

**Melissa Ferrick**  
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Teacher/ Entrepreneur/Performing Songwriter

### HIGHER EDUCATION

**Northeastern University; Boston, MA** 2019 – 2020  
*Visiting Professor of the Practice*

**Berklee College of Music; Boston, MA** 2010 – 2019  
*Associate Professor*

*Policy and Strategic Planning*

- Faculty representative in the redesign of equity policy and process college wide procedures.
- Director of Performing Songwriter five-week summer program for 185 high-school students increasing attendance by 200% in nine years.
- Created retention plan to convert summer attendees to full-time graduating students.
- Performed qualitative and quantitative analysis to determine best practices in the field.
- Engaged faculty, students, and administration in difficult conversations on topics including sexual harassment, non-discrimination, and equity process.
- Led the creation of Save the Rave event for 1,000 incoming freshman students to promote mental health awareness.
- Co-developed faculty training for gender inclusiveness for Berklee Teachers on Teaching.

*Academic and Curricular Development*

- Co-led redesign for three core classes for the department.
- Developed capstone entrepreneurial curriculum for seniors resulting in upwards of 12 student businesses being launched per year.
- Wrote and implemented curriculum for summer program that increased learning and participation of students and faculty.

*Teaching and Speaking Engagements*

- Taught eight courses per semester focused on creative entrepreneurship, time management, critical inquiry of practice, thought processing, creative writing, and emotional intelligence.
- Featured Speaker: Women's Welcome Reception for entering students.
- Panelist: Know your Rights; copyright and the implications of the M.M.A.
- Honored Panelist: Exploring Music Industry Ethics.
- Student Chosen Faculty Speaker: Lavender Graduation Ceremony.
- Speaker: Creating Harmony/Freedom from Addiction.

### ENTREPRENEURIAL LEADERSHIP

**Right On Records LLC; Boston, MA** 2000 – present  
*Founder and Executive Officer:*

*Strategic Planning*

- Developed a strategic plan for growth by analyzing target audience.
- Created digital analytics through social media and crowd sourcing.

*Financial Management*

- Created crowd-funding opportunities for 3 projects generating 60K.
- Generated revenue from projects of upwards of 250K a year.

- Managed financial statements.
- Negotiate all live performances.

*Operations*

- Created 22 projects fulfilled with independent contractors.
- Book and advance all appearances.
- Launched tours attracting upwards of 500 people per show.
- Developed professional relationships nationwide to promote content.
- Created and managed independent contractors for marketing and public relations.

*Human Resources*

- Hired and managed over thirty independent contractors.
- Supervised upwards of ten people per project.
- Provided feedback to improve performance outcomes.
- Consultant to independent artists.

**The Granda House; Alston, MA**

2018 – present

***Member of the Board of Trustees***

- Co-led search for executive director.
- Review budget of over 900k.
- Rewriting mission statement to reflect current vision.
- Manage government funding and policies.

**South by Southwest (SXSW); Austin, TX**

1992 - 2013

***Official Artist and Panelist:***

- Performed multiple times during the conference.
- Honored panelist:  
How to Survive as an Independent Artist in the Digital Age.  
Creative Entrepreneurship; the 360° deal.

**Int. Folk Alliance Conference; Saint Louis, MO**

2007 & 2012

***Official Panelist and Artist:***

- Performed multiple times during the conferences.
- Honored Panelist:  
The Independent artist.  
Representing yourself in the digital age.

**OTHER HIGHER EDUCATION EXPERIENCE**

**Harvard Graduate School of Education; Cambridge, MA**

May 2019

***Teaching Fellow:***

Dr. Eileen McGowan; Integrating Knowledge into Practice

**Boston University, Boston, MA**

2017

Guest Lecturer: Process in Creative Entrepreneurship

**UPENN Abington; Abington, PA**

2013

*Guest Lecturer:* LGBTQ advocacy and entrepreneurship.

**The Waring School; Beverly, MA** 2012  
*Guest Lecturer:* LGBTQ advocacy and live performance.

**Lyons Folk Festival; Lyons, CO** 2009  
*Featured Artist/Teacher:* Writing though the block.

**Harvard Extension School; Cambridge, MA** 2004  
*Teaching Artist:* The Songwriter and their Craft

### EDUCATION

**Harvard Graduate School of Education; Cambridge, MA—Ed. M** 2019  
Specialized Studies: Leadership & Arts in Education

**Northwestern University; Chicago, IL — Certificate** 2016  
Digital Social Media Marketing

**Berklee College of Music; Boston, MA —Alumni** 1990  
Songwriting

### Skills

Active and passive listening, emotional intelligence, leading symbolically and politically, creative solution teaching, mentoring, performing, negotiating, songwriting, production, consulting, organization, and divergent thinking.

### PERFORMANCE PORTFOLIO

**Right On Records LLC; Boston, MA** 2000 – present  
*Recording Artist:* Released eleven Albums

**MPress Records; New York, NY** 2011 – 2014  
*Recording Artist:* Released two Albums

**W.A.R. Records; Boulder, CO** 1996 – 1999  
*Recording Artist:* Released three Albums

**Atlantic Records; Los Angeles, CA** 1992 – 1995  
*Recording Artist:* Released two Albums

**Live Performances** 1991 – present

*Headliner:* Over two hundred shows a year between 1991 and 2012. Up to one hundred shows a year since.

*Support:* Morrissey, Bob Dylan, Joan Armatrading, Rufus Wainwright, Ani DiFranco, Tegan and Sara, Marc Cohn, Paul Westerberg, John Hiatt, Weezer, Anaïs Mitchell, k.d. Lang, Del Amitri, Suzanne Vega, and Shawn

Colvin. Festivals: Newport Folk Festival, Clearwater, Michigan Women’s Festival, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Ottawa, Guelph, and Lyons Folk Festival.

**Awards:**

#3 Song of the Year - Boston Herald,	2016
Song of the Year; Nominee “Scenic View” – Independent Music Award (I.M.A.)	2016
#20 of the Top 50 Indie Women in Music – nonhollywood.com,	2015
Winner: Album of the Year “The Truth Is”– I.M.A.	2014
Song of the year “Singing with the Wind” Int. Independent Acoustic Music Award	2013
Top 100 Most influential Queer Activists – OUT Magazine,	2012
Song of the Year; I.I.A.M.A.	2011
Winner: Eight Time Singer Songwriter of the Year – Boston Music Awards,	1999 – 2006
Out Magazine; Album of the Year	1999
Billboard; top ten AAA radio album	1998
Time Out NY; top ten album of the year	1996
Top Ten MTV Europe Single “Happy Song.”	1994
Billboard; top twenty AAA radio album	1994
The Village Voice; top ten album of the year	1993

**Links to Music, Press, and Interviews**

[Melissa Ferrick](#)

[Behind the Album: Curated by Ralph Jaccodine & Hosted by Jim Sullivan](#)

[Spotify Civil Suit Northeastern University; Boston, MA](#)

[Stars Outnumber Our Hearts Boston Herald live interview; Somerville, MA](#)

[I Don’t Want You To Change \(official music video\)](#)

[Home \(official music video\)](#)

[Exploring Music Industry Ethics Panel](#)

[Live with Ani DiFranco, Do Re Me; NY, NY](#)