

# David Sulzberger

Specialist in Middle School Instrumental Music Education

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## EDUCATION

### **University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa.**

Masters in Music Education Degree, May 1999. GPA 3.95

- Final paper was written on Interdisciplinary Teaching and Band in Iowa Middle Schools.
- University of St. Thomas – 6 additional hours past the MME & paid to evaluate their program.

### **DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois.**

K-12 teaching certificate in music, 1991-1992. GPA 3.815

### **Vandercook College of Music, Chicago, Illinois.**

Graduate Assistant and started education certification, Fall 1990. GPA 3.87

### **University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.**

Bachelor of Music Degree in piano performance, May 1990. GPA 3.56

### **Berklee College of Music, Boston, Massachusetts.**

Two semesters, 46 hours of credit, 1985-1986. GPA 3.72

**Muscatine Community Schools, Muscatine, IA - K-12 education.**

## SCHOOL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Illinois State University, Metcalf and University HS Lab Schools, 2007-present**

Director of 6-8 chorus and bands. Assistant 5<sup>th</sup> and HS band.

### **Muscatine West Middle School, Muscatine, IA. 2000-2005**

Director of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands, jazz band, and all lessons.

- Program growth from 120 to 200+ in grades 6 - 8.
- Advanced playing abilities one to one-and-a-half grade levels.
- Greatly increased school instrument inventory through grants and fundraisers.
- Greatly increased participation in small ensemble contest and honor bands.
- Students accepted the All Iowa Middle School Honor Band and SEIBA Honor bands.
- Established a successful jazz ensemble.

### **Howar Junior High, Centerville, IA. 1998-2000**

Director of the 7&8 grade band, jazz band, pep band, and all lessons.

- 1+ concert band ratings in district contests.
- Jazz band 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> place contest finishes.
- 1st Place - Worlds of Fun, Kansas City, Concert Band Festival 2000.
- High solo/ensemble ratings and awards.
- Greater than 90% acceptance to SCIBA regional honor bands
- At least two students per year accepted to the All Iowa Middle School Honor Band.

### **Roland-Story Middle School, Roland, IA. 1996-1998**

Director of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands, jazz band, and lessons (brass 5 & 6, all lessons 7 & 8).

- 1+ concert band and jazz band ratings.
- High solo ensemble ratings.
- High acceptance to SCIBA honor bands.
- Student accepted to the All Iowa Middle School Honor Band.

## **Marcus-Meriden-Cleghorn Middle School, Cleghorn, IA. 1992-1996**

Director of the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade bands, jazz band, and lessons (woodwinds 5<sup>th</sup>, all lessons 6 - 8).

- 1+ concert band ratings.
- Jazz band 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> place contest finishes in open class.
- High solo/ensemble ratings and awards.
- Greater than 90% acceptance to NWIBA honor bands
- Two to three students per year accepted to the All Iowa Middle School Honor Band.
- Middle school students frequently won 1A state jazz championships in HS jazz band.
- Served as the Northwest Iowa Elementary Affairs Chairperson.

## **Student Teaching Experiences, DePaul University. Spring 1992.**

- McGugan Junior High, Oak Lawn, Illinois.
- Downers Grove North High School, Downers Grove, Illinois.
- DePaul General Music Lab School, Lincoln Park Elementary, Chicago, Illinois.

## **ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **St. Luke Union Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, IL**

Position: Director of Music, 2007-present.

### **QSP/Readers Digest, Champaign, IL Region**

Position: Field Sales Manager, school fundraising 2006 - 2007

### **Grace Lutheran Church, Muscatine, Iowa.**

Position: Director of Music, 2003-2007.

### **Iowa City, Louisa-Muscatine, Wilton, and Muscatine Schools, Iowa.**

Position: Substitute Teacher and Music Program Assistance, 2005-2006.

### **Independent Contractor, Muscatine, Iowa.**

Position: Temporary Insurance, radio, music, and legal service sales, 2005-2006.

### **Trinity Episcopal Church, Muscatine, Iowa.**

Position: Church Organist and Choir Director, 2000-2003.

### **St. Petri Lutheran Church, Story City, Iowa.**

Position: Church Organist, and Handbell & Instrumental Director, 1998.

### **Berwyn United Lutheran Church, Berwyn, Illinois.**

Position: Music Director (Choir Director, Organist, Handbell Choir Director). 1991-1992.

### **Armstrong Music Lessons, Palos Hills, Illinois.**

Position: Instrumental Teacher (over 100 private students), 1990-1992.

### **Quinlan and Fabish Music Co., Willowbrook, Illinois.**

Position: Stock and extra sales help for band recruiting, 1991.

