

CURRICULUM VITAE

Alton Merrell
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Education

2012 Ph.D. Jazz Studies, University of Pittsburgh
2002 M.M. (Cum Laude), Jazz Piano Performance, Youngstown State University
2000 B.M. (Cum Laude), Music Education & Classical & Jazz Piano Performance, Youngstown State University

Academic Positions

2008 - Present Lecturer, Jazz History, University of Pittsburgh
2009 Lecturer, Jazz Composition, University of Pittsburgh
2002 - 5 Adjunct Jazz Studies Professor, Applied Jazz Piano, Improvisation, Combo, Jazz Theory, Keyboard Classes To Majors & Non-Majors), Youngstown State University
2000 - 2 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Applied Classical & Jazz Piano, Jazz Combo, Jazz Ensemble, Youngstown State University

Awards and Honors

2008 K. Leroy Irvis Fellowship Recipient for Ph.D Study
2008 Capital Jazz Festival Competition Finalist
2005 Gospel Jazz Artist of the Year - Urban Gospel Industry Award
2005 Best New Gospel Jazz Artist & Producer - Urban Gospel Industry Award
2004 American Gospel Music Performance Award
2000 Outstanding Jazz Performance Student Award - DownBeat Magazine
1999 Featured Soloist - Warren City School's General Convocation
2000 Youngstown State University Graduate Scholarship
1996 Founces M. Luley Music Scholarship Recipient

Publications

Book *Music Theory For The Contemporary Musician*. Minstrel Publishing Company.
Media *Gospel Piano Lessons via Instructional DVDs & Digital Download*. Minstrel Publishing Company.

Courses Taught

Jazz History, Applied Jazz Piano, Jazz Combo, Jazz Theory, Jazz Improvisation
Jazz Composition

Professional Service

2009 - Present	Pittsburgh Jazz Orchestra - Pianist
2000 - Present	Minstrel Enterprises, LLC. - Private Piano Instruction
2009	Forgiven Oratorio - Music Director
2005 - 2008	Covenant Church of Pittsburgh - Music Director & Choir Director
2005 - 2008	Covenant Church of Pittsburgh - Fine Arts Academy Director
2000	Cleveland Jazz Orchestra - Intermittent Pianist
2000	Gospel CD "He Can Do It" - Producer, Principle Songwriter
1994 - 2004	New Jerusalem Fellowship Church - Director of Music

Recording As Leader

You're The Reason [*Minstrel Records* - Alton Merrell (p), Jeff Grubbs, Paul Caffie (b), James Johnson III (d), Sean Jones (tp.), Chris Hemmingway (as)]

Performances As Sideman

Jazz: Benny Golson, Claudio Roditi, Rufus Reed, Sean Jones, Roger Humphries, Kenia Ashby, Dwayne Dolphin, Poogie Bell

Gospel: Israel Houghton, Martha Munizzi, Donnie McClurkin, Kim Burrell, Dorothy Norwood, LaShun Pace-Rhodes

Affiliations / Memberships

Broadcast Music Inc. (BMI)

Computer Skills

Finale, Digital Performer, Reason, Bias Peak, Word, Excel, Powerpoint, iMovie