

Connor Johnson

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Education

Doctor of Musical Arts - Brass Performance and Pedagogy University of Colorado Boulder	Expected 2027
Master of Music - Composition Michigan State University	2023
Bachelor of Music - Trumpet Performance Michigan State University	2021

Primary Instructors

Heather Zweifel , Assistant Professor of Trumpet, private study Michigan State University	2023
David Biedenbender , Associate Professor of Composition, private study Michigan State University	2022–2023
Justin Emerich , Professor of Trumpet, private study Michigan State University	2017–2022
Zhou Tian , Assistant Professor of Composition, private study Michigan State University	2021–2022
Alexis Bacon , Assistant Professor of Composition, private study Michigan State University	2020–2021
Ricardo Lorenz , Professor of Composition, private study Michigan State University	2020
Spencer Arias , Graduate Teaching Assistant, private study (composition) Michigan State University	2019–2020
Michael Gause , Graduate Teaching Assistant, private study (trumpet) Michigan State University	2018

Teaching Experience

Brass Caption Head, Columbus Saints Drum and Bugle Corps	2023–present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Direct brass program for the Columbus Saints Drum and Bugle Corps- Create warmup and technique packet, implement virtual learning experiences for corps members, and oversee in-person brass rehearsals	
Brass/Visual Instructor, DeWitt High School Marching Band	2023–present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provided music and visual instruction during field rehearsals throughout the 2023 competitive season- 1st place finish in MCBA Flight III	
Brass/Visual Instructor, L’Anse Creuse High School Marching Band	2022–present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provided music and visual instruction during field rehearsals throughout the 2022 and 2023 competitive seasons- 3rd place finish in MCBA Flight II (2023)- 4th place finish in MCBA Flight II (2022)	
Trumpet Instructor, freelance	2020–present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Trumpet lessons for 5th–12th grade students, college students, and adults- Volunteer teaching with Through The Staff, a nonprofit organization that provides lessons for students who cannot access or afford traditional music education.	
Brass Clinician, freelance	2019–present
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Weekly clinician for mixed brass chamber ensembles, soloists, and wind ensemble sectionals- Instructor at multiple schools in the Lansing, MI area (DeWitt Middle School, DeWitt High School, and Williamston High School)	
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Michigan State University	2021–2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Taught MUS291 “Introduction to Music Technology” for non-composition majors- Gave instruction in use of notation software, digital audio workstations, and recording equipment for creating, editing, and producing music	
Music Theory Tutor, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI	2018–2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tutored undergraduate students taking music theory classes through the Michigan State University Music Theory Learning Center- Offered assistance with topics ranging from fundamentals of music theory to tonal harmony as used through the common-practice period (freshman and sophomore theory curriculum)	

Professional Affiliations

Millennium Composers Initiative Member	2022–present
International Trumpet Guild Member	2018–present

Awards

International Trumpet Guild Ryan Anthony Memorial Competition <i>Semifinalist, Solo Division</i> <i>Fourth Place, Chamber Ensemble Division</i>	2023
ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Young Composer Awards <i>Finalist</i>	2021, 2023
Michigan State University Honors Competition <i>Winner</i>	2023
Barbara Wagner Chamber Music Competition <i>Second Place (2023)</i> <i>Finalist (2022)</i>	2022, 2023
National Trumpet Competition <i>Quarterfinalist, Graduate Solo Division (2023)</i> <i>Quarterfinalist, Small Ensemble Division (2023)</i> <i>First Place, Graduate Solo Division (2022)</i> <i>Semifinalist, Small Ensemble Division (2022)</i> <i>Second Place, College Ensemble Division (2021)</i> <i>Semifinalist, Undergraduate Solo Division (2021)</i> <i>Quarterfinalist, Undergraduate Solo Division (2019)</i> <i>Quarterfinalist, Large Ensemble Division (2019)</i> <i>Quarterfinalist, Small Ensemble Division (2018)</i>	2018–2023
Michigan Music Teachers Commissioned Composition Competition <i>Runner-Up</i>	2022
International Trumpet Guild Conference Scholarship <i>Renold O. Schilke Memorial Scholarship</i>	2022
NYC Contemporary Music Symposium at Columbia University <i>Finalist</i>	2021

Awards (cont.)

