

## Fall 2024 – Clinician Bios

**Chris Bennett** is entering his nineteenth year of teaching and his eleventh year at Rogers Middle and Berry Miller Junior High Schools.

In 2024, the Honors Band at Berry Miller received its fifteenth consecutive UIL Sweepstakes Award and performed in the Music for All National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis. The Berry Miller Band Program received the 2022 John Philip Sousa Foundation Sudler Cup Award for long-term and continuous excellence in MS/JH Band education and performance.

Before coming to Pearland, Mr. Bennett was the director of bands at Bayside Intermediate School and assistant band director at League City Intermediate and Baines Middle Schools.

His bands have consistently received the UIL Sweepstakes Award and several Best-in-Class Awards. His bands at Berry Miller and Bayside have been consistent TMEA CC/CCC Honor Band Finalists, placing 4th, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 14<sup>th</sup>, as well as being selected as a National Winner in the Foundation for Music Education – Mark of Excellence competition in the AA and New Music Divisions on multiple occasions.

Mr. Bennett attended the University of Houston and performed with the Spirit of Houston Marching Band and Moores School of Music Wind Ensemble. Mr. Bennett graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2005. His mentors include Tom Bennett, Eddie Green, John Benzer, David Bertman, Susan Scarborough, Greg Dick, Wade McDonald, Jack Fariss, and Doug Eger.

Mr. Bennett is a member of the TMEA, TBA, TMAA, and Phi Beta Mu (Alpha Chapter), and he resides in Friendswood with his wife, Pri, and their seven rescue animals.

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After graduating with a degree in Music Education from Sam Houston State University in 1979, **Susan Scarborough** began her teaching career at Bleyl Junior High School in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD where she spent fifteen years. In 1995 Mrs. Scarborough moved to Doerre Intermediate School in Klein ISD where she taught until her retirement in 2008.

Bands under her direction have been consistent festival and UIL Sweepstakes Award winners. In both 2004 and 2006 the Doerre Honor Band placed 1st runner up in the Texas Music Educators Association CCC Honor Band competition. Her band performed at the prestigious International Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago Illinois in December 2006.

Mrs. Scarborough served for seven years on the Board of Directors of the Texas Bandmasters Association and in 2005 she was president. She is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association; she is an active clinician and adjudicator throughout the state and is a member of Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu and the Texas Music Adjudicators Association. In 2022 she was selected by the TBA Board of Directors as a 2022 Meritorious Award winner, and she was inducted into Phi Beta Mu Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame.

For the past fifteen years she has done freelance work as a band consultant/clinician and mentor to young teachers across the state. When she's not working you will find her playing with her three precious grandsons and visiting with family or traveling the world with her husband James.