

PETER SCHWENDENER

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OVERVIEW: Professional jazz pianist with more than three decades of performance experience throughout the Chicagoland area, requested as a well-respected session musician and collaborator who delivers exceptional musicianship on and off-stage to the delight of audiences from every walk of life.

SUMMARY: **Relationship Management** Highly experienced in assessing true needs and expectations, building lasting professional relationships. Support key programs, events, performances, and engagements to reach audiences and support arts initiatives.

Integrity Have a demonstrated track record of outstanding musical performance; a dynamic, well-respected professional with long-standing roots in the Chicago music scene, including recognition as Critic's Choice in the Chicago Reader.

EXPERTISE:

- Piano
- Musical Composition
- Jazz Performance
- Education
- Writing/Editing
- Public Relations

MUSICAL EXPERIENCE: **BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC** 1978
Jazz Performance Program - Jazz Piano *Boston, MA*

PIANO PERFORMANCE 1977 to Present
Owner/Teacher/Session Musician *Evanston, IL*

- Professional jazz pianist, performing with various groups (solo, trio, duo, quintet, big band) in most of the major jazz clubs in Chicago, including: the Green Mill, Andy's, and the Jazz Showcase (Current monthly residency with my jazz trio).
- Requested to perform classical music, providing service music for St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Evanston on a regular basis.
- Participate on the Music Faculty of The Chicago Academy for the Arts, a private Arts High School in Chicago.
- Work with individuals to determine their individual comprehension, skill, goals, and preferences to develop appropriate curriculum and instill a love of music.

ALBUMS: • "Kickstand" CD 2011

WRITING EXPERIENCE: **STANFORD UNIVERSITY** Conferred 1988
Master of Arts degree in English *Palo Alto, CA*

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Conferred 1981
Bachelor's degree in English *Evanston, IL*

FREELANCE Current
Editor & Writing Tutor *Evanston, IL*

- Author articles/content for various organizations and publications, supporting branding, themes, and established communications strategies.
- Deliver instruction and tutoring to private students to enhance individual expertise and abilities.
- Edit and support content development for a wide range of styles and formats.

CHICAGO READER 1982 to 1987
Staff Writer *Chicago, IL*

- Collaborated with staff and editors to research and develop compelling articles and public interest pieces for this publication focused on the arts and culture of Chicago.
- Wrote feature articles, profiles, short pieces, and book reviews.
- Recognized for ability to provide wit, humor, insight, and engage readers.

ADDITIONAL:

- Published articles, essays, and reviews in several national publications, including: Chicago Tribune, American Scholar, Commonweal, The New Criterion, Triquarterly, and others.
- 1995 essay "Reflections of a Bookstore Type" was mentioned as a Notable Essay in that year's Best American Essay collection published by Houghton Mifflin.