

# Nathan Borton

nkborton@gmail.com  
4821 Duvernay Dr  
Lansing, MI 48910  
316-665-2077

## Education

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- Michigan State University, Master of Music in Jazz Studies, East Lansing, MI 2017-19
- Friends University, Bachelor in Music Performance, Wichita, KS 2011-16
- Berklee College of Music, Completed multiple semesters of course work, Boston, MA 2014-15

## Professional Employment

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- Faculty member at Jazz and Creative Institute in Kalamazoo, MI 2018-19
  - Instruct private lessons for studio of students ages 12 to 19
  - Prepare students for auditions to conservatories, colleges, and competitions
  - Participate and perform in monthly student/faculty workshops
  - Perform a faculty recital each year
- Teaching Assistant, MUS301 (Jazz Improvisation 2) at Michigan State University 2017-19
  - Graduate Assistant position
  - Instruct class 20 percent of time, grade, develop curriculum, evaluate progress
- Instructor for MUS131 (Jazz Combo) at Michigan State University 2017-19
  - Develop curriculum, repertoire, and focus on improvisational skills
- Private instructor of non-major guitar students at Michigan State University 2017-19
  - Develop private studio curriculum for all students
  - Teach an hour lesson each week with a focus on jazz improvisation
- Mixing and recording for Michigan State's Blue Monday guest artist series 2018-19
  - Set up and record Blue Monday concert
  - Engineer and mix recordings for university promotion

- Brevard Jazz Institute Teaching Assistant 2018
  - Supervise and run camp dorms
  - Teach morning technique class with students
  - Assist and perform with Lab Band 1
- Jazz faculty member for Spectrum Piano Camp at MSU 2018
  - Instruct classical pianists with special needs on the fundamentals of jazz improvisation
  - Meet once a day for a week and have final performance with campers
- Private studio instructor 2011-18
  - Instruct private lessons for private studio of students ages 10 to 19
  - Teach fundamentals of jazz improvisation
  - Develop listening skills and musical repertoire
- Guitar Instructor at The Music Scene, Wichita, KS 2016-17
  - Instruct private lessons for studio of students ages 8-14 on guitar fundamentals
- Para-educator at Wichita public schools (USD 259) 2016-17
  - Work with students independently on curricular studies
  - Teach multiple group classes on various subjects
- Substitute teacher for Damm Music Center, Wichita, KS 2016
  - Instruct students in place of normal teacher
- Lead multiple rehearsals and conducted Friends University big band, Wichita, KS 2015-16
  - Rehearsed “Dat Dare” and conducted performance
  - Focus on group playing, listening, and articulation
- Assistant Engineer for “The Community EP” by Commonfolk 2013
  - Mix multiple audio tracks for EP (Logic-DAW)
  - Help with cleaning up and organizing audio track information
  - Assist with recording sessions (microphone placement on instruments)

## Clinics

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- “What is the Blues?” Masterclass and performance at Jazz and Creative Institute January 2019
- “How to Practice” Masterclass and performance at Michigan State University May 2018

## Festival Performances

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- Friends University Alumni All-Star Big Band w/ Four Freshman February 2019
- Detroit Jazz Festival with MSU Jazz Orchestra 1, Detroit, MI August 2018
- Lansing Jazz Festival with Altin Sencalar Quartet, Lansing, MI August 2018
- East Lansing Jazz Festival with Chris Glassman Quartet, East Lansing, MI June 2018
- Instructor/Performer | Kalamazoo Jazz Festival with JCI’s Youth Jazz Group July 2018
- Jazz Orchestra II at Jazz Spectacular Jazz Festival, East Lansing, MI April 2018
- KCKCC Jazz Festival with Solstice, Friends University’s top jazz combo March 2015

## Sideman/Group Performances

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- Master’s of Music recital for degree completion, East Lansing, MI April 2019
- MSU Jazz Orchestra 1 regional tour with Steve Davis March 2019
- MSU Professors of Jazz Concert w/ Brandy Young, MI February 2019
- Dmitri Matheny Group at the Union, Kalamazoo, MI October 2018
- Dmitri Matheny Group at Saugatuck Brewing Company, Saugatuck, MI October 2018
- MSU Jazz Orchestra 1 regional tour with Melissa Aldana September 2018
- Opening act for Freddie Cole | Private Performance, Detroit, MI August 2018
- Hosted jam session at Detroit Jazz Festival with the Carr Center August 2018
- Moriarty’s Pub with the MSU Guitar Studio, Lansing, MI August 2018
- Moriarty’s Pub with the Sencalar/Glassman Quintet, Lansing, MI June 2018
- TA/Performer | Brevard’s Big Band 1 at Brevard Center for the Arts, Brevard, NC June 2018
- MSU Jazz Orchestra II with Steve Wilson, East Lansing, MI March 2017

