

Kevin A. Nichols
School of Music
Associate Professor

Education

January 2002 – present Doctorate of Musical Arts (ABD). University of Iowa. Iowa City,
IA Percussion Performance and Pedagogy

September 1991 – June 1993 Master of Music. Northwestern University. Evanston, IL
Percussion Performance and Jazz Pedagogy

September 1987 - May 1991 Bachelor of Music. Illinois Wesleyan University. Bloomington,
IL. Percussion Performance

Employment/Experience

- **University Teaching** (include courses taught with title & number)
August 2002 – present: Associate Professor of Music, Percussion. Western
Illinois University. Macomb, IL
Applied Instruction (MUS 229, 429, 529): Undergraduate and graduate
percussion studies
Ensemble Instruction: Direct Percussion Ensemble (MUS123); Coach
Jazz Combos (MUS127); Arranger/Instructor for the Marching Band
Drumline (MUS116)
Classroom Instruction: Percussion Methods Course(MUS137); Multi-
cultural percussion Methods (MUS157); and *Music in World Cultures*
(MUS394)

August 1998 – Jul 2002: Assistant Director of Bands. Western Illinois
University. Macomb, IL

Ensemble Instruction: Direct the Jazz Band (MUS117) , Percussion Ensemble (MUS123), and Basketball Band (MUS118);
Arranger/Instructor for the Marching Band Drumline (MUS116); Assist in organizing and coaching of the Jazz Combos (MUS127)
Classroom Instruction: Percussion Methods Course (MUS137); Drum Set Master class (MUS492); and *What to Listen for in Music* (MUS190)

September 1994 – July 1998: Director of Percussion Studies. Illinois Wesleyan University. Bloomington, IL

Private Instruction: Percussion studies (Concert and Jazz)
Ensemble Instruction: Percussion Ensemble and Pep Band
Classroom Instruction: Percussion Methods Course

Scholarly/Creative Activities

- **Non-refereed Regional Performances**

April 1999 - present Peoria Symphony Orchestra. Section percussionist/Assistant Timpanist/Drum set specialist. Peoria, IL
June 2011 Heritage Ensemble *Juneteenth Celebration*. Peoria, IL
February 2011 Avanti Guitar Trio. CoFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL
February 2011 Darin Kamstra Solo Percussion Recital. CoFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL
November 2010 Tunkul Percussiones Mexicano. CoFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL
May 2009 Festival Supporting Artist. Drum set. International Horn Symposium. Macomb, IL
April 2009 Bradley University Percussion Ensemble. Guest Drum Set Artist. Peoria, IL
April 2009 John Cooper Jazz Orchestra. *Baecker Jazz Mass*. John Cooper, composer/director.
May 2008 Hopper Jazztet. El Paso High School. El Paso, IL

May 2008 Hopper Jazztet. Orion High School. Orion, IL

November 2008 Bureau of Culture Affairs: *Jazz in the Movies*, featuring the Hopper Jazztet. Macomb, IL

September 2008 Hopper Jazztet. *Al Sear's Jazz Festival*, Macomb, IL

September 2008 “Rocky Horror Picture Show” Drum set performer.

June – July 2008 Summer Music Theatre. Drum set performer. Western Illinois University. Macomb, IL

December 2007 Marie Osmond’s *Magic of Christmas*. Percussionist. John Hutchens, contractor. Springfield, IL

November 2007 Bureau of Culture Affairs: *Jazz Classics*, featuring the Hopper Jazztet. Macomb, IL

October 2007 John Cooper Jazz Orchestra. *Baecker Jazz Mass*. John Cooper, composer/director. Moline, IL

September 2007 Hopper Jazztet. *Al Sear's Jazz Festival*, Macomb, IL

May 2007 BHS Jazz Showcase. Featured performer, Latin Percussion. Bolingbrook High School

November 2006 Bureau of Culture Affairs: *Jazz in the Movies* featuring the Hopper Jazztet. Macomb, IL

September 2006 Hopper Jazztet. *Al Sear's Jazz Festival*, Macomb, IL

April 2006 “The Last Chance Concert” presented by the University of Iowa Percussion Studies. Iowa City, IA

