



ISU Band Director Workshop Brass Clinic

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Overview

PHILOSOPHIES

SETTING UP BEGINNERS

FUNDAMENTALS

COMMON ISSUES

ARTISTS YOUR STUDENTS SHOULD KNOW

USEFUL RESOURCES

Philosophies

- ▶ Air should do at least 90% of the work
- ▶ Sound before Sight
- ▶ Emory Remington: A Conversational Approach to the Trombone
- ▶ Jan Kagarice: Let the Sound Teach
 - ▶ Finding the Balance
 - ▶ La Da Da and the Straw

Embouchure



Setting up Beginners For Success

▶ **Body Position**

- ▶ Sitting or standing sharp or flat → Finding the Balance
- ▶ Bring the instrument to you not you to the instrument

▶ **The Mighty Straw**

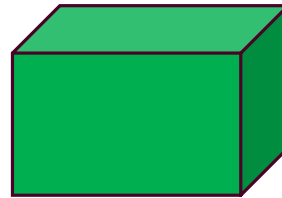
- ▶ La Da Da with Condor -->
 - Open Straw-->Blocked Straw-->Instrument

Setting up Beginners For Success

- ▶ **Mouthpiece placements:**
 - ▶ Horn: 2/3s upper lip; Trumpet/Trombone/Tuba: 50/50
- ▶ **Sound before sight: MOUTHPIECE BUZZ**
 - ▶ **Buzz** simple songs
 - ▶ **Echo Game** and **Call and Response**
 - ▶ **Sing --> Buzz --> Play**
- ▶ **Aim high for first pitch on the horn**
- ▶ **Air flow and speed should be 90% of the student's effort**
- ▶ **Establish the habit of listening to great brass sounds daily**

Fundamental Development

- ▶ **Daily practice**, no matter how long, is better than sporadic
- ▶ **Varied Rhythmic and Articulation Studies**
 - ▶ *Play with articulation, tempo, dynamics from the beginning*
- ▶ **Interleaved Practicing (Bob Duke)** – new material



Fundamental Development

▶ SAFARE

- ▶ **SOUND:** flow study; long tones use a **DRONE** rather than **Tuner**
- ▶ **ARTICULATION:** varied styles; use a metronome; *trombone articulation considerations
- ▶ **FLEXIBILITY:** lip slurs (building block of endurance)
- ▶ **AGILITY:** finger dexterity, slide movement, leaps, isolated attacks, sightreading/transposing
- ▶ **RANGE:** extending useable range in all directions; SCALES
- ▶ **ENDURANCE/EFFICIENCY:** daily practicing; reducing tension; air control

Common Issues & Possible Solutions

- ▶ **Hesitation/Trouble starting**
- ▶ **Double Buzz**
- ▶ **Poor Endurance**
- ▶ **Lack of Range**
- ▶ **Tone Issues**
- ▶ **Lack of Clarity in Articulation**
- ▶ **Trombonists sharp in 6th/7th position**
- ▶ **Performance Anxiety**
- ▶ Focus “the pump.” Do less! Lips open and ready to vibrate.
- ▶ Too much tension; incorrect resonance
- ▶ Not enough air; too much pressure
- ▶ Upper lip inhibition; air speed too slow; Tension
- ▶ Pucker v. Smile; Air amount/speed is incorrect; Not connected to ear
- ▶ Slide coordination; Tongue placement; Speak it!
- ▶ Extendabone
- ▶ External Focus; Centering Process

Current Artists Your Students Should Know

▶ **Trumpet:**
Chief Xian aTunde Adjuah
Esteban Batallán
Summer Camargo
Selina Ott

▶ **Horn:**
Mark Almond
Dilon Bryan
Denise Tryon
Sarah Willis

▶ **Trombone:**
Brittney Lasch
James Markey
Jim Pugh
Steve Turre

▶ **Euphonium:**
David Childs
Fernando Deddos
Misa Mead
Gail Robertson

▶ **Tuba:**
Justin Benavidez
Velvet Brown
Carol Jantsch
David Zerkel

ISU Band Director Workshop Professional Brass Examples

Useful Resources

- ▶ **Injuries & Performance Anxiety:** <https://musicianswellness.com/>
- ▶ **Performance Anxiety/Practicing Tips:**
 - <https://bulletproofmusician.com/>
 - <https://www.winningonstage.com/>
- ▶ <https://extendabone.com/>
- ▶ **Trumpet:** <https://trumpetguild.org/>
- ▶ **Horn:** <https://www.hornsociety.org/>
- ▶ **Trombone:** <https://www.trombone.net/>
- ▶ **Tuba/Euphonium:** <https://iteaonline.org/>
- ▶ **International Women's Brass Conference:** <https://conference.myiwbc.org/>
- ▶ **Diversify the Stand:** <https://www.diversifythestand.org/>