

YCSD Alumni Spotlight

Mathew Willard
York High School
Class of 2017



PROFILE

Matt's Experiences at York High School

Matt's passion for music was enhanced during his time at York High School. He proudly reflects on his experiences as a baritone saxophone player with the marching band. Learning from his mentor, Richard Purvis, and traveling to MetLife Stadium to perform were the highlights of his high school experience. During his time at YHS, Matt also served as manager for the baseball team and participated in a New Horizons program.

Post-secondary Education and Training

Upon graduating from YHS, Matt continued his musical training with sessions provided by Martin Bloxson. These sessions along with mentoring by Richard Purvis and Steve Dady have contributed to Matt's musical success. He currently travels to Nashville to record an original album. His album is scheduled to be released this year on radio and streaming platforms. Matt is extremely proud of the musical selections on the album and reported it will include musicians who have worked with Michael McDonald, Vine Gill, and Prince.

Employment

Matt works part-time at Sherwin Williams while also performing as a full-time jazz musician. He performs in a variety of venues for parties, weddings, and other events. He enjoys making these moments "magical" for his clients and caters the song selections according to the event. Booking inquiries can be sent to Matt at mattwillardsax@gmail.com.

Leisure/Recreational/Inspirational

Although Matt spends the majority of his time practicing music, he does find time to spend with family. His brother plays baseball for Liberty University and he enjoys watching him play. His future goals include working full-time as a smooth jazz or contemporary jazz artist. He would like to tour the country performing as a signed or independent artist.

Matt's grandfather has been instrumental to his success. He refers to his grandfather as his best friend and is extremely thankful for his support and encouragement throughout the years.

Additional information about Matt's musical journey can be found at <https://mattwillardsax.com/>.