

William D. Davis



Inducted into the *Hall of Fame* in 1995

Bill is a 1975 graduate of Washington. While attending WHS he won the Instrumental Music Award for Concert Band, the Outstanding Musicianship Award from the Northeast Iowa Bandmasters, the Tallcorn Jazz Festival, and the State Jazz Festival.

After high school, Bill received a full-ride scholarship to Indiana University, a scholarship given to only four incoming freshmen. Bill worked on two degrees, one in music performance in voice and saxophone and the other in business. While at Indiana he performed with an ensemble called I.U. Soul Revue, a student operated group. He had a lead role in the opera production of *Porgy and Bess*. He was president of the largest Black Student Union on campus and that led to being an assistant for the Chancellor of Indiana University for two years.

After Indiana he joined an ensemble called Madness which later became known as Akasha.

This group signed with Chrysalis Records, and he toured with them for three years, opening for a number of national recording artists at concerts throughout the country.

In 1982, he helped create the Daugherty, Davis, and McPartland Trio. Besides all of their performances, he has taught the American Art form called Jazz for the Iowa Arts Council and is listed on the State of Iowa roster for the Artists in Residence program.

