

Better Practice

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KSU Graduates Survey Results

A. Looking back at your undergrad/graduate days at K-State, what experiences had the strongest and most lasting impact on you and your career? Why?

- 1. Marching leadership positions: section leaders, student staff, etc.**
- 2. Working at CBC, CSME, Summer Camps, Recruiting trips.**
- 3. Bowl trips, CBDNA, concert tours, etc.**
- 4. Guest conductors, performers, ensembles.**
- 5. The opportunity to lead and learn from the experience.**
- 6. University Band.**
- 7. Hands on practical experiences you just do not receive any place else.**
- 8. Podium time as a GA.**
- 9. Drill writing experience as a GA.**
- 10. Serving as members of TBS, KKY, PMA, SAI.**

KSU Graduates Survey Results Cont.

B. If you could give "2 bits of advice" to the present undergrad/grad student, what would that be?

- 1. Put the horn on my face more. I miss playing. I regret the excuses I made NOT to practice and/or participate. Become a better player...Practice more.**
- 2. Learn to be more resilient and tougher.**
- 3. Learn to enjoy the "process" of music making: practicing, rehearsing, etc.**
- 4. Be a "sponge". People skills are crucial. Watch how directors deal with things other than blend, balance, and pitch...**
- 5. Learn the literature.**
- 6. Know your instruments (U-Band calling!!!)**
- 7. Worry less, care more.**
- 8. Get "proficiencies" and "Gen Eds" done!!!!**
- 9. Hang with people that are better than you.**

(There is MORE!!!)

KSU Graduates Survey Results Cont.

B. If you could give "2 bits of advice" to the present undergrad/grad student, what would that be?

10. GET INVOLVED more!!!! "Do just enough to get by and get the degree and you will fail out here"

11. Hang on and collect stuff: programs, notes, etc.

12. Get over yourself... There is a great need for great music teachers everywhere. The kids need you!

13. You are capable of much more than you think.

14. You will be busy, but you will get everything back ten times over...

15. Get more leadership positions!!!!

16. Get a "damn calendar" and use it. Plan, organize, achieve.

17. It's not about "you"!

18. Learn the "people" business better...

KSU Graduates Survey Results Cont.

C. If you had to do it all over again what would you do differently or the same during your K-State years?

1. Practice more. Listen more. Take more advantage of opportunities there.
2. Get out in to the schools and watch, assist, etc. more.
3. Manage my time better. Less social, more serious prep for what I now do everyday.
4. Ask for help. In everything!
5. I wished I would have realized my potential earlier and then kicked it into high gear. I still wonder how much farther I would be if I hadn't wasted so much time.
6. Adopted a "get it done now" approach.
7. Stick with marching band, worked my way to leadership; positions, paid more attention to more things.
8. Play the piano. For fun.

(There is MORE!!!)

KSU Graduates Survey Results Cont.

C. If you had to do it all over again what would you do differently or the same during your K-State years?

9. I wish I would have asked more questions and wrote more things down.

10. I would have hung with better people.

11. I'd expect more from myself.

12. Work, study, practice hard...and play hard!!!!

13. I would have said "thank you" more.

KSU Graduates Survey Contributors

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How Practice Works

**Doug Yeo, former bass trombonist with the
Boston Symphony Orchestra (1985-2012)**

If you practice more, you get better..."

If you have fun, you want to practice more.

If you play better music, you have more fun.

If you play with better players, you play better music.

If you get better, you play with better players.

"If you practice more, you get better.

