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June

NEWSLETTER

2020

GREETINGS PHIBETAMU BROTHERS & SISTERS - ELVA KAYE LANCE (DELTA/MS)



Greetings to the Brothers and Sisters of Phi Beta Mu:

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families maintaining good health as we navigate through these difficult and unusual circumstances in our lives. Just as we do when we travel in new and unfamiliar places, we must rely on some type of navigational device to assist us with finding our way. Modern society now has the convenience of global positioning systems that can track our every move, guide us on every turn, and offer corrections as we move along.

Prior to those developments, travelers relied on a compass. And before that, they looked for patterns and constants in their lives as they searched the sun, the stars, the seasons and nature to guide their decisions.

As we look to the future in our profession, we must rely once again on a compass – and we have several. We have a personal compass (a moral compass that helps us make

decisions based on what is important to us in our lives.)

Our school districts have a compass generally called a mission statement. Our fine arts departments, state associations and band programs also utilize a compass – a mission statement, a curriculum, a set of goals and priorities.

For those of us still serving as music educators, perhaps this pandemic pushes us to revisit the compass that guides our leadership decisions in our programs. What are our top priorities at this time? I think we would all agree it is the health, safety, and success of our students. Then within the guidelines of our states, our communities and our school districts, how will we set out to continue to provide experiences for our students that will, first of all, meet the above goal of health and safety and yet will make our program experiences unique? How will we provide sufficiently challenging opportunities that will encourage growth and yet nurture our students?

It is clear for many of us that some of the events that are typically included in our program experiences will be altered, at least in the immediate future. Perhaps, as we evaluate our goals and priorities in a slightly different way, we may discover new ways and ideas to grow our student musicians and our musical community that may result in an overall better balance of our programs and of our lives. Perhaps we will seek to develop more local performance opportunities, resulting in strengthening our community relations. Perhaps we will develop more individual and small ensemble experiences that will result in enhanced individual performance accountability. Perhaps our leadership program will explore ideas for developing the leadership skills of our students in a totally different way – possibly

giving more students opportunities for leadership at varying grade levels. Perhaps our program will become more service-minded in our community as we seek to grow a better understanding of the needs of others and how we might make a broader difference in our community. Perhaps we will build a bridge with older members of our communities through a scholarship program to assist with getting instruments in the hands of beginning students, or lessons for those whose parents may have lost their jobs. If you are one of the retired members of our fraternity, please get actively involved in mentoring young teachers and young musicians in your area. We will all be richer for it.

Look to your compass, apply your personality, and the various unique traits of your community. We are musicians – we are creative- we have had to be- we are teachers. As the saying goes, “We have done so much with so little so often, we can probably do almost anything with very little.” We will get through these challenging times, even though our paths may be different. We will develop several plans and we will be ready when the music starts again.

I hope that each of you stays safe, informed, and healthy throughout the summer. We will update you on the status of our meetings at the Midwest Clinic as soon as the plans become clearer. It is an honor to be associated with each of you in this fine organization. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance as we move forward.

With sincere warm wishes,

Elva Kaye Lance

CONN-SELMER INSTITUTE GOES VIRTUAL!

How about some good news for a change? We are very excited to share wonderful news with you regarding the Conn-Selmer Institute. Many of you have inquired about the status of the event and we've been working diligently to put a plan in place. We wanted you to be among the first to know CSI will be delivered virtually this year. Our primary responsibility is to keep our faculty and participants safe, and due to Covid-19 we are unable to offer CSI in Elkhart. While we may not be able to replicate the in-person event, Conn-Selmer is committed to providing a meaningful series of online sessions on June 8 and 9. The content will be delivered live and interactively.



You will be able to access all sessions after the event.

Due to the remarkable leadership of our President and CEO, Steve Zapf and Tim Lautzenheiser, Vice President of Education, we've been able to create this *first of a kind* opportunity. We are currently finalizing the details and sessions. There's lots more information to come soon.

