



**Power Practicing with Harry Watters**  
**(Jazz Based Teaching Strategies for Cross- Genre Success)**

**CLINICIAN:**

**Harry Watters**

**SPONSOR:**

**Jupiter Band Instruments**

**Texas Bandmasters Association**  
**2015 Convention/Clinic**

**JULY 23-26, 2015**

**HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER**  
**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

*The Texas Bandmasters Annual Convention / Clinic*  
**Jupiter Band Instruments**

Presents:

**POWER PRACTICING**

with

**Harry Watters**

*JAZZ INSPIRED TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR CROSS-GENRE SUCCESS*

- **The lifelong commitment to curiosity & musical excellence:** *to the compulsives go the spoils*
- **Leading by example: “you’re already their hero”**
  - leverage that influence even further
  - your early morning office warm-ups can raise the bar for everyone
  - a school program filled with highly motivated practicers makes *your* job easier
- **Bravery 101: EVERYONE can improvise**
  - it all starts with the melody
  - instruments optional: vocal call and response
  - the jazz mindset can improve expectations and standards for all ensembles
- **Thinking like a jazz musician**
  - curiosity is more important than talent
  - “if you can *sing* it, you can play it”
  - the horn as a natural extension of the body
- **Too many distractions: flipping the switch of “instant” concentration**
  - the focus of a jazz soloist
  - cutting through the environmental and emotional red tape
  - let’s take a journey together
- **Pursuing the “art” of practicing**
  - demonstrate through your own actions that this marathon never ends
  - delving deep into the zone of productivity
  - one of the few things in life you can actually control
- **Our digital age**
  - what have we lost and how can we adapt?
  - we’ve become a nation of fidgeters
  - smartphones are wonderful...until they’re not
  - make this new technology work FOR you in the practice room
- **Micro-sessions**
  - the best way to stay productive
  - personalize that practice diary
  - moving ahead with relaxed urgency

- **The world is our practice room**
  - location
  - location
  - location
  
- **Passive listening is a sin**
  - “I *can* learn something from elevator music?”
  - layered data input
  - the crossword puzzle approach
  - ear training throughout your rehearsals
  
- **The note game...developing relative pitch with “virtual instruments”**
  - an acquired necessary skill
  - remember the sound and *feel* of that Concert Bb
  
- **Visualization: limiting those performance/audition surprises**
  - repertoire
  - venue
  - audience
  - time of day
  - attire
  - temperature
  - altitude
  
- **RESULTS: a creative band culture without barriers**
  - daily improvement and more enjoyment
  - positive musical contributions to the section and the large ensemble
  - shoot for the moon*
    - military band member
    - acceptance into Juilliard
    - first call Los Angeles studio player
    - tenured university professor
    - Broadway pit orchestra musician
    - acclaimed composer/arranger
    - superstar band director
    - renowned orchestra conductor
    - principal trombone, Vienna Philharmonic
  
- **Empowering our students: your greatest gift**

**Harry Watters**  
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