

Matt Sakakeeny
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Education

- 2008 PhD, Ethnomusicology, Columbia University.
- 1995 B.Music, Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University

Employment

- 2014-present Associate Professor of Music, Tulane University.
 Affiliated with Africana Studies.
- 2008-2014 Assistant Professor of Music, Tulane University.
- 1997-2003 Co-producer, *American Routes* public radio program, New Orleans, LA.
- 1995-1997 Recording engineer, Smithsonian Productions, National Museum of American History

Books

- Music is Life: Coming-of-Age Stories from the Margins of America.* (Forthcoming.)
- 2019 *Remaking New Orleans: Beyond Exceptionalism and Authenticity.* With co-editor Thomas Adams. Durham: Duke University Press.
- 2015 *Keywords in Sound.* With co-editor David Novak. Durham: Duke University Press.
- 2013 *Roll With It: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans.* Durham: Duke University Press.
- In Spanish: *Sigue Adelante: Raza, Poder y Música en Nueva Orleans.*
 Pamplona, Spain: Katakarak.

Articles (peer-reviewed)

- New Orleans Music and the Problem of the Black Vernacular. (Revise and resubmit to *Journal of American Musicological Society.*)

- 2024 Music, Sound, Politics. *Annual Review of Anthropology*. (Accepted for publication.)
Introduction. *American Anthropologist* 126: 227–232. (Special issue on theme of “Amplify” with co-editor Alex E. Chávez.)
Textures of Black Sound and Affect; Life and Death in New Orleans. *American Anthropologist* 126: 295–310.
- 2022 “We’re Not Just Shooting the Breeze”: Marching Bands and Black Masculinity in New Orleans. *Southern Cultures* 27(4): 44-65.
- 2015 Music Lessons as Life Lessons in New Orleans Marching Bands. *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society* 17 (3-4): 279-302.
Playing for Work: Music as a Form of Labor in New Orleans. *Oxford Handbooks Online*.
- 2011 New Orleans Music as a Circulatory System. *Black Music Research Journal* 31(2): 291-325.
- 2010 “Under the Bridge”: An Orientation to Soundscapes in New Orleans. *Ethnomusicology* 54(1):1-27.
- 2006 Resounding Silence in the Streets of a Musical City. *Space and Culture* 9(1):41-44.
- 2005 Disciplinary Movements, the Civil Rights Movement, and Charles Keil’s “Urban Blues.” *Current Musicology* 79-80:143-168.
- 2002 Indian Rulers: Mardi Gras Indians and New Orleans Funk. *The Jazz Archivist* 16:9-24.

Articles (other)

- 2022 Acoustic Dialogues. With Steven Feld. *Anthropology News* 63.1: 6-8.
- 2019 Two Perspectives on New Orleans at 301: A Celebration of Resilience, a Call for Rebellion. *The Lens*.
- 2018 An Expansive “Sound-Politics” in New Orleans (response to Leonardo Cardoso). *Current Anthropology* 59(2): 203-205.
- 2017 Music Studies and Sound: A Conversation with Matt Sakakeeny, by Brendan Kibbee. *SEM Student News* 13(2): 22-24
- 2015 Living in a Laboratory: New Orleans Today. *Books & Ideas*.