Here are the answers to your immediate questions:

What can I expect from CSI Virtual?

- Two full days of interactive online sessions with separate tracks for band, strings, administrators, collegiates
- Meaningful keynotes and musical performances
- Access to all sessions after the conference
- World class presenters like Dr. Tim, Richard Saucedo, Paula Crider, Erin Cole, Larry Livingston, Alfred Watkins, Frank Troyka and many others
- After hours "skull sessions" and conversation opportunities with clinicians

How much does CSI Virtual cost?

As a Phi Beta Mu member or young teacher (first 5 years) recommended by the state chapter, you receive a 50% discount off of the Early Bird rate if you register by May 1. Use this code for registration: CSIC2020P

Will I receive PD credit?

Conn-Selmer will provide PD certificates to attendees who request them

How do I register?

Here is the link to registration: <https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/newreg.php?eventid=457028&>

If you have questions or need more information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Be well,

Nola

TESTIMONIAL FROM A PAST ATTENDEE — DAN BITTNER (SPONSORED BY KAPPA ZETA/AZ)

The supportive and nurturing environment at the Conn-Selmer Institute provided me with an outstanding opportunity to advance my teaching effectiveness. The collective knowledge of everyone in attendance was staggering and I strove to absorb as much as I could. Highlights were a lecture from **Frank Tracz** where he told stories of his personal experiences from his unique perspective, and a workshop on teaching swing feel from **Tony Garcia**. We have been using his rhythm warm-up in jazz band with huge improvement! **Alfred Watkins** shared succinct tips for better rehearsals; so much of what he said was immediately applicable and has improved my rehearsals. Reading Band with composers **Richard Saucedo** and **Michael Sweeney** was insightful and just so cool! Having a cup of coffee with **Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser**... what a kind and genuine man. However, the biggest lesson was to always be an advocate for my students, both in and out of the classroom. Dr. Tim made me realize that the most important part of my job is to build students up into better people. I have tried to change the way I teach. **This year has been more successful, my students feel important, and they are respected in our program!**

WATKINS NAMED OUTSTANDING BANDMASTER – KEITH RUDOLPH (GAMMA/IN)

Each year Phi Beta Mu International names an Outstanding Bandmaster who has achieved greatness in our profession through musicianship, leadership, and mentoring. This year we are most pleased to honor **Alfred Watkins** whose impressive bio follows below. *PBM members wishing to suggest names for consideration should send them to Keith Rudolph at : gkrmusic@gmail.com.*



Alfred L. Watkins is Co-Founder, Musical Director and Conductor of the Cobb Wind Symphony, an all-adult community band in Marietta, GA. In 2013, he concluded his 37-year career as a high school band director, serving as Director of Bands at Lassiter High School in Marietta, Georgia for 31 years and at Murphy High School in the Atlanta Public Schools for six. Mr. Watkins is a 1976 graduate of Florida A & M University with additional study in Music Education and Conducting at Georgia State University. Concert bands under Watkins' direction have performed at the *Midwest Band Clinic* five times, six featured band performances at the Music For All National Festival and four times at the GMEA In-Service Conference. The Lassiter Percussion Ensemble has performed twice at the Midwest Clinic and once at PASIC. The Lassiter Jazz Ensemble was twice selected as an Honorable Mention in the Essentially Ellington Jazz Band Competition (NYC) and the Lassiter Winter Color Guard was named a two-time Winter Guard International World Champions in 1996 & 1997.

