

# HANEEF N. NELSON

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187 Rood Avenue  
Windsor, CT 06095

## EDUCATION

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<b>DMA</b>	University of Hartford-Composition	In process
<b>MM</b>	University of Massachusetts-Amherst, Jazz Composition/Arranging Advisor: Jeffrey Holmes-Director, African-American Music Dept.	May 2020
<b>BM</b>	University of Hartford, African-American Music Study	May 2000

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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<b>Jackie McLean Award for Academic and Performance Excellence</b>	2000
Award for maintaining a 3.0 or higher GPA as well as a high level of music performance as recognized and awarded by Jackie McLean.	

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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<b>University of Hartford</b> , West Hartford, CT <b>Graduate Fellowship</b> , Community Division	2021 to present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Advising Community Division Students on composition lessons</li><li>• Composer in Residence for Community Division Ensembles</li></ul>	
<b>University of Rhode Island</b> , Kingston, RI <b>Artist/Teacher</b> , Music Department	2020 to present
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create curriculum for the Jazz/Rock and Roll History Class.</li><li>• Teach Jazz/Rock and Roll History Classes consisting of 35-90 students</li></ul>	
<b>Springfield Symphony Orchestra</b> <b>Composition Teacher, Youth Programs</b>	2020 to 2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create curriculum for the Composition Classes</li><li>• Teach composition classes over Zoom</li></ul>	
<b>University of Massachusetts-Amherst</b> , Amherst, MA <b>Graduate Assistant</b> , African-American Music/Jazz Studies	2018 to 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teaching the following Undergraduate Courses: Instructor of Jazz Combo (6 students); Instructor of Jazz Lab (17 students) and Assistant Director of Jazz</li></ul>	

- Ensemble I (20 students); covering the following topics: Jazz Improvisation, Instrumental Technique, Jazz Ear Training, Jazz Composition and Jazz Arranging.
- Jazz Trumpet Studio Teacher (went from 2 to 4 students in 1 semester)
  - Jazz Improvisation Private Lessons (teaching 1 trombone and 1 tenor sax student)
  - Coordinator of Graduate Composers Ensemble

**Keene State College, Amherst, MA** 2019 to 2020  
**Adjunct Professor, Music Department**

- Create curriculum for the Jazz History Class.
- Teach Jazz History Class.
- Create new classes for the development of Music Students

**Amherst College, Amherst, MA** Sep 2018 to December 2018  
**Visiting Teacher, Jazz Department**

- Taught Jazz Ear Training, an undergraduate course averaging 6 students, covering how to recognize and identify chords and chord progressions within the Jazz Idiom as well as reinforcing concepts taught in the Music Theory Course.

**University of Hartford, West Hartford, CT** 2017 to 2019  
**Teaching Assistant, African-American Music/Jazz Studies** 2006 to 2016

- Assistant Instructor of Concert Jazz Ensemble, an undergraduate course averaging 17 students, covering Ensemble Playing, Instrument Technique, Jazz Improvisation, Section Playing. Also taught (as a substitute) Repertoire Building (averaging 15 students and teaching various Jazz Standards and Improvisation Concepts); Jazz Combos (averaging 8 students, teaching Jazz Improvisation, Jazz Ear Training, Jazz Composition and Jazz Arranging); Private Lessons (1 student per lesson and average of 8 students per group lesson; teaching Instrument Technique, Jazz Improvisation Concepts, and Jazz Music Theory).

#### **ADDITIONAL RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE**

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**Self-Employed Musician, Windsor, CT** 1996 to present

- Raised Funds for Non Profit Organizations through performances and strategic planning.
- Perform a variety of genres of music nationally and internationally as a featured artist and a sideman
- Compose and Arrange music in a variety of genres
- Teaching Private Lessons
- Masterclasses/Workshops at High Schools and Colleges
- Clinician Artist for RS Berkeley Instruments and Reunion Blues Instrument Cases

**New England Reparatory Orchestra, Westborough, MA** 2016 to present  
**Trumpet Player**

**Neefjazz Entertainment, Windsor, CT** 2016 to present  
**President/Owner**

- Curator of Jazz Monday's event at Black Eyed Sally's.
- Arts-Entertainment Consultation for Schools, Non-Profit Organizations, and Businesses.
- Creating Arts Based Curriculum for use in Educational as well as Corporate Settings.
- Providing Entertainment Options for a wide variety of settings and clients.

**Community Music School of Springfield, Springfield, MA** 2002-2008  
**Director of Jazz Studies/Music Instructor**

- Worked on Capital Campaigns for raising funds for the School.
- Assisted in Jazz Based Grant Applications.
- Helped Create the Framework for Springfield Public Schools Outsourcing Program as well as met with the Music Teachers for initial buy in to the program.
- Worked Outreach Programs.
- Created, Approved, and Implemented Jazz Related coursework for the students
- Taught trumpet, jazz improvisation, jazz history, and jazz ensemble
- Used a multimedia approach for instructing students

## **PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES**

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**Improvisation Devices, Outreach Music Festival, Schwaz, Austria 8-August-2021**

**Panel Discussion, Arts Advocacy Panel, Trinity College, Hartford, CT 1-June-2021**

**Masterclass, "Jazz Band Phrasing and Performance" King Phillip Middle School, West Hartford, CT 16-May-2021**

**Masterclass, "Canterbury Jazz Mass" as part of the Theodicy Jazz Collective, Syracuse University 1-3 November-2019**

**Presenter, "Jazz Education-A Different Approach" Connecticut Music Educators Association Annual Conference 11-April-2019**

