

Mr. Stephen C. Massey

Former Music Department Chairman, Foxboro Public Schools, Foxboro, MA.

Stephen C. Massey is the recently retired chairman of the music department in the Foxboro Public Schools in Foxboro, MA. Previously he served for 9 years as the Director of Bands in the Millis Public Schools in Millis, MA. He received his Bachelors and Masters degrees in music education from Boston University's School for the Arts. In Foxboro for 37 years, Mr. Massey supervised an extensive music curriculum in grades K-12. As a teacher and conductor, Mr. Massey taught Concert Band, Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Lab Band, Music Theory, Jazz Choirs, Arts in Western Culture, Leadership Seminars, and Modern American Music. His high school wind ensembles, concert bands, and jazz ensembles consistently received state, regional and international recognition. Mr. Massey's ensembles recorded 10 CD's, and hosted dozens of world-class guest artists and composers. Under his leadership, the Foxboro Music Department commissioned over 25 new works during his tenure. FHS Wind Ensembles and Jazz Ensembles also performed concerts and workshops at numerous Music Education Conferences and many university music schools in the Northeast. As a result of gold medal performances at the Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors' Annual State Festival, Mr. Massey's FHS Concert Bands and Wind Ensembles have performed at the renowned Symphony Hall in Boston over 15 times.

The Foxboro Jazz Ensemble and Wind Ensemble consistently were awarded gold medals and superior ratings at various Festivals of Music in the US and Canada for over 30 years. In both 1992 and 2000, the Foxboro Jazz Ensemble toured England and Scotland, and in 1995 the Jazz Ensemble performed at the prestigious Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland. The 1997 Jazz Ensemble won the Essentially Ellington Festival at Jazz at Lincoln Center in NYC, and the Jazz Ensemble has been selected for the Ellington Finals 17 more times, most recently in May of 2017. In 2008, the FHS Jazz Ensemble performed at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington DC as part of Jazz at Lincoln Center's "Let Freedom Swing" performance prior to the Obama Presidential Inauguration. That same year, Mr. Massey was invited by Wynton Marsalis to teach at the White House as part of a one-day tribute to Jazz Education hosted by Michelle Obama.

The 1999 Foxboro High School Wind Ensemble was one of only 16 ensembles nationwide to be selected via audition to the prestigious Band of America Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis.

Mr. Massey directed the Boston Conservatory Jazz Ensemble for two years, and also taught at summer music programs at University of New Hampshire (SYMS), Hartt School of Music in Connecticut, and South Shore Conservatory in Hingham, Ma. He is the founder and director for 37 years of the Foxboro Summer Jazz Improvisation Camp. He has guest conducted numerous district and all-state concert bands and jazz bands throughout the Northeast, and also conducted the All Northwest Jazz Band in Portland Oregon in 1998. In recent years (2012-2017) Mr. Massey has enjoyed an ongoing collaboration with the Hale School from Perth, Australia including a week long residency in Perth in 2013.

The Massachusetts Music Educators presented Mr. Massey with the Lowell Mason Award in 1997 and the Massachusetts Instrumental Conductors Association honored

him with the Conductor of the Year award in 1994. The Massachusetts Unit of the International Association of Jazz Educators recognized Mr. Massey with a lifetime achievement award in 2005.

During his 47 year teaching career, Mr. Massey mentored over 30 student teachers from a variety of universities and conservatories. He has vast experience as a guest conductor, clinician, consultant, and adjudicator. Since his retirement from the Foxboro Public Schools in June 2017, Mr. Massey has continued teaching on a part time basis including: consulting, guest conducting, faculty and staff development in Music Education and Leadership, and Festival adjudicating.