Next Generation Trumpet Competition <i>Second Place (2021)</i> <i>Finalist (2020)</i>	2020, 2021
National Youth Brass Band of America Catalyst Composition Competition <i>Winner</i>	2021
Society of Composers, Inc. National Student Conference Call for Works <i>Semifinalist</i>	2021
The Trumpeter's Multi-Track Competition <i>Third Place, Ensemble Division</i>	2021
Mirari Brass Quintet Call for Scores <i>Honorable Mention</i>	2021
Webster University Young Composers Competition <i>Second Place (Level II, ages 17–21)</i>	2021
Blue Mountain/Forecast Call for Scores <i>Honorable Mention</i>	2020
Sinta Quartet National Composition Competition <i>Runner-Up</i>	2020
Tribeca New Music Young Composers Competition <i>Emerging Composer Award</i>	2020
Additive Color Ensemble Call for Scores <i>Honorable Mention</i>	2020
Hypotenuse Trio Call for Scores <i>Winner</i>	2020
Michigan State University Honors Competition <i>Finalist, Brass Area</i>	2019, 2020

Selected Compositions

Spitballin' (trumpet quintet) - 6 <i>Commissioned by the International Trumpet Guild Pre-Professional Committee</i>	2024
This solipsistic periscope (trumpet and electronics) - 45' <i>Master's Thesis</i>	2023
Aviaquatis (clarinet and electronics) - 12' <i>Commissioned by Taylor Thompson</i>	2023
Bitsch's Brew (trumpet quartet) - 7' <i>for the Michigan State University Trumpet Ensemble</i>	2022
Mercurial (trumpet quintet) - 2' <i>Commissioned by the Next Generation Trumpet Competition</i>	2022
EELLOGOFUSCIUHIPOPPOKUNURIOUS (soprano, fl, tpt, vla) - 2' <i>for the Divergent Studio Speedwriting Project</i>	2022
danc ing (windows go orange...) (baritone, tpt, tbn, b.cl.) - 7' <i>for loadbang</i>	2022
Dance Suite (contrabassoon and piano) - 8' <i>Commissioned by Kyle Sodman</i>	2022
Fanfare-Gallop (brass quintet) - 2' <i>Written for the Sam and Mary Austin New Fanfares Project</i>	2022
6 Stories (clarinet, cello, piano) - 5' <i>Finalist, NYC Contemporary Music Symposium at Columbia University</i>	2022
YGGDRASIL (flute) - 13' <i>for Alexa Letourneau</i>	2021
Hyperbolic Orange (violin and guitar) - 5' <i>Written for the zFestival Summer 2021 virtual new music festival</i>	2021
Snowmelt sunbeam (flugelhorn and piano) - 4' <i>Commissioned by Riley Hughes and 20 consortium members</i>	2021
SAPPHIRE (solo flute) - 1' <i>Premiered by Alise Anna Alksne for Vox Novus' Fifteen-Minutes-of-Fame series</i>	2021
Conduit (solo tenor saxophone) - 1' <i>Premiered by Drew Joseph Hosler for Vox Novus' Fifteen-Minutes-of-Fame series</i>	2021

Compositions, cont.

