

## **KEITH D. HARRISON**

**K**eith Harrison, native Daytonian is a lifelong resident of the Miami Valley area. His musical roots began singing in the church choir. After his military duty, he re-established the group Faze III and began national and international touring. Faze III became Faze-O in 1977 and recorded the hit "Ridin' High" on the She Record label. His chart busting hit "Ridin' High" is still being recorded by many rap artist such as Kriss Kross, Snoop Dog, Ice Cube, EPMD, Ghost Face Killah, Red Man, and Devon The Dude, just to name a few and can be heard in several movie soundtracks. As with all good things, FAZE-O disbanded after three albums however, Keith's musical and performance talents didn't go unnoticed. He was a studio and stage performance musician for many recording artist and worked with the Ohio Players, Lo-Key and Morris Day and the Time Band. After FAZE-O, Keith performed and recorded with Heat Wave for four years. Then he hooked up with the Dazz Band as keyboardist and vocalist. It was during his years with them that he received the prestigious Grammy Award. During his tenure with Dazz, he wrote the musical hit "*Let It all Blow*", co-produced the *Wild and Free* album and was responsible for co-writing many of the Dazz Band's repertoire. "*Let It all Blow*" was used by the National Football League in it's intro before the NFL league games aired. It was also used as WKRP Channel 9 Cincinnati News Sports Show theme song.

**A**fter 11 years with Dazz, Keith concluded the secular portion of his musical career when his wife became extremely ill and his desire to nurture the minds of his two daughters took forefront in his life. Keith retired from touring, formed his own recording and production studio and began writing and producing for promotional commercials and advertising. The majority of the musical background heard on WHIO-TV (CBS) used for promotional commercials, news, weather and sports was written and performed by Keith. From 1980 through 1986 Keith wrote and performed the music for the syndicated one hour special, "*The Dayton Air Show*." This show was seen in over 220 markets across America and was distributed by Telerep of New York. In 1990, Keith teamed up with "Flyboys Productions" and wrote the music that was used for the live air show productions across the country. Keith co-wrote the *air show music video* entitled, "*Tucker's in the Zone...Flyin' High*", a tribute to Sean D. Tucker, who is one of the top aerobatic pilots in the world. This music is heard in the live Flyboys broadcasts around the United States. Major markets include San Diego, Los Angeles, Boston, Cleveland and Philadelphia. He was also the producer of the *Youth N Flight* gospel CD. Since 2000, Keith's original musical scores have been used by Odyssey Expositions for their television promotional spots. Each year Odyssey holds the RV and Boating Shows on the east coast. The Odyssey Exposition commercials are aired in Tampa, Birmingham, Dayton, Cincinnati, Nashville and Columbus. Keith's musical and vocal arrangement talents were heard nationally and internationally on commercials and promotion campaigns for Sprite, Wagon Lit Travel, The City of *Dayton's-Recycle*, the Ohio Lottery and many national food chains and businesses. Keith has composed and produced play scripts and themes, has written introduction movie theme scores, produced music for artists such as Dorian Harewood, Vince Andrews, poet, David Matthews, and motivational speaker, Donte Shackelford. Some local Contemporary Christian artists include Lorine "Lolo" Harris, New Harvest, Tonya Baker and Jennifer Matthews Colter. He produced the two minute Christian radio messages for various local churches, pre-produced and mixed countless musical projects of local artists and eventually wrote, produced and recorded his first Contemporary Christian CD. The Broadcast Music Association (BMI) list Keith as having over seventy-five personally written open musical selections on the market. Humor, dedication and perseverance has successfully lead Keith to this plateau in his career.

**K**eith received several awards as a musician and has many affiliations. Other musical awards include: the Ohio Valley Gospel Music Award, the Ohio Valley Legends in Music Award, R & B Song of the Year, and the Canadian Black Music Award. Some of Keith's featured performances are Oprah Winfrey show, Heavenly Bodies Movie, The National Academy of Arts and Science Grammy Award Show, Soul Train, Holiday Aid, Solid Gold and the BET Presidential Inaugural for former president Bill Clinton. .

**S**everal of his professional affiliations in music are AFTRA, (American Federation of Television and Recording Artists), AFM, (American Federation of Musicians), NARAS (National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences), BMI, (Broadcast Music Incorporated), Be-Dazzled Music, Jobete Music, ASCAP, Stone Diamond Music, Warner Chappell Music, and the Dayton Musician Association.

**H**e has been recognized several times for his community service, received the Key to the City of Huber Heights, honored as one of Dayton's Top Ten African American Males, The Brother Raymond L. Fitz, S.M., Ph.D. Award and awarded commendations from Mayor Rhine Mcllin, Mayor Donald K. McLaurin, Mayor Jack Hensley, congressional representative, Arlene Setzer and Senator Tom Roberts. Keith Harrison's creativity and music spans his lifetime, the best is yet to come.