

JIM MOLINA

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Motivated and inspiring piano instructor with vast experience in working with all students of different ages, levels, and personalities. With many years of teaching experience I find I am able to get amazing results in short periods of time with all my students. As a private instructor it is a privilege to develop a relationship with my student that allows them to grow musically over the course of many years.

SKILLS

Clear communication	Punctual
Patient but determined	Professional
Enthusiastic	Respectful
Focused	Methodical
Organized	Detail and Big Picture orientated

WORK HISTORY

09/2006 to 07/2016 **Music Director**

First Congregational UCC – Downers Grove, IL

In the role as music director, I was in charge of overseeing the entire music program. I specifically worked with my Christian Rock band, Guided Path in providing music for worship services every week. I rehearsed and conducted the adult and teen choirs and was the pianist and organist accompanying all groups and playing solos. I also performed solo classical recitals as well as concerts accompanying other soloists.

03/1991 to 12/2011 **Director and Owner**

Oakbrook Academy of Music & Art – Oak Brook

As the owner of The Oakbrook Academy of Music & Art I created a music and arts program that encompassed musical training and theatre training to countless students over a 20 year period; witnessing and overseeing the professional instruction given to all students of which many have gone on to have musical and theatrical careers. The program provided excellent instruction under my supervision and held high standards for all students regardless of age. Theory exams and performance juries were given every quarter along with 2 recitals and outside competitions. Full musical productions and straight plays were produced with performances that drew audiences of over 2,000 attendants during a run. At the schools height we had over 400 students and 20 instructors. Lessons were designed to educate at a high level yet remain fun and inspiring.

09/1990 to Current **Piano Instructor**

Self Employed – Downers Grove and DuPage area

As a private piano instructor I have taught hundreds of student over the course of my teaching career. Students have ranged in age from 6 - adult. All students have been taught with a focus and concentration on technique and performance skills. Though classical music is the foundational choice of repertoire my students also learn jazz and other contemporary styles. Many of my students perform in the jazz bands at their high schools and middle schools (Hinsdale Central, Downers Grove North, Butler Junior H.S.) My students participate in piano recitals and competitions and I typically average 80 - 85 per cent of trophy winners at each competition (many being 1st place winners). Students will typically get in to the Beethoven Sonatas, Chopin Etudes, Rachmaninov Preludes, and other advanced works over a period of about 8 years. All of my students have gone on to excellent collegiate programs and have been able to use their piano training skills to enhance their study habits. It also looks great on their college applications!

Performer/ Composer/ Recording Engineer

Self Employed

As a concert pianist I have performed countless recitals for the past 30 years. I have performed in recital halls in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, Canada, and various other places. My programs tend to focus on a particular composer or period, with Beethoven and Chopin being my most concentrated composers. As an accompanist I have accompanied professional soloists as well as student soloists of all ages and levels. As a composer I created published music for film, contemporary bands, orchestra, choirs, and solos. I have an extensive knowledge in music theory and orchestration. I also arrange all styles of music for different ensembles.

As a recording and sound engineer I have worked in the live environment and in the recording studio. I have recorded everything from bands to soloists. I specialize in recording young singers who need vocal coaching as well as an accompanist during a recording session. Many students have been able to make high quality recordings in my personal studio for submission to colleges or theaters.

EDUCATION

1999

Master of Arts: Piano Performance

Roosevelt University - Chicago

1990

Bachelor of Arts: Piano Performance/ Pedagogy

Roosevelt University - Chicago

A Piano Pedagogy Degree is a degree with a concentrated focus on teaching piano. Hundreds of books were analyzed and several different methods were studied and refined. This degree focuses on the art of teaching piano at the highest level.