The Lassiter Marching Band was the 1998 and 2002 *Bands of America Grand National Champions* and also won nine BOA Regional Championships. Under Watkins' leadership, the marching band also participated in four *Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parades* (spanning 25 years), three times in the *Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (NYC)*, twice in the *King Orange Bowl Parade (FL)* and once in the *Florida Citrus Bowl Parade*. During Watkins' Lassiter tenure, all four (or five) Lassiter concert bands received consecutive Superior Ratings from 1993 until his retirement in 2013, with the top two bands earning consistent superior ratings in Grade VI for the last 23 years. The band program is one of a few bands in America to have received both the *Sudler Flag of Honor* for outstanding concert bands and the *Sudler Shield* for outstanding marching band. Watkins has been a judge for Bands of America, DCI, concert bands, jazz bands and has served as a keynote speaker, clinician and lecturer throughout the country. He has conducted All-State Bands in 18 states and has worked with bands in 38 states

Mr. Watkins has been selected as a member of the American Bandmasters Association, the Florida A & M University Gallery of Distinguished Alumni, the Georgia Chapter of the Phi Beta Mu Hall of Fame and the Bands of America Hall of Fame. Watkins received the **Edwin Franko Goldman Award** from ASBDA and in December 2017, he was a recipient with the **Midwest Clinic Medal of Honor**. He has served as the Guest Conductor of the **World Youth Wind Symphony** at the *Interlochen Arts Camp* and has served as guest conductor of the United States Army Band "Pershing's Own" on the West Lawn at the U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C. In 2018, Mr. Watkins was selected into the Inaugural Class as a "**Midwest Clinic Legend**" and currently serves on their Educational Advisory Committee. In 2018, he was the recipient of the Kappa Kappa Psi Honorary Band Fraternity's prestigious **Distinguished Service to Music Medal**. He has received 22 *Certificates of Excellence* from the National Band Association, the *Sudler Order of Merit* from the John Philip Sousa Foundation and the Band World Magazine *Legion of Honor Award*. Mr. Watkins is Co-Founder, Musical Director and Conductor of the Cobb Wind Symphony (1999), an all-adult community band based in the Metro Atlanta area, which has earned the **Sudler Silver Scroll Award**. CWS has performed three times at the Southern Division Convention of the C.B.D.N.A./N.B.A, three times at the Midwest Clinic and four times at the GMEA In-Service Conference. At present, Mr. Watkins is one of the few conductors to hold three Sudler Awards (Flag, Shield, Silver Scroll) simultaneously. In 2009 and 2010, two doctoral dissertations were written highlighting his life and centered around his work with the Lassiter Band Program. Currently, Mr. Watkins is a Co-Founder and President of the Minority Band Director National Association, Inc., an organization charged to serve, promote, celebrate and mentor minority band directors throughout the country. He is currently an Educational Clinician for Conn-Selmer Corporation and Perform America. The \$1.5 million **Alfred L. Watkins Band Building** at Lassiter High School bears his name.

He and his wife for 36 years, Rita, live in Marietta, GA. They have two adult sons: Christopher, a trumpeter in the United States Army Band "Pershing's Own" in Washington, D.C. and Jonathan, a businessman in Ventura, CA.

JOHN STONER: 2020 OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR— JULIA REYNOLDS (Omicron/AR)



John M. Stoner Jr. assumed the role of President/CEO of Conn-Selmer, Inc. in 2002 following 24 years of leadership as President/CEO of Ames True Temper. In addition to being focused on the manufacturing of legendary-brand band and orchestra instruments, he set his sights on establishing a personalized outreach program designed to benefit the music education community.

In 2013 the Conn-Selmer Division of Education was launched. Working alongside Tim Lautzenheiser, Vice President of Education, John's initiative quickly grew with the establishment of several recognized programs including: Conn-Selmer Institute (a popular annual workshop); the hailed VIP visitations (now boasting of over 2,500 participants); a robust clinician roster (including the luminary master educators); a workshop designed specifically for music

administrators, and a host of sponsorships supporting various aspects of the music education world. **Today the Division of Education has grown to a 20+ member staff serving music teachers around the globe.**

“During his tenure at Conn-Selmer, John Stoner built a synergistic bridge-of-support between music industry and music education that is now the gold standard for both professions. It has been a grand privilege and a distinct honor to share this remarkable journey with him. Witnessing the value of combining the efforts-and-energies generated with this cooperative landscape is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. On behalf of all music educators: Thank you, John . . . Thank you!” -Tim Lautzenheiser, Vice President of Education, Conn-Selmer, Inc.

