

Marlene Rosenberg, bassist/educator/clinician

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Professional Profile

Extensive experience as artist educator at both public and private universities. Has taught studio bass for majors and non-majors: Jazz, classical, popular and indigenous styles. Experience includes combo/ensemble coaching, Bass choir, conducting, as well as Global, Popular, and Jazz History courses. Engages students, promoting creative and critical thinking. Multiple self-produced recordings with legendary artists, international performing experience. Cultivates collaborative project with dancers and visual artists.

University Teaching Experience

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, 2013-present

Applied jazz and classical bass faculty

- Teach weekly private lessons to undergrad, grad and non-major students. Focus on balanced & relaxed physical posture. Alexander technique and yoga informed.
- Assign students to research the social and musical history of the music given in ensembles so musical and conceptual nuances & ideas can be realized & understood.
- Share work I learned from notable artists such as Ray Brown and Ron Carter for left hand and right hand and for learning the geography of the instrument.
- Explore & focus on coordination of left and right hands: how left hand can affect tone production and how right hand can produce desired tone. Jazz soloing with bow.
- Guide bass line development through assigned aural transcriptions of horn players and bassists; using Ron Carter's bass note choice, methods.
- Assign aural solo transcriptions from horn players & bassists to focus on improv skills: Joni Mitchell, Miles Davis, Oscar Pettiford, Ray Brown, Jaco Pastorius.
- Created Jazz Bass Choir Workshop employing Rufus Reid, John Clayton, Horace Silver and original composition arrangements.

Bass master class instructor

- Create and compose together bass lines as a class; collectively perform the lines, emphasizing reasons for the note choices through class conversation and questions.
- Rotate 2-3 bassists playing together concentrating on time, feel, volume, balance, tone and range while playing bass lines, soloing, or playing the melody to song.

Ensemble Coach, Combos & Big Band

- Choose appropriate jazz standard repertoire for groups and lead rehearsals of works by Charles Mingus, Hank Mobley, Horace Silver.
- Assign collaborative composing, or individual original writing for the group where applicable.
- Focus on collective listening to recordings from masters, and have group emulate arrangements, or rearrange to fit the group. Discuss solo order, texture, balance.
- Coach rhythm section classes using experiential games and clapping of African rhythms to showcase relationships and roles among instruments.

Coordinator Jazz Combo Program

- Coach Combo Workshop class for beginning level students using critical listening exercises to create interesting solos utilizing motivic note groups
- Organize 6-7 combo & jam session schedules and music with grad-assistant coaches
- Create jam-session hosting groups, explain session etiquette, and help formulate music lists for each week

Lectured as Substitute

- Taught Jazz History course, undergraduate and grad level students, 2004
- Assigned individual written projects respective to instrument students played.
- Emphasize integral, holistic understanding for the social and cultural changes reflected in the music.
- Focused on history from early jazz to present using multimedia lectures.
- Assigned Jazz scales and mode theory to apply to songs referenced.

Roosevelt University, Applied Jazz Bass Faculty, Chicago, IL, 2010-present

- Give Combo workshop feedback and ideas pre-formed groups. Add alternate perspective for musical nuances in an adjudicator role.
- Teach applied jazz bass studio; technique, assigned jazz repertoire, students self-arrange, chosen & assigned music & transcriptions, in preparation for recitals & juries.
- Led clinic on the history, development, & evolution of a song through comparison.
- Utilized Herbie Hancock's *Maiden Voyage* & Robert Glasper's arrangement of Radio Head's *Everything in It's Right Place*.

Elmhurst College, Substitute Instructor, IL, 2017

- Taught Jazz History for Music Majors working with online and in class instruction. All Students gave mini-lectures on chosen musicians in class, utilizing multimedia formats.
- Assigned students 20-minute lecture on chosen artist for Final. They utilized musical examples, video/digital and PowerPoint presentations.
- Guided collaborative discussions on chapter readings and listening. Group participation in deciding some quiz material for engagement & motivational purposes.

