

# INSTRUMENT UPGRADE CATALOG

Curated options from our expert panel for  
professional and intermediate instruments



**The Gift of Music**

INSTRUMENTS | EDUCATION | REPAIRS

[giftofmusicinstruments.com](http://giftofmusicinstruments.com)

**THE GIFT OF MUSIC FOUNDATION** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to creating greater accessibility to music programs, instruments, teachers and the overall benefits of music education.

Founded in 2015 as a response to an ongoing nationwide decline of funding and lack of emphasis on music education in schools, our organization is diligently working to ensure access to music for the young people regardless of their financial situation. We do this by creating lasting partnerships with parents, music teachers, public schools and organizations to reinforce our core belief that music matters!



Our HQ in Marietta, GA features our new and used instrument showroom and an industry-leading repair facility

**WE BELIEVE ALL KIDS SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO MUSIC EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHAT THE FINANCIAL SITUATION**

## WHAT WE DO

**Gift of Music Instruments Education & Repairs** is a key part of our organization. We have become one of the area's premiere music stores, offering a complete line of products and services for students, parents, and school music programs. We feature many of the top name brands for instruments and accessories, a state-of-the-art repair facility in our Marietta, GA headquarters, and a series of educational programs geared toward assisting music educators with important knowledge and resources. We are also the only music store with a multiple-level student instrument rental program that includes both reduced price and "free" rentals that can make music affordable for any family budget. This is a key part of our mission to make music accessible to everyone.



## LOCATION

590 Commerce Park Dr SE  
Suite 175  
Marietta, GA 30060  
770.988.5075



# WHY INVEST IN AN UPGRADE INSTRUMENT?

Musical instruments have a very wide variety when it comes to quality, features, and cost. For most students a beginner-level instrument is the best option to get started. As students progress as musicians, many find it very beneficial to upgrade to a Professional or Intermediate level instrument. As a parent, this can be a daunting thing to face with many brands to choose from, hundreds of different models, many customizable options, and price tags that range well into the thousands.

We've tried to make this process easier by enlisting a panel of Professional Musicians and Educators to build a "curated list" for each instrument. Of course anyone can choose any make and model they prefer, but we're hopeful our list will take away some of the worry. You can be sure that our recommendations are among the most popular, most reliable, best sounding, and best values for the money.



## DIFFERENCES IN BEGINNER, INTERMEDIATE AND PROFESSIONAL

Beginner instruments are designed with emphasis on durability and low cost. They are made to withstand more wear-and-tear from younger students. This means that they are made from materials and designs that can limit their playability as a trade-off.

Higher level instruments are made from superior quality materials which allow musicians to play with a richer, fuller sound and far more ability to create wonderful musical expression. For example, flutes and brass instruments typically contain a higher silver content. Clarinets are constructed from unique woods rather than plastic. There are also differences in available features and functions. Flutes, saxophones and trombones feature extra keys or tubing to extend their range and provide alternative fingerings for enhanced control while playing. Many are handcrafted.

An important consideration when investing in a more expensive instrument is retention of value. Instruments that are considered to be "Professional" models will cost more, but in most cases retain their value far better than an Intermediate level instrument. We strongly suggest to consider the price difference in Pro and Intermediate, and how well each should hold their value.

Finally, your student's goals for music should be considered. If they have expressed interest in continuing through multiple grades and into college bands, or if they want to audition for honor bands, top-chair, or take private lessons, these are good indications that your student would benefit greatly from upgrading to a higher level instrument.

## WE ARE HERE TO BE YOUR PARTNER DURING THIS PROCESS

The most important thing is for your student to find the instrument that best suits them. Every player is unique, and some find a "fit" on one brand or model while others may find something very different. We suggest trying multiple instruments, mouthpieces, and combinations. Once they have found the "sweet spot", your Gift of Music Associates will be right there to help make purchasing an upgrade instrument a rewarding experience!

# PROFESSIONAL FLUTES



## YAMAHA YFL-677HCT

Inheriting the many merits of top-of-the-line Yamaha handmade flutes, these models offer rich, nuanced tonality over a wide dynamic range. The 600 series combines the brilliance of nickel silver with the characteristic mellow timbres of sterling silver.

All models come with hand-finished headjoints. The keys feature traditional pointed key arms, reflecting the highest level of craftsmanship and adding visual elegance to these outstanding instruments. Includes FLC-684 case and FLB-68II cover.

## KEY FEATURES

- Key of C | C# trill key
- 0.43mm wall thickness
- Straubinger Phoenix™ pads

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **9.5** | Resale Value: **10** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## POWELL-SONARE PS-705

The 705 Model is the premiere model of the Sonaré Range. With the most options and upgrade features, the 705 is perfect for the most discerning flutist.

