

J. Scott Jackson

Virginia Arts Festival, General Manager

Virginia International Tattoo, Producer/Director

Mr. Jackson became Producer/Director of the Virginia International Tattoo in the summer of 2002. Under his leadership, the Tattoo has evolved from an entertaining military band show into a must-see international spectacle. The Tattoo now has thousands of devoted fans from around the U.S. and the world who attend every year to experience the show's unique and spiritual expression of gratitude to the men and women of our armed forces, respect for our friends and allies around the world, and love for the sound of massed bagpipes.

The proud brother of an active-duty member of the United States Navy, Scott's expression of gratitude to our men and women in uniform is both deeply personal and unmistakably visible every year at the Tattoo. Two key elements which Scott recently added to the Tattoo experience are **Hullabaloo** - a festive pre- and post-event celebration on the Scope plaza featuring music, dance, food and a chance for the audience to interact with performers and **Special Audience Night** – a chance for families (like Scott's) who include someone with special needs to attend the Tattoo's Dress Rehearsal for free.

The size of the cast, number of performances, outreach to students, number of participating countries and total audience attendance have all doubled under Scott's leadership, showing that even in the 21st century there is a place for an event which honors and celebrates some of our most traditional values.

As an Arts Administrator, Mr. Jackson is currently the General Manager of the Virginia Arts Festival. Scott joined the Festival in 1996, became the Director of Operations in 1998, and then came into his current position in 1999. As General Manager, Scott is involved in all aspects of the management of the Festival, though he primarily focuses on fundraising/development, education outreach, office management, and the production and direction of the Virginia International Tattoo. Mr. Jackson draws on his background as a performer to fuel a constant supply of creative solutions and personal passion for administrative challenges

Scott has an extensive background as a performer. He is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of the Eastman School of Music with a Bachelor of Music Performance, and he also holds a master's degree in applied music from Temple University. He has performed for such conductors as Leonard Bernstein, Andre Prévin, Lorin Maazel, Seiji Ozawa, Leonard Slatkin, and Simon Rattle, and is currently a member of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra under the direction of JoAnn Falletta. Prior to joining the VSO in 1995, Scott was a member of the New World Symphony under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas for three years.

As an educator, Scott has served on the faculty of Florida International University, Old Dominion University, Hampton University, and Christopher Newport University. He was a founding member of the SouthBeat percussion group in Miami, Florida, which was known for its innovative educational programs.

Scott was the first director of the Virginia Arts Festival's Education and Community Outreach Department. In that role, he created the Rhythm Project, an afterschool program designed to provide positive experiences for at-risk students through the Arts. That program, which began with thirteen students in Portsmouth, now serves more than 150 students throughout Hampton Roads.

Scott is married with three children and resides in Norfolk.