

Dana Murray

Executive Director

I've devoted most of my life to music, a passion that began when I was young and nurtured through my formative years. I grew up in south Omaha and attended Berklee College of Music on scholarship. Eventually, I moved on to New York City to play with such greats as Wynton Marsalis, Jimmy Witherspoon, Roy Hargrove, Aloe Blacc and Norah Jones. Beyond performing, I'm also an accomplished songwriter, producer and collaborator, and was honored to work with legendary label Blue Note.

My teaching experience includes various roles with the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha Public School District and Bellevue Public School District, as well as founding the competitive indoor percussion ensemble, Dojo Percussion. I have former students who've received scholarships from leading institutions like Berklee College of Music, University of North Texas and The New School – with some even receiving their doctorate in music performance. I'm also proud to have students who've gone on to perform with artists like Lauryn Hill, Cory Henry, Bootsie Collins and Postmodern Jukebox.

I'm eager to apply my unique music and teaching experiences and help shape the next generation of talent through NOMA. With the support of our community, my team and I are going to build Omaha's premier academy and master class venue for music and arts education in the North Omaha neighborhood. I can't wait to see how it transforms our community.

