Ellis Hamilton

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Ellis Hamilton is a self-taught musician and composer, proficient on alto saxophone (primary instrument), drums, and piano. He also plays tenor and soprano saxophones, bass clarinet, vibraphone, and flute. Ellis graduated Summa Cum Laude from Berklee College of Music with a dual degree in Film Scoring and Performance. His academic achievements and musical talents have earned him many awards, honors, accolades, and scholarships, including being named one of the 2016 Davidson Fellows by the Davidson Institute for Talent Development. This organization honors the top 20 students in the country for their extraordinary talent and accomplishments in their respective fields.

An engaging and passionate musician, Ellis has performed as a solo artist and as a member of many ensembles and bands at venues across the country including, The Metropolitan Room, The Laurie Beechman Theater, The National Press Club, The Kennedy Center, Scullers Jazz Club, The Music Center at Strathmore, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, and Blues Alley Jazz Club. He has shared the stage numerous times with his mentor, multi-platinum and Grammy-nominated saxophonist and flautist, Najee. Ellis was invited to be a guest soloist with the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra, and he orchestrated one of his original compositions, *Possibilities*, for the Philharmonic to perform. He has also performed internationally on stages in South Korea, Japan, and Germany.

Since graduation last December, Ellis has had some notable accomplishments. He has performed as a featured soloist on several artists' professional recordings; composed the scores for three short films, one of which has won several awards at short film festivals; composed and performed the score for a stage play for the City of Fairfax Theater Company; and he was a guest lecturer and performer for the Kirov Academy of Washington, D.C.

Ellis, based in Virginia, works as a freelance musician and composer dividing his time between performing, composing, songwriting, and scoring for media. Currently, Ellis is in the process of releasing some of his original music.