

MAMAS BIRDS PERFORMING ARTS

FACULTY & STAFF



Sandy Redd, a powerhouse singer, songwriter, actress, entrepreneur and winner of the 2017 WGCI "Kick Start Your Dreams - Next to Blow Out of Chicago" contest, is a Chicago native performer that you would have to see to believe. Her talents have taken her all over the world, from her hometown of Chicago to Atlanta, New York, L.A, France and beyond. Opening for rap icons such as 50 Cent, MC Lyte, Souljah Boy and Twista, as well as R&B Legends like Miguel, R. Kelly, Monica, Syleena Johnson, Chaka Khan, Kem, Angie Stone, Musiq Soulchild and more, have allowed her to win over audiences of many genres with ease. So, there is no secret as to why she was dubbed a "Leading Lady of Success" at the 2017 Ford Motor Company "Born to Roll" brunch by Chicago's biggest radio station 107.5 WGCI & iHeart Radio, where she received an honorary award for her hard work and dedication in the field of music. Her credits include writing placements on Syleena Johnson's "Chapter V UnderRated" album, and Avants "The VIII" album. Her television debut in the 2011 Movie "The Ideal Husband" put her alongside Jackee Harry of "Everybody Hates Chris", Clifton Powell of "Friday", Erica Hubbard of "Akeelah and the Bee", Darrin Henson of "Stomp the Yard" and national recording artist Ginuwine. Her additional appearances include Fox News, WCIU, BET, GMC TV, TVOne, 107.5 WGCI radio, Power 92.3 radio, ATL Love 860 radio, Bishop TD Jakes Mind Body & Soul show and R&B Divas. Her E.P dubbed "Redd Fever" is a collaboration of Grammy Award-winning producers and lyrical genius as well. Her passion for the arts was taken to another level in 2011 with the start of her non-for-profit performing arts youth organization called "Mama's Birds". The program, in honor of her late mother's memory, is on it's successful 8th year run, is extended to the youth of her city and provides a safe haven of growth and creativity. So with her career on the rise and being the Founder & driving force behind the Mama's Birds Organization, she is certainly excited about the opportunities that this program will provide to the youth and her community.

**Founder / CEO
Program Director**



Acting Instructor

Alonzo "Comedian PK" Ruffin is certainly a seasoned actor creating his stamp on Chicago, with 2 nationally televised movies breaking network records entitled "Love Me or Leave Me" starring Terri J. Vaughn of the Steve Harvey Show and "The Ideal Husband" starring Ginuwine, Darrin Henson of Stomp the Yard, Jackee Harry of 227 and Clifton Powell of Friday. Both movies are currently available at Walmart, Target, Netflix, Redbox, etc. Alonzo is also no stranger to the stage, starring in over 30 + musical stage plays with some of the industries greatest artists and actors including Bobby Brown, and Carl Payne of Martin, he is truly an expert in his field, trail blazing with some of the industry's top directors. So with a long resume of successful comedy shows adding to his experience, Alonzo "Comedian PK" Ruffin is certainly a great addition to the Mamas Birds team.



Dance Instructor

Liberty Bussie is a force to be reckoned with in Chicago and abroad. She has studied the styles of modern, hip hop, latin inspired, jazz, and alternative dance at her home town school of Chicago State University where she was a part of many productions. Not only is she an accomplished dancer traveling the globe with her talents, but she is also the principal dancer for Andrea Kelly Dance Company and has starred with her in the popular VH1 reality show "Hollywood Exes". So she is certainly a prime asset to the Mamas Birds team and we are so excited to have her on board this year.

Mys Michelle has been making her marks in history for almost 20 years now. It started back in 1997 when she was awarded the NAACP ACT-SO award for their talent competition. From there she went on to win Chicago's WGCI annual musical seminar competition where she was presented by Clive Davis himself and shared the stage with Mary J. Blige, Joe, and Mary Mary. Although she is a native of Chicago, her talents have taken her all over the world with some of the most respected gospel artists in the music industry, such as Karen Clark-Sheard, Bee Bee & Cee Cee Winans, Tremaine Hawkins, Smokey Norful, Tye Tribett, Dion Warwick, Kelvin Lenox, Trinitee 5:7, Sherrie Addison, Ray Bady and Percy Lenox just to name a few. Her musical talents have also broadened her travels overseas performing for 10,000 plus audiences. But it doesn't stop there. Mys Michelle also has 2 albums under her belt as well. Her first debut album entitled "Whateva" was released in 2008 and a true testimony of her heart. Her second album was a mix tape entitled "Switch" released in 2011 which allowed her to explore new sounds. She is currently working on her third project entitled "Change" which is set to release in the summer of 2016 and her most recent accomplishment includes being featured on the Seth Meyers show on NBC in May 2016. So as a prominent figure in the music industry and a noted vocal coach, we are excited to welcome Mys Michelle to the team.



**Vocal Instructor
Program Director**



Assistant Instructor

Jalen Causey, an 8 year alumni student of the Mama's Birds Summer Program, is a rising star in the field of performing arts. Aside from his accomplished acting resume and a State Championship winner with the Southland College Preparatory High School Speech team, he has also successfully transitioned from a student of the Mama's Birds program to an Assistant Instructor Intern with the Organization. We are so proud and excited to welcome him to our team.