

# **Penelope Williams Music Program Leader-Pianist-Vocalist-Teacher**

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## **PROFILE**

Seasoned Leader who amplifies the mission and executes on the vision of the organization as Director of Creative Arts playing a strategic and collaborative role which:

- Cultivates and nurtures strong relationships within the church community - choir members, teachers, musicians, friends of the arts and other partners
- Develops a strategic vision for programming, choir, outreach, and events
- Assumes the responsibility of arts leadership in the church community
- Exercises an innovator's DNA —observing, questioning, experimenting, networking and associating
- Recruits and retains high performing artists, instructors, aligned with the mission of the church
- Supervises and evaluates arts staff/volunteers to ensure the highest level of professionalism in Dance/Poetry/Choir/Band
- Provides professional learning opportunities supporting individual needs and goals.
- Oversees the day-to-day operations in the Creative Arts Department - communication channels, schedule, meetings, performances, events, calendar, and facility spaces.

## **Relevant Professional Experience:**

<b>Director of Creative Arts Spiritual Living Center Atlanta, Atlanta, GA</b>	<b>2010-present</b>
<b>Music Director – International Conferences – Centers for Spiritual Living</b>	<b>2010-2013</b>
<b>Music Minister - Unity North Atlanta Church, Marietta, GA</b>	<b>2005-2009</b>
<b>Production Coordinator - Events and Facilities, Georgia State University</b>	<b>1998-2004</b>
<b>Music Director Atlanta, GA - Atlanta Church of Religious Science</b>	<b>1999-2004</b>
<b>Interim Director - Vocal Jazz Choir, Georgia State University</b>	<b>2001-2002</b>
<b>Rising Star Records, Atlanta, GA, Promotions and Concert production</b>	<b>1996-1997</b>

## **Direct Professional Impact:**

- Expanded music and dance programs to include House Band, and Vocal Ensemble of 20 vocalists
- Produced/directed a contemporary music conference in New Orleans, Vancouver, Orlando 2012-2014
- Produced local Festival with national artists and choirs
- Expanded Creative Arts program to include Poetry competition, Dance Ministry and Vocal Workshop with Glee Singer and Vocal Coach, Gerald White and National artist, Levi Kreiss
- Produced Bi-Annual talent showcases for social interaction and talent discovery
- Recorded self-produced CDs with numerous featured artists and choir
- Created and produced the Summer Youth Creative Arts Camp
- Produced a bi-annual, 3 day Choral Festival which assembled multiple choirs, from around the country and engaged with activities, workshops, home stays, festival performances

## **EDUCATION:**

**Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA**

**2001-2004**

**Master of Music in Jazz Studies:** Concentration on pedagogy, Performance/improvisation. Research concentration on the work of Mary Lou Williams

**Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA**

**1995-1998**

**Bachelor of Science in Music Management and Marketing**

## **MODERATOR, CULTURAL CURATOR & PANELIST - Women in American Music**

<b>International Association for Jazz Education - Moderator/Panelist</b> <i>Researching Legendary Jazz Artists: Featuring The musical repertoire of Mary Lou Williams</i>	<b>1999-2004</b>
<b>Religious Science International Annual Conference - Presenter</b> <i>Vocal Improvisation Workshop: Music as Language of the Heart</i>	<b>2003-2004</b>
<b>American Jazz Museum-Women in Jazz Conference - Panelist</b> <i>The Music and Life of Mary Lou Williams</i>	<b>2000-2001</b>
<b>John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts - Moderator-Panelist</b> <i>Mary Lou Williams Jazz Festival</i>	<b>1999-2001</b>

### **AFFILIATIONS:**

<b>Chair: IAJE Women's Caucus</b> <b>International Association for Jazz Education</b>	<b>1999-2004</b>
<b>Board of Governors</b> <b>National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences-Atlanta</b>	<b>2002-2004</b>
<b>Member</b> <b>American Federation of Musicians-Atlanta Chapter 148-462</b>	<b>1981-2001</b>

### **Notable Performances and Venues**

- President Jimmy Carter
- Ambassador Andrew Young
- Wayne Dyer
- Deepak Chopra
- Marianne Williamson
- Dr. Billy Taylor
- Maurice Hines and The DIVA Jazz Orchestra

### **Notable Performance Venues**

- John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
- MLK King Center
- The Alliance Theatre
- Numerous United States and International performance settings