April 2006 University of Iowa Chamber Orchestra. Iowa City, IA

March 2006 Hopper Jazztet. Drum set. COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

October 2005 *Concerto pour Batterie et Petite Orchestre* by Darius Milhaud. Solo Percussionist, WIU Symphony Orchestra, Dr. Bruce Briney, conductor. Macomb, IL

September 2005 Beale Street Jazz Band (Memphis, TN) and the Hopper Jazztet. *Al Sear's Jazz Festival*. Macomb, IL

March 2005 Hopper Jazztet. Drum set. COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

September 2004 Hopper Jazztet. *Al Sear's Jazz Festival*. Macomb, IL

July 2004 Solo Percussion Recital. Harper Recital Hall. Iowa City, IA

April 2004 Solo Percussion Recital. COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

April 2004 Hopper Jazztet. Drum set. COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

April 2004 Virginia Armstrong DMA Percussion Recital. Assisting
Percussionist. Iowa City, IA

April 2004 Hopper Jazztet. Drum set. Fenton HS Jazz Concert. Bensenville, IL

March 2004 Hopper Jazztet. Drum set. Naperville Central HS Jazz Night.
Naperville, IL

March 2004 Hopper Jazztet. Drum set. Herscher HS Jazz Festival. Herscher, IL

March 2004 Hopper Jazztet. Drum set. Canton HS Jazz Night. Canton, IL

November 2003 Hopper Jazztet. Drum set. Peoria Jazz All-Stars Concert. Peoria,
IL.

October 2003 University of Iowa Graduate Percussion Ensemble. Iowa City, IA

September 2003 Peoria Symphony Orchestra. Featured solo percussionist,
Creation du Monde by Darius Milhaud and *Music for Theatre* by Aaron
Copland. Peoria, IL.

September 2003 Hopper Jazztet. *Al Sear's Jazz Festival*. Macomb, IL

May 2003 Eric Ring DMA Bassoon Recital. Guest Percussionist. Iowa City, IA

March 2003 Chamber Percussion Recital. Harper Recital Hall. Iowa City, IA

February 2003 Chamber Percussion Recital. COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

February 2003 WIU Jazz Studio Orchestra performance at Jazz Fest 2003. Guest
Drum set performer. Macomb, IL

February 2003 John Cooper Jazztet. Peoria, IL.

February 2003 Douglass Huff Faculty Bassoon Recital. Guest percussionist.
COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

December 2002 John Mindeman Faculty Trombone Recital and premier
performance of *Prelude, Scherzo, Elegy and Finale* by Dr. Randall E.
Faust. Percussionist. COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

November 2002 IMEA District V Jazz Festival. Senior Jazz Band II Director.
Charleston, IL

September 2002 Hopper Jazztet. *Al Sear's Jazz Festival*. Macomb, IL

May 2002 WIU Jazz Studio Orchestra concert. Guest vibraphonist. COFAC
 Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

April 2002 *Marriage of Figaro*. Timpanist. University of Iowa Symphony
 Orchestra. Iowa City, IA

March 2002 John Vana Faculty Saxophone Recital. COFAC Recital Hall.
 Macomb, IL

March 2002 Solo Percussion Recital. Harper Recital Hall. Iowa City, IA

March 2002 Solo Percussion Recital. COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

March 2002 New Music Festival 2002. COFAC Recital Hall. Macomb, IL

January 2002 Terry Solomonson. Faculty Tuba Recital. COFAC Recital Hall.
 Macomb, IL

November 2001 Knox-Galesburg Symphony. Bruce Polay. Music Director.
 Galesburg, IL

May 2001 Galesburg Symphony Chorus. Section Percussionist. Galesburg, IL

April 2001 Central Illinois Youth Symphony. Percussion Coordinator/Director.
 Performances at Manual High School (Peoria, IL) and Bertha Franks
 Performing Arts Center (Morton, IL)

