



DR. J. WILLIAM NICHOLAS

Director of Bands, Instructor, Music

Low Brass, Music Appreciation, Music Theory, Conducting

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Nicholas earned the Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) in band conducting at the University of South Carolina. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from Florida A&M University and Florida State University. His professional affiliations include the Golden Key International Honor Society, National Association for Music Education, and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity.

Nicholas recently served as the Adjunct Director of Bands at Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina, where he conducted the Wind Ensemble and taught instrumental conducting. As an avid tuba player, Nicholas most recently performed as an on-call musician for several churches in the Orlando area. During his undergraduate study, he served as a principal tubist in the Florida A&M University Wind Ensemble and performed in numerous University chamber ensembles and chamber ensembles around the "Big Bend."

Nicholas is well-known in the secondary school band community; he has arranged for several bands across the southeastern United States over the last decade, including over ten high schools. From 2014 to 2019, he served as Director of Bands at Jones High School in Orlando, Florida. He grew the band program to 110 students, significantly increased student participation in audition-based honor bands, and earned consistent superior ratings on the District and State level. In 2018, in conjunction with the Jones High School Wind Ensemble, the Jones High School Concert Choir, garnered national attention on the "Ellen" show after receiving a \$100,000 donation to fund a trip to perform at Carnegie Hall. Additionally, he has arranged for the Edward Waters College "Triple Threat" Marching Band and the Allen University "Band of Gold" Marching Band. Nicholas has also served as a Session Coordinator for presentations at the Florida Music Educators Association Conference.