

DAVID THOMAS BIRROW

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Education

- Master of Music – Percussion Performance*** May 2007
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
Minneapolis, Minnesota
– GPA: 3.97
– Principal Percussion Teachers: Fernando Meza, Earl Yowell, Phil Hey
- Bachelor of Music – Major in Music Education: Percussion Principal*** May 2005
University of Miami – Frost School of Music
Coral Gables, Florida
– GPA: 3.94, School of Music Class Rank: 5
– Awarded: Outstanding Graduating Senior in Music Education
– Principal Percussion Teachers: Dr. Ney Rosauero, Shannon Wood
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Professional Certifications

- Teaching Certificate: K-12 Music – State of Florida* 2005 – Present
Google Educator 2015 – Present
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Current Teaching Positions

MacPhail Center for Music: Minneapolis, MN October 2008 – Present

Percussion Instructor:

- Teach percussion lessons to a studio of 25+ students, ages six – adult at Minneapolis and Apple Valley, MN locations
- Established active percussion studio at Apple Valley, MN location
- Teach group percussion classes
- Assistant Coordinator of annual High School Percussion Showcase

School Partnerships Teacher:

- **New City School**, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Grades 4-8
 - Courses taught: General Music
- **MacPhail Online School Partnerships:** Grades 5-12
 - Live online group instruction in concert/contemporary percussion

Summer Camp Teacher:

- Percussion Camps
- Home Recording Boot Camp
- Beats and Tunes Camp

Committee Work:

- Faculty/Staff Council member
- Curriculum Committee member
- Technology Mentor
 - Curate and edit MacPhail’s professional development blog: LabReport

Breck School: Golden Valley, MN

August 2009 – Present

Percussion and Composition Teacher: Grades 7 & 8

- Courses taught:
 - Group Percussion Class
 - Digital Music Workshop
- Technology Planning Committee

Previous Teaching Experience**MacPhail Center for Music:** School Partnerships and Group Instruction Departments**Kerkhoven High School, MN** 2012, 2013

- Courses Taught: Drumline
- Awarded Top Drumline 2012

Veterans in the Arts Partnership: Adults 2012, 2013

- Courses Taught: Afro-Cuban Drumming; Beginning Snare Drum

F.A.I.R. School – Downtown, Minneapolis Minnesota: Grades 5-12 2010 – 2014

- Courses taught: General Music, Percussion Ensemble

Sheridan Elementary School, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Grade 3-5 2012

- Courses Taught: Afterschool Junkyard Percussion Ensemble

Prestige Academy, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Grades 9-11 2009, 2010**Paideia Academy, Apple Valley, Minnesota: Grades 5-8** 2008, 2009

- Courses Taught: General Music, Percussion

Patrick Henry High School, Minneapolis, Minnesota: Grade 9 2008, 2009, 2013

- Courses Taught: Percussion and Drumline Residency

Valley View Elementary and Central Middle: Columbia Heights, MN Grade 3-6 2009

- Courses Taught: Afterschool Junkyard Percussion Ensemble

St. Paul Conservatory of Music: Percussion Instructor August 2006 – 2011

- Individual and group percussion lessons, summer camp teaching
- Outreach assignment: Jackson Elementary School Afterschool Drumming Class

University of Minnesota: Instructor of Record August 2005 – May 2007*Courses Taught:*

- Percussion Techniques and Teaching MuEd 3505
- Rhythm Techniques for Music Therapy and Music Education Mus 3950
- Individual Percussion lessons to: Majors, Non-majors, and secondary students

Miami-Killian High School: Miami, FL – Drumline and Front Ensemble Instructor	2004, 2005
Robert Morgan Educational Center: Miami, FL – Concert Percussion Coach	2004
University of Miami Young Musicians Camp – Summer Camp Percussion Instructor	2004

Publications

<u><i>The Bucket Book: A Junkyard Percussion Manual</i></u> – Published by Alfred Music Publishing	Fall 2014
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Upcoming and Recent Clinics

