

BRANDON J. FELDER

Brandon Felder is a multifaceted musician and educator passionately serving Prince George's County Public Schools for nearly 15 years. Felder earned his bachelor's in music education from Howard University and his master's in music education from the University of Maryland, College Park, where his thesis project was published.

Felder serves as Performing Arts Department Chair at Largo High School where the program has earned many distinctions such as 2015 GRAMMY® Signature School Award Semifinalist, 2016 GRAMMY® Grant Recipient and 2017 NAMM® Music Merit School Awardee. Felder was also executive producer for the Largo High School Choir album project "Rejoice!" (November 2017) and made history as the first high school to reach #7 on Billboard Gospel Music Charts and presented a CD release concert at the Kennedy Center for 1,150 attendees in December 2017.

Felder actively serves the community through his private piano instructional studio and with sacred music as associate minister of music at Reid Temple AME Church.

Felder is currently a Governor on the GRAMMY Recording Academy Washington DC Chapter Board and is an associate member of the GRAMMY Recording Academy. He has performed with Shania Twain, the late Marvin Hamlisch, Richard Smallwood, Walter and Edwin Hawkins, and many others. Felder performed for President Barack Obama, President George W. Bush, President Bill Clinton, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, Ambassador Bonnie McElveen-Hunter and Oprah Winfrey and served as musical director for the U.S. Embassy in Zagreb, Croatia for Black History Month (February 2013).

EDUCATION

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| 2015 | University of Maryland, College Park
Master of Music in Music Education,
Concentration in Jazz Studies, & Music Technology |
| 2005 | Howard University, Washington, District of Columbia
Bachelor of Music Education, Piano Emphasis
Piano Pedagogy and applied instruction with Dr. Raymond Jackson |

ARTS & EDUCATION EXPERIENCES

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| 2013-2018 | Largo High School , <i>Upper Marlboro Maryland</i>
Fine Arts Department Chair/Director of Choral Music
Courses taught: Choir, Piano, Music Survey, Music Technology |
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- Fine Arts Dept. Chair (Vocal/Instrumental Music, Dance & Drama programs)

- Established recurring meetings to foster collaboration among team members and help promote arts integration within the classroom
- Established a Music Technology Program that taught students to use the fundamentals of music production and students were given opportunities to visit Professional Recording Studios in the Washington Metropolitan Area and interface with studio engineers and producers
- Brought several music master classes to the students in order to assist students in learn skills surrounding vocal health as well as college preparation
- Writing of small grants and demographic reports in order to request funding and awards for Arts Program
- Established partnerships with community representatives and organizations in order to provide performance and community service opportunities for students
- Established a special enrichment Music curriculum for International High School (Hispanic Speaking) students at Largo High School
- Served as Lead Arts Integration Teacher in the inaugural year of Arts Integration at the school
- Served as 2017 Executive Producer of the Largo HS Choir CD-Rejoice where I led over 50 students to record, master and release a CD project reaching #7 on the Billboard Music Chart.
- Students were provided an opportunity to compile the skills gained during the school year from classroom instruction, master classes, performances, and field trips to a CD Recording project of diverse musical repertoire
- Organized/facilitated high school performing arts events at the following Humanitarian, Educational, Artistic and Religious venues:

President's Park/National Tree Lighting Program, Howard Theatre, John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Verizon Center (Washington Wizards- First High School to perform for National Anthem and Halftime Show Exclusively), Tanger National Harbor Opening, NASA Goddard, Ithaca College School of Music, Howard University, Bowie State University, Washington National Cathedral.

2005-2013 **Thomas Pullen K-8 Performing Arts Academy, Landover Maryland**
 Teacher of General Music/Director of Piano Studies
 Courses taught: General Music, Piano, Introduction to Music Technology

- Successfully campaigned for funding for a grand piano for the school
- Created a piano course for Grades 2-5 in the General Music Curriculum
- Presented and taught consistent Arts integrated activities and lessons in order to draw connections between general education concepts and the arts. Exposed General education teachers to methods for integrating the arts in their classroom.

- Created American Idol style music program at the Elementary Grade level that incorporated talent from across the school as well as American Idol contestants.
- Established partnerships with Washington Performing Arts, Jericho Senior Center, Largo Manor Care, Chick-Fil A, Barnes and Noble Bookstores in order to assist with student engagement and community service
- Assisted students with the creation and production of the school alma mater song using music technology

REFEREED PUBLISHED PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS & WORKSHOPS

Felder, Brandon (2015). [Non-traditional Music Class Offerings: Integration of Music Technology](#). (Masters Thesis/Action Research Project) University of Maryland. MusicCreativity.org

(2015, March) Music Education and Teacher Preparation Educational session and demonstration presented at the Prince George's Community College (Music Department) Upper Marlboro, MD.

(2009, April) Teaching general music in the public elementary and middle school. Guest lecture and demonstration presented to an undergraduate-level music education course at Howard University. Washington DC.

MUSIC INDUSTRY, ACCOLADES and NOTABLE PERFORMANCES

- Governor, GRAMMY Recording Academy Board Washington, D.C. Chapter
- *GRAMMY Chapter Board Education Committee Co-Chair*
- Associate Member of the GRAMMY Recording Academy
- Recognized/Selected as [Prince George's County 40 under 40](#) (2018)
- Reached [Billboard Gospel Chart at #7](#) with Largo High School Choir CD
- 2017 & 2018 [NAMM Music Merit School](#) for Commitment to Music Ed.
- 2016 GRAMMY Grant School Recipient Washington DC
- Various performances at John F. Kennedy Center Millennium Stage
- Accompanist for [Kennedy Center American Voices Festival](#) with Kim Burrell and Renne Fleming
- Pianist for [Pres. Obama's Inauguration Prayer Services- National Cathedral](#)
- Black Music Month performance at the [White House](#) for Pres. George W. Bush
- Music director at EPA for Pres. [Bill Clinton Building Renaming Ceremony](#)
- Clinician at Howard University, [Ithaca College](#) ,Prince George's Comm. College
- Choral Music Program Manager/Director- The MusicianShip -Washington DC

- Music Director US Embassy [Black History Cultural Observance](#)- Zargreb Croatia (Feb 2013)
- Accompanist & Artistic Associate -Washington Performing Arts (2007-2012)
- Accompanist- National Symphony Orchestra Sacred Sounds-THEARC Theater Washington DC (Jan 2011)
- Music Director-Sec. Hillary Clinton's Holiday Event for Military Families Washington DC (December 2009)
- Pianist NSO Pops: Happy Holidays Concert Series-John F Kennedy Center (Dec 2005)
- Artist/performer on [NBC 4](#), [Fox 5](#), [ABC 7](#), [WUSA 9](#), and [PGCTV](#) networks
- Artist/performer on [WHUR](#), [Radio One 104.1](#) and [NPR/WAMU](#)
- Artist presented within [Washington Post](#) and [Prince George's Sentinel](#)
- Sacred Music Position- Alfred Street Baptist Church
- Sacred Music Position -Reid Temple AME Church
- Sacred Music Position- First Baptist Church of Glenarden
- Sacred Music Position- Metropolitan Baptist Church