

# Conducting Master Class Website

## Announcing an Exciting New Resource for Band Directors

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So, how would you like to hear tuba performing artist Sam Pilafian, French Horn virtuoso J.D. Shaw and University of New Mexico Director of Bands Eric Rombach-Kendall discuss performance and tempo considerations in the *Holst Suite in Eb*?

What about Allan McMurray Former Director of Bands at the University of Colorado talking about how to “Listening for the Heart Beat in the Music?”

Or, Frank Ticheli at the piano presenting an in-depth interview addressing all aspects of *Fortress* which was one of his first works for winds?

Perhaps you would be interested in a session with Dr. Mark Spede at Clemson University talking about “Time and the Conductor.”

How about rehearsal demonstrations on Sousa’s *The Gallant Seventh*, Ticheli’s *Cajun Folk Songs*, Vaughan Williams’ *Rhosymedre*, or Ron Nelson’s *Courtly Airs and Dances*? The list goes on and on.

Maybe a discussion of the Past, Present and Future of Music Education by Frank Battisti, one of the icons of our profession, would be more to your liking.

Does all of the above sound like a commercial for The Midwest Clinic? After all, where else would you find all of those artist teachers accessible and presenting in the same place and at the same time?

In reality for decades the only resource for these kinds of presentations remained state, regional and national conferences. You, as a band director/music educator, would have to invest time and money to travel to the fountainhead of such resources and once there frantically move from session to session to reap the benefit of such collective knowledge. But thanks to current technology I am pleased to tell you there is a new resource that you can access from your band hall or your home and at your convenience that gives you entrée to video productions of all the above and much, much more. At present there are a collection

of 49 such video resources with countless more in production.

Where?

**[www.conductingmasterclass.com](http://www.conductingmasterclass.com)**

The Conducting Master Class website, launched November 1, 2014 is an exciting collaboration between the College Band Directors National Association and [www.banddirector.com](http://www.banddirector.com). The long-term objective for this initiative is to create a bountiful resource of concise videos created by collegiate band conductors addressing topics of interest and educational value to high school, middle school band director music educators and their students. Over time it is the vision of the College Band Directors National Association to include ever expanding presentations on repertoire, rehearsal strategies, instrumental pedagogy and other topics relevant to middle school and high school band programs.

Each video is designed to be 10 minutes or less in length addressing a specific, concise topic. In some cases topics of larger scope will be expanded to accommodate content over multiple segments. In every case it is the intention of the project to provide valuable, meaningful information formatted so a busy director can grab a cup of coffee, sit down, select a video of interest and 10 minutes later possess new or expanded relevant knowledge. Some videos addressing specific works will have meaningful content for student viewing as well.

You might think of this new resource as *Ted Talks* for band conductors and music educators.

How much is a subscription? Nothing. The resource is totally free. I encourage you to go to the site and check it out. Over time it will provide an abundant educational resource for you and your students.