

Roy L. McGrath
Tenor Saxophone (Primary)
Alto Saxophone, Soprano Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute
2205 W. Morse Avenue. Chicago, IL 60645
939-940-1414
roy.mcgrath@hotmail.com
www.roymcgrath.com

EDUCATION

- **Master's in Music: Jazz Studies Saxophone Performance**, Class of 2014 Northwestern University Bienen School of Music. Private studies with Victor Goines, Saxophone, and Chris Madsen, Saxophone.
- **Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies Saxophone Performance**, Class of 2009 Loyola University New Orleans, GPA 3.45. Private studies with Anthony Dagradi, Saxophone Delfeayo Marsalis, Jazz
- **Berklee Five Week Summer Performance Program**, Summer 2006 Awarded a full scholarship to attend Berklee School of Music Five Week Summer program at the Berklee School of Music Summer Workshops in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- **Colegio San José, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico**, Class of 2006 Honor Student, AP Student, GPA 4.0
- **Master Classes Attended:** Ron Carter, Miguel Zenon, Sherman Irby, Brian Blade, Eddie Gomez, Steve Davis, Mike DiRubbo, Aaron Goldberg, Jonathan Kreisberg, Chris Potter, Joel Frahm, Wynton Marsalis, Victor Goines, Dafnis Prieto, David Sanchez, Ron Blake, George Garzone and Ryan Kiser.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **June 2016-Present:** Afro-Caribbean Jazz Ensemble Instructor at After School Matters and Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center
- **August 2013-Present**, Flatt's and Sharpe Music Academy, Rogers' Park- Chicago, IL Woodwind and Brasswind Instructor (Child and Adult)
- **May 2016-Present**, William Hatch Elementary School Steel Band Instructor
- **November 2013** Master Class on the History of Jazz presented at the Universidad del Turabo, Puerto Rico, by invitation.
- **July 2013** Master Class on Jazz Ensemble and Improvisation at Las Musas de Papa Sibarita in Mexico City, Mexico, during a month long tour culminating with a performance at the International Chiapas Jazz Fest.
- **September 2013-September 2015:** Northwestern University Evanston, IL, Non-Major Instructor of Jazz Saxophone.

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE – LEADERSHIP ROLE

Chicago 2012 to Present

- **Venues:** Green Mill, Andy's Jazz Club, Jazz Showcase, Prairie Moon, Sabor a Café, Hard Rock Café, The Local Root, Woman's Club of Evanston, Beat Kitchen, 8th Latin Jazz Fest, Drake Hotel, Hyde Park Jazz Fest
- **Musicians:** Branford Marsalis, Chicago Afro-Latin Jazz Ensemble (CALJE) Gustavo Cortiñas "Snapshot" Group, Kitt Lyles "Real Talk" Ensemble, Justin Copeland, Jonathan Wenzel, Arthur Black, Joaquin Garcia, Son de Habana, Manases Rivera, Adrian Ruiz, John Sims, Peter Manheim, Fatbook. Willie Torres Salsa Orchestra, Orchestra Rica Obsesion, Afinca'o, Orchesta Nabori, Michael Stuart, Jose Alberto "El Canario"

Puerto Rico 2006-Present

- **Venues:** Casa Borinquén, Soleil, Carli's Fine Bistro, Nuestro Son, Café La Princesa, San Juan Marriot, Gallo Negro, Marimba House of Jazz, Bodegas Andreu Soleil, Museo de las Américas, Libros AC, Bembele
- **Local Musicians:** Carli Muñoz, Jonathan Suazo, Leonardo Osuna, Gabriel Rodríguez, Gonchi Sifre, Gabriel Vicens, Bryan Perez-Cerón, Henry Cole, Tiko Ortiz, Raul Maldonado
- **Travelling Musicians:** Adam Thornburg, Kitt Lyles, and Gustavo Cortiñas. (All based out of Chicago)

New Orleans 2006-2012

- **Venues:** Tipitina's, Maple Leaf, Always Lounge, Spotted Cat, The Maison, WWOZ, Buffa's Lounge, Banks Street Bar, The Columns, Balcony Music Club
- **Musicians:** Chris Guccione, Joshua Gouzy, Erin Demastes, Bryce Eastwood, Alexey Marti, Fredy Omar y su Banda Latina, Easy Company, Georgi Petrov, David Roe and the Royal Rounders, Big Fun Brass Band

June –September 2009-2012

- Director of Jazz Combo & Jazz Orchestra. Camp of the Woods Summer Music Staff Speculator, NY.

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE – MUSICIAN ROLE

- **Summer 2016** Chicago Night Out in the Parks presented by the Park District: “Julia al Son de Jazz” by the Roy McGrath Septet, four performances.
- **June –September 2009-2010-2011-2012**, Camp of the Woods Summer Music Staff Speculator, NY. Primary Tenor Saxophonist working with a Pop’s Orchestra, Big Band, Small Jazz Ensemble, Saxophone Quartet, Chapel Music Band, Wind Ensemble Band Repertoire, and Classical recital repertoire, under the direction of Dr. John Winkler, principal trumpet of the Wheeling Symphony.
- **January 2009**, Louisiana All-state Intercollegiate Wind Ensemble Tenor saxophone. Wind ensemble repertoire
- **May 15-20 2009 and February 24-28 2010**, Chicago, Musical “Ain’t Misbehaving” – The musical biography of Fats Waller. Tenor Saxophone for the Show Band. Also responsible for rehearsing the band and coordinating rehearsals between actors and the Show Band
- **September 2010-November 2010** Alto/Tenor Saxophonist, Flutist and Clarinetist for Norwegian Cruise Lines Mediterranean ship “Gem”. Multi-instrumentalist participating in a variety of ensembles including jazz combo, jazz big band, pops orchestra, Top 40 Band, Entertainment Band.
- **September 2010-November 2010** Alto/Tenor Saxophonist, Flutist, and Clarinetist for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines “Enchantment of the Seas”, Multi-instrumentalist participating in a variety of ensembles including jazz combo, jazz big band, pops orchestra, Top 40 Band, Entertainment Band.
- **August 2012-May 2014** Northwestern University Big Band, 1st Chair Tenor Saxophone
- **August 2012** Saxophonist with the Evanston Symphony Orchestra
- **December 2013** Guest saxophonist with Afro Beat Collective led by Henry Cole
- **July 2015:** NextGEN Jazz Series with the Roy McGrath Quartet (Chicago Jazz Institute)
- **July 2015:** 9th Chicago Latin Jazz Festival with the Roy McGrath Jazz Quintet