John Stoner is the recipient of the 2014 Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic Music Industry Award. In 2016 he received the HBCU National Band Directors Consortium Distinguished Service Award.

In September 2019, Mr. Stoner retired from Conn-Selmer, Inc. following 17 years of leading the company to its internationally recognized status. John presently resides in Granger, Indiana with his wife Jan.

Phi Beta Mu on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/510173002454158/>

Phi Beta Mu on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtIOgw9_kx3i-X5eD4oVi6A

EARL D. IRONS PROGRAM OF DISTINCTION – PAUL WOROSELLO (Alpha/TX)



Due to the unprecedented actions necessitated by the Covid-19 pandemic, the International Board has decided to temporarily suspend selections for the 2020 Earl D. Irons Program of Distinction. **As schools open up in the fall, the next award will be given in 2021, during the Midwest Clinic.** All application and submission deadlines have been extended for twelve months from the currently posted dates.

Nominations are currently being accepted for 2021.

- The Phi Beta Mu Earl D. Irons Program of Distinction is open to all high school band programs.
- Director must have been at that program for at least the previous five years.
- Any Phi Beta Mu member may nominate one program.
- The initial nomination occurs in confidence with the Director unaware of the nomination.
- Bands may be nominated at any time up to April 30 of the current academic year.

Name of nominated program, director and contact information is sent to Paul Worosello: (worosell@swbell.net) who, within a week, will notify director of the nomination by sending a letter of congratulations and information on how to proceed. Bands are under no obligation to act upon the nomination.

For more information click: [Earl D. Irons Program of Distinction](#).

COMMISSION PROJECT REMINDER

In keeping with our commitment to contribute to the repertoire of the concert band, we have commissioned **Dr. Quincy Hilliard** to compose a Grade 2 – 2.5 composition for our next literature contribution.

We invite you to join us! Consider using this opportunity as a memorium or to honor an individual or group. There are two ways to participate in the consortium:

- Chapters may participate for a fee of \$200.
- Individuals may participate for a fee of \$100.



Text for acknowledgement and payment must be received by August 1, 2020 to facilitate publication deadlines and performance consideration at the Midwest Clinic 2021. All inquiries and fees should be sent to our Executive Secretary, David Lambert at dlambert55@comcast.net.

We need your news and articles!

Please submit by September 15
for the October Edition.

PBM EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH PROJECT – June Bearden (Alpha/TX)

The International Board created the project at Midwest 2018 and this is the fourth series of articles under “Teaching Tips” and “The Profession” topics. Lots of useful information shared by our membership, websites, links and more! All articles will remain on the [website](#) as a resource for directors. *Please share this resource and consult previous submissions!*



THE PROFESSION

Mentoring opportunities during the spring semester

[Tips for Success in Districts with No Central Fine Arts Administrator](#)

Organizing your spring band events/online ideas due to Covid19

- Consult music publishers such as [JW Pepper](#), [Conn-Selmer](#), [Alfred Music](#) sharing helpful educational ideas during Covid19.

- Creative ideas are being developed using technology tools such as [Music First](#), [Smart Music](#), [YouTube](#), [Google Drive](#), video platforms for class communication, shared drives with lesson plan ideas & grading rubrics.

- Search music convention websites, professional Symphony groups & Military bands performances & webpages. Tons of ‘porch concerts’ to enjoy!

Preparing for adjudication for concert contests / preparing leaders

[The Importance of a Leader’s Character](#) Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser

[The WHY of it All](#) Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser

TEACHING TIPS

Events include solo & ensemble, spring concerts, jazz band

[Making Sound Decisions about Concert Band Repertoire](#) Dr. Jay W. Gilbert

Rehearsal ideas

[Planning Every Rehearsal for Maximum Effect - If It’s Not Written Down, It Won’t Happen](#) Joe Munoz

Instructional tools & musical links

[Understanding the Chord Tuning, Balance and Intonation](#)

Dr. Mary Ellen Cavitt

[On Teaching Band, Notes from Eddie Green](#); edited by Mary Ellen Cavitt

[Rehearsing the Band](#) John E. Williamson; edited by Kenneth L. Neidig

Have an idea or resource?

