

JAZZ

FESTIVAL 2025



Steve Citta, BME
Jazz Festival Clinician

Steve Citta, BME, has taught instrumental music in Iowa for over 33 years and is a professional musician, arranger and former director of bands at Waterloo West High School. His jazz, concert and marching bands consistently earned Division I ratings and garnered numerous awards and honors throughout his 20 years at West High. Over his career, Steve's jazz bands have qualified for the Iowa Jazz Championships 17 times and were often in the top five making the finals in 1999. West High Jazz I was chosen to perform at the Iowa Bandmasters Convention in 1994 and five years later they had the honor of playing at the Iowa State Capitol for Governor Tom Vilsack's Inauguration.

Since retiring, Steve works extensively throughout the Midwest as a clinician and adjudicator. He continues to promote jazz education in our state by presenting clinics at various high schools and colleges including the Iowa Bandmasters Convention, the IMEA Conference and serves as an adjudicator for many Iowa jazz festivals including UNI's Tallcorn Jazz Festival, Coe College Jazz Summit, Paul McKee Jazz Festival and various IBA district festivals. Steve also works behind the scenes at the Iowa Jazz Championships each year.

Steve has performed with such notables as Red Skelton, Roger Williams, Myron Floren, the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra with Warren Covington, the Ashley Alexander Big Band, the Al Kahir Shrine Circus and the Bill Shepherd Combo and Big Band.

His professional affiliations include: Iowa Bandmasters Association, Northeast Iowa Bandmasters Association, Jazz Educators of Iowa and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Steve holds a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from the University of Northern Iowa and graduate hours from Illinois State University, Iowa State University, University of Iowa, and the University of Northern Iowa. Steve and his wife Mary live in Cedar Falls, Iowa.