The instrument features a Sterling Silver body and headjoint, with a Nickel Silver, Silver Plated mechanism. With French Pointed Arms, this model has Offset G Key, B foot joint, Split-E mechanism and C# Trill. This flute provides the feel of a professional flute with 10K White Gold Springs.

## KEY FEATURES

- Sterling silver
- Traditional felt pads
- C# trill key;

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **10** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **10** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"I recommend solid silver, B foot, open hole for all students regardless of brand."*  
- Kelly Bryant, Kennesaw State University



## WM.S.HAYNES Q1-OEB

The Q Series flute elevates a modern flutist's musical life. Using the finest materials sourced in the US, highly trained partners in the Haynes Beijing workshop, and final finishing by the experienced makers in Massachusetts, Haynes has created a range of instruments which exceed all expectations.

Q Series flutes feature the Classic style headjoint made in Acton, MA that offers a broad, vivid sound that encourages flutists to expand their artist demands. This unique series of instruments provides the advancing flutist with professional features and materials to accommodate years of musical growth.

## KEY FEATURES

- Sterling silver Classic headjoint
- Pinless left-hand mechanism
- Drawn tone holes

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **8** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# INTERMEDIATE FLUTES



## PEARL QUANTZ 765 SERIES

The Quantz Series embodies ingenuity, innovation, and diversity, and that is totally unique in the flute making industry. Every Quantz model has French pointed arms, a feature once considered solely the domain of handmade flutes. The body of the Quantz 765 boasts one-piece core-bar construction with pinless mechanism. Other features include a sterling silver head joint, body and foot joint, with silver-plated keys. For a tremendous sound with an evenness of technique.

### KEY FEATURES

- .925 Silver Headjoint, body and foot
- B-foot | Offset G
- E mechanism

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **8** | Overall: **8**

### PRICE RANGE: \$\$

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"Simply the best value in this price range. Loaded with features normally on flutes twice the price."*



## PEARL QUANTZ 665 SERIES

Since 1968, Pearl has quietly earned a reputation for designing and manufacturing exceptional flutes that merge traditional craftsmanship with cutting-edge designs. With a focus on ergonomics, functionality, tone, and articulation, Pearl flutes are made with musicians in mind, and much of the company's innovations were inspired by feedback from the world's top flute masters

### KEY FEATURES

- .925 Silver Headjoint
- B-foot | Offset G
- E mechanism

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

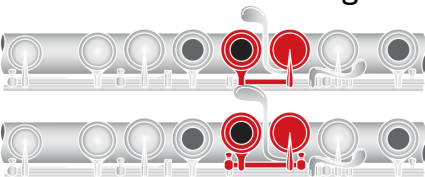
Playability: **8** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **7.5** | Overall: **8**

### PRICE RANGE: \$

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

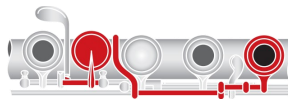
## COMMON OPTIONS TO CUSTOMIZE FLUTES

Upgrade flutes have a number of options that help create the perfect "fit" and improve abilities. All models can be configured to suit the individual player.



### Inline G (top) vs Offset G

Offset G keys are designed to fit the natural shape of the player's left hand by moving the key slightly closer to the hand. Inline G flutes keep the G keys in the same line as all the other body keys. Choose the style that is most comfortable.



### Split E

This mechanism physically splits the double G keys. When playing G, the keys behave as normal, closing both of the G keys. For high E, the mechanism closes the lower of the two G keys. This creates ideal venting for this note and therefore makes this usually troublesome note very stable. The high E speaks easier, and slurs from high A to E are much easier.



### C# Trill

The C# trill key is one of the most popular mechanism options and gives the player a lot of options when playing. These include:

Using one finger for a B/C# trill; A much improved High G/A trill; More in tune and stable High G#; A wide variety of options for extended techniques

# PROFESSIONAL CLARINETS



## BUFFET R-13

Created in 1955 by Robert Carrée, the R13 clarinet quickly established itself in the United States and still enjoys unprecedented success today. It presents a centered sound rich in harmonics.

Its projection is powerful in all registers and thanks to its flexibility it is suitable for all repertoires: symphony or chamber music, soloists, teachers, military orchestras, students or amateurs.

## KEY FEATURES

- 66mm barrel length
- Boehm key system
- Nickel plated keys | bladder pads

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **10** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **10** | Resale Value: **10** | Overall: **10**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"The R13 consistently delivers a beautiful tone, even scale, and sweet singing quality."*  
- Marci Gurnow, Dallas Symphony Orchestra



## BACKUN Q SERIES Q1

Beyond the grenadilla body and silver-plated keys, the Q Series includes additional furnishings that only Backun provides: a pair of Lumière barrels and a Lumière bell. These quintessential items enhance your performance by improving the clarinet's overall tone and response.

