

Jake W. McDowell

Musician, Educator and Software Developer

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Mountainside High School Marching Ensemble (Beaverton, OR)

JUNE 2021 - PRESENT: *High Brass / Visual Instructor*

- Summer band camp instructor of 80-100 HS students annually, responsible for developing students' marching and musical technique in a competitive marching band setting

McDowell Music (Eugene, OR)

AUGUST 2025 - PRESENT: *Composer/Arranger, Educator and Performer Musician*

- Independent musician selling music and providing a variety of music-related services on my website: mcdowell-music.com

StepOff Softworks (Eugene, OR)

APRIL 2025 - PRESENT: *Founder and Lead Developer*

- Independent software developer building software for the performing arts. Currently working on a marching arts visual design software: StepOff Studio (stepoffstudio.com)

Code Ninjas (Eugene, OR)

JUNE 2022 - JUNE 2023: *Code Sensei (Instructor)*

- Led summer camps and after-school lessons centered around coding, STEM topics and video game development for K-12 students

Northwest Band Camp (Rockaway Beach, OR)

JUNE 2021: *Camp Counselor and Trumpet Instructor*

- Instructed trumpet technique for grades 6th-12th, also a cabin counselor
- Performed with staff jazz band and occasionally played "Taps" at night

DoorDash and Instacart (Eugene, OR)

MARCH 2021 - PRESENT: *Delivery Driver*

- Driver delivering DoorDash and Instacart orders in the Eugene area

Jimmy John's (Beaverton, OR)

MARCH 2018 - MARCH 2019: *Team Member*

MARCH 2019 - SEPTEMBER 2020: *Shift Leader / Closing Manager*

- Team Member and Closing Manager at Jimmy Johns, prepared/prepped food, led/trained staff members, took inventory, dealt with customer complaints, delivered orders, cleaned building and locked up at night

SKILLS / AWARDS

Music Composer / Arranger

- A self-published composer and arranger, selling my music at mcdowell-music.com
- Many of my musical works have been performed live at University of Oregon events
- Was a member of the 2024-2025 Oregon Composer's Forum, having compositions performed and giving lectures on composition topics
- Studied composition with Eben A. Fernando Heldreth
- Attended 2019 Western Oregon University Composers Workshop with Dave Metzger
- Composed my senior year high school marching band show (2019 Aloha High School: Atlantis) as my senior project

Trumpet Performer

- Active freelance musician in the Eugene, OR area
- Performed with:
East 18th Brass Band,
Green Garter Band,
Yellow Garter Band,
Oregon Jazz Lab Bands II/III,
Oregon Wind Ensemble,
Oregon Wind Symphony,
Oregon Campus Band (on flute, french horn and trombone),
Oregon Marching Band,
Oregon Basketball Band,
Seattle Cascades,
Virtual Drum and Bugle Corps,
Portland Metro Youth Symphony

EDUCATION

University of Oregon (Eugene, OR)

JUNE 2020 - JUNE 2025 (BS Music, Minor in Music Technology)

- Graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Music (focus on education and composition) and Minor in Music Technology (focus on software design)
- Received a Presidential Scholarship
- Active Member of Oregon Athletic Bands: was a Drum Major and Section Leader in the Oregon Marching Band, served as Liaison on the Oregon Athletic Bands Council and played with both the Yellow and Green Garter Bands, also serving as Logistical Director for the Yellow Garter Band
- Was a member of the 2024-2025 Oregon Composers Forum, having compositions performed at concerts throughout the year as well as giving presentations on various composition topics including marching band music design and writing for brass bands
- Participated in a 2020 Drill Design Summer Workshop with the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps, also participating in Pyware3D's Social-Distanced Virtual Drill Writing Competition that summer
- Was a member of the 2020 Virtual Drum and Bugle Corps

Aloha High School (Beaverton, OR)

SEPTEMBER 2016 - JUNE 2020 (Diploma)

- Graduated with Honors and as a member of the National Honors Society
- Recipient of the Bott Family Music Scholarship
- Active member of Aloha High School's Band Program, performed with the Marching Band, Concert Bands, Jazz Bands and Pit Orchestra. Also served as Band Council President, Field Captain and Section Leader
- Performed with Aloha High School's Concert Choir as a Bass Voice
- Was a member of the 2020 Seattle Cascades Drum and Bugle Corps
- Performed with the Portland Metro Youth Symphony ensembles including the Concert Orchestra and Wind Ensemble
- Studied Musical Composition privately with Eben A. Fernando Heldreth, culminating in composing my senior year marching band show: Atlantis
- Taught as a Camp Counselor in 2018 at NW Outdoor Science School
- Was a member and developer at the 2017 Northwest Advanced Programming Workshop. Created a mobile game with two other team members and also composed the soundtrack for the game

Educator Experience

- A high brass and visual instructor for Mountainside High School Marching Ensemble since 2021. Co-led brass sectionals with other brass staff, taught visual and musical technique to students and helped with drill cleaning

- Also taught for other various organizations over the years: *Band Rocks! Mentor Program, NW Band Camp at Twin Rocks, Code Ninjas, NW Outdoor Science School*

Instructional Areas:

- Trumpet Technique
- Brass Technique
- Marching Technique
- Visual Performance
- Music Theory
- Composition and Arranging
- Drill Design
- Leadership Skills

Software Development Projects

- StepOff Studio (2025-Present): *Marching Arts Drill Design Software with Mobile, Web and VR Companion Apps*
- Flight Data Sonification Project (2025): *Interactive System Converting Live Flight Data into Musical Soundscapes*
- MIDI Music Theory (2024): *Hands on Music Theory Education Software*
- Bugs! (2017): *Mobile Game*

2020 University of Oregon Presidential Scholar

2020 Bott Family Music Scholarship Recipient

2018 Mt. Hood Jazz Festival Outstanding Musician Award