<i>The Midwinter Clinic: National and International Band and Orchestra Conference</i> – “Bucket Ensemble: How to play and teach junkyard percussion” – Chicago, IL	December 2015
<i>National Association for Music Education (N.A.F.M.E) In-Service Conference</i> – “How to play and teach junkyard percussion” – Nashville, TN	October 2015
<i>Lakeville South High School</i> – “Percussion Ensemble Dynamics” – Lakeville, MN	May 2015
<i>Minnesota Music Educators Association (M.M.E.A.) Mid-Winter Conference</i> – “How to play and teach junkyard percussion” – Minneapolis, MN	February 2015
<i>Minnesota Association of Independent Schools Conferenc</i> – “How to play and teach junkyard percussion” – Golden Valley, MN	February 2015
<i>Minnesota String and Orchestra Teachers Association Fall Conference</i> – “Audiation and Rhythm Foundations” – St. Paul, MN	October 2014
<i>University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point</i> – “Percussion Foundations for K-12 Students” – Stevens Point, WI	October 2014
<i>M.M.E.A. Celebration of Young Musicians Festival</i> – Master Teacher: Percussion – Rockford and Worthington, MN	2010 – 2015
<i>Eagan, MN High School</i> – “Vibraphone Essentials,” “How to Play Better Without Trying,” “4-Mallet Survival Skills”	2012, 2013, 2014
<i>MacPhail Center for Music Idea Exchange Presentation</i> – “What Video Game Design Can Teach Us About Music Education”	2014
<i>National Guild for Community Arts Education</i> – “Using 21 st Century Technology to Extend and Enhance Arts Learning”	2013
<i>St. Louis Park High School, MN</i> – “4-Mallet Marimba Techniques” – St. Louis Park, MN	2013
<i>Minneapolis Public Schools Band Director In-Service Training Day</i> – “Rhythm Improvisation” – South Minneapolis, MN	2013

<i>Minnesota Percussion Association: Day of Percussion, Rosemount High School</i> – “Brazilian Percussion Techniques” – Rosemount, MN	2013
<i>Paideia Academy Middle School</i> – “Snare Drum and Mallet Essentials” – Apple Valley, MN	2012
<i>Hill-Murray High School</i> – “4-Mallet Basics” – Maplewood, MN	2011
<i>Minnesota Music Educators Association (M.M.E.A) Mid-Winter Clinic</i> – “Teaching Junkyard percussion in K-12 settings” – Minneapolis, MN	2010
<i>MacPhail M.M.E.A. All-State Audition Online Video Tutorial</i> – “Etude Master Class: Snare Drum, Timpani, and Vibraphone”	2011, 2012
<i>Minnesota Percussion Association: Day of Percussion, Anoka High School, MN</i> – “Brazilian Percussion Basics” & “Vibraphone: Techniques and Applications”	2009
<i>Percussive Arts Society Recreational Drumming at the University of Minnesota</i> – “Celebrating Health and Wellness:” Hand Drum and Drum Circle Clinic	2009, 2010
<i>C.M.E.N.C. Fall Collegiate Convention</i> – “Rhythm Techniques and Survival Skills” – Minneapolis, MN	2007

Performance Experience

Orchestral and Large Ensemble:

YOA – Orchestra of the Americas

Benjamin Zander, Placido Domingo, Carlos Miguel Prieto, conductors

Performed orchestral percussion and timpani for:

- *European Tour*: Belgium, Italy, France, England, and Germany 2006
 - Including performances at:
 - *Konzerthaus*: Berlin, Germany
 - *Flagey Cultural Center*: Brussels, Belgium
 - *Philharmonie Gasteig*: Munich, Germany
 - *Snape Maltings Concert Hall*: Aldeburgh, England
 - Performed with soloists: Pulos Popovic, Edmundo Ramirez, and Gabriela Montero
 - Performed on recording of Verdi’s *Messa da Requiem*, Placido Domingo, conductor

- *South American Tour*: Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay 2008
 - Including performances at:
 - *Teatro Castro Alves*: Bahia, Brazil
 - *Theatro Municipal*: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
 - *Theatro Municipal*: Sao Paulo, Brazil
 - *Auditorio Claudio Santoro*: Campos do Jordao, Brazil
 - *Teatro Coliseo*: Buenos Aires, Argentina
 - *Auditorio Fundacion Astengo*: Rosario, Argentina
 - Performed with pianist Nelson Freire and cellist Antonio Meneses

- Carleton Orchestra** 2014, 2015
 Hector Valdivia, conductor
 Carleton College Hall
 Percussion and Timpani
 Performed *World Premiere* of Jeff Trevino's *How to Build Fences and Gates*
- Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus** 2012 – 2014
 Freelance Percussion Accompanist
 Ted Man Concert Hall, Minneapolis, MN
- Wayzata Symphony Orchestra** 2011
 Marlene Pauley, conductor
 Wayzata Community Church, MN
 Percussion
- Minnesota Chorale** 2007
 Kathy Romey, conductor
 Accompanied choral concert on percussion from the Caribbean, Ireland, Africa, and America
 St. Olaf Church, Minneapolis, MN
- Linden Hills Chamber Orchestra** 2007
 Yuri Ivan, conductor
 Lutheran Church of the Good Shepard, Minneapolis, MN
 Percussion and Timpani
- Kenwood Chamber Orchestra** 2007
 Ken Freed, conductor
 Timpani
- Contemporary Composers Festival 2006: Elliott Carter: A Retrospective** 2006
 Members of the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra
 Scott Yoo, conductor
 Huss Music Room, St. Paul, MN and Ted Mann Concert Hall, Minneapolis, MN
 Performed vibraphone and percussion on piece: *Penthode: for five groups of four instrumentalists*
- University of Minnesota Symphony Orchestra** 2005, 2006
 Robert Debbaut, conductor
 Performed timpani on *Variations for Orchestra* by Elliott Carter, composer in attendance
- University of Minnesota Wind Ensemble** 2006, 2007
 Craig Kirchhoff, conductor
- University of Miami Wind Ensemble** 2002-2004
 Gary Green, conductor
 Performance at College Band Directors National Association Conference 2003

