

Professor Darryl L. Baker

Professor Darryl L. Baker, a distinguished Miami native, has been appointed the new Director of Athletic Bands at Florida International University. A proud Miami Norland Senior High graduate, Professor Baker has dedicated his career to music education and band leadership. He earned both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Music from Florida A&M University, where he developed his skills and developed a deep passion for band directing.

Professor Baker's professional journey includes significant tenures as the Director of Bands at his alma mater, Miami Norland Senior High, and as the Assistant Director of Marching and Pep Bands at Florida A&M University. Under his direction, the Miami Norland Band Program earned numerous superior ratings on the district and state levels. The program also received the prestigious Otto J. Kraushaar Award from the Florida Bandmasters Association (FBA) in 2018. Additionally, the Miami Norland Wind Ensemble was named the 2018 Grand National Adjudicators Invitational (GNAI) Grand National Champion Award, a testament to his leadership and the high standards he instilled in his students.

The past six years Professor Baker served as the Assistant Director of Marching and Pep Bands at Florida A&M University. During this tenure Professor Baker served a pivotal role in student recruitment, both in-state and nationally, student retention, band logistics for national and international performances, and Band Operations. Mr. Baker also served as the coordinator for The FAMU Bands Wind Band Festival and FAMU "Marching 100" Summer Band Camp.

At FIU, Professor Baker is expected to bring his extensive experience, dynamic leadership, and commitment to excellence to FIU's Band Program. His appointment marks an exciting new chapter for the university's bands, promising innovative performances and renewed vigor. Professor Baker's rich background and deep ties to the South Florida community make him an invaluable addition to FIU's faculty, where he will continue to inspire and elevate the next generation of musicians. His proven track record of success and dedication to music education positions him perfectly to lead Bands at FIU to new heights. Professor Baker is married to Mrs. Teshca Harris Baker and the proud father of five children: Storm, Kevin, Kimaia, Trei, and Kendal.