Force of Nature (concerto for trumpet and orchestra) - 18' <i>Finalist, ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Awards</i>	2021
Overture for Seven Players (wind septet) - 5' 30"	2021
Stygian Blue (double-bell trumpet and electronics) - 9'	2021
Unaccompanied Solo Project (see <u>Commissions, as composer</u> section) <i>36 works commissioned by individuals during the COVID-19 pandemic</i>	2020
Obloquy (brass quintet) - 1' 45" <i>Honorable Mention, Mirari Brass Quintet Call for Scores</i>	2020
Desolation Earth (solo piano) - 8'	2020
Sunset after rain (alto flute and electronics) - 5'	2020
...the circle closes... (solo trumpet/flugelhorn) - 12' 30"	2020
Out of Time (solo alto saxophone) - 4' <i>Written for the Going Viral virtual new music festival</i>	2020
FINIS (soprano, clarinet, violin, cello, and toy piano) - 6' <i>Written for the zFestival Summer 2020 virtual new music festival</i>	2020
Ineffable (solo trumpet) - 6'	2020
Impetus (brass band) - 5' <i>Winner, National Youth Brass Band of America Catalyst Composition Competition</i>	2020
Scenes Unseen (saxophone quartet) - 6' 30" <i>Runner-Up, Sinta Quartet National Composition Competition</i>	2020
Three Strands (flute, saxophone, and piano) - 3' <i>Honorable Mention, Additive Color Ensemble Call for Scores</i>	2019
2301 (clarinet, saxophone, and trumpet) - 2' <i>Winner, Hypotenuse Trio Call for Scores</i>	2019
[shift-9] (flute, clarinet, violin, cello, and piano) - 7' <i>Honorable Mention, Blue Mountain/Forecast Call for Scores</i> <i>Emerging Composer Award, Tribeca New Music Young Composers Competition</i> <i>Second Prize, Webster University Young Composers Competition</i> <i>Semifinalist, Society of Composers, Inc. National Student Conference Call for Works</i>	2019

Commissions, as performer

Hannah Boissonneault , <i>unfurling</i> (trumpet and electronics) Consortium leader	202
Katahj Copley , <i>reFrame</i> (trumpet and piano) Consortium member	2023
Evan Williams , <i>The Last Trumpet</i> (trumpet and electronics) Consortium member	2023
Benjamin Dean Taylor , <i>Chunk of Plumbing</i> (solo trumpet) Consortium member	2023
Nathan Hudson , <i>The Hopes and Dreams of Flightless Birds</i> (trumpet and piano) Consortium member	2023
Marcus Grant , <i>Sonata for Heroes</i> (trumpet and piano) Consortium member	2022
Whitney George , <i>Two Sides of the Same Coin</i> (trumpet and electronics) Consortium member	2022
Eris DeJarnett , <i>go to the garden</i> (trumpet and electronics) Consortium member	2022
Eris DeJarnett , <i>whispers i & ii</i> (trumpet and electronics) Individually commissioned	2022
Jonathan Posthuma , <i>Portrait, Scene, and Symbol IX</i> (trumpet and electronics) Consortium member	2022
Ruby Fulton , <i>Feito de Metal</i> (trumpet and electronics) Consortium member	2021
Evan Zegiel , <i>Omen</i> (trumpet and electronics) Consortium member	2021
Adam Summey , <i>Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion</i> (solo trumpet) Individually commissioned	2020
Chris Evan Hass , <i>Sonata for Tomorrow</i> (trumpet and piano) Consortium member	2020
Melody Eötvös , <i>Light Form</i> (trumpet and piano) Consortium member	2019

Commissions, as composer

Aviaquatis (clarinet and electronics) - 12' <i>Commissioned by Taylor Thompson</i>	2023
Mercurial (trumpet quintet) - 2' <i>Commissioned by the Next Generation Trumpet Competition</i>	2022
Dance Suite (contrabassoon and piano) - 8' <i>Commissioned by Kyle Sodman</i>	2022
Snowmelt sunbeam (flugelhorn and piano) - 4' <i>Commissioned by Riley Hughes and 20 consortium members</i>	2021
Scherzettino (clarinet quartet) - 2' <i>Commissioned by Aidan Jaeger</i>	2021
Unaccompanied Solo Project (36 individual commissions, 2-6') Works for various instruments commissioned by various performers	2020–2021

