

Gary Bird

Gary Bird, Professor of Music at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, received his Bachelor of Music Education Degree from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls (1968), a Master of Music in Tuba Performance from the University of North Texas (1971) and a Doctor of Music from Indiana University, Bloomington (1992). He has studied with Professors Conrad DeJong and Charles Dalkert, Dr. David Kuehn of the University of North Texas, Arnold Jacobs of the Chicago Symphony, Ronald Bishop of the Cleveland Orchestra and most recently with the eminent Harvey Phillips of Indiana University.

He has been principal tubist of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, the North Texas State University Graduate Wind Ensemble, Indiana University (Bloomington) Festival Orchestra and is presently principal tubist of the Johnstown and Westmoreland Symphony Orchestras. He has also performed with the River City Brass Band, is Director of Music at Zion Lutheran Church in Indiana, Pa., and has performed with Harvey Phillips in Carnegie Hall in New York City. He has performed numerous solo recitals, been soloist with orchestras and bands and has also been a guest clinician at high schools and colleges across the state.

Dr. Bird is a founding member of the Colonial Tuba Quartet, a group dedicated to commissioning and performing new works for tuba/euphonium quartet. Performances with this group have included the International Tuba-Euphonium Conference in Sapporo, Japan in August, 1990, the New York Brass Conference for Scholarships in March, 1991, the International Tuba-Euphonium Conference in Lexington, KY in May, 1992, two performance tours of Europe in June of 1993 and 1995, and a performance at the New York State School Music Association Conference. The group has recently completed its first CD entitled "Spectraphonics".

In August of 1994, Dr. Bird had his first book published, Program Notes for the Solo Tuba, by Indiana University Press, Bloomington, IN. He was named "Teacher of the Year" in 1987 by the PMTA (Pennsylvania Music Teachers Association).

His duties at IUP include the teaching of Tuba and Euphonium, the IUP Tubaphonium Ensemble, the IUP Brass Ensemble, Introduction to Music and tubist with the Hoodlebug Brass. He has been the conductor of the following IUP Music and Theater Departments productions: West Side Story, Jesus Christ Superstar, The Fantasticks, The Pirates of Penzance, Working, On the Town, My Fair Lady, Hair, West Side Story, Cabaret, and Into the Woods, Kiss Me Kate and A New Brain.