

Duct Tape is for Ducts!

Tuning Concepts for the School Percussion Section

Presenters:

Kevin Namaky-Marching Percussion

Jeff Mulvihill-Drumset/Hand Percussion

Steve Hearn-Concert Percussion

Session Content:

“I’ve taught my percussionists the basics. Now, how do I make them sound good?”

Techniques presented will offer the music educator a thorough yet succinct tutorial on proper tuning of and producing a desirable sound from standard percussion instruments. Drawing on their combined experience as accomplished educators, performers and music industry professionals, Kevin Namaky, Jeff Mulvihill and Steve Hearn offer a complete perspective on the proper tuning and sound of the percussion section from the field, to the jazz band stage, to the concert hall. The information presented will be beneficial to instrumental music instructors from Elementary to Collegiate levels.

Preliminary Clinic Outline:

I. Short Performance

II. Tuning Techniques

A. Marching Percussion

B. Basic snare drum/drum set/hand drum

C. Concert Percussion

III. Q&A

IV. Short concluding performance

Kevin Namaky performed as a marching member of the Glassmen Drum and Bugle Corps for six years, serving as the Percussion Captain for five of those six years. During this time, he received four Distinguished Service awards and one Member of the Year award in helping to build a nationally recognized program. Upon “aging out” of the drum corps, Mr. Namaky served as an instructor for both the Glassmen and the Magic of Orlando Drum and Bugle Corps.

Mr. Namaky served as a percussion instructor at Centerville High School (under the direction of Tim Fairbanks) from 1998-2002, where he was once again integral in developing a national award-winning percussion program. Since then he has also served as the head percussion instructor at various southwest Ohio schools, taught privately, and currently serves as a judge for the MEPA percussion circuit.

Kevin Namaky received his Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Cincinnati with multiple awards and honors. He completed his Bachelor of Music Education degree at Miami University in Oxford, OH, where he performed with the Wind Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Taiko Ensemble, Gamelan Ensemble, and has also served as a Resident Assistant.

Mr. Namaky is the Marching Percussion Marketing Manager for the Pearl Corporation in Nashville, Tennessee. Pearl is one of the world’s leading manufacturers and distributors of percussion products including Drumset, Hardware, Pearl Percussion, Concert and Adams Percussion, and Marching Percussion

Jeff Mulvihill Currently Jeff lives in Nashville TN where he enjoys a variety of musical experiences by maintaining an active freelance drumming and percussion schedule, performing in the percussion section of the Murfreesboro Philharmonic Orchestra, working as Assistant Marketing Manager for Pearl Marching/Concert percussion, and providing the drumming and background vocals for the modern country band WideRange.

Mr. Mulvihill received the Bachelor of Music in Percussion Performance from The University of Tennessee graduating with honors while performing extensively throughout the southeast including performances with the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra, Kingsport Symphony Orchestra, Oak Ridge Symphony Orchestra, Music Mansion Theater, and the nightclub and studio scene. Jeff then went on to receive the Master of Arts in Music Performance from Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he served as graduate percussion assistant. During this time he performed and recorded with the Westmoreland Symphony Orchestra, The Keystone Wind Ensemble, Johnstown Symphony Orchestra, Butler Symphony Orchestra and was a guest soloist at the 1999 Pennsylvania PAS Day of Percussion.

A versatile musician, Mr. Mulvihill has enjoyed recent performances with the Nashville Ballet Orchestra, the internationally acclaimed quintet Rhythm and Brass, showcase performances for BMI, Sony Music, and RCA records as well as presenting master classes at the University of Tennessee.

Steve Hearn is currently the Concert/Adams Percussion Marketing Manager at Pearl Corporation and Principal Timpanist of the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music. Mr. Hearn performed at the 2001 Percussive Arts Society International Convention as a featured soloist and has performed at PASIC 02 and PASIC 03 on the New Music Research Day. Similarly, he frequently performs with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra and was a percussionist in the Colorado premier of Academy Award-winning composer Tan Dun's *Water Passion after S. Matthew*.

Receiving an Artist Performing Diploma from Rotterdam's Conservatory, The Netherlands, a Master of Music degree from New Mexico State University, and a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of New Mexico, Mr. Hearn previously held the position as percussionist/timpanist in the U.S. Army Field Band, Washington, D.C.

As an orchestral musician Mr. Hearn has appeared as principal timpanist of the Kamerorkest "Continuo" Rotterdam, the Las Cruces Symphony Orchestra, and the Santa Fe Symphony Orchestra. He has appeared as principal percussionist with the Belgian Youth Philharmonic Orchestra and as a percussionist with the Dutch Joop Van Ende Theater Production of *The West Side Story* and the Orchestra of Santa Fe. Similarly, he has performed with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Alabama Symphony Orchestra, Nashville Symphony Orchestra, Evansville Philharmonic, and Owensboro Symphony Orchestra.