
Kevin Shinskie

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Education:

B.M. Jazz Studies - 2023

Vanderbilt University - Blair School of Music, Nashville, TN

Mentors: Jeff Coffin, Dr. Brian Utley, Dr. Ryan Middagh, Jimmy Bowland

Degree in Progress:

M.M. Jazz Studies - 2025

University of Miami - Frost School of Music, Miami, FL

Mentors: Marcus Strickland, Dr. John Daversa, Dafnis Prieto, Dr. Stephen Guerra

Extended mentor:

Adam Larson

Awards:

2021 Recipient Year:

Member of DownBeat awarded Vanderbilt Large Jazz Ensemble for an Outstanding Performance

Member of DownBeat awarded in the categories of outstanding performance for Vanderbilt Small Jazz Combo and the Best Undergraduate Blues/Pop/Rock Group

2022 Recipient Year:

Spirit of Billy Adair Award Recipient, awarded by Blair School of Music Faculty

Individual DownBeat Award for Undergraduate Composition for Small Ensemble

2023 Recipient Year:

Individual DownBeat Award for Undergraduate Composition for Small Ensemble

Individual DownBeat Award for Undergraduate Best Featured Soloist

Winner of Vanderbilt Wind Symphony Concerto Competition

2024 Recipient Year:

Honorable Mention for the Jazz Education Network Young Composer Showcase

Composition Award and Masterclass Presentation for ISJAC Jazz Composers' Symposium

Awarded Full Scholarship to Jazz Aspen Snowmass Academy Big Band Session, working with Etienne Charles, Shelly Berg, Jim Horowitz, and Chuck Bergeron

Honorable Performance Experience:

2022 Recipient Year:

- Performed with the Alabama Symphony, featuring guest artist, Charles Billingsley
- Vanderbilt Fellowship Performance for Maxine Gordon at National Museum of African American Music
- Featured Soloist with Vanderbilt Big Band at the Jazz Education Conference in Dallas, TX.
- Lead Tenor Saxophonist at top Summer Brevard Jazz Institute ensemble
- Honorary Performer for Chancellor of Vanderbilt University at Fall 2022 Board of Trust Gathering
- Faculty Recital Performance with Jazz Vocalist, Christina Watson

2023 Recipient Year:

- Finalist for Jack Rudin Jazz Championship at Jazz at Lincoln Center
- Selected Latin Ensemble for 2023 Jazz Education Conference in Orlando, FL
- Performer with the *La Orquesta CubanoAmericana de Vientos* in Havana, Cuba
- WDNA Miami Jazz Radio Performance
- Henry Mancini Institute Fellowship Performance for Centennial Celebration of the Frost School, featuring Gloria Estefan and Matt Serletic
- Selected member for the Alan Chan Jazz Orchestra performance at 2023 Jazz Education Conference in Orlando, FL

2024 Recipient Year:

- ISJAC Composer Symposium's Performance with Nick Smart's Kenny Wheeler Orchestra
- WDNA Miami Jazz Radio Performance
- Henry Mancini Institute Fellowship Performance with Anat Cohen, Conducted by Maria Schneider
- Band Leader for personal ensemble at the Salamander Miami Art Center

Extended Performance Experience:

- Album Recording with the Nashville based, *Ryan Middagh Jazz Orchestra*
- Concerts with the Miami based, *Stephen Guerra Big Band*
- Performance with the *Andy Farber Big Band*, Featuring Artist Nethanel Hershtik
- Employment and shows with *Vali Entertainment*, based in NY
- Employment and shows with the *The Afterparty Band*, based in Seattle
- Member of professional contracted wedding band, *Music City Sound*. Performances in Nashville TN, Albany NY, Cleveland and Cincinnati OH, Birmingham AL, and Lexington KY.
- Performance with the *Andrew Theilen Big Band*

Masterclass and Private Lessons Instructor:

Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville, TN (2022-23)

Park Vista Community High School, Lake Worth, FL (2023-24)

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Parkland, FL (2023-24)

Palmetto High School, Palmetto, FL (2023-24)

Academic Fellowships and Internships:

Buchanan Library Fellowship Research Member - The Diverse World of Yusef A. Lateef: From Archives to Performance (Fall 2022)

Internship with Music Film and Audio Company, Continuous Motions Productions (2021-22)

Vanderbilt Musician Coordinator in partnership with Nashville Music Venue, Anzie Blue (2022-2023)

University Musician Coordinator with Vanderbilt Divinity School Department, Alumni Relations, and Student Life Center (2021-2024)

Selected for the 2023 Summer La Orquesta CubanAmericana de Vientos experience, taking place in Havana, Cuba, directed by Dr. Verrier.

Commissioned by Palmetto High School for large ensemble composition for Florida BandMasters Association Music Performance Assessment (2022)

Institutional Ensemble Acceptance

- Lead Tenor and Lead Alto Saxophonist in Vanderbilt Blair Big Band Member of the Top Jazz Combo at Vanderbilt
- Member of the Vanderbilt Latin Jazz Ensemble
- Member of the Vanderbilt Wind Symphony Member of the Saxophone Chamber Quartet at Vanderbilt
- Baritone Saxophonist and Bass Clarinetist of Top Frost Big band, Frost Jazz Orchestra
- Member of Frost Dafis Prieto Artist Ensemble
- Member of Steve Rucker Top Frost Funk Fusion Ensemble

Leadership Experience

Vanderbilt Jazz Department Assistant (2020 - 23)

Vanderbilt Big Band Saxophone Section Leader (2021 - 23)

Vanderbilt Top Jazz Combo Leader (2022 - 23)

Leader of Personal Artist Ensemble, *Chronology* (2023-2024)

Masterclass and Artist Performances with:

Francisco Torres, Derek Brown, Michael League, Roxy Coss, Joel Frahm, Manuel Rangel, Bobby Watson, Yeli Africa Ensemble, Sean Jones, Jazzmeia Horn, Ari Hoening, Marcus Miller, Bob Shepard, Anat Cohen, Jacob Collier, Nick Smart, Michael Mayo, Maria Schnieder, Dion Kerr, Gregory Tardy, and Sharel Cassity.