CATO ZANE

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EDUCATION

TEACHERS COLLEGE, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, New York, NY — MA May 2024

Master of Arts: Music & Music Education — GPA 4.0

Relevant Coursework:

Assessment Strategies in the Arts, Leading Change in a Democratic Society, Digital Composition, Foundations in Music Education, Comprehensive Musicianship, Teaching Applied Studio Music, Creativity & Problem Solving, Ensemble, Online Teaching & Learning: Adult Learning

CONNECTICUT COLLEGE, New London, CT — BA May 2010

Majors: Music & Technology, Economics — GPA 3.572

Certificate: Computer Art & Technology

Honors: Dean's Honors

Relevant Coursework:

Electroacoustic Music, Creative World of Music, Computers Digital Audio & Physics, Tonal Theory I & II, Music through Time & Society, Music Composition, Post-Tonal Theory, Musical Acoustics, Counterpoint, Women & Work, Music & Meaning

SOUND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

Pro Tools • Electronics Repair • Dolby Atmos Music Mixing • MATLAB • Max/MSP • Finale • Logic • QLab • Yamaha DM2000 & M7 • Venue 3.0 • Adobe Audition • Mixing and Mastering • Recording • Sound Restoration • Acoustics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

San Diego State University, San Diego, CA — Aug 2024 – present

Audio Lecturer

- Teaching audio engineering & music production in the School of Music & Dance
- Teaching live sound reinforcement and recording basics
- Sculpting the course, creating course materials and flow

Beat Kitchen School, Online/Remote — Aug 2023 – present

Instructor

- Teaching audio engineering & music production to students in the school
- Running open lab hours where student questions are answered, and projects explored.
- Remote teaching

Produce Like A Pro, San Diego, CA Sept 2021 – Sept 2022

Content Creator

• Creating educational audio engineering video content

• Discussing audio and music production, and building that community

• Creating branded content for the organization

Cato Zane Audio Engineering Youtube Channel, Online/Remote 2017 – present

Online Instructor/Content Creator

• Creating free educational video content

• Sharing audio engineering and music production knowledge

• Discussing audio and music production, and building that community

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY Jan 2023 – May 2024

Applied Studio Music Instructor

• Teaching applied studio music lessons in audio engineering & music production, primarily in Pro Tools

• Working with a range of students within the Teachers College, Columbia University system

• In-person and remote teaching

Teachers College, Columbia University, New York, NY Sept 2023 – May 2024

Teaching Assistant/Course Assistant

• Performing TA duties for Dr. Drew Coles' Foundations of Music Education course in the fall of 2023, as well as for Dr. Drew Coles' Introduction to New Technologies in Music Education course in the spring of 2024

• Grading student work, fielding student questions, and performing organizational tasks

• Occasionally guiding class discussions

Platt College, San Diego, CA March 2015 – June 2023

Instructor

• Taught Audio For Film course until the school's closing in 2023

• Fleshed out a curriculum and taught students the basics of audio for film using Pro Tools

Music For Peace San Diego, San Diego, CA 2015 – June 2019

Audio Engineer, Instructor

• Worked with kids in the Music For Peace San Diego program

• Helped students create and record original music

• Part of an extra-curricular program designed to keep at risk students in school, and to counteract the fact that the music program was cut from some local high schools

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Lost & Sound Foundry, San Diego, CA Jan 2013 – present

Audio Engineer

• Providing recording, mixing, production, and sound design services

• Entrepreneur running own business

- Sole engineer in charge of studio maintenance

Audio Doctor, San Diego, CA Jan 2020 – present
Repair Technician
- Repairing audio and music equipment for a few hours each week
- Diagnosing and completing repairs on both digital and analog equipment
- Took a break during covid due to health concerns (gap was from March 2020 to Feb 2024)

Pro Studio Live, San Diego, CA Oct 2014 –Jan 2019
Host
- Hosted live TV show focused on technical audio production
- At Signature Sound Studios in San Diego, and assorted studios throughout Los Angeles
- Made introductions, asked questions, and made sure the show ran smoothly
- Blogged for the show's website and other assorted tasks

Vistage, San Diego, CA Jan 2015 – Nov 2020
Audio Engineer
- Edited confidential audio files for the world's largest CEO network
- Monitored and maintained audio queue
- Improved system for editing audio queue and doubled the rate of file processing

Studio West, San Diego, CA June 2013 – April 2015
Asst Engineer/Engineer
- Assisted and engineered on sessions in studio
- Helped with studio projects, marketing, website creation and performed organizational duties
- Ran support for student run sessions in their TRAC (The Recording Arts Center) program

The MIC Network, San Diego, CA June 2012 – June 2013
COO
- Co-founded a music industry startup
- Managed teams of interns, managed branding and website development

San Diego Repertory Theater, San Diego, CA May 2012 – June 2013
Audio Engineer
- Functioned as A1 for company theatrical events, working as the in house, full time audio engineer

Capricorn Studios, San Diego, CA June 2012 – May 2013
Intern/ Assistant Engineer
- Assisted the head engineer in recording clients
- Developed and expanded music and sound editing skills