Please submit to June Bearden:

jbearden66@gmail.com

October Issue

- Midwest Preview!
- New Nevada Chapter!
- More Chapter News!

CHAPTER NEWS

GAMMA CHAPTER (IN) NEWS —Keith Rudolph

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and cancellation of the Indiana All-State Band Concert on March 15, Gamma Chapter has had to postpone recognizing our 2020 honorees. We look forward to the opportunity to present our Outstanding Bandmaster Award to **Wendy Higdon**, Carmel-Creekside MS, along with the induction of **Janis Stockhouse**, retired Director of Bands at Bloomington North HS into the Hall of Fame. These two ladies have made exceptional contributions to music education in Indiana.



Janis Stockhouse
2020 Hall of Fame



Wendy Higdon
2020 Outstanding Bandmaster

ALPHA CHAPTER (TX) NEWS —Katie Lewis



I am a new member to the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu (as of February) and I read on the Facebook page that you're looking for ideas for keeping band students connected during this time. We are doing quite a bit to keep our band kids involved and engaged as well as positive during this trying time. I would love to chat if you'd like! ***Here are some of the things we are doing with the Maus MS Band:***

Covid Champions - each week we are choosing 1 beginner each band director (3 total) and 1 performing band members each (3 total). This would be a student who has show great strength in the face of adversity during Covid times in particular. The band directors are setting up surprises each week to visit their house and to reward and recognize their students from a social-distanced 6 feet. We recognize them on social media, on our Zooms and in our weekly newsletter as well.

Zooms - We are meeting at least 2 times a week with students (or at least giving them the option to come on) to work on new curriculum and also just to check in. Friday's are called "Fun Friday's" and we spend the hour hearing students perform new skills or songs that they learned that week. Students can also share out about birthdays or anything else fun they did that week.

Scavenger Hunt - we did Zoom Scavenger Hunts, even with the incoming class of 5th graders! The prize was a Door Dashed dinner

Awards Night - we are doing a virtual awards night this week to honor students from this year. We would normally do this at our Spring Concert, but we wanted to ensure we still got to recognize students in some way.

8th grade gifts - we have a tradition of gifting our 8th grade class a cinch backpack for the band program they will feed into for high school. We are still doing it this year and will hand deliver all the bags to the 8th graders once they come in.



THE MOST DIFFICULT TEACHING ASSIGNMENT I HAVE HAD IN OVER FIFTY YEARS —RICHARD LAMBRECHT (ALPHA/TEXAS)

Having been bombarded for weeks by newscasters on television and my favorite public radio station about the new, strange and deadly virus we knew only as Corona virus, I began the week before Spring Break fearing that school as we knew it was about to change. In fact on Monday of that week I changed how my lesson setup was in my studio. I had the students sit, instead of their usual place next to me, to sit just inside the door to maintain a (more than) six foot distance apart.

During our final weekly studio horn choir rehearsal before the break (Friday, March 14), I told my students that it was likely to be our last day together. Despite this sobering statement (or perhaps because of it), they responded amazingly as we played through our entire program for the May 3 Horn Choir Concert. Their playing was “stunning,” intense, focused and passionate. It had me in tears.

Two days later an email arrived from the head of the music department detailing UTEP’S decision not to return to campus following Spring Break. Faculty members were urged to use the week after break to prepare for “distance teaching” which would be our mode of instruction for the remainder of the term. I immediately began on my plan for the rest of the semester. Realizing that the students would be missing up to twelve hours of playing time (band, orchestra, horn choir, chamber music) each week, I wanted to find a way to engage them and keep them playing. Furthermore, I wanted them to continue their feelings of camaraderie, even though they were separated, in their own different homes, but together with me for group learning and playing.

