

Christopher Charboneau



Christopher Charboneau is currently in his 24th year of teaching music in the Michigan schools. He is a 1993 graduate of Northern Michigan University where he received a Bachelor of Music Education degree studying both piano and percussion. He has earned graduate credits from Central Michigan University, and a Master in the Art of Teaching from Marygrove College in 2005. He is the Music Director/Director of Bands at the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy, where he directs the Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Concert Band and Liturgical Choir. He also teaches an American Music History class that focuses on the jazz, swing, rock era and the MTV generation.

Throughout his teaching career, Chris' bands have fared very well at festivals and competitions. To date, his bands have earned 55 first division ratings at District and State Band Festivals and five second division ratings. In all, his bands have earned over 90 awards at the District, State and National levels. Chris is included in the 1995, 2000, 2002 and 2004 editions of "Who's Who among America's Teachers". Being in four volumes places him in less than 1% of America's teachers to be nominated four times for this high honor.

During his career his bands have had the opportunity to work under and/or perform with some of the nation's finest conductors, including: Professors John Williamson and the late Jack Saunders of Central Michigan University, Professor John Madden of Michigan State University, Dr. John Cody Birdwell of The University of Kentucky, Dr. William Berz of Rutgers University, Wesley Broadnax of the University of Delaware, Professor Frederick Nyline of Luther College, Iowa and Dr. Ken Dye of The University of Notre Dame. Dye and Birdwell were recent clinicians and guest conductors at U of D Jesuit.

Chris is an accomplished pianist, percussionist, set drummer and vocalist who also enjoys sports. He has coached both girls and boys basketball as well as boys baseball.

In April of 2001, Chris was nominated for the Walt Disney American Teacher Awards, which honors creativity in teaching.

He is the founder and director of the Wolverine Summer Band Camp, now in its 22nd summer. He taught percussion at Northern Michigan University's Summer Music Camp for ten years and served on the staff of the Wolverine Vocal Music Camp for eleven years. Mr. Charboneau is a very active clinician, guest conductor and performer throughout Michigan and the mid-west. Chris also judges both Solo and Ensemble and Band and Orchestra festivals for the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association (M.S.B.O.A.), and has held three district offices in the M.S.B.O.A. He is the Saturday Music Director at Holy Name Catholic Church in Birmingham, where he also served as the first Grand Knight for their Knights of Columbus Council from 2006 until 2008.