



# JOHN STEINBRUEGGE

John Steinbruegge's journey into the marching arts began in high school when he joined the Francis Howell North Knightpride, where he spent all four years marching bass drum. His education at Howell North also included playing with concert band, symphonic wind ensemble, pep band, winter drumline, and the Fair St. Louis Honors Band. After high school, John attended Missouri State University (then SMSU), where he was a valuable member of multiple ensembles and became a drum instructor while pursuing his undergraduate degree in music education. John was also proud of his 1998 membership in the Blue Knights Drum and Bugle Corps, where he was a Drum Corps International Championships finalist.

At SMSU, John's love for the marching arts only increased. During his time as the marching percussion instructor, he also founded the Pride of SMSU Winter Drumline in the 2000-2001 season. Under his direction, the group achieved remarkable milestones at WGI World Championships: 2001- Silver Medalists (Percussion Independent Open Class); 2002-2003 - WGI World Finalists; 2004 - Silver Medal (Percussion Independent Open Class). It was during that time that John also lent his experience to the marching arts community as the Percussion Coordinator for MCCGA.

Being the director of the Pride of SMSU Winter Drumline was an honor for John, and it was a seminal moment in his love of teaching. For John, it was never about "getting the hardware" as he used to say. It was always more about creating a lifelong connection with a team, working hard together, and being proud of each member's individual efforts. John always wanted to pass along to his students the sense of community and passion that he found in his own band experiences. This core value made John a gifted teacher and mentor.

After working as a percussion instructor, drill writer, and visual technician for several scholastic groups, John stepped into the role of band director in 2003 - a position he proudly held for twenty years. In addition to being a full-time band director, John continued to write drill and teach the visual program for his own band as well as for others. He was also a valuable member of the staff at Modulation Z. John Steinbruegge was more than an educator - he inspired hundreds of students, teaching them that the marching arts are not just about the notes on the page, but about discipline, passion, community, and the pursuit of excellence. His legacy will live on with his family and the countless students whose lives he touched.

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