With its highly ergonomic sterling keywork, the Q Series feels wonderful to hold. When you pick it up, you'll immediately have the freedom to sweep across all registers in perfect comfort.

## KEY FEATURES

- 2 Lumière barrels included
- Unique ringless design
- Silver plated keys | leather pads

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **10** | Craftsmanship: **9.5** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"Look for a clarinet that is constructed of Grenadilla wood—it will make an immediate sound improvement."*  
- Lauren Denny-Wright, Shorter University



## YAMAHA YCL-CSVR

The CSVr clarinet has been carefully refined to give players unrivalled freedom of expression. Several significant changes have been made to the design, allowing Yamaha to meet clarinetists' desires for a beautifully dynamic instrument. With its rich expressive capabilities throughout the dynamic range and a tone with exceptional presence, Yamaha's new CSVr sets new standards in professional clarinet craftsmanship.

## KEY FEATURES

- 65mm traditional barrel shape
- New Ergonomic Design C#/G# Key
- Thick Key Plating

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **10** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# INTERMEDIATE CLARINETS



## BACKUN ALPHA PLUS

Made with professional-grade aged grenadilla wood, the Alpha Plus has an eye-catching appearance, and warm tone. An incredible value for a wood clarinet puts the Alpha Plus in a class of its own. The Alpha Plus is practically guaranteed to give players an edge over composite clarinet models. The Alpha Plus features highly ergonomic keywork, and the key and tone hole placement is optimized for ideal finger placement that encourages good playing habits while maintaining precise intonation. The keys are also decidedly sturdy and require minimal maintenance.

## KEY FEATURES

- Protégé mouthpiece/Rovner ligature
- Unique ringless design
- Valentino synthetic pads

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **10** | Resale Value: **7** | Overall: **8**

**PRICE RANGE: \$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"Backun clarinets are among the best values on the market. High quality, great features, and very affordable"*



## BUFFET E-11

An exceptional intermediate instrument with many top-notch features derived from the pro models. Crampon is known for meticulously selecting the finest available wood for its instruments. As such, Buffet Crampon chose African blackwood for the body, barrel, and bell of the E11. Handcrafted in specially dedicated workshops in Markneukirchen, Germany, the E11 is the product of a combination of traditional and modern manufacturing techniques that result in impeccable sonic properties and remarkable structural durability.

## KEY FEATURES

- 64mm barrel
- Stainless steel springs
- Silver plated keys | fishskin pads

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **10** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **8.5**

**PRICE RANGE: \$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MOUTHPIECES ARE ESSENTIAL TO OPTIMUM SOUND

Beginner instruments come with a basic plastic mouthpiece. As students mature, a higher quality hard rubber or ebonite upgraded mouthpiece will improve, tone quality, produce a more focused, rich, and resonant sound, control and maintain intonation across all ranges, expand dynamic range, and provide quicker response for more advanced articulation patterns. Essentially, a good quality mouthpiece will allow students to realize their full potential on his or her instrument. Some of the most popular upgrade options include:



Vandoren 5RV Lyre



Backun Vocalise



Vandoren M30

# PROFESSIONAL SAXOPHONES



## YAMAHA YAS-62III

Already a legend, the “62” attained the love and respect of a wide range of players for its highly reliable performance and outstanding quality. It owes its success to a group of dedicated designers with great vision, and highly skilled craftsmen performing their work with an extraordinary level of devotion, perfection, and passion. Pro players representing all styles of music rely on the 62 as their main alto. It’s best-seller status and popularity is due to Yamaha’s visionary designers and highly skilled artisans who makes this the industry standard.

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: 10 | Features: 9 | Craftsmanship: 10 | Resale Value: 10 | Overall: 10



### KEY FEATURES

- Upgraded pro neck receiver
- Hard steel needle springs
- Two piece bell

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*“I trust their consistency, sound and feel, and ability to withstand the wear and tear of a performers.”  
- Gary Paulo, Berry College*



## EASTMAN “RUE ST. GEORGE” EAS-650

This saxophone is named after Saint George Street in Paris where Adolphe Sax has his factory building notorious instruments. It’s appropriate that this saxophone draws on the style of classic French saxophones. The EAS650 Rue Saint-Georges model projects a focused, centered sound with exceptional warmth suited to professional players.

