

Betsy Sims - Artistic Resume

I have been involved with music since I was a kid. While growing up, I participated in many different choirs - as well as loving our yearly Christmas caroling that spanned several counties and consisted of a small group singing five part harmony. Since being out on my own, I have played guitar and percussion in many small folk configurations - my favorite being "the Glacial Erratics" - a group of 4 Alaskan and Yukon women who performed educational shows for kids - as well as community concerts - all over Alaska, Canada and the lower 48.

Music has developed into my sole livelihood. I have worked predominantly as a performer and an audio engineer for my entire adult life. Currently I am the house sound engineer for Perseverance Theatre - and own and run my sound company "Studio A" here in Juneau.

I began to play the Zimbabwean marimbas 4 years ago when they first arrived at the Canvas Community Art Center. I was trained as a teacher - and taught for several years at the Canvas and in local schools. I feel that the marimbas bring together many of my talents - creating music that everyone can participate in by playing small parts that come together to make something complex and beautiful. I am excited about bringing my love of music and these beautiful African instruments to Juneau students.