Dr. Joel Pugh Biography

Joel Pugh is the instructor of Low Brass at the University of North Dakota. In addition to teaching trombone, euphonium and tuba, and is the director and founder of the North Dakota Trombone Choir and North Dakota Tuba Ensemble. Additionally he coaches several low brass and brass chamber ensembles. He also performs in the Dakota Brass and the Faculty Contemporary Music Ensemble.

Pugh holds a D.M.A. from Michigan State University in trombone and euphonium performance, a M.M. in trombone performance from Bowling Green State University and a B.M. in music education from Ithaca College. Many of his former students are enjoying careers as professional musicians in a variety of venues including major symphony orchestras, university teaching positions, and have been accepted in some of the leading graduate and doctoral programs.

Active as a performer on both trombone and euphonium, he has served as the principle euphonium in the Brass Band of Columbus and the Cuyahoga Valley Brass Band and has solo concerto appearances on CD releases of each ensemble. Pugh has also been featured as a euphonium soloist at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, numerous state MENC conventions, the Gala Concert of the North American Brass Band Association, and the Great American Brass Band Festival, in Danville, Kentucky. As a trombonist, he has performed in a variety of venues, including the International Trombone Workshops and appearances with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and Toledo Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Pugh has given solo recitals at numerous universities and has served on the faculty of the Borealis Brass Congress at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. As a clinician, Pugh has presented clinics at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, various MENC music conferences and Tubonium. He has served on the board of directors for the North American Brass Band Association and is a faculty member at the International Music Camp.