

Dr. Don J. Johns

Founder and CEO, DMV Music Academy, 501c3 (est. 2017)

www.dmvmusicacademy.org

Percussion Performer and Educator

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Teaching Experience:

2021 – Present	Percussion Methods Professor, Univ. of Maryland, Balt. County
2019 – Present	Adjunct Professor of Percussion, Bowie State University
2015 – Present	Percussion Instructor, Northwestern High School
2003 – Present	Percussion Instructor, University of MD Terrapin Music Camp
2018 – 2020	Substitute Lecturer – Music Theory & History, Shenandoah Conservatory
2021	Percussion Faculty, Luzerne Music Center
2021	Percussion Lecturer, Howard University
2016 – 2019	Private Percussion Instructor, The Lowell School, DC
2015 – 2019	Private Percussion Instructor, Bishop McNamara HS
2015 – 2018	Private Percussion Instructor, Capitol Hill Day School
2017 – 2018	Private Percussion Instructor, Elizabeth Seton High School
2011 – 2015	Orchestra Director, KIPP DC: WILL Academy
2006 – 2019	Percussion Instructor, DC Youth Orchestra Program
2005 – 2011	Instrumental Music Teacher, Prince George's Cnty., MD (various schools)

Performance Experience:

2021 – Present	Extra/Substitute Percussion, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra
2021 – Present	Percussionist, Re-Collective Orchestra, Los Angeles, CA (featured on <i>CNN</i> for the "2022 Juneteenth Celebration," - performed with The Roots, Earth, Wind, and Fire, Chaka Khan, Robert Glasper, Bel Biv DeVoe)
2021	Performed " <i>Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion</i> " by Bela Bartok
2020	Performed with the <i>21st Century Consort</i> (chamber ensemble with National Symphony Orchestra musicians)
2019	Percussionist, National Symphony Orchestra "In Your Neighborhood" Chamber Concert Series
2017 – Present	Extra/Substitute Percussion, Richmond Symphony Orchestra (Performed in concert with Yo-Yo Ma, October 2022)
2015 – Present	Section Percussion, Gateways Festival Orchestra, Rochester, NY
2014 – Present	Principal Percussion, Colour of Music Festival, Charleston, SC
2014 – Present	Principal Timpani, Apollo Orchestra, Bethesda, MD

2005 – Present	Principal Timpani/Percussion, Soulful Symphony, Baltimore, MD (Performed for the 2022 <i>Preakness</i> and 2014 Opening of the <i>Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture</i>)
2003 – Present	Over 30 musical theatre productions – including shows at the Kennedy Center (DC), Brooklyn Academy of Music (NYC), Moore Theatre (Seattle, WA) Lincoln Theatre (DC), Atlas Theatre (DC), Signature Theatre (VA), Studio Theatre (DC), Onley Theatre (MD), and Toby’s Dinner Theatre (MD)
2009 – 2019	Timpani/Percussion, American Studio Orch., Baltimore, MD
2009 – 2019	Extra Percussion, Maryland Symphony Orchestra
2008 – 2019	Extra Percussion, Annapolis Symphony Orchestra
2007 – 2016	Extra Percussion, Bay-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra (Avalon, NJ)
2006 – 2017	Extra Percussion, Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra (Easton, MD)

Education:

2018 – 2022	Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Percussion Performance, Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, Virginia
2009 – 2011	Master of Music Degree in Percussion Performance, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
2001 – 2005	Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education, University of Maryland, College Park, MD

DMV Music Academy Highlights:

2021 – 2023	Raised over \$200K in organizational funding
2022 – 2023	Partnered with DC Public Schools and DC Commission on Arts and Humanities establishing drumlines at 4 schools across the district
2022	<i>Co-Lab</i> Arts Education Residency at the Kennedy Center
2019 – Present	Featured Interviewee on WPMFM 89.3
2017 – Present	Partnerships with Maryland State Department of Education, Maryland Arts Council, Prince George’s County Public Schools, and Office of Veteran Affairs – providing over 100 clinics, workshops, masterclasses, community engaging performances, and music wellness seminars