La Jolla Playhouse, San Diego, CA Sept 2011 – May 2012
Audio Engineer
- Functioned as A1 and A2 for assorted theatrical events, functioned as audio department stagehand

Fortune Recording Studio at Connecticut College, New London, CT Sept 2010 – Aug 2010
Manager/Audio Engineer

- Managed everyday functions of the school's studio, including scheduling & student workers
- Served as an audio engineer for various clients

Eastern CT Symphony Orchestra, New London, CT Fall 2010 - August 2010
Audio Engineer

- Loaded in recording set-up and set levels/monitored recording of concerts
- Edited and mixed recordings to create a final CD for each concert

Hartford Convention Center, Hartford, CT Nov2009 - Aug 2010
Stagehand/IT Tech

- Performed stagehand duties in the audio department for various events

Garde Arts Center, New London, CT April 2010 - Aug 2010
Audio Engineer

- Worked as A1 and A2 for various theater events, mostly musical theater
- Worked in the audio department on numerous traveling Broadway shows

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ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Nasty Outfit Artist Group, New London, CT Fall 2009 - Aug 2011
Co-founder

audioEngine, New York, NY Summer 2009
Intern

Muse Art Gallery, New London, CT Winter 2010
Audio Artist

Buck's Rock Camp, New Milford, CT Summer 2007
Counselor

'Very Small Rooms' Soundtrack, Storrs, CT Summer 2008
Audio Engineer

Wilton Photo Shop, Wilton, CT Summer 2003 - Summer 2005
Photo Processor

CERTIFICATIONS

SDSU Academic Applications of AI (AAAI) Micro-credential (Level 1)
San Diego State University, March 5, 2025

Dolby Atmos Music Mixer Certified
MixHer Program through Dolby and EngineEars, Feb 2024

Electronics Technician Certified
San Diego Community College, 1 year certificate degree program

Pro Tools HD 11 Operator Music Certified
Studio West and The Recording Arts Center

Pro Tools 10 User Certified
Studio West and The Recording Arts Center

Venue 3.0 Operator Certified
Studio West and The Recording Arts Center

GRANTS AND AWARDS

NAMM CMS Faculty Fellows Award Recipient, 2026 NAMM Show

Sound Designer & Mixing Engineer for "Shadows in The Dusk: Venetian Meditation" Film
Couch Film Festival, Toronto, Winner of Best Documentary 1-5 min, December 2025
Florence International Film Festival, Official Selection
Berlin Kiez Film Festival, Honorable Mention 2025 Best Documentary

Sound Designer, Mixer (Stereo & Immersive), and End Music Creator for "Lost Dreams" Film
Berlin Kiez Film Festival, Winner of Best Experimental Film, July 2024
The Indie Gathering; International Film Festival in Cleveland, Featured
Chroma Art Film Festival in Miami, Honorable Mention
Experimental Film and Dance Festival: Toronto, Winner of Best Story
Florence International Film Festival, Official Selection 2024 & Honorable Mention Best Experimental
Blow-Up International Art House Film Fest, Chicago, Semi-Finalist
Magikal Charm Film Festival, Winner of ITSO Ephemeral Beauty
Capital City Film Festival, Official Selection
Indie Vegas Film Festival, Official Selection
Denver Underground Film Festival, Official Selection
San Francisco Frozen Festival, Official Selection
Silicon Beach Film Festival, TCL Theater Official Selection
Culver City Film Festival, Official Selection
Vast Labs, Official Selection February 2026
NFT New Media Experimental Digital Arts Film Festival, Honorable Mention
Experimental Forum, Honorable Mention
Los Angeles Underground Film Forum, Honorable Mention
Massachusetts Independent Film Festival, Outstanding Achievement Nomination, 2026
Cinesthesia Factory Fest, Los Angeles, Official Selection, Spring 2026

Dolby Atmos & EngineEars MixHer Program Winner & Award Recipient, Dec - Feb 2024

Lamond GenNext Award Recipient, Jan 2024

She Rocks Awards Scholarship Ticket Recipient, Jan 2024

Teachers College Grant Recipient to Attend NAMM, Jan 2024

San Diego Zoo and US State Department's Worldwide Hackathon Winner, 2019

INVITED TALKS & PUBLICATIONS

The Music History Project Podcast, Guest Host, EP. 147 - Women Studio Engineers, March, 2026
Online/Remote

Does Academia Make the Grade?! A Conversation Between Industry and Academia, Panelist & Organizer, Jan 22, 2026
NAMM 2026 Trade Show, California Ballroom A

Student Futures: Careers Beyond the Stage, Panelist, Jan 21, 2026
NAMM 2026 Trade Show, Anaheim, CA

Tools of the Trade: An Exploratory Study Analyzing the Frequency and Potency of Tools in Hip-Hop Music Creation, Performance, and Pedagogy, Oct 31, 2025
2025 National ATMI/CMS Conference Presentation, Spokane, WA

NAMM Oral History Archives Featured Interviewee, May 22, 2025
Interview Done at NAMM HQ in Carlsbad, CA - Featured Online

Canvas Rebel "Stories & Insights" Featured Interviewee, June 26, 2025
Online/Remote

