
SPENCER SCHILLERSTROM

6600 N Glenwood Ave, Chicago IL 📍

630-888-0093 📞

ssch0213@gmail.com ✉️

EDUCATION

Master of Jazz Performance | DePaul University | *Chicago, Illinois*

2018 – 2020

- Cumulative GPA: 4.00/4.00
- Private Instructors: Scott Burns (jazz), Dennis Carroll (jazz), Dana Hall (jazz), Jim Trompeter (jazz piano)

Bachelor of Musical Arts | DePauw University | *Greencastle, Indiana*

2014 – 2018

Majors: Music & Geology, Minor: Instrumental Jazz Studies

- Cumulative GPA: 3.93/4.00 (summa cum laude)
- Private Instructors: Scotty Stepp (classical), Alex Beltran (jazz), Mark Colby (jazz), and Steve Snyder (jazz)

TEACHING AND PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Professor of Jazz Ensembles | DePauw University

February 2022 – Present

- Coaches and directs the DePauw University Jazz Ensemble for several performances each year.
- Coaches and directs one of DePauw University's Jazz Combos for several performances each year.
- Composes and selects musical material that best fits student musicians' playing abilities so they can present performances with excitement and confidence.
- Provides private lessons to a studio of students studying music theory, oral skills, sight reading, improvisation, and other performance practices.

Freelance Musician | Silver Stream Music

2012 – Present

- Leads professional performances with the "Silver Stream" groups and often performs as a sideman with groups in Chicago and Indianapolis.
- Records professional-level audio for musical projects in studio environments. Clients include Maggie Speaks, DePaul University, Christian Jalon, and various freelance artists.
- Provides private and group lessons to a studio of all ages, ranging from middle school to college.
- Travels and performs with many other jazz, classical, blues, and rock groups around the country, including with the Doran Phelps Quartet, the Danville Symphony Orchestra, War Radio, and Dean Z.

Woodwinds Instructor | British International School of Chicago/Flatts and Sharpe Music Store

2018 – 2021

- Created and executed weekly lesson plans concerning technique, theory, reading skills, transcription, ear training, and improvisation.
- Taught alto and tenor saxophone at all levels with an emphasis on both jazz and classical techniques in a variety of musical contexts.
- Taught flute, clarinet, and piano at the beginner-intermediate levels.

Middle School Jazz Ensemble Director | Greencastle Middle School

2015 – 2017

- Co-Directed the Greencastle Middle School Jazz Band focusing on large ensemble performance techniques and styles.
- Conducted the band during their performances and coached the band in rehearsal twice a week.
- Completed and managed administrative tasks including selecting standard repertoire for the middle school skill level and setting up rehearsal spaces in standard jazz ensemble formats.

Music Counselor | Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp

Summer 2016

- Performed with Blue Lake Faculty Band and Staff Jazz Band as 1st chair tenor saxophonist.
- Assisted in counseling and teaching over 45 Blue Lake campers on musical performance concepts.

SKILLS

- Knowledge of both classical and jazz saxophone techniques
- Jazz and Avant Garde improvisation
- Theory and ear training
- Arranging and composing for both large and small ensembles
- Compositional programs including Finale and Logic X Pro
- Secondary Instruments: clarinet, flute, and piano
- 9 years of teaching experience both ensemble and applied lessons
- Deep knowledge of jazz history and pedagogy

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES/GROUPS

- Saxophonist for the Chicago Afrobeat Project (2021)
- Saxophonist in the Doran Phelps Quartet (2021)
- Saxophonist for Stitely Orchestra's "The 312 Band" (2021)
- Residency at Waterfront Café with the "Silver Stream Trio" (2021)
- Performed with drummer Kenny Phelps for Stanley Turrentine Tribute Concert (2020)
- Saxophonist with Dean Z (2020)
- Lead Tenor Sax in Dana Hall's DePaul Jazz Workshop (2018-2020)
- 2nd Alto in Chicago's Shout Section Big Band (2019)
- Tenor Saxophone for Maggie Speaks (2019)
- Saxophonist for vocalist Christian JaLon (2019)
- Pianist and Saxophonist for Jacob on the Moon (2019)
- Saxophonist in Chicago based group "Eunfinished" (2019)
- Saxophonist with the Alejandro Salazar Quintet (2018-2019)
- Substitute Principal Chair Saxophone with the Danville Illinois Symphony Orchestra
- Saxophonist in Chicago based group "Fade" (2018-2019)
- 1st chair jazz tenor saxophone in Illinois (2014 ILMEA)
- Performed at the White House (Washington D.C.) for guests and staff (2014)