BASSOON STUDY AT BUTLER UNIVERSITY

• Students have the opportunity to study with both of Butler University’s bassoon professors, Doug Spaniol and Kelly Swensson. Very few schools have more than one bassoon teacher, and when they do, usually all the teachers are part-time instructors. Butler offers the advantage of a full-time bassoon professor (Spaniol) plus an outstanding part-time instructor (Swensson). Students have their choice of private teacher each semester and benefit from working with both teachers in reed-making and studio classes.
• Undergraduate students are eligible for substantial academic and music scholarships. Graduate students are eligible for tuition waivers or assistantships.
• Weekly reed-making classes in our dedicated reed-making room. Equipment includes high-end Rieger tools made in Germany.
• Weekly studio classes used for student performances, mock-auditions, bassoon ensemble, etc., and to discuss issues such as bassoon care and repair, professional opportunities, and audition preparation
• Many opportunities for professional work as bassoonist in and around Indianapolis. Butler students have performed with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, Fort Wayne and Evansville Philharmonic Orchestras, and regional orchestras.
• Butler bassoon students have been named finalist in the Meg Quigley Vivaldi Competition, alternate in the IDRS Young Artist Competition, and have won concerto competitions with the Butler Symphony Orchestra and others.
• Possibilities for teaching privately through the Butler Community Arts School and elsewhere in Indianapolis
• Frequent guest recitals and masterclasses. Past guests include Christopher Weait, Yoshi Ishikawa, Michael Rabinowitz, Susan Nigro, Martin Kuuskmann, and many others.
• Annual “Butler University Double Reed Day” featuring special guest bassoonists
• Ensemble opportunities for bassoonists include Butler Symphony Orchestra, Butler Wind Ensemble, contemporary music ensemble, and chamber music groups.
• Quality bassoon studio of appropriate size, assuring students ample ensemble experience and a healthy level of competition.
• Bassoons available for student use include a Fox 601, Fox 240, and several other Fox bassoons. There is also a new Fox contrabassoon available for student use.
• Access to the many cultural offerings of Indianapolis, including concerts by the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, Indianapolis Opera, and many other performances on-campus and around Indianapolis.
• Visit the JCA Survey Results page to see the remarkable things our alums say about their experience as Butler arts students!
• Watch the Butler Bulldog Bassoon Band performing “Bohemian Rhapsody” at the 2012 IDRS Conference.