

## Anthony Casamassima

Anthony Casamassima has played the saxophone since age 12, and during his middle and high school years participated in several County- and State-wide ensembles. His academic background includes study with Dr. George Weremchuk, Robert Thornton, Richard Drexler & Jeff Rupert at UCF and then with Neal Bonsanti & Mike Brignola at FAU, graduating on scholarship with a Bachelor's Degree in Music in 2011. He recently obtained a Master's degree in Music Composition at the University of South Florida under direction of Chuck Owen & Jack Wilkins. Anthony has performed locally alongside renowned artists such as Lou Donaldson, Rufus Reid, Steve Houghton, Maria Schneider, Diane Schuur, Kevin Mahogany, Ricardo Pons, Donny McCaslin, Charlie Young, Dolores King Williams, Bob Marley's Original Wailers, Ingrid Jensen, and Wayne Bergeron. He has been featured with a number of Big Bands across Florida, including the UCF, FAU & USF Big Bands, the Smithsonian Jazz Orchestra, the "Jazz Ratz", the Bobby Rodriguez Orchestra, the David Pruyn Big Band, Jazz Legacy Big Band, Jerry Fischer Big Band, Jack Martino group & the Wally Schneider Big Band. Over the last 7 years he has performed at numerous music festivals & benefits around the east coast of the United States on piano and saxophone in various groups of contrasting styles. He has performed and taught many genres of music, adapting his lessons to the specific needs of each student. His 10 year teaching experience includes teaching piano, voice, guitar, saxophone, clarinet and flute for wide range of settings, age groups, and levels of musicianship, focusing on the elements of Music that are universal to all.