Chamber Music Experience

AEREUS Trumpet Collective , Michigan State University <i>Second Place, 2023 Barbara Wagner Chamber Music Competition</i>	2022–present
Five Lakes Silver Band , Southfield, MI <i>First Place, 2023 NABBA Championships (Championship Section)</i> <i>First Place, 2022 Dublin Festival of Brass (A-Section)</i>	2022–present
Sonitus Machina (brass quintet) , Michigan State University <i>Finalist, 2022 Barbara Wagner Chamber Music Competition</i>	2021–present
Michigan State University Trumpet Ensemble , Michigan State University <i>Fourth Place, 2023 International Trumpet Guild Chamber Music Competition</i> <i>Second Place, 2021 National Trumpet Competition, Ensemble Division</i>	2017–present
Capital City Brass Band , Jackson, MI <i>Assistant Principal Cornet</i>	2019–2022
The Nature of Brass (brass quintet) , Michigan State University	2017–2021
zFestival New Music Festival ensembles , virtual	2020, 2021
National Youth Brass Band of America , Saint Joseph, MO <i>Principal Cornet (2019)</i>	2019, 2020

Orchestral Experience

Dexter Community Players Pit Orchestra	2018, 2019
<i>Gypsy</i> , music director: Brian Rose <i>Guys and Dolls</i> , music director: Megan Smania	
Michigan State University Concert Orchestra	2019
Directors: Evan Harger and Joseph Hodge	
PRISMA Festival Orchestra	2018
Director: Arthur Arnold	
Michigan State University Symphony Orchestra	2018
Director: Kevin Noe	
Michigan State University Opera Orchestra	2018
<i>Die Fledermaus</i> , music director: Hal France Principal Trumpet	

Band Experience

Michigan State University Wind Symphony	2017–2023
Director: Kevin Sedatole	
Michigan State University Wind Symphony Chamber Players	2021
Director: Kevin Sedatole	
Michigan State University Symphony Band	2018
Director: David Thornton	

Other Ensemble Experience

Legends Drum and Bugle Corps, Kalamazoo, MI	2017
<i>“The Signal”</i> (Bronze Medalist, Open Class)	

Festivals

Chosen Vale International Trumpet Seminar , Enfield, NH Director: Edward Carroll Faculty: Jeroen Berwaerts, Marco Blaauw, Stephen Burns, Gabriele Cassone, Reinhold Friedrich, Dan Rosenboom, Clément Saunier, Laura Vukobratović, John Wallace, Håkan Hardenberger, Craig Morris, Mireia Farrés, David Bilger	2021, 2023
SPLICE Institute , Western Michigan University, MI Director: Christopher Biggs Guest Artists: João Pedro Oliveira, Vicki Ray	2022
Longy's Divergent Studio Directors: Andy Kozar, Aaron Clarke Guest Artists: Mark Applebaum, Raven Chacon, Alex Temple, loadbang, Transient Canvas	2022
zFestival , virtual Directors: Peter Traver, Shoshana Klein Composed new work for resident ensemble Duo Purla and performed two new works by composition participants (2021) Composed one new work for participant ensemble and performed four new works by composition participants (2020)	2020, 2021
National Youth Brass Band of America , virtual Directors: Helen and Lee Harrelson Instructors: Jen Oliverio, Patrick Oliverio, Jena Vangjel, Matthew Vangjel, Richard Marshall, Jonathan Bates	2020
University of Kentucky Summer Trumpet Institute , virtual Instructors: Jason Dovel, Joshua Reed, Gabriel DiMartino, Jason Crafton, Stephen Campbell, Anne McNamara	2020
National Youth Brass Band of America , Missouri Western State University, MO Director: David King Instructors: Jen Oliverio, Patrick Oliverio, Ryan Sharp, Jena Vangjel, Matthew Vangjel	2019
PRISMA Festival , Powell River, British Columbia, Canada Director: Arthur Arnold Instructors: Paul Merkelo, Marcus Goddard	2018

