

Laura Nadine Dooley

East York, Ontario, Canada



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Summary

Laura Nadine understands first hand the struggles and triumphs of living with autism. She has spent nearly 15 years advocating for a neurodiverse educational model after she and her son were diagnosed with ASD in 2006. She developed an approach for teaching music to students with various learning profiles and recently invented a MusicBoard, inspired by facilitated communication, to make composition and music theory accessible to non-speaking students.

Laura runs Enlightened Audio, an online and in-person hybrid music school with a mission to make music education accessible. In March of 2020, in the middle of the Covid-19 pandemic, she moved to Canada and utilized the time of isolation to develop an eco-friendly product line of string instruments, non-toxic violin conditioner, and a violin case that is fully compostable. As she works to launch her innovative, eco-friendly product line, she continues a 28-year long career as a music educator.

She has self-published two books, recorded various albums, and was the main subject of the biographical documentary, *The Shadow Listener: A Voice for Autism* directed by John Schaefer. She also composes music for film including the Astoria Zuker Award winning documentary *LISTEN*. Laura continues to post on her blog *The Shadow Listener* at lauranadine.net where she provides the layered perspective of someone living with autism, teaching autistic students, and raising a son with autism—what she calls a "3 Shoes Perspective".

Laura lives in Toronto, Ontario with her husband Brian and her two geriatric cats. Her now grown children, Allana and Chey, are navigating young adult life in New York City and Toronto respectively.

Experience



Program Director

Enlightened Audio Academy

2010 - Present (13 years)

Enlightened Audio is an innovative music education company working to make music available to all students, no matter their geographic location or their disability. Every human should have access to the tools and teachers to bring the experience of music education to their hearts.



Autism Advocate & Public Speaker

LauraNadine.net

Jan 2007 - Present (16 years 1 month)

I speak to crowds of all sizes about living with autism. Feeling empowered by my diagnosis, I use films and music which I have created to help tell the story of the power of autism.

 **Owner**

Laura Nadine

Aug 2006 - Present (16 years 6 months)

I teach the world about life with autism through writing, film, music, and public speaking



Strings Teacher

Gwinnett County Public Schools

Aug 2011 - May 2014 (2 years 10 months)

I worked in the GCPS Strings program, under the direction of Jeff Schaffer, instructing violin to middle school students. I was also utilized in the high school program as an auxiliary strings instructor and substitute teacher, directing many school performances.



Violin, Viola and Cello Teacher

Gwinnett School Of Music

1997 - 2010 (13 years)

I taught private violin lessons to students ages 2.5 years and up via The Suzuki Method. I organized teaching plans, group lessons, recitals and public performances while maintaining contact with the parents. I left this position to focus on my own private studio in Lilburn.



Principal Second Violin

Rome Symphony Orchestra

1993 - 1998 (5 years)

I performed with the Rome Symphony Orchestra as many chairs, and eventually as Principal Second Violin. While with this orchestra, I performed as a soloist and was the youngest member to hold a principal seat in the history of the orchestra. In 1995, my composition for string orchestra was performed for the Young Peoples Concert.

Education



Agnes Scott College

Psychology and Education

2007 - 2010

Licenses & Certifications



Foundations of Digital Marketing and E-commerce - Coursera

CHYB33KS5FD4



Attract and Engage Customers with Digital Marketing - Coursera

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Honors & Awards



State Winner Musical Composition - Georgia Music Teachers Association

1994



State Winner Violin Performance - Georgia Music Educators Association

1993



Hero fo Autism

2009



Motivitional Speaker & Community Leader Award - Goodwill of Georgia

2017