

# **CHRISTIAN A. SNEDEKER - Percussionist**

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## **EDUCATION:**

**University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL: *Bachelors of Music – Percussion Performance* – August 2020 - May 2024**

- During his time at UCF, Christian won 6 out of 8 Principal Percussion Auditions; won the School of Performing Arts Performance Excellence award his freshman year and was a finalist his sophomore year; won the Director's Award, and performed with almost every ensemble on campus including the UCF Symphony Orchestra, UCF Wind Ensemble, UCF Percussion Ensemble, UCF Jazz Combos, UCF Flying Horse Big Band, Black Steel (UCF's Steel Drum Ensemble), UCF Marching Knights, UCF Jammin' Knights Basketball Band, UCF New Music Ensemble, and played shows produced by TheatreUCF.

## **EXPERIENCE:**

**Professional Percussionist/Drummer – 2014-present**

- Christian maintains a busy schedule working in multiple facets of the music and entertainment industry - including Musical Theater, Jazz, Orchestral, Theme Park, Corporate, Education, and Production. He has performed with The Brevard Symphony Orchestra, Bach Festival Society Orchestra of Winter Park, The Villages Philharmonic, Gulf Coast Symphony, Gulf Coast Chamber Orchestra, New World Symphony Brass Ensemble, and is a percussionist with the Walt Disney World Candlelight Orchestra. Christian has played drumset and percussion for productions across the state of Florida with theater companies such as New Generation Theatrical, The Renaissance Theater Company, TheaterUCF, Encore! Performing Arts, and Theater West End among others. Christian performs frequently with corporate entertainment companies including Curate Entertainment and Penguin Entertainment. Currently, Christian is a full-time Drummer at *The Untrainable Dragon* show at Universal Epic Universe, and performs in multiple shows with the Universal Studios Orlando and Walt Disney companies. Christian is grateful to have shared the stage with notable artists including Joey Fatone, Grace Kelly, Dan Miller, John Stamos, Josh Gad, and Jodi Benson.

**239 Collective – Drumset/Percussion, Music Director, Founder – 2022-present**

- The 239 Collective is an Orlando-based jazz group led by national-award winning drummer, Christian Snedeker and his partner, Orlando vocalist Lexi DeLaRosa. The group features a mixed roster of musicians with a wide array of experiences and come together to play music of all styles, including swing, bop, latin, and R&B. The 239 Collective musicians have shared the stage with notable artists such as Grace Kelly, Dan Miller, Lew Delgatto, George Garzone, Wycliffe Gordon, Michael Cavanaugh, and have performed with the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Brevard Symphony, Bach Festival Orchestra, as well as being active performers for the Universal and Walt Disney Entertainment Companies. The 239 Collective's sound is new and exciting, yet you can hear the influences of the jazz greats in their approach and execution. The group's mission every live performance is to provide the audience with an escape from everyday life, and create a beautiful experience of music that showcases each performer's strengths. The group plans on recording an album in 2024.

**Encore! Performing Arts: Producer – 2024-present**

- Encore! Performing Arts is a charity-based non-profit performing arts organization that produces professional shows, concerts, and productions. Christian is one of the Producers in charge of the development of their new Youth Instrumental Programs. Christian's current project is the development and overseeing of Encore's Youth Big Band; an audition-only group of talented high schoolers from the Central Florida area. Christian works closely with Encore's business development team, marketing team, and legal team to ensure that the program is running and operating smoothly.

**Lake Highland Preparatory School: Private Lesson Instructor — 2024**

- Gives percussion lessons to students of various ages, from 2nd grade-12th grade. Featured Guest Artist on their end of year "Night of Jazz" Concert.

**Dr. Phillips High School Music Program: Percussion Instructor/Consultant – April 2024-present**

- Christian works as a Percussion Instructor for the Dr. Phillips High School Music Program and is part of the Battery/Drumline Staff. Dr. Phillips High School has a rich history of artistic excellence, and has been a consistently strong performing arts program in Central Florida for over 30 years.

**Horizon High School Music Program – Percussion Instructor/Consultant & Battery Coordinator – February 2022-May 2024**

- Christian worked closely with the HHS Music Program and gave instruction in one on one lesson and masterclass settings for their Percussion Ensemble Class, Jazz Ensembles, and Wind Ensemble. Christian was also the lead Battery Instructor for his duration there, coordinating instruction and rehearsal, and writing show music, cadences, and their Instructional Packet.

**Horizon High School Music Program K-8 Summer Music Camp – Percussion Instructor – 2022-2023**

- Worked with the beginning band percussion students (4th-6th grade), intermediate/advanced band percussion students (7th-8th grade), and jazz band students during individual sectional rehearsals and full band rehearsal.

**AWARDS/SPECIAL RECOGNITION:**

- Yamaha Young Performing Artist Award, Jazz/Contemporary Drumset Winner – 2023
- UCF School of Performing Arts Merit Scholarship recipient – 2020-2024
- UCF School of Performing Arts Performance Excellence Award Winner – 2021; finalist, 2022
- UCF Principal Percussionist Audition winner – Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2024
- UCF School of Performing Arts Director's Award – Spring 2023
- Music Foundation of Greater Naples Solo Scholarship winner – 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
- Naples Philharmonic Youth Jazz Orchestra member, drumset – 2018-2020

