

Adara Alston

SAG-AFTRA - AEA - Multi-instrumentalist musician with excellent communication and theatrical performance skills. Passionate about conducting and being the expressive face and embodiment of the music. Over 30 years of experience on drums and brass (trombone, baritone horn, tuba), plus some experience on woodwinds (clarinet) and bagpipes.



EXPERIENCE

Drum Major — *BC Celtic Pipes and Drums (2019–Present)*

- Conducts the band at various professional venues as well as local bar/restaurant establishments
- Leads band during parades while conducting tunes
- Helps with duties performed during rehearsal

Snare Drummer — *BC Celtic Pipes and Drums (2013–Present)*

Performs on the solo marching snare; Led drum section as acting Drum Sergeant

Led section rhythms in parades. Guided rehearsals, provided drum music arrangements and training to new students

Orchestra Drummer — *Various*

MONTH 2017 - PRESENT

Performed as a drum kit performer in musical orchestra pits.

- Cider Mill Playhouse's *South Pacific* - Performed on drum kit in pit with two days notice when the original drummer was injured.
- Franklin Stage Company's *Bricktop* - Performed on drum kit on stage as a sub for the primary drummer.

Performed on cajón on stage during original musical portions.

- Cherry Arts' *As You Like It* - Performed on cajón on stage for original numbers and helped arrange parts for the cajón with the music director.

EDUCATION

Cornell University, Ithaca NY — *Band drums/trombone (1995–99)*

Trombone/Drums - Gained proficiency on trombone and drums as member of the Big Red Marching Band and Big Red Pep Band

Conductor - Conducted band at events and ran rehearsal sessions (1998).

Tony Monforte Drum School, Endicott, NY — *Graduate (2003–04)*

Trained with drumming legend Tony Monforte for a year culminating in a performance recital of a Lenny Kravitz piece.

Oran Mor Workshop, Saratoga Springs, NY — *Graduate (2013)*

Trained on Celtic Highland snare drumming with Grade 1 Band.

INSTRUMENTAL SKILLS

Expert in percussion (drum kit, marching snare, marching bass, marching cymbals, cajón, etc.) with 30+ years experience.

Proficient in trombone with nearly 35 years experience with ability to play tuba and other brass.

Ability to read music for bass, treble (clarinet), and percussion clefs

AWARD

2023 Best of the Bands - Awarded 2nd Place Band at Windsor NY Parade (played on snare)

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

Edinburgh Scotland on The Mound - Performed on snare to hundreds

Opening Act - Played snare as opening act for international acts Celtica, Celtic Ladies, Enter the Haggis, and the Glengarry Boys.

Guest Performer - Played on snare with international band Celtica during *Smoke on the Water / Scotland the Brave* medley

Halftime Performer - Played on trombone twice for the Buffalo Bills and the Toronto Argonauts.

Contact:
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