

## Valerie Bell

Valerie Bell is currently serving as a string specialist in the Kansas City area, and teaching artist/instructor of double bass and Camerata Orchestra at Harmony Project KC. She retired from the Park Hill School District in 2011 as Director of Orchestras at Park Hill South High School and Lakeview Middle School. Prior to this Ms. Bell was Director of Orchestras at Raytown High School. Groups under her direction received consistent Outstanding ratings, and have performed at the MMEA Conference twice (1989, 2011) and Carnegie Hall (2011). Other teaching experiences include string instruction in the North Kansas City School District, and adjunct instructor at UMKC (Music Ed. String Methods).

Ms. Bell holds a BME and MA in Music Education (Double Bass emphasis) from the University of Central Missouri. Valerie Bell has held the positions of KC Metro III Orchestra V.P., Orchestra V.P. of MMEA (Missouri Music Educators Association), and is a Past-President of MoASTA (Missouri Division of the American String Teachers Association) where she is currently serving on the board and assists with the administration of the Missouri All-State Orchestra.

As an adjudicator in Missouri, Oklahoma, Kansas and Iowa, Valerie Bell provides educational critique and evaluation for students in large and small ensemble orchestra events, and is a frequent clinician and sectional coach for local schools and regional youth symphonies.