- MSU Jazz Orchestra II with Harvey Mason, East Lansing, MI December 2017
- MSU Jazz Orchestra II with Michael Phillip Mossman, East Lansing, MI October 2017
- Regular performer at Larkspur Jazz Club, Wichita, KS 2015-17
- Regular performer at Herford House, Wichita, KS 2014-17
- Solstice, Friends University's top jazz group, with Brad Leali, Wichita, KS March 2016
- Solstice, Friends University's top jazz group, with Tanya Darby, Wichita, KS November 2015
- Solstice, Friends University's top jazz group, with Cyrus Chestnut, Wichita, KS September 2015
- The Green Lady Lounge with Solstice, Kansas City, MO March 2016
- Solstice at SCI Region VI convention, Wichita, KS March 2014

### **Community Outreach and Start-ups**

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- East Lansing educational community outreach tour w/ Sencalar/Glassman Quintet 2019
- Start-up | Started monthly jazz performance and jam at Blue Owl Coffee in Lansing, MI 2018
- Start-up | Started weekly jazz performance and jam at Mort's Cigar Bar, Wichita, KS 2017
- Founding member of Commonfolk; regional tour/ recorded two albums w/ Micajah Ryan 2012-15

### **Composing Experience**

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- Original works/arrangements for octet and combo performed at master's recital April 2019
- Original work "One For Randy" performed at East Lansing Jazz Festival June 2018
- Composer | original work performed at JEN conference by Solstice jazz group January 2018
- Composer | Had multiple compositions performed w/ Friends University's big band 2015-16
- Composer/Performer | original works for both junior and senior recitals 2014-16
- Composer/Performer | original works at KCKCC Jazz Festival, KC, MO April 2015
- Composer/Performer | original work played at SCI Region VI convention, Wichita, KS March '14

## Recordings

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- Duet recording w/ Dale Black on “Jingles” (*live studio performance*) February 2019
- Sencalar/Glassman Quintet, “Welcome Home” (*still in production*) *Upcoming* 2019
- Sencalar/Glassman Quintet, “Donna Lee” (*video recording for album promotion*) November 2018
- Recorded with Seth Ebersole as part of audition band for Army Blues September 2018
- Nathan Borton Trio, “I’ll Be Seeing You” (*live studio performance*) June 2017
- Commonfolk, “Warm Like the River, Cool Like the Treetops” October 2015
- Commonfolk, “The Community EP” July 2013

## Principal Instructors

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- Randy Napoleon, Michigan State University, private instruction 2017-19
- Diego Rivera, Michigan State University, Independent Study 2018
- Larry Baione, Berklee College of Music, private instruction 2016
- David Gilmour, Berklee College of Music, private instruction 2015
- John Baboian, Berklee College of Music, private instruction 2016
- Lisa Hittle, Friends University, small group leader and mentor 2011-16
- Randy Zellers, Friends University, private instruction 2011-16
- Dan Racer, Friends University, compositional instruction 2016
- Micajah Ryan, Air House Studios, music engineering instruction 2012-17

## Awards and Honors

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- Downbeat Student Artist Award: “Outstanding Performance-Jazz Soloist” April 2019
- Downbeat Student Artist Award: “Outstanding Live Recording” (Audio Engineering) April 2019
- Finalist | Wilson Center International Guitar Competition, Milwaukee, WI July 2018
- Summer Solstice Jazz Festival 2018 Student Artist Winner June 2018
- Member of the Golden Key International Honors Society 2018

- Graduate Teaching Assistant at Michigan State University *In progress* 2017-19
- Accepted into Master program at University of North Texas 2017
- Scholarship offer from University of North Texas 2017
- Magma Cum Lade graduate of Friends University 2016
- Member of Alpha Chi National Honors Society 2016
- Recipient of Sebit's Scholarship for outstanding student performers 2011-16
- Recipient of the Davis and Presidential Scholarships at Friends University 2011-16
- Accepted to study under Larry Baione (guitar chair) at Berklee College of Music 2015
- Special Guest | Performed with Peter Bernstein at Berklee College of Music masterclass 2015

### **References (Information Available Upon Request)**

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- Rodney Whitaker, Director of Jazz Studies, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- Randy Napoleon, Assistant Professor of Jazz Guitar, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI
- Lisa Hittle, Director of Jazz Studies, Friends University, Wichita, KS
- Benje Daneman, Director of Jazz and Creative Institute, Kalamazoo, MI