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**Music Educator • Author • Guitarist • Clinician**  
*Bringing Music to Life*

**CONTACT**

**Brian K Rivers**  
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(513) 335-0624  
[brian@brianrivers.com](mailto:brian@brianrivers.com)

**EDUCATION**

**2013 Bachelor of Music in Music Education with Jazz Specialization**  
University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM)

**LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS**

**2013 Ohio K-12 Music Teaching Certificate**

**2002 CBEST certification**

**TEACHING EXPERTISE**

- Fluent in all aspects of music recording and notation technology
- Teaching excellence in guitar, music production, improvisation, and music theory
- Grant funding to implement innovative and engaging music education programs
- Commitment to equity and inclusion in the classroom and in curricular choices

**ACADEMIC AND MUSIC INDUSTRY POSITIONS**

**2020- Classroom Music Educator**

**2021** Withrow University High School, Cincinnati, OH,  

- 88 students weekly. (Grade 7)
- Music Theory through technology and composition

**2014- Author**

**present** Best Music Publications, [www.bestmusicpublications.com](http://www.bestmusicpublications.com) (See Publications)

**2013 Student Teacher** (Grant Anderson, supervising teacher), Oak Hills High School, Cincinnati, OH,

- 125 students weekly. (Grades 9-12 )
- Music Technology levels 1-3

**2013**      **Student Teacher** (Jan Diehl, supervising teacher), Guardian Angels Elementary School, Cincinnati, OH,

- 125 students weekly. (Grades 3-8 )
- 5-8 Band, 2-8 General Music (Orff), Jazz Ensemble
- Supervised and conducted student concert performances (see Production Credits)

**2008-present**      **Guitarist with award-winning singer-songwriter Tracy Walker** [www.tracywalker.com](http://www.tracywalker.com)  
(see Discography and Performance Credits)

**2007-present**      **Private Music Instructor**

Rivers Music – California and Ohio locations,

- Guitar, songwriting, improvisation, piano and recording instruction
- Produce annual student recital productions (see Production Credits)

**1997-2007**      **Classroom Music Educator – Department Head**, Natomas Performing and Fine Arts Academy, Sacramento CA

- Taught 200 students weekly, grades 7-12, at a diverse public secondary school with a high proportion of students who qualified for free or reduced-price meals
- Computer music technology, music theory, music appreciation, guitar, songwriting, improvisation, band, orchestra
- Established one of the first high school level digital recording program in the United States, including Blackrock Records – a student run school record label
- Mentored students in the successful production of four full length CD releases
- Produced over twenty-five performance productions (see Production Credits)
- Collaborated with the theater department on music theater productions and arranged music for ensembles

**1987-1997**      **Guitarist - Founding Member**

Mumbo Gumbo, Sacramento CA (See Discography and Performance Credits)

**1990-1994**      **Private Guitar Instructor**

E Street Music, Davis CA

**1987-1990**      **District Manager**

Kaman Music Corporation, San Carlos, CA

**1986-1987**      **District Manager**

CTC Musical Imports, Brisbane, CA

**1983- Store Manager**  
**1986** Tupper & Reed Music, Oakland, CA

**1979- Front of House Engineer**  
**1982** West Coast Sound, Davis, CA

#### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- **National Association for Music Education (NAfME)**
- **National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM)**
- **Technology in Music Education (TI:ME)**
- **Association for Popular Music Education (APME)**

#### PUBLICATIONS

**2019** *The Best Guitar Method* – Best Music Publications [www.bestmusicpublications.com](http://www.bestmusicpublications.com)

**2019** *The Best Guitar Toolkit* – Best Music Publications [www.bestmusicpublications.com](http://www.bestmusicpublications.com)

#### UNIVERSITY GUEST LECTURES

**2017** **University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music** – Secondary Instrumental Methods Class - "Teaching Guitar in the Classroom"

**2019** **University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music** – Secondary Instrumental Methods Class - "Teaching Guitar in the Classroom"

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**2020** **New Mexico Music Educator Association** Professional Development Conference  
"Every Music Educator Can Be a Great Guitar Teacher"

**2020** **New Mexico Music Educator Association** Professional Development Conference  
"*Demystifying the Guitar*"

**2020** **Ohio Music Educator Association** Professional Development Conference  
"Every Music Educator Can Be a Great Guitar Teacher"

**2020** **Texas Music Educator Association** Professional Development Conference  
"Every Music Educator Can Be a Great Guitar Teacher"

## FUNDED GRANTS

- 2003**      **California Art Works Grant**, California Department of Education  
Grant funding was used to establish an orchestra program at the Natomas Performing and Fine Arts Academy. The grant supported staff training, music and instrument acquisition and curriculum development.
- 2001**      **Governor's Performance Award**, State of California  
The grant funded additional equipment for the Digital Recording program at the Natomas Performing Arts Academy. This was the direct result of an in-person program visit by State Superintendent of Schools, Delaine Easton.
- 1998**      **Educational Assessment Grant**, California Department of Education  
This grant funded a school-wide electronic portfolio assessment initiative where students created an electronic portfolio to demonstrate graduation benchmark competencies. Computer equipment purchases and curriculum and standards development were the main aims of this grant.

