



## Teacher Biographies

### Guitar & Bass Teachers

Eric Brewer .....	1
Chris Bumbera .....	2
Mike Dattilo .....	3
Jake Flaugh .....	4
Preston Lindey .....	5
Dan Monacella.....	6

### Drum Teachers

Steve Barone .....	7
Tory Shatto .....	8
Brian Strobel .....	9

### Band & Orchestra Teachers

Elva Newcomer-Kocher .....	10
Rob Morrison.....	11

### Piano & Voice Teachers

Riley Droney .....	12
Erika Kuhn.....	13
Charlie Meyer .....	14

## Eric Brewer

**Teaches:** Guitar, bass, ukulele, banjo

**Time Played:** 15+ years

**Experience:** Attended Duquesne University for music. Toured the country playing thousands of gigs. Over 10 years of teaching experience.

**Background:** Rock, funk, jazz, prog, blues, bluegrass, classical, recording and music tech.

**Additional Info:** Seven time Rock Erie award winner for Guitar and Best Jam Band. Three time winner of Best of Erie for Best Local Musician. Appeared in Guitar Player magazine. Has been teaching at World of Music for over 10 years.

## Chris Bumbera

**Teaches:** Guitar

**Time Played:** 20 years

**Experience:** 10+ years at World of Music

**Background:** Chris has been a teacher at the World of Music since 2008. During this time, he has taught over 100 students of all ages. Chris enjoys many styles of music including metal, rock, industrial, electronic, classical, some blues and jazz, and various forms of country. In addition to his own interests, he enjoys being exposed to new music from his students. Chris has a great interest in the recording and production side of music.

**Additional Info:** Proficient in many genres, Flexible and laid-back teaching style with a focus on personal developmental goals of the student and highly encourages his students to read music

## Mike Dattilo

**Teaches:** Guitar (acoustic & electric)

**Time Played:** 39+ years

**Experience:** Mike has been helping students of all ages and backgrounds reach their musical goals since 1989. Recognizing that all people learn music differently, Mike tailors each lesson to the person before him in order to maintain motivation and increase success.

**Background:** A steadily working musician, Mike actually “practices what he preaches.” From an insider’s perspective, he knows both music and the business of music. Since the 1980’s he has played in numerous local bands, many of which have had great regional success.

In 2004, Mike was the touring guitarist in Kevin DuBrow’s solo band. Kevin was the lead singer of multi-platinum rockers Quiet Riot. He’s also shared the stage (or worked with) Jeff Martin (Racer X), Henrik Ostergaard (Dirty Looks), and Ryan Roxie (Alice Cooper)...to name a few.

**Additional Info:** Whether a student wants to learn a few favorite songs, delve into beginner or advanced music theory, or is already a player and looking for some new ideas....Mike can help.



## Jake Flaugh

**Teaches:** Guitar, Bass, Ukulele

**Time Played:** 12 years

**Experience:** Currently pursuing a Bachelor Degree in Music Production at the Berklee College of Music.

**Background:** I have been a guitarist for over 12 years and have more than 2 years' experience in bass guitar and drums. Was the recipient of the Rock Erie Music Awards "Guitarist of the Year" in 2014. Currently I am recording and producing music and have produced 3 albums and 4 singles, and recorded over 5 albums so far. With the band, Kevlar, I have travelled to 35 states and have played over 400 shows as the lead guitar player. We opened for Nothing More, Avatar, Skidrow, Escape The Fate, Eyes Set To Kill, Adrenaline Mob, Like A Storm, All That Remains, The Bunny The Bear, 3 Doors Down, Steel Panther, New Years Day, Butcher Babies, Powerman 5000, Puddle Of Mudd, Nonpoint, Otherwise, and many more! I have written songs with Brian Bonds (Guitarist for Florida Georgia Line), Nick Sampson (Producer of Asking Alexandria, We Came As Romans, Polyphia, Miss May I).

**Additional Info:** Was accepted and attended 2012 & 2013 Guitar Sessions. I have made the Dean's List at Berklee every semester and was accepted into the National Honor Society in 2017

## Preston Lindey

**Teaches:** Guitar, Bass, Harmonica, Banjo, Mandolin, and Piano

**Time Played:** 40+ years

**Experience:** 30+ years

**Background:** Preston has played in numerous bands in the tri-state area. In addition to playing in bands, he has performed with the Erie Philharmonic Orchestra. Preston is very proficient in every instrument he teaches and has had many of his students move on to form bands of their own. He has also written numerous guitar instruction method books covering topics such as advanced jazz chord theory, rock guitar, and beginning through advanced music theory.

**Additional Info:** Aims on teaching materials that maintain maximum interest for the student, proficient in music theory, experienced in many genres of music.



## Dan Monacella

**Teaches:** Guitar, Bass, and Piano

**Time Played:** 25+ years

**Experience:** BA in Music Performance, BS in Psychology, teaching at World of Music since 1998

**Background:** Piano and guitar performance videos may be found on YouTube under user names VagueReality and DanMonacella (averaging around 5,000 views a month).

