

Kirkwood Business Owners' Association

Member Spotlight: Guitar Shed

By Kyla Cox

It was **The Allman Brothers Band** that first inspired Parker Smith to pick up the guitar at the ripe old age of eleven. He has been on a never-ending path of music discovery ever since. Now as owner/teacher of Guitar Shed he is able to share his passion and inspire others to express themselves through music.

Parker chose the name Guitar Shed because “shed” is jazz musicians’ slang for practicing (i.e. hit the woodshed), but the name also serves as a physical space for musicians to frequent. Open since August 2015, the goal of the music school is to offer a unique educational experience with an emphasis on lifelong learning. They currently offer private lessons on guitar, piano, ukulele and bass. They also host two recitals per year and hold periodic events and educational workshops. Look for group guitar ensemble and Jaminals (preschool music class) coming this summer.

Parker, now a Kirkwood resident, grew up in Virginia-Highland and attended the Paideia School. He performs as

a vocalist, guitarist, bassist, and on mandolin, ukulele and piano. He has played innumerable gigs as a sideman, soloist, and leader of his group “Parker Smith and the Bandwith.” He has toured the country and independently released three albums, ***Garden Hills*** (2011), ***Solo Flight*** (2013), and ***Long Live Jazz Vol. 1*** (2014). He specializes in blues, jazz, bluegrass, fingerstyle, slide guitar, songwriting and improvisation. Parker holds a degree in Music Business from University of Miami and a master’s degree in Music and Human Learning from University of Texas at Austin.

What’s his favorite thing about Kirkwood? He cites Rolando’s (the Trophy Room) great haircuts and even better conversations, and the “Lumberjack” at Le Petit Marchet, as two things he couldn’t live without.

For the class schedule, upcoming events and more information on the Guitar Shed, visit them online at www.guitarshedatl.com.



Guitar Shed storefront.

The objective of KBOA is to promote the growth, stability and profitability of the Kirkwood Business District. Visit us online at www.kirkwoodbiz.com. Thanks for shopping and dining local!



Parker Smith with student musician.