**MATTHEW WHITAKER ABBREVIATED BIO.**

Born in 2001, Matthew Whitaker’s love for playing music began at age 3, after his grandfather gave him a small Yamaha keyboard. At 9, Matthew began teaching himself how to play the Hammond B3 organ. Four years later, he became the youngest artist to be endorsed by Hammond—in its 80+ year history. He was also named a Yamaha Artist at 15, becoming the youngest musician to join the stellar group of jazz pianists.

He's toured both in the US and abroad, performing on prestigious stages around the country including Apollo Theater, Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center for The Performing Arts, SF Jazz Center, Monterey Jazz Festival, Newport Jazz Festival, and at international venues in France, Italy, Germany, Indonesia, UK, Australia, Switzerland, Portugal, Japan, Spain, Morocco, and South Korea to name a few.

Matthew's television appearances include FOX TV's **Showtime at the Apollo**, the **Today Show** documentary series "Boys Changing the World," the **Harry Connick Jr Show** an appearance on the syndicated TV talk show **Ellen** and a segment on the most-watched news magazine on television **60 Minutes**!

**2019 & 2020**, Winner of the ASCAP Foundation Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composers Award for his original compositions “Emotions & Underground!"

**Film Scores:** “Matthew Whitaker: About Tomorrow” (All Arts TV - 2022)

 Producer, Musical Director, Arranger, and Original Score

‘Starkeisha’ (ESPN’s Andscape (pka: The Undefeated) - 2022)

Original Score

**Discography**: Outta The Box – 2017 Jazz Foundation of America

 Now Hear This – 2019 Resilience Music Alliance

 Connections – 2022 Resilience Music Alliance