



The HoodleBug Brass

Zach Collins

Christian Dickinson

Kevin Eisensmith

Dave Ferguson

Jack Scandrett

Residency Opportunities

The HoodleBug Brass

The **HoodleBug Brass** is the brass quintet-in-residence at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and is comprised of the four full-time and one part-time brass faculty within the Department of Music. The ensemble performs regularly on the IUP campus and presents numerous clinics and concerts in public schools and churches throughout the region each year. In 2000 the **HoodleBug Brass** co-commissioned a new work for concert band and brass quintet by renowned composer Dr. John Cheetham. *Concertino for Brass Quintet and Symphonic Band* was premiered at the 2001 PMEA Conference held in Hershey, PA. The **HoodleBug Brass** released its first compact disc, entitled “Brass Fac’s,” in March 2004. Their second CD, entitled “Off the Trac’s,” was released in October 2009. The quintet performs works of all styles, from the Baroque to contemporary, pop and jazz.



Description of Services

Side-by-Side Rehearsals - the members of the **HoodleBug Brass** join the members of your concert band, and sit among the students of the trumpet, horn, trombone and tuba sections. Following the playing of a piece of music, the members of the quintet address issues including breathing, posture, rehearsal etiquette, articulation, styles of playing, and so on. More general topics, such as practice habits, becoming a music major, and others may also be introduced.

Clinic - the members of the HoodleBug Brass will preside over “like instrument” sessions with the students of the trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium and tuba sections. Information specific to each brass instrument will be presented, including posture, breathing, hand position, embouchure placement, articulation, and so on. Appropriate sized mouthpieces for each age group, what to look for in a new instrument, and general practice habits may also be discussed.

Master class - student soloists and chamber ensembles will perform for the members of the **HoodleBug Brass**. The members of the quintet will then offer suggestions for improvement. For students and ensembles preparing for competition or live performance, this setting is particularly beneficial. This type of session is not limited to brass players. In addition to specific musical comments, information regarding stage deportment, entering and exiting the stage, bowing, etc. may be presented.

Each of the sessions described above would be considered a 1/4 day event.



Elementary School Assembly Program

The members of the **HoodleBug Brass** have an extensive background in teaching students of all ages and levels of experience. Our elementary school program introduces students to the members of the brass family by featuring each of the instruments in the quintet: the trumpets, horn, trombone, and tuba, in a series of works.

During the program basic musical elements are introduced, including melody, countermelody, harmony, and rhythm. Variety in music - loud versus soft, fast versus slow, and “happy” versus “sad” - are presented. Students are encouraged to interact with the music by clapping their hands and singing along with some of the works.

A question-and-answer period concludes the assembly program. Over the years students have asked many interesting and insightful questions. Each of the members of the quintet participates in this session, and shares their own personal experiences regarding choosing an instrument, practice, taking private lessons, to name but a few of the topics.

A typical elementary school program may last 35 to 50 minutes, depending on the desires of the school.

Junior / Senior High School Assembly Program

This program is designed to be entertaining for general audiences while still providing basic information about brass instruments and certain elements of music.

Each of the instruments in the quintet - the trumpets, horn, trombone, and tuba - is featured in a series of works. Basic musical elements are also introduced, including melody, countermelody, harmony, and rhythm.

The assembly program features a diverse collection of music and musical styles, including classical music, marches, jazz, and rock styles.

A question-and-answer period may be included.

A typical junior / senior high school assembly program may last 35 to 50 minutes, depending on the desires of the school.



Residency - Option I

1/4 Day

A quarter day residency involves a single event with the **HoodleBug Brass**. This event might be any of the following:

- an assembly program for the entire school
- a recital presented to music students
- a “side-by-side” rehearsal, where the members of the quintet participate in a rehearsal with the school band or orchestra, and offers recommendations for music preparation, posture, articulation, and other aspects of playing and rehearsal
- a clinic for the brass players of the school
- individual clinics for the trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba sections of the school

Students have the opportunity to ask questions about the music being performed, the instruments and other equipment used, basic playing techniques, practice routines, and more. The five members of the **HoodleBug Brass** are easy-going, and truly enjoy the chance to make music and to teach music. Students work side-by-side with these professionals and are able to sense the enthusiasm that they have for their craft.

Residency - Option II

1/2 Day

A half day residency involves two or three events with the **Hoodle-Bug Brass**, including any of the following:

- an assembly program for the entire school
- a recital presented to music students
- a “side-by-side” rehearsal, where the members of the quintet participate in a rehearsal with the school band or orchestra, and offers recommendations for music preparation, posture, articulation, and other aspects of playing and rehearsal
- a clinic for the brass players of the school
- individual clinics for the trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba sections of the school

The total number of events will be determined by the length of each event.

A half day residency may begin in the morning at a pre-determined time and end at 11:30 a.m., or it may begin at 1:00 p.m. and conclude by 4:00 p.m. A half day residency will not begin in the morning and conclude in the afternoon.



Residency - Option III

Full Day

A full day residency by the **HoodleBug Brass** may include any or all of the options introduced earlier, including:

- an assembly program for the entire school
- a recital presented to music students
- a “side-by-side” rehearsal, where the members of the quintet participate in a rehearsal with the school band or orchestra, and offers recommendations for music preparation, posture, articulation, and other aspects of playing and rehearsal
- a clinic for the brass players of the school
- individual clinics for the trumpet, horn, trombone, euphonium, and tuba sections of the school

The total number of events will be determined by the length of each event.

A full day residency begins in the morning at a pre-determined time and concludes by 4:00 p.m.

