

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Christopher L. Burnett

PROFILE

Success-driven, visionary, and highly committed professional equipped with broad background in providing top-notch leadership and services within nonprofit, military, and corporate organizations; complemented with expertise in business startup, business development, jazz artist development, music education, and community outreach. Expert at planning and setting long-term strategic plans, as well as optimizing organizational efficiency, reducing costs, and surpassing business objectives. Recognized formally and professionally for excellent leadership capabilities in establishing high-performing and cross-functional teams, while maximizing human and financial resources.

EXPERIENCE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BURNETT MUSIC FOUNDATION, LEAVENWORTH, KS – 2020-PRESENT

- Strategically designed the integration of four successful arts programs under one nonprofit organization maximizing effectiveness, productivity, and efficiency.
- Spearheaded the fundraising efforts that resulted in winning a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in 2020 as well as meeting or exceeding project budget goals in 2020 and 2021.
- Established significant sponsorships, community partnerships and special projects that resulted in synergy with other organizations and entities including serving as the fiscal agent for Races United's education special project that won a grant from The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, KANSAS CITY AREA YOUTH JAZZ, LEAVENWORTH, KS – 2018-PRESENT

- Strategically designed a private youth jazz artist program that included a community outreach plan and supporting programming based on community needs and assessment that resulted in in-kind partnerships valued at \$100k in tangible goods and services.
- Rendered oversight of a world class youth jazz artist program that has produced a professional industry experience that culminated in the commercial release of recorded albums each season.
- Developed and optimized job standards and roles for associate staff and program volunteers along with participant standards of conduct and terms of participation.

CHIEF OF OPERATIONS, ARTISTS RECORDING COLLECTIVE, LEAVENWORTH, KS – 2007-PRESENT

- Capitalized on industry expertise in establishing a professional record label model that serves as a brand collective for artists and GS1 global brand product database of over 100 recordings.
- Managed the worldwide distribution of ARC record label products through significant strategic alliances partnering artists with aggregate distributors resulting artist empowerment and maximization to 91% earnings of the sales proceeds from their commercially distributed works.
- Steered efforts that resulted in ARC's catalog of commercially distributed professional recordings growing from one release with three artists to over 100 releases featuring over 360 artists.
- Devised the innovative and modern business model for the ARC record label in 2007.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, BIRD BOOT CAMP, LEAVENWORTH, KS – 2019-PRESENT

- Was asked to take over the program as artistic director and administrator, expertly handling every detail of Bird Boot Camp - from the itinerary schedule for the day, booking artists and clinicians, organizing a coherent program, to funding the entire event through sponsorships, donations and grants to preclude possible barriers to participation, adding the Musical Salute element as well.
- Exemplified strong leadership skills in 2020 which resulted in earning a highly competitive grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for Bird Boot Camp + Musical Salute.
- Significantly improved business efficiency and program structure that resulted in raising all budget funding through private donations and business sponsorships which enabled Bird Boot Camp + Musical Salute to produce a world class jazz event at a Kansas City Jazz icon, The Folly Theater.
- Expertly led a team of staff and volunteers in the production of a Bird Boot Camp + Musical Salute, an official featured program of Kansas City's annual "Spotlight: Charlie Parker" festivities.
- Successfully contracted and directed the top professional musicians, educators, and jazz celebrities in the Kansas City region to participate in specific roles in annual Bird Boot Camp + Musical Salute.

EARLIER CAREER

- MARKETING DIRECTOR, ACTING CEO, AMERICAN JAZZ MUSEUM, Kansas City, MO – 2011-2016
- CONN-SELMER, INC., SELMER PARIS SAXOPHONE ARTIST/CLINICIAN, Elkhart, IN – 2001-PRESENT
- ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, JAZZ PROGRAM DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ROLLA – 1996-2001
- US ARMY MUSIC CAREER, FIRST SERGEANT AND ENLISTED BANDLEADER, Worldwide – 1974-1996

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Board Member, Kansas City Jazz A.L.I.V.E, Kansas City, MO
- Board Member, Kansas City Jazz Orchestra, Kansas City, MO
- Board Member, Mutual Musicians Foundation, INC., Kansas City, MO
- Jazz Clinician, National Association for Music Education, MMEA and KMEA
- Artist Booking System, 424 Lounge jazz club, Leavenworth, KS
- Founding Member, Jazz At The Hollywood Theater Concert Series, Leavenworth, KS
- Staff Writer, Fort Leavenworth Lamp Newspaper, Fort Leavenworth, KS

CONTACT:

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