

SPENCER SCHILLERSTROM

Chicago IL 🏠

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Website: schillerstrommusic.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 EXPERIENCE

Jazz Program Co-Director and Woodwinds Paraprofessional | Hinsdale South High School | Chicago, IL

August 2022 – Present

- Leads high school students in jazz combo and jazz ensemble rehearsals twice a week.
- Provides private lessons concerning technique, theory, reading skills, transcription, ear training, and improvisation to the saxophone and clarinet studios.
- Attends and supports students in performances throughout the year, occasionally performing with students as both a featured artist and an ensemble member.
- Leads sectional rehearsals for the saxophone sections of 3 concert bands once a week.

Professor of Jazz Ensembles | DePauw University | Greencastle, IN

February 2022 – July 2022

- Coached and directed the DePauw University Jazz Ensemble for several performances.
- Coached and directed one of DePauw University's Jazz Combos for several performances.
- Composed and selected musical material that best fits student musicians' playing abilities so they can present performances with excitement and confidence.
- Provided private lessons to a studio of students studying music theory, aural skills, sight reading, improvisation, and other performance practices.

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

- Assisted in counseling and teaching over 45 Blue Lake campers on musical performance concepts.

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Freelance Musician | Silver Sounds Music

2014 – Present

- Signed as a Tenor Madness Saxophones artist (2023)
- *Spencer Schillerstrom Quartet* at Fulton Street Collective, Prairie Moon, and Montrose Saloon (2023)
- Tenor saxophonist for the *Hickey-Shanafelt Collective* (2023)
- Tenor Saxophonist for *Blue Water Kings Chicago* (2023)
- Substitute saxophonist for *Nasty Snacks* (2023)
- Album "Introducing Spencer Schillerstrom" released (2022)
- Tenor saxophonist for *The Doo Wop Project* (2022)
- Tenor Saxophonist for *Maggie Speaks* (2021-2023)
- *Silver Stream Trio* summer residency at Waterfront Café, Chicago (2020-2023)
- Saxophonist for vocalist *Christian JaLon* (2019-2023)
- Pianist and Saxophonist for *Jacob on the Moon* (2020-2023)
- Saxophonist for the *Chicago Afrobeat Project* (2021)
- Saxophonist in the *Dorian Phelps Quartet* (2021)
- Saxophonist for Stitely Orchestra's *The 312 Band* (2021)
- Performed with drummer Kenny Phelps for Stanley Turrentine Tribute Concert (2020)
- Tenor saxophonist for *Dean Z* (2020)
- Lead Tenor Saxophone in Dana Hall's *DePaul Jazz Workshop* (2018-2020)
- 2nd Alto in Chicago's *Shout Section Big Band* (2019)
- Saxophonist in Chicago based group *Eunfinished* (2019)
- Saxophonist with the Alejandro Salazar Quintet at *Andy's Jazz Club* and more (2018-2019)
- Substitute Principal Chair Saxophone with the *Danville Illinois Symphony Orchestra* (2018)
- Saxophonist in Chicago based group *Fade* (2018-2019)
- Saxophonist for *War Radio* (2015-2018)
- 1st chair jazz tenor saxophone in Illinois (2014 ILMEA)
- Performed at the White House (Washington D.C.) for guests and staff (2014)

SKILLS

- Professional knowledge of both classical and jazz saxophone techniques
- Jazz, Rock, R&B, and Free improvisation
- Jazz/Western Theory and Ear Training
- Arranging and composing for both large and small ensembles
- Compositional programs including Finale, StaffPad, and Logic X Pro
- Secondary Instruments: clarinet, flute, and piano
- 8 years of teaching experience both ensemble and applied lessons
- Deep knowledge of jazz history and pedagogy