## TEACHING AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2010**      **Nationally Selected Participant - TI:ME Leadership Academy**  
Technology in Music Education advocacy organization, [www.TI:ME.org](http://www.TI:ME.org)
- 2006**      **Faculty Member - CSSA "Charter School of The Year"** Award to the Natomas Performing and Fine Arts Academy
- 2005**      **"Outstanding Innovative Music Program"** issued by **Sacramento News & Review**  
*A special recognition award* to honor my work in developing the innovative and cutting-edge music program at the Natomas Performing and Fine Arts Academy.
- 2005**      **Faculty Member - Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts "National School of Distinction"**

## PERFORMANCE AWARDS

- 1995**      *Hall of Fame*, Sacramento Music Award (Sammie)
- 1994**      *Best Band in Yolo County*, Davis Enterprise
- 1994**      *Best World Band*, Sacramento Music Award (Sammie),
- 1993**      *Best World Band*, Sacramento Music Award, (Sammie),

- 1992     *Best World Band*, Sacramento Music Award, (Sammie),  
1992     *Best Band*, "Best of Sacramento" - Sacramento Magazine  
1977     *Louis Armstrong National Jazz Award*, National, high school youth award

#### ADJUDICATOR SERVICE

- 2004-     **Panel Adjudicator**  
2005     Stairway to Stardom after school music program, Sacramento CA  
  
2004     **Panel Adjudicator**  
          University of California Picnic Day, Band Competition, 2004

#### PRODUCTION CREDITS

- 2012-     **Producer – Rivers Music**  
2019     Annual Student Showcase Concert  
          Responsibilities included:  
  - Venue selection
  - Preparing twenty-five student performances
  - Staffing
  - Advance specifications to production support crew
  - Graphic design and production of poster, program and back-stage passes
  - Budgeting
- 1997-     **Producer – Natomas Performing and Fine Arts Academy**  
2007     Produced and directed over fifty productions and performances  
  - Content selection
  - Preparing student performances
  - Collaborating with other departments
  - Travel arrangements
  - Staffing
  - Advance specifications to production support crew
  - Graphic design and production of poster, and program
  - Budgeting

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**1987- Production Manager – Mumbo Gumbo**

- 1997** Managed the production of more than 800 performances. Responsibilities included:
- Sound and lighting system design
  - Employee training
  - Advance planning of productions with venues and promoters
  - Truck maintenance
  - Procuring liability, workman’s insurance and venue indemnifications
  - Employee payroll

**AUDIO RECORDING PRODUCTION CREDITS**

- 2006** **Co-producer, audio engineer,** *Leap of Faith*, Natomas PFAA (Performing and Fine Arts Academy), Blackrock Records
- 2005** **Co-producer, audio engineer,** *Electric*, Natomas PFAA, Blackrock Records
- 2003** **Co-producer, audio engineer,** *Equal*, Natomas PFAA, Blackrock Records
- 2001** **Co-producer, audio engineer,** *Teenage Soul for the Chicken Soup*, Natomas PFAA, Blackrock Records
- 1999** **Audio engineer and assistant producer,** *The Dream Walker: A Journey Through Time*, Rhythm Magic Records, Sacramento, CA
- 1997** **Co-producer,** *The Adventures of Mumbo Gumbo*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1996** **Co-producer,** *Big Smiley*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1994** **Co-producer,** *Deep Soup*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1992** **Co-producer,** *Mumbo Gumbo*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1990** **Co-producer,** *Live at The Palms*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records

**DISCOGRAPHY**

- 2018** **Guitarist,** *Bayard Rustin - The Man Behind the Dream*, The World House Choir
- 2014** **Guitarist,** *Bare Bones* Tracy Walker, Gallimaufry Records

# Brian K Rivers

## *Curriculum Vitae*

Website: [www.brianrivers.com](http://www.brianrivers.com)  
E-mail: [brian@brianrivers.com](mailto:brian@brianrivers.com)

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- 2009      **Guitarist**, *Fun Pak*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 2006      **Guitarist**, *Something in the Water*, Chris Webster, DIG Music
- 1999      **Guitarist**, *Diving'*, Chris Webster, Compass Records
- 1997      **Guitarist**, *The Adventures of Mumbo Gumbo*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1996      **Guitarist**, *Kerrville Folk Festival 1995 Highlights*, Compilation, Silverwolf Records
- 1996      **Guitarist**, *The Women of Kerrville*, Compilation, Mumbo Gumbo, Silverwolf Records
- 1996      **Guitarist**, *Driving*, Chris Webster, Lots of Rabbits Records
- 1996      **Guitarist**, *Big Smiley*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1995      **Guitarist**, *Believe... A Holiday Wish*, Benefit album for Sacramento AIDS foundation
- 1994      **Guitarist**, *Deep Soup*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1992      **Guitarist**, *Mumbo Gumbo*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1990      **Guitarist**, *Live at The Palms*, Mumbo Gumbo, Ruby Records
- 1989      **Guitarist**, *Out Among the Cows*, Compilation, Spydels & 10,000 Cattle
- 1984      **Guitarist**, *Blue Stereo Light*, Dave Webb

