

## Michael Parkinson – Biographical Sketch

Michael Parkinson is a professional trumpeter, conductor, educator, and consultant in metro Kansas City. He most recently served as Director of the School of Music at Middle Tennessee State University where he founded the IMPROV Ensemble and taught courses in jazz studies. He performed with the MTSU Jazztet on tours of China in 2017 and 2018, and was named Guest Professor of Performing Arts at the Wuhan Conservatory of Music. Mike previously served as Director of the Ohio University School of Music and Music Department Chair at Webster University. He has remained active teaching courses in jazz studies, contemporary music, and entrepreneurship, founding the New Music Ensemble and Mini-Big Band at Webster. As an administrator, Mike has worked extensively in alumni relations and development, international programs and partnerships, marketing and recruiting, facilities improvements, curricular design, faculty assessment, student wellness, and entrepreneurship. He also held faculty appointments at Case Western Reserve University, Furman University, and the University of Missouri-Kansas City, where he served as Director of Jazz Studies. He is the leader of the Trinity Jazz Ensemble, an ecumenical group that performs for church related events.

As an Educational Specialist for Bach trumpets (Conn-Selmer), Mike has appeared as an adjudicator, clinician or performer at events such as MUSICFEST USA and the Greater Southwest Music Festival, and at schools and festivals across the United States. He has directed ensembles for conferences of the College Band Directors National Association, International Association for Jazz Education, International Electronic Music Plus Festival, National Association for Music Education, and the Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Ohio and South Carolina Music Educators Association state conferences. He is the author of "BASIE, BEBOP, BALLADS & BLUES," a nationally published jazz ensemble repertoire guide, and "BEYOND THE BLUES," a guide to jazz ensemble literature, score and part editing. He also presents clinics on improvisation, music entrepreneurship/career development, brass techniques, and personal musicianship.

A native of Cleveland, Tennessee, Mike received the DMA in Wind Conducting from the University of Cincinnati, the MM in Trumpet Performance from Kent State University, and the BM in Music Education from the University of North Texas. He studied trumpet with Frank Brown, John Haynie, Harry Herforth, Phil Morehead, and Marie Speziale; and conducting with Kelly Hale, Donald Hunsberger, David Kuehn, Terry Milligan, and Leopold Sipe. His primary influences are Bob Brookmeyer, Miles Davis, Charles Mingus, Bill Scarlett, Kenny Werner, and Kenny Wheeler.

Mike has performed with American artists including Bob Brookmeyer, Bill Dobbins, Gary Foster, Bobby Watson, Gary Wittner and Phil Woods, and Polish artists such as Marek Balata, Joachim Mencil, Janusz Muniak, Jacek Niedziela, Wlodek Pawlik, and Dominik Wania. His experience includes shows such as George Burns, Glen Campbell, Rosemary Clooney, the Four Aces, and the Manhattan Transfer. He has recorded with harpist Michelle Himmell, the Spirit of Kansas City Orchestra, the St. Thomas Quartet, Kirby Shaw, Jazz Spoken Here, the Webster jazz faculty, and the MTSU jazz faculty. An avid supporter of new music, he founded the Webster University New Music Ensemble and led performances by student ensembles from UMKC and Ohio University for Society of Composers national conferences. He has worked with composers including Robert Cooper, Halim El Dabh, Donald Erb, Donald Freund, Gay Holmes Spears, Karel Husa, James Mobberley, Eugene O'Brien, Mark Phillips, Kim Portnoy, Paul West Osterfield and Morton Subotnick.

For ten years, Mike served as Artistic Director of the International Summer Jazz Academy in Poland, bringing American, Austrian and Polish artists together to work with talented students from across Europe and the United States. In recognition of his service, he was named *Amicus Poloniae* by the Republic of Poland. For his service to the state of Missouri, he received the *Jess Cole Award* from the Missouri Jazz Educators Association. He is a Sigma Alpha Iota *Friend of the Arts*. He is a member of the Jazz Education Network, Missouri Jazz Educators Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Pi Kappa Lambda, the American Federation of Musicians, Rotary International, and the United Methodist Church and an honorary member of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. His interests include Formula 1 racing, reading, and Polish studies. He is married to Charlene Hanson, a native of North Dakota, who served as director of the Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus and as director of music at churches in Kansas, Missouri, Ohio, North Dakota and Tennessee. The Parkinson family resides in Overland Park, Kansas.

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