



POWERPLAYERS

KEN ARLEN

**FOUNDER
ARLEN MUSIC PRODUCTIONS**

Arlen Music Productions (AMP) is a Chicago-based entertainment company that specializes in providing live, customized music for a wide range of social and corporate events. AMP sets a precedent for highly-produced performances featuring premier dance bands and specialty ensembles that can capture any musical style or genre. AMP's mission is to surpass expectations and bring every client's musical vision to life.

Q: How do you measure success?

A: As a 30-year veteran of the music business, my goal has been to transform the special event industry. We've done so by becoming the #1 choice for high-end social events ranging from luxury weddings and galas to the Presidential Commander-in-Chief Ball.

Q: What has been your greatest accomplishment?

A: Each New Year's Eve for the past 13 years, the Ken Arlen Evolution Orchestra has been the band of choice at the Bellagio Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. A casino with the budget to hire any famous musician they like, keeps coming back to us because we create lavish, custom, four-hour musical productions that have become a fixture in the Vegas party scene. And we're proud to say we're back for year 14!

Q: What makes AMP unique in the industry?

A: AMP hires over 75 musicians and vocalists including our full-time bandleaders who receive health and pension benefits. Where else can a musician find that kind of job security? We also have 10 technicians to handle sound and stage logistics for our events. What also makes us unique is our personalized business model. Each bandleader works closely with clients to bring their musical vision to life.

Q: What is the most rewarding part of your job?

A: Having an ear for talent, I actively recruit local musicians because I see Chicago as an incubator for the best in the business. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing top musicians come together to create a killer band and knowing you had a hand in creating that.

Q: What do you do for fun?

A: I'm a huge fan of vintage cars. I also love to travel with my wife. My son is teaching at the University of Amsterdam, so I see European trips in our future.

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