High on my list of priorities was the welfare of my students. Many of them came from families with everyone out of work, or with little or no access to the internet (maybe sharing a computer with a parent who was working from home along with several siblings who were also trying to go to school on the same computer.) I vowed to be positive, to remain energetic and to make each Zoom session active, new, exciting, different and worthwhile.

The weekly plan was to meet Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for three hours each day (11 to 2.) Realizing that some players would miss due to obligations to other classes, I planned for students who missed some or all of a session to attend a “make-up” session with my Graduate Teaching Assistant. (I personally was not involved in this session. It was entirely student-led as Raymond (TA) and the students worked out the time frame, generally one and a half to two hours, and what material/skills they would cover.)

In addition to all current students, I extended invitations and welcome to area high school students, former students, adult area horn players (El Paso Symphony Orchestra colleagues), and horn players from Klein High in Houston and Hebron High School in Carrollton, bands my son Chris Lambrecht and Andy Sealy (both Alpha Chapter, Phi Beta Mu) direct and that I have close association with.

All sessions were done with the Zoom app. We have all learned that when you are teaching a one-on-one Zoom lesson, you can hear how the student plays and respond to that playing. However, in a group environment (16–20 people was our average), only one player is heard - You, the person instructing and modeling. With distance learning, the focus is on the content and the purpose of **what** is being played, not **how** it is being played. You cannot and should not deal with the quality of students’ playing. In real-time teaching, you can respond to all of the factors of music performance. On Zoom you don’t hear the ensemble. All ensemble elements are absent. For some students, this can be a distinct advantage. It’s safe to sound however they sound, and there is zero criticism. My advice is that you make suggestions for improvement in a positive, humorous, and non-judgmental manner.

You must, however monitor/manage the student participation. You can see everyone on the screen and how active or inactive they are. I remember feeling like saying to them, “You have to participate. Here I am playing this exercise the very best possible way I can, and I’m watching you do “twirling routines” while you empty water from your instrument. Do that when I’m talking, not when you are supposed to be playing.” And watch for that cell phone texting, which all students are adept at hiding from us.

MOST DIFFICULT TEACHING – CONTINUED (2)

Back to the plan. Structure for our sessions are as follows:

1. Pre-show music or video, usually horn related (London Horn Sound, a major orchestra, Los Angeles Horn Club, American Horn Quartet, some crazy YouTube video like Romain Thorel (Rock and Groove), Chris Castellanos, and Genghis Barbie
2. Welcome, might include some discussion of the pre-show or talk about the “special” day we might be celebrating. Here are a few of the “days” we dressed up for or featured: Dress-up day, Mask day, Bring Your Pet day, Pajama day (with much guidance), Horn Choir shirt day, “Shoesday Tuesday,” Wacky Hat Wednesday, Cinco de Mayo (really big in the west Texas town of El Paso), Family day, “Orange You Glad It’s Thursday” (orange is one of our school colors), Hawaii day, Favorite non-alcoholic beverage day
3. Breathing/stretching routines – different every day and generally student led
4. Warm-ups, fundamentals, technical studies, scales – different every day, and very challenging to create sixteen+ different sessions
5. Recipe for Success by Karen Houghton and Janet Wye – (this book each student owns) exercises, “music” and duets. BTW The duets were high on the list of favorite activities listed at the end of the semester.
6. Scanned and emailed music, “call and response,” shared screen music
7. Two selections of band music and/or orchestral music from Smart Music. I chose important band literature that the students had not ever performed. SO FAR WE ARE ABOUT 90 MINUTES INTO THE SESSION
8. Individual playing of (first few weeks) etudes assigned, (later in the semester) solo assigned for jury. During this time everyone used the “Chat” function to respond to the performances. BTW the students really liked the chat function, seeing their colleague’s comments.
9. Guest artists – I invited, persuaded, cajoled numerous guests to appear: Carsten Williams of London Royal Philharmonic and London Philharmonia, David Cooper Principal horn in the Chicago Symphony, former students who are now professional horn players (and other instruments as well), colleagues from El Paso Symphony, UTEP professors (band directors, brass pedagogy, music business)
10. Wrap up – each and every student would speak about the day, and I would “wrap” it up with thanks and motivation
11. Exit – Postlude, peaceful music usually poignant, sensitive, introspective, ballad-like. Sometimes vocal (Eva Cassidy very often)

