# Dr. Richard Nichols

This year's band clinician is the School of Professional and Technical Programs Dean at Tyler Junior College (Tyler, TX) since 2022. Richard Nichols previously served as Dean of Fine Arts and Communication at Butler Community College just outside of Wichita, Kansas. His musical background is quite diverse with areas of expertise in teaching, performing, composing, orchestrating, conducting, publishing and recording. He has served as a professor of music, as a performer with several major symphony orchestras in the US and abroad, as the director and editor of music publishing companies, as a conductor of choirs and orchestras, as a producer and director of over 25 commercially released recordings and as a composer of over 200 published compositions.

He completed a Doctorate of Musical Arts from The Ohio State University after receiving degrees from Southern Methodist University and Bob Jones University. Recently, he finished an MBA from Louisiana State University.

As a performer, he held appointments as principal horn with the Cape Philharmonic Orchestra in Cape Town, South Africa and with The United States Army Band “Pershing’s Own” in Washington, DC, where he performed for two US presidents and multiple foreign Heads of State. Additionally, he has played with the Dallas Symphony, Rochester Philharmonic, Jacksonville Symphony, Columbus Symphony, Boston Brass and has performed recitals and masterclasses at the Eastman School of Music, the North Carolina School of the Arts, Florida State University and the Odessa Conservatory in Ukraine.

While Director of Soundforth, a music publishing and recording company, he oversaw the production of choral, instrumental and keyboard sheet music and produced choral and instrumental recordings. He is currently Choral Editor for the Fred Bock Music Company.

As a composer, his list of commissions includes Stuart Neill (tenor, Metropolitan Opera), David Kim (concertmaster, Philadelphia Orchestra), Anne Martindale Williams (principal cello, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra) and the American Guild of Organists.

As a passionate advocate for careers in the arts, he travels the US speaking to high school students interested in pursuing the fine arts.