

Claudia Anderson

Class of 1967

Dr. Claudia Anderson graduated from WHS in 1967 and participated in band, orchestra and choir throughout her time in high school.

Anderson said her participation within these groups helped lead her to the path she is on now.

“My band director, William Shepherd, encouraged me in every way to be a leader in my section, to take responsibility for being the best flutist and musician I could, and to believe I was capable of achieving whatever I dreamed of in the musical profession,” Anderson said.

Today, Anderson is a flute professor at Grinnell College in Iowa, teaches and performs in various music festivals in Colorado and Idaho, is the principal flute in one of Iowa’s regional symphonies, and is a part of the longest standing professional flute duo in the country: ZAWA!

Anderson took a liking to music at a very young age. “My parents played records a lot during my early childhood, and they said I seemed to really like certain ones even as a toddler. As I grew older, I would go equally to the radio to hear the Top 40 and to the stereo to listen to Bach, Mozart, Haydn, or Stravinsky. Starting flute and playing in the band gave me a feeling of excitement and belonging I had not felt before. I wanted that to continue,” Anderson said.

— Emily Jewell, *student interviewer*



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