

# Freelance Secret Weapons (For Students)

## “The Basics”

Be on time, have all your gear, pencil, iPad charged, introduce yourself to everyone in the rehearsal room, lead with kindness, & follow the lead/vibe of the room.

## Treat Watching Like a Lesson

If you're given the opportunity to observe a show/gig/performance, put your phone away and treat this experience like a lesson!

## Developing Personal Relationships

Unfortunately, most freelance opportunities don't include the audition system we are used to in school. That means one of our best ways of getting work is through developing personal relationships with other musicians. Be a good hang, make working with you enjoyable, and remember other instrumentalists are your friends too!

**Never  
stop  
listening  
to music!**

Sarah Favinger [sfavingermusic.com](http://sfavingermusic.com)

## Say ‘Thank You’

I cannot overstate how important it is to say ‘Thank you’ to everyone who provides you an opportunity.

## You can pay people to play with you, but you can't pay to be hired!

If you want to lead a group, that's great! But make sure to also play in groups with other leaders. That might mean playing gigs that aren't your vibe or style. Remember the rule that you can have 2 of 3 - good music, good hang, or good pay - but it is truly rare to get all 3!

## Don't be afraid to ask for more opportunities!

Your professors want you to be successful! Sometimes it is hard, but it is important to know how to be your own advocate. If you're in need of more performance opportunities or skill development, brainstorm with your studio professor....and if they aren't willing, find someone local in the community or another bassist to provide the type of support you need!