

**Brandon Mendez**  
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## **Education**

### **Master of Music - Guitar Performance, 2018**

California State University, Northridge

### **Bachelor of Music - Guitar Performance, 2016**

California State University, Northridge

Magna Cum Laude

### **Associate of Arts - Guitar Performance, 2014**

Fresno City College

Highest Honors

## **Preparatory Teaching Experience**

Shasta County Office of Education, Redding, CA, 2018-Present

- Works as an instructional assistant for preschool level classrooms
- Prepares classroom activities daily and monitors students
- Occasionally provides basic music lessons/exercises with students
- Assess students and communicates with teachers about student progress

Private Teaching Studio, Multiple Locations, CA, 2014-Present

- Teach private guitar, bass guitar, ukulele, piano, voice, music theory, and composition to beginner through advanced students aged 7-60
- Manage and coordinate lesson details and schedules with many students at a time
- Teach video lessons and provide students with study resources to refine their skills
- Teach styles including, but not limited to; classical, jazz, rock, pop, flamenco

Nueva Vision Community School, Van Nuys, CA, 2016-2018

- Taught 4 separate weekly hour-long courses focusing on introductory guitar, piano, and music theory to groups of students aged 9-18
- Prepared students for bi-annual recitals and monthly examinations through a prepared comprehensive lesson plan
- Assessed student performance and improvement in detailed progress reports

Melody International Music School, Granada Hills, CA, September 2017-December 2017

- Taught weekly lessons focusing on introductory guitar, bass guitar, and music theory to individual students aged 8-19
- Developed lesson plans and schedules for each student
- Incorporated the usage of textbooks to provide students with a consistent study and practice reference

Amadeus School of Music, Granada Hills, CA, 2014-2016

- Taught weekly lessons to individual students focusing on introductory to intermediate guitar and music theory
- Prepared students for bi-annual recitals and bi-annual examinations through a detailed lesson plan

Susan B. Anthony Elementary School, Fresno, CA, 2013

- Helped organize beginning guitar lessons with my community college for elementary school children through an after school music program
- Led a classroom of students to acquire the skills needed to play guitar
- Assisted with the transportation and maintenance of dozens of guitars every week

Mental Health Systems, Fresno, CA, 2013-2014

- Taught and organized beginning guitar lessons for groups of “at-risk” youth
- Developed specialized lesson plans that led students to acquire the skills to play beginner-level guitar and fuel their passion for music

KIDmunity Music, Fresno, CA, 2013

- Assisted with beginning guitar instruction at an after school program for kids at a local community college
- Oversaw and monitored large groups of children and prepared them for a recital that demonstrated the abilities they developed through the program

### **Other Related Work Experience**

Guitarist for Private Events, California, 2013-Present

- Entertain and provides music entertainment by performing a variety of styles for an extended period of time for guests at weddings, dinner banquets, etc.
- Manage invoices, scheduling, and event details

Fresno City College Teaching Assistant, Fresno, CA, 2014

- Worked directly with a music theory and guitar professor to assist with grading and documenting results
- Analyzed and evaluated tests and reports to assign an appropriate grade

### **Selected Guitar Studies**

**Steven Thachuk**, Classical Guitar Professor  
California State University, Northridge, 2014-Present

**John Dearman**, Grammy Award winning classical guitar professor  
California State University, Northridge, 2014-Present

**Kevin Cooper**, Classical Guitar Professor  
Fresno City College, 2012-2014

**Mike Dana**, Jazz Studies Professor  
Fresno City College, 2013-2014

## **Selected Guitar Masterclass Performances**

**Eliot Fisk**, Professor at the New England Conservatory – CSU Northridge, 2017

**Jason Vieaux**, Grammy Award winning artist – CSU Northridge, 2015

**Marcin Dylla**, International Performing Artist – CSU Northridge, 2015

**Paul O'Dette**, Professor of Early Music at the Eastman School of Music – CSU Northridge, 2014

**Lorenzo Micheli**, International Performing Artist – CSU Northridge, 2015

**Vladimir Gorbach**, Professor at the Sydney Conservatory – CSU Northridge, 2015

**David Tannenbaum**, Professor at the San Francisco Conservatory – Fresno State University, 2013

**Scott Tennant**, Professor at the USC Thornton School of Music – Fresno City College, 2012

## **Selected Solo Performances**

Johrei Fellowship Church, Los Angeles, CA, 2017

- Classical Guitar Recital

Guitar Salon International, Santa Monica, CA, 2016

- Video recorded performance of “Bate-coxa” by Marco Pereira

Cypress Recital Hall, CSU Northridge, CA, 2014-2018

- Master Recital, Senior Recital, and Junior Recital
- Guitar Studio Recitals

Organ Recital Hall, CSU Northridge, CA, 2015

- Featured soloist for Bach’s Double Violin Concerto in D Minor BWV 1043 arranged for guitar orchestra

KSEE 24 News Studios, Fresno, CA, 2014

- Live broadcasted performance of “Jongo” by Paulo Bellinati on television program *Central Valley Today*

Old Administration Building Auditorium, Fresno City College, 2013-2014

- *Six String Showcase* Guitar Concert

## **Selected Ensemble Performances**

### **CSUN Guitar Quartet**

- Guitar Foundation of America Regional Symposium, Grand Arts High School Concert Hall, Los Angeles, CA, 2015
- “Prism” Concert, Valley Performing Arts Center, Northridge, CA, 2015
- Guitar Chamber Music Recital, CSU Northridge Cypress Recital Hall, Northridge, CA, 2015-2017
  - o Featured soloists in *Concertino Grosso* by Daniel Kessner, 2017

## **FCC Guitar Quartet**

- Tour of Spain, 2014
  - o Colegio Padre Manjón, Granada
  - o Iglesia de S. Marcos and Fundación Caja Duero, Salamanca
  - o Iglesia de San Miguel y San Julián, Valladolid
- KVPR 89.3 *Young Artists Spotlight* Live Radio Performance, Fresno, CA, 2014
- *Six-String Showcase* Guitar Concert, Fresno City College, CA, 2013-2014

## **Other Ensembles**

- FCC Jazz Combo, venues in Fresno, CA 2013-2014
- Progressive Rock Band, venues throughout CA, NV, OR, WA, ID, UT, 2013-2018

## **Honors, Awards, and Scholarships**

- Most Outstanding Student in Guitar Department, CSUN, 2018 and 2015
- First Prize, Randy Rhoads Memorial Scholarship Guitar Competition CSUN, 2017 and 2015
- Andres Segovia Memorial Scholarship, CSUN, 2017 and 2015
- Ronald and Elizabeth Ann Purcell Guitar Scholarship, CSUN, 2016
- Member of the CSUN Honors Guitar Quartet, 2015-2017
- Richard Denner Memorial Scholarship, Presented by American Guitar Society, Inc., 2015
- Dana Family Outstanding Performance in Music Scholarship, Fresno City College, 2014
- Friends of the Arts Scholarship, Fresno City College, 2014
- Dean's List, CSU Northridge and Fresno City College, 2013-2018

## **References**

**Kevin Cooper**, Professor of Guitar  
Fresno City College  
kevin.cooper@fresnocitycollege.edu

**Steven Thachuk**, Professor of Guitar  
California State University, Northridge  
steve.thachuk@csun.edu

**Carlos Vazquez**, Professor of Guitar  
Fresno City College, Bakersfield College  
carlosvazquez24@live.com

**John Dearman**, Professor of Guitar  
California State University, Northridge  
john.dearman@csun.edu