TOURS

UPCOMING

PAST

- **February 2017:** Roy McGrath “Remembranzas” Quartet Asia Tour (1 month, Singapore, China, South Korea)
- **August 2016-** Kitt Lyles “Real Talk” Ensemble East Coast Tour, **Sideman**
- **October 2015-** Martha CD Tour Mexico, Roy McGrath Quartet **Leader**
- **October 2014** – Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou, China - Jazz Quartet, **Leader**
- **September 2014-** Mexico- Snapshot CD Launch, **Sideman** with the Gustavo Cortiñas Jazz Quintet
- **July 2013-** Mexico- Snapshot CD Launch, **Sideman** with the Gustavo Cortiñas Jazz Quintet
- **June 2013** Puerto Rico Jazz Quartet **Leader**
- **March 2013** Puerto Rico - Jazz Quartet, **Leader**
- **December 2012, 2013** Puerto Rico – Jazz Quartet, **Leader**
- **February 2011** – Easy Company CD Launch Tour, Louisiana, Georgia, Texas, Alabama - **Co-Leader**

COMPETITION

- **2013** Chicago Union League Civic & Arts Foundation Improvisation Competition: 3rd Runner-Up

GRANTS

- **2015** Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events Professional Development Grant \$2,500

COMMISSIONS

- **2015** Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center “Julia de Burgos” a two hour latin jazz set that fuses Puerto Rican music with the poetry of renowned Social and Feminist Advocate Julia de Burgos. \$3,000

FESTIVALS

- **September 2016:** Hyde Park Jazz Festival duo with Bill Cessna, Jazz Record Art Collective Tribute to John Coltrane’s “Blue Train”
- **August 2015** Cuban Fest backing up Hector Silveira, Jose Alberto “El Canario”, Michael Stuart, and Sureya Perez
- **July 2015** 9th Chicago Latin Jazz Festival
- **March 2015** WDCB 90.9 “Chicago’s Home For Jazz” Oak Park Jazz Thaw Festival

- **May 2014:** New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival with the Northwestern University Small Jazz Ensemble under the leadership of Victor Goines
- **June 2013** Chiapas International Jazz Fest, Chiapas, Mexico
- **May 2009 and April 2010** French Quarter Music Festival Fredy Omar y Su Banda Latina – Tenor Saxophonist
- **May 2008 and May 2009** New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival Loyola University Jazz Big Band, 1st Chair Tenor Saxophone under the direction of John Mahoney, New Orleans French Quarter Music Festival
- **April 2006** Disney Festival & All Star Festival, **Jazz Band (Saxophone) and School Choir (Tenor) Best Soloist, Best Small Jazz Combo**, Orlando, Florida
- **May 2006** Puerto Rico Heineken Jazz Festival
- **March 2005** Primavera Musicale Veronese Concorso Internazionale di Canto, School Choir – Tenor Verona, Italy
- **March 2004** Musicfest, School Choir – Tenor, Orlando, Florida

MUSIC-RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE

Ongoing: Music Transcriber/Arranger for:

- Carli Muñoz, Puerto Rico
- John Winkler, Camp of The Woods
- Norwegian Cruise Lines
- Yuri Hevia and Sylvia Hevia Productions,
- Lee and Lei, Beijing, China

Summers 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 Camp of the Woods Summer Music Staff Speculator, NY

ENDORSEMENTS

RHINO Saxophone Ligatures

DISCOGRAPHY:

Esse Gustavo Cortiñas 2016

Ox Thief Patrick Huselman 2016

Real Talk Kitt Lyles 2015

Martha Roy McGrath Quartet 2014

Hymns of The Earth Lee and Lei Productions 2014

The Runaround Funky Hot Grits 2014

Do I Know You? Sasha Bayan 2014

Get Your Four Star On Four Star Brass Band 2014

Snapshot Gustavo Cortiñas 2013

Long Shot Roy McGrath Trio 2010

Easy Company Easy Company 2010

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Fully bilingual English – Spanish (Speak, Write, Read). Beginner French, Chinese

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Ignatio Volunteers, service and missionary group Loyola University

- May 2007 Traveled to Jamaica as a volunteer. Assisted in homes for lepers and for terminal patients.
- December 2008 Traveled to Jamaica in as the Leader/Coordinator to teach a body of over 100 students in music, arts and crafts, math and science to students ranging from kindergarten through 6th grade. Responsible for picking 20 team members, arranging funding, transportation, logistics and coordinator of education camp.

Member of the Civil Air Patrol, Auxiliary of the United States Air Force.

SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND SCHOLASTIC AWARDS

- **Berklee Five Week Summer Performance Program**, Summer 2006. Awarded a full scholarship to attend Berklee School of Music Five Week Summer program at the Berklee School of Music Summer Workshops in San Juan, Puerto Rico
- **Loyola University**, 75% Tuition Scholarship
- **Northwestern University**, 65% Tuition Scholarship