Northwestern University, Applied Artist, Conductor, Administrative Coordinator For Jazz Studies program, Evanston, IL, 2010-16

- Taught Improvisation I, II, III. Transcription & motive writing exercises for students to perform in class individually & as group. Miles Davis, Joshua Redman, Clark Terry.
- Assigned students to devise their motive exercises by taking a motive from transcribed solo, and playing in all keys in class with rhythm section.
- Taught and assigned Bebop melodies of chosen tunes to help with solo language. Scapple from the Apple, Donna Lee, Oleo, Au Privave.
- Conductor of Small Jazz ensembles helping groups choose music, compose, and make critical musical decisions for the final group's performance and arrangements 2010-16.
- Administrative duties as per request of director Victor Goines 2014-15.
- Coached and conducted jazz combos 2009-10.

Western Illinois University, faculty, Lecturer of Bass and Jazz Studies, Macomb, 2007-10

- Invited Guest Artist John Clayton to teach & perform with student bassists in the bass choir I organized & rehearsed.
- Incorporated Jazz combos & Faculty group in School of Music concert.
- Instructed and curated lecture courses in World Music & American Popular Music. Used notes & books from studies with teachers from China, Africa, Brazil, and India.
- Assigned book, listening examples and unusual, self-collected field recordings from my global music training.
- Instructed weekly bass master classes using students' musical challenges as a point of study, with questions for students to answer and problem solve.
- Taught jazz and classical bass studies to undergraduate, graduate students, majors and minors.
- Coached Jazz combos of varied instrumentation of 3-8 players, providing increased conversation and understanding of musical roles in rehearsals.

Northern Illinois University, Instructor of Bass, DeKalb, 1995-07

- Taught jazz bass studio, recruited students from high schools through concerts and guest artist teaching trips.
- Utilized aural transcriptions of master bassists and horn players to increase jazz language capabilities.
- Focused on classic technique, learning assigned jazz repertoire, and helping students self-arrange, various chosen and assigned music & transcriptions.
- Help them be proactive in their learning and critical thinking for problem solving.

Additional Teaching Experience

Private bass studio, Chicago, IL, 1986-present

- Teach jazz and classic technique, utilizing students' musical interest to choose songs and guide learning. Organize and implement mutually decided program of study. Ages 11-68.
- Instruct Electric bass technique, slap technique and focus on time feel within the musical genre chosen. R & B, Funk, Rock, Jazz.
- Assign aural transcription projects on various solos and bass lines by Ray Brown, Paul Chambers, Ron Carter, Louis Johnson, Larry Graham.
- Share stories and statements by my mentors and friends that are legendary artists, in effort to motivate, inspire, and give life to music and practice focus.
- Students' successes include working with new up & coming bands in LA and Ramsey Lewis Group both popular and jazz styles, & starting own school for underserved youth.
- Teaching in online format via Zoom and Skype in U.S. and Germany to aspiring professionals and avid hobbyists.

Allstate MENC, faculty coach, Peoria, IL, 2017

Chicago Bass Fest, guest instructor, Highland Park, IL, 2016, 2012, 2011

Gallery 37, instructor, Chicago, IL, 2010-13

Thelonious Monk Institute, instructor, Chicago, IL, 2011-13

Chicago Jesuit Academy, faculty, Chicago, IL, 2010-13

International Society of Bassists Convention, guest artist, workshop, 2005, 2003

Ravinia Jazz Mentors program, faculty, Chicago, IL, 2002, 1993-96

Saskatchewan School of the Arts in Canada, faculty, 1993

Downers Grove North High School, bass instructor, IL, 1981-85

Downers Grove South High School, bass instructor IL, 1981-85

Summer Teaching Institutes

Brevard Jazz Summer Institute, NC, 2017-19

- Gave clinics on my experience in the field as a woman bassist, music played and releasing my own CD projects.
- Lead improvisation classes learning tunes, learning song melodies by ear, memorizing songs, playing tunes in all 12 keys in the class as a group.
- Coached and played with small ensembles. Chose music with students and recorded final recording in studio.
- Taught individual and group bass lessons ages 14-23. Intermediate to advanced levels.

