

FIVE+NONE

Based in Ottawa, Ontario, Five+None has evolved from a fun cover band to writers and musicians finding their own unique sound complete with blistering rock, amazing guitar riffs, and poetic lyrics.

The band originally met as students of Ottawa's Bluesfest School of Music and Arts in 2015 and soon started playing local events and venues. They placed first at the 2018 City of Ottawa Student Showcase (Battle of the Bands), scoring the highest points for their combination of original songs, musicianship and stage presence, wowing the judges and audience alike. In April 2019 after an 8 week contest, Five+None was a top three finalist in the Rebel 101.7 FM Real Rock Search and won the audience vote in the finals, continuing their trajectory upwards.

Rapidly gaining industry support from people such as Alan Cross ("We need more female-fronted rock, give this a listen") and DJ Noah of LiVE 88.5 FM ("... a really promising young new Ottawa band"), Five+None continues to make waves and gain recognition.

Five+None is made up of:

Maryn Pegan (vocals): A singer since walking up on stage and belting out "Gives You Hell" when she was 8 years old, Maryn is in her final year at the well regarded Arts Canterbury High School in Vocal Music. In addition to her work writing and performing with Five+None, Maryn performs with Canterbury's Vocum and Chamber Choir. She has her eye on a Bachelor of Music starting next year and a career as a musician. Maryn writes the lyrics and melodies for all Five+None songs. Maryn serves as the de facto band task manager and works with Lee to determine the vision for the band.

Lee Jessen (guitar): Lee has been described as a guitar phenom. He picked up his first guitar at age 8, won the Best Individual Performer award at the City of Ottawa Student Showcase (Battle of the Bands) at age 11 and had commercial radio support for his original music at age 12. In addition to Five+None, Lee also collaborates and performs with Jessen Farrell (blues/rock), Slimmoore and the New Soul Project (soul/reggae) and as guest performer with numerous local musicians. Lee comes up with the basis of most Five+None songs, constructing the chord progressions and guitar riffs. With Maryn, Lee shapes the vision and direction of the band.

William Gonthier (drums): William received a toy drum kit as a 5 year old and started "bashing around on it." When his parents noticed that his bashing was morphing into playing, they upgraded the kit and added some lessons. A connection with Lee from a past music program led to William getting the call when Five+None needed a drummer. William writes the drum parts for Five+None songs.

James Shaheen (bass guitar): A musician since before he started school, James began with the classical violin at age 5. As he got older, rock called to him and he made his way to bass guitar and guitar. Along the way he's added drums and tenor saxophone to his repertoire and become a luthier. He shares his love of music by teaching wind ensemble at a local elementary school and by attending all the live shows and music festivals he can!

Ethan Splinter (guitar): Ethan's first encounter with guitar was at the age of 5 when he received one as a birthday present, though at the time he mostly used it as a table to play with his marbles on. At 14 he picked up the guitar again and hasn't stopped playing since. In that time he's been a member of numerous school bands, created music of his own as well as been offered admission to the renowned Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA.

Five+None has recorded their first EP of original music, with more originals slated to be recorded in the near future. The band dreams of one day leaving their mark in music history!

