

Jessica Fogle

Singer-Songwriter/Pianist

Grand Haven, MI 49417 / (616) 843-3251 / jessicafogle@hotmail.com / jessicaintherainbow.com

Experience Highlights

Singer/Songwriter: Released 3 studio albums as a singer/songwriter, on iTunes and Bandcamp, with loyal underground following in Chicago and West Michigan (currently performing as “Jessica in The Rainbow”). Performed regularly in indie music venues since 2005. Recent album “Catalysts” was nominated for “Best Album by a New Artist” and “Album of the Year” by the WYCE 88.1 Jammies awards in 2015, and was a finalist for “Best Jazz Album” (for its jazz-folk elements).

Composer for Film: Wrote original music for the feature movie-musical “Were the World Mine”, featuring Wendy Robie (Twin Peaks), Jill Larson (All My Children), Judy McLane (Mamma Mia, Broadway), Zeldia Williams (daughter of Robin Williams) which swept the festival circuit in 2008 and won many awards, including “Best Music” at the Nashville Film Fest, and received glowing national press. Was ranked in the Top 100 films on Netflix for two years, and continues to screen regularly on the LOGO network. Album released through PS Classics (a Broadway Cast Recording record label).

Piano Teacher: Taught 30 piano students for 6 years, ages 4-adult, through Piano Lessons In Your Home in Chicago, as a beloved and highly-referred teacher, especially for ability to work with unique students (who need a highly intuitive and flexible, encouraging teacher). Previously taught at the Allegro School of Music at Catherine Cook School. Adaptable and creative, encouraged personalized approaches to method-based lessons, which included classical, folk, pop, rock, songwriting, musical theatre writing, and music theory & technique. Since moving to West Michigan in 2012, has taught piano to dozens of high school students, both classical/method book and pop/rock/coffeehouse piano via lead sheets. Former students have gone on to Interlochen High School and NYU for Music Business, in addition to releasing albums on iTunes. Hosted popular yearly recitals for students, where all genres of music were encouraged.

Musical Theatre Writing Teacher: Created the Create-A-Mini-Musical-Play Program (aka C.A.M.M.P) which has been very successful in West Michigan and Chicago. Each camp is 1-week of half days, during which kids ages 7-16 create their own characters, stories, dialogue, movements, song lyrics, melodies, and perform in an original mini-musical.

Performer & Musical Director: Toured nationally as a pianist and music director for Child’s Play Touring Theatre, performing improvised piano and acting on stage daily for hundreds of kids and teachers, and teaching classes on creativity, songwriting, and general music. Performed piano & music directed/conducted in professional productions of over 15 staged musicals in New York City, Chicago, and the Midwest. Venues performed in include Theatre Building Chicago, Apple Tree Theatre (Chicago), Dominican University (Oak Forest), Wagon Wheel Theatre (Indiana), Lincoln Center’s Directors Lab, Dixon Place, HB Studios, AMAS Musical Theater Lab, John Housman Theater on 42nd Street, The Singers Forum, The Triad Theater, City Center Encores Youth Program (NYC). Worked with NYC theatre professionals Sheilah Rae, Pam Koslow, and Josephine Abady, transcribing scores by ear & performing in professional staged readings and understudied as Music Director for “Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh” on Off-Broadway. Served as Music Director for “Sex the Musical!” at Danny’s Skylight Room on Off-Off Broadway. Frequently conducted 6-10 piece orchestras while performing piano. Began performing/accompanying full-time at Mona Shores High School in 2012, sight-reading advanced literature each week, performing in high pressure situations such as a live filming by The Travel Channel during America’s Tallest Singing Christmas Tree, in addition to accompanying for the Musical Theatre department each summer at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Performed and directed in additional educational settings, including Marymount School (NYC) and Gymboree Play & Music (Chicago), ages 6-months to 4 years. Began career as music director/vocal coach/pianist/conductor with The Racine Youth Players for kids ages 5-19, & performed in over a dozen musicals, garnering positive local press and an offer to take over the company.

Education

M.F.A. from New York University/Tisch School of the Arts in Musical Theatre Writing (2002). Collaborated with dozens of classmates, performed as vocalist/pianist during masterclasses and for staged readings, received weekly critique from industry professionals including William Finn (25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee), Mel Marvin (Tintypes), Sybille Pearson (Baby). Co-wrote the musical “Benjamin Starling” with Danny Pitt Stoller, which had a staged reading in NYC featuring Broadway actors such as Megan McGinnis (Belle, in Broadway’s Beauty in the Beast), and was later produced by Spirit of Broadway Theatre in Connecticut for a 4-week professional run.

B.A. in Music and Theatre from Lawrence University & Conservatory of Music (2000). Cum laude honors in course, and independent study for the directing and performing of final project: “The Believers” an original musical. Graduated with a double major (emphasis in Piano Performance & Dramatic Literature), in addition to an English minor. Hired as Teaching Assistant for Freshman and Sophomore level Music Theory classes, after excelling in the highest track of music theory courses offered. Recipient of 5-year high honors scholarship, and the IDEA Fellowship, providing a grant awarded to highly creative individuals, which funded a semester of study in the arts in London, England.