

Linnie Hostetler, graduated in 2009 from Conemaugh Township Area Middle School/High School. Following graduation, she attended Messiah College to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. Next, Linnie headed to the University of Nevada in Las Vegas to receive a Master's Degree in Horn Performance.

After completing her schooling, Miss Hostetler became a professional free-lance musician and a private instrumental teacher in Las Vegas. Linnie did this for four years, until she auditioned for an open French horn spot in the Lviv Philharmonic Orchestra in the Ukraine. When she auditioned, she was trying out for either the principal, first chair, or associate principal, third chair. Linnie came out on top and is now living in Lviv, Ukraine as the principal French horn player of the Lviv Philharmonic Orchestra.

Linnie has become the very first American member of the Lviv Philharmonic Orchestra. She is also the first female brass player to be a part of the orchestra. This difference caused a lot of sexist remarks to be made towards Linnie; however, after her fellow coworkers got to know her and her playing, she was able to earn their respect.

Linnie says one of her favorite aspects of being in the Lviv Philharmonic Orchestra is the amount of traveling she gets to do. She has gone on tour with the orchestra to Switzerland, Germany, and Poland several times. The group will also be traveling to Spain in January.

Miss Hostetler recalls her favorite experience as a musician was getting to perform Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring" with a ballet company.

Miss Hostetler recalls her fondest memories in high school were during her times in the Township musicals. She says she rehearsed for hours with her close friends who became like family. During her time in the musicals, she created unforgettable memories that would last a lifetime.

Linnie became motivated to pursue her dreams in music with the inspiration of Mrs. Gardenhour and Ms. Lingenfelter, the choral director at Conemaugh Township.

"I will always look back to them with the sincerest gratitude," said Linnie when discussing her sentiment towards the two music teachers.

In high school, Linnie's favorite teacher was Mrs. Gardenhour, the band director at Conemaugh Township. She says it was Mrs. G's idea for her to play the French horn in high school, and now, because of that, her life and career revolves around this instrument. That simple decision changed Linnie's life forever.

"I would not be doing what I'm doing now without her inspiration and guidance," stated Linnie.

Even though Linnie credits her high school music teachers for giving her the inspiration to do what she does today, she makes sure God gets the glory for everything in her life. She says it is only through His grace and by His strength she has been able to accomplish everything she has done.

Linnie stated, "I think the best music is made by selfless musicians. If any person can approach a cause with humility and effectively remove himself from the center, that is when we hear and see the best results. Live for something bigger than yourself. Play for something bigger than yourself."