Ethan McGraw 300 Word Bio

Ethan McGraw is a local freelance percussionist, steel pannist, arranger, concert production worker, and educator. A lover of any type of music he can drum alongside, he is excited to share the love of music with all listeners.

Originally from Las Vegas, Ethan attended the Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver and has continued working in the area since his graduation. Recent performances include playing drums/percussion in the Vintage Theater’s production of Fun Home, where critics called the musicians work “…near perfect…” under the direction of music director Alec Michael Powell (Denver Post, February 2024), and with Little Theater of the Rockies for their production of A Gentlemen’s Guide to Love and Murder. Ethan also has a partnership with Reel Kids children’s theater in Boulder, where he regularly performs as a drummer and acts as a stage manager for youth productions, with recent performances including The Prom! and Legally Blonde, and stage management for Into the Woods Jr. and Alice in Wonderland Jr. Also a passionate educator, Ethan is currently on staff at Green Mountain High School in Lakewood as their percussion instructor.

Ethan is also a student of many world musics, including the steel pan from Trinidad and Tobago and the Japanese art of Taiko Drumming, having performed with the Akita International University’s (国際教養大学) Kantō (竿燈 ) team during his time abroad in the fall of 2023.

Ethan graduated in 2024 with a Bachelor of Arts (Music) Degree with a secondary major in Languages, Literatures & Cultures (Concentration in Japanese). He is a student of Tom Miller (Steel Pannist, Director of the Lamont Steel Drum Ensemble), John Kinzie (Principal Percussionist of the Colorado Symphony), and Michael Toole (PhD in Japanese, University of Wisconsin Madison).