

Career Goal: Singer/ songwriter/ performer

Requirements:

- No degree is required
- Performance skills
- Singing ability
- Ability to write songs
- Engaging people skills
- Time management skills
- motivation

Current Skills, interests, and experience:

- Various talent shows
- Opened for the band Alarm 58
- Played my own show at Spoken Moto
- Experience running Pro Tools and Logic Pro X
- I've recorded myself for videos on YouTube
- I've attended multiple songwriting workshops
- I've completed multiple songwriting challenges (meant to simulate pressures of the industry)
- I know how to use and am interested in learning more about music technology (especially in live performances)
- Proficient at playing piano, guitar, ukulele, and singing

Plan to reach a career goal:

- Graduate high school with a transfer associates degree
- Take a year off to pursue music opportunities available to me now
- Take more Berklee Online classes and transfer as many credits as possible to the new college.
- At some point in time earn a bachelor's degree in songwriting or Popular Music Studies

Contacts:

I met Clay who owns a local recording studio and is a skilled engineer. He's a really cool guy with good taste, he's easy to work with, and knows what he's doing. Knowing Clay might be valuable to me because I know he probably has some good connections in the industry and the location of his studio is very convenient for me because I don't live in town and neither does he which is rare.

Another person I met was the owner of a popular local venue that totally fits my vibe. I get paid to play there which is great because I'm grateful for being able to play there at all. Plus, he likes my music so I'll be playing there at least a few times a year.

Career Plan Reflection:

A revelation I had this week is that I'm not looking for a job to apply to where I give someone my resume, they hire me, and I get paid. The job I'm currently going after is more complicated than that. I already knew this but the part I put together this week is that ultimately as a singer-songwriter I plan to have multiple streams of income. People don't really get hired or paid just for the position of singer-songwriter. You get paid when people like the music you create. Your audience is your employer in that way. Revenue streams I might have in the future include money from YouTube, performances, ticket and merch sales, digital music sales (including streaming and physical sales), commercial/movie/TV placements, and getting paid for writing songs. Each item in that list is a separate project. Ideally, I won't need all of those incomes to make a decent living one day but it's nice to realize what my options to make money are, more specifically than saying I'm going to be a singer-songwriter. This has helped me detail what being a professional singer-songwriter entails.

In order to reach my career goal I need to write songs and practice performing them. This is what I'm doing now but it's definitely very important to get where I want to go. Having this ready will allow me to be ready for more doors to open and lead me in a direction. A college degree might help and I'd love to learn more but ultimately it's probably not necessary for success. The benefit of college would be to learn more and take classes that I otherwise might not, and connect with my classmates with similar or complementary talents and interests to mine.

Academic Plan:

I'm going to graduate from high school and community college in June 2019 with an Associate's of Arts Transfer degree. Next year I will take a year off from school to pursue music and see where that takes me. After that I'll decide what to do next, it may involve going to one of the universities I have been accepted to to study songwriting and music production.