

## CHRIS BURNETT

A native of the Kansas City Area, award-winning composer and saxophone artist, Chris Burnett began his prolific professional start at the age of 18 years old while performing, touring and recording with Army bands from 1974-1996. He subsequently completed a 22-year career with noteworthy professional military music organizations that provided vast legitimate educational opportunities covering several specific areas of musical study; while simultaneously providing him the essential incomparable real world performing and touring experiences necessary for an artist to mature and develop a unique musical voice.

An active BMI Writer Affiliate, his ensemble performances and studio recordings primarily feature his original compositions and his interpretive arrangements of select works by other composers. Mr. Burnett is the 1995 5-Star Award of Merit Winner of the National Federation of Music Clubs for his original composition and arrangement for big band titled, *Daedalus*.



A modern thinker and early explorer of the digital music landscape, Burnett garnered more than a half million music downloads and sold CDs to fans in 38 countries via MP3.com (1999-2003) before most musicians had figured out that there were other ways than major record label contracts and brick-and-mortar retail stores to reach listeners. Since his return to Kansas City in 2001, Burnett has had the opportunity to perform along side or work with many eminent musicians. He was one of the very first artists featured by the newly renovated and historic Hilton President where he performed on the first Saturday of each month in the famous Drum Room within the Kansas City Power and Light District for over two years (2006-2008). With several new projects to be released, he already has a successful commercial album (*Time Flies*) distributed worldwide on the Artists Recording Collective label brand.

Artist outreach and community service as a professional musician have been important elements from the start of Mr. Burnett's professional music career. Mr. Burnett has noteworthy college-level teaching experience as a former director of the jazz ensemble program at Missouri University of Science and Technology, formerly University of Missouri-Rolla, where he was employed as an adjunct Lecturer in Music for more than 10 years (academic years: 1984-1990 and 1996-2000) until returning home to the Kansas City area. In addition to his professional performance activities, Mr. Burnett remains involved in the development of student musicians as an IAJE artist/clinician (remaining an active member since 1985 until the organization ceased operation in 2008); through his own private teaching practice; and the conduct of affordable music clinics at local schools in the Kansas City area.

As a publisher and businessman, Mr. Burnett also gained valuable experience while serving as a staff writer/arranger and company manager for many noteworthy military band assignments. He would later volunteer his time and services for free from 2002-2007 and arrange music for Fandeen Publishing Company, Inc., while also serving as a participating Board Member for the non-profit firm, Alaadeen Enterprises, Inc. Mr. Burnett was later invited to become a part of the artsONE Artists Council. The Artists Council of artsONE is comprised of well known and respected local Kansas City Jazz and Blues artists. In December 2007, Chris Burnett, along with New York-based artists, Erica Lindsay and Sumi Tonooka, co-founded Artists Recording Collective - an American label brand that serves as a dynamic and multi-dimensional platform to present the works and services of a select roster of artists. Subsequently, Artists Recording Collective formally launched its first commercial CD recording release in early 2008 to critical acclaim and National Radio success. Most recently, he was personally invited by Mr. Leon A. Brady to become involved with the Kansas City Youth Jazz, Inc.

Today, Mr. Burnett continues to operate BurnettMusic.com (his official artist website domain name and sole proprietorship business entity), while primarily focusing his efforts on continued success in the areas of performing, writing, producing and teaching music while also contributing to other vital areas of the industry. Also see: [www.BurnettMusic.com](http://www.BurnettMusic.com)

Mr. Burnett's Professional Memberships include: American Federation of Musicians (Kansas City Local 34-627), The Recording Academy (GRAMMY®), and the US Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP).