

The Class of 1996 Selects... William Purvis (Class of 1966)



Internationally recognized French horn soloist, recitalist, chamber musician, and conductor. Purvis is a member and principal horn with the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, the Orchestra of St. Luke's, and the New York Woodwind Quintet.

He has recorded exclusively with all three groups. In Western Pennsylvania, he has been a soloist with the Butler County Symphony and the Westmoreland County Symphony. In, 1994 Purvis performed the Orpheus at Heinz Hall. He has toured several foreign countries and presented masters classes in South America, Europe, and Japan. William Purvis began his study of the French horn as an elementary school student at Butler. At 13, he was playing in the horn section of the Butler Symphony, and was active in school musicals, plays, concert band and concert choir.

After graduating from Butler, Purvis studied horn at Julliard before earning a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy at Haverford College. Purvis is the son of Jean Purvis of Butler and the late Dr. Joseph D. Purvis, Jr.