### **Muskie Music, Muscatine, Iowa.**

Positions: Retail Sales (1982-1985), Music Teacher (1990), 1982-1990.

- Expertise in live and installation sound reinforcement; computer/MIDI recording and composition.
- Professional performer – Piano/keyboards, bass guitar, clarinet, and percussion.

## **MEMBERSHIPS/RECENT HONORS**

Whose Who Among American Teachers 2005

Iowa Bandmasters Association

Iowa Alliance for the Arts

Professional Educators of Iowa – Local Leader

Guest Conductor: SE IA Conference MS Honor Band

Co-coordinator of the Muscatine/Japan Sister City Visits

Carver Excellence in Education Nomination

Local Committee Member of Vision Iowa 2010

Communications Director of the Local Chapter -

of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

Judge for numerous solo contests and honor bands

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Credentials: University of Northern IA, Placement and Career Services, (319) 273-2061 - now self-managed.

## SELECTED SKILLS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### INNOVATIVE / CREATIVE THINKING

*Produced band programs that exceeded expectations and led other programs*

- Combined new musical theories and approaches with tradition approaches previously found separate and not accepted yet on their own merits
- Created warm-up and student documents to incorporate innovative methods and standard practice
- Researched and implemented new middle school concepts such as my Masters research paper on interdisciplinary work with the core subjects
- Found efficient ways to administer the program with an excess number of students through database management and spreadsheet programming

**Results:** All band programs increased the quality and technical level that was played. Band contest results were Superior and almost perfect scores, 1st place at a national contest, the only middle school 1 rating on the HS weekend at one contest, and the highest percentages of high solo contest ratings and entrance into auditioned honor bands. Administrative solutions cut down after-hours accounting work by 4-6 hours a week.

### COORDINATING PROJECTS / DETAILS

*Organized and managed numerous solo contests and large group contests*

- Communicated logistical issues with all involved or effected
- Extensively outlined needs and procedures
- Recruited volunteers to assist
- Examined previous contest experiences for positives and negatives
- Created documents and procedures to implement best procedures
- Created new procedures to make more efficient and “customer friendly” for others involved

**Results:** The judges and participants reported excellent reviews. The event went smoothly and on time. I was requested to administer other contests or events by the band directors involved or those directors reporting to others in the organization how well they went.

### BUILDING STRONG RELATIONS

*Nominated for the Carver Excellence in Education Award and placed in the Whose Who Among American Teachers 2005*

- Established mutual trust and respect with students, colleagues, parents, and community
- Used solid basics, innovative approaches, goal setting, and motivation to product results
- Cared about the individual and always showed consideration for others

**Results:** My band programs always increased in numbers, had proven results, and students that valued their experience since these were student nominated awards.

## **TEAM BUILDING**

### *Improved Church Music*

- Communicated and recruited participants
- Organized rehearsals and events
- Created custom arrangements of music for specific needs
- Coordinated all music programs and group directors, and created functional schedules between them
- Created events where all groups participated or participated together
- Planned and documented preparation to make events efficient, smooth, and take less rehearsal time preventing schedule conflicts and motivating the participants

**Results:** Successful large musical productions involved more people and motivated more people to be involved in the future. There were improved relations and cooperation between the various performing groups and directors.

## **FORWARD THINKING**

### *Improved West Middle School Instrument Inventory*

- Evaluated the current situation
- Projected from the Elementary numbers and inventory the required amount of instruments to maintain retention of the students through 8th grade
- Implemented fundraising efforts through sales and community presentations to replace non-functional instrument, repair functional instruments, and add to the inventory

**Results:** There were enough instruments to retain students in the program and a significant increase in the HS program. Increased by 5 Tubas (\$2700+ea), 2 Baritones (\$2000 & \$1000ea), 3 Double French horns (\$2500ea), 3-4 single horns (\$1200ea), 2 bassoons (\$3000ea), Baritone Sax (\$3000ea), 20+ smaller instruments for low income students (\$600-800ea); and major renovations and additions to the percussion equipment, sound equipment, repairs to existing instruments and music library.

## **DECISION MAKING**

### *Constructed a new 5-12 band curriculum for the Muscatine School District*

- Compiled requirements of the document
- Examined former curricula and model curricula of other schools
- Examined state and organizational recommend curricula
- Complied and created the best information for our particular situation
- Published and presented to the School Board

**Results:** The document was approved by the school board, and set standards in place to advance the program. It was a solid guideline for implementation and advancement of the program while providing flexibility for certain circumstances. It was fully compliant with all National Standards while promoting other current innovations.