**Additional Info:** Specializing in teaching students with learning disabilities and other mental challenges. Also has worked with professional national acts such as War of Ages and White Wives specializing in theory, lead playing and song writing.



## Steve Barone

**Teaches:** Drum set

**Time Played:** 28 years

**Experience:** Steve began playing the drums at age 9. During his middle and high school years, he performed in concert band, jazz band, marching band, and percussion ensemble. After graduating, Steve performed in a number of rock and jam-style bands, including Frog Tree Gorge Band and Spooner. He also enjoyed stints as marching percussion instructor for Northwestern High School (1999) and General McLane High School (2005-2008).

**Background:** Steve currently plays with the rock/funk/jam band Eric Brewer and Friends; a band that's very active in the Erie music scene. He was voted "Erie's Favorite Drummer" in the 2010, 2014 and 2015 Rock Erie Music Awards. Steve has also been the percussion specialist here at World Of Music since 2003, helping area drummers with sales, service, and advice from his years of performance experience.

**Additional Info:** Steve is fluent in ALL aspects of drum set playing; including rock, metal, funk, jazz, blues, reggae, afro-cuban, bluegrass, and rudimental/marching. He stresses the importance of reading music, creative listening, and developing good technique. Steve likes helping students get to the core of their drumming by using counting and coordination exercises. He uses real-world examples to apply varying drumming techniques to different styles of music.



## Tory Shatto

**Teaches:** Beginning drum set, advanced drum set, Latin, Marching, Concert and Orchestra percussion.

**Time Played:** 20 years (since age 14).

**Experience:** Played in bands since age 14, has been teaching at World of Music for over 3 years, performed in all music programs (middle & high school), one year of Edinboro jazz & wind ensemble

**Background:** Performed in rock bands such as: Waiting for Never, Paddywacked, Red Morning Hour, Black Lung Choir, Scorch the Sky and 5-to-1. Performed in school programs such as: Edinboro Jazz & Wind Ensemble, 1 year of Mercyhurst intern program, 4 years of marching band, 3 years district jazz band, 1 year of district orchestra.

**Additional Info:** Loves Batman...

## Brian Strobel

**Teaches:** Drum set

**Time Played:** 38 years; has been teaching at World of Music since 2004.

**Experience:** Played in a local band since 2000. Has played in over 300 different musicals around town in local theaters and high schools.

**Background:** Started playing drums at age 6. Brian also sings and is the choir director at his church.

## Elva Newcomer-Kocher

**Teaches:** Violin and Viola

**Time Played:** 47 years

**Experience:** Taught violin and viola over 20 years

**Background:** Plays with 5 symphony orchestras, first violinist for Three Seasons string quartet. Plays for weddings and other events. Was Concertmaster for the Erie Civic Orchestra.

**Additional Info:** Director of finance and fundraising for the Greenville Symphony Orchestra.



## Rob Morrison

**Teaches:** Violin & piano

**Time Played:** 22 years on violin and 30 years on piano

**Experience:** 10 years teaching both violin and piano

**Background:** Received a bachelor's degree in music (violin and piano) from Mercyhurst University.

**Additional Info:** Rob plays at church as well as several local bands around Erie including Taylor Maid, Hiway Starr and The Year. He teaches all styles of music and has students ranging from ages 5 to 60.



Riley Droney

**Teaches:** Piano & Vocals

**Time Played:** 15 years

**Experience:** Several shows at the Erie Playhouse, sings at St. Stephens Episcopal Church and Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church. Trained classically for over 5 years.

**Background:** Majored in voice and minored in piano at Indianan University of Pennsylvania.



Erika Kuhn

**Teaches:** Voice & Piano

**Time Played:** Voice: 10+ years, Piano: 7 years

**Experience:** Has been singing and playing music since childhood. Has performed in 13 musicals, 2 operas and multiple gigs around the Erie area. Sang the National Anthem at the Bayhawks game.

**Background:** Bachelor's Degree in Music Therapy with a concentration in vocal studies.

**Additional Info:** Also plays guitar. Went to Slippery Rock University (class of 2016). Loves working with students of all ages.



## Charlie Meyer

**Teaches:** Piano, Trumpet, and beginner/rhythm Guitar

**Time Played:** 30 years

**Teaching Experience:** I have been teaching for 12 years, have played in bands for 20 years, and have 8 years of classical training on piano.

**Background:** After my classical training, I focused on jazz, blues and rock 'n roll music which would eventually turn into writing/arranging/composing for myself or within the construct of a band. Comfortable teaching students with special needs.

**Additional Info:** You can have all the scale/music theory training in the world, but it means nothing without rhythm. My rhythm studies/experiences are what propelled my playing to the next level. So even if you don't "play drums"...you should start! Listening to all styles of music, no matter your preferences, will start you on the path of true musicianship!