**Presenter, "Jazz and the Harlem Renaissance" State of Connecticut (Capital Building) 6-March-2019**

**Guest Lecture, "Blues and the Origin of African-American Music" University of Hartford 8-February-2019**

**Guest Lecture**, “Bebop” Trinity College, 30-October-2018

**Guest Lecture**, “Louis Armstrong” Trinity College, 27-September-2018

**Guest Lecture**, “Jazz Ensemble” Trinity College, 27-September-2018

**Workshop**, “Improvisation Workshop” Hall High School; West Hartford, CT October 2017-May 2018

**Masterclass**, “Big Band Playing and Jazz Improvisation” Bethel High School; Bethel, CT January 2018

**Workshop**, “Leadership, Mentorship, & Planning” Leadership Quest-University of Hartford, 21-October-2017.

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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International Society of Jazz Arrangers & Composers (ISJAC), 2017-Present

Jazz Education Network (JEN), 2020-Present

International Trumpet Guild (ITG), 2018-Present

#### **ENDORSEMENTS**

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RS Berkeley Artist: 2012-present

Reunion Blues Artist: 2014-present

#### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

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**International Gospel Fellowship Church**

Musician/Responsible for playing music for Praise & Worship, Windsor, CT September 2013-2019

#### **LANGUAGES**

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**English:** Native Language

**Spanish:** Intermediate Listener, Novice Speaker, Novice Reading and Writing

## NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

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- August 2021 Schwaz, Austria-Makanda Project-Outreach Music Festival
- August 2021 Passau, Germany-Makanda Project-Passau Jazz Festival
- February 2020 Williamstown, MA-Avery Sharpe Group-Avery Sharpe's 400-Multimedia Project.
- January 2020 Newark, NJ-Avery Sharpe Sextet-Martin Luther King Jr. Multimedia Project.
- November 2019 Arlington, MA-Makanda Project featuring Chico Freeman at Arlington High School
- November 2019 Boston, MA-Makanda Project featuring Chico Freeman at Bunker Hill Community College
- November 2019 Syracuse, NY-Theodicy Jazz Collective: Canterbury Jazz Mass at Syracuse University
- August 2019 Springfield, MA-with Elan Trotman at Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival
- March 2019 Roxbury, MA-Makanda Project featuring Chico Freeman at the Bolling Municipal Building
- January 2019 Holyoke, MA-Makanda Project featuring Michael Gregory at Gateway City Arts
- October 2018 Roxbury, MA-Makanda Project featuring Feya Faku at Bolling Municipal Building
- August 2018 Providence, RI-New London Big Band (For USA Gymnastics) at the Biltmore Hotel
- July 2018 Roxbury, CT-The Lost Tribe-Roxbury International Music Festival
- June 2018 Burlington, VT-The Makanda Project-Discover Jazz Festival
- June 2018 Boston, MA-Yoron Israel Quartet-Berklee Performance Center
- June 2018 Hartford, CT-The Other Orchestra-Black Eyed and Blues Festival
- May 2018 New York, NY-Matt Dwonszyk Quintet at Dizzy's Club Coca Cola
- April 2018 Roxbury, MA-Makanda Project featuring Chico Freeman at the Bolling Municipal Building
- March 2018 Hartford, CT-Haneef N. Nelson Quartet at Baby Grand Jazz Series; Hartford Public Library
- July 2017 Hartford, CT-Paul Brown Legacy Ensemble at the Paul Brown Monday Night Jazz Series; Bushnell Park
- July 2017 Hartford, CT-with Heshima Moja and Ofrecimiento at Paul Brown Monday Night Jazz Series; Bushnell Park
- July 2017 Hartford, CT-with Dexter's Lab at the Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz; Bushnell Park
- May 2017 Springfield, MA-Guest Artist with the Springfield College Undergraduate Jazz Ensemble
- February 2017 Springfield, MA-Guest Artist with the Springfield College Undergraduate Jazz Ensemble
- December 2016 New Britain, CT-Christmas Concert with Doobie Powell and Musiq Soulchild

- November 2016 Hartford, CT-Whitney Houston Tribute with Grammy Winner Charmagne Tripp at Infinity Hall
- October 2016 Holyoke, MA-with Heshima Moja and Ofrecimiento at the Holyoke Latin Jazz Festival
- August 2016 Springfield, MA-with Heshima Moja and Ofrecimiento at the Springfield Jazz and Roots Festival-Springfield, MA
- July 2016 Hartford, CT- as headlining group (Hartford Legacy Jazz Orchestra) at Greater Hartford Festival of Jazz-Headlining Group
- October 2015 Holyoke, MA with William Cepeda at the Puerto Rican Arts Festival

## REFERENCES

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### **Jeffrey W. Holmes, Director of Jazz and African-American Music Studies**

University of Massachusetts-Amherst  
 151 Presidents Drive, Amherst, MA 01003  
 Phone: (413) 545-6046  
 Email: [jwholmes@music.umass.edu](mailto:jwholmes@music.umass.edu)

### **Chris Casey, Director of Big Band**

University of Hartford  
 200 Bloomfield Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06117  
 Phone: (860) 768-4820  
 Email: [casey@hartford.edu](mailto:casey@hartford.edu)

### **Dr. Emmett Goods, Assistant Professor**

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 Department of Music, Fine Arts Center, D106, 105 Upper College Road, Kingston, RI 02881  
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### **Yoron Israel, Chair, Percussion**

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