

Bio for Mr. Christopher Lunsford, Assistant Director

Christopher Lunsford is a percussionist, educator, arranger, and adjudicator from Kentucky, with over 20 years of teaching experience at the middle school, high school, and collegiate levels.

Mr. Lunsford has been a percussion instructor/arranger for various notable programs in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas including Kentucky state champions Beechwood High School, Boyle County High School, Williamstown High School, BOA and WGI finalist Centerville High School, and the two-time WGI Independent open medalist Penn State indoor drumline.

His percussion programs in Texas have won two Indoor Percussion State Championships and have been in the UIL Texas State Marching Championships. Most recently he has been an Assistant Band Director/Percussion Director at Lehman High School for 5 years, 2014-2019. During that time the percussion program nearly doubled in size and has experienced incredible successes at local and regional competitions. Under his direction Lehman HS expanded its ensemble opportunities which allowed his students to enjoy a curriculum of a variety of percussion genres including African drum and dance, steel pan and competitive indoor marching percussion, as well as the traditional western percussion ensembles.

From 2007 to 2013, Lunsford was the Assistant Band Director and Director of Percussion Studies at the John B. Alexander High School cluster in Laredo, TX. His time at Alexander High School was spent directing the percussion ensemble, teaching private lessons, directing the basketball pep band, and writing/arranging for and directing the marching percussion section. His ensembles received several outstanding percussion awards as well as being named the 2009 Texas Educational Color Guard Association Scholastic A champion and the 2010 Scholastic Open champion. During his time in Laredo he also taught private lessons and percussion methods at Texas A&M International University as an adjunct faculty member and performed with the Laredo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Lunsford studied Music Performance at Eastern Kentucky University. Under the tutelage of Dr. Jason Koontz, he was exposed to a highly diverse musical curriculum comprised of Brazilian percussion, African drum and dance, Indian tabla, and Caribbean steelpan. He attended the University of Delaware as a Graduate Assistant for the University of Delaware Fightin' Blue Hen Marching Band under the direct supervision of Jim Ancona. His duties included assisting with the marching percussion section, marching percussion techniques class, percussion methods and the basketball pep band. Lunsford was also a member of the Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps in 1999 and 2000. His teachers include Jim Ancona, Orlando Cotto, Harvey Price, Dr. Jason Koontz, Rob James, Neil Larrivee, Tom Aungst, and Jaime Eckert.

Mr. Lunsford holds a Master's degree in Music Performance from the University of Delaware, a Bachelor's degree in Music Performance from Eastern Kentucky University, a Texas teaching certificate, is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmaster's

Association, Percussive Arts Society and has been a member of the Vic Firth Education Team since 2002.