

## **Jack Courtright - Medium Bio**

Originally from Burnsville, MN, Jack holds a BM in Applied Trombone and Jazz Studies from the Eastman School of Music where he studied with Mark Kellogg and Larry Zalkind. While at Eastman, Jack also studied arranging with Bill Dobbins. Jack also holds a MM from the University of North Texas, where he directed several large ensembles while studying with Nick Finzer and serving as Jazz Chair trombonist in the One O'Clock Lab Band. In addition to leading his own big band, Jack serves as Director of Jazz Ensembles at East Texas A&M University.

Jack was the winner of the 2021 UNT/Conn-Selmer International Jazz Trombone Competition, the International Trombone Association's 2021 JJ Johnson Competition and 2016 Carl Fontana Competition as well as the American Trombone Workshop's 2018 National Solo Jazz Competition. Under Jack's direction, the University of North Texas' jazz trombone ensemble, The U-Tubes, were named winners of the ITA's 2021 Kai Winding Jazz Trombone Ensemble Competition.

As a composer and arranger, Jack's writing has been performed by the One O'Clock Lab Band, Minneapolis-based jazz quintet SPACE, Rochester-based pop-fusion band The Saplings, folk/contradance band Lake Effect, and his works for trombone ensemble have been performed by groups across the country. Jack has also been commissioned to write works for the Hohenfels Trombone Quartet, Broken Bones Trombone Quartet, Lauren Rudzinkas (Mansfield University) and Tim Smith (Buffalo Philharmonic) among others.

Jack plays a 1965 King 3B Silversonic, a custom Edwards jazz trombone, and a Conn 88 HT with Hammond Design mouthpieces.