# Stephen Barnes

**Piano & Voice Instructor | All Levels**
**Classical & Contemporary Music | Music Theory**
**Music Production, Songwriting, Performance Techniques, Music College Prep**



Stephen Barnes is an accomplished musician and dedicated music educator with over seven years of teaching experience and more than a decade of classical music training. Specializing in piano, voice, music theory, and performance techniques, Stephen brings a well-rounded musical background and a passion for helping students develop their talents. His teaching experience spans all skill levels, from beginners to advanced musicians, in both individual lessons and group classroom settings. His approach combines traditional musical foundations, creativity, and personalized instruction to inspire confidence and a lifelong appreciation for music.

Stephen holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Production and a Master of Science in Business Intelligence from Full Sail University in Winter Park, Florida. He also completed undergraduate studies in Music Performance, specializing in organ, at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, and pursued continuing education in music instruction at Full Sail University. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Music Education at the University of South Florida, where his doctoral research explores emerging approaches to songwriting and music education.

Stephen's musical journey began in childhood with extensive classical piano training that continued for more than a decade, establishing the strong musical foundation that prepared him for college-level music studies. His classical background, complemented by formal studies in organ performance, has shaped his expertise in musicianship, music theory, sight-reading, vocal coaching, and ensemble accompaniment. His performance experience includes working with vocalists, choirs, and instrumental ensembles, preparing students for performances, and guiding musicians in developing proper technique, musical expression, and performance confidence.

Stephen also serves as an Adjunct Professor of Pop Music Theory at the University of South Florida, where he develops and teaches comprehensive music curricula incorporating harmonic analysis, composition, songwriting, and contemporary musical styles. His experience in higher education complements his years of teaching students at various developmental stages, allowing him to adapt his instructional methods to different ages, abilities, and learning styles.

Throughout his teaching career, Stephen has provided both one-on-one instruction and group music education, emphasizing the importance of strong fundamentals, proper technique, ear training, rhythm, music reading, and artistic expression. His experience in vocal instruction includes coaching singers in performance techniques, musical interpretation, and ensemble participation. He also brings valuable experience directing rehearsals, mentoring musicians, and preparing students for live performances.

Stephen's teaching philosophy centers on developing the whole musician through patience, encouragement, discipline, and creativity. He believes that effective music education begins with understanding each student's individual strengths, interests, and aspirations. By combining classical foundations with contemporary musical approaches, he creates a supportive and engaging learning environment where students can progress at their own pace while developing confidence, independence, and musical artistry.

**Stephen believes that music education is more than mastering an instrument or developing vocal abilities—it is about nurturing creativity, building character, and inspiring a lifelong love of music.**