

Dr. Andrew Janak is an active saxophonist/composer/arranger/educator currently based out of Lincoln, NE after previously spending several years in Chicago, IL.

Andrew has shared the stage with jazz greats Victor Lewis, Donny McCaslin, Randy Brecker, Ingrid Jeff Hamilton, Phil Woods and Jimmy Heath. He has also worked with various jazz/commercial groups around the Midwest such as the Nebraska Jazz Orchestra, Bob Lark's Alumni Band Band, Tom Matta Big Band and Andrew Janak and Wind Armada, a progressive jazz group specializing in original music. He also has performed/recorded with national acts such as the Temptations, Jane Lynch, Wayne Brady, Ben Folds, Aloe Blacc, Johnny Mathis, Michael Feinstein and Justin Townes Earle.

As a classical saxophonist Andrew studied with renowned performer/pedagogue Dr. Paul Haar and performed with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Wind Ensemble, Omaha Symphony, Lincoln Symphony, Lincoln Municipal Band, and various chamber groups.

Also a prolific composer, some of Andrew's compositions have been performed/recorded by groups around the world. He has been commissioned to arrange big band music for jazz legends Randy Brecker and Victor Lewis and the longtime music director of the Late Show on CBS, Paul Shaffer. In 2018 Andrew premiered his suite for tenor saxophone and mixed chamber jazz ensemble, "Midwestern Portrait," in which Andrew was the featured soloist. Recently four of his arrangements and compositions were premiered by the UNL Graduate Octet on their tour of China in summer 2019.

Dr. Janak is also an active scholar with research interests in jazz composition, jazz saxophone and jazz improvisation pedagogy. He has presented at the International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers (ISJAC) Symposium, Midwest Music Research Collective (MMRC) Conference and Jazz Education Network (JEN) Conference. Andrew graduated with a bachelors degree in music education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, a masters of music in jazz composition from DePaul University, and a DMA in jazz studies/composition from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His debut album of original music, *Borrowed Time*, was released in June 2017.