Chamber and Small Group:

- Struck Percussion Ensemble** 2010-Present
- Founding Member and lead grant writer
 - Performed with percussion virtuoso John Wooton for Minnesota Percussion Association (MPA) Day of Percussion
 - Awarded commissioning grants and performed World Premiere's:
 - *I'm Sorry, I've Already Forgotten Your Name* for percussion trio and electronics by composer Josh Clausen 2013
 - *Minneapolis Vignettes* for percussion ensemble by composer Troy Strand 2014
 - *The Haunted House* for percussion ensemble and silent film (film by Segundo de Chomon) 2014
 - Performed World Premiere of James Holdman's *Shade Birds* 2014
 - Performances with/at the MacPhail Center for Music, Walker Art Center, Hamline University, St. Paul Conservatory of Music, Zeitgiest New Music Ensemble
- Renegade Ensemble: Contemporary Chamber Music Group** 2005 – 2014
- Co-Principal Percussionist
 - Board Member who helped to gain 501(c) non-profit status
 - Performed music of living composers
 - Performances throughout the Twin Cities area including frequent World Premieres:
 - *Candy Bars* for marimba and saxophone by Lisa Ragsdale
 - *Dance #1* by Zachary Crockett
 - *high gain small grain* by James Holdman
 - *Struck* by Troy Strand
 - *Hovering* by Randy Bauer
- The David Birrow Group: Jazz Combo** 2006 – Present
- Vibraphone
 - Bandleader, booker, and arranger
 - Performances at weddings, clubs, parties, private and corporate events
 - Notable venues:
 - Artists Quarter, St. Paul, MN
 - Dakota Jazz Club, Minneapolis MN
 - Events including:
 - Live at the Library Series, Metropolitan Library Service Agency
 - Scott Country Historical Society
 - National Journal
 - The Rake Magazine
 - Science Museum of Minnesota: Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit
 - Fairview Children's Hospital
 - National Association of the Remodeling Industry
 - University of Minnesota College of Liberal Arts Award Ceremony
 - University of Minnesota President's Club Award Ceremony
 - Wayzata Art Festival

- The Marimba Bullies:** Zimbabwean Marimba Band 2010– Present
- Performer and arranger
 - World Premiere’s of diatonic marimba music of James Holdman:
 - *Turtle in Mukluks*
 - *Astrid’s Granny*
 - *Fish Party*
 - Performances throughout MN including:
 - Lake Harriet Band Shell, Minneapolis, MN
 - Lyngblomsten Mid-Summer Festival, St. Paul, MN
 - Underground Music Cafe, Falcon Heights, MN
 - 21st Annual Worthington International Festival, Worthington, MN
 - Vine Arts Center, Minneapolis, MN
 - Dickerman Park, St. Paul, MN
 - Powderhorn Park, Minneapolis, MN
 - Black Dog Coffee & Wine Bar, Lowertown St. Paul, MN
 - Cedar Cultural Center, Minneapolis, MN
- Minnesota Percussion Trio** 2015
- Performed “Around the World in 80 Beats” program
Ridgedale Library, Minnetonka, MN
- Zeitgeist Chamber Ensemble** 2014
- New Music Festival: “The Music of George Crumb”
Studio Z, St. Paul, MN
- Inver Hills Community College** 2013
- Guest percussion soloist with African Drum and Dance Ensemble and Steel Band
Inver Grove Heights, MN
- Saint Paul Conservatory of Music** 2011
- Performed *Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion* by Bela Bartok and *Variations on a Theme by Paganini* by Witold Lutoslawski arranged by Marta Ptaszynska
 - Percussionists Adam Rappel, Pianists Kim Craig, Patricia McPherson, Oleg Levin and Ivan Konev
 - Sundin Music Hall, Hamline University, St. Paul, MN
- Marimba 2010: International Festival and Conference** 2010
- Performed with *Janus Percussion* duo on World Premiere of *Big Bob’s Return* by Alex Orfaly, St. Paul, MN
 - Performed at St. Paul Cathedral (MN) in mass marimba ensemble concert
- Spark Festival of Electronic Art and Music** 2008, 2009
- Performed World Premiere of Jacob Gotlib’s *Slow Splintering* for chamber ensemble and electronics, Ted Mann Concert Hall, Minneapolis, MN
 - Soloist: *pies, para que los quiero* by Alejandra Hernandez for solo percussionist and electronics, Cedar Cultural Center, Minneapolis, MN
- Sapphire Chamber Consort** 2008
- Performed Stravinsky’s *L’Histoire du Soldat*
St. Paul, MN

