

Jonathan Hilgendorf

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Profile

- Passionate and driven music educator with strong interpersonal skills and a diverse musical background.

Professional Experience

GENERAL MUSIC TEACHER | LUIS MUÑOZ MARIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | AUGUST 2020 – PRESENT

- I teach music classes for grades K-8, founded a before-school 7th and 8th grade band, and direct the music for the musical theater club. For each of these groups, I coordinate lesson plans with a co-teacher, budget for materials, and organize field trips, rehearsals, and performances. I also serve as secretary for the School Governance Council, which coordinates family events and serves as a bridge between the Parental Advisory Council and the school administration.

GENERAL MUSIC TEACHER | FOXBANK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | JUNE 2018 – AUGUST 2020

- I taught music classes for grades K-5, founded the district's first 5th grade band, and direct the after-school chorus and improvisation-based tech ensemble, leading them in performances at school and away locations. I directed the Cane Bay Middle School Jazz Band, assistant directed the Berkeley High School Marching Blue Brigade, and coordinated with the related arts team to organize and execute family events.

SAXOPHONIST | THE JOE CLARKE BIG BAND | FEBRUARY 2018 – MARCH 2020

- I attended weekly rehearsals and performed in-house and at events on saxophone, clarinet, and flute. Over the summer of 2019, I helped renovate the interior of the new Forte Jazz Lounge, for which we became the house band. I was also a founding member of the Gatsby Orchestra, which specialized in early jazz music.

GENERAL MUSIC TEACHER | CANE BAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | AUGUST 2017 – JUNE 2018

- I taught music classes for grades K-4, co-taught after-school chorus, and led that chorus in performance at school and away locations. I founded the Cane Bay Middle School Jazz Band, served as the Visual Tech for the Cane Bay High School Marching Cobras, and coordinated with the related arts team to organize and execute family events.

INTERIM BAND DIRECTOR | HERNDON HIGH SCHOOL | FEBRUARY 2017 – APRIL 2017

- I directed the Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Percussion Ensemble, and taught AP Music Theory. I lead all ensembles to VA State Assessment, where they received high ratings, and coordinated with the color guard and indoor drumline for rehearsal space and performances at away venues.

PRIVATE WOODWIND INSTRUCTOR | MUSIC AND ARTS | MAY 2013 – MAY 2017

- I taught one-on-one lessons to clarinet, saxophone, and flute students aged 8 to adulthood and organized studio recitals for them to perform in. Student curriculums were tailored to fit their individual needs and goals.

Pre-Service Teaching Experience

HERNDON HIGH SCHOOL | FALL 2016

- Kathleen Jacoby, Director of Bands
- Included summer band camp and all marching competitions

KEENE MILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL | FALL 2016

- Susan Deck, Director of Bands

Education

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY | BM MUSIC EDUCATION | DECEMBER 2016

- Major: Music Education
- Minor: Jazz Studies

JOHN S. BATTLE HIGH SCHOOL | ADVANCED STUDIES DIPLOMA | MAY 2011

Skills & Abilities

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

- Students respond to respect and consistency. My time working with children of all ages in a music setting has taught me to deliver and expect both, and to have endless patience in that pursuit.

MUSICAL APTITUDE

- I performed for two years around Charleston with the Joe Clark Big Band, a collection of highly skilled professional musicians and educators. I have been a solo performer in both classical and jazz ensembles at George Mason University, including a clarinet feature in Duke Ellington's *Second Line* at the vaunted Blues Alley in Washington, DC. I am also an expressive conductor, and can impart my musical intent to students without the need for speech.

VERSATILITY

- My experiences as an elementary general music teacher, a musical theater director, an elementary and middle school band director, a jazz band director, and as both an assistant and interim high school band director, combined with my eclectic musical performance experiences, have given me a uniquely broad understanding of music and music education. I have taught students of all ages in both instrumental and choral music. In addition to my teaching experience, I have performance experience in all of these areas, performing professionally in the Joe Clarke band, playing in a mix of instrumental and choral ensembles in college, and playing a lead role in a musical for the Washington D.C. Fringe Festival in 2016. This plethora of teaching and performance experiences qualifies me to teach a broad range of performing arts subjects, and gives me unique perspective when collaborating with others in the department.

HUMOR

- My moniker at Luis Muñoz Marin is "the funny music teacher." For students to pursue music throughout and beyond high school, they must first find joy in it. I provide that joy, both to my students and my coworkers.

PASSION

- A music teacher's greatest responsibility is to pass on his passion to his pupils. I have a deep and abiding love for both music and teaching, and care profoundly about my students and their growth. That love and care is what drives me to constantly improve, and makes my instruction invigorating. I lead students to find their passion.