



## Andrea DeRenzis Strauss

Assistant Conductor

Andrea DeRenzis Strauss has taught instrumental music at the elementary, middle, high school, college, and adult-community levels, and has taught at both public and private schools in Georgia. Dr. Strauss attained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education with a minor in conducting from the University of Southern Mississippi and the degrees of Bachelor and Master of Music Education from the University of South Carolina with an emphasis in clarinet performance.

Dr. Strauss is currently Director of Bands, Associate Professor of Music, and Assistant Director of Instrumental Activities at Shorter College in Rome, Georgia. For sixteen years, Dr. Strauss served as the Associate Director and Director of Bands at the Georgia Institute of Technology, in Atlanta, Georgia. Under her leadership, ensembles have performed for international events, such as the Shanghai International Arts Festival, with collaborative concerts in Australia, China, and Ireland. Under her direction, ensembles have been invited to perform for the Southern Division College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) Conferences, National Band Association (NBA) Conferences, and Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) In-Service Conferences. While teaching in the public schools, her ensembles consistently received superior ratings at GMEA Large Group Performance Evaluations.

Dr. Strauss is an active conductor, clinician, and adjudicator. She has presented clinics on various aspects of teaching and conducting for the Eastern and Northwestern Division MENC In-Service Conferences, the Texas Bandmasters Association Convention, and numerous GMEA In-Service Conferences and university symposiums. She has received the NBA *Citation of Excellence*, the Women Band Directors' National Association *Scroll of Excellence*, and Tau Beta Sigma's *Outstanding Service to Music Award* and the *Stanley G. Finck Memorial Award*. In addition, Dr. Strauss was selected into Omicron Delta Kappa and has been a recipient of the Georgia Institute of Technology College of Architecture *Outstanding Faculty for Education and Practice Award*.

She is currently a member of the 2008-2010 Board of Directors for the National Band Association and has served as state chair and national representative for the CBDNA, NBA, Tau Beta Sigma, and on the Board of Directors for Phi Beta Mu. In addition, Dr. Strauss has served as chair for the NBA Music Education Research Committee and Mentor Director.

In addition to sustaining a career in public school teaching, Dr. Strauss served as the Associate Director of the 1992-1996 Atlanta Olympic Band. Significant performances included the Closing Ceremonies for the 1996 Olympic Games held in Atlanta, GA, the Presidential Inaugural Parade for President Bill Clinton in Washington, D.C., the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City, and numerous special events throughout Georgia.

Dr. Strauss continues to be a clarinetist and Assistant Conductor of the Cobb Wind Symphony, and the Tara Winds Community Band, both of which have performed for the Midwest Clinic, An International Band & Orchestra Conference in Chicago, Ill.