

The Band Director's Notebook

Official Publication of the High School Band Director's National Association
501 C-3 Non Profit Organization

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Presenting the 2012 Hall of Fame Inductees

The H.S.B.D.N.A. Board of Directors is pleased to announce five new members into the **National High School Band Director's Hall Fame** for 2012.

Bruce Dinkins (Texas); **Bud McCormick** (New Jersey); **Mike Nakasone** (Hawaii); **Archie Sharretts** (Georgia); and **Ed Watkins** (Alabama) will be formally inducted into the Hall of Fame July 27, 2013. The event will be held in Columbus, Georgia at the Columbus Trade and Convention Center Sycamore Concert Hall.

HSBDNA Officers, Dr. Oliver Boone and Harold Blankenship, will host the formal induction presentation. Guests from six states are expected to be in attendance as the members and family members will celebrate the event. Each member will receive the Hall of Fame Member Plate as well as a desk plate and medal. Executive Director Boone will pin each member with their lapel pin as Associate Director Blankenship will place the Hall of Fame medal around

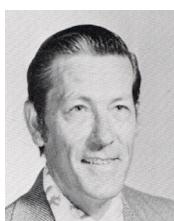
the neck of each recipient.

The Official Band for the event will be the Bob Barr Community Band of Columbus, Georgia. The band is under the direction of Fred Catchings.

Each member will conduct the band in a selection as the event will be taped for television.

The event will mark the 28th Annual Ceremony of the Hall of Fame.

The event is sponsored by a grant made possible by the Columbus Municipal Arts Society and the Bradley Turner Foundation both of Columbus, Georgia.



L-R: Bruce Dinkins, Archie Sharretts, Mike Nakasone, Bud McCormick and Ed Watkins

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Michael Nakasone Receives John M. Long Award

By Ashley White

Michael Nakasone of Punaohou High School –Honolulu, Hawaii has been named the **Nation's Most Outstanding Director** by the High School Band Director's National Association.

The award is named for the

legendary bandmaster Dr. John M. Long. (Alabama) Long is the Director Emeritus of the Troy University Bands and is a member of the American Bandmasters Association. Long is a 1997 recipient of the Hall of Fame for Distinguished

Band Conductors and a 2005 recipient of the High School Band Director's Hall of Fame.

"I am humbled by this honor," stated Nakasone. " Dr. Long is an amazing friend. He is truly a legend in the band field and to named for this honor is an experience beyond belief".

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Leah Field photo: info@csdnews.com

Brass Player Improvement Techniques

By Kurt Brass Thompson



From our Facebook Page

You've heard about it. You gave it a try, maybe even a few tries, but still, it seems like one of those grey areas. You think to yourself: **"Why all the fuss about tongue level?** It doesn't do anything for me."

Unless your tongue is much, much smaller, shorter than average....Tongue Arch is for you.
Unless your Oral Cavity is much, much larger than average, Tongue Arch is for you.

Cheer up! Look: So very many brass musicians have given the tongue arch, tongue level thing a go, but failed. They think they just don't have they have the talent or the ability to figure this out plus they cannot even tell if they are doing it right or not. This particular installment in the Brass Improvement Email Series will lead you on the correct path to figuring things out.

In order to understand why tongue arch is so important it is necessary to understand that **there are 3 stages to compressing air**. Why compress air? Faster moving air will vibrate pitch faster resulting in higher tones. It is not THE answer to playing higher notes, but very , very important.

Compression has 3 stages and a separate email installment will cover compressing air. However, you should at least be familiar with the basics:

- Origins of Compression: Diaphragm**
- Middle Stage of Compression: Tongue Arch**
- Last Stage of Compression: Aperture**

You must advance and strengthen all stages of compression for optimum fast air speed.