March 2001 Vana-Nichols Duo Sax/Percussion Recital. Moline, IL

February 2001 Faculty Chamber Series Recital. Macomb, IL

February 2001 Monte Belknap Faculty Violin Recital. Percussionist. Macomb, IL

October 2000 Andrea Redcay Faculty Flute Recital. Percussionist. Macomb, IL

July 2000 Central Illinois Jazz Society Big Band. Normal, IL

April 2000 Faculty Chamber Series Recital. Macomb, IL

April 2000 Dr. Randy Faust Faculty Horn Recital. Macomb, IL

January 2000 Douglass Huff Faculty Bassoon Recital. Macomb, IL

November 1999 *Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion* by Béla Bartók. Tammie
 Walker Doctoral Chamber Recital. Champaign, IL

October 1999 *Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion* by Béla Bartók. Faculty
 Chamber Series Recital. Macomb, IL

September 1999 Eric Ginsberg Faculty Clarinet Recital. Macomb, IL

Conference Presentations

- **Non-refereed**

November 2009 “Drum Set Pedagogy for the Music Educator: Developing Hi Hat Techniques.” Presenter, Iowa Music Educator Association Convention. Ames, IA

April 2009 “The Art of Drum Set: A Solo Voice”. Presenter, Chicago State University. Chicago, IL

March 2009 “Drum set History and Techniques.” Presenter, Taos Youth Music Group. Taos, NM

March 2009 “Developing Solo Vocabulary through African Influenced Composed Works for Drum Set” Presenter, Oklahoma City University. Oklahoma City, OK

March 2009 “Developing Solo Vocabulary through African Influenced Composed Works for Drum Set” Presenter, Kansas State University. Manhattan, KS

March 2009 “Concert Bass Drum Techniques” Presenter, Joliet West High School. Joliet, IL

March 2009 “Developing Solo Vocabulary through African Influenced Composed Works for Drum Set” Presenter, McKendree University. Lebanon, IL

January 2009 “Drum Set Pedagogy for the Music Educator: Developing Hi Hat Techniques.” Presenter, Illinois Music Educator Association “All-State Convention.” Peoria, IL

January 2009 “Percussion Refresher Course: Concert Bass Drum, toms, and wooden accessory Techniques.” Presenter, Illinois Music Educator Association “All-State Convention.” Peoria, IL

May 2008 “Developing Hi Hat Techniques” Presenter, *Day of Percussion* hosted by the Illinois Chapter of the Percussive Arts Society. Bloomington, IL

March 2008 “Developing Hi Hat Techniques” Presenter, WIU Rhythm Section Festival

February 2008 “Developing Practice Room Strategies.” Presenter, WIU Showcase of Bands. Macomb, IL

February 2008 “Developing Hi Hat Techniques” Presenter, WIU Jazz Festival.
Macomb, IL

May 2007 “Timpani Fundamentals” Presenter, Bolingbrook HS.
Bolingbrook, IL

March 2007 “Marching Percussion Fundamentals” Presenter, Sponsored by
KnightFire Percussion Ensemble. Gary Schumann, director. Danville, IL

March 2007 “Jazz Drum set Fundamentals” Presenter, WIU Rhythm Section
Day. Macomb, IL

March 2007 “Intro to Latin Drum set” and “Music Educators Crash Course in
Teaching Drum set” Illinois Wesleyan University. Bloomington, IL

March 2007 “Cymbal Technique” Herscher HS. Herscher, IL

March 2007 “Intro to Latin Drum set” Bloomington HS. Bloomington, IL

February 2007 “Tambourine Techniques” Presenter, WIU Showcase of Bands.
Macomb, IL

July 2006 Marching Percussion Fundamentals. Rushville High School. Rushville,
IL

April 2006 “Jazz Drum set: Swing Variations” Quad City Percussion Day.
Rock Island, IL

March 2006 “African Drumming Fundamentals” Fulton Junior High School.
O’Fallon, IL

March 2005 “Drum set: Practice Room Strategies” Presenter, WIU Rhythm
Section Day. Macomb, IL

January 2006 “Practical Approach to Marching Percussion” Co-presenter, Illinois
Music Educators Association All-State Conference. Peoria, IL

March 2005 “Drum set Intonation” Presenter, WIU Rhythm Section Day.
Macomb, IL

February 2005 “Percussion Fundamentals” Presenter, WIU Showcase of Bands.
Macomb, IL

