

## **Ryan Meeks Biography**

Ryan Meeks is the Coordinator of Instrumental Music Education and Co-advisor of the NAFME Collegiate student organization at the University of Central Oklahoma. Meeks has previously served the Oklahoma Music Educators' Association as Vice President for Higher education and currently serves as a member of the NAFME Innovations Council and as chair for the inaugural OkMEA *Collective* contemporary music honor ensemble. As a passionate music teacher educator, he hopes to help prepare quality music educators who will change the lives of their students and communities. Prior to joining the faculty at UCO, he held positions at the University of Southern Maine and Oklahoma Baptist University, where he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in music education. A native Oklahoman, Meeks began his career teaching in Oklahoma public schools in 2005. Maintaining an active agenda in music education research, he has presented practitioner workshops and research presentations at international, national, and regional conferences across the United States and in the UK. His scholarly interests include music teacher mentoring, music teacher expertise, and pre-service music teacher preparation. An active clinician and adjudicator, Meeks enjoys working closely with educators, band programs, modern band programs, and community music organizations throughout the region.