

Musicians Association of Saint Louis

Local 2-197 American Federation of Musicians

We're Dedicated to Your Entertainment!

John Brophy

Drummer/percussionist John Brophy is the former Chairman of the Music Department/Band Director at John Burroughs School in Saint Louis. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Missouri–Columbia. John has also studied at the graduate level at both Washington University in Saint Louis and Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

Mr. Brophy has been the drummer/percussionist for the Muny Orchestra for 32 years and percussionist for the Repertory Theatre of Saint Louis (REP) for 28 years. He has played for well over 100 different musicals in his tenure at the Muny and the REP. He has also performed for hundreds of other shows from Sammy Davis to the Smothers Brothers and everything in between. He has toured with Marilyn Maye and Phyllis Diller. John has worked locally with the Muny, REP, Fox Theater, Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, Little Symphony, Gary Dammer Big Band, Herb Drury Trio and many more jazz and dance bands in the metropolitan area. He has also traveled and played drums for several national musical tours, such as *La Cage*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Cabaret*.

As an educator, John has taught high school band for John Burroughs School, University City High School, Parkway North High School and the Jazz Bands at both Washington University and Webster University.

Mr. Brophy published an instructional book *Fun with the Drums* which is available through Mel Bay Publications. His high school jazz band at University City High School was named one of the 10 best jazz bands in the USA by the National Jazz Educators and his 1983 University City High School jazz band toured Europe and was invited to perform at the famous Montreaux Jazz Festival in Switzerland. Many of John's former students are now recognized performers in the professional music field performing with the likes of Wynton Marselles, Diana Reeves, McCoy Tyner and Harry Connick Jr. John was elected president of the Missouri Jazz Educators, served on the National Jazz Educators Board and was named the "Outstanding Jazz Educator for Missouri" in 1987. He also helped found the All-State Jazz Band in Missouri.

Mr. Brophy retired from teaching at John Burroughs in June of 2008. He continues to give music and jazz clinics for high schools, guest conducting of All-District jazz bands as well as his professional performances.