Richard Davis Young Bassists Institute, Madison, Wisconsin, 2019

- Taught ages 5-17 improvisation, bass line writing.
- Transcribed a song in class together by Bill Withers *Ain't No Sunshine when She's gone*, arranged the parts, rehearsed & led the group.

Midwest Young Artist's, Clinician, Highland Park, IL, 2012

- Coached combos. Listened to original recording of song, then asked them to play only listening to the others in the group, not themselves as an exercise of focus.
- Taught individual bass students ages 14-17

Western Illinois University summer jazz camp and Rhythm Section camp, Macomb, 2007-10

Northwestern University, High School Summer Music Institute, Evanston, IL, 2009

- Coached Jazz Combo ages 14-17. Repertoire from Horace Silver, Monk, Charlie Parker.
- Gave Listening Classes playing music that related well to instrumentation within the student groups.
- LECTURED a Jazz Faculty Class for professional teachers for Don Owen's class, emphasizing the bass. Handouts on instrument set-up, pick-ups, amps, & bass line creation.

Univ. of Illinois Summer Youth Music Jazz Program, faculty, Champaign-Urbana, 1980

South Shore Cultural Center Summer Music Program, instructor, Chicago, IL, 1998, 1997

Adjudicating

Michigan State University Jazz Festivals, Lansing, 2018, 2017

International Society of Bassists Convention in Ithaca, NY

• Adjudicated on Jazz judges panel, in an effort to select a deserving bassist 2017

Buddy DiFranco Jazz Fest, Bozeman, Montana, 2018, 2016

Evanston Township High School Jazz Fest, IL, 2017-19

Rolling Meadows Jazz Fest, IL, 2014-19

Arizona State University Jazz Festival, Tempe-Phoenix, 2018

New Trier West Jazz Festival, IL, 2017

Glenbrook North Jazz Fest, Glenview, IL, 2016

ILMEA St. Charles High School Jazz Fest, IL, 2015

Clinics

Loyola University of New Orleans, LA, Virtual Bass Master Class, 2020

ILMEA, Virtual master classes jazz and classical, Jr. high & high school, IL, 2020

New Trier West Jazz Festival, Niles, IL, 2020, 2017

Ronald Carter Jazz Clinics Group, 2020

Michigan State University, Lansing, 2019, 2018

Clark College, Dubuque, Iowa, Big Band Clinician, 2018, 2016

Evanston Township High School Jazz Fest, IL, 2017-19

International Society of Bassists Convention, Workshop on bass lines, Oklahoma City, OK, 2006

Performing Experience

Venues, US

The Village Vanguard, NYC

Jazz Alley, Seattle WA

The Green Mill, Chicago

Symphony Center, Chicago

Chicago Cultural Center

Fat Tuesdays, NYC
The Jazz Showcase, Chicago
Trumpets Jazz Club, NJ

Blues Alley, Washington D.C.
Birdland, NYC
The Jazz Kitchen, Indianapolis

Festivals, US

The Chicago Jazz Festival
The Hyde Park Jazz Festival
The Namm Show, LA

International Venues

The Blue Note, Tokyo, Japan
The Quasimodo, Berlin, Germany
The Magnetic Terrace, Paris, France
Top of The Senator-Toronto, Canada

International Festivals

Le' Mariner Jazz Festival, Canada
Mt. Fuji Festival, Tokyo
North Sea Festival, Rotterdam, Holland
Kristianstad-Ahus Festival, Sweden

Has performed with

Joe Henderson
Nancy Wilson
Joe Williams

Marian McPartland
Lewis Nash
Eric Alexander

Larry Coryell
Ira Sullivan
Terri Lynne Carrington

Frank Morgan
Ed Thigpen
Albert "Tootie" Heath
Benny Green
Roy Hargrove
Stan Getz

Cyrus Chestnut
Harold Maybern
Tamir Hendleman
Jazzmeia Horn
Gary Bartz
Wallace Roney

