

## Biography

Five-time Grammy nominated Ashanti Floyd, known as The Mad Violinist, is one of the top producers, violinists, string arrangers, and performers in the world. He picked up his first violin at the age of three with strong inspiration from his mother. Floyd is now musically accomplished in over thirty instruments. He is highly established in the music industry as a producer and recording artist for over 30 albums, and credited on platinum hits including “The Show Goes On” by Lupe Fiasco, Lil Wayne feat Drake “Right Above It” and many others. One of Ashanti's most current notable mainsream accomplishment's is with Will I Am on Nciki Minaj's album “The Pink Print” while producing, and featuring on the violin as Nicki personally flew him in as one of her favorite musicians. Currently, Ashanti has produced one of Europe's most rising songs called “Fine Ass Mess” by Mr. Probz in which he origianally produced for Cee Lo Green.

As an artist, Ashanti has performed live with former mentor B.B. King which was his first professional gig at age 19. He also toured with Lupe Fiasco on the Generation Lasers tour, Cyhi Da Prynce, Yelawolf and many more. Floyd has performed on the BET Awards, Ellen Degeneres, MTV Video Music Awards, Monique Show and on BET’s 106 and Park.

The broad range of genres mastered and blended by Floyd attract a broad audience inspired by Pop, Hip Hop, R&B, Jazz and Alternative Music. Floyd, originally from Tallahassee, Florida has a top flight musical education. His auditioned performances as a young teen earned placement in prestigious music camps. At Interlochen, Michigan, he placed into the advanced string quartet and played with both The Turtle Island and Pacifica String Quartets. At Luzerne in New York, he studied and performed with renowned composer and conductor, Michael Kamen. He also became the first American violinist chosen for the the Credenza Symphony Orchestra Camp in London, England.

After high school, Floyd planned on audition on viola for Juilliard School for Performing Arts. He chose to audition and attend Berklee College of Music as a contemporary violinist. Floyd excelled quickly, testing out of courses within two years and was quickly recruited to tour and guest appearances with the likes of B.B. King and more. Floyd’s involvement in musical education is continual.

He has taught for the Summer Stars Foundation, and was Musical Director/ Instructor of the Britney Spears camp at the age of 19. This led to him becoming a teacher and mentor at The American Idol Kids Camp, Fifty Cent’s G-Unity Foundation, and The Jonas Brothers Foundation. Currently, Ashanti has been called upon by the Atlanta Symphony to encourage youth apart of their outreach programs and to help with new innovative ideas to bridge the arts in the Metro area. Ashanti has also personally given away over 100 violins to deserving youth across the country with his very own “The Floyd Foundation”.