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: 8.5 | Features: 8 | Craftsmanship: 8 | Resale Value: 8 | Overall: 8



### KEY FEATURES

- French bead wire
- “R” neck
- High F# key

PRICE RANGE: \$\$+

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*“Selmer Signature saxes are one of the iconic brands, and are still the choice of so many professionals”*



## SELMER SIGNATURE

The Signature alto embodies the renewal of the Super Action 80 Series II model, which has marked the history of the saxophone since its launch in 1986. While retaining the sound characteristics of the Series II, it offers improved intonation, especially in the upper register, and favors emission in the lower register.

Embellished with original engraving in the Art Deco style, paying homage to the age-old techniques handed down through generations of artisans at the SELMER factory in Mantes-la-Ville since 1919, the Signature alto is both a traditional saxophone and a beacon of modernity.

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: 10 | Features: 9 | Craftsmanship: 9 | Resale Value: 10 | Overall: 9.5

### KEY FEATURES

- Handcrafted in France
- Mother of Pearl key buttons
- Leather pads
- Riveted Metal Resonators

PRICE RANGE: \$\$\$\$\$\$

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# INTERMEDIATE SAXOPHONES



## YAMAHA YAS-480

Any saxophones designed for growing and developing players should provide a smooth transition from the current student model while introducing professional features that enhance the myriad of playing techniques. Everything should be easy, from embouchure to fingering, to help produce the quality of sound at the next level. As accessible as it is exceptional, the Yamaha YAS-480 is an ideal intermediate alto saxophone.

## KEY FEATURES

- Original YAS-62 design neck
- Waterproof leather pads
- Front F, High F# key

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8.5** | Features: **8.5** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **8.5**

**PRICE RANGE: \$\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"The YAS-480 is a superior quality instrument, almost on par with their introductory professional instruments."*  
- John Jeffres, retired Cobb County educator



## EASTMAN EAS-451

The Eastman EAS451 Intermediate Alto Saxophone is the perfect next-level up from a beginner sax. Featuring an accessible high F# key, adjustable section screws, and an adjustable thumbrest, this saxophone is made to adapt to any hand size. There is no sacrifice of style for functionality with this instrument, however — its satiny gold lacquer finish prevents damage while maintaining it's chic appearance.

## KEY FEATURES

- Protégé Mouthpiece and Rovner ligature
- Adjustable thumb rest
- High F# key

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **7** | Craftsmanship: **8** | Resale Value: **7** | Overall: **8**

**PRICE RANGE: \$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MOUTHPIECES ARE ESSENTIAL TO OPTIMUM SOUND

Beginner instruments come with a basic plastic mouthpiece. As students mature, a higher quality hard rubber or ebonite upgraded mouthpiece will improve , tone quality, produce a more focused, rich, and resonant sound, control and maintain intonation across all ranges, expand dynamic range, and provide quicker response for more advanced articulation patterns. Essentially, a good quality mouthpiece will allow students to realize their full potential on his or her instrument. Some of the most popular upgrade options include:



Vandoren Optimum AL3



Selmer C\* 80



Rousseau NC4

# PROFESSIONAL TRUMPETS



## YAMAHA YTR-8335IIRS XENO

The Xeno Series represents a fusion of craftsmanship that involves outstanding instrument design, advanced technology, and the experience, talent, and dreams of respected artists around the world. These are trumpets that inspire. Their outstanding power and projection combines with refined resistance and response for extraordinary tonal flexibility. Xeno trumpets continue to evolve with the artists who play them, towards the ultimate goal of ideal musical expression.

### KEY FEATURES

- .459 bore
- Reverse leadpipe
- New bell design

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"Bach and Yamaha are the trumpets most professional players use. A very good investment."*



## BACH STRADAVARIUS 180S37

The Bach 180 series trumpets are the number one selling professional trumpets in the world, and they remain the sound choice of artists globally. An incredibly versatile instrument, the 18037 offers everything today's most discriminating players desire. Combining his talents as a musician and an engineer, Vincent Bach created brass instruments of unparalleled quality that are often copied but never duplicated. The 180 series offers depth and color of sound coupled with the even intonation and response a professional player needs. Nothing beats the sound of a Bach.

### KEY FEATURES

- .459 bore
- One piece #37 bell
- Adjustable 3rd slide stop rod

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9.5** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **10** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"The Bach Stradavarius offers great affordability for a professional horn. Strong tonal resonance and intonation."*  
- Dr. Chip Crotts, Georgia Tech



## SHIRES Q10

The Model Q10S trumpet produces a warm, singing sound with marvelous projection and easy, centered response in all registers. The Q10 bell maintains its characteristic warmth and focus at louder dynamics, while providing a more veiled sound at lower dynamics. The Q05 leadpipe provides an ideal combination of efficiency and flexibility, allowing the player to produce the most delicate passages with ease. Nickel-silver balusters and valve caps add brilliance and character to the sound, increase its core, and contribute to cleanness and immediacy of attack. This trumpet makes a great choice as an all-around instrument for performance in a wide variety of musical settings.

