

East Stroudsburg Area School District 2009 Music Hall of Fame Inductees

Samuel DeRenzis

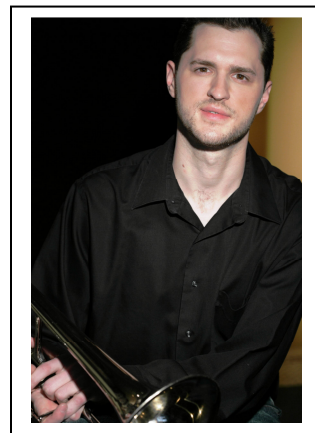


Mr. DeRenzis is an East Stroudsburg High School graduate, Class of 1971. He played alto sax in the ESHS instrumental music programs from fourth grade through high school. Sam served as band Vice President during his junior year and as band President as a senior. He participated in concert, marching and jazz bands, qualifying for both District and Regional Band for three years. Mr. DeRenzis received a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Gettysburg College in 1975 and since his graduation from college, his career has been in the printed music industry. He served as the Director of Sales at Shawnee Press from 1975 through 1991, and has worked in retail music sales since 1991, currently serving as Regional Marketing Manager at J.W. Pepper, the world's largest printed music retailer.

Mr. DeRenzis is responsible for serving the Southern California marketing region.

Zachary Giffel

Mr. Giffel graduated from East Stroudsburg High School in 1997. At ESHS, Zac was selected to performed with both the District and Regional Bands, as well as Orchestra and Choir. He also received All-State Choir, All-State Jazz Ensemble and All-Eastern Jazz Ensemble distinction. Zac performed annually with the "COTA Cats" at the Celebration of the Arts Festival in Delaware Water Gap. He was selected to attend the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Arts (1995) and the National High School Music Institute (1996), and he appeared with the NYU Jazz Ensemble in New York City. Mr. Giffel graduated with honors from the University of North Texas in 2001, having qualified to attend on both music and academic scholarships. At UNT, Zac performed in a variety of student ensembles, including the award winning "One O'clock Lab Band," the "UNT Jazz Singers" and the "UNT Trombone Choir," and was selected to attend the Henry Mancini Institute in Los Angeles in 1999. Zac was a member of the award winning



jazz trombone group "Slide Tradition," performing at the International Trombone Festival in Utrecht, The Netherlands. He also placed second in the prestigious National Jazz Trombone Competition at the Eastern Trombone Workshop in 2000. Mr. Giffel has toured extensively, also performing aboard various cruise ships, and has performed for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, as well as with the indie rock group "The Polyphonic Spree." He has appeared with Grammy-winner Phil Woods and the Festival Orchestra, the Grammy-nominated *Feist* and Sarah Brightman, and has performed in diverse venues such as the Fillmore in San Francisco, Madison Square Garden in New York and on the "Today Show."

Cory D. Miller



Mr. Miller is an ESHS graduate, Class of 1984. During his high school years, Cory participated for four years in the band and two years in the jazz ensemble. He qualified to participate on the District 10 Orchestra in 1983 and 1984 (first chair in 1984), and District 10 Band in 1984 (first chair). Cory was selected to participate in Region 4/5 Orchestra and Region 5 Band as first chair in 1984, also participating in Pennsylvania All-State Orchestra. He was named the "Outstanding Bass Player" at the 1983 Mansfield University High School Jazz Festival, and was one of only two high school musicians selected to perform with the 1983-84 McDonalds All-American High School Band. He also represented Pennsylvania and East Stroudsburg in performances in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Quincy (Mass.) Day Parade, and the Fiesta Bowl and Rose Bowl Parades. In addition, he received the 1984 Celebration of the Arts "COTA Cats" Scholarship Award.

Mr. Miller earned a B.A. degree in Music Merchandising from Mansfield University and after graduation from college, he joined the U.S. Army. While trained as an infantryman, Cory played electric bass in the U.S. Army Europe Soldier's Chorus, while serving in Germany from 1991-1995. He traveled to more than 14 European countries, performing with his unit at numerous festivals, as well as at the 1992 World Expo in Seville, Spain, and at the 50th Anniversary of D-Day in Normandy, France. Mr. Miller now resides in Florida, teaching science at an alternative school for at-risk students. In 2007, he earned a M.S. degree in Advanced Classroom Instruction from Capella University (Minneapolis, MN) and is now working toward a PH.D. in Education.

Robert Posten

Mr. Posten an ESHS graduate, Class of 1962. At East Stroudsburg High School, Bob played the trombone in the concert, marching and jazz bands under the direction of inaugural ESASD Music Hall of Fame inductee Robert Zellner. Mr. Posten received his degree from the music program at Lebanon Valley College in 1967, and earned an appointment as bass trombonist to the United States Naval Academy Band, serving from 1967-1971. After his discharge from the Navy, Mr. Posten co-founded the Annapolis Brass Quintet, the group that constituted the centerpiece of his career for 22 years. Bob performed with this distinguished ensemble in all 50 states, making 17 tours of Europe, and twice touring the Far East, India and North Africa for the U.S. State Department. Over the course of its existence, the Annapolis Brass Quintet commissioned and premiered 75 new works and recorded 15 albums. Among the honors this group received were the "Süddeutsche Zeitung" Newspaper Critics' Award and a United States Congressional proclamation honoring the ensemble.



Past inductees into the East Stroudsburg Area School district Music Hall of Fame have included: (2002) Doreen Derr Bondy, *Marguerite Cramer, John Eaton, *Bernice Nauman, Dr. Kenneth Raessler, *Clement Wiedinmyer, Robert Zellner; (2003) John E. Casagrande, Judith Farmer, Stuart Jones, David Lantz Jr., Melissa Mary Lengua, *Louis Millard; (2004) Suzanne Anderson, Sallie Ferree, Jere Lantz, Stanley R. Schoonover, Michael Silvoy; (2005) Michael L. Ehrlich, Tasitha ("Tassy") Newcomb Gilbert, Steven R. Mathiesen, Larry Zaccaro Jr.; (2006) Jesse Green, Jennifer Schoonover, Vincent Yanovitch; (2007) Dr. Katharine ("Katchie") Cartwright, Patrick C. Dorian and Rebecca DeSanto Taylor; (2008) Robert C. Hartman, Susan Farmer Talley, David Springfield and Ly Wilder Tartell. *-deceased