



The USF Jazz Orchestra is a leading large ensemble within the University of South Florida School of Music, bringing together emerging musicians for the energy, precision, and creative freedom of big-band jazz. Its performances give students the opportunity to explore classic repertoire, contemporary writing, ensemble collaboration, and improvisation under the direction of distinguished trombonist and educator Tom Brantley.

Brantley has served on the USF music faculty since 1999 as Professor of Trombone and became Director of Jazz Studies in 2024. In addition to leading the USF Jazz Orchestra, he directs the USF Bone Band and teaches students in both classical and jazz trombone. His approach reflects a career built equally on performance, education, and a deep understanding of many musical traditions.

An internationally active performer, Brantley has toured, performed, and recorded with the acclaimed chamber ensemble Rhythm & Brass since 1995, appearing throughout Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Australia, and across the United States. He was part of Chuck Owen's Jazz Surge on the Grammy-nominated album *Whispers on the Wind* and has released solo and collaborative recordings including *Boneyard*, *Confluences*, and *Obsessed with Treasure*. Earlier in his career, he performed and recorded with the University of North Texas One O'Clock Lab Band, holding both lead and jazz trombone chairs.

Brantley holds music degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi and the University of North Texas and has been a Yamaha Performing Artist since 1995. He is also the author of published trombone study collections used by students and teachers. Under his leadership, the USF Jazz Orchestra combines the enthusiasm of the next generation with the discipline and swing of a seasoned jazz ensemble.