### KEY FEATURES

- .459 bore
- One piece Q10 bell
- 345-inch venturi leadpipe

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **8.5** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **8.5** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# INTERMEDIATE TRUMPETS



## YAMAHA YTR-4335GSII

The YTR-4335GSII/4335GSII features a gold-brass bell that produces a richer, wider range of tonal colors. Durable yet light, the bell promotes easy endurance while playing. The richness of tone quality and freeblowing feel make this trumpet a great vehicle for those players looking to take their performance to the next level.

The YTR-4335GSII's tuning slides are produced using the same method as Yamaha's high-end models, netting you extra stability, a more refined tonal color, and added durability.

### KEY FEATURES

- .459 bore
- Monel alloy piston valve
- Silver plated gold brass body

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **8** | Resale Value: **7.5** | Overall: **8**

PRICE RANGE: **\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"The better the instrument, the less likely a player will develop bad habits due to response, sound, and intonation."*  
- Kevin Lyons, professional musician



## EASTMAN ETR-520S

The Eastman ETR520GS, a stunning intermediate-level Bb trumpet. This horn features sophisticated brass tubing with silver plating, a wire-reinforced bell, stunning gold trim, and a 0.460-inch bore, all equating to a phenomenal instrument for the committed musician. This trumpet's full-bodied sound only knows limits when it needs to: it soars over jazz ensembles, cuts through marching bands, and blends seamlessly into orchestras.

### KEY FEATURES

- .460 bore
- Traditional felt pads
- C# trill key;

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **8.5** | Resale Value: **8** | Overall: **8**

PRICE RANGE: **\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MOUTHPIECES ARE ESSENTIAL TO OPTIMUM SOUND

A trumpet mouthpiece can change a lot in terms of sound, comfort and playability. Among the factors the mouthpiece can affect are increased endurance, enhanced high and low registers, and improved clarity of articulation. Some mouthpieces will produce brighter, higher sounds while others will produce a sound that is deeper and darker.

In the Bach system, the 'C' refers to the cup depth while the number refers to the aperture or rim diameter. A 7C has a shallower cup and smaller rim diameter compared to the 3C's deeper cup and larger rim diameter. The 5C is in between the 7C and 3C in both factors, with a deeper cup and larger rim diameter than the 7C, but shallower and smaller rim diameter cup than the 3C.



Bach 5C



Bach 3C



Bach 1.5C



# PROFESSIONAL TROMBONES



## YAMAHA YSL-8820R XENO

The Xeno trombone is constructed with heavier gauge brass and a thick-walled, one-piece brazed bell, hand crafted achieve a full, resonant orchestral sound. This quality instrument delivers an extraordinary balance and evenness, with a tone that is both flexible and rich in tonal colors. It offers powerful projection at fortissimo and precise control in the most delicate passages embodying the ultimate in musical versatility and depth.

## KEY FEATURES

- .547 bore
- Balanced Response Rotor
- Reverse Tuning Slides

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **10** | Features: **10** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9.5**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"The XENO name is synonymous with excellence. Just a great horn in every way you can imagine"*



## BACH STRADAVARIUS 42BO

The Bach 42BO is the most popular selling Bach Stradivarius symphonic trombone. It features an 8-1/2" one-piece hand-hammered bell that has defined the symphonic sound for generations. The chrome plated nickel silver inner handslide tubes provide the ideal surface for smooth and quick handslide action. The clear lacquer finish adds a subtle warmth to the sound overall. The Bach Stradivarius 42BO professional trombone is ideal for both symphonic and solo performance.

## KEY FEATURES

- .547 bore
- Standard Rotary Valve
- 81/2" Hand-hammered yellow brass bell

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **10** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"I recommend my top two brands which are Shires Q series or Yamaha Xeno, for students who are really serious."*  
- Holly Lawing Pritchard, professional trombonist



## SHIRES Q30YR

The Q30YR features the clarity of sound and projection for which S.E. Shires instruments are famed. The QTY bell features an 81/2-inch, two-piece, hand-hammered "QI" taper in yellow brass giving this trombone a clear, singing tone with excellent projection and clarity. The wide, .547 bore handslide in standard weight yellow brass yields a broad sound that retains clarity, color and projection. Paired with a nickel handslide crook, articulations are crisp and brilliant. The standard rotary valve retains focus throughout all registers without sacrificing comfort in the valve register. At home in any ensemble, the Q30YR large bore trombone is an excellent choice for any trombonist.

