

Get to Know Your WVS Musicians Daniel Stotz, Double Bass



Tell us a little bit about yourself: I grew up with an older brother in Eugene, Oregon, with an amazingly supportive family, who did everything possible to give me every opportunity possible to be the best bass player that I could be.

I earned my Bachelor's degree in Double Bass Performance at the University of Oregon. Here I am at a football game in 2013. **GO DUCKS!**



After graduation, I worked as a freelance musician in the area, and solidified my decision to continue my career as a professional musician.

When did you move to Arizona? In 2002, I moved to Arizona to start my Master's Degree in Double Bass Performance at ASU, only intending to live in Arizona for two years. Toward the end of my degree, my teacher asked if I would audition for the DMA program. I decided that there was still a lot of work that I wanted to do to improve my technique and musicianship, so I auditioned and was accepted into the program. After a long process, I finished my Doctorate of Musical Arts in Double Bass Performance in 2012.

It was during this time, that I started performing with the West Valley Symphony. I actually do not remember exactly what year I started performing with the WVS, but I believe it has been about 15 years.

If you were gifted an all-expense paid trip to anywhere in the world, where would you want to go? I think I would travel to Iceland, to watch the Northern Lights...from a hotel that has a glass ceiling.



Currently, I spend a great majority of my time performing with Showtune Productions and Brockpro Entertainment doing tribute act performances around the southwestern states. Here I am on stage during an Elton John Tribute performance.

Outside of performing, I teach double bass in my private studio, and do sectional coaching at Campo Verde High School in Gilbert, AZ. In addition, I teach the History of Michael Jackson, and Music in America at Arizona State University.

What do you do during your off-time: Since 2020, I have been spending the summers at the lake cabin that I grew up visiting, Summit Lake in Washington state. My Grandfather built it in the 1950's. Here, my favorite activities include fishing, hiking, bird hunting with my dog Powell, and spending time with my family. Pictured here is Powell, and Frieda the Donkey.

