

RAY NOWAK, TRUMPET



Originally from Los Angeles, new San Diego Symphony trumpet Ray Nowak has performed a wide variety of trumpet freelance engagements throughout Southern California. Before joining the San Diego Symphony, Ray was an active and founding member of the Presidio Brass Quintet. Ray has also performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the London Philharmonic, the Pacific Symphony, Opera Pacific, the Canadian Brass and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

Ray Nowak was Assistant Principal Trumpet of the Orquesta Sinfonica de Tenerife for 5 years in the Canary Islands, Spain and has also held positions with Orquesta Sinfonica de Galicia, Spain as Assistant Principal Trumpet, the Santa Barbara Symphony as Assistant Principal Trumpet, Festival della Valle d'Itria, Martina

Franca, Italy as Principal Trumpet, Orquesta de Baja California, Tijuana, Mexico, the California Philharmonic and the Royal Band at Huis Ten Bosch, Nagasaki, Japan.

Ray Nowak is an adjunct trumpet teacher at Long Beach City College and has taught and coached for several middle school and high school band programs throughout Southern California. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from the California State University at Long Beach, Bob Cole Conservatory of Music and a Masters Degree in Music Performance from UCLA.

Getting to know Ray Nowak...

Q: What are three of your favorite tunes or pieces in your iPod or mp3 or CD collection?

A: Garcia Abril's "Alegrias", large collection of Frank Sinatra's legacy, Salsa music, (such as Eddie Palmieri, Oscar D'Leon, India, and Luis Miguel), Pat Methany Group, Freddie Hubbard, Jobim and the Mnozil Brass.

Q: What are your favorite travel destinations?

A: All parts of Spain, Mexico and Italy to name a few.

Q: Can you name some favorite composers and/or musical periods?

A: Prokofiev, Debussy, Mahler and Khachaturian. I am almost always a sucker for music from the romantic period.

Q: What do you love most about San Diego (other than the weather)?

A: I love spending time with my family on the beach, vacationing at the Bahia and tailgating at Qualcomm stadium. Before living in San Diego my wife and I spent our honeymoon here!

Q: Where might you be found on a Saturday night if the Symphony is not performing?

A: Having date night with my wife, Monica Nowak. We also love to spend quality time with our 4 children laughing and playing games.

Q: The non-musical accomplishment you are most proud of is...?

A: Being a parent, growing with my wife and kids in every way.