

About Jericho Brass

Jericho Brass of Chattanooga, is a British-style brass band, that has provided brass band music to audiences since 1998. A volunteer ensemble, Jericho Brass is made up of professional and college trained musicians from the Tri-State area. The group performs regularly at civic functions, churches, schools and other public venues.

Within the membership of Jericho Brass is a smaller outreach ensemble called Brassworks. This group of eight members spreads the joy of brass music when the full band is not available.

Over the past 20 years, the two groups have made no less than 617 public performances. That's an average of 38 programs a year!

Participants of the Deep South (GA) Brass Band and two Ashland (KY) Brass Band Festivals, Jericho Brass has also performed concerts in Memphis, Nashville, Atlanta, Abingdon, (VA), Greenville, (SC), Charleston, (WV), and many venues in North Georgia and Alabama. The band has also made two concert tours to England, performing in Dubcross, Brighthouse, Elland, Oxford, Bournemouth, London, Wigston, and Dublin, Ireland. The band's smaller ensemble, Brassworks, has tour Mississippi and Kentucky during the past four years, performing for schools and communities. In the Summer of 2016, the band had the privilege to performed at Chattanooga's Riverbend Festival.

The band was a 2010 winner of the "George Washington Medal" awarded by the Freedoms Foundation in Valley Forge, from a presentation of an original patriotic composition "Defenders of Liberty" by members, Dan Hanson, Skip Houck and Tracy Street.

Jericho Brass performs marches, orchestral transcriptions, popular tunes, hymns and sacred selections, as well as patriotic favorites and traditional brass literature. An extensive music library, with active arrangers and composers within its membership, Jericho Brass musical presentations are designed to fit all audiences.

Background of Brass Bands

It happened during the 19th Century, when "England employers enthusiastically encouraged their factory workers to participate in music-making, which became highly competitive, probably with the thought that they would then be less likely to become involved in potentially disruptive activities. And so, factories had their bands, as [today in the U.S.A.] schools and colleges have their football teams, which were good for morale and business and served a definite purpose in the minds of the practical businessmen who supported them. These bands even practiced regularly during working hours, and well-planned competitions among rival bands drew tremendous crowds." - Wikipedia

And in America, during the past several decades, there has been a surge in performing brass bands with the British instrumentation concept. Near Chattanooga you can find brass bands in the towns of: Nashville, Huntsville, Birmingham, Rome, Atlanta, Lexington, Louisville and the University of Georgia.

The instrumentation of the brass band is different from the concert band. Using only brass instruments & percussion. Bb Cornets are used instead of trumpets, and a high Eb Soprano Cornet is on top. Flugelhorn and upright Tenor Horns are in the alto range making for a unique color of sound. All musicians read their music in treble clef with the exception of the Bass Trombone and Timpani.