

# **Mark Katz, Ph.D.**

**Ruel W. Tyson Jr. Distinguished Professor of Humanities and Director, Institute for the Arts and Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences at UNC-Chapel Hill**

Chapel Hill, NC, US

Professor Katz teaches courses on music and technology, popular music and modern art music

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## **Description**

The scholarship of Mark Katz focuses on music and technology, musical diplomacy, contemporary popular music, and the violin. He has written three books, "Capturing Sound: How Technology has Changed Music," "The Violin: A Research and Information Guide," and "Groove Music: The Art and Culture of the Hip-Hop DJ." He co-edited (with Timothy Taylor and Tony Grajeda) the collection "Music, Sound, and Technology in America." He is former editor of Journal of the Society for American Music and served many years on the National Recording Preservation Board.

Katz teaches music and technology, popular music, and modern art music. In 2011 he received an Innovation Grant from UNC's Institute for the Arts and Humanities to expand the scope and reach of university-level music pedagogy. One result was the creation of new courses including The Art and Culture of the DJ, Beat Making Lab, Rap Lab, and Rock Lab. Aimed at students without formal musical training, these courses introduce students to composition, performance, music history, entrepreneurship and community engagement.

Since 2013, Katz has been awarded more than \$2.5 million from the U.S. Department of State to create and run Next Level, a program that sends U.S. hip-hop artists abroad to foster cultural exchange, conflict prevention and entrepreneurship. Since 2014 the program has conducted workshops in 11 countries in Asia, Africa, Europe and Central America. In 2016-17 the program travels to Algeria, Brazil, Croatia, Cuba, Indonesia and Tunisia. His work promoting the arts and music education in underserved communities has been recognized through awards from the Freedoms Foundation, the Hip-Hop Education Center and Indy Weekly.

A former chair of the Department of Music, Katz became director of UNC's Institute for the Arts and Humanities in 2014. Katz lectures frequently on music and has been a guest speaker at universities and other institutions throughout the United States and Europe, including talks and keynote lectures at the British Library, Brown, Cambridge, Case Western, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Harvard, Minnesota, Northwestern, Oxford, the Sacher Stiftung, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Stanford and the University of Turku. He also addresses general audiences through radio and newspaper interviews, blog posts, Web chats and other engagements.

When he has time, Katz is a violinist, an amateur turntablist and a DJ at UNC's radio station, WXYC 89.3 FM.

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## **Industry Expertise**

Recording, Research, Education/Learning, Music

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## **Topics**

Musicology, Music Theory, Music Education, Academic Writing, Chamber Music, Classical Music, University Teaching, Arts Administration

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## **Affiliations**

Institute for the Arts and Humanities : Director, Beat Making Lab : Founder

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## **Past Talks**

**We Need You to Get this Right: Musical Communities and the Responsibilities of the Scholar**  
â€œPopular Music and Communities,â€• Graduate Student Conference

**Hip Hop Diplomacy: Opportunities and Challenges**  
Institute for Popular Music Lecture Series

**The Persistence of Analog**  
Guest Lectures in Musicology

**Promoting Civic Engagement through Music**  
Imagining a Music Curriculum in a New Century

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## **Education**

**University of Michigan**  
M.A., Ph.D. Musicology

**William & Mary**  
B.A. Philosophy

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## **Accomplishments**

**Phillip and Ruth Hettleman Prize (2011)**  
Dr. Katz is the recipient of the 2011 Phillip and Ruth Hettleman Prize for Artistic and Scholarly Achievement by Young Faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Best Cultural Exchange Model 2015**  
Hip-Hop Education Center, Best Cultural Exchange Model, Inaugural â€œExtra Creditâ€• Awards

**Indies Arts Award 2014**  
The Indy, an independent newsweekly, annually honors those how have changed the very landscape of arts in the Triangle by building new establishments in which makers, doers, and thinkers can matter even more

### **Next Level, an international hip-hop exchange program**

This international exchange program was initially funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in 2013 and renewed in 2014 and 2015, with a total funding of \$2,560,000

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