

Barbria DeAnne — The Story Beyond Her Song

Barbria DeAnne is an award-worthy storyteller whose artistry transcends music. An accomplished singer, songwriter, author, entrepreneur, and speaker, she has dedicated her life to preserving the stories behind the songs while creating a legacy of her own.

Music has been woven into Barbria's life since birth. At just three years old, she began singing alongside her sisters as The Haynes Sisters, launching a lifelong journey rooted in faith, family, and extraordinary musical heritage.

Her mother, Barbara Darleen Grant-Haynes, was an accomplished songwriter whose composition "He Cares"—recorded by The Soul Stirrers featuring Johnnie Taylor—became the first single released on Sam Cooke's SAR Records in 1960. Her father, James L. Haynes, was a member of The Optimistic Quartet, while her extended family includes celebrated musicians whose influence spans generations. Among them are jazz piano legend Earma Jean Grant-Thompson, Grammy Award-winning Marshall Thompson of The Chi-Lites, and Grammy-winning songwriter and poet Tony Haynes.

Inspired by this remarkable legacy, Barbria developed a vocal style that effortlessly blends gospel, jazz, R&B, and soul. Classically trained yet deeply rooted in the church, she is known for delivering performances filled with authenticity, elegance, and emotion. Her greatest musical inspirations include Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, and her lifelong idol, Aretha Franklin.

Throughout her career, Barbria has shared the stage with an impressive roster of legendary entertainers, including Earth, Wind & Fire, Ray Charles, Karen Briggs, Dorothy Donegan, Enchantment, Mike Phillips, and comedians Bill Cosby and the late Bernie Mac, among many others. These experiences have helped shape a career defined by versatility, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

A graduate of the Art Institute of Atlanta with a degree in Music Entertainment Management, Barbria is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Barbi-Tone Entertainment, a creative company dedicated to producing music, live entertainment, publishing, and multimedia projects that inspire, educate, and preserve cultural history.

As an author, Barbria has expanded her gift for storytelling beyond the stage. Her published works include:

The Story Beyond My Song: Life, Love, Relationships, and a Song

Baby Takes the Stage

Landscape of Lies (Book One of the suspense trilogy)

She is currently completing the remaining books in the Landscape of Lies trilogy while also preparing The Story Beyond My Mother's Song, a deeply personal tribute celebrating her family's remarkable musical legacy and the untold stories behind the songs that shaped generations.

Barbria recently released her empowering single "Sexy Shoe Game," celebrating confidence, individuality, and self-expression, while her inspirational ballad "If I Could Write a Letter to Heaven" continues to touch audiences with its heartfelt message of love, remembrance, and hope.

Whether performing on stage, writing compelling books, producing original music, or sharing the hidden stories behind legendary songs through her growing media platforms, Barbria DeAnne remains committed to preserving history while inspiring the future.

She is more than an entertainer—she is a cultural storyteller, a musical historian, and a creative visionary whose work bridges generations through the universal language of music. Every song has a story. Every story deserves to be heard. And Barbria DeAnne is dedicated to telling them.

Keep the music alive.