## KEY FEATURES

- .547 bore
- 3 Interchangeable Leadpipes
- "QI" Taper bell

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **10** | Craftsmanship: **9** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# INTERMEDIATE TROMBONES



## EASTMAN ETB-428OR

The Eastman ETB428G trombone is designed to elevate your tone and technique without breaking the bank. Modeled after Eastman's professional trombones, the ETB428G features a handspun, 8.5" gold brass bell and open-wrap F attachment that provide a comfortable feel and expanded range. Its .547" bore generates a warm, focused tone suitable for any style. A clear lacquer finish protects the ETB428G while adding warmth.

## KEY FEATURES

- .547 bore
- 8 1/2" handspun yellow brass bell
- Open-wrap F-attachment

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **8** | Resale Value: **7** | Overall: **8**

## PRICE RANGE: \$+

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



*Antoine Courtois*  
Paris

## ANTOINE COURTOIS 280-BO

The Antoine Courtois AC280BO Performance Series Trombone is a great choice for the advancing student looking for a trombone with a medium-large bore and F-Attachment. It features a .547" bore combined with an open-wrap F-Attachment with miniball linkage. The adjustable thumb trigger allows the player to use the F-Attachment with comfort, while the nickel handslide allows quick action. The Courtois AC280BO Performance F-Attachment trombone includes a professional case.

## KEY FEATURES

- .547 bore
- Adjustable thumb trigger
- 2-piece yellow brass bell

## CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8.5** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **8** | Resale Value: **7** | Overall: **8**

## PRICE RANGE: \$+

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## MOUTHPIECES ARE ESSENTIAL TO OPTIMUM SOUND

Cup depth is perhaps the most influential factor for tone color. Deeper cups produce darker, warmer sounds ideal for orchestral playing, while shallower cups create brighter, more projecting tones often preferred in commercial and jazz settings. Throat size affects tone density. Larger throats allow more air to pass through, creating fuller but sometimes less focused sounds, while smaller throats produce more concentrated tones. Backbore shape influences tone projection. Wider backbores tend to create a more diffuse sound that blends well in ensembles, while narrower ones produce more direct, focused tones that project better as solo voices.



Bach 6 1/2 AL



Bach 5G



Schilke 51D

# EUPHONIUMS



## BESSON BE-767 INTERNATIONAL

The 767 has been designed specifically to bring together Besson's unique tonal characteristics and world renowned build quality. It is capable of producing original brass sounds which are great for band rooms and concert halls. Featuring 4 fully compensating valves, large bore, and trademark Besson quality fittings, the BE767 international Euphonium produces a warm and focused sound that is suited to the advancing musician. The hand-made yellow brass bell produces a focused sound with a solid core and is capable of achieving this with very little resistance.

### KEY FEATURES

- 4 Perinet valves - arrangement 3+1
- 14.98mm bore
- 3 Water keys

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **8.5** | Craftsmanship: **8.5** | Resale Value: **8** | Overall: **8.5**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## KING LEGEND 2280

The King 2280 is an excellent intermediate, non-compensating euphonium that produces a great overall sound. The spring-loaded 3rd slide and extra long 4th pull slide allow for extended range and aid intonation adjustments. Top-action, nickel plated pistons provide smooth, quick action and unmatched durability.

### KEY FEATURES

- Dual-bore design .580-inch primary and .600-inch 4th valve bore
- 4-valve, top action

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **8** | Resale Value: **8** | Overall: **8**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$+**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## YAMAHA YEP-642II NEO

The Yamaha YEP-642SII Neo is a professional euphonium that's equally at home in solo or ensemble settings with energetic response and robust projection. The incredible valve action takes comfort and playability to a whole new level. The flexible compensating system counterbalances tendencies of slightly sharp lower registers with a second set of tubing for each valve that opens when its fourth valve is engaged. This extra tubing permits you to play low notes with proper intonation without affecting the tuning of mid and upper registers.

### KEY FEATURES

- Dual .591-.661 bore
- 4 Monel Alloy Pistons (3 top, 1 side)
- Large shank mouthpiece receiver

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9.5** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **9.5** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9**

PRICE RANGE: **\$\$\$\$\$\$\$**

YOUR PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



# TUBAS



## YAMAHA YBB-623



The Yamaha YBB-623 series tuba is a redesigned York-style, front action piston tuba designed to help a player achieve success from band room to concert hall and across a broad range of musical styles. Tuba players and band directors can rely on the YBB-623's powerful core of sound across all registers, beautiful resonance and renowned Yamaha valve action to create an energetic and very reliable foundation for their ensemble.

