

VoyageTampa

Jordan

Denise Williams

Hi Jordan, so excited to have you on the platform. So before we get into questions about your work-life, maybe you can bring our readers up to speed on your story and how you got to where you are today?

My name is Jordan Denise Williams, I am 18 years old and recently graduated from Foundation Christian High School as an Honor Roll Student.

I will be starting college in the Fall at Hillsborough Community College with hopes of achieving a Bachelor's Degree in Music with a minor in Dance from the University of South Florida. While in college, I will continue pursuing my music and dance dreams as a Singer/Songwriter and Performer.

I currently study piano and take music production classes at Hands In Motion Music under Grammy Award-winning Pianist and Producer, Lannie Batistini. I have been studying piano since the age of four and guitar for the past six years. I am currently Tampa Bay's "The Best of The Bay" winner for Best "Pop Act" and "Best Dancer" and have been voted winner for the past four years, which I am humbly grateful for.

I am a National Champion Dancer and a recent alumni of the national award-winning BSDA Competitive Dance Team. We recently competed at Starpower's 2022 National Dance Competition in Orlando, winning a National Championship, A Battle of The Stars National Championship and a Victory Cup!

I am grateful to have received many awards for my dance solos including a judges' invitation-only dance opportunity to compete my musical theatre solo on Starpowers' Battle On The Seas on Royal Caribbean's Liberty Of The Seas in 2023. I Also received a scholarship and invitation only to attend a Discovery Spotlight national model and talent expo in front of industry Talent Agents.

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I have sung, danced, and performed in musicals on community stages since I was three years old. I have performed at Busch Gardens Christmas Town, Macy's Family Day Parade, Florida State Fair, Strawberry Festival, Macy's Backstage, and The Shops at Wiregrass to name a few.

I released my first single at 12 years old titled "That's Me". My second single, "I Close My Eyes" released when I was 14 years old, was on the ballot for consideration for a 61st Grammy nomination. I am currently performing as a professional singer performing Jazz, Motown, Rhythm & Blues, Pop, and Classic Hits at gigs around Tampa Bay.

"Music is not what I do; it's who I am and what God has gifted me to be!"



Check out some of her work:

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We all face challenges, but looking back would you describe it as a relatively smooth road?

The path to accomplishing a dream and your goals are never easy. It takes a lot of faith, hard work, discipline, commitment, time management, and passion! Being on a competitive dance team and performing at such a young age has taught me this. I missed a lot of parties and declined a lot of invitations to hang out with my friends.

It is not been a smooth road. I have received a lot of rejection, for not making the dance team, not winning the top dance awards, or the talent competition. But, it has taught me to have perseverance and work harder. Sometimes people only see the success and do not realize that I've been working on my career dreams for 15 years.

Pursuing a career in the music industry is a challenging, competitive, expensive, and difficult path to take especially while trying to pursue a college education. It is filled with many obstacles and hurdles to jump to achieve and accomplish my goals. My family is so supportive and has faced many financial obstacles during the past few years, including my Mom's Cancer diagnosis, job losses, and Covid-19 restrictions.

I always put my faith in God to touch the hearts of individuals to help me continue to dream big and accomplish my goals! My parents have always believed in me and have made many sacrifices to allow me to take dance, piano, guitar, musical theatre, and production classes. My Mom, Julie Williams, is my manager, and my Dad, Derrick Williams, a Singer/Songwriter, Jazz Pianist & Host of The Gospel Voice TV show, is my musical mentor.

They have started a Go Fund Me fundraiser to help me with: college tuition, purchase a keyboard for college, fund Summer dance & music Intensives in New York, and allow me to accept an invitation to Starpowers' Battle On The Seas on Royal Caribbean's Liberty of the seas.

Alright, so let's switch gears a bit and talk business. What should we know about your work?

I am currently recording and producing my album to be released in 2023 on Derlie Records. I plan on releasing my EP this Summer featuring a few songs from my upcoming album. I have written and will be producing all the songs on the album titled "In My Head".

I want to use my music and songwriting as a voice to help people going through some of the same experiences that I have gone through in my teenage years, high school, and through a global pandemic.

My songs are written about friendships, losing friends, my senior year, and isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic. My music album will be available worldwide online and on all major music sites. My goal is to win a Grammy for my creative work.

What sort of changes are you expecting over the next 5-10 years?

I see the music industry moving back into an era of songwriters and musicians. Technology has made it easy for anyone to create music or a song, upload it to social media, and market it.

However, I think that authentic music that is written from the heart is what people can relate to. Listening to artists not only singing but playing instruments I believe is a change we have seen since the pandemic.

We have seen how creative artists has become during the pandemic finding ways to reach their audience using technology, which has opened new doors for performance opportunities.

