

Conrad Cornelison, Bassoon



Q: What instrument(s) do you play?

A: Bassoon & Contrabassoon

Q: When and how did you get started in music?

A: I started music in 6th grade band after being attracted to the sound of the bassoon, which was first introduced to me during elementary school in my general music class. I was first told that the bassoon was known as the "clown of the orchestra," a role which I felt suited me best!

Q: When did you begin playing with the SOST?

A: I joined the Symphony of Southeast Texas as Principal Bassoonist during the 2013-14 season.

Q: Educational background?

A: I hold a Master of Music degree from Rice University (Houston, TX), a Bachelor of Music degree from The Juilliard School (New York, NY), and I graduated high school from the Interlochen Arts Academy (Interlochen, MI).

Q: Who has been your greatest influence in music?

A: My greatest musical influences have been my private bassoon instructors, who have not only educated me on how to play the instrument, but have also been great role models to me in many aspects of life. Namely, Benjamin Kamins, Patricia Rogers, Eric Stomberg, Matthew Schuler and Dan Duncan.

Q: What is your "day job?"

A: When I am not performing in Beaumont, I am a freelance bassoonist and private lesson teacher in the Houston area.

Q: Hobbies or activities outside of SOST?

A: Amateur photography, hiking, mountaineering, and my favorite: spending time with my dog, Toby.

Q: Favorite music?

A: Orchestral Masterpieces, Bluegrass Music, and the Grateful Dead.