was really obvious when you'd hear her play. It was also clear that she was someone that had a vision of what she wanted to do professionally and was willing to do everything necessary to make it happen. For most students, that means focusing on practicing, but, in Hannah's case, it meant diving head first into the business side of things as well. She formed bands and wrote music for those specific groups, created names for the bands, rehearsed and recorded the projects, and booked release tours around the groups that she was putting together. She is someone that isn't afraid of doing all the hard work to make things happen.”

— **Walter Smith III, *Jersey Jazz Magazine***