

## **Bio-sketches of External Evaluators**

### **John Daniel | Associate Professor of Trumpet, Lawrence University Conservatory of Music**

John Daniel is an Associate Professor of Trumpet at Lawrence University. He received the Specialist in Music degree from the University of Michigan, Master of Arts in Music from the University of Iowa, and Bachelor of Music from Ball State University. His primary teachers were David Greenhoe, Richard Giangiulio, and Armando Ghitalla. Mr. Daniel previously held tenured positions at Penn State University and Abilene Christian University. While attending the University of Michigan on full scholarship he won the graduate concerto award and was principal trumpet of orchestras in Ann Arbor and Saginaw, Michigan. Mr. Daniel served as principal trumpet with the San Angelo Symphony Orchestra and Abilene Philharmonic Orchestra for nine years and has performed with the San Antonio Symphony, Pennsylvania Ballet Orchestra, Palm Beach Opera, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, and Music at Penn's Woods Orchestra, as well as "subbing" for the Broadway revivals of "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Gypsy." He performs as principal trumpet in the Manitowoc Symphony Orchestra, co-principal trumpet in the Central Wisconsin Symphony Orchestra and first trumpet in Lawrence Brass. He has played recitals in Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, throughout South Korea, and throughout the United States. As a jazz musician he performs with the Lawrence University faculty jazz group and has appeared with Lionel Hampton, Bill Watrous, Wycliff Gordon, Marvin Stamm, Vinnie DiMartino, Phil Woods, Ernie Watts, The Nelson Riddle Orchestra and many others.

### **Ryan Gardner | Associate Professor of Trumpet, Oklahoma State University**

Dr. Ryan Gardner is the Associate Professor of Trumpet at Oklahoma State University where he has been the recipient of the 2013 Junior Faculty Award and the 2014 Distinguished Professor of Music Award. Originally from Santa Monica, California, Dr. Gardner received his Bachelor of Music from the Eastman School of Music with highest distinction, his Master of Music from Rice University - Shepherd School of Music, and his Doctor of Musical Arts from the Manhattan School of Music.

Prior to his appointment at Oklahoma State University, Dr. Gardner served as the Assistant Professor of High Brass and the Jazz Band Director at the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith. In New York, Dr. Gardner enjoyed a successful free-lance and teaching career. He held faculty positions at the Manhattan School of Music Precollege, Third Street Music Settlement, Music Conservatory of Westchester, Greenwich House Music School, and Meyer London School, as well as at the Manhattan School of Music Summer Camp.

As an orchestral performer, Dr. Gardner has played with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Honolulu Symphony, the Charleston Symphony, the Rochester Philharmonic, the Tulsa Symphony, the Tulsa Opera, the Tulsa Ballet, the Fort Smith Symphony, the New World Symphony, the Spoleto Festival Orchestra USA, the Music Academy of the West Orchestra, the Aldeburgh Festival Britten-Pears Orchestra in England, and the Verbier Festival Orchestra in Switzerland, directed by James Levine. He has also performed in many prestigious venues including Carnegie Hall, Symphony Space, Merkin Concert Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and the Palau de la Musica Catalunya in Barcelona, Spain. Dr. Gardner continues to have an active orchestral performing schedule. He plays principal trumpet with the Distinguished Concerts International Orchestra in New York City and is a member of the Symphony of Northwest Arkansas and the Artosphere Festival Orchestra.

### **Cathy Leach | Professor of Trumpet, University of Tennessee, Knoxville**

Cathy Leach has been Professor of Trumpet at the University of Tennessee since 1981. She teaches applied trumpet, directs the UT Trumpet Ensemble and coaches brass quintets, and serves the School of Music as Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies. Dr. Leach played principal trumpet with the Knoxville Symphony and Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestras 1981-2012, and has played principal trumpet with the very active UT Faculty Brass Quintet at the University of Tennessee for the past 35 years. She appears on recordings on the Musical Heritage and Opus One labels.

A popular soloist and clinician, Ms. Leach has been featured with the Knoxville Symphony and Knoxville Symphony Chamber Orchestras, the Oak Ridge Symphony, the Bremerton Symphony, and the Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic. She has been a member of Monarch Brass and Stiletto Brass Quintet, with whom she has toured and recorded.

Dr. Leach is currently President of the International Trumpet Guild, having served 12 years on the Board of Directors. Dr. Leach's students currently perform professionally and teach in universities and public schools across the United States.

### **Wiff Rudd | Professor of Trumpet, Baylor University**

Wiff Rudd began teaching trumpet and serving as Brass Area Coordinator at Baylor University in 2002. Previous teaching posts include Oklahoma Baptist University and the University of Arkansas. A founding member of Rhythm & Brass, he is also an active soloist, chamber and orchestral musician. He has been a featured soloist in Carnegie Hall on multiple occasions and at several National Trumpet Competitions and International Trumpet Guild Conferences. Rudd has performed and presented master classes at more than 350 universities and music festivals on five continents. He serves as principal trumpet with the Waco Symphony and performs regularly with the orchestras of Houston (Moscow 2012), Dallas (Europe 2013 and 2016), and Harrisburg. Baylor's trumpet ensembles have won six prizes at the National Trumpet Competition since 2009, including three first place wins. In 2010, Rudd received the Award for Outstanding Teaching and was named the Centennial Professor, which provided funding for research in collaborative practice. The resulting book, Collaborative Practice Concepts, was released at the 2013 and has been adopted by many university trumpet studios across the country.