- 2014 *Roll With It*, by Matt Sakakeeny, interview by Steven Feld. *IASPM-US Interview Series*.
- 2012 Why Dey Had to Kill Him: The Life and Death of Shotgun Joe. *Oxford American* 79: 142-148.
- “New Orleans Exceptionalism in *The Neoliberal Deluge* and *Treme*,” Review Symposium: Privatization, Marketization, and Neoliberalism—The Political Dynamics of Post-Katrina New Orleans, *Perspectives on Politics* 10(3): 723-726.
- “Music Notes.” Quarterly column in *Louisiana Cultural Vistas*, 2012-2014.
- 2011 “New Orleans, Louisiana, USA,” Critical Exchange on David Simon’s *Treme*, *Contemporary Political Theory*, 10(3): 395-398.
- 2010 Forum: From the Street to the Stage. *Louisiana Cultural Vistas* 21(1): 96.
- Engaging New Orleans: Fostering Publics Within and Beyond the Meeting Hotels. *Anthropology News* 51(8):17. (Co-authored with Rachel Breunlin and Helen Regis.)
- 2008 New Orleans Keeps the Beat Alive. *Allegro* 108(4): 24-25.
- Ethnography-as-Media. *Society for Ethnomusicology Newsletter* 42(1): 9.
- Journalism: *Wax Poetics*, *Mojo*, *Cultural Vistas*, NPR’s *All Things Considered*, APM’s *American Routes*, WWOZ’s *Street Talk*

Book Chapters

- 2020 “Music in the Margins of America: Black Marching Bands in Post-Katrina New Orleans,” in *My Body was Left on the Street: Music Education and Displacement*, Kính T. Vū and André de Quadros, eds, pp. 146-158. Boston: Brill Sense.
- 2019 “Resounding Power: Politicizing the Anthropology of Music,” in *Exotic No More: Anthropology on the Front Lines*, 2nd edition, Jeremy MacClancy, ed. pp.395-407. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- 2015 “Music,” in *Keywords in Sound*, David Novak and Matt Sakakeeny, eds, pp.112-124. Durham: Duke University Press.
- “New Orleans Music,” “New Orleans Mardi Gras Indians,” “Dirty Dozen Brass Band,” and “Olympia Brass Band,” In *The Grove Dictionary of American Music*. New York: Oxford University Press.

- 2013 “The Representational Power of the New Orleans Brass Band,” in *Brass Bands of the World: Militarism, Colonialism, and Local Music Making*, Suzel Reily and Kate Brucher, eds., pp.123-137. London: Ashgate.
- 2012 “New Orleans Mardi Gras Indians,” In *The Continuum Encyclopedia of Popular Music of the World, Volume 8: North American Genres*, John Shepherd and David Horn, eds. pp.319-22. London: Continuum.

Reviews

- 2016 “Negotiating Difference in French Louisiana Music: Categories, Stereotypes, and Identifications, by Sara Le Menestrel” (review). *Ethnologie Française* 46(3): 565-66.
- 2013 “Bounce: Rap Music and Local Identity in New Orleans, by Matt Miller” (review). *African American Review* 46(1): 174-175.
- 2009 “Freedom Sounds: Civil Rights Call Out to Jazz and Africa, by Ingrid Monson” (review).
Notes: Journal of the Music Library Association 65(4): 770-772.

Presentations (select)

- 2024 “Music Saves Lives’: Implausible Wager / Social Fact,” Duke University’s “Musicology and Ethnomusicology” lecture series. (Invited.)
- “Music, Sound, Politics,” University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s “Department of Music’s Research Forum.” (Invited.)
- 2023 “The Brass Band Renaissance: From New Orleans to the World,” keynote address to the conference “Popular Brass Music in the 21st Century,” University of Innsbruck, Austria. (Invited.)
- “Retention and Reinvention: The Changing Same of African Rhythms in New Orleans Music,” NYU Colloquium “Música de Vaivén: The Habanera Diaspora.” (Invited.)
- “Sounding Solidarity: Can Ethnomusicology Bridge Academic and Activist Understandings of Politics?” roundtable organizer and participant, Society for Ethnomusicology.
- 2022 “New Orleans, A Sense of Place: Environmental and Cultural Resilience Conference.” Amerikahaus, Ludwig-Maximilian University, Munich. (Invited.)

“Music and Organizing on the Ground in New Orleans,” roundtable organizer and participant, Society for Ethnomusicology.

“Sound and the Politics of Assembly,” roundtable participant, American Studies Association.