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **8** | Craftsmanship: **9.5** | Resale Value: **9** | Overall: **9**

### KEY FEATURES

- .478 bore
- 4 front-action valves
- Secondary main tuning slide for greater tuning precision

**PRICE RANGE:** \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

**YOUR PRICE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"Great quality and reliability are always found in Yamaha tubas."*



## EASTMAN EBB-534



A beautifully crafted 4/4 size "American-style" BBb tuba, the EBB534 has a warm, centered tone that is capable of powerful projection. It features precise intonation with good flexibility at any dynamic level and is an ideal choice for advanced wind symphonies, community bands, and small ensembles.

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **9** | Features: **9** | Craftsmanship: **8** | Resale Value: **8** | Overall: **8.5**

### KEY FEATURES

- .689 bore
- 4 front-action valves
- 4/4 Size

**PRICE RANGE:** \$\$\$\$\$\$

**YOUR PRICE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*"Eastman—great sound/tone, pitch, articulation, intonation, and craftsmanship."  
- Bernard Flythe, Freelance artist/educator*



## BESSON PRODIGE BE187



The BE187 is a free blowing tuba with an ease of tone production and an even response. The mouth-pipe is carefully positioned to give optimal playing comfort while the valve technology produces complete accuracy and reliability. A lightweight design makes these tubas exceptionally easy to hold and carry, with their depth and quality of tone capturing the essence of the legendary Besson sound.

### CURATOR PANEL SCORES

Playability: **8** | Features: **7.5** | Craftsmanship: **8** | Resale Value: **7** | Overall: **7.5**

### KEY FEATURES

- .690 bore
- 3 top-action valves
- 2 carriage rings

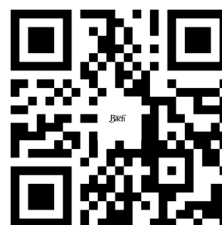
**PRICE RANGE:** \$\$\$\$+

**YOUR PRICE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# LINKS TO ONLINE CATALOGS



ANTOINE COURTOIS



BACH



BACKUN



BESSON



BUFFET-CRAMPON



EASTMAN



PEARL FLUTES



POWELL-SONARE



S.E. SHIRES



WM. S. HAYNES



WILLSON



YAMAHA

Use these convenient QR codes to directly access the full online catalogs for the key brands you are looking for

# OUR BRANDS

**Gift of Music proudly represents most of the top manufacturers of musical instruments from around the world.**

While this catalog was designed to simplify the process by highlighting the most popular and proven models, it's important to know that we can offer you a choice of all models and any special configuration you might seek for your upgrade instrument.

We've included handy QR codes for each major instrument brand if you want to explore more details and more options in your selection process. Simply scan the selected QR code from the options here and you'll be taken directly to the online catalog with complete details directly from the manufacturers. If you find options there that you are interested in, reach out to your Gift of Music Associate and we'll work to get you exactly what you are looking for!



We also carry hundreds of brands for accessories, reeds, cases, and more. You'll find top names like Vandoren, Legere, Rico, Evans, Promark, Innovative Percussion, Vic Firth, Remo, Gator, SKB, Crossrock, Protec, Hamilton, Wenger, and many, many more.

Our web store at **[giftofmusicinstruments.com](http://giftofmusicinstruments.com)** has key accessories available online. If you don't see what you are looking for, we can most likely get it! Contact us at [instruments@giftofmusic.org](mailto:instruments@giftofmusic.org)



# HOW WE CHOOSE OUR RECOMMENDED INSTRUMENTS

Through our extensive network of connections to musicians and music educators, we have assembled an Advisory Panel of experts on each major band instrument. We selected this panel to represent a diverse set of experience and background — choosing a professional player, a collegiate instructor, and a secondary/high school educator to evaluate and offer advice from their specialized perspectives.

There are literally hundreds of choices to make when considering making this important investment. It can be overwhelming without knowledge and training to help navigate. By trusting our Advisory Panel, we've curated a very simple list that helps you to quickly find choices that are highly-rated and have strong expert recommendations behind them. You can be assured that any of our chosen models will serve your student well, and will be solid, valuable investment in a musical future.

It's important to note that your choices are not limited to the models in this catalog. You can purchase any model in any configuration from the dozens of brands that we represent. But we've tried to eliminate guesswork and help guide you to the most popular and most loved instruments available.

Here's a list of the Advisory Panel who helped us curate this important list of recommended instruments for you!

