

Jim Bekkering Bio



Jim Bekkering was raised in Fremont, MI, where he began playing the trumpet as a fifth grader. When Jim enrolled at Hope College in 1961, his trumpet stayed in its case for most of the next eleven years. Performance opportunities emerged in the early 70's, and for the most part he has been playing ever since. Jim is very grateful for community orchestra and band programs that have given him and other amateur musicians opportunities to remain active in music. He has also performed as soloist with the St. Joseph Municipal Band, Holland American Legion Band, the Hope College Concert Band, Northwestern Michigan College Concert Band, Twin Cities Symphony Orchestra, and BASO.

Bekkering earned his BA in Economics at Hope College, and his MA and PhD in Higher Education Administration from Michigan State University. Most of his career was in the role of Vice President for Admissions at Hope, although he also headed up Hope's Office of Student Affairs for a period of seven years. Following his retirement from Hope, Jim served as Director of Admissions and Financial Aid at the Interlochen Center for the Arts for four years. Jim and his wife, Lynne, reside on Platte Lake. They are blessed with two children, three granddaughters, and five great grandchildren.