

Jack Courtright

Trombonist, composer, arranger, educator

jackcourtrightmusic.com

Curriculum Vitae

Education

MM, University of North Texas in Jazz Trombone Performance (studio of Nick Finzer)	Class of 2022
BM, Eastman School of Music in Jazz Studies (studio of Mark Kellogg) and Applied Trombone (studio of Larry Zalkind)	Class of 2019

Directorships

Texas A&M University - Commerce Jazz Ensemble I and Jazz Ensemble II	2023-present
Jazz Ensemble II Director, Shell Lake Jazz Ensemble/Combo Camp	2022-2023
UNT Seven O’Clock Lab Band	2021-2022
UNT Eight O’Clock Lab Band	Spring 2021
UNT U-Tubes jazz trombone ensemble	2020-2022

Awards

Winner, UNT/Conn Selmer International Jazz Trombone Competition	November 2021
Winner, JJ Johnson International Trombone Competition by the International Trombone Association	July 2021
Winner, Kai Winding Jazz Trombone Ensemble Competition by the International Trombone Association (as director)	February 2021
Performer’s Certificate, Awarded by Eastman School of Music Brass Department	May 2019
Winner, National Solo Jazz Competition by the American Trombone Workshop	March 2018
Winner, Carl Fontana International Trombone Competition by the International Trombone Association	June 2016

Teaching Positions

Faculty, Eastman Summer Trombone Institute - presenting masterclasses on trombone fundamentals and improvisation, performing on faculty recitals	2024
Adjunct Faculty, Director of Jazz Ensembles, Texas A&M University - Commerce - directing Jazz Ensemble I and Jazz Ensemble II and teaching minor applied improvisation and arranging lessons	2023-present
Faculty, Shell Lake Arts Center Jazz Ensemble Camp - directing jazz ensemble 2, teaching trombone masterclasses and intro to big band arranging	2022-2023
Trombone Instructor, Northwest ISD - teaching trombone lessons and masterclasses to middle and high school students throughout the district	2022-present
Trombone Instructor, Little Elm ISD - teaching trombone lessons and masterclasses to middle and high school students throughout the district	2022-2024
Trombone Instructor, Carroll ISD - teaching jazz trombone lessons to high school students throughout the district	2022-2023
Instructor of Secondary Jazz Trombone (UNT) - taught jazz trombone lessons to undergraduate and graduate students in order to develop jazz trombone conception, style and improvisational skill	2020-2022
Teaching Assistant, Jazz Trombone Fundamentals (UNT) - assisted Prof. Finzer in a course designed to introduce non-majors to the building blocks of jazz style and improvisation	2021-2022
Instructor, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute - presenting lectures on the history of the jazz orchestra, the history of the trombone, and the music of John Coltrane	2021-2023
Faculty, Nick Finzer's Summer Jazz Trombone Bootcamp - presenting lectures on trombone fundamentals and rhythmic devices in improvisation, curated listening sessions	2021-2022
Guest Instructor, Shell Lake Summer Trombone Camp - taught classical and jazz trombone lessons, coached quartets and octets, presented on beginner jazz improvisation	2020-2021
Guest Instructor, Eastman Summer Jazz Studies - led daily trombone class covering fundamentals, warmup routines, listening and transcription	2019

Recording Credits (as leader/co-leader)

"The Approaching Coast" - SPACE	2022
---------------------------------	------

“The Plot Thickens” - U-Tubes jazz trombone ensemble	2021
“Non-Trivial Problem” - SPACE	2019

Recording Credits (as sideman)

“Lab ‘22” - UNT One O’Clock Lab Band	2022
“Lab ‘21” - UNT One O’Clock Lab Band	2021
*“Skydancer” - Lake Effect	2020
“Listen” - Tommy Gearhart	2020
“Gravity Leak” - Ben Britton	2020
*“Go Digital!” - The Saplings	2019
“Electric Miles” - Charles Pillow	2018
“The Saplings EP” - The Saplings	2017

*Performed and contributed horn arrangements

Lectures Presented

“The Life and Music of John Coltrane” - Osher Lifelong Learning Institute	Sep-Nov 2022
“(More) Rhythmic Devices in Improvisation ” - Nick Finzer Summer Jazz Trombone Bootcamp	June 2022
“Start Arranging for the Trombone!” - University of North Texas TNT Lecture Series	April 2022
“A Century of Swing: 100 Years of the Jazz Orchestra” - Osher Lifelong Learning Institute	Feb-Mar 2022
“Sousa, Salsa and Shostakovich: The Many Roles of the Trombone” - Osher Lifelong Learning Institute	2021-2023
“Rhythmic Devices in Improvisation” - Nick Finzer Summer Jazz Trombone Bootcamp	June 2021
“Trombone Fundamentals” - Nick Finzer Summer Jazz Trombone Bootcamp	June 2021
“Doodle Tonguing” - Eastman School of Music	Spring ‘17 and ‘18, Fall ‘22

Publications

“15 More Jazz Duets” for two trombones	September 2022
--	----------------

“15 Jazz Duets” for two trombones December 2021

Selected Compositions and Arrangements

“March Sinistra” for trombone quartet, commissioned by the Hohenfels Trombone Quartet (Rochester, NY) May 2024

“Better Earth’s Lullaby” for trombone choir, commissioned by Kappa Kappa Psi, Texas A&M University - Commerce January 2024

“Lullaby for an Old Friend” by Nick Finzer, arranged for the Nick Finzer Big Band January 2023

“This is for Albert” by Wayne Shorter, arranged for the ITF Jazz All-Stars (Steve Davis, Michael Dease, Ido Meshulam, Nick Finzer, Delfeayo Marsalis) and the Central Arkansas Jazz Orchestra July 2022

“We the People” by Nick Finzer, arranged for the Nick Finzer Big Band January 2022

“Lotus Blossom” by Billy Strayhorn, arranged for solo trombone and trombone ensemble for Ido Meshulam and the U-Tubes November 2021

“Armando’s Rhumba” by Chick Corea, arranged for solo trombone and trombone ensemble for Vincent Gardner (Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra) and the U-Tubes November 2020

“Marestones” by Reginald Chapman, arranged for solo bass trombone and trombone ensemble for Dr. Reginald Chapman (Lucky Chops, No BS Brass) and the U-Tubes November 2020

“Songs of Malice and Mirth” for brass ensemble, commissioned by Paul Tingley and Gabriel V Brass Ensemble July 2020

“The Viper and the File” for solo trombone and electronic accompaniment, commissioned by Dr. Laren Rudzinskas (manager, IWBC) January 2020

“Mystic Episodes” for trombone quartet, commissioned by the Broken Bones Quartet (Eastman School of Music) December 2019

“Luiza” by Antonio Carlos Jobim, arranged for trombone and piano, commissioned by Tim Smith (Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra) June 2019

Selected Performances (as trombonist)

Performed at International Trombone Festival as director and soloist with U-Tubes jazz trombone ensemble July 2022

Performances throughout Texas and Florida as Jazz Chair, One O’Clock Lab Band	2020-2022
Guest performer with the Glenn Miller Orchestra (lead trombone)	2021-2022
Performances in Frauenfeld, Saint Moritz, Basel (SWI) and Stuttgart (GER) as member of Generations Performance Unit 2019, dir. Adrian Mears	August 2019
Performances with NG2, Alex Matos, Johnny Rivera and DLG as member of Orquesta Antonetti	2018-20
Guest performer with Cirque du Soleil Wonderland Orchestra (2nd trombone)	December 2018
Generations Workshop big band directed by Maria Schneider (lead trombone)	October 2018
Performances at the Kennedy Center’s Millennium Stage, Marilyn Horne Museum and George Eastman House as member of the Amendous Quartet	2018-19
Performances in NY, VA, PA, NJ as member of The Saplings	2017-19
Trombonist aboard the NCL “Dawn” cruise ship	Summer 2016
Performances at Penn State, Eastman School of Music, Ithaca College as member of the Eastman Trombone Choir	2015-19
Performances with Dave Liebman, Bill Holman, Joe Magnarelli, Charles Pillow, Alan Ferber and Clay Jenkins as member of Eastman Jazz Ensemble	2015-19
Selected Performances (as composer/arranger)	
Big band arrangement of “Lullaby for an Old Friend” performed by the Strata Big Band ft. Nick Finzer at the International Trombone Festival	May 2024
Big band arrangement of “This is for Albert” performed by the ITF Jazz All-Stars and the Central Arkansas Jazz Orchestra at the International Trombone Festival	July 2022
Arrangements of “Para Volar” (Camila Meza), “My Favorite Things” (Rodgers/Hammerstein), “La Fiesta” and “Armando’s Rhumba” (Chick Corea) performed at International Trombone Festival	July 2022
Original composition “Lost to the World” recorded by the One O’Clock Lab Band on <i>Lab</i> ‘22	May 2022

Big band arrangement of “We, the People” (Nick Finzer) recorded by Nick Finzer Jazz Orchestra, album name TBA	April 2022
Premiered big band arrangements of “Satellite” (John Coltrane), “Lost to the World” (original) and “Real Fans Call Him Dave” (original) with Jack Courtright Big Band	March 2022
“Syeeda’s Song Flute” by John Coltrane, arr. Courtright performed by One O’Clock Lab Band	October 2021
“Armando’s Rhumba” by Chick Corea, arr. Courtright feat. Vincent Gardner and “Marestones” by Reginald Chapman, arr. Courtright feat. Reginald Chapman premiered at the 2nd Annual UNT Jazz Trombone Day	November 2020
“The Viper and the File” premiered at the 2020 Virtual Trombone Workshop by Lauren Rudzinskas	June 2020
“Three Mediterranean Folk Songs” performed by the Cramer Choir, dir. Mark Kellogg at the 2019 International Trombone Festival, Ball State, IN	July 2019
“We’ll Be Together Again” by Fischer/Lane arr. Courtright premiered at Kilbourn Hall, ESM by the Eastman Jazz Ensemble, dir. Alan Ferber	February 2019
“Fanfare, Andante and Dance” for trombone octet recorded at the Eastman School of Music, dir. Grant O’Brien	September 2019

Academic Awards/Positions

Graduate representative of the UNT Jazz Division on the Dean’s Student Advisory Council	2021-2022
Jazz Chair, One O’Clock Lab Band, dir. Alan Baylock	2020-2022
Selected for Steven Witser Award For Excellence by the Eastman Trombone Studio	May 2019
Inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda, Eastman Chapter	May 2019