
VITAE

Kevan Lamount Johnson Peabody

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QUALIFICATIONS

Accomplished choral director, songwriter, and keyboardist with a lifelong history in Gospel music and extensive experience working with church music departments and community organizations. Served as Artist in Residence for the San Francisco and Oakland school districts. Proven ability to build strong music curricula for educational music conferences, with experience managing and administering choral groups of all ages. Skilled at communicating the historical significance of Black college choirs and Black Gospel history, and at teaching Black history to audiences of all ages.

EDUCATION

2016	Certificate in Religion & Sexuality, Pacific School of Religion
1996	Bachelor of Arts in Black Studies, San Francisco State University

ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

2023-2025	O.F.A.S.S. (Oakland Fine Arts Summer School / O.U.S.D.)
2011-2025	Saint Leo the Great School, Oakland, CA — Director of Music
2011-2012	Cantare Con Vivo — Music Teacher
2007-2018	U.C. Berkeley Gospel Choir — Accompanist (Dr. Mark Wilson, Director)
2007-2008	Oakland Youth Chorus — Accompanist (LaNell Martin, Choral Director)
2003-2004	Oakland Technical High School — Accompanist / Substitute Teacher (Julius Green, Administrator)
2002-Present	Leap Imagination, San Francisco, CA — Artist in Residence for various San Francisco schools
2002-2007	Branson School, Ross, CA — Accompanist

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- History of Gospel Music (the Golden Era and the Contemporary Era)
- Sexuality and Religion
- History of Black College and University Choirs
- History of Salvador, Bahia
- Gender and Sexuality
- The African American Church during the AIDS Crisis
- History and Shaping of Black Denominations

CHURCH EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

9/2025-Present	Third Baptist Church, San Francisco, CA — Music Consultant
2022-Present	Mingleton Temple, Oakland, CA — Bishop Michael Johnson, Pastor
2015-2018	Bay Community Church, Oakland, CA — Dr. Curtis Fleming, Pastor

2012-2015	Friendship Baptist Church, San Francisco, CA — Rev. Floyd Trammel, Pastor
2007-2011	Third Baptist Church, San Francisco, CA — Dr. Amos Brown, Pastor
2003-2007	Bethel A.M.E. Church, San Francisco, CA — Dr. Edgar Boyd, Pastor
1986-1996	El Bethel Baptist Church, San Francisco, CA — Rev. Johnny Robinson, Pastor

MUSIC EDUCATION WORKSHOPS & GUEST LECTURES

4/2019	Guest Lecturer, “History of Gospel Music,” Living Water, Madrid, Spain
4/2018	Presenter, “The Evolution of the College Gospel Choir: Prisms of Praise Born in Protest,” Boston’s Inner Strength Choir 45th Anniversary Celebration, Howard Thurman Center, Boston University
10/2014	Producer, Twinkem Productions presents “Praise Conference I,” featuring DaNell Damon (Washington, D.C.), JaRonn Thompson (Oakland, CA), and Lorenzo Johnson (Los Angeles, CA)
4/2006	Lead Clinician, “Sounds of Gospel Choir” workshop, Copenhagen, Denmark
11/2006	Clinician, Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church and Greater Mount Eagle Baptist Church, Chicago, IL
9/2005	Clinician, Wings of Glory Choir, Petaluma, CA
2002-2007	Dean of Curriculum, Edwin & Walter Hawkins Music & Arts Love Fellowship Conference — built the music curriculum for a six-day educational conference serving 200+ participants; also managed class logistics and secured instructors
12/2000	Producer, Twinkem Productions presents “Songs from the Place of God,” live audio and video taping sponsored in part by the San Francisco Arts Commission

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

Kevan Peabody is the founder and CEO of Twinkem Productions, which has operated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit supporting the arts since 2010. The organization's ten-member board is committed to mentoring youth and young adults, and Twinkem Productions provides support to emerging artists and venues where artists can showcase their work.

SHEET MUSIC PUBLICATIONS

2016	“I’m Blessed”
2016	“Cookies & Candles”
2014	“It Took a Miracle”
2004	“Is Your All on the Altar”
2002	“Shout Worthy”
1996	“Fear Cannot Live”
1994	“Peace in the Valley”
1987	“I’ve Decided to Make Jesus My Choice”

DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS & BOOK CONTRIBUTIONS

- 2021** Interviewed for The Life and Music of Reverend James Cleveland, the King of Gospel by Robert Marovich (Malaco Press, 2021)
- 1996** “History of Gospel Music,” NetNoir & Nia

DISCOGRAPHY

- 2024** “Fear Cannot Live” — Lawrence Beamen
- 2021** “Fire,” song arrangement for the short film Smoke, Lies and Jade, featuring Rusty Watson (soloist) and Kevan Peabody (piano)
- 2020** “Wait” — Kevan Peabody, Aliya Hall, Nate’ “The Soul Sanger”
- 2016** “Cookies & Candles” — Kevan Peabody & Lawrence Beamen
- 2016** “I’m Blessed” — Kevan Peabody
- 2015** “Thank You for Being My Friend” — Ashling Cole & Tamara Lloyd
- 2013** “I Am So Grateful” — featuring Tasche Cryer and Andretta Lyles
- 2010** Mahalia, A Gospel Musical by Tom Stolz, Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, featuring Jeanie Tracy — Musical Director
- 2006** “Songs from the Place of God” (solo piano)
- 2003** “Shout Worthy” — Edwin Hawkins Music and Arts Love Fellowship
- 1994** “Come and Go with Me” — Wanda Nero Butler, SOG label
- 1992** “Peace in the Valley” — Wanda Nero Butler, SOG label
- 1989** “How Did You Feel When You Came Out of the Wilderness” — Wanda Nero Butler, SOG label
- 1988** “Peace in the Valley” — Northern California Gospel Music Workshop Choir
- 1986** “Come On Up to Higher Ground,” Rev. James Cleveland Presents Northern & Southern California GMWA, Malaco Records
- 1975** “The Sun Will Shine After While” — Twenty-First Century Singers, Kevan Peabody, Creed Records
- 1974** “Isaac Douglas Presents the Royale Gospel Singer” — Nashboro/Creed Records (Pianist & Recording Arranger)
- 1973** “First Time Around, Fisk” — Modern Black Mass (Organist), Nashboro/Creed Records

RECOGNITION, AWARDS & EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

- 2020** \$3,000 Artist Grant — California Arts Council
- 2017** Bay Area Academy of Gospel Awards
- 2017** Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition — Barbara Lee, Congresswoman, U.S. House of Representatives
- 2015** Grammy Award Nomination, “Thank You for Being My Friend” — Ashling Cole & Tamara Lloyd
- 2015** Certificate of Recognition in Honor of Bay Area Gospel Artists and Musicians Day

2009-2010	Certificate of Appreciation — Vera Lee Clanton Scholarship Fund
2008	Certificate of Appreciation — Oakland Youth Chorus
2004	Certificate of Recognition — National Association of Federal Retired Employees
2003	Oakland Blues Society Recognition Award
2002	\$8,000 Grant, Oakland Cultural Arts Project — Music & Arts Love Fellowship (music education grant)
2002	San Francisco/Bay Area Religious Announcers Guild
1998-2000	\$8,000 Grant for Gospel Music Education — San Francisco Arts Commission Project Grant

MEMBERSHIPS

2026	National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses — Advisor to the West Coast Regional Union
2013-Present	San Francisco Recording Academy (Voting Member)
1984-Present	ASCAP
1973-Present	Gospel Music Workshop of America (GMWA)