

Lee Patrick “Pat” Mastelotto
Class of 2026



Lee Patrick “Pat” Mastelotto, a graduate of Oroville High School's Class of 1973, has earned international acclaim as one of the most innovative and accomplished drummers of his generation. Over a professional career spanning more than fifty years, Pat has distinguished himself as a performer, composer, producer, recording artist, and pioneer in modern percussion. His achievements have brought worldwide recognition to Oroville and reflect the power of talent, dedication, and perseverance.

Raised in Oroville, Pat discovered his passion for music at an early age. He began playing drums at age ten and quickly demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to mastering his craft. While attending Oroville High School, he participated in football, marching band, concert band, stage band, and Key Club. Even as a teenager, he was performing professionally with local bands throughout Northern California. By age sixteen, he was already playing multiple nights a week while balancing the demands of school and extracurricular activities.

Following graduation, Pat moved to Los Angeles to pursue a music career. His talent, versatility, and work ethic soon made him one of the most respected session drummers in the industry. He performed and recorded with a remarkable range of artists, including The Pointer Sisters, Patti LaBelle, Kenny Loggins, Hall & Oates, XTC, The Rembrandts, Tina Arena, and many others. These experiences established a reputation for professionalism and musicianship throughout the recording world.

In 1982, Pat became a founding member of the band Mr. Mister. The group achieved international success with the release of its multi-platinum album *Welcome to the Real World*. The album produced three Top Ten hits, including the No. 1 singles “Broken Wings” and “Kyrie,” songs that became defining anthems of the 1980s. As the band’s drummer and percussionist, Pat played a key role in creating the distinctive sound that helped propel Mr. Mister to worldwide popularity.

While many musicians would have built their careers solely on that success, Pat continued to push himself creatively. He became known for blending traditional acoustic drumming with electronic percussion, helping redefine the possibilities of modern rhythm performance. His pioneering “traps and buttons” approach combined live drums, electronics, loops, and digital technology in ways that influenced musicians around the world and expanded the role of percussion in contemporary music.

In 1994, Pat joined the legendary progressive rock band King Crimson, one of the most influential groups in modern music history. Initially part of the groundbreaking “Double Trio” lineup, he performed alongside renowned drummer Bill Bruford and contributed to some of the band’s most ambitious recordings and tours. Over time, Pat became King Crimson’s longest-serving drummer, helping guide the band through multiple creative eras while performing before audiences across Europe, Asia, South America, and North America. His work with King Crimson cemented his reputation as one of the premier drummers in progressive music.

Beyond King Crimson, Pat has continued to collaborate with leading musicians through projects including Stick Men, TU, KTU, Tuner, O.R.k., and The Mastelottos. His recording credits exceed seventy albums, reflecting a career that has crossed genres including rock, progressive music, jazz fusion, electronic music, and world music. His willingness to innovate has earned him recognition as one of contemporary music's most versatile percussionists.

Despite his international stature, those who know Pat consistently describe him as humble, approachable, and generous. Friends, classmates, and fellow musicians speak of his loyalty, kindness, and willingness to mentor others. Throughout his career, he has remained proud of his Northern California roots and the community that shaped his values and work ethic. As one classmate wrote in a Hall of Fame recommendation letter, "Pat is the real deal," a world-class musician whose character is every bit as impressive as his professional accomplishments.

From a young drummer performing in Oroville clubs to a globally respected artist appearing on some of the world's most prestigious stages, Pat has demonstrated what can be achieved through passion, determination, and lifelong dedication to excellence.

Pat's family includes daughters Brooke, Farah, and Noelle, son Jeremy, and dog Stella. Pat and his wife Deborah, a noted jazz singer, make their home in Dripping Springs, Texas.