

The University City Musician Documentary Project



Rod Milam
Director/Executive Producer
U. City Musician Documentary Project
Owner, MilamNYC Productions LLC
(New York City, New York, USA)

Graduate of:
Flynn Park Elementary 1981
Brittany Woods Middle School 1984
University City High School 1988



Rod is a native of University City, Missouri. He began participation in the music programs in the U. City School District by playing percussion in 5th grade. He continued by playing in the bands throughout middle school and in the Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, Marching Band, and Jazz Bands 1 and 2 while at U. City High. He also played percussion in the pit orchestras for the high school spring musicals "The Wiz" (1985) and "Fame" (1986).

After high school, Rod went to the University of Missouri - Rolla to study Aerospace Engineering for a year and a half. After finding that career path not ideal and finding the student run radio station KMNR, he moved back to St. Louis and spent all of the 1990s filling up his alphabet soup of radio stations and media outlets by working as an announcer, show host, and radio news journalist on the air at KWUR, KDHX, KWMU, and KMOX and contributing to HEC-TV, the AP, CBS, NPR, CNN, ESPN, RFI and others. Meanwhile, he worked all over St. Louis as a Pizza Hut assistant manager and pursued and completed his Bachelor's Degree in Mass Communications at the University of Missouri - St. Louis.

While at UMSL, Rod added to his 6 years of French in the U. City school district and took 3 semesters of Spanish. He then took a leave from his restaurant and radio work and spent 3 months living in Madrid, Spain studying spoken Spanish. In 2000 he left St. Louis and the US again and moved to Tokyo, Japan to teach conversational English, work as a freelance international journalist, and learn some Japanese for a year.

Rod changed paths after 9/11 and moved to New York City in 2002. He got some voiceover work, but made his living working at Wall Street financial firms. He was first a secretary, but ended up being a Business Technology Educator for UBS in charge of training all of the firm's offices in the US, Canada, Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil in the company's largest client relationship global software (putting his French, Spanish, and Portuguese to use).

After getting laid off with a lot of the rest of the planet in 2008, Rod decided to go back to his media related roots by opening up his multimedia production company, MilamNYC Productions LLC. The company produces video and audio products for companies/actors/artists around the world that wish to use videos or podcasts on their websites, for training, for conferences or on TV/Radio advertising. Rod conceived the idea of the University City Musician Documentary Project while meeting many of his fellow alums of many graduating classes that lived in New York that were involved in the arts, dance, and music professionally long after their stints in the same while back in U. City.