

Debra Buonaccorsi McWilliams

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443-794-8571

EDUCATION

New York University, Tisch School of the Arts, New York, NY

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre, Cum laude, University Honors Scholar, Founder's Day Award, 1998

Catholic University, Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Washington, DC

Attended 1994- 1996, Studied Vocal Performance

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Piano Instructor | Nashville, Tennessee and Baltimore, Maryland

2001 – Current

Teach private piano lessons to students from ages 6 to adults, of all skill and experience levels.

Develop personalized curriculum for each student, including selecting teaching materials, repertoire and activities.

Organize annual recital and various performance opportunities, including performances at area assisted living facilities.

Artistic Director, Co-Founder | Dizzy Miss Lizzie's Roadside Revue, Washington, DC

2008-2013

Co-founded theatre company which performed original musical theatre pieces that combined use of onstage musician-actors and vaudevillian and commedia dell'arte techniques.

Produced original productions at Capital Fringe Festival, John F. Kennedy Center Millennium Stage and New York Musical Theatre Festival.

Received 2012 Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Emerging Theatre Company and 2012 "Best of Theatre" Washington Post for production *The Brontes*.

Professional Songwriter, Composer and Playwright

1998-Current

Original music and plays performed at venues including The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The United States Botanic Gardens, The Barns of Wolf Trap, The New York Musical Theatre Festival, Capital Fringe Festival and Signature Theatre.

Original musical theatre piece, *Flowers Stink*, co-commissioned by the Kennedy Center Theatre for Young Audiences and the US Botanic Gardens, performed at the USBG in Washington, DC, nominated for 2015 Helen Hayes Award, Outstanding Production, Theatre for Young Audiences.

Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Emerging Artist 2012, Washington Area Music Awards, nominations for Outstanding New Artist 2014, and Best Roots Rock Duo/Band, Best Album, Best Female Vocalist 2015, Washington Post Best in Theatre 2012.

Early Education Music Instructor | Kidville, Rockville, Maryland
2013 – 2014

Responsible for teaching children about music through performance and interaction.

One on one classes as well as group instruction, led music-based activities for children ages 3 – 6.

Responsible for encouraging children’s participation and engagement in activities.

Summer Theatre Conservatory, Director | Slayton House Camp of the Arts, Columbia, Maryland
Summer 2001-2005

Director of Summer theatre intensive for children ages 12-18.

Created a 4-week program, including classes in acting, movement, voice and speech, script analysis, vocal performance and improvisation.

Directed and choreographed full musical theatre production as conclusion of the program.

Museum Theatre & Education | Capital Children’s Museum, Washington, DC
2001- 2003

Worked alongside the Director of Education in developing new educational programs.

Wrote and performed in Museum Theatre programs created to enhance museum exhibits.

Created activities and educational materials for exhibits designed for visitors, students and teachers.

Guided tours for school groups through exhibits and led educational activities.

Computer skills include:

- Google workplace apps: Gmail, Drive, Docs, Meet
- Zoom: Teach individual piano lessons, group lessons, recitals, and activities for students
- Word processing: Microsoft word
- Graphic design: Canva
- Website design: GoDaddy and Squarespace
- Social media: Manage social media pages for a performing arts organization on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter