

Michelle Colton is currently a Doctor of Musical Arts student at University of Toronto, where she recently graduated with her Master's of Music degree in Percussion Performance in 2009. Michelle earned her Bachelor of Music Education/Performance degree from University of Iowa in 2006. She performed with the University of Iowa Percussion Ensemble in Beijing, China in 2006, and also in the Keiko Abe Toho Gakuen Marimba Masterclass in Tokyo, Japan in 2008. Michelle has studied music from Japan, India, Indonesia, Ghana, China, Iran, Cuba, Brazil, and Trinidad. She currently teaches steel pan and percussion ensemble at University of Toronto, as well as drumline, drum circle, bucket drumming, and private lessons in the community. She received 1st place in the 2009 University of Toronto Concerto Competition, and also in the 2011 University of Toronto DMA Recital Competition. She plays extra percussion with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, and has had the pleasure of sharing the stage with NEXUS, Dame Evelyn Glennie, Ilmas Hussain Khan, I Wayan Sinti, Kiyoshi Nagata, Jiao Shanlin, Kwasi Dunyo, and Soley Vesighi. Michelle's goals are to continue to study, perform, and teach music.