

Jared Cruz

Jazz Guitarist

BIO

Jared Cruz is a jazz guitarist that performs regularly with his group the Duplex Trio in western mass in addition to the Cambridge based jazz funk fusion group Lenny's Funk Club. He holds an Associates Degree in Music from Holyoke Community College and is currently studying at University of Massachusetts Amherst pursuing a degree in Jazz Performance. He is a part of the premier Jazz Ensemble I at Umass Amherst led by Jeffrey Holmes, where he has performed with the likes of Delfeayo Marsalis, and Sean Jones. Cruz also participates in several combo groups, and the Vocal Jazz Ensemble which he received a DownBeat award with. Cruz has also been an intern participant in the Jazz in July program held at University of Massachusetts every summer since 2019.

EXPERIENCE

Jazz in July — Intern Guitar Technician/Participant

July 2019, 2022, 2023

Maintained guitars and amps, set up performance spaces whilst participating in the program.

Starbucks, Northampton - Shift Manager

January 2018 - PRESENT

Began at the Chicopee location, helped open the Northampton location in 2020. Responsibilities: cash handling, inventory management, scheduling, training, operations, food rotation. Also performed other basic barista skills, Customer service, food handling, making drinks, taking orders.

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts, Amherst - Bachelor of Music Jazz and African American Music Performance (Jazz Guitar)

January 2022 - PRESENT

Current jazz guitar student, I play in several small combo and big band settings and play for several events on campus.

Holyoke Community College, Holyoke - Associate of Art in Music

September 2018 - May 2020

Recipient of jazz guitar honors recital spring 2019. Honors student, Dean's list Fall 2019 - Spring 2020.

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SKILLS

Advanced Jazz Guitarist

Intermediate Bassist

Intermediate Pianist

Intermediate Vocalist

AWARDS

Downbeat Vocal Latin Performance award

HCC Jazz Honors Recital

HCC Jazz Performance Award

REFERENCES

Robert Ferrier
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