

**About Joe Brennan:**

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 31 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 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*, a national event, with President Bush in attendance, to commemorate the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first permanent English settlement in the US, namely Jamestown.

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. He is also the director of the Chamber Strings at Montgomery County Community College. Joe is currently the Immediate Past-President of the Pennsylvania/Delaware Chapter of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). He has presented sessions at ASTA national conferences, MidWest Clinics, NafME conferences, as well as many state music educator association conferences in Texas, Alabama, Missouri to name a few. Joe continues to be a guest conductor and clinician for various string festivals. He has twice been chosen to attend the Juilliard School's "Conductors Workshop for Music Educators".

Joe is the former music director, organist, and choir director at St. Pius X Church in Broomall, PA. He continually performs as a violinist and trumpeter throughout the Philadelphia area. Joe is a former competing quartet singer in the Barbershop Harmony Society (BHS). Joe lives in Hainesport, New Jersey with his wife and children and enjoys doing many DIY homeowner projects. In 1997, Joe donated a kidney to his late older sister. Since then, Joe has been an advocate for organ donor awareness.