Bobby Watson
Cedar Walton
Kenny Barron
David Sandborn
Makaya McCraven

Guest Artist at University, High School Jazz Festivals & Conventions

Evanston Township High School Jazz Fest, IL, 2019

Clark College, Jazz Guest Artist, Dubuque, Iowa, 2018, 2016

Buddy DiFranco Jazz Fest, Bozeman, Montana, performer, 2016, 2018

New Trier West Jazz Festival, IL, guest artist, 2018

ILMEA St. Charles High School Jazz Fest, IL, guest artist, 2015

International Society of Bassists Convention, Rochester, NY Performed with Bill Mays and
Tim Fronacek, 2013

Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL, Performed with guest artists at the International Horn Convention, 2009

International Society of Bassists Convention, Performed with Bill Mays and Tim Fronacek, Oklahoma City, 2006

Namm Show performance with Ed Thigpen, James Williams & Nnenna Frelon, 1994

Original Compositions

35 published songs on Redbark Music, self-owned publishing.

10 jazz quintet pieces

17 jazz quartet

5 jazz trio

1 solo bass

2 arrangements for bass choir

Recordings

MLK Convergence, piano, drums, bass, vocals, Kenny Barron, Lewis Nash, Christian McBride, Thomas Burrell, Marlene Rosenberg, co-produced with Christian McBride & Robert Irving III, Origin Records 2019
3 ½ Stars in *Downbeat Magazine's* Hot Box and Editor's Choice

Momentum, Portraits of Women in Motion, Ellen Rowe Octet, piano, tenor sax, bari sax, alto sax, clarinet, trombone, trumpet, bass, drums, 2019

Bassprint, guitar, tenor & soprano saxophone, bass, drums, Scott Hesse, Geof Bradfield, Makaya McCraven, Origin Records, 2012
4 stars in *Downbeat Magazine*
Reviewed in *Jazz Times*, *Downbeat* and the *Chicago Examiner*

Momentum, Robert Irving III, piano, bass, drums, Robert Irving III, Ernie Adams, Buster Williams, bass, Marlene Rosenberg, bass, Sonic Portraits, 2007

Sacred Music Unity Church, Willie Pickens, piano, bass, drums, Willie Pickens, Ernie Adams, Drums, Robert Shy, drums, 2006

Ed Thigpen, currently unreleased CD with Vocalist Deborah Brown, Recorded, 2006

Women Who Swing Chicago, the song *Waimea*, guitar, piano, bass, drums, Big Chicago Records, compilation CD, 2002

Rhapsody in Hughes, Val Gray Ward, bass, vocals, 2001

Pieces Of... Marlene Rosenberg, piano, tenor sax, bass, drums, Cedar Walton, Javon Jackson, George Fludas, BassLine Entertainment, 2001

Waimea, Marlene Rosenberg, guitar, piano, drums, bass, Dennis Luxion, David Onderdonk, Mark Walker, BassLine, 2000

The New Cool, Ron Surace, piano, bass, drums, Southport Records, 1993

Orbert Davis Live with Strings Attached, trumpet, piano, bass drums, small string orchestra Copia Records, video, 1996

Unfinished Memories, Orbert Davis, trumpet, piano, bass, drums Copia Records, 1989

Vienna Art Orchestra: Not Just Mozart, Big band and strings, Ingid Jensen, 1989 video

Mt Fuji Jazz Festival, Nancy Wilson, vocals, piano, bass, drums, Ron Mclure, Llew Mathews, Bluenote, Laser Disc, 1988

Punjab, Joe Henderson, piano, bass drums, Renee Rosnes, Sylvia Cuenca, NTI/Arco 3 ARC 1047, 1987

Easy Flight, Ed Thigpen, piano, guitar, bass, drums, Ed Thigpen, Tony Purrone, Johnny O'neal, Reaction Records (RR9902), 1988

The Balkan Rhythm Band (vinyl) vocals, dobra, flute, alto sax, wooden vertical flute, mandolin, guitar, piano, various drums, Devin, Clarinetist, Howard Levy, 2 vocalists, Steve Roberts, 1982

Collaborations

Jumaane Taylor Tap n' Bass Concert, Harold Washington Library virtual concert, Chicago, IL 2020

Jumaane Taylor Jazz quartet and Tap Performance, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL 2019

