

About Joe Brennan:

Joe received his Bachelors and Masters degrees in Music Education from Temple University studying violin with Julian Meyer while also playing regularly in ensembles on trumpet. Joe is the director of the string program at Haverford Middle and High Schools, located in suburban Philadelphia; a position he has held for the past 35 years. He directs five orchestras at the secondary level, and teaches general music at the Middle School. In addition to his teaching duties, Joe is the Music Department Co-Chair for the School District of Haverford Township. While at Haverford, Joe has brought many string chamber ensembles and orchestras to perform at Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) annual state conventions. In 2006, Joe was recognized by PMEA with the Citation of Excellence Award. The Haverford High School Orchestra has participated in a "Side-by-Side" rehearsal and performance with the Philadelphia Orchestra as well as having represented the State of Pennsylvania by performing in *America's 400th Anniversary*, a national event, with President George Bush in attendance, to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in the US, namely Jamestown.

Joe is a former President of the Pennsylvania/Delaware Chapter of ASTA and in 2018 was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for an Individual by the chapter. He is also the former director of the Chamber Strings at Montgomery County Community College. Joe has presented sessions at American String Teachers Association (ASTA) national conferences, MidWest Clinics, National Assoc. for Music Education (NAfME) conferences, Texas Music Educators Association state conferences as well as numerous other state conferences. Joe has twice been chosen to attend the Juilliard School's "Conductors Workshop for Music Educators". He continues to be a guest conductor and clinician for string festivals.

Prior to coming to Haverford, Joe taught a Suzuki program in Readington Twp. School District in New Jersey. For 24 years Joe had been the music director, church choir director, and organist at St. Pius X Church in Broomall, PA. Prior to his post at St. Pius X, Joe held a similar position at the Church of the Atonement Episcopal Church for 10 years. He continually performs as a violinist and trumpeter throughout the Philadelphia area. Joe is a former Music Specialist with the Wilmington chapter of The Barbershop Harmony Society. Joe lives in Hainesport, New Jersey with his wife and children and enjoys sports and doing many DIY homeowner projects. Since being a kidney donor in 1997, Joe, has been an advocate for organ donor awareness. Joe is a cancer survivor and supports the Leukemia Lymphoma Society (LLS).

