

Crossroads Quartet Biography – 2018

Crossroads is a world champion a cappella quartet made up of four versatile, award winning vocalists. Though steeped in the tradition of Barbershop Harmony, Crossroads enjoys singing a wide variety of musical styles including vocal jazz, blues, gospel, pop classics, and classic American standards. Crossroads was formed when four friends from four different states and four different international champion quartets came together to make a brand new sound. Two years later they were crowned the 2009 Barbershop Harmony Society International Championship Quartet. Since then, they have produced three recordings, and have become one of the most sought after a cappella foursomes in the world, having already performed in Japan, Germany, France, Finland, the U.K., Spain, Poland, Australia and all throughout North America. Notable recent performances have included a concert at world famous Carnegie Hall, guest performers at “La Folle Journee in 2014, featured national television appearances on “Fox & Friends” and Daystar Network’s, “Gospel Music Showcase”. Crossroads was also named the 2016 recipient of the “Stand For Music Award” for their work in the advocacy and promotion of the music education cause in American public schools. Presented annually by the National Association of Music Educators (NAfME), the award is NAfME’s most prestigious music advocacy honor.

Now consolidated to three states (Tennessee, Missouri and Florida), Crossroads continues to grow musically and attract fans worldwide. Through it all they remain the best of friends and cherish the time spent with the entire Crossroads family. (They have four beautiful wives and 15 children between them).

Jim Henry holds degrees in vocal music education, music theory and music composition, including a Ph.D. in music composition from Washington University. He is currently the **Director of Choral Studies** at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where he conducts the University Singers and [Vocal Point](#) and teaches choral methods, choral arranging, and choral conducting. In addition to his duties at UM-St. Louis, Jim is the musical and artistic director of the [Ambassadors of Harmony](#), a 160-voice men's a cappella chorus that performs barbershop, jazz, and light classical music. The **Ambassadors of Harmony** have produced multiple recordings, and

have been named the best male barbershop chorus in the world four times, winning the BHS chorus championship in 2004, 2009, 2012 and 2016.

Jim was also a founding member, arranger, and bass singer with the legendary [Gas House Gang](#), the very popular 1993 International Quartet Champions. The Gas House Gang has entertained audiences in all fifty states and fifteen countries, and in venues from the **Grand Ole Opry to Carnegie Hall**. They have been featured on NBC's "Today Show," NPR's "At the Creation," and two PBS specials: "Voices in Harmony" and "The Egg." The Gas House Gang has produced five recordings. Jim and his wife Geda live in St. Charles Missouri and they have 2 daughters and a son along with 3 grandchildren.

Brandon Guyton sings baritone, and is perhaps best known as a gold medalist with **Four Voices**, the 2002 Champions of the **Barbershop Harmony Society**. Four Voices was a highly innovative and exciting college quartet that first got their start as part of the acclaimed Voices of Lee, A premier mixed vocal troupe from Lee University. Four Voices produced two recordings, performed in 44 states and 4 countries and performed in venues such as Lincoln Center and have shared the stage with a long list of artists including Bill Gaither and the Swingle Singers. Brandon is sought after for his expertise in recording, mixing and mastering. He is also a certified BHS Singing category judge and has become one of the most in demand vocal coaches throughout the Barbershop world. Brandon and his wife Noemi live in Cleveland, Tennessee and have three daughters and a son.

Mike Slamka sings the lead part, and he made his mark as the lead of **Power Play**, an extremely popular all-family quartet that became International Barbershop Harmony Society Champions in 2003. In addition to Mike on lead, Power Play featured father Jack on bass, brother Mark on baritone, and cousin Don on Tenor. Their genuine love for one another and their family appeal, along with the uncanny ring in their sound made Power Play an audience favorite. Power Play produced 3 recordings, has performed all over the United States and has been featured on the Jane Pauley show as well as guest performers on The Grand Ole Opry. Mike also directs the perennial International SAI finalist, Spirit of the Gulf Chorus. Mike and his wife Traci live in Ft. Myers, Florida and are the proud parents of 3 daughters.

Fred Farrell sings tenor, and was a member of the 1989 International Quartet Champion **Second Edition**. Known for their great sound and musical artistry, Second Edition is considered to be one of the most influential Barbershop quartets of the past 30 years. Second Edition produced 2 recordings, performed in 38 states and 6 countries sharing the stage with artists such as Michael Feinstein, Dizzy Gillespie, Rosemary Clooney, Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis Jr., with feature spots on ABC's Nightly News, and Wolf Trap Theatre's 50th anniversary gala concert which was broadcast nationally in the United States. Fred and Kim live in Ft. Myers Florida and have four daughters and a son.