



Roger Tabler, Music Director, founded the Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra in 1993. Mr. Tabler holds a Master's in Piano from Duquesne University, and has a Bachelor's in Music Education with concentrations in horn and piano from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He has also

studied with Maestro Mark Gibson at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. Mr. Tabler was the Music Director of the McKeesport Symphony Orchestra from 2003 - 2005. He served as Music Director of the San Damiano Consort from 1993-1995, and has been the artistic leader of the Pittsburgh Philharmonic since 1996. Mr. Tabler has conducted for composers Karel Husa, Libby Larsen, and Samuel Jones, and Mr. Tabler is a contributing author to the *Journal of the Conductor's Guild*. He has served on the music faculty of the Mt. Lebanon School District since 1991, and twice served on the faculty of the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Arts.




George Lepsch, Assistant Conductor is a graduate of Duquesne University where he earned a Master of Music in Euphonium performance as well as a Bachelor of Science in Music Education. Mr. Lepsch spent the majority of his teaching career as Director of Bands at McKeesport Area

HS. He also has considerable experience as an orchestral conductor, choral conductor, and private brass instructor.



Mario Butera, Orchestra Manager, is a graduate of Youngstown State University where he earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance. During his tenure at YSU, Mr. Butera has performed with the Dana Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Concert Band, Percussion Ensemble, and

Symphonic Wind Ensemble. He has assisted in the management of projects such as the PAS Ohio Day of Percussion and the recent commissioning of a percussion and saxophone piece by composer John Hollenbeck. Being a member of the S'mosa Percussion Quartet, an in-residence group at Youngstown State, has given Mr. Butera the wonderful opportunity to be a part of performances and instructional clinics at various K-12 schools throughout NE Ohio and Western PA. Mr. Butera teaches privately, in addition to holding teaching positions in the West Allegheny Marching Pride and West Allegheny Percussion Ensemble, the Henry H. Stambaugh Youth Concert Band, and Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra. He also works as the Percussion Coordinator and Orchestra Librarian for PYPO.

Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra
P. O. Box 15675, Pittsburgh, PA 15244
412-403-0002
www.pyppo.org  staff@pyppo.org



JUNIOR BRASS ENSEMBLE

(Grades 5 - 8)



2009 - 2010 Audition Application

**Saturday,
November 21, 2009**

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Audition Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Age: _____ Grade: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Instrument: _____

School: _____

Name & Address of
Private Teacher: _____



1. Call Carol Slopek, Executive Director, at 412-403-0002 to schedule your audition appointment.
2. Complete application and mail with \$15 audition fee to PYPO, P.O. Box 15675, Pittsburgh, PA 15244 prior to your audition appointment.
3. Auditions will take place at Chartiers Valley Intermediate School, 2030 Swallow Hill Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220.

About Us...

The Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra originated as Pittsburgh's PHOENIX Youth Festival Orchestra and was founded by Maestro Roger Tabler in 1993 as the country's first youth pops orchestra. In 2002, the name was changed to the Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra.

Beginning in January 2010, the Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra will be starting a Junior Brass Ensemble. Rehearsals will be conducted from 11:00 AM—12:00 PM beginning January 9, 2010 and concluding in March.

Tuition for the initial 2009-2010 season will be \$100.00.

This ensemble will be dedicated to training young brass players for later entry into the Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra Brass Ensemble. **Auditions are open to the following instrumentalists in grades 5—8.**

Trumpet

Trombone

Tuba

French Horn

Baritone / Euphonium*

In this ensemble, students will learn about the basics of ensemble playing and will develop skills including:

- Counting rhythms accurately in order to play together more effectively
- Listening and tuning an instrument in relation to the rest of the group
- Playing melodies more effectively
- Playing accompaniment parts more effectively which will include how to listen and respond to the other musicians while performing your own musical part within the ensemble
- Developing good breathing practices which will enhance producing a better, more relaxed and easy sound on your instrument

The Junior Brass Ensemble, under the direction of Bruce Lazier, will perform on one concert** with the Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Youth Pops Orchestra Brass Ensemble.

Call Carol Slopek, Executive Director, at 412-403-0002 to set-up your audition appointment.

**Baritone / Euphonium players must double on trombone.*

***Other performance opportunities may become available. The number of performances will not exceed three this season*

Audition Requirements

Applicants must prepare at least one, but may choose to prepare both of the following solos:

**“Smooth As Glass”
“Habanera”**

along with four scales that each student must learn for their audition.

The audition music and scales are available on the PYPO website at www.pypo.org.



Staff



Bruce Lazier, Brass, has been a professional trombonist and music educator for over thirty five years. His performance experience includes such notable artists as Sammy Davis, Jr., Lisa Minnelli and Joel Gray, Gladys Knight and the Pips, and the Temptations. He has performed in “pops” orchestras backing such entertainers as Andy

Williams and Ella Fitzgerald. John Williams and Aaron Copland are two of the composer/conductors under which Mr. Lazier has performed. Mr. Lazier's education credentials include a Masters Degree in classical trombone performance from Yale University. He also spent a summer in Banff, Alberta, Canada studying with the Canadian Brass at the Banff Centre for the Arts. He is currently the owner of Lazier's Harmony Music Studios in Harmony, PA. At the studio Mr. Lazier teaches the low brass students in one-on-one sessions. In addition, he coaches his students in chamber music groups on a regular basis. Mr. Lazier has past students currently in the West Point Band, the Colorado Symphony and the Pacific Symphony in California. Though in recent years, he has considered himself primarily a music educator, Mr. Lazier spends many weekends performing with Sputzy and the Soul Providers as well as with numerous classically oriented brass ensembles based in Western PA and Eastern Ohio.