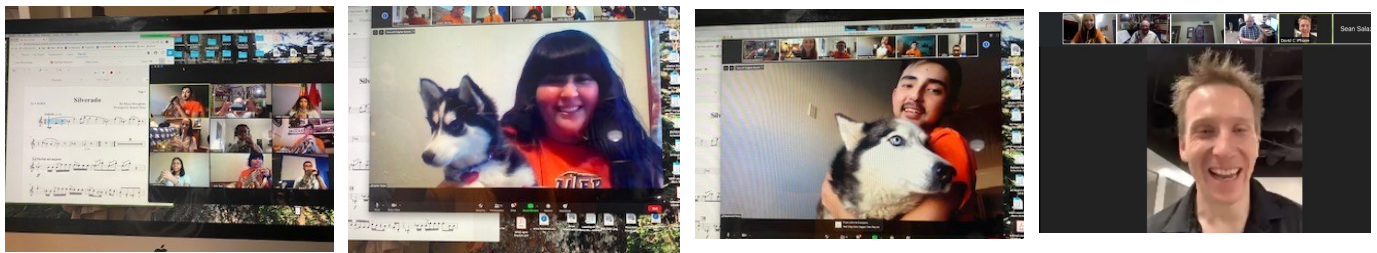
In post semester evaluation of the horn sessions, there were some favorite parts that many shared. They really enjoyed playing along with me, both in duets and on the warm-up exercises. One junior confided to me “I realize we play all of these routines together often. Now I hear all the things you’ve been telling me, that I’m sharp on certain notes. As we are doing these on Zoom, and I can hear you and me, I can HEAR IT.”

Here are a few more comments. “My thoughts on this on-line semester are that I had a lot of fun doing this project. The three times a week gave some of us who needed the meeting to spur us to play something to occupy our time and make the quarantine go much faster. I appreciated your enthusiasm in this challenging time; it surely kept our spirits up and kept us motivated...”
Ryan

“If it wasn’t for your continuous diligence, Covid-19 would have beaten us as a horn choir and beaten me as a musician and ultimately as a person. With each passing day I found it even more difficult to pick up my horn. I completely lost my motivation and drive to do anything. Thankfully that is where you came in to change all of that... You created new warm-up routines daily which helped create the excitement and anticipation of doing something new every day. By showing us new things on the horn, it allowed us students to experiment and try new things on our own... Ultimately, it gave me the drive to pick up my horn and play again... Musicians need to be able to play with other musicians in ensembles to put what we learned in lessons into practice. That is what I missed most – the ability to play and work alongside my friends. Fortunately Mr. Lambrecht found a way to

MOST DIFFICULT TEACHING – CONTINUED (3)

have us play together without physically being together. With Smart Music we were able to play some of our favorite pieces in band and orchestral settings. The best part was being able to play new pieces we had never heard. Although we could not hear each other, just playing along with the recording in our Zoom session made me like I was playing with my friends again. Covid-19 may have completely uprooted our way of life, but Mr. Lambrecht was able to inspire us each day. We are living through unprecedented times. It seems like everyday things are just getting worse, and I never realized how easy it is for your mind to wander down into a dark pit. My professor went above and beyond to make certain that none of that would happen to his students. From dressing up for our crazy theme days, to the special guests like David Cooper and Carsten Williams, he made me eager to pick up my horn so I could see everyone's faces.” Raymond



“I vowed to be positive, to remain energetic, and to make each Zoom session active, new, exciting, different, and worthwhile!”

— Richard Lambrecht