“Expanding the Tradition: (Black) Music Education and Mentorship in New Orleans,” event organizer with Carter Mathes, Rutgers University. American Studies Association.

“Music, Sound, and Climate Change,” organizer and participant. Tulane University.

2021 “Sound and the Politics of Assembly,” roundtable organizer and participant, American Anthropological Association.

“Soundscapes of American Gentrification” roundtable participant, Society for Ethnomusicology.

“Music in New Orleans,” Assumption University’s HumanArts lecture series. (Invited.)

2020 “Listening Against the Vernacular: Music and Language Socialization in New Orleans,” Northwestern University’s Department of Anthropology speaker series. (Invited.)

“Amplify! Turning up Sounds of Insurgency in Music Studies,” University of Chicago’s Department of Music Colloquium. (Invited.)

“Making Music the New Orleans Way: From the Streets to the Classroom,” University of Nevada Las Vegas’ College of Liberal Arts “Forum Lecture Series.” (Invited.) (Postponed due to pandemic.)

“Intersectional Listening Positionality,” roundtable organizer and participant, Society for Ethnomusicology.

“Sound and the Politics of Assembly,” roundtable organizer and participant, American Anthropological Association

2019 “White Supremacy, Black Rebellion, and the ‘Birth’ of Jazz,” International Association for the Study of Popular Music, U.S.

“Beyond Histories of Exceptionalism and Cultures of Authenticity in New Orleans,” roundtable organizer and chair, Louisiana Historical Association

“Textures of Black Sound and Affect, Life and Death in New Orleans,” Society for Ethnomusicology

“Teaching Kids ‘Grit’ in New Orleans Marching Bands,” American Anthropological Association.

“President’s Roundtable: *Beyond the Academy: Sustaining Music Cultures in NOLA*,” Society for American Music, panel moderator.

2018 “Ethnography as Intervention in the School Reform Movement,” American Studies Association

“Brass Instruments are Gendered Technologies,” MoPoP Popular Music Conference

“Traditional Jazz Funerals of the Young Men Olympian Jr. Benevolent Association,” Louisiana Historical Association

“You Bang, We Bang Back: Musical Responses to a Police Killing in New Orleans,” Association for the Study of Arts of the Present

“Icons in Peril – Brass Bands in New Orleans,” University of North Carolina – Asheville, Musicology Lecture Series (Invited)

2017 “Assessing the ‘Access Gap’ in New Orleans,” American Anthropological Association

“Ethnomusicology and Activism in the Age of Trump,” Society for Ethnomusicology

“The Radical Aesthetics of Louis Armstrong,” MoPoP Popular Music Conference

“Beyond Tradition: New Orleans Now,” Jazz Educator’s Network conference

“Not Just Jazz: A Panoramic Overview of New Orleans Music,” NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshop. (invited.)

2016 “Inner Voices, Outer Sounds: Louis Armstrong’s Methods for Externalizing the Interior,”

Northwestern University’s Sounding Spaces Workshop. (Invited.)

“Mediums of Black Music in Performance and Study,” roundtable at American Studies Association conference, Denver, CO.

“Inner Voices, Outer Sounds: Louis Armstrong’s Methods for Exteriorizing the Interior,” Society for Ethnomusicology conference, Washington, DC.

- 2015
- “Instruments of Lament: Communicating without Words in the New Orleans Jazz Funeral,” NYU Music Department's Colloquium and Events Series. (Invited.)
- “Instruments of Lament: Communicating without Words in the New Orleans Jazz Funeral,” Brown University Department of Music Colloquium Series. (Invited.)
- “Instruments of Lament: Communicating without Words in the New Orleans Jazz Funeral,” Boston University Musicology. (Invited.)
- “Keywords in Sound: A Roundtable Discussion” based on my book. Columbia University Society of Fellows in the Humanities. (Invited.)
- “Mahalia’s New Orleans” conference and performance. Tulane. (Organizer.)
- “Acoustic Instruments as Technologies of Amplification in the New Orleans Jazz Funeral.” Organizer of panel “Loudness: Amping Up the Politics of Sound,” American Anthropological Association, Denver, CO.
- 2014
University
- “Tradition in Motion: The New Orleans Brass Band,” keynote address for the of North Carolina’s Southern Folklife Center 25th Anniversary Celebration. Chapel Hill, NC. (Invited.)
- “Instrumentality: Technologies of Voice in the New Orleans Brass Band,” Columbia University Center for Ethnomusicology. (Invited.)
- “Instruments of Lament: Communicating without Words in the New Orleans Jazz Funeral,” Bard College Sound and Affect lecture series. (Invited.)
- “Instrumentality: Technologies of Voice in the New Orleans Brass Band,” University of California at Santa Barbara Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Music. (Invited.)
- “New Orleans Musicians as Service Workers,” Society for Ethnomusicology, Pittsburgh, PA.
- “Discussion with the Hot 8 Brass Band,” Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway.
- “Rolling With It”: Researching Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans, University of Oslo, Norway. (Invited.)

“The New Orleans Brass Band and Old Technologies of Mobility.” Organizer of panel “Old Mobilities,” EMP Pop Conference, Seattle.

2013

“Instruments of the New Orleans Brass Band As Technologies of the Self.” American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL.

“Música e Cultura: A Cena Musical e a Transmissão em New Orleans – pós-Katrina” Forum de Educação Musical de Bahia (FEMBA), University of Bahia, Brazil. (Invited.)

“Spoken, Sung, and Instrumental Voicings in the Church of the Living God.” Organizer of panel “Gospel Journeys: 21st Century Ethnomusicologies of Black American Religious Music.” Society for Ethnomusicology, Indianapolis, IN.

“Do Watcha Wanna?: Noise Ordinances and a Sound Future for New Orleans.” Organizer of panel, “Live Music and Noise Ordinances in Austin and New Orleans,” EMP Pop Conference, New Orleans.

“Improvising Music and Identity at Brass Band Parades in New Orleans’ Tremé Neighborhood.” Participant in special Program Committee seminar “Musical Improvisation and Identity,” Society for American Music, Little Rock, AR.

2012

“Voicing Black Religious Music,” Ohio State University “Musicology Lecture” series, co-sponsored by the Performance/Politics Working Group. (Invited.)

“Voicing Black Religious Music,” Louisiana State University “Music Forum” series. (Invited.)

“New Orleans Music Under Siege.” Organizer of roundtable, “New Orleanians Discuss Music and Their City's Future,” Society for Ethnomusicology, New Orleans.

“The Jazz Funeral and the Death of Young Black Men in Contemporary New Orleans,” Fridays at Newcomb, Tulane University. (Invited.)

“The New Brass Bands,” New Orleans International Music Colloquium. (Invited.)

2011

“Music.” Organizer of panel “Music, Sound, Noise, Silence: Towards A Conceptual Lexicon,” Society for Ethnomusicology, Philadelphia.

“Music.” Organizer of panel “Towards a Conceptual Lexicon for Sound Studies,” American Anthropological Association, Montreal.

“Musical Formations: The Brass Band Parade and the Emergence of Jazz in New Orleans.” Organizer of panel “Reevaluating the Emergence of Jazz,” Rhythm Changes: Jazz and National Identities conference, Amsterdam.

