

Ari Frede

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EMPLOYMENT

1998-present
Old Town School of
Folk Music
Chicago, IL
Adult Program
Manager

- Non-profit leader with untraditional experience seeking director-level position.
- Skilled administrator for pilot programs, program expansion, and evaluation in education.
- Grew adult education programs in music, dance, and voice with international master musicians while managing information and schedules for over 60 teachers
- Presided over historic growth and record enrollment (over 6000 students per week), funding 50% of \$9mil budget
- Hired and trained faculty, with process-based, portfolio-documented evaluation program
- Targeted demographic development (teens and adults, ethnic and genre demographics) with expanded curricula
- Developed special events, including portions of
 - Folk and Roots Festival
 - Millennium Park opening
 - Chicago Cultural Center Lunchbreak series
- Collaborated with other institutions, such as
 - Illinois State Board of Education
 - Columbia College Center for Dance
 - Chicago Humanities Festival
- Piloted programs for schoolteachers (A School for Teachers, Teacher Camp, recertification program)
- Attracted celebrity artists, including the largest active workshop in institution's history (88 students). Others included Kurt Elling (series), Christine Lavin (students appear on her 2005 album), and DJ Danny the Wildchild
- Developed marketing strategies (catalog production, focus groups, student surveys, advertising strategies)
- Programmed appropriate technology (video projection system, database development, recording technology, web-based audio samples)
- Developed and sustained information systems (catalog database, student evaluations, attendance process)

1994-1996
Delta Blues Education
Program (DBEP)
Clarksdale, MS
Educational Consultant

- Wrote academic curriculum (grades 3-12) tying DBEP to University of Mississippi and public schools
- Developed this programming into Master's thesis
- Collaborated with master musician, higher ed and cultural institutions
- Taught elements of curriculum to visiting teachers from around the nation and regional public school students
- Infused oral tradition into class; students completed Spanish curriculum in record time compared to classes at same grade level
- Ranked highest in IGAP writing scores at grade level in school

1989-1991
Clearpool
Carmel, NY

- Designed curriculum for pre-K – 5 in pilot collaboration for 12-month school in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, NY

1988-present
Teacher (various)

- 2002-present, Anti-Defamation League, Chicago, IL
- 1998-present, Old Town School of Folk Music, Chicago, IL
- 1997-1998, Cabrini Connections, Chicago, IL
- 1996-1997, Hubbard Woods Elem., Winnetka, IL
- 1994, Adventures in Excellence, Jackson, MS
- 1994, Ruleville Middle School, Ruleville, MS
- 1993, Ruleville Elementary School, Ruleville, MS
- 1992, Millaudon Elementary School, Violet, LA
- 1989, Chelsea Public Schools, Chelsea MA
- 1988-'91, Hampshire Educational Collaborative, Amherst, MA

CONSULTATION & BOARDS

- Center for School Improvement
- Chicago Humanities Festival Planning Board
- Price School
- Terra Museum
- Museum of Contemporary Art
- Mississippi Folklife Hypermedia Project
- Dept. of Cultural Affairs, Community Arts Assistance Program (Multi-Arts)
- Catharsis Productions

EDUCATION

- Teachers' Institute, Teach for America, University of California, Northridge
- MA, University of Mississippi Southern Studies Program
Focus: Blues, education, and history
- BA, Hampshire College
Focus: Education, fiction, and children's literature
- Some Spanish and Portuguese spoken

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

- 1998, *Detours, The Devil Before He Went Down to Georgia* (music and literature criticism)
- 1998, Advent Day School, Birmingham, AL, *Neofuturist Expression*
- 1998, Small Schools Workshop, Chicago, IL, *What Makes a Good School?*
- 1997, The Field Museum, *Viddy Lantern*
- 1997, Hubbard Woods School, Winnetka, IL, *Saving the World, Pizza Flakes, Monster Scare* (producer, movies)
- 1997, Advent Day School, Birmingham, AL, Video Workshop
- 1996, University of Washington, guest panelist in ethnomusicology
- 1996, *Living Blues*, March/April *The Blues Vision of Corey Harris* (interview, cover story)
- 1996, *Mississippi Folklife*, Winter/Spring, *This The E* (ethnography)
- 1996, *Mid-American Folklore*, Spring, *The Delta Blues Education Program: The Marriage of Traditional and Modern Education* (criticism)
- 1996, *Chasm, When the Snake Bites* (fiction)
- 1995, 1996-1997 *Living Blues Directory*, Co-editor and compiler
- 1995, University Museums Social Studies Camp, University, MS, *John Henry*
- 1995, *Southern Writers, Southern Writing*, University, MS, *With a Hammer In His Hand: The Evolution of the John Henry Icon* (Southern Studies Award)
- 1995, House of Blues Teachers' Conference (University, MS), *Teaching Blues in the Classroom*
- 1995, Tunica Writers Workshop, University, MS, *A Selection from the DBEP Curriculum*
- 1995, NEH Blues Symposium, University, MS, *Blues in Schools: The Oral Tradition and Public Education*
- 1995, Delta Studies Symposium, Jonesboro, AR, *The Marriage of Traditional and Modern Education*
- 1994, Freshman Honors English (Guest lecturer), University, MS, *Postmodernity and Deconstruction in Negativland*

NOTABLE MUSICAL RECORDINGS & PERFORMANCES

- 2005, *Wiggleworms Love You*
- 2005, *The Essence of Irwin* (film soundtrack)
- 2005, untitled advertising promotion, Mosaic Studios
- 2004, *Elvis Tribute*
- 2002, *Old Town School Songbook* (unreleased)
- 2001, *Covered in Honey Live*
- 2001, *Songs of Hope* (benefit)
- 2000, with *Amelia Airmattress*
- 1999-present, voice-over & MC Old town School of Folk Music (weekly recordings, concerts)
- 1999, with Mark Dvorak and Chris Walz
- 1992-present, various sessions, and live in venues in New Orleans, Mississippi, Chicago, Folk & Roots Festival, Retro on Roscoe, more
- 1992-'93, with Corey Harris, Coco Robicheaux, and associated blues, folk and bluegrass acts