YOA – Chamber Ensemble	2007
Performance at “White House Conference on the Americas” Washington D.C.	
New World Symphony Percussion Consort	2005
Miami, FL	
University of Miami Percussion Ensemble	
– Performance at Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC)	2002
– Performance at College Music Society National Conference	2003
– Soloist: <i>Concerto for Vibraphone</i> by Ney Rosauero	2004
– Guest conductor	2004

Relevant University Performance:

University of Minnesota , Minneapolis, Minnesota	2005 – 2007
Gamelan Ensemble, Steel Band, African Music Ensemble, Opera Orchestra, Jazz Combo Graduate Percussion Quartet, Percussion Ensemble, Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra	
University of Miami , Coral Gables, Florida	2001 – 2005
Afro-Cuban Hand Drumming Ensemble, Brazilian Ensemble, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Percussion Ensemble, Chamber Wind Ensemble, Brass Ensemble	

Recordings

Youth Orchestra of the Americas, conducted by Placido Domingo
Verdi’s Messe da Requiem. Glor Classics, 2008.

The University of Miami Percussion Ensemble, conducted by Ney Rosauero,
Concerti for Solo Percussion and Percussion Ensemble. Cane Records, 2006.

University of Miami Wind Ensemble, conducted by Gary Green,
Illuminations. Albany Records, 2003.

Professional Memberships

National Association for Music Education
Percussive Arts Society

Percussion Commissions

<i>Hero Worship</i> by Josh Clausen – Grant Funded	2014
<i>Soundtrack to the silent film: “The Haunted House”</i> by James E. Holdman – Grant Funded	2013
<i>Minneapolis Vignettes</i> for percussion quartet by Troy Strand – Grant Funded	2013
<i>Lunch with a Nun: Suite for Guitar and Vibraphone</i> by James E. Holdman	2012
<i>I’m sorry, I’ve already forgotten your name.</i> by Joshua Clausen – Grant Funded	2012

Grants Awarded

McKnight Artist Grant: “Mbira Study and Marimba Quartet Arranging” – \$2,500.00	2015
McKnight Artist Grant: “The Percussion Music of James Holdman” – \$2,500.00	2013

Administrative Experience

Ensemble Coordinator and Librarian: School of Music

University of Minnesota

August 2007 – Present

- Coordinate Ensemble Library:
 - Purchase and Maintain music for ensemble use
 - Coordinate rental materials, cataloguing services and replacement orders
- Support Ensemble Activities:
 - Prepare University business documents, including purchase orders, payroll documents for guest conductors and artists, create budget overviews for faculty
 - Oversee all ensemble auditions
 - Assist in selection and editing of Percussion Excerpts
 - Provide public relations information to School’s P.R. director for ensembles
 - Research pricing for music, equipment and supplies
- Coordinate Special Events/Programs
 - Coordinate all aspects of Jazz Festival, High School Honor Band, Concerto Competition and international guest artists.
 - Maintain databases and correspondence for special events involving ensembles

Percussion Department Coordinator

St. Paul Conservatory of Music

August 2006 – Present

- Developed 5 – year developmental plan to establish percussion department in the St. Paul Community
- Implemented recruiting and outreach program to reach students in K–12 public school settings

Percussion Ambassador: Spark Festival of Electronic Music and Arts

2008

- Acted as liaison for international performers, composers, and artists

Administrative Fellow: School of Music

University of Minnesota

August 2005 – May 2007

- Represented School of Music to performing artists/ensembles
 - Designed and created Percussion Department Inventory Database for \$800,000+ inventory
 - Utilized software including: Microsoft Office, Access, CLAIM, Filemaker Pro
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Academic Honors

Outstanding Graduating Senior in Music Education	2005
Jack Kent Cooke Graduate Scholarship Nominee	2005
Pi Kappa Lambda Music Honor Society	2004
Avedis Zildjian Percussion Scholarship	2004
Constance Weldon Scholarship – Performance and Academics	2001 – 2004
Muriel Rosen Memorial Scholarship	2003
Golden Key National Honor Society	2004
National Society of Collegiate Scholars	2004
Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society	2002
