



## International Trombone Association January 2026



**Here's to a happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year.**

We're proud to be the largest association of trombonists with 4,000 members from 74 countries. We promote the trombone and its people all over the galaxy. If you aren't a member yet, [please join us!](#)

Do you have trombone news to share? Let us know via the feedback form at the bottom of this newsletter. Thank you.

### **ITA News & Announcements**

#### Competitions Update

Judging is underway in the 2026 ITA [Solo & Ensemble Competitions](#) and [Composition Competition](#). Thank you to everyone who participated!

## ITA Composition Competition

We're thrilled to share that the International Trombone Association Composition Competition (ITACC) received a record number of entries this year—thank you to all the talented composers who participated! The judging process is now underway, and we look forward to announcing the winners in April 2026. The winning composers in each category will be celebrated with a featured performance at the 2026 International Trombone Festival in Riga, Latvia.

## ITF Composers Workshop

We encourage composers to explore another exciting opportunity: the International Trombone Festival Composers Workshop, a separate program designed for composers interested in deepening their craft and engaging with performers and peers. For more details and to consider participating, visit the [application form](#) [please note: Google Form].

## International Trombone Festival

The [2026 International Trombone Festival](#) will take place July 29-August 1 in Riga, Latvia at the Latvian Academy of Music. Our host will be Vairis Nartišs. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for updates!

## Vacancy on the ITA Audit/Finance Committee

The ITA's Audit/Finance Committee extends an invitation to join the Committee. One should have a good general knowledge of business/finance and be available for quarterly meetings each year. The committee currently has a CPA (Bill Lentz) serving on the committee and would welcome another or someone with business experience. Please contact ITA Executive Director Magnus Nilsson at [vacancies@trombone.net](mailto:vacancies@trombone.net) to express interest in helping to oversee the ITA's financial business.

## Events

[Add an event to the calendar now >>](#)

Note: Event information can change. We recommend double-checking with organizers.

### Austin Richardson and the LSO perform Carlos Simon's Trombone Concerto: Troubled Water

January 15, 2026: Louisiana. Journey through the rich tapestry of African American musical traditions with Florence Price's evocative Ethiopia's Shadow in America and Carlos Simon's trombone concerto Troubled Water featuring LPO Principal Trombone Austin Richardson and feel the raw energy of Samuel Barber's unbridled Symphony No. 1 before the exhilarating finale: Aaron Copland's beloved Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo.

[More >>](#)

### Big 12 Trombone Conference

January 16, 2026: Texas. The Big 12 Trombone Conference is an event where professional musicians, college professors and top university students have the opportunity to perform and present musical compositions and vital music research.

[More >>](#)

### Tan Dun's video-game inspired Concerto for Trombone

January 24, 2026: New York. The Syracuse Orchestra performs Tan Dun's video-game inspired Concerto for Trombone, featuring Principal Trombonist Ben Dettelback. The concert will also feature Brahms's Symphony No. 2 and Debussy's Pagodes.

[More >>](#)

### International Trombone Week 2026

April 12-19, 2026: Global. ITW is the perfect time to play your trombone, share it with others, and have fun making music online and in-person. Everyone is welcome!

[More >>](#)

## Pokorny Low Brass Seminar

July 11-15, 2026: Illinois. Northern Illinois University announces dates and faculty members for the 2026 Pokorny Low Brass Seminar. Seminar leaders include Timothy Higgins, principal trombonist of the CSO, Hillary Simms, trombonist in the American Brass Quintet, Sergio Carolino, tubist of the Porto Symphony Orchestra, and more of the most respected low brass players. [Photo courtesy of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra]

[More >>](#)

## Time for Reading

Members Get More!

