



Tara Buzash

Pianist, Composer, Educator, Entrepreneur

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WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2015-present — Jazz Piano Faculty, Mason Gross Extension Division of Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ.
- 2008-present — Owner, Sweet Harmony LLC. Led company to double in size each year. Managing and booking a network of 75 musicians.
- 1999-present — Private piano instructor, organizing recitals, teaching in home. Buzash Total Piano, nine categories of classical and jazz piano study.
- 1991-present — Over a thousand piano performances and concerts in NJ, NY, and PA.
- 2003-2012 — Piano instruction and music classroom teaching at private schools including The Pennington School, Pennington, NJ, and The Hun School, Princeton, NJ.
- 2012-13 — Accompanist for Department of Musical Theater, Rider Univ., Lawrenceville, NJ.
- 9/03-1/09 — Piano instructor, classroom teacher, summer camp director, and jazz department head at Westminster Conservatory, Princeton, NJ. Hired teachers, designed curricula, and performed daily leadership and administrative work. Oversaw two jazz piano camps doubling in size. Hired teachers and organized classes for 50 students.
- 9/00-6/02 — Pianist and teacher in China. 200 adult students, 20 hours/week, all in Mandarin Chinese.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- May 2012 — Grand Prize Winner, New Jersey Arts Collective Student Composition Contest
- May 2011 — Mary Lou Williams Women in Jazz Emerging Artist award winner, The Kennedy Center, Washington, DC. Chosen as one of eight young female jazz pianists from around the world to perform on the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage.
- 2010-present — Watchfire Music Composer, New York, NY. Contracted to sell original piano/vocal arrangements of inspirational songs.
- 2010-2011 — Pee Wee Russell Jazz Scholarship recipient, Rutgers University

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- September 2011-present — Board Secretary, Greater Princeton Steinway Society (501(c)3) — Coordinated jazz activities including concerts and scholarship competitions.
- 1991-present — church volunteer work for many churches in NJ and PA. Hired musicians, chose music, and designed basic website. Played piano in churches and Sunday Schools every week since age 14.

SKILLS

Jazz and classical piano at Master's degree level. Fluent Mandarin Chinese, some Spanish. Very strong leadership and interpersonal skills. Mac and PC literate, Sibelius 7 music software, HTML programming. Ballet, swimming, softball, basketball. Hand percussion and basic drum kit. Beginning tap dance.

EDUCATION

- Rutgers University (Mason Gross School of the Arts), New Brunswick, NJ — M.M. Jazz Piano, 2013
- Lawrence University, Appleton, WI — B.A. East Asian Languages & Cultures, 1999, Cum Laude. Editor-in-Chief and Copy Editor of student newspaper, *The Lawrentian*.