



Carl Johnson

Music Director & Conductor

Carl Johnson assumed responsibilities as Music Director and Conductor of the Des Moines Community Orchestra in the fall of 2002, the 27th concert season of the orchestra. He retired in spring 2025 after 22 seasons.

Carl received his Bachelor of Arts in Music and his California teaching credential from the University of California, Los Angeles. He taught high school instrumental music (as well as some vocal and English) in California for 19 years before relocating with his family to Urbandale.

He was awarded his Master of Music degree in conducting from Drake University, where he studied with Robert Meunier as a graduate assistant. He continues his teaching career through affiliations with Mercy College, Heartland AEA 11, the University of Phoenix, and the Des Moines and Urbandale Community School Districts. Mr. Johnson is currently a member of the Iowa Bandmasters Association, and the Iowa Music Educators Association/Music Educators National Conference.



For a number of years, Carl has also served as music director and orchestra conductor for summer performances of musicals presented by the Urbandale Community Theater.

Mr. Johnson's family consists of his wife, Jean, daughters, Ellen and Allison, their husbands, Adrian and Mark, and grandchildren.

Carl's email is: seabjay@yahoo.com