



TALENTED PERCUSSIONIST AND GRADUATE STUDENT JOHN HERMANSON PERFORMS IN WIND ENSEMBLE INVITATIONAL CONCERT

John Hermanson was born and raised in Rapid City, South Dakota. He attended Rapid City Central High School, where he participated in Marching Bands, Concert Bands, Jazz Bands, Concert Choir, and Theatre. He was drum major of the CHS Marching Band and a section leader in the CHS Symphonic Band.

John knew that he wanted to make music his life from an early age. While he was in middle school, he had two fantastic choir teachers that inspired him to become a music educator. When he moved on to high school, he was further inspired by his band teacher to go into music education. He remains close to Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Fischer, and Mr. Bray.

John started his musical career in the 5th grade. His parents convinced him to play an instrument, and he chose percussion. He has now been playing percussion for over 15 years, and he has enjoyed every second of it. He graduated with a Bachelor's degree in music education from Colorado State University in 2006, and returned for his Master's degree in Conducting and Education, which he will finish in May of 2008.

John has been at Colorado State for seven years now, and he has enjoyed watching the music program grow and being a part of its growth. He has enjoyed his time at CSU very much, and he is very fond of the personal attention that each student receives here.

"Every student has contact with full professors in this department. It is rare to find students being taught by graduate students in a music class. This is a major strength for CSU," says John.

John made the CSU Wind Ensemble as a freshman, and has been a part of that group ever since. The Wind Ensemble has given him a chance to play some of the greatest band literature out there. "There is a nice mix of contemporary music, along with some of the fantastic band classics," he says. John has enjoyed watching his mentor, Dr. J Steven Moore, conduct and manage this ensemble for the last seven years.

In their annual High School Invitational concert, the **Wind Ensemble** welcomes the **Fossil Ridge High School Wind Symphony** under the direction of conductor Dan Berard for a concert on **Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Griffin Concert Hall of the University Center for the Arts**. The concert includes a performance of *Does She Know?* by Jay Rees. This work was written as a memorial to Sam Huff, a dancer, flutist, and the drum major of the Mountain View High School marching band in Tuscon, Arizona, who enlisted in the Army and was killed in Baghdad in 2005.

John says, "The annual High School Invitational Concert is a great way to join with the Fort Collins community. It is great for high school students to get to play along side their college counterparts, and it's really nice for the parents to get to see that. Making music together is always the best part of any concert, but this concert offers a very unique opportunity for people of many different ages to come together and create a moment in music."

[Buy Tickets to the Wind Ensemble Invitational Concert with Fossil Ridge High School Wind Symphony](#)

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