

**THE MIDWEST CLINIC**  
*An International Band and Orchestra Conference*  
**Wednesday, December 14, 2005**  
**IMPROVING THE LOW BRASS SECTION WITH THE LOW BRASS ENSEMBLE**  
Harvey Phillips & Norlan Bewley

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am proud to share today's clinic session with Norlan Bewley, a multi-talented musician, composer, orchestrator, arranger, publisher, promoter, friend, and music educator. He is equally dedicated to each facet of his professional commitments. He is tireless in his pursuit of improved communication between music educators and the students they are charged to educate.

When parents ask, "Why should my son/daughter play an instrument and study music?" My response, "Because it's fun." Playing the tuba at age twelve was fun..... it still is. I soon discovered that the better others played their instruments, the better I played mine. I sought out the better players as a sure way to get better myself. And, the better we played as an ensemble, the more anxious we were to get together, with or without a teacher. We were inspired, and to get the full benefit of inspiration one must add perspiration. Talent doesn't make great musicians, only time and application can do that.

***Improving The Low Brass Section with the Low Brass Ensemble - Elementary, High School & Beyond***

Norlan Bewley has given much thought and experience to the preparation of today's demonstrations. If you follow this experience with your students and/or colleagues, the results will be impressive. As each student experiences improvements in the ensemble, their morale, self-esteem, pride, achievement and commitment will strengthen your program. Low Brass Ensembles, from duets to four-part mass Low Brass Choirs will flourish. Middle school beginners, high school students and beyond will endeavor to reach their performance potential. Discussion topics start to include tone quality, intonation, balance, blend, sub-division, rhythm, technique and style. Performing in Low Brass Ensembles will motivate players to listen and learn from one another.

Norlan Bewley is music director and principal composer-arranger for TOP BRASS (over 1,000 concerts), which he co-founded in 1979. For twenty years he has taught, performed on and composed for low brass. In the last ten years he has given more than 600 individual low brass students over 23,000 private lessons.

A graduate of Indiana University School of Music Norlan Bewley received scholarships to study with his mentor Harvey Phillips. He continues to serve as Associate Director of Harvey Phillips' ensembles including TUBACHRISTMAS, TUBASANTAS, TUBACOMPANY, and TUBASHOP QUARTET. He is the primary arranger of music for these ensembles. He edited "Carols for a Merry TubaChristmas" adding 14 carols to the original 18 arranged by Alec Wilder. Norlan was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for composition in 2005.

***Harvey G. Phillips***

Harvey Phillips and Norlan Bewley are clinicians for Holton and Martin instruments  
of the Conn-Selmer Corporation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
We express our appreciation and thanks to  
RICHARD SAUCEDO  
for lending us his Low Brass Section from  
THE CARMEL HIGH SCHOOL WIND SYMPHONY

