

**The Midwest Clinic
December 19-23, 2006**



THE ELUSIVE ENGMATIC EUPHONIUM (TIPS FOR THE BAND DIRECTOR)

Dr. Brian L. Bowman

**Regents Professor
The University of North Texas**

**Wilford Room - Hilton
Thursday December 21, 2006 11:00 a.m.
Friday, December 22 8:30 a.m.**

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Importance of the euphonium in the band world.

The euphonium is the most beautiful tenor soloist instrument in the band world.

- Difference between the euphonium and the baritone.
- Importance of tone quality development. (Euphonium means beautiful sound)

Basic euphonium (brass) teaching tips:

- **Tone quality:**
 - Embouchure basic formation: pitfalls.
 - Rim placement
 - Lack of "foundation"
 - Excessive movement
 - Clenched mouth (teeth)
 - Closed throat
 - Stretching the corners
 - Mouthpiece and visualizer use
- **Breathing**
 - Posture (standing and sitting-pillow)
 - Throat air vs. bottom-of-the-lung air.
 - Flow vs. support
- **Vibrato**
 - To use or not to use in the band section
 - How to produce (jaw or lip, hand, diaphragmatic)
 - When and how-to use
- **Benefits:**
 - Enhancing the musical shape of the sound.
 - Enhancing the ability to find the center of the pitch (intonation)
 - Preventing embouchure lock-down in the upper register.
- **Golden rules of Vibrato**
 1. Control the depth and speed
 2. Be able to turn it off.
- **Technique**
 - Fingers – position (holding a pencil)
 - Rhythm – clarity of technique
 - Slow Practice – developing “lightening technique”
- **Articulation and the Tongue**
 - Release vs. attacking the tone
 - Three basic problems affecting articulation clarity, speed and control:
 1. Chewing (chin moving)
 2. Embouchure (“Kissing” the mpc)
 3. Arching the tongue (snake-like)
 - Declare Tongue Independence Day!
 - Practice difficult tongued passages on single notes, then the changing notes.
 - Practice Forte to develop consistently even tone quality.
- **Selection of equipment:**
 - Mouthpieces
 - Avoiding “c” or shallow cups.
 - Making sure that they fit the shank.
 - Valves
 - 3 or 4 (in a row or side action 4th)
 - Compensating or non-compensating
 - Bell up or bell forward
 - Finish, lacquer vs. silver
 - Extra equipment - mutes, soft cases

Conclusion: The euphonium is capable of truly enhancing the sound and musicality of your ensemble. Encourage students to participate in solo and ensemble events and become members of the International Tuba and Euphonium Association.

Assisted by members of the University of North Texas Euphonium Studio
Elisa Harvey, Adam Lessard, Jamie Lipton,

Recommended Texts:

Guide to the Euphonium Repertoire: The Euphonium Source Book- Indiana Press (NEW)
Bevan, Clifford - *The Tuba Family*, (2nd edition) Piccolo Press
Bowman, Brian and J.D. Ployhar - *Practical Hints on Playing the Baritone*. Belwin Mills.
Lehman, Art - *The Art of Euphonium Playing, Volume I (book only)* Tuba-Euphonium Press
Lehman, Art - *The Art of Euphonium Playing, Volume II (book and record)* Tuba-Euphonium Press
Lehman, Art/Werden, David *The Brass Musician*. Cimmaron Music Press
Miles, David - *An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Contemporary Euphonium Solo Literature by American Composers*.
Tuba-Euphonium Press
Phillips, Harvey and Winkle - *The Art of Tuba and Euphonium* Summy-Birchard
Rose, William - *Studio Class Manual* Tuba-Euphonium Press
Werden, David - *Scoring for Euphonium*. Tuba-Euphonium Press
Werden, David, and Denis Winter - *Euphonium Music Guide* Tuba-Euphonium Press

Web Resources

A comprehensive site of articles, recordings, music etc for the euphonium: <http://www.dwerden.com/>
Baritone, Euphonium Differences: <http://www.dwerden.com/eu-articles-bareuph.cfm>
Compensating System: <http://www.dwerden.com/eu-articles-comp.cfm>
Steven Mead (English Euphonium Virtuoso) Web Site: <http://www.euphonium.net/>
Adam Frey (International Euphonium Institute) Soloist, Recordings and Music: <http://euphonium.com/index.htm>
International Tuba and Euphonium Association: <http://www.iteaonline.org/>
Sources of Music: <http://www.tubaeuphoniumpress.com/>

Euphonium Recordings: Tap Music Company: <http://www.tapmusic.com/>

Mutes:

TTU Mutes: <http://orgs.tntech.edu/tuba/default.asp?page=mutes>
Denis Wick: <http://www.deniswick.com/index.cfm>
Trumcor: https://www.trumcor.com/shop?product_category=Euphonium+Mutes
Yamaha Silent Brass:
Schlipf mutes: <http://www.tuba-mute.com/index.php?lang=en&page=combimutesir1>

Recommended Materials:

Warm-up and Embouchure Building

Remington – Warm up Exercises – Accura
Lin, Bai - Lip Flexibilities for all Brass Instruments – Balquhider (Carl Fischer)
Colin, Charles – Advanced Lip Flexibilities - Colin
Johnson, Keith – Progressive Studies for the High Register – Gore

Method and Etude Books

Beeler, Walter – Method for Baritone (Euphonium) – Alfred
Voxman/Gower-Rubank Advanced Method-Leonard
Tyrell – 40 Progressive Studies – Boosey & Hawkes
Voxman – Selected Studies – Leonard
Arbans-Complete Method (Alessi/Bowman) – Encore
Fink, R – From Treble to Bass Clef – Accura
Kopprasch - Selected Studies for Trombone – Carl Fisher
Bordogni/Rochut - Melodious Etudes (vol 1.) – Carl Fisher
Clarke, H./Gordon – Technical Studies – Carl Fisher

Duets:

Voxman – Selected Duets (vol 1 & 2) – Rubank
Amsden – Celebrated Duets – Barnhouse

Solos:

See *Guide to the Euphonium Repertoire: The Euphonium Source Book*- Indiana Press (NEW)

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