Chicago Tap ensemble with Guest Artists Jimmy Slyde, Savion Glover, and others, Navy Pier Hall, IL 2016

Fleetwood-Jourdain Theater, Evanston, IL *For Colored Girls* Production
Music composed and performed for solo bass, 2 weeks of performances, 2016

Columbia Dance Company Duo collaboration with Modern Dancer for Choreographed performance, Chicago, IL 1985

Education

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL
Master of Music in Jazz Pedagogy, 1999

University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, IL
Bachelors of Music in Jazz Bass and Composition, 1980

- Self-curated individual degree, with emphasis on World Culture music and performance techniques. Composition exploration, and jazz and classical studies.

Principal Teachers

Karl Fruh
Ed Krolik
Rob Kassinger
Jeff Bradetich
Warren Benfield

Mentors/coaches

Ray Brown
John Clayton
Rufus Reid
Buster Williams
Eddie Gomez
Steve Rodby

Current Studies

Studies with Ron Carter, 2019-present

Independent Studies

Post-graduate work - Postgraduate studies on piano/harmony/voicing with Michael, WIU, 2009-10

Lake Placid Jazz Institute, Composition, music and improvisation workshops with Kenny Werner, Jim McNeeley, Rufus Reid, Gary Peacock, Joe Lovano, Billy Hart, and Bob Brookmeyer, 2001

National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Fellowship Grant, jazz improvisation with Bassist

Ron Carter, Mike Richmond, Pianist/Composers Hal Galper, and Jim McNeeley, 1985

Awards & Honors

MLK Convergence, CD, 2019

3 ½ Stars in DownBeat Magazine's Hot Box and Editor's Choice

American Jazz Composers Orchestra Institute at UCLA, 2015

Bassprint, CD on Origin Records, 2012

#26 on Jazz Weeks National airplay chart

Received 4 stars in Downbeat Magazine

Reviewed in *Jazz Times*, *Downbeat* and the *Chicago Examiner* 2012

Illinois Arts Council Grant, 2011

Inclusion in *The Marquis*, *Who's Who in America*, 2006

The Chicago Tribune, Article on Women Instrumentalists in Jazz, including Marianne McPartland, 2005

Reviewed in *Jazz Times* Magazine April, 2002

Reviewed in *Bass World*, The Journal Of The International Society Of Bassists, 2001

Interviewed in *Bass Player* Magazine, 1995

The Eckstein Memorial Grant, Northwestern University, 1998-99

Russell C. Wonderlic Scholar Endowment, 1999

The *Billboard* Song Contest Certificate of Achievement Award, two original compositions in the jazz category, 1994

National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship Grant, 1985

Articles

Chapter for "Teaching Music Through Performance in Jazz." Compiled and edited by Ronald Carter and Richard B. Miles, 2015

Professional Memberships

Chamber Music America
National Association of Recorded Arts and Sciences
American String Teachers Association
Jazz Institute of Chicago
Hyde Park Jazz Society
International Society of Bassists
American Federation of Musicians
Jazz Educators Network
National Association for Music Educators

Reviews & Quotes

"One of the Jazz, Bass, and Music world's treasures! There is a great bass tone, great swing, and lovely fire in everything that Marlene does."

— John Clayton, bassist, composer, arranger

"What makes Marlene special is her strength and depth of understanding of music. In a world of clones, she has managed to emerge as her own person with her own sound and feel . . . her time feel is steady and swings like mad."

— Ed Thigpen, drummer

"McPartland and Rosenberg work well together, as if they've been doing it most of their...a lives challenging accompanist...big fat juicy sound...a solo remarkable for its fluid rhythms and warmth of expression." (Marian McPartland Duo)

— *Wisconsin State Journal*

"Bass player, Marlene Rosenberg totally demolished any myths that women can't hold their own on jazz bass. Her high energy performance never seemed to flag during two sets of intense playing." Frank Morgan quartet

— *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*

"Marlene Rosenberg handily juggles roles on her album Pieces Of...now stepping forward and intuitively understanding the time and place for each stance, Rosenberg amply shows why she's one of the respected young players."

— *Jazz Times Magazine*