

Namory Keita

304 Brown St, Westbrook, ME 04092
603 831 9609 / namorydjenekeita@yahoo.fr
West African Traditional Artist, Master Drummer

Education

Raised in the village of Sangbarala, Guinea, apprenticed from the age of 7 to present with Famadou Konate, world renowned Djembe Master, teacher, performer, and recording artist.

Honors & Awards

1998 - Established as an honored drummer for his village. A position which calls upon one to perform for all manner of occasions, supporting the musical, educational, and ceremonial traditions of the village.

2015 - Given the New England area by his elders for the dissemination and preservation of West African Drumming traditions

Artistic Achievements/Experience

- Accepted drum students from all over the world to his village (starting 1996)
- Brought to Germany by Gan Kleinpeter's troupe to teach/perform (2008 & 2009)
- Brought by Madanza Dance Troupe to Portugal to teach/perform (2008)
- Brought to Poland by City Boom Boom to teach/perform (2008 & 2009)
- Brought to France by Daniel Preslar to teach (2009)
- Brought to Chicago by Helen Bourne's troupe, Benkadi, to teach (2010)
- Dance Hall, Kittery, ME – teacher/lead drummer (2012-present)
- Akwaaba, NH performing troupe - lead drummer (2012-present)
- Toronto, Canada, Kouraba Festival - performer (2013, 2014, 2015)
- Brattleboro, VT, Abena Festival - performer (2013, 2014)
- Old Port Festival, Portland, ME - performer (2014)
- Mini Guinea Fest, Portland, ME (2015) / Kittery, ME (2016) - teach/perform
- ILAP, Portland, ME - headline performer (2015, 2016)
- Cirque Zuma Zuma - performer (2016)

Teaching and School Residencies (2011-present):

The Bench Shop, Willimantic, CT / The Drum Connection, Arlington, MA / Mitchell School, Kittery, ME / High Mountain Hall, Camden / Sagamore Community School, Portland, ME / Exeter Academy and High School, NH / L'Ecole Francais, Freeport, ME and many other small schools along with ongoing classes/workshops through out the New England Area. Ongoing teaching collaborations in schools with Theo Martey, Director of Akwaaba Ensemble, Elizabeth Fowler, Dance Director of Seacoast Dance & Drum, Randy Armstrong, musician, and Marita Kennedy-Castro, Dance Director of New Moon Ensemble, to name a few.

Leadership

- Music Director/lead drummer for Seacoast Dance and Drum (2012 – present)
- Music Director/lead drummer for Portland, ME, New Moon Ensemble (2015-present)

Community Service Activities

Traditional/ceremonial drumming services for special occasions, serving my communities here and in Guinea.