- “Musical Formations: The Brass Band Parade and the Emergence of Jazz in New Orleans.” Jazz et Europe conference, Paris. (invited)
- 2010 “Instruments of Violence: Jazz Funerals and the Death of Young Black Men in New Orleans.” Chair of Panel “Musical Ethnographies of Contemporary New Orleans,” Society for Ethnomusicology, UCLA.
- “Engaging New Orleans: Culture, Activism, and Infrastructure” (chair of roundtable), American Anthropological Association, New Orleans.
- “The Circulation of Mardi Gras Indian Music in New Orleans.” American Anthropological Association, New Orleans.
- “Washed Away’: Narratives of Cultural Loss in Contemporary New Orleans,” International Association for the Study of Popular Music (IASPM-US).
- “The Circulation of Mardi Gras Indian Music in New Orleans,” Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC).
- 2009 “Instruments of Violence: Brass Bands, Jazz Funerals, and the Death of Young Black Men,” Center for Research in Festive Culture seminar, Newberry Library, Chicago, IL. (Invited.)
- “The Current State of Music in New Orleans,” Music Library Association, joint meeting of the Southeast and Texas Chapters. (Invited.)
- 2008 “A Sound-Body Politic: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans.” Organizer of Panel, “Public Spaces, Public Sounds,” American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, CA.
- “Representing Race and Place Through the New Orleans Brass Band,” Cultures of Rebuilding Conference, University of New Orleans.
- “The New Orleans Brass Band and the Accumulation of Authenticity,” Society for Ethnomusicology.
- “Public Spaces, Public Sounds: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans,” Rhythmic Rituals Conference, Louisiana State University.
- 2007 “A Sound-Body Politic: Making Claims on Public Space Through Sound.” Organizer of Panel, “Who’s Listening? The Politics of Aurality in Urban Spaces.” Society for Ethnomusicology.

Organizer of Plenary Session, "Local Knowledge: New Orleans Artists and Activists Reflect on the State of the City After Katrina." Society for the Anthropology of North America.

- 2006 "Instruments of Power: Brass Bands in the Streets of New Orleans." American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA.
- 2005 "New Orleans Culture in Crisis," Society for Ethnomusicology, Atlanta, GA.
- "Twenty-four Hours in A Cultural Response to Crisis." Critical Soundscapes, Department of Music Colloquium Series, New York University. (Invited.)
- "Ambassadors of Authenticity: African Vocalists in American Afrobeat." Culture Lines: Emerging Research on Ethno-Racial Boundaries, Harvard University.
- "American Afrobeat: Transnational, Intercultural, and Multiracial." Music, Performance and Racial Imaginations, New York University.
- 2004 "Indian Rulers: Mardi Gras Indian Music as New Orleans Popular Music." Caribbean Soundscapes, Tulane University.

Current Courses

MUSC-1890	New Orleans Music
MUSC-1901	Sound Studies
MUSC-3440	Black Music, Black Lives (w/Prof. Courtney Bryan)
MUSC-3450	Music and Politics
MUSC-6060	Culture and Power in New Orleans
MUSC-7030	Introduction to Graduate Studies

Research Support

- National Humanities Center Residential Fellowship, full salary, 2023-2024.
- New Orleans Center for Gulf South Studies, Monroe Fellowship, 2022.
- Tulane SLA book subvention grant, 2021.
- Center for Public Service, Community Based Participatory Research grant, Spring 2019.
- Newcomb College Institute Skau Fund grant for "What is the Sound of Freedom?" 2018.
- Spencer Foundation grant for research leave, full salary, 2018-2019.
- Carol Lavin Bernick Faculty Grant Program, 2016.
- New Orleans Center for Gulf South Studies, Monroe Fellowship, 2015.
- Tulane Center for Scholars Subvention Grant, 2012.
- Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars (ATLAS) fellowship, 2011-2012.
- Fellowship for the Study of the Global South, Tulane University, 2010.

- Tulane University Committee on Research Summer Research Fellowship, 2009.
- Giles Whiting Foundation dissertation writing fellowship, 2007-2008.
- National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant in Cultural Anthropology, 2006-2007.

Honors and Awards

- Barbara E. Moely Service Learning Teaching Award, 2014.
- Popular Music Section of the Society for Ethnomusicology's Richard Waterman Prize for the best article by a junior scholar in the ethnomusicological study of popular music, 2011.
- Society for Ethnomusicology's Charles Seeger Prize for the most distinguished student paper presented at the previous year's conference, 2008.

