

Jeffrey A. Smith

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Jeffrey A. Smith holds four degrees in music: a Master of Music (Viola) from the Cleveland Institute of Music, a Master of Music Education from the University of Tulsa, a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Tulsa (With Honor), and a Bachelor of Music (Viola, With Distinction) from the University of Kansas. Mr. Smith is one of only a few Digidesign (now AVID) Certified HD -7 Pro Tools Operators (Audio Engineering) in the state of Oklahoma, and is a member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (N.A.R.A.S.). He has taught all instruments (strings, winds, and percussion) at all grade levels since 1979, served as contest judge, clinician, and as the 1992 All-O.M.E.A. (All-State) Orchestra Chairman. Mr. Smith (a founding member of the Tulsa Little Symphony) is currently the Principal Violist of the Signature Symphony Orchestra (Tulsa), the Bartlesville Symphony Orchestra, and is the Violist in the Signature String Quartet. He was a member of the Tulsa Philharmonic and Wichita Symphony Orchestras. Mr. Smith is the Past President of the Oklahoma Chapter of the American String Teacher's Association, and in the summer of 1996, served as the Principal Violist of the Twenty-Fifth International String Orchestra in Graz, Austria. He has taught the Tulsa Community College *Tulsafest* middle school strings since inception, is an adjunct faculty member for Tulsa Community College, and is President of SongSmith Records, a digital recording facility and record company. He has composed many arrangements for string quartet and several works for orchestra and band.

Jeff played "fiddle", guitar, keyboards, and ran the monitor mix and the light show for *Dale Christenson and Prairie Fire* for ten years. He also played with the *Ray Marshall Band* and the legendary western swing band of Hank Thompson, the *Brazos Valley Boys*. He has performed with several national touring productions including *Camelot*, *Peter Pan*, and *Sunset Boulevard*. In the fall of 2002, Tulsa Public Schools honored Mr. Smith with an award for excellence. In 2003, the Oklahoma Chapter of the American String Teacher's Association named him "Teacher of the Year". In 2007, after twenty-seven years of service, Mr. Smith retired from public school life to concentrate on development of young artists through SongSmith Records. Mr. Smith currently teaches Violin, Viola, and Studio Recording Techniques for Tulsa Community College. In 2010, Jeff and his wife, Robin, adopted their son, Edik, from Russia. In January of 2016, Mr. Smith accepted a position with Palen Music Center as an Orchestra Specialist, and was elected Chairman of the PGR of Oklahoma, Inc. He proudly rides his motorcycle as a Ride Captain with the Oklahoma Patriot Guard Riders.