Donald Batchelder - Trumpet

Donald Batchelder is Trumpet Faculty and Coordinator of Brass and Woodwinds at Montclair State University's John J. Cali School of Music. Recognized as an outstanding soloist and orchestral trumpeter in the New York area for many years, he performs frequently with the Metropolitan Opera and on Broadway, and serves as Principal Trumpet with the New York City Opera. Mr. Batchelder also holds the principal trumpet chairs in the New Jersey Festival Orchestra and the Stamford (CT) Symphony.

Mr. Batchelder earned both a Bachelors and a Masters Degree from the Juilliard School, where he studied with William Vacchiano and Mel Broiles. Other influential teachers include Vince Penzarella, Arnold Jacobs and Philip Smith. Mr. Batchelder is a founding member of the Quiet City Chamber Ensemble, and is featured on that group's acclaimed world premiere recording of the chamber version of Aaron Copland's Quiet City, adapted by saxophone soloist Christopher Brellochs, on the Sono Luminus label. Among other recent solo appearances: a featured solo role at the 2008 New York Brass Conference; Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 2 with the Stamford Symphony and the Sherman Chamber Ensemble: When Speaks the Signal-Trumpet Tone by David Gillingham, with both the Montclair State University Wind Ensemble and the Ridgewood Concert Band; the Shostakovich Concerto for Piano and Trumpet with both the Stamford Symphony and the Windham Chamber Music Festival; the world premiere of Trent Johnson's Concerto for Trumpet and Organ; and David Sampson's Triptych with the Westfield Symphony. He is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Trumpet as a student of David Krauss at Rutgers University, where he recently received the Irene Alm Award for excellence in performance and scholarly research.

Joseph Christianson - Trumpet

Trumpeter Joseph Christianson is an alum of the New York Youth Symphony Jazz Band, Orchestra, and Chamber Music programs. He received the Director's Award from Jazz Director Matt Holman in the 50th Season. Mr. Christianson received his master's degree from Montclair State University and his undergraduate degree from Rutgers University, where he graduated Suma Cum Laude. Originally from New Jersey, he participated in their All-State Band, Chorus, and Orchestras. He studied privately with Tony Kadleck, Dave Ballou, and David Krauss, among others.