

The Directors

Jeffrey T. Phillips

Jeff Phillips is in his 24th year of teaching, currently at Hendersonville High School in Hendersonville, Tennessee, where he teaches Music Theory in addition to conducting the Symphonic Band, Orchestra, Jazz Ensemble, and Marching Band. He also is in his 6th year on the Applied Music Faculty at Belmont University in Nashville where he teaches the trombone studio, directs the Trombone Ensemble, teaches Low Brass Seminar and performs with the Belmont Faculty Brass Quintet. He has earned degrees from Middle Tennessee State University, Western Kentucky University, and Austin Peay State University and is currently finishing his dissertation to complete the Doctorate of Education.

As a performer, he remains active as a freelance trombonist in the Nashville area performing with groups ranging from the 1969 Rock and Roll Band to the Tennessee Philharmonic and the Nashville Wind Ensemble. In addition to various recitals and clinics, he has also been the featured performer with the Belmont Wind Ensemble and Belmont Jazz Ensemble.

Phillips has conducted clinics throughout Tennessee, Kentucky and Mississippi for students in middle school through college and is active as an adjudicator for music groups of all genres throughout the Southeast. He has also published a variety of articles in the *Bandworld*, *School Band and Orchestra* and *Tennessee Musician* magazines and was a co-author of the MENC's *Strategies for Teaching* series and has published numerous music reviews for the *National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors' Journal*.

He has served as President of the Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association, and the Tennessee Chapter of the International Association for Jazz Education. Phillips served two years as the TMEA State Band Chair and served two years as the National Treasurer for the American School Band Directors Association. He was elected to the position of President-elect for the ASBDA and currently holds the office of President of this organization for the 2008-2009 year.

Chris Seger

Chris Seger is currently in his 9th year of teaching. A graduate of Hendersonville High School, Mr. Seger attended Tennessee Technological University where he earned his Bachelor's degree as a trombonist. While at TTU, Seger performed with the Symphonic Band, Orchestra, and Troubadours Jazz Ensemble in addition to the student brass quintet.

Upon graduation he began his teaching career at Gordonsville High School and then Riverdale High School where he was Assistant Director. In 2002, Seger became the Director of Bands at Hendersonville High School and continued in that position until 2007 when he became the Director of Bands at Robert Ellis Middle School in Hendersonville. Under his direction, the Ellis Middle School Band has consistently placed more students in the Sumner All-County Band than any other middle school and the ensemble received their first Superior ratings in Concert and Sight Reading at the MTSBOA Concert Festival in the school's history. In addition to his duties at Ellis, Mr. Seger is also the Assistant Director at Hendersonville High School where he works with the Marching Band and conducts the 9th Grade Concert Band.

As a musician, Seger is active as a trombonist in the Nashville area where he performs regularly with the Nashville Wind Ensemble. Seger is also an avid golfer and is married his wife, Lindsey. They have two sons, Jack and Grant.

Alan Copenhaver

Alan Copenhaver is currently in his 11th year teaching. As a graduate of East Tennessee State University, Copenhaver began his teaching career at Northwood High School and Middle School in Virginia, where he also taught at Saltville and Rich Valley Elementary Schools. He began at Hawkins Middle School in Hendersonville, Tennessee in 2005 and also serves as the Assistant Director at Hendersonville High School. At HHS, he works with the Marching Band and conducts the 9th Grade Concert Band.

As a musician, Copenhaver traveled as an instrumentalist with the Lawrence Welk Show Band, performing on saxophone and banjo. Currently, his hobbies include photography and playing guitar and pedal steel guitar. He is married to Dr. Bonnie Copenhaver, dean of fine arts at Volunteer State Community College.

He is a member of the Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association, the Tennessee Music Education Association, and was inducted into ASBDA in 2008.