MixHer Featured Panelist, June 22, 2025
East Iris Studios, Nashville, TN

Safari Pedals Podcast Featured Guest, May 21, 2025
Online/Remote

Celebrating Women in the Recording Industry Panelist, April 3, 2025
University of Northern Colorado, Panel Member

Local Stories Featured Interviewee, March 31, 2025
San Diego Voyager, Online/remote

Careers in Music Summit Panelist, Jan 24, 2025
NAMM 2025 Trade Show, NAMM Idea Center

In-Service and Pre-Service Teacher Perceptions of Music Technology Education: An Empirical Exploration of Divergences, Fall, 2024
Issues in Teacher Education Journal, Volume 33, Number 2

Imperative Duality of Music Teacher Technological Education, 2024
Journal of the Association for Technology in Music Instruction (JATMI), Vol. 4, No. 1 (2024)

The uncanny valley in the music classroom: Perspectives on overcorrection, Jun, 2023
Journal of Music, Technology & Education, Volume 16, Issue 1-2, Article Publication

Using Patreon to Create Community, Nov 13, 2024
Sheridan College and Centennial College, Zoom Presentation to Music Entrepreneurship Students

A Case Study in Democratizing Access: An exclusively free software Music Ed. Technology Class., Nov 7, 2024
College Music Society (CMS) and Association for Technology in Music Instruction (ATMI) Conference, Presentation

Creating Spaces for Laptops in Music Education Classrooms: Enhancing Access and Opportunities, Fall 2024
California Music Educators Association (CMEA) Magazine, Article Publication

Prepping For The Studio Podcast Featured Guest, Jan 30, 2025
Online/Remote

Modern Audio Engineering: The History, Technology, and Experience, Aug 28, 2024
Museum of Making Music, Presentation

Teach Me Acapella Podcast Featured Guest, July 27, 2024
Online/Remote

Updating Music Technology Assessment Strategies, June 8, 2024
Association of Popular Music Education (APME) Conference at USC Thornton, Conference Presentation

Mic Mod: Microphone Modeling Software as an Educational Tool, May 20, 2024
College Music Society's CMS Tech Forum Journal, Article Publication

Women in Music Panelist, Feb 29, 2024
San Diego State University, AES event

Hearback Technologies Featured Engineer, March 2024
Online/remote

"'Free Virtual Tarot Readings' courtesy Clance and Imes" Article, June 22, 2023
San Diego Reader, Cato's Music as Subject of the Article

Careers in Audio Panelist, Nov 15, 2023
San Diego City College, AES event

Splice Music Featured Engineer/Artist, April 2023
Sound Factory, LA

San Diego Crew Featured Member, July 2021
Online/remote

Platt College Teacher Spotlight Featured Instructor, 2017

Platt College, San Diego

SoundGym Hero of the Month, Aug 2019
Online/remote

Hype Plugin by UrsaDSP Plugin Preset Maker, March 2024
Online, remote

Various Brand Partnership Collaborations:
Avid, Antares (Autotune), Tascam, Zzounds, Audio-Technica Creator, Produce Like A Pro, Beat Kitchen School, Slate Digital, Waves, DistroKid, Splice, Kali Audio, Baby Audio, Audio Doctor, Eargasm Earplugs, Tuned Plugins, etc

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PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Recording Artists and Music Professionals with Disabilities (RAMPD), pro and verified member
Audio Engineering Society (AES), San Diego chapter member
Dolby Atmos Music Network Women (DAMN Women), member
Association of Popular Music Education (APME), member
Association for Technology in Music Instruction (ATMI), member
National Association for Music Education (NAfME), member
College Music Society (CMS), member
the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers (ASCAP), member
Summit Community / Summit at Sea, member

SERVICE

Interim Board: San Diego Audio Engineering Society
Board Member, Aug 2026 - present

NAMM 2026 Day of Service: Elementary School Network with the Pros
Presentation to Anaheim High School Students, Jan 20, 2026

Eventide Audio Educator's Advisory Group
Board Member, Jan 2026 - present

Flock Audio Council of Educators
Council Member, Jan 2026 - present

John Krivit's Audio Educator Advisory Board
Board Member, Nov 2025 - present

San Diego Songwriter's Circle
FOH Audio Engineer & Organizer, Oct 2025 - present

High Tech High Career Technical Education Industry Advisory Board
Board Member, April 2025 - present

San Diego City College Commercial Music Program Advisory Board
Board Member, Mar 2025 - present

NAMM 2025 Day of Service
Presentation to Anaheim High School Students, Jan 21, 2025

Miramar College Audio Program Advisory Board
Board Member, May 2024 - present

Guide Dogs For The Blind
Puppy Raiser/Puppy Sitter, 2019 - present

San Diego House Rabbit Society
Rabbit Groomer, 2017 - present

Writers Round San Diego
FOH Audio Engineer & Organizer, May 2022 - Feb 2023

Music For Peace San Diego
Audio Engineer, 2015 - 2019

International Day of Peace NGO Committee, United Nations
Music Peace Team Member, March 2015 - 2019