



# Mastering the Music

## Jonathan Keiser, CybS. & I.S., Spring 2023

Engaged Living

### SUMMARY

**What:** Played trumpet in the Youth Orchestra of San Antonio (YOSA) in August of 2019.

**When:** August 2019-Present

**Personal Goals:** Worked together to create something beautiful using the unique skills and talents of dozens of musicians, performed well, and kept cool under pressure.

**Professional Goals:** Finding an outlet that I enjoyed in order to relieve college stress.

**Target Community:** The musicians of YOSA, as well as the audience members at each of our concerts.

**Details:** Joined YOSA in order to sharpen my trumpet playing, overcome challenges (such as new music), and develop new skills I will use for the rest of my life.



**Engaged Living:** Music does not have any relation to my degree or future plans, but YOSA gave me the stress-reliever I needed throughout the semester and provided me with a fun goal: performing well in a concert that people of all ages could enjoy.

### HERBS

**Resilience:** I learned from mistakes I made while practicing.  
**Support:** Supporting other members of the orchestra was vital to preparing for an upcoming concert.

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

**Adaptability and Resilience:** I was able to learn from my failures and accept feedback from my conductor, section leader, and brass section on how to play better.

**Project Management:** Upon planning, I was able to attend the required rehearsals and practice in order to succeed both in YOSA and college.

**Agency through Accomplishment:** When I did well during rehearsals, I felt my self-confidence grow along with the rest of the orchestra as we could hear ourselves improving week after week.



### IMPACT

**Impact on me:** I gained a better appreciation for both the art of music and teamwork. It was very relaxing to work on challenging music with other like-minded musicians in order to produce something beautiful.

**Impacts on my fellow YOSA musicians and conductors** were the feelings of self-confidence and camaraderie the entire group felt as we worked together to ready music for each new upcoming concert cycle. There was also a large portion of laughter and joy as we made—and learned from our—mistakes which only made the orchestra members laugh and grow closer to one another.

### ADVICE

*“If you feel like you are carrying the weight of the world on your shoulders, do not be afraid to find an outlet! An activity you have always enjoyed can be a lifesaver for any semester.”*