

Music Bio

I received my A.A. in Humanities from Los Angeles Valley College in 1978, which included a Humanities Summer Study Abroad Program in Italy, France, Germany, Belgium and England. I received my B.A. in Humanities from California State University, Northridge in 1982 with emphases in art, music, literature, drama and film. I was also a Music Major for 1.5 years during my B.A. period, but I opted to graduate with just the BA in Humanities. I studied violin there and sang in the University Chorale and Masterworks Chorale. As a music major, I took the required music theory, history and composition courses. Through my various careers, I have had a variety of musical opportunities.

I taught myself guitar (age 13) and piano (age 16). I've written 17 secular and 30 Christian songs from 1970 to 1988. I've performed some of my Christian songs solo and with the Christian band Abiding Love at the House of Bread concerts at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. I spent a Musicians for Missions Summer of Service with the Youth With a Mission group in Amsterdam, England and Scotland in the summer of 1983.

I also worked as a workstudy student for the director of the Music Education Department, Dr. Mary Louise Reilly, a well-known (but now deceased) music educator and pioneer of integrating the other arts to teach music. During that year, I team-taught the Music and Movement class (ages 5-6) in her Music for Youth program, which utilized Orff instruments, Dalcroze dance movement, Kodaly singing and listening, and creative drama.

For the California Music Educator's Association Mid-Winter Conference in 1981, I wrote, organized and demonstrated "The Composer's Toyshop," a story theater presentation which taught music and also demonstrated Dr. Reilly's theories at other workshops there. We also offered the "Celebration of an Autumn Festival Via the Lively Arts of Music, Dance and Drama" workshop at the the San Fernando Valley Teacher's Center at Lanai Road School.

Between 1979 and 1981, I taught a six-year-old gifted child private music lessons in music theory, music history and appreciation, piano, violin, rhythm instruments and recorder using Orff, Dalcroze, Kodaly and creative drama techniques.

I've written an Educational Musical Theater script and music (Once Upon a Dream 1981) and three short Christian musicals: The Promise (1984), The Singer and the Song (1982) and The Golden Key (1982).

I currently utilize my musical knowledge in my stories2music projects where I narrate my flash fiction stories over short orchestral music pieces and sound effects using Audacity sound editing software.

Before I started college in 1976, I worked in the music industry at Island Records and United Artists Records.