

Shawn Porteous Biography

Shawn Porteous has been an active member of his musical community for nearly a decade. As a guitar instructor, Shawn has worked with hundreds of students throughout this time in both one-on-one and group settings. Shawn has had experience teaching students of all ages and abilities, and has also had experience teaching a vast array of musical genres, including Rock, Jazz, Blues, Classical, and Celtic, to name a few. Currently, Shawn's own personal focus is on Classical guitar, as well as acoustic fingerstyle guitar. He has spent the past several months studying the stylings and techniques of such guitarists as Joe Satriani, Andy McKee, Ewan Dobson, and Spencer Elliott. Shawn has also previously volunteered as a guitar instructor at Status 4, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing under-served and at-risk youth with opportunities to explore their musical potentials.

In 2007, Shawn began teaching private guitar lessons after earning his Grade 6 certification through the London College of Music, now known as the University of West London. By 2009, he had also earned both his Grade 7 and Grade 8 certifications in electric guitar playing. It should also be noted that Shawn has not only assisted several of his students in passing such exams themselves, he has also helped prepare them to embark on their own teaching journeys. In 2010, Shawn completed his Bachelor of Arts through the University of Manitoba, and in 2015, he completed his Bachelor of Education. Shawn also currently holds a Certificate of Adult and Continuing Education diploma, as well as a Post Baccalaureate in Education degree through the University of Manitoba.

Currently, Shawn continues to teach private guitar lessons, and sees approximately 30 students each week. Shawn also serves as a substitute teacher in the River East Transcona School Division where he has gained much experience teaching various music and non-music

related courses such as Band, Guitar, Music Production, and History. Outside of substitute teaching, Shawn is also active in the extra-curricular activities of the schools where he subs, and has volunteered at several fundraising events, band performances, and jam sessions. He has also been involved with several performances, including being a part of the Manitou Opera House concert series in 2014. Lastly, it should be noted that Shawn is highly active in several other areas within his community, such as tutoring, and that he will be serving as acting President for the Winnipeg Musician's Curling League for the upcoming 2016-2017 season.