Charlie Geyer

Biography

Charlie Geyer began trumpet lessons at age six. Between the ages of seven and ten, he played in the highly esteemed band program in Joliet, Illinois. By age twelve, radio performances in Peoria, Illinois, hinted at his future professional career. While attending Northwestern University, he performed as principal trumpet with Chicago Lyric Opera. He joined the Chicago Symphony Orchestra following his senior year. During his twelve years with the CSO, he was principal trumpet with the Grant Park Symphony Summer Orchestra, and the Houston Symphony engaged him as principal trumpet in 1978, where he performed for three seasons.

Geyer received both bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern University. His teachers were Herb Stoskopf, Adolph Herseth, and Vincent Cichowicz. Geyer served as professor of trumpet at the Eastman School of Music and was a member of the Eastman Brass from 1980 through 1998, when he took the position of professor of trumpet at Northwestern University. In 2013 he began as trumpet professor at Rice University.

Geyer is a frequent recitalist and soloist with orchestras and music festivals throughout the world. He has recorded and played on international broadcasts with the Chicago, Houston and Grand Teton Symphony Orchestras, as well as the Eastman Brass, Music of the Baroque, and Chicago Chamber Musicians.