### COMMISSIONED WORKS (ensemble credits)

- 2018      **Guitarist**, World House Choir - *Bayard Rustin - The Man Behind the Dream*, and *Earth Song*
- 2018      **Guitarist**, Cincinnati Muse Choir - *Bayard Rustin - The Man Behind the Dream*
- 2017      **Guitarist**, Cincinnati Muse Choir - *Iraqi Peace*

### TELEVISION CREDITS (partial list)

- 2018      **Guitarist**, WCET, *Bayard Rustin - The Man Behind the Dream*, The World House Choir

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- 1996 **Guitarist**, PBS, Entertainment Express: performance appearance, Mumbo Gumbo
  - 1996 **Guitarist**, CBS, Muscular Dystrophy Telethon, live performance, Mumbo Gumbo
  - 1995 **Guitarist**, CBS, Northern Exposure: featured song, *The Ring Waltz*
  - 1995 **Guitarist**, CBS Northern Exposure: featured song, *Lovebirds*
  - 1995 **Guitarist**, ABC, NBA Sacramento Kings – *National Anthem* performance
  - 1995 **Guitarist**, CBS, CBS This Morning: Mumbo Gumbo performance appearance

**RADIO APPEARANCE CREDITS (partial list)**

- 2014 **Guitarist**, WNKU Studio 89 with Tracy Walker
- 2011 **Guitarist**, WNKU Studio 89 with Tracy Walker
- 2010 **Guitarist**, WNKU Studio 89 with The Honeycombs
- 1998 **Guitarist**, KYSR Paul & Phil Christmas Show, Mumbo Gumbo Live Performance
- 1997 **Guitarist**, KPIG Hog Farm show, Mumbo Gumbo live performance and interview
- 1996 **Guitarist**, KVMR Night Live, feature broadcast Mumbo Gumbo
- 1995 **Guitarist**, NPR Car Talk featured Mumbo Gumbo song: *I'm Driving*
- 1995 **Guitarist**, KRXQ Ken Allen show, Mumbo Gumbo live performance and interview
- 1995 **Guitarist**, KPIG Hog Farm show, Mumbo Gumbo live performance and interview
- 1995 **Guitarist**, KRXQ Ken Allen show, Mumbo Gumbo live performance and interview
- 1994 **Guitarist**, KFOG Fog City Radio, Mumbo Gumbo live performance and performance
- 1994 **Guitarist**, KQED West Coast Weekend, Mumbo Gumbo live performance
- 1994 **Guitarist**, KPFA Larry Kelp Show, Mumbo Gumbo live performance and interview



**MUSIC FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES (partial list)**

- Bunbury Music Festival
- United Way Annual Fundraising Concert
- Reno Jazz Festival
- Sonoma Jazz Festival
- Sacramento Jazz and Heritage Festival
- Sacramento Traditional Jazz Jubilee
- Napa Jazz Festival
- Sacramento Blues Festival
- San Jose Blues Festival
- Chico World Music Festival
- Napa World Music Festival
- Reggae on the River Music Festival
- Strawberry Music Festival
- Truckee Reggae and World Music Festival
- New Orleans by the Bay Festival
- Napa Valley Cajun Festival
- Kerrville Folk Festival
- High Sierra Music Festival
- Grass Valley World Music Festival
- Grass Valley Folk Festival
- Northern Rockies Folk Festival
- Vancouver Island Folk Festival
- Monterey Jazz Festival (High School Jazz Band)

**VENUES (partial list)**

- Shoreline Amphitheater, Palo Alto, CA
- Fillmore Auditorium, San Francisco, CA
- Arco Arena, Sacramento CA
- Memorial Auditorium, Sacramento, CA
- Berkeley Civic Auditorium, Berkeley, CA
- Celebrity Showroom, John Asquaga's Nugget, Reno, NV
- MGM Grand, Reno, NV
- Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento, CA
- San Jose Convention Center, San Jose, CA

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- Moscone Convention Center, San Francisco, CA
- River Bend Music Center, Cincinnati, OH
- The Banks Main Stage, Cincinnati, OH
- Fountain Square, Cincinnati, OH
- Taft Museum Center, Cincinnati, OH
- Cincinnati Museum of Modern Art, Cincinnati, OH
- Cincinnati Museum Center, Cincinnati, OH
- Levitt Pavilion, Dayton, OH
- Founders Hall, Yellow Springs, OH

**REFERENCES**

Available on request.