

**John
McGinness**



Instrument/Position:

Principal Bass Trombone

How long in the DSO?

8 years

Ideal Vacation?

A cross-country road trip incorporating baseball stadiums, music, outdoor activity, and afternoon naps.

Music Education:

BM, University of Houston; MM, Southern Methodist University

Other Ensembles You Perform With:

I am also a member of the Williamsburg (VA) Symphony, the Roanoke (VA) Symphony, and the Charlottesville (VA) Opera Orchestra and am a frequent guest performer with orchestras all over the Mid-Atlantic. My unofficial title is "Bass Trombonist, Freeway Philharmonic."

Other Professional Activities?

I lead a private low brass studio in Northern Virginia and am on the faculty of Washington Adventist University.

Hobbies, Activities?

I enjoy outdoor activities of all kinds, especially hiking in the Shenandoah Mountains, chasing my two young sons from playground to playground, and good food, drink, and company.



Favorite Composer/Piece?

I spend most of my listening energy preparing for work, but I love to listen as I perform the music of Brahms, Schubert, Schumann, and Mendelssohn and am very excited to perform one of my bucket list pieces in May: Mahler's Seventh Symphony! I also like bluegrass.

What teacher/educator/event influenced you the most, and why?

I have learned so much from so many people during and after my formal schooling but I think I have learned the most from playing next to and listening to my peers and colleagues. I have been fortunate to sit near conscientious and inspiring musicians for virtually my entire life and I know that I would not be the musician I am today without their often-unconscious influence (so thanks, friends!).

Other Interesting Item(s) About You:

I enjoy puns, ridiculous non-sequiturs, and things that come in threes.

Cheesesteak Topping?

What is a "cheesesteak"?