

Steven Cunningham

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Teaching Experience

Assistant Professor of Music and Assistant Band Director

Grambling State University, Grambling, LA, 2018-present

- *Conrad Hutchinson Endowed Professorship in Music*, a one- to three-year appointment that supports research/writing, teaching, and service, 2019-present

World Famed Tiger Marching Band

- Arrange music for the marching band and pep band
- Assists with marching and band field shows, section practice, marching bands and high school bands
- Assist with recruiting of student personnel – bands
- Supervise student arrangers and arrangements for the marching band

Teaching: Undergraduate Courses

Applied Trumpet: The purpose of this course is to expose students to major aspects of trumpet performance and pedagogy, as well as to develop a strong fundamental approach to the instrument. In addition to the standard etude and solo literature appropriate to the individual student's playing level, areas of concentration may include (but are not limited to): transposition, orchestral excerpts, exposure to high-pitched trumpets, sight-reading, range development, tone production, endurance, flexibility, articulation, and appropriate style. Students receive one-hour lessons each week in preparation for juries and/or recitals.

Experimental Jazz Ensemble: This ensemble rehearses and performs standard Jazz Ensemble literature and also experiments with a variety of other styles like gospel, funk, and hip-hop.

Harmony I: This course begins the study of Tonal Harmony in the "Common Practice" period of the eighteenth century. The musical materials involved are keys, intervals, triads, and chords that are fundamental and characteristic of this style period. Rules of harmonic progression are studied thoroughly in preparation for the ensuing courses, Harmony II through IV.

Harmony II: A continuation of Harmony I, this course offers additional training in the harmonic practices of the "Common Practice" period. It includes the study of embellishments, cadence functions, harmonic rhythm, and an introduction to dominant chords. This course should be taken concurrently with MUS 126.

Ear Training and Sightsinging I: This is a practical course for the development of skills in melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic reading, as well as aural perception. Topics include intervals, triads, solfege, sight reading, and simple conducting patterns

Ear Training and Sightsinging II: This is a practical course for the development of skills in melodic, harmonic, and rhythmic reading, as well as aural perception. This course will review identifying intervals and triads by ear. Seventh chords, inversions, and chord progressions are introduced. Students sight read more complex rhythmic patterns in numerous time signatures.

Additional Duties:

- Conduct performances, schedule performances on campus and off campus Wind and percussion Jury coordinator for the Music Department
- Recruit, audition, select and train musician for the Grambling State University Jazz and Marching Band.
- Manage social media accounts for the Department of Music
- Maintains Jazz Ensemble scholarship budget.

Adjunct Instructor of Music

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2017-2018

Teaching: Undergraduate Courses

Jazz Orchestra II: Ensemble performs a range of contemporary and historical styles and performs multiple times throughout the semester. In addition to rehearsals, weekly one-hour sectionals are required. Commissioned to arrange *La Juventud* by Seven time Grammy-nominated percussionist, John Santos for the “Salsa for Change” Concert

Small Jazz Ensemble: Jazz ensembles of typically five to nine players rehearse and prepare existing repertoire and student compositions. Independent problem-solving and ensemble-playing skills developed through weekly rehearsals and coaching.

Trumpet Ensemble: Chamber ensembles of three to five players, involving various combinations of brass instruments. Coached by various music faculty on a weekly basis. Arranged Beethoven Sextet for 2 Horns and String Quartet in E-flat, Op.81b for Trumpet Ensemble to compete in the National Trumpet Competition Trumpet Ensemble Division

Greater Richmond High School Jazz Band: Coached and prepared High School Students for performances.

Assistant Music Director- VCU Athletic Bands

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2011-2012

Arranged music for the Pep Band

- Conducted rehearsals when Director was absent
- Conducted Pep Band at select Women’s Basketball, Soccer, Field Hockey, and Volleyball games

Trumpet Instructor

Springbrook High School, Silver Spring, MD, 2016-2017

- Taught trumpet students bi-weekly by group format Prepared students for Band Festivals and All-District Band auditions

Graduate Assistant

University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2012-2017

- Trumpet clinic for UMD Marching Band Trumpet section focusing on fundamentals and high register development
- Lecture on the development of Trumpet Articulation and Phrasing
- Performed as Lead Trumpet for Jazz Ensemble, and served as Principal Trumpet for selected pieces with the Symphony Orchestra and Wind Orchestra

Academic Degrees

Doctor of Musical Arts in Trumpet Performance, 2017

University of Maryland, College Park

Graduate Assistant

Advisor: Chris Gekker

Dissertation: A Survey of Solo Repertoire for the Cornet

Master of Music in Jazz Trumpet Performance, 2014

University of Maryland, College Park

Graduate Assistant

Bachelor of Music in Trumpet Performance, 2011

Virginia Commonwealth University

Selected Solo and Chamber Music Performances

DAR Constitution Hall- soloist with multi-platinum singer Josh Groban
Washington, DC, 2015

The Tower Theatre- soloist with multi-platinum singer Josh Groban
Upper Darby, PA, 2015

