Anthony Cirone (b.1941) Born in Jersey City, NJ he went on to receive his BS and MS degrees from Julliard School of Music where he studied with Saul Goodman of the New York Philharmonic. After he graduated he was offered the position of Percussionist in the San Francisco Symphony where he spent a several years performing with the ensemble. He recently retired as Professor of Music at Indiana University, but also spent time teaching at San Francisco State University and Stanford University.

As a composer he has published over 70 titles for various ensembles, but primarily percussion literature. His snare drum book Portraits in Rhythm has become a standard for developing percussionist throughout the world. Cirone was inducted to the Percussive Arts Society Hal of Fame November 2, 2007.


Warren Benson (1924-2005) Mostly known for his works for wind ensembles he spent a long time playing with the Detroit Symphony as a percussionist. He got his degrees from the University of Michigan and received various grants and accolades from his works he produced while going to school. He spent 14 years of his career as Professor of Percussion and Composition for Ithaca College, but then in 1967 he became Professor of Composition at the Eastman School of Music. He took a short break being a visiting Professor at several universities in the United States but eventually went back to Eastman until his retirement as Professor Emeritus in 1993.