

Student-centered band director with 4+ years of experience leading middle school programs, specializing in starting new musicians and developing strong ensemble performers. Currently supporting music educators as a substitute teacher in Williamsville Central Schools. I design data-informed lessons and use music to build skills, confidence, and self-expression.

Experience

Substitute Teacher – Williamsville Central Schools

Amherst, NY | October 2024 – Present

- Support music teachers by implementing lesson plans and fostering a seamless, engaging learning environment that promotes student enthusiasm for music
- Adapt instruction to meet diverse student needs, demonstrating flexibility and proactive classroom management
- Build strong collaborative relationships with music educators to enhance communication, consistency, and program success
- Model musical concepts and provide individualized guidance to support student skill development, understanding, and growth

Private Flute Instructor – Independent

Williamsville, NY | Fall 2024 – Present

- Provided one-on-one instruction to a high school flute student in preparation for ECMEA auditions
- Focused on tone, technique, and expressive interpretation of Level 5 flute literature
- Currently accepting new students for individualized instruction

Director of Bands – Jackson P. Burley Middle School

Charlottesville, VA | August 2019 – June 2023

- Directed band program for grades 6–8, including extra-curricular jazz band, fostering student engagement, musical growth, and ensemble achievement
- Guided beginners to performance level by teaching instrument fundamentals, concert preparation, and music literacy
- Implemented differentiated instruction to meet diverse skill levels, strengthening both individual proficiency and ensemble cohesion
- Prepared students for auditions and acceptance into All County and All District honor bands, as well as VMEA solo and ensemble competitions
- Led students to a 2nd place finish at the Music in the Parks competition at Busch Gardens, Virginia, organizing all aspects of fundraising, travel logistics, and supervision for a successful overnight trip experience
- Rebuilt and expanded the band program following a year of remote instruction, successfully retaining existing students and recruiting new musicians to strengthen program enrollment
- Designed data-driven lessons for 100+ students, using assessment feedback to drive instructional refinements
- Utilized technology to assess student work, create engaging lessons, and aid students in exploring aspects of music that appealed to them personally
- Organized and led concerts, hosted district-wide All County Honor Band and Jazz Band events, and coordinated competition participation, expanding student performance opportunities and strengthening community collaboration
- Collaborated closely with Albemarle High School's marching band program as a woodwind specialist, assisting with marching instruction, drill design, and musical preparation
- Strengthened vertical alignment by building relationships with two feeder high schools, coordinating director visits, and facilitating opportunities for my 8th grade students to attend a high school football game and interact with high school band students
- Facilitated a student club outside of band, providing a supportive space for student connection and contributing to the broader school community
- Adapted instruction for remote learning during the pandemic, maintaining program continuity and student engagement

Student Intern – Newport News Public Schools

Newport News, VA | August 2018 – May 2019

- Designed and implemented unit plans for elementary general music and middle school band classes, focusing on curriculum development and student engagement
- Collaborated with full-time teachers to align instruction with learning goals and conducted an impact study to assess and refine lesson effectiveness

Flautist – Busch Gardens Williamsburg

Williamsburg, VA | Seasonal: Winters 2017 and 2018

- Performed in 4–6 daily shows of 'Gloria' at Busch Gardens, maintaining high standards in fast-paced, demanding environments
- Engaged in collaborative rehearsals with musicians and directors, ensuring successful, cohesive performances

Education & Certifications

New York State Certifications – *Initial Certificate Pending*

Child Abuse Training | April 2025

DASA Training | April 2025

School Violence Prevention and Intervention | April 2025

Christopher Newport University – Newport News, VA

Master of Arts and Teaching | May 2019

Bachelor of Music in Music Education + Flute Performance | May 2018

President, Collegiate NAfME Chapter (2017–2018) | Member, Kappa Kappa Psi (2015–2018)

Skills

- Flute (primary), Alto Saxophone, Clarinet, Trumpet, Trombone, Percussion
- Small Ensemble Instruction & Rehearsal Techniques
- Culturally Responsive Teaching
- Differentiated Instruction
- Technology Integration
- Data-Driven Assessments