UMD Symphony Orchestra, *Brandenburg Gate*, 2012

West Point High School Concert Band, *Carnival of Venice*, 2012

Washington National Cathedral- performer, Brass Quintet- Easter Services
Washington, DC, 2012

Virginia Repertory Theatre, *The Color Purple* (2015), *Marry Poppins* (2017), *West Side Story*
(2018) pit orchestra

VCU Concerto Competition Winner, *Trumpet Concerto* by Alexander Arutunian, 2008

International Trumpet Guild Conference-student participant, VCU Trumpet Ensemble
Minneapolis, MN, 2011

National Trumpet Competition-student participant, VCU Trumpet Ensemble
Fairfax, VA, 2013

UMD Symphony Orchestra, *Pictures at an Exhibition*, principal trumpet, 2014
Operetta, *Qadar*, by Tony Small, pit orchestra, 2015

Selected Orchestral Experience

Lancaster Symphony Orchestra- Principal Trumpet for Sounds of Season Concert
Lancaster, PA, 2017

Black Pearl Chamber Orchestra- Section Trumpet
Philadelphia, PA, 2017

National Orchestral Institute- performer with NOI Symphony Orchestra
College Park, MD, 2015

Selected Music Festival Performances

Toronto Jazz Festival- performer with NO BS! Brass Band
Toronto, ON, 2017

Millennium Park Concert Series- performer with NO BS! Brass Band
Chicago, IL, 2017

Artscape – performer with Jah Works
Baltimore, MD, 2016

Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola Club, performer with Mid Atlantic Collegiate Jazz Orchestra

New York, NY 2015 and 2016

Carnegie Hall- student participant with VCU Symphonic Wind Ensemble
New York, NY, 2009

Richmond Jazz Festival- performer with Maestro J and KG Experience
Richmond, VA, 2013, 2014, 2016

Golden Festival- performer with Black Masala
Brooklyn, NY, 2015

UDC Carl Jones Jazz Band Festival- performer with UMD Jazz Ensemble
Washington, DC, 2013

Musikfest- performer, Black Masala
Bethlehem, PA 2014-2016

New York Gypsy Festival- performer, Black Masala
New York, NY, 2014

2nd Street Festival-performer, KG Experience
Richmond, VA, 2013

Selected Trumpet Master Classes

Jens Lindemann- International Trumpet Soloist, 2012

Chris Gekker- Professor of Trumpet at the University of Maryland, 2014

Allen Vizzutti- International Trumpet Soloist, 2010

Marvin Stamm- Jazz Trumpet Soloist, 2008

Kevin P. Gebo- International Trumpet Soloist, The U.S. Army Ceremonial Band, 2010

Anthony Plog- International Composer and Trumpeter, 2010

Rodney Mack- Principal Trumpet with Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, 2011

Jose Sibaja- Boston Brass, Associate Professor of Trumpet at Vanderbilt University

Presentations

Huntington High School: Shreveport, LA (2018)- Presented a trumpet clinic on trumpet fundamentals and prepared students for All-District and All-State auditions

University of Maryland: College Park, MD (2015)- Presented a trumpet clinic on trumpet fundamentals and High Register Development.

Virginia Commonwealth University: Richmond, VA (2015)- Presentation on Graduate School music auditions and music career discussion.

Honors, Awards, and Scholarships

2016 Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Jazz Orchestra- Second Trumpet

2015 Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Jazz Orchestra- Third Trumpet

2014 Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Jazz Orchestra- Lead Trumpet

Trumpet Graduate Assistantship- University of Maryland (2012-2017)

Jonathan L. Mela Trumpet Memorial Scholarship (2010)

Academic Achievement Award (2010, 2011)

Jazz Students Fund Scholarship (2008,2009)

Civic Organization Scholarship (2007)

Good Shepherd Baptist Church Scholarship (2007, 2008, 2010)

Professional Associations

International Trumpet Guild

Ark-La-Miss International Trumpet Guild Affiliate Chapter Co-Founder

Adjudicator Experience

All-District III Audition Judge (VA): High School Trumpet Sight-reading (2009,2010)

Greater Richmond Youth Ensemble Judge (2009)

Related Experience

Trumpet Specialist

Baltimore Brass, Catonsville, MD, 2017

- Sales, Website Maintenance, Inventory
- Vendor at International Trumpet Guild in Hershey, PA (2017)
- Customer Service

Audition Day Assistant

University of Maryland, College Park, MD, 2016

- Assisted with Audition at the School of Music
- Talked to parents/prospective students about the UMD School of Music degree programs

Box Office Assistant

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, 2009

- Ticket Sales
- Customer Service

References

Chris Gekker, Professor of Trumpet

University of Maryland, College Park
(240) 888-7883, cgekker@umd.edu

Dr. Rex Richardson, Professor of Trumpet and Jazz Trumpet

Virginia Commonwealth University
(804) 543-3569, errichardson@vcu.edu

Antonio Garcia, Director of Jazz Studies

Virginia Commonwealth University
(804) 354-1915, ajgarcia@vcu.edu