University Service

- Society for Ethnomusicology, Second Vice President (nominated 2024)
- Music Department self-study, committee member 2022-2023
- Committee on Academic Integrity, member, Fall 2021-present (elected).
- SLA Task Force on Racial Equity, member, Spring 2021-2022.
- SEM Crossroads Section for Difference & Representation, prize committee member, Spring 2021
- Africana Studies and Department of Communication job search committee, 2019-2020.
- Tulane Marching Band self-study, committee member, 2019-2020.
- Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, one-semester replacement, Spring 2020 (elected).
- Hogan Jazz Archive curator search committee, Spring 2019.
- Co-organizer of campus event "What is the Sound of Freedom?" April 7, 2018.
- Chair of Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity & Institutional Equity, 2017-2020.
- Mellon Graduate Program Faculty Steering Committee, 2017-2018.
- Africana Studies and Anthropology Department job search committee, 2017.
- Grievance Committee, 2016-2017 (elected).
- Africana Studies Executive Committee member, 2016-2022.
- Africana Studies, "Brown Bag" lecture series convenor, 2016-2018.
- School of Liberal Arts Nominating Committee, 2014-2017 (elected).
- Music Department search committee, tenure-track Musicology, 2015-2016.
- Organizer of campus conference and performance "Mahalia's New Orleans," March 7, 2015.
- Music Department search committee, tenure-track Jazz Studies, 2014-2015.
- Co-organizer of campus conference, "New Orleans As Subject: Beyond Exceptionalism and Authenticity," with 16 participants and keynote by Adolph Reed, September 18-20, 2014.
- Music Department search committee, tenure-track Musicology, 2013-2014.
- Music Department search committee, Jazz PoP, Spring 2013.
- Music Rising Advisory Committee, 2011-2015.
- Director of Graduate Studies, Music Department, 2012-2020.
- Music Department Strategic Planning Committee, Summer 2011-2012.
- New Orleans Gulf South Center planning committee, Fall 2009-2010.

- Music Department search committee Chair, Jazz Artist in residence, Spring 2011.
- Music Department search committee, orchestra director, Fall 2009. (cancelled)
- City, Culture, Community PhD program proposal committee, Fall 2008.

Other Service

- Peer review for academic journals, presses, and university tenure committees (continuous).
- National Endowment for the Humanities Media Projects grant, peer review panelist, Fall 2020.
- *Elements in Music and the City*, Cambridge University Press, book series Editorial Board, 2020-present.
- Nominated for Society for Ethnomusicology, Vice-President of Board of Directors, 2019 (lost).
- *Journal for Undergraduate Ethnography*, Editorial Board, 2018-present.
- SEM Councilmember, Society for Ethnomusicology, 2016-2019 (elected).
- Society for Ethnomusicology's Ellen Koskoff Edited Volume Prize committee, 2018.
- MoPop Pop Conference, Program Committee member, 2017.
- Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches (HDR) committee member for Dr. Sara Le Menestrel, École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Paris, 2015.
- Board of Directors, Roots of Music, 2015-present.
- Board of Directors, Music and Culture Coalition of New Orleans (MaCCNO), 2014-2016.
- Local arrangements committee for the Society for Ethnomusicology meeting in New Orleans, 2012.
- "Engaging New Orleans" committee for the American Anthropological Association meeting in New Orleans, 2010.
- Local arrangements committee for the IASPM-US meeting in New Orleans, 2010.
- Board of Directors, Dinerral Shavers Education Fund, 2009-present.
- Book Committee, *Beyond the Bricks*, Neighborhood Story Project, 2009.
- Committee member, Society for Ethnomusicology's 2009 Charles Seeger Prize.
- Public programming: New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Neighborhood Story Project, Young Leadership Council, etc.