Watch for the January's ITA Journal coming soon

January 2026 / Volume 54, Number 1 / \$11.00

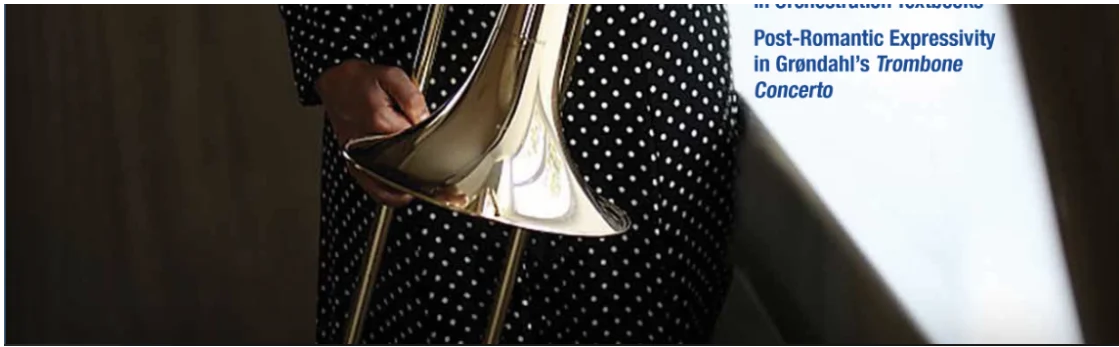
Orchestral Sectional—page 12

INTERNATIONAL  
**TROMBONE**

ASSOCIATION JOURNAL  
THE QUARTERLY PUBLICATION  
OF THE ITA

2025  
GEDOK  
Musikpreis  
Award-Winner  
Martyna  
Mišeikytė

Ravel's *Bolero*, Part 2  
The Contrabass Trombone  
in Orchestration Textbooks



January's articles will include:

- "Post-Romantic Expressivity in Grøndahl's Trombone Concert" by Marlon Rissatto
- "Maurice Ravel's Bolero: A fresh look at a familiar masterpiece" by Douglas Yeo
- "The Evolving Path of a Jazz Trombonist" by Altin Sencalar
- "The Contrabass Trombone in Orchestration Textbooks" by Jonathan Harker

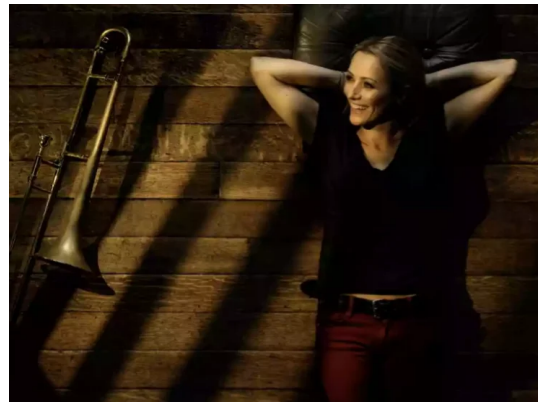
ITA members have access to past ITA Journals & Newsletters in digital format. Additionally, members can opt for an online-only (no paper) membership at a highly-reduced rate; this allows online access to the latest Journal even **before** the printing date.

[Learn more >>](#)



### Chatting with... Hillary Simms

This trombone player is training the next generation of trombonists, with a focus on encouraging women and other underrepresented musicians to be heard. [credit Sean Hargadon. Northwestern Magazine's Winter 2025 issue]



### RGM interviews Carol Jarvis

"Luckily, as a session musician, I work in all genres, studios, west end shows, pop tours, classical concerts, the lot." [credit Carl Maloney, RGM]

[More >>](#)

[More >>](#)

## Ring in the New Year in Style



### ITA Virtual Backgrounds

Spruce up your online life with a new virtual background. Grace your desktop, meeting, or lesson with this free gift from your favorite trombone community. :-)

Right-click (or Control-click) and then Save as... to download. Need help using a background? Drop us a note at [info@trombone.net](mailto:info@trombone.net).

Grab some trombone chic now



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# Share your good news and ideas

We're all ears and we'd love to hear from you. :-)

Thank you for taking time to share here. Please be sure to hit submit. If you would like a response, please include your email address in the message.

Submit



## International Trombone Association

We are the largest association of trombonists with 4,000 members from 74 countries. Our mission is to promote the trombone and all trombone-related activities across the world.

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