



Brief Resume

ROBERT STEWART ALLISON

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Cass Technical High School	1970-1974	Music Performance
University of Cincinnati	1974-1978	Music Education

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Percussionist - Mallett Percussion Specialist, Including MIDI-KAT, Jazz Vibraphone, Marimba and Ghanaian Balaphone. A Master of Mallett-Triggered Digital Interfaces Arts Administrator, Percussion and Music Educator, Arts Consultant

DISCOGRAPHY

"Because He Lives"	With Wayne Dunn, Majestic Records	1980
"The Motherland"	With Allan Barnes & Larry Williams	1981
"Montreux Jams I"	With Pepper Adams & Roland Hanna	1982
"Bigger"	With Kamau Kenyatta, Omni Arts Rec.	1985
"Now To Then"	With Ron English, Hot Doc Records	1987

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ADMINISTRATIVE

- The Storytellers, Inc., Administrative Director 1983-2016
Works directly with educators, curators and performing arts presenters in the Great Lakes Region in developing and implementing educational presentations. Performs all daily, on-going clerical and administrative management, serves as the liaison for artists-educators, board, presenters and consultants. Other responsibilities are; tour and artist residency planning, proposal development, marketing of programs, preparing-submitting reports to governing board, sponsors, state and local governments.
- Artists' Manager and Consultant 1991-2007
Assisted five Detroit performing artists obtain professional photographs, prepare promo brochures and prepare grants - which were awarded. Served as panelist for MCACA and served on the board of ArtServe Michigan.

EDUCATIONAL

- Schoolhouse Symphony, Inc., Music Educator and Clinician, 1978-1979
Taught general music and percussion at Covington Catholic High School in Covington, Kentucky. Adjudicated regional (Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana) high school band instrumentalists contests for the M.E.N.C. and the Ohio Music Educators' Association.
- Cincinnati Commission on the Arts, Artist-In-Residence, 1978-1980
Presented lecture-demonstrations in the Cincinnati Public School District.

PERFORMANCES

1977-1984

Andy Williams	Buddy Rich	Della Reese	Pepper Adams	Roland Hanna
Barry Manilow	J. C. Herd	Leon Thomas	Johnny Hartman	Nathalie Cole
Diane Carroll	E. Humperdink	Liza Minnelli	Shields & Yarnell	Bob Newhart

PERFORMANCES – ORCHESTRAL

1974-1979

- Detroit Symphony Orchestra, In-School Concerts Only 1974
- Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, While Attending University 1975-79
- Cincinnati Ballet and Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra 1977-79



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AUDREY RENAYE ALLISON

PERFORMING EXPERIENCE

1980 - 2016



Audrey's animated style, experience, vast repertoire and remarkable vocal manipulations combine to distinguish her as one of today's finest storytellers. She is also one of few *chromatic* kalimba players in the United States! She also plays steel drums, donno, berimbau, congas, cuica and other percussion instruments. Audrey has performed and given workshops (percussion & storytelling) at over 3,000 schools (K-12), libraries, colleges-universities and community centers throughout the Midwestern United States. She has performed/recorded with Odetta, Marvin Winans, Roy Brooks, Ali Jackson and "The Bassment", Sylvia Moy, Clifford Fears Dance Company and many others.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Writer, Storyteller, Lecturer and Percussionist; African and Afro-Caribbean Instruments. Arts Educator, Workshop Facilitator and Composer. Link: <http://youtu.be/kU-hewqsn-s>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

STORYTELLER & WRITER

1980 - 2016

Audrey has written stories for many special events and festivals throughout Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Wisconsin. She has also researched and cataloged hundreds of stories and folktales from all over the world. Audrey has frequently been commissioned to write stories for dance and other arts organizations. She has served as Artist-In-Residence (usually 5-12 days) in over twenty school districts throughout the Great Lakes Region. Within the past thirty-four years, Audrey has performed at well over 3,000 schools, libraries and community centers.

LECTURER AND CLINICIAN

1987 - 2016

Lectured, coordinated workshops on m'bira and percussion at over fifteen universities and colleges.

ARTS ADMINISTRATOR

Jefferson-Chalmers Citizens' District Council, Incorporated

1981 - 1984

Workshop Coordinator: Co-Produced and presented youth cultural arts activities. Organized and directed master classes featuring some of Southeast Michigan's finest performing artists.

Sojourner

1980 - 1983

Performed with, prepared proposals and assisted in program development. Served as the Project Liaison for this octet's Michigan concerts.

The Storytellers

1980 - 2016

Founder and Director: Prepared all documents necessary to begin and incorporate this organization. Developed and implemented all artistic programs, i.e., researched and edited literature, designed all sets, selected props and musical compositions/arrangements. Audrey also recruited board members, educators, writers, performing artists and submitted all reports.

Artistic Director: Responsibilities include: Directing artists residency activities, selecting and maintaining all props, stage design, costuming, directing performances and rehearsals. Audrey has made television appearances, radio interviews, attends conferences, conducts auditions for new artists, recommends new works to be commissioned and assists in recruiting volunteers.



Brief Bios

2016 GUEST ARTISTS

While two-four artists will be used at any one time, six artists will be contracted (on a rotating basis) throughout 2016. Artists will be selected as needed/requested and as schedules permit. All guest artists are Michigan musicians and/or storytellers of the highest caliber.



Judy Sima Storyteller, Author, Educator

Judy is an award winning storyteller. She is one of few storytellers that can captivate audiences of all ages. Her workshop themes include "Telling to Write," "Storytelling? Yes, You Can," "Literacy Alive" and "First Person Historical Narratives." As a "**Special Guest**" Judy will perform for all ages, including The Storytellers' Family/Literacy Night performances.

Visit Links: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnI1abJay2o>

And: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-9iljREMO_g



Jerry LeDuff Percussionist, Composer, Ethnomusicologist

Jerry plays tabla, balafone, d'jembe, m'bira, cuica and more. While obtaining his M.F.A. from Cranbrook Academy of Art, he also studied ethnic and world music. Jerry has lectured and conducted master classes on world music at well over twenty colleges and universities throughout the Midwestern United States and is a member of the Global Jazz Project.

Visit Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78pcqoiWOEI>



John Dana Bassist, Composer

John has toured the United States and Europe performing with jazz masters Art Blakey, Donald Byrd, Rahsaan Roland Kirk, Kenny Durham, and others. He has also toured with entertainers Robert Goulet and Rita Moreno. He is highly regarded as a jazz master throughout the area, having performed in over 50 ensembles in as many years. John was one of The Storytellers' key touring artists from 1985-1999, contributing much to the longevity of this small arts organization!



La'Ron Williams Storyteller

La'Ron's presentations promote diversity, foster community building, encourage peaceful conflict resolution and teach a host of "pro-social" skills, including empathy and self-expression. He performs for all ages and is especially skilled at presenting diversity workshops for adults. The Storytellers will utilize his unique talents for both children and family audiences. Visit Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YmGjH2CMyJg>