**Amy Schendel** | *Associate Professor of Trumpet, University of Iowa*

Dr. Amy Schendel currently plays with the Iowa Brass Quintet and Contrapunctus Brass Trio. Previous positions include Spoleto Festival USA, Wisconsin Brass Quintet, Madison Symphony Orchestra, Tanglewood Music Festival, National Repertory Orchestra, and Civic Orchestra of Chicago. She has also won trumpet positions with the United States Marine Band, "The President's Own," and the United States Air Force Ceremonial Band, Washington, D.C.

As a featured guest soloist, Dr. Schendel has played with the Indiana University Orchestra, University of Iowa Orchestra and Band, and Texas Woman's University Wind Ensemble. She has also performed extensively with Minnesota Orchestra, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra Iowa, Texas Winds. Dr. Schendel has also performed in Europe with the Augsburg Philharmonic and chamber concerts in Munich, Dachau, Augsburg, and Berlin. Her first solo and chamber music recording, *Full Power*, released in 2010, features "Abe Lincoln's Song Book", written by Douglas Hill for the Contrapunctus Brass Trio and narration. Dr. Schendel's second solo and chamber music recording, *Uncommon Ground: Contemporary Works for Trumpet with Horn, Trombone, Piano and Organ*, was released by MSR Classics in 2014.

Recent performances include soloing in 2015 with the Oregon Symphonic Band; brass trio recitals in 2016 at the University of Oregon, Pacific Lutheran University, and Pacific University; orchestral performances with the Eugene Symphony and the Portland Chamber Orchestra. In addition, Dr. Schendel has presented and performed as a featured soloist at the Iowa Band Masters Association and the International Trumpet Guild Conference. Her performances with the Contrapunctus Brass Trio include the Iowa Band Masters Association, International Women's Brass Conference, International Horn Conference and International Trumpet Guild Conference. The trio performances featured works commissioned by the Contrapunctus Brass Trio, composed in collaboration with Joseph Blaha and Douglas Hill.

**Richard Stoelzel** | *Associate Professor of Trumpet, McGill University*

Richard Stoelzel maintains an active career as an international soloist, chamber and orchestral musician. He began his career as solo cornet with the United States Coast Guard Band, a presidential band. In this position he performed throughout the U.S. and gave numerous command performances for Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. As a soloist, he has performed throughout the U.S. and abroad including five highly successful tours of China as a result of which he earned the title of "Distinguished Visiting Professor" at the Shen Yang Conservatory of Music and other schools throughout China.

Stoelzel has performed as a soloist at the 2003, 2007, and 2009 International Trumpet Guild Conference. At the 2009 conference, he was a featured soloist with the Keystone Wind Ensemble as well as performing with the Aries Trio. As an orchestral musician Stoelzel has performed as principal and utility trumpet including substitute principal trumpet with the Detroit Symphony as well as third and assistant principal trumpet of the New Orleans Symphony and was winner of the principal trumpet position in 1993.

He has held positions with the Miami City Ballet, Ballet Florida, Florida Symphonic Pops, New World Symphony, Colorado Music Festival, Bear Lake Music Festival, and the Des Moines Opera Orchestra. He has performed with the Naples Philharmonic, Baltimore, Jacksonville, Montreal Symphony Orchestra and Louisville symphony orchestras. He has been on the faculties of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the Harid Conservatory, and was Professor of Trumpet at Grand Valley State University where he brought national and international acclaim and prominence to the trumpet studio. His students have consistently won national and international awards (20 international prizes and 20 national prizes) including an unprecedented three awards at the 2000 International Trumpet Guild Competition and have since been regular finalists and winners.

Stoelzel is Principal Trumpet with the Palm Beach Opera Orchestra and serves on the artist faculty of the Masterworks Summer Music Festival held at Grace College in Indiana. He is also the founder of the Avatar Brass and Aries Trio. Stoelzel and his wife Valerie co-hosted the 2013 International Trumpet Guild conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is a Yamaha international performing artist and soloist.

**James Thompson** | *Professor of Trumpet, University of Rochester, Eastman School of Music*

James Thompson is Professor of Trumpet at the renowned Eastman School of Music. He came to this position having played Principal Trumpet in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra since September 1990. He has held corresponding positions with the Phoenix Symphony, the Orchestra of the State of Mexico, the National Symphony of Mexico, and for 14 years, the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. He is in addition currently Solo trumpet of the Orchestra Toscanini under the direction of Loren Mazel. Born in Frankfurt, Germany, he was raised in Phoenix, Arizona where he began trumpet studies at the age of ten. His principal teachers included Richard Longfield and Roger Voisin.

Mr. Thompson has been active both as a soloist and a teacher. He has taught trumpet and Brass Ensemble at Northern Arizona University, the National Conservatory of Music in Mexico City, and McGill University in Montreal, Canada. He has also performed as soloist with orchestras in North and South America as well as Europe. In 1979 he competed in the first Maurice Andre International Trumpet Competition and was a prizewinner. He has made recital tours to Japan, Australia Canada, Spain, Germany, Sweden, Norway, and Latin America. He has also been a guest artist with the Summit Brass, a brass chamber ensemble made up of members from America's finest orchestras, and Chicago's Music of the Baroque. At the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Opening Ceremonies he was seen performing a jazz/gospel trumpet solo on television more than 3 billion people. In the last year he has performed as guest Principal Trumpet with the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, as well as the Baltimore Symphony.

Mr. Thompson can be heard on London Decca recordings with the Montreal Symphony, and Telarc's Atlanta Symphony releases. He has also recorded on the Chandos Label in performances, which include, Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Trumpets, and the critically acclaimed Shostakovich Concerto #1 for Piano, Trumpet and Strings. Mr. Thompson is a Yamaha Performing Artist.