

Doctor Idols

Doctors by day, rockers by night. It's the split lifestyle of 11 of Sarasota's health leaders—a subject featured in the recent *Dr. Idol...RX Music* documentary. The film's associate producer, Molly Turner, president of Prime Marketing and Events, helped discover these local melody makers in 2009, and held an American Idol-style fundraising competition called "Doctor Idol" last year to showcase their talents.

"While being a musician and a doctor might seem like opposite ends of the spectrum, they're closer than you'd think. Both call for you to give 100 percent of yourself. I'm not sure if we're doctors that call ourselves musicians or musicians that call ourselves doctors." —Dr. Autumn M. Powell, chiropractor, Lee Chiropractic Center

"Music parallels medicine in many ways. The piano keyboard looks chaotic to the uninitiated. The complexity of medicine looks the same to a beginning med student. Superimposition of patterns and recognition of combinations of keys on the piano is similar to conceptualizing data and clinical information when progressing through a diagnostic process." —Dr. Jerold L. Saef, cardiologist, Bay Pines VA Medical Center

"Both music and medicine give me a framework to stay within, yet at the same time, there's room for improvisation. You can play the same song as you can perform the same surgery, and each time there will be something just a bit different." —Dr. Melvin R. Price, podiatrist, Riverview Foot and Ankle Specialists

"I thought of majoring in music and played professional gigs starting at age 17, but I also had a love of science and medicine, and felt it would be a lot more practical to make a living as a doctor. I couldn't imagine giving up either." —Dr. Michael A. Pavlus, periodontist, Periodontics and Dental Implants

"I'm a psychologist and couples therapist, and I see playing jazz and talking with my patients as a creative and connecting process. Music, the universal language, connects people at deep levels. Effective psychotherapy connects people with their dreams, goals and deepest longings." —Dr. David E. Mullen, psychologist, Sarasota

"Having a health care practice is such a 'left brain' event that I need to play music—it balances out my brain by accessing the creativity in my 'right brain.' The optometry practice is the way I serve humanity, and playing music serves my own peace of mind." —Dr. Tad Kosanovich, optometric physician, Englewood Eye Care and Optical

"Music brings pleasure and joy to one's life, which is a powerful healing force. I think 'Doctor Idol' is an event that allows doctors to continue to heal through their music by raising money for those less fortunate." —Dr. Joseph Hornberger, chiropractor, Hornberger Wellness and Chiropractic

"I met my guitar partner, Rick, at a jazz jam locally and was mesmerized by his playing. We became Berimbau, and we've played out on a professional basis since then. We've performed at Carnegie Hall, the Van Wezel and many local restaurants and clubs." —Dr. Jeffrey B. Sack, cardiologist, Sarasota (not pictured)

"When I was younger, music gave me a means of self-expression. Now, as an adult, I've found that music allows me to clear my mind—a mini-vacation. I know this has a beneficial effect on my job as an eye doctor." —Dr. James Leubart, optometrist, Center for Sight

"Little did I know a lot of other doctors in the area were taking off their surgical gloves at night and trading them in for guitars and drums to play bars and juke joints like I was." —Dr. Robert Koser, family practice physician, Bradenton

"I enjoy listening to and playing music because of the social aspect, as well as the personal satisfaction I get. The 'Doctor Idol' experience was the largest group I ever played for, and it gave me an opportunity to meet other musicians and clinicians with similar views." —Dr. Steven A. Norris, neurologist, Bradenton (not pictured)



Pictured from left to right: Dr. Robert Koser, Dr. Autumn Powell, Dr. David Mullen, Dr. Joseph Hornberger, Dr. Melvin Price, Dr. James Leubart, Dr. Michael Pavlus, Dr. Jerold Saef and Dr. Tad Kosanovich