February 2005 “Intro to Latin Drum set” Presenter, WIU Jazz Festival. Macomb,
IL

January 2005 “Drum set Intonation” Presenter, Illinois Music Educators Association All-State Conference. Peoria, IL

July 2004 “Intro to Latin Drum set.” Presenter, WIU Summer Seminars. Macomb, IL

April 2004 “Solo Brush Techniques.” Presenter, WIU Percussion Symposium. Macomb, IL

February 2004 “Solo Brush Techniques.” Presenter, WIU Jazz Festival. Macomb, IL

February 2004 “Rhythm Section Workshop.” Presenter, WIU Jazz Institute. Macomb, IL

March 2003 Kidder Music Percussion Fest. “Snare Drum Fundamentals” and “Multi-Percussion Master Class.” Guest Clinician. Peoria, IL

February 2003 “Multi-Percussion Master Class.” WIU Showcase of Bands. Macomb, IL

February 2003 “Drum set Communication.” WIU Jazz Festival. Macomb, IL

July 2002 “Bomb, Kick, and Fill: Communicating with your Drummer.” Presenter, WIU Summer Seminars. Macomb, IL

April 2001 “Junior and Senior High School Percussion Ensemble Repertoire.” Guest Lecturer. Western Illinois University ICMEA Chapter. Macomb, IL

July 2000 “Percussion Methods Revisited.” Presenter, WIU Summer Seminars. Macomb, IL

Professional and Academic Service

- **National**
June 2005 Percussive Arts Society International High School Percussion Ensemble Competition
- **Regional**
October 2009 Jazz Drum set Adjudicator. IMEA District IV. Petersburg, IL

March 2009 Percussion Adjudicator. “Uncontest” Joliet West High School. Joliet, IL

March 2008 Jazz Band Adjudicator/Clinician. Herscher High School Jazz Festival. Herscher, IL

January 1999-present IMEA All-State Percussion Adjudicator. Peoria, IL

March 2007 Jazz Band Adjudicator/Clinician. Herscher High School Jazz Festival. Herscher, IL

March 2007 Jazz Band Clinician/Judge. “Showcase of Excellence”. Quincy High School. Quincy, IL

March 2007 IHSA Percussion Judge. East Moline, IL

March 2007 IGSMMA Percussion Judge. O’Fallon, IL

October 2006 Quincy Fall Festival Marching Competition. Quincy, IL

September 2006 Marching Band Classic. Pekin HS. Pekin, IL

March 2006 Jazz Band Adjudicator/Clinician. Herscher High School Jazz Festival. Herscher, IL

May 2005 IHSA Organizational Contest. Illini Bluffs HS. Glassford, IL

October 2002 IMEA District II Percussion Adjudicator. Geneseo, IL

March 2002 Jazz Band Adjudicator/Clinician. Herscher High School Jazz Festival. Herscher, IL

March 2002 IHSA Percussion Judge. Bloomington, IL

March 2000 IHSA Percussion Judge. Rock Island, IL

March 2000 Jazz Band Clinician/Judge. “Showcase of Excellence”. Quincy High School. Quincy, IL

March 2000 Jazz Band Adjudicator/Clinician. Herscher High School Jazz Festival. Herscher, IL

March 1999 Jazz Band Adjudicator/Clinician. Herscher High School Jazz Festival. Herscher, IL

March 1999 IHSA Percussion Judge. Moline, IL

February 1999 Jazz Band Judge. University of Missouri. Columbia, MO

- **University**

University Service includes the College of Fine Arts and Communication Faculty Representative for the Foundation Office (Fall 2010 - present), CoFAC Executive Planning Committee (Fall 2006 – Spring 2008), College of Fine Arts and Communication Curriculum committee (Fall 2007 – Spring 2008)

- **Department**

Ten Search Committee, and annual committee obligations with Convocation, Jazz studies, and Humanities

Professional Memberships/Affiliations

2007 – present. Educational Artist, Remo, Inc. Valencia, CA

2006 – present. Educational Artist, Avedis Zildjian Cymbal Company. Norwell, MA

1998 – present. Music Educators National Conference

1987 – present. Percussive Arts Society; member of the Drum Set Committee