

Brian Riggs | Resume

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Employment History

Cappelli Institute of Music – Oak Park, IL; August 2009 – Present

Guitar Instructor

- Teach private guitar lessons to students of all ages and ability levels
- Help students reach their goals while establishing a solid musical foundation
- Develop techniques and knowledge derived from classical guitar pedagogy, even with students who are interested in playing primarily rock, pop styles of music

Metropolis Performing Arts Center – Arlington Heights, IL; January 2009 – Present

Guitar Instructor/Teaching Artist

- Teach private guitar lessons to students of all ages, with an emphasis on classical guitar pedagogy
- Lead group guitar classes for students grade 3-12; skills covered include proper sitting position, notes in first position, right hand finger picking, proper left hand technique, and an introduction to note reading
- Design after school guitar programs as a teaching artist in the Metropolis Outreach Program, creating arts experiences for Chicago charter school students

Self-Employment – Chicago, IL; March 2010 – Present

Guitar Instructor

- Teach private lessons in students homes, in half hour or one hour time slots
- Coordinate scheduling with students and parents, effectively communicating to set up meeting times and lesson plans
- Work with beginning students as young as four years old, playing by ear and by using a tablature system designed to help students learn the notes in first position
- Facilitate adult students realization of their goals, especially in the areas of composing and performing
- Tutor students in theory and composition; particular areas of study include key signatures, chord progressions, modes, cadences, secondary dominants, diminished seventh chords and four- part writing

Backbeat Music Instruction – Chicago, IL; January 2009 – March 2010

Guitar Instructor

- Taught private guitar lessons to students of all ages
- Participated in community outreach events that included performances as well as informational events about the guitar
- Taught at Backbeat Music Instruction from January 2009 until its closing in March 2010

Education

Roosevelt University – Chicago, IL Graduated December 2007

- Degree: **Bachelor of Music** in guitar performance, with studies in core conservatory subjects including music theory, music history, form and analysis, and chamber music
- Private lesson studies with Paul Henry and two degree recitals
- Master class studies with visiting artists
- Course work in guitar pedagogy, guitar literature, and fret board harmony, and performed each semester as part of guitar ensemble