

# MEET THE BEAST

The Beast is a visionary quartet from Durham, North Carolina. Equally comfortable in the worlds of hip hop and jazz, The Beast's genre-bending compositions, inspired song writing and remarkable live performances have garnered them acclaim as "one of the Triangle's most imaginative, uninhibited and best acts in memory" (The Independent)

## PROFESSOR PIERCE FREELON

Emcee Pierce Freelon is a professor of African American Studies at UNC Chapel Hill and North Carolina Central University. He earned his BA in African American Studies and his MA in Pan-African Studies from UNC and Syracuse, respectively. The former Director of the Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz' "Bebop to Hip-Hop" program, Freelon is the founder of The Beast's curriculum, entitled Blackademics.



## PIANIST ERIC HIRSH

Eric is an award-winning pianist and composer. He earned his degree in Music and Physics from UNC and is an alumnus of the prestigious Betty Carter Jazz Ahead program.



## DRUMMER STEPHEN COFFMAN

A BM graduate of UNC's music program, Stephen is an immensely talented drummer and instructor with over 15 years of professional experience.



## BASSIST PETER KIMOSH

A BM graduate of UNC's music program, Peter is a dynamic bassist versed in many styles. He also has extensive experience as a recording engineer, producer and instructor.



# WORKSHOPS

## INFORMANCE [45 - 75 minutes]

During an "Informance" (information-performance), The Beast performs for an audience of one or multiple classrooms, or even an entire student body. The band will entertain, educate and engage students using music interspersed with curriculum material. Here is a sample of the Informance catalogue:

*Sankofa: African American Music From Spirituals to Hip-Hop*

*Improvisation Revolution*

*The Future of Hip-Hop*

## WORKSHOP [60 - 90 minutes]

The Beast offers a variety of creative and interactive Workshops. Workshops can be adapted to accommodate music, history, political science or english students of all levels. Here is a sample of the Workshop catalogue:

*B.E.A.S.T. (Beats, Education, Art, Society, Theory)*

*Genre-Bending 101*

*Hip-Hop Culture: Past, Present and Future*

*All That Jazz!: 1900s - Present*

*Music and Political Movements*

*Songwriting with The Beast*

*How To Make it as an Independent Musician*

## RESIDENCY [3 - 5 one hour days]

In Residency, The Beast works with a group of students over the course of several days. This allows for an in-depth exploration of the curriculum as they engage students in a variety of hands-on learning experiences. Here is a sample of the Residency catalogue:

*Sankofa: African American Music From Spirituals to Hip-Hop (Extended)*

*Genre-Bending: A Jazz/Hip-Hop Master Class*

*Freestyle: Improvisation and Songwriting*



# CREATE YOUR OWN CURRICULUM

Don't see a topic that pertains to your class? Choose your own topic and we'll develop a program to accommodate your needs! Perhaps it's Women's History Month and you want a 45-minute presentation on Women in Jazz - or Earth Day and you want a 2-hour workshop about music and environmentalism. Our credentialed curriculum development team will work with you to make it happen.

All curricula are designed by Pierce Freelon for Blackademics. For more information visit: [blackademics.org](http://blackademics.org) and [thebeastmusic.com](http://thebeastmusic.com)  
photos by: Lauren Hirsh, Kevin M. James and Jati Lindsay

**booking**  
**919-697-7728**

**WORKSHOPS@THEBEASTMUSIC.COM**  
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Curious about a workshop?  
Talk to one of our clients:

100 Black Men of America, Inc.  
Bimbe Music Festival  
Central Park School for Children  
Chapel Hill High school  
Cornell College  
Durham Public Library  
DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities  
Deepalaya School (New Dehli, India)  
Don Bosco Shelter for Street Children  
(Mumbai, India)  
Duke University  
Durham Academy  
Durham Arts Council  
Durham School of the Arts  
Durham Technical Community College  
East Chapel Hill High School  
Elon College  
First Calvary Baptist Church  
Fullerton College  
George Washington Preparatory High School  
Hip-Hop Summit Action Network  
Leaf Music Festival  
Imperial Centre  
Martin Luther King Jr. Arts Complex  
Maryland Institute College of the Arts  
Morgan State University  
Movement of Youth, Inc.  
National Black Caucus  
North Carolina Central University  
North Carolina Jazz Repertory Orchestra  
North Carolina League of Municipalities  
North Carolina Museum of Art  
North Carolina School of Science and Math  
North Carolina State University  
Nottingham High school  
Piedmont Community College  
Partners for Youth  
Shakori Hills Music Festival  
Sonja Hanyes Stone Center  
St. Joseph's Historic Hayti Heritage Center  
Syracuse University  
The University of Ghana, Legon  
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga  
Thelonious Monk Institute of Jazz  
Washington University at St. Louis  
Williston Northampton  
Voices for Working Families

**THE BEAST**  
**WORK**  
**SHOPS**



**JAZZ**  
**THEORY**  
**LIVE HIP HOP**  
**EDUCATION**

POP CULTURE