

Benjamin Blasko, Class of 2008 May 2013 Alumni of the Month



What have you done since graduating from Conemaugh Township High School?

After Conemaugh Township I pursued a degree in music education from Messiah College and graduated in May 2013. During the past five years I studied conducting (since been invited to guest conduct across the U.S.), music composition (my piece "Victory Fanfare," was performed by the U.S Navy Band in March 2013, and was recorded by the Messiah College Wind Ensemble in February 2013), trumpet under Dr. William Stowman, and recording engineering (I have released 5 cd's on several different record labels). I have recently accepted a teaching assistantship at UNLV for the fall of 2013 in Wind Conducting. Currently I maintain private trumpet studios in Johnstown and Harrisburg PA.

Who was your favorite teacher in high school and why?

Mrs. Gardenhour. She was my motivating force, not just in music but in life. She pushed me to always give my best. She cared about each of her students, always providing opportunities for them to learn in a safe and welcoming environment.

What is your fondest memory from Conemaugh Township High School?

Being a part of the music department. The music department was my family. All of my friends were there. I spent nearly all my time there, in and out of school. I learned not just about music there, but about life and friendships.



Additional Comments

I appreciate the honor of nomination. As a practicing teacher on my own, never compromise the school's educational foundation for any reason. That was why I loved Conemaugh Township while I was there! Thank you!