

DENNIS L. JOHNSON

Dennis L. Johnson is presently Director of Bands and Orchestra and Associate Professor of Music at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky. At Murray State he conducts the Chamber Winds, Symphonic Wind Ensemble, the University Orchestra and the pit orchestra for the operas and musicals. Additionally he serves as Executive Secretary and President-Elect for the *World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles* (WASBE). He has recently served as Kentucky State Chairman for the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) and state collegiate representative for the Kentucky Music Educator's Association (KMEA). Under Mr. Johnson's leadership the Murray State Wind Ensemble has made recent appearances for a special concert in Carnegie Hall; the College Band Directors National Association Convention and at the International Wind Band Conference in Manchester, England. This year his Orchestr appeared on Public Television in a special concert for the Governor of Kentucky. Upon completion of his undergraduate studies at The University of Michigan, Mr. Johnson spent seven years as Director of Bands in the public school systems of Boyne City and Traverse City, Michigan. His ensembles at those schools appeared at state and national conferences and received wide acclaim. In 1975 he was appointed Director of Bands and Personnel Coordinator for The Interlochen Center for the Arts. His development of the wind band program at the Arts Academy earned him high praise. Following four very successful years at Interlochen Mr. Johnson enrolled as the first D.M.A. Candidate in Instrumental Conducting at Michigan State University. Upon completion of the first year of the program, Mr. Johnson was offered the Director of Wind Ensembles position at Western Illinois University. In 1998, Phi Beta Mu honored Mr. Johnson as its "Outstanding Contributor to Bands". In February of the same year, Mr. Johnson was made a "Kentucky Colonel" by Governor Paul Patton. In May of 2000 Mr. Johnson was a guest clinician and conductor for the "Corso per Direzione de Banda" in Cremona, Italy. He has recently appeared as guest conductor for the Hartwick Music Camp in New York, the famed Interlochen Arts Camp in Interlochen, Michigan and for the "Festival Wind Honors Orchestra" in San Luis Obispo, California. This past Fall Professor Johnson spent two weeks in Austria working with bands and directors throughout that country. This Spring he will guest conduct in Taiwan. Mr. Johnson has accepted numerous invitations to conduct honor bands, orchestras and professional bands in Austria, England, Israel, Korea, Italy, The Netherlands, Hungary, Singapore, Switzerland, Canada and in most states throughout the U.S.