Goal:

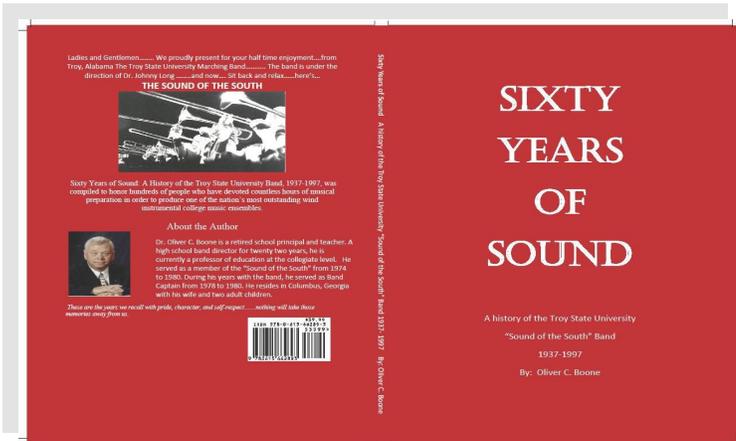
Begin to notice your tongue when you play. Pay more attention to your tongue when you are holding out half and whole notes. Where is the tip of your tongue? Where is the middle? Is it the same when you are in the low register as the high register?

Assignment:

Write this down on paper. You learn better and retention is increased when you involve more senses and writing things out is one way to accomplish this:

Record your observations from the goal above. Just don't go through the motions or think about it...You really got to do this right if you want to change and learn what masters of upper register already know!

If you missed any previous brass improvement email, you can easily find all the rest by going here: [Brass Improvement Email Series](#) and please give us a **"like"** when you get there.



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Spotlight on Michael Nakasone



Cont from page 1

Mike Nakasone has been described as a shy and humble man who is most comfortable performing with his back to the audience. Yet, through his quiet character and disposition, he is a giant in the field of music.

Michael Nakasone began his career in 1968 as an intermediate school band director and in 1973 he would become a high school band director. In 1977 he became the director for Pearl City High School where his career would begin to flourish.

Under Nakasone's direction, the Pearl City Band became world renown performing in the Aloha Festival Parade (Hawaii); the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (New York); the Ginza Parade (Tokyo); and the Tournament of Roses Parade (California).



Michael Nakasone

John M. Long National Band Award
Nation's Finest Band Director 2012

Winners of the Long Award

2011 **Earl Shaffer, Jr.**
Virginia-Cosby Titan Band
2012 **Michael Nakasone**
Hawaii-Punahou Band



John M. Long presents Earl Shaffer with National Award in 2011

Recognitions by his programs include the 1992 John Philip Sousa Flag of Honor which is the highest international recognition of a high school for excellence in concert performance. In 1995, the Band World Legion of Honor recognized Nakasone as one of the ten best band directors in the nation. In 1996, he was named the Hawaii Department of Education Teacher of the Year. In 2005 he was appointed to the Royal Hawaiian Band and he is the only Bandmaster of the Royal Hawaiian Band to have had the distinction of being invited into the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.

In his own words, Mike Nakasone states that he can help students realize the importance of contributing to the community while experiencing the pleasure of knowing they have brought joy to those who hear the music. "As a teacher, I am always looking for ways to improve and to include more students in music. When I give my best, my students give their best.

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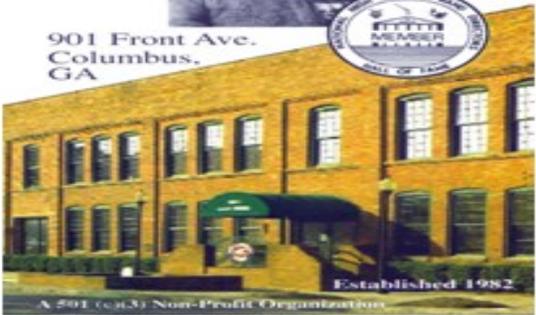
**The National High School
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*Honoring the Nation's Finest
Band Directors*

The National High School Band Director's Hall of Fame is a division of the High School Band Directors National Association, a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. The Hall of Fame is open to all persons who qualify professionally and meet the stipulations for membership regardless of race or gender. It is voted free for the honorees, a laurel for their careers, and, an endorsement of their musical acumen and accomplishments.

National Hall of Fame
Located in the historic district of Columbus, Georgia on the downtown campus of Columbus State University. Across from the Visitors Bureau & The Trade & Convention Center



**901 Front Ave.
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GA**



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A 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit Organization

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