

## 2011 SCKMEA District Orchestra Director

**Benjamin Cline**, cellist, is currently teaching at Fort Hays State University as Assistant Professor of Cello and Bass, Director of Orchestras, and serving as Department Chair. Previously he was Visiting Professor of Cello at the University of Northern Colorado. Mr. Cline is accomplished in both solo and orchestral roles, and has held several titled positions in orchestras in Colorado and California. He has performed in Taiwan and Italy, on public radio, and across the United States.

In addition to his performance activities, Mr. Cline is an active teacher. He has many years of experience teaching both privately and in the public school classroom, having taught at all levels from kindergarten through graduate school. He has served as an adjudicator in solo and ensemble festivals, all-state orchestras, given master classes around the country, and actively recruits for public school music programs. He continues to be active as an educator in the primary and secondary areas, most notably with his work as pedagogical advisor to the Western Kansas String Academy.

Mr. Cline earned his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Northern Colorado, where he studied with Jim Fittz, and later studied with Alan Harris at the Cleveland Institute of Music. While at CIM, he also received instruction from Stephen Geber, Anne Epperson, members of the Cleveland Quartet, the Cavani Quartet, and participated in a master class with the Julliard String Quartet.