Performance with your Ensembles

In 2000 the **HoodleBug Brass** co-commissioned a new work for concert band and brass quintet by renowned composer Dr. John Cheetham. *Concertino for Brass Quintet and Symphonic Band* was premiered at the 2001 PME A Conference held in Hershey, PA. It was recorded by the **HoodleBug Brass** on our first compact disc, entitled “Brass Fac’s,” in March 2004.

Composed as a Grade 4 piece for the accompanying band, *Concertino* is playable by either a large ensemble or smaller wind ensemble. It is enjoyable for the band and the audience. A recording of the work is available upon request.

The **HoodleBug Brass** traditionally combines an evening performance of the *Concertino* with a full day residency. During the day the quintet rehearses with your band, conduct clinics, give recitals, and so on. That evening the quintet would be featured with your band. In addition to the *Concertino*, the **HoodleBug Brass** would play an opening work and a closing “encore” by themselves.



Evening Recital

An evening recital may be held at a local school, church, or theater. The program would include a wide variety of works for brass quintet, from the traditional to more modern and jazz-oriented compositions.

If the performance is held in a church, it is possible for the **HoodleBug Brass** to perform with the local organist. If the concert is held in a school, it is possible for students of that school to perform a piece with the **HoodleBug Brass**.

A “HoodleBug” is a local term for “doodlebug,” the name given to a single-car, self-propelled train or trolley. At the southern end of the IUP campus can be found the “Hoodlebug Trail.” This is a six-mile recreation and commuter trail located in the central portion of Indiana County. The original hoodlebug traveled between Blairsville and Punxsutawney.

Fees for Services

Residency Option I \$250

- 1/4 Day or one Assembly Program

Residency Option II \$500

- 1/2 Day or 2-3 Assembly Programs

Residency Option III \$900

- full day

Evening Recital \$600

- open to the general public; tickets may be sold

Performance with School Ensemble \$1,200

- includes a full day plus evening



Bios

Dr. Zach Collins received his B.M. in Tuba Performance from Texas Christian University where he studied with Richard Murrow and his M.M. and D.M.A. in Tuba Performance from the University of Southern California where he studied with Jim Self (an IUP alumnus), Tommy Johnson, and Norm Pearson. Dr. Collins has performed with numerous ensembles including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Pacific Symphony, Texas Chamber Orchestra, and Texas Wind Symphony. In Los Angeles he performed on the soundtracks for several motion pictures including *X-Men 3*, *Rocky Balboa*, *Spider-Man 3*, and *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End*. At IUP, Dr. Collins teaches applied tuba and euphonium, Introduction to Music, and leads the Tubaphonium Ensemble. He is principal tubist with the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Christian Dickinson has taught at IUP since 1985. He holds the Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music degrees from Florida State University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Catholic University of America. Dr. Dickinson performs as principal trombone with the Johnstown Symphony Orchestra and the Keystone Wind Ensemble, and as the trombonist with the Hoodlebug Brass, the faculty brass quintet at IUP. As a soloist, he has performed with the Johnstown Symphony, U.S. Army Orchestra, North Pittsburgh Philharmonic, Ohio University Summer Band, IUP Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, Concert Band and Symphony Band. He has also performed for Frankie Avalon, Lew Christie, Peter Nero, Olivia Newton-John, Frankie Valli and Leann Rimes. As a member of the Keystone Wind Ensemble, Dr. Dickinson has recorded 12 discs featuring all styles of wind music. Dr. Dickinson recorded contemporary works for trombone and organ with the late Carol Teti.

Dr. Kevin Eisensmith received his Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, his Master's degree in Music Performance from Georgia State University and his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Performance degree from Temple University. He was a member of and the solo trumpeter with the U.S. Army Forces Command Band in Atlanta, Georgia from 1979 through 1984. An active performer, Dr. Eisensmith has worked with Doc Severinsen, Aaron Neville, Roberta Flack, Natalie Cole, Olivia Newton-John, LeAnn Rimes and others. Since 1999 has served as the principal trumpeter with the Johnstown (PA) Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Eisensmith is the President of the International Trumpet Guild, an organization with some 6,000 members world wide, and previously served as Secretary and Vice President. As the Professor of Trumpet at IUP, Dr. Eisensmith teaches applied trumpet and directs the IUP Jazz Ensemble.

Dr. David Ferguson is a native of Illinois, having received a B.M. in Music Education with Jazz Emphasis from Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois, an M.M.E. in Instrumental Music Education and an Ed.D. in Music Education from the University of Illinois. At IUP, he teaches applied trumpet, the IUP trumpet ensemble, Music for Elementary Majors, Student Teacher Observation, Intro to Music, Fundamentals of Music Theory (online), and graduate-level music education courses as needed. Dr. Ferguson has presented at several state and regional music educators conferences across the country. Articles under his authorship have been published in the *Illinois Music Educator*, *The Instrumentalist*, *School Band and Orchestra*, *Update: Applications for Research in Music Education*, and the *National Band Association Journal*. He is also listed as a contributing author in the MENC publication, *Strategies for Teaching: Technology*, and his original compositions for brass have been published by *Eighth Note Publications*.

Dr. John "Jack" Scandrett received a B.M. degree from Wittenberg University in Ohio, a M.M. in Horn from the University of Wisconsin, and an Ed.D. in Instructional Design and Technology from the University of Pittsburgh. As a performer, he has worked with a variety of artists ranging from Rod Stewart and Tom Jones to Joan Sutherland and Luciano Pavarotti. For many years he was principal horn for the Pittsburgh Opera, Ballet and Civic Light Opera Orchestras, and solo horn with the Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble. He has performed with the Pittsburgh Symphony, was a member of the Indianapolis Symphony, and principal horn for the New Jersey, McKeesport, Johnstown, and Westmoreland Symphony Orchestras. Dr. Scandrett has been on the faculty of Indiana University of Pennsylvania since 1980 and served as Chair of the Department of Music from 1996 to 2000.