

**PHI BETA MU BAND COMPOSER PROJECT**  
**Music for Young and Developing Bands**

It is our hope that band students along with their teachers will learn from these interviews. With that in mind try to keep the interview to 30 minutes or less. Videos are preferred with a recording of a Zoom or similar meeting being acceptable.

***Start by introducing yourself and the composer you are interviewing. You are encouraged to state your chapter and state or province.***

QUESTIONS (recognizing that some answers lead to new questions)!

- \* When did you get started in band and what instrument did you play?
- \* Are there any pieces of music from your middle school or junior high days that inspired you to write at this level?
- \* How did you get started writing for developing bands?
- \* Were there composers who influenced or inspired you?
- \* What is the greatest challenge in writing for young or developing bands?
- \* Did/do you teach this level of players before you began writing? FOLLOW UP - Does writing for young band help you as an educator?
- \* How do you balance the need to be creative with your scoring with the need to keep younger players active and engaged?
- \* Do you go into a piece with specific learning outcomes in mind? (Always, sometimes, or never?) ALTERNATIVE QUESTION - When you are writing at this level, do you consider yourself more of a composer or more of a remote teacher?
- \* Are you mostly self-published or commercially published? If more self-published, how have you cultivated success getting your young band music out there?

THANK YOU for your contributions to the repertoire of young and developing bands!