

Dan Garske, percussionist, moved to Santa Barbara in 1976 from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He attended local schools La Cumbre Junior High School and San Marcos High School where he played in jazz, concert and marching bands and was Drum Major his Senior year. He then moved on to the University of Southern California getting Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music Education. During his years as a member of the USC Marching Band, Dan had the opportunity to join the Disneyworld All American College Band and the Los Angeles Lakers Band playing drumset. after graduating from USC, Dan taught 2 years at Lakewood High in Long Beach and then returned to Santa Barbara in 1983 to take over the Instrumental Music program at Santa Barbara High. In 1990 Dan moved to San Marcos High where he stayed for 26 years, including the last 5 as an Assistant Principal. At the end of 2016 a rare opportunity to teach music at Dos Pueblos High School happened, and Dan returned to teaching music. Dan's jazz bands have performed at the Montreux, North Sea, Vienne, and Umbria jazz festivals. His concert bands have performed in festivals at New York's Carnegie Hall 3 times where they received Superior ratings. Dan credits his love of music and teaching to his junior and senior high music teachers Isaac Jenkins and Jim Gemmell.