Selected Performances

Solo

- Michigan State University Wind Symphony (dir. Kevin Sedatole)** 2023
Laurence Bitensky, *Awake, You Sleepers!*
- Chosen Vale International Trumpet Seminar, Enfield, NH** 2023
Lucia Dlugoszewski, *Space is a Diamond*
- National Trumpet Competition, University of Delaware, Newark, DE** 2022
Laurence Bitensky, *Awake, You Sleepers! - III. Teruah*
- Recital, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI** 2021
Rodion Shchedrin, *In the style of Albéniz*
Meg Bowles, *Places Where Rivers Meet*
Melody Eötvös, *Light Form*
Adam Summey, *Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion*
Connor Johnson, *Stygian Blue*
- Michigan State University Brass Honors Competition** 2020
Andre Jolivet, *Concertino for Trumpet and Piano*
- National Trumpet Competition, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY** 2019
David Gillingham, *Sonata No. 1 for Trumpet and Piano*

Five Lakes Silver Band

- NABBA Championships (Championship Section), Huntsville, AL** 2023
Hermann Pallhuber, *Titan's Progress*
Peter Graham, *On the Shoulders of Giants*

Michigan State University Trumpet Ensemble

- ITG Chamber Music Competition, Minneapolis, MN** 2023
Connor Johnson, *Bitsch's Brew*
- National Trumpet Competition, various locations** 2018–2023
Connor Johnson, *Bitsch's Brew* (2023)
William Schmidt, *Variants with Solo Cadenzas* (2022)
Antonín Dvořák (arr. Willis Dotson), *String Quartet no. 12* (2021)
Kevin McKee, *Into The Blue* (2019)
Erik Morales, *X1* (2018)

Masterclass Performances

Clément Saunier , Ensemble InterContemporain Chosen Vale International Trumpet Seminar	2023
Marco Blauuw , Ensemble Musikfabrik Chosen Vale International Trumpet Seminar	2021
Jeroen Berwaerts , Professor at the Hochschule für Musik in Hanover Chosen Vale International Trumpet Seminar	2021
Douglas Lindsey , Professor at Kennesaw State University Michigan State University Trumpet Studio Class	2021
Anthony Prisk , Second Trumpet, Philadelphia Orchestra Michigan State University Trumpet Studio Class	2020
Billy Hunter , Principal Trumpet, Metropolitan Opera Michigan State University Trumpet Studio Class	2018, 2020
Anne McNamara , Professor at Illinois State University University of Kentucky Summer Trumpet Institute	2020
Stephen Campbell , Professor at Ball State University University of Kentucky Summer Trumpet Institute	2020
Jason Crafton , Professor at Virginia Tech University University of Kentucky Summer Trumpet Institute	2020
Gabriel DiMartino , Professor at East Carolina University University of Kentucky Summer Trumpet Institute	2020
Rex Richardson , Professor at Virginia Commonwealth University Michigan State University Trumpet Studio Class	2019
Richard Kelley , Professor at New England Conservatory Michigan State University Trumpet Studio Class	2019
Robert White , Professor at Western Michigan University Michigan State University Trumpet Studio Class	2019
Chuck Seipp , Professor at Shenandoah University Michigan State University Trumpet Studio Class	2018
Paul Merkelo , Principal Trumpet, Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal Pacific Region International Summer Music Academy	2018

Volunteer / Service Activities

Through The Staff , virtual	2020–present
Instructor — Through The Staff is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to help students overcome barriers to music education by connecting them with quality, affordable music education resources. Through The Staff matches 2nd–12th grade students across the United States with volunteer university musicians for free virtual private lessons.	
Beacon Hill Retirement Community , Grand Rapids, MI Chamber Music Performer	2022
Sparrow Hospital , East Lansing, MI Chamber Music Performer	2019
Burcham Hills Retirement Community , East Lansing, MI Chamber Music Performer	2018