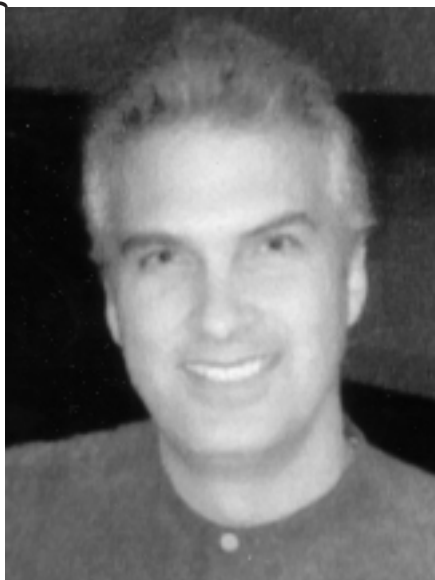


Kenneth Holworth

Class of 1974

“No matter how good you think you are, you can always improve.” This is a lesson that Ken learned in high school from his band director, Bob Bayless. “I was lucky to have several teachers who had an influence on my high school years, including, Edith Frey, Jim Caputo, and Jon Ullbright.”

Holworth's years at Wooster High School included participation in the Symphonic Band, Orchestra, and Choir. He received superior ratings in OMEA Solo & Ensemble contests for four years, was principal trumpet in the All-State Orchestra, and was the recipient of the John Philip Sousa Band Award his senior year.



Ken holds a Bachelor of Music degree from The Catholic University of America and a Master of Music from Kent State University. His professional career as a trumpet musician has taken him across the country and across the world. From 1978 to 1998 he was a member of The United States Army Band, “Pershing’s Own”. His duties included playing Taps at Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as well as performing with the United States Army Herald Trumpets at the White House and throughout the world, including the Olympics. He was selected to represent the Army Band at the Kennedy Center Honors program and also received several medals and awards for merit and good conduct.

He has performed with the Phoenix Symphony Orchestra and the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra. Upon retirement from the Army, he moved back to Ohio and performs with the Ashland Symphony Orchestra and Mansfield Symphony Orchestra, and is in demand as a freelance musician. He is an Adjudicator for the Ohio Music Education Association and for thirty years has had a trumpet studio, currently with forty-five students. He has served on the faculty of Ashland University and Kent State Stark.

His advice to students who may be considering a career in music? “Don’t give up on your dream. Continue to work hard at your artistic gift. Study and work with as many professionals in your field as you can, and develop your own style and ideas.”

“Throughout my career I’ve met so many great people and have had a chance to go to so many great places. Looking back, Wooster High School gave me an excellent educational opportunity to begin my musical career.”