

## Matt Podd

Hometown - Newport, VT  
North Country Union Junior High School and  
North Country Union High School

### Further Education -

Eastman School of Music: MM Jazz Composition  
Ithaca College: BM Composition

### Where are they now?

Matt is currently a freelance pianist, composer, and educator in New York City. He accompanies and arranges music for the Young People's Chorus of NYC along with many other choral groups, theatre companies, and jazz ensembles. He serves as a composer mentor for Music-COMP and is an author of the new online curriculum program, *Inside Music: Exploring Composition*, available here. Matt and brother Adam were Co-Composers/Music Directors at [Compass Theatrical](#) for *Nightfall On Miranga Island* at NYC Fringe Festival & NYC Fringe Encore Series (NYC). View Matt's [website](#) for his many other activities in performance, education and composition.



### First World Premiere -

Opus 1, *Spring for Strings*. Matt was 12. This piece was co-composed with Eli Brewer and twin brother, Adam Podd.

### Additional Opus performance

[Opus 2 - 12 Bar Brass](#)

[Opus 6 - A Tango with the King](#)

Opus 3 - *Boy Who Cried Wolf*

Opus 7 - *A Tour of the Kazbah*

[Opus 4 - Samba and Fugue](#)

Opus 8 - *Variations on a Theme*

Opus 5 - *April Snowstorm*

[Opus 9 - Russian Spring](#)



Matt, assistant instructor, Music and Multimedia Summer Institute, 2003.



Rehearsal with the Constitution Brass Quintet, Opus 8, 2003.

### Alumni Reflection

Having my compositions performed by professional musicians was an incredible experience to have as a 12 year old middle school student. Middle school is an age where people begin defining themselves, their dreams, and their path. Music-COMP's Opus concert series opened up a path to me that I didn't even know was there. Working as a creative musician is not one of options in "What career is right for you?" surveys that the guidance counselor hands out. Developing the discipline to work on a large scale project like composing a piece of music, and then seeing the payoff of hearing it in concert was the validating experience I needed to know this was "right" for me.

One of my most cherished musical memories is hearing the Constitution Brass Quintet playing my piece 12 Bar Brass. It was a bluesy piece in a swing style with a fun bass line in the tuba. The first time I heard that bass line played by a real tuba player (instead of just hearing it on my computer) it brought the piece to life! It brought the piece to a level that I hadn't even imagined it! For a moment I thought I had somehow cheated at composing! I came to learn through these concerts that music, and all creative projects are collaborative. I learned the art of collaboration, and the ability to work with others to create something beyond any individual.



Matt as a composer mentor with student Nathan Chan at Opus 24, 2012