Endorsements:

2021 – Present	Performing Artist, <i>Yamaha Corporation of America</i>
2019 – Present	Education Artist, <i>Black Swamp Percussion</i>
2017 – Present	Education Artist, <i>Innovative Percussion</i>

RESEARCH - Presentations:

2022	Masterclass, <i>Percussion & Entrepreneurship</i> , George Mason University
2021	Masterclass, <i>Percussion & Entrepreneurship</i> , United States Naval Academy
2021	Masterclass, <i>Percussion & Community Engagement</i> , Towson University
2020	Masterclass, <i>Concert Percussion Techniques</i> , Howard University

RESEARCH - Publications/Podcasts:

2022	<i>"Advancements in Writing for Timpani in the Works of Ludwig van Beethoven and Bela Bartok,"</i> Doctoral Lecture Recital Document
2022	<i>"Developing a Portfolio Career in Percussion," Percussive Arts Society Rhythm Scene Publication</i>
2022	<i>"Music Why" Podcast with Anna Galura – Phoenix Symphony</i>
2022	<i>"5 Tips for Developing a Career in Percussion," Black Swamp Percussion</i>
2022	<i>"5 Tips for Developing a Portfolio Career in Percussion," Percussive Arts Society</i>
2022	<i>"5 Tips for Starting a Summer Percussion Workshop," Percussive Arts Society</i>
2021	<i>"How to Tune Concert Toms" Percussive Arts Society Educational Video</i>
2021	<i>"How to Tune a Bass Drum" Percussive Arts Society Educational Video</i>
2021	<i>Percussion Podcast with Black Swamp Percussion</i>
2021	<i>@Percussion Podcast with Dr. Karlyn Vina</i>
2021	<i>Percussion Podcast with Dr. Pete Zambito</i>
2020	<i>"The Percussionist as Entrepreneur." Percussive Arts Society Rhythm Scene Publication, October 2020.</i>
2018	<i>Three Solos for Timpani</i> , SeanSarah Publications, Nashville, TN

Professional Recordings:

2022	Gateways Festival Orchestra live from Carnegie Hall and Eastman Theatre
2020	21 st Century Consort
2020 – 2021	The Washington Chorus
2019	Gateways Festival Orchestra live from Eastman Theatre
2017	Gateways Festival Orchestra live from Eastman Theatre
2015	Gateways Festival Orchestra live from Eastman Theatre

Professional Associations:

2021 – Present	President, Maryland/Delaware Chapter of the <i>Percussive Arts Society</i> Facilitated <i>Snare Drum Day</i> at UMBC, bringing 33 young percussionists to the University for recruiting and enrichment
2004 – Present	Member, <i>Percussive Arts Society</i>
2021	Performing Clinician, <i>Percussive Arts Society International Convention</i>
2019 – 2022	Education Committee Member, <i>Percussive Arts Society</i>

Primary Teachers:

Earl Yowell, Professor, Director of Percussion Studies (ret.), Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, VA, Former Principal Timpani/Percussion, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, St. Paul, MN, Email: eyowell@su.edu

Dr. Karlyn R. Vina, Assistant Professor of Percussion, Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, VA, Email: kvina@su.edu

Jauvon Gilliam, Principal Timpani, National Symphony Orchestra
Director of Percussion Studies, University of Maryland, College Park, MD;
Email: afropauken@hotmail.com

F. Anthony Ames, Former Principal Percussion, National Symphony Orchestra, Email: Faames2@gmail.com

John Tafoya, Chair of the Percussion Department, Indiana University, Former Principal Timpani, National Symphony Orchestra, Email: JOHNTAFOYA@aol.com

Dr. Michael Hewitt, Professor, Music Education, University of Maryland School of Music, Email: mphewitt@umd.edu

References:

Available upon request.