## **FLUTE**

*Christina Smith, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra*

*Angela Jones-Reus, University of Georgia*

*Kelly Bryant, Kennesaw State University*

*Candace Keach, Private Studio Instructor*

## **CLARINET**

*Marci Gurnow, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra*

*Lauren Denny-Wright, Shorter University*

*Dr. Christopher Carr, Carrollton County Schools*

## **DOUBLE REEDS**

*Barbera Secrist-Schmedes, Retired Artist/Educator*

*Alexandra Shatalova Prior, Emory University*

*Amy Pollard, University of Georgia*

*Nancy Collier, Peachtree School of the Arts*

*Lisa Sayre, Private Studio Instructor*

## **SAXOPHONE**

*Sam Skelton, Kennesaw State University*

*Gary Paulo, Berry College*

*John Jeffres, Cobb County Schools*

## **HORN**

*Kimberly Gilman, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra*

*Jason Eklund, Emory University*

*Jack Jean, Gwinnett County Schools*

## **TRUMPET**

*Kevin Lyons, Atlanta Ballet Orchestra*

*Phillip Smith, University of Georgia*

*Dr. Chip Crotts, Georgia Tech*

*Paul Poovey, Freelance Artist/Educator*

## **TROMBONE**

*Nathan Zgonc, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra*

*Hollie Lawing-Pritchard, Kennesaw State University*

*Joshua Bynum, University of Georgia*

*William Mann, Georgia State University*

## **TUBA**

*Bernard Flythe, Freelance Artist/Educator*

*Adam Frey, University of North Georgia*

## **ABOUT PRICING**

Our catalog does not list exact prices, but does reflect a “price range” based on a scale of **\$ = approx. \$1,000.**

Most all instrument manufacturers have a “Minimum Advertised Price” which you will find if shopping online—all stores have the exact same price listed. However, as a retailer we are able to offer you our best possible price based on availability and market conditions. Gift of Music will provide you an exact price quote that is guaranteed for 30 days. Your price quote will include tax, and will be good for either single-payment or financed purchases.

# PURCHASING AND FINANCING

## HOW TO PURCHASE YOUR INSTRUMENT

There are several options available for purchasing any upgrade instrument. Choose the payment option that is best for you. You can choose to purchase with a single payment, or with our in-house “3 equal payments” plans. We also have longer term financing options through our partners Synchrony and PayPal Credit.

Most instruments are available to be delivered with 10 business days. Depending on your selection and if you are choosing special customized options, there may be a longer estimated delivery time. If delivery is expected to be longer than 30 days, we would only require a deposit of 20% to be paid, with the remaining balance due upon delivery of the instrument. If financing through partners, the financing agreement must be completed at the time the instrument is ordered.

You will work with a Scholastic Partner Associate to finalize the details of your instrument choice along with any additional accessories you may choose. We will provide a formal quote for your acceptance, and then order your instrument upon approval.

Instruments come with a manufacturers warranty which may vary in length and terms. Gift of Music also offers an additional program called Comprehensive Coverage for an annual fee. This plan can help with the costs of any unexpected repairs that may be needed. Full details are available online at [giftofmusicinstruments.com/coverage](https://giftofmusicinstruments.com/coverage)

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TIME**

Flexible  
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### EASY FINANCING OPTIONS

You may be eligible for financing options 6 months, 12 months, or longer through Synchrony Financing or PayPal Credit. Both programs offer online applications and in most approval takes only a few minutes.

#### SYNCHRONY

When you choose Synchrony Pay Later, you'll enjoy more purchasing power with a variety of financing options, payment flexibility for your purchase, predictable payments to make budgeting easier, and a streamlined application process with immediate credit decision.

Synchrony is a preferred finance partner of Gift of Music.

<https://www.synchrony.com/financing/paylater>

#### PAYPAL CREDIT

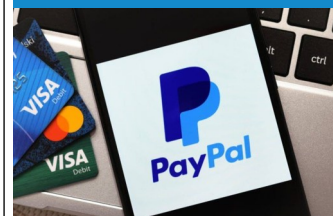
Upon approval, you can get financing with no-interest if paid in full in 6 months on purchases of \$149 or more with PayPal Credit.

PayPal Credit is an open end (revolving), reusable line of credit that's built into your account with PayPal. With PayPal Credit, you can enjoy the flexibility to pay over time for your everyday purchases. It's easy to apply, easy to use, and there whenever you need it. PayPal Credit is subject to credit approval.

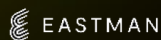
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Interest will be charged to your account from date of purchase if balance not paid in full within 6 months. Minimum monthly payment required. Subject to credit approval.



# The Gift of Music

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- Everything you need: reeds, mouthpieces, oils, music stands, cases and gig bags, sticks and mallets, and more

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