

CHRISTOPHER CLIFTON

Kissimmee, FL 34744 | pianojedi@mac.com

SUMMARY

Skilled and talented music teacher with years of experience teaching with the Osceola, Orange, and Polk County School District. Qualities include a working professional musician, entrepreneurial spirit, highly developed organizational and administrative skills, expert skills in communication, proven leadership abilities, and an ability to handle sensitive and confidential information appropriately.

SKILLS & ABILITIES

- Years of experience teaching elementary and middle school music classes
- One year experience teaching Middle School Technical Theater and Production
- Exceeded state music standards, taught musical concepts, listening skills, sight-reading, composition, music history and music genres
- Over two decades of private teaching experience to all ages and skill levels
- Awarded Best and Brightest Scholarship at PMWCA
- Awarded A+ resources for school achievement at PMWCA.
- In 2025, I'm producing a school theme song to release on streaming services
- In May 2021, I released an album of student music compositions
- In 2018, I taught a course on 21st Century Music and helped students produce their original compositions that were released on multiple streaming services
- Instructed students on a variety of musical instruments including percussion, strings, woodwinds, and electronic instruments
- Annual instruction for elementary music students to learn and perform the recorder
- Developed highly attended Holiday Musical performances
- Developed Small Group Centers in the music classroom
- Professional pianist and keyboardist
- Accomplished the acoustic guitar and vocals
- Created vocal ensembles, choirs, and instrumental ensembles
- Experienced in audio/visual software including Logic Pro, Final Cut Pro X, Sibelius, Finale, Garageband, MainStage, Photoshop, ProPresenter, Ableton, etc.
- Advanced in live sound, lighting, and computer presentation software
- Administered and Proctored County and State Assessments

EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

MUSIC TEACHER
MATER PALMS ACADEMY
materdavenport.com
JULY 2025 - PRESENT

In July 2025, Chris joined Mater Palms Academy as the K-8 Music Teacher. Mater Palms is a high-performing charter school in Osceola County, Florida. Chris is building a brand new music program. Classes focus on core music knowledge and skills, learning how to play instruments, reading music, keyboarding, singing, music/video recording and production, performing, and theatre arts.

MUSIC TEACHER
MATER ACADEMY DAVENPORT
materdavenport.com
JULY 2024 - JULY 2025

In 2024, Chris joined Mater Academy Davenport as the Middle School Music Teacher. Mater Academy Davenport (K-5) expanded and launched a Middle School in August 2024. Chris taught Music Theory and Technical Theatre and Production. Classes focused on core music knowledge and skills, learning how to play instruments, reading music, keyboarding, singing, music/video recording and production, performing, and theatre arts.

MUSIC TEACHER
NATIONAL ACADEMIC EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS, INC. AT PM WELLS
pmwellsacademy.org
JULY 2021 – JULY 2024

Chris taught music with National Academic Educational Partners, Inc. at his former school, P.M. Wells Charter Academy. Students learned how to play instruments, sing, perform, and produce music using a variety of digital audio workstations and music applications. Throughout the school year, students performed in a variety of multicultural and special holiday events. In December 2021, Chris released his first original Christmas song performed by PMWCA students and teachers. In addition, Chris tutored students in both math and ELA during after-school programs.

MUSIC TEACHER AND INTERVENTION SPECIALIST
BRIDGEPREP ACADEMY OF ORANGE
bridgepreporange.com
AUGUST 2019 – May 2021

Chris employed the music curriculum from Quaver Music for grades K-5. In addition, Chris also created an original music curriculum for grades 6-8 that focused on literacy and writing through evaluating song lyrics. In May 2021, Chris published an album of instrumental student music. Students learned how to play instruments, sing, perform, and how to create and write music. Throughout the school year, students performed in a variety of multicultural and special holiday events. In addition to music, Chris served as an Intervention Specialist who led small groups of students in grades 3-8 who needed specialized help with ELA learning goals.

MUSIC TEACHER
P.M. WELLS CHARTER ACADEMY
pmwellsacademy.org
AUGUST 2015 – MAY 2019

Chris served 4 years with CSUSA at P.M. Wells Charter Academy teaching K-5 elementary music. Great achievements took place at the school during my tenure. Chris was an active part of the team that helped transform PMWCA from a "D" school to an award-winning "A" school. Chris also produced and published a single and two albums of student musical compositions during his time at PMWCA and developed a variety of opportunities for students to perform music.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

PRIVATE MUSIC TEACHER
TAYLOR ROBINSON MUSIC
taylorrobinsonmusic.com
August 2022 - Present

Chris teaches piano and keyboards throughout central Florida to all ages through Taylor Robinson Music. These lessons may be in person or remote and online.

MUSIC DIRECTOR AND KEYBOARDIST
REAL LIFE CHURCH
real.life
JULY 2022 – PRESENT

Chris gives direction to the musicians in the band and runs the click and sequence during worship services (Orlando Campus). Chris also plays keyboards for the band at the Clermont Campus for adult and student ministries. Real Life has multiple campuses and serves thousands of people weekly in person and online throughout central Florida.

MUSIC DIRECTOR AND KEYBOARDIST
DISCOVERY CHURCH
discoverychurch.org
JULY 2021 – PRESENT

Chris gives weekly direction to the musicians in the band and plays keyboards at all campuses for Discovery Church. In addition, Chris actively coaches the young adult, high school and middle school bands. Discovery has multiple campuses and serves thousands of people weekly in person and online throughout central Florida.

EDUCATION

VALENCIA COLLEGE, KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA
EDUCATOR PREPARATION INSTITUTE (EPI)
2017-2018. 4.0 GPA. valenciacollege.edu

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY, MUNCIE, INDIANA
MASTERS OF MUSIC IN THEORY AND COMPOSITION
1994-1997. 3.8 GPA. www.bsu.edu

ANDERSON UNIVERSITY, ANDERSON, INDIANA
BACHELOR OF ARTS
1989-1993. 3.7 GPA. anderson.edu

REFERENCES

On Request.

WEBSITE

Please visit chrisclifton.us for more information and video/audio clips.