

# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Dan Washburn Music

Danwashburn.net

## Rehabilitation:

Dan uses his unique skill set to support musicians as they recover from neurological insult such as stroke, traumatic brain injury and other injuries. Dan is able to quickly assess strengths and weaknesses and help clients rediscover their musical talents. He takes advantage of muscle memory to support return to playing. He collaborates with Mary-Ellen Thompson, Ph.D., speech-language pathologist, to teach good vocal hygiene, maximize vocal longevity, and reduce vocal fatigue. For singers who are struggling to maintain vocal quality, Mary-Ellen can provide strategies that help maximize dynamic range, improve voice quality, and maintain control of loudness.

## Coaching/Mentoring:

Dan is willing to share his vast knowledge of the music industry including song writing, performance, negotiating contracts, and “making connections,” with aspiring musicians. Dan will work with performers on an individual basis to provide coaching and support as they develop their career. He is willing to provide honest appraisals and support artists as they attempt to improve their craft. Very few musicians can rise to stardom, but many can have successful careers. The challenges of a musical journey can be very rewarding, in and of itself. Sometimes, it really is about the “journey.”

Dan is also willing to provide individual lessons in bass guitar at the advanced level. If you are an aspiring session player or wish to audition for a band, Dan can provide you with some challenging exercises that will support your progression to the next level.

## Charting:

**Charting 101:** This class is a basic introduction to writing charts. It will use chords and provide you with enough knowledge to start writing your own charts. This is a hands on functional class where you will learn to write your first chart. This is particularly valuable for those of you that are guests with different house bands from time to time. This takes the guess work out of your performance provided that the band can read charts also.

**Nashville Number System:** This is an advanced class, teaching the basics of the Nashville Numbering System. This system allows key changes to be made without the necessity of a new chart. It is particularly useful for performers that are guesting with high level house bands, songwriters, and producers. Enrolment in this course requires successful completion of Charting 101 or permission from the instructor.

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## Song writing:

**Song writing 101:** All the elements of how to write a song will be covered in this class. This includes style, story line, believability, melody, and most of all, “heart.” We will discuss collaboration and song registration, royalties, publishing, and airplay. Participants are expected to finish a song by the end of this one day class. If time permits, participants will have the option of performing their song for the class. Participants will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement with a non-compete clause at the beginning of this class. There are always great story lines shared in these classes, and we want to protect each one of your ideas.

**Advanced Song writing:** This class is for those of you that want to hone your song writing skills. Your goal is to try to write a hit song that you, a publishing house, or an established recording artist will record for the purpose of airplay. Serious inquiries only. This is not for poets or the faint of heart! Every word will be scrutinized and challenged by the instructor and the group. Previous song writing experience is a prerequisite.

**Christian Song Writing:** Christian song writing should be a combination of skillful writing and inspiration from the Holy Spirit. “He” is always present, and we will discuss how His presence supports our writing. The heart of the song and its message is critical to the success of the song. . Participants are expected to finish a song by the end of this one day class. If time permits, participants will have the option of performing their song for the class. Participants will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement with a non compete clause at the beginning of this class. There are always great story lines shared in these classes, and we want to protect each one of your ideas.

## Performance:

**Do’s and Don’ts of Performance:** How you conduct yourself on a stage/platform can make or break your performance. Whether public stage or church platform, there are most definitely some do’s and don’ts that we are going to discuss as a group. Topics will include dress code, vocal warm-up, condition of instrument, mic placement and dynamics, monitors, movement, etc. If you are shy or timid, this is not your class. If you believe you are gifted, you’re in the right place! This is going to be a dynamic hands on group class. Everyone participates and we self-evaluate. Participants are required to bring either a performance track or an instrument to accompany themselves. Digital piano will be provided for the class.