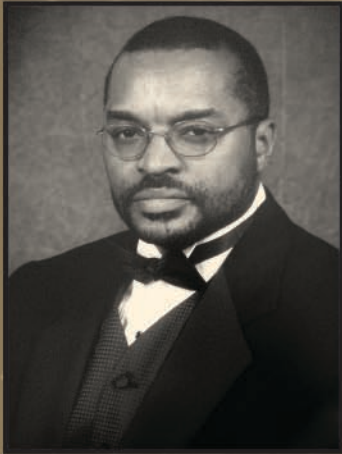


HALL OF FAME

WTSBOA 2017 HONOREES



**JEFFREY LAWRENCE
HUDDLESTON**

Jeffrey Huddleston, a noted musician, composer, arranger, performer, clinician, and educator, began his musical career in 7th grade playing alto saxophone in the Greenville Public Schools under the tutelage of his late father and renowned band director, Roy P. Huddleston. Jeff has received numerous superior accolades and awards including "All American" Hall of Fame Honor Band Award, United States Collegiate Wind Band Award, McDonald's All-American High School Band, Who's Who Among Outstanding Students Award. His plan after high school was to attend the college of his choice on a music scholarship.

Jeff Huddleston received his Bachelor of Music Degree from Mississippi Valley State University, Master of Music Composition from the University of Mississippi, and continued postgraduate studies in Jazz from the University of Memphis. At the collegiate levels, Jeff directed the Ole Miss "Collegiate" Jazz Band, the University of Memphis Jazz Ensemble II, and taught private saxophone lessons.

Jeff continued his 29-year music career with Memphis City Schools and Shelby County Schools as Director of Bands at Fairley High School and Director of Jazz Studies at Overton High School. His concert, marching, and jazz bands have performed throughout the country in regional and national festivals receiving "superior" ratings. His jazz bands were in great demand to perform at venues. Prior to Jeff's untimely death, the Overton Jazz Band received national recognition by placing second in the "Swing Central Jazz Festival" in Savannah Music Festival and received national and local recognition. Jeff was inducted into Amro Music Educator Walk of Fame and was a member of WTSBOA where he chaired numerous events including All-State Jazz Festivals. He was also a member of the International Association for Jazz Educators, Jazz Education Network, NAFME, Kappa Kappa Psi, Phi Mu Alpha, and Alpha Phi Alpha and was a "multiple year honoree" for the Who's Who Among American Teachers Award.

Jeff mentored numerous music education students and band directors. When not teaching in the classroom, Jeff's melodious saxophone could be heard with the New Hope Church of Memphis. Also he enjoyed, "Blue Bossa," a jazz combo group he founded that spans the parameters of the jazz idiom. Jeff also performed with The Temptations, The Four Tops, Bobby Rush, Chick Rogers, Free World, Joyce Cobb, and traveled with the Memphis All-Stars Band to perform in the Umbria Jazz Festival and Poretta Jazz Festival in Italy.



LANNY BYRD

A native Memphian, Lanny Byrd's first musical experiences came from listening to the radio and performing on his make shift drum set. After beginning school at South Park Elementary, Mr. Byrd moved to Sherwood Junior High where he played on clarinet in Daryl Henning's band in grades 7-9.

In the fall of 1965 Lanny was a member of the woodwind class at Overton High School where he played bass clarinet under the direction of James Richens. He dropped out of band his junior and senior years at Overton and concentrated on playing drum set in numerous garage and club bands in the area.

While studying at Memphis State University, Lanny performed on drum set with many jazz and popular recording artists including B.J. Thomas, Marvin Stamm and Barry Manilow.

After graduating from Memphis State University in 1973, Lanny began his teaching career the following year by accepting the band director's position at Westwood High School in Memphis. In 1977, Lanny started the Skyview Academy Band Program Lanny and developed award-winning marching, concert and jazz ensembles.

Lanny then served as Director of Bands at Germantown High School from 1985 – 2015. His concert and marching bands received numerous superior ratings and awards throughout his tenure at Germantown HS. Additionally, many of Lanny's students annually earned positions in the All-West and All-State Bands. As the conductor for the Poplar Pike Playhouse Orchestra, Lanny conducted over 420 musical performances and the orchestra won numerous honors at the annual High School Musical Awards. Throughout his career, Lanny also served as a mentor for several of our current WTSBOA Band Directors. His legacy of dedicated service in instrumental music education is deeply embedded in the countless lives that have been influenced throughout his remarkable career.

Mr. Byrd retired from teaching in May 2015 and now spends a lot of quality time with his lovely wife Virginia. They met on a blind date and have been married for forty-one years. They have two daughters: Lanna, an ESL teacher at Knight Road Elementary and Sarah, who works in the advertising department at Comcast. Sarah and her husband Matt Tullos are the excited parents of the family's first grandchild Piper Leigh Tullos.



KAREN HENNING

Throughout her 30-year service in music education, Karen Bowman Henning has taught at numerous West TN schools including Haywood County HS, Jackson Central Merry HS, and Liberty Technology Magnet HS. During her career, Karen's students consistently earned superior ratings and numerous awards at local and national concert festivals, and marching competitions including Chicago, Washington DC, New York, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Hawaii and Washington DC.

Karen has twice served as WTSBOA President and also on the Tennessee Music Educators Association Board. While WTSBOA President, the Wind Ensemble was formed as the top All-West senior high performing ensemble. She has served as the marching and Jackson site concert festival chair for the past 10 years. Throughout her career, Karen promoted unity in the school district she served by creating opportunities for the Jackson bands to perform together. She mentored and nurtured many novice and seasoned directors. She has served in numerous additional music education capacities including the WTSBOA Marching and Jackson Area Concert Festivals Chair, WTSBOA Jackson Area Solo and Ensemble Chair, All-State representative for WTSBOA, and All-State Band Rehearsal Chair for TMEA. She was also a charter member of Memphis Blues Brass Band Drum and Bugle Corp. Karen currently holds membership in Phi Beta Mu Band Director Fraternity, American School Band Director Association, and Tennessee Bandmaster Association.

Originally from Jackson, TN Karen credits Bill Watson, her high school band director, as being influential in her decision to become a music educator. She holds a Bachelor of Music Degree from Lambuth College and a Master of Music in Music Education from Austin Peay State University. She is currently an adjunct faculty member at Lane College where she teaches Music Appreciation and applied music classes. She also is the Data Coach and Testing Coordinator at Liberty Technology High School. She is a member of the trustee board and youth director at Mother Liberty CME Church. Karen and James Henning have been married for 26 years and have four children, Matthew, Christopher, John, and Cynthia, and three grandchildren: Sophie, Braxton, and Jeremiah. She has served as a clinician and adjudicator in Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, and Mississippi. Many of her students have gone on to become band directors and music education teachers, including her son who is a high school band and choir director in Boulder, Montana and her nephew who is a high school director in Jackson, TN.