

Short Bio 250 words

Mihoko Watanabe, a distinguished flutist from Japan, is a Professor of Flute and Chair of the Entrepreneurial Music Certificate Program at Ball State University. She has taught at renowned institutions, including the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, Memorial University of Newfoundland, and the University of Windsor.

An accomplished performer and educator, Dr. Watanabe conducts masterclasses across the USA, Canada, and Japan, and regularly adjudicates for international and national music competitions. She has performed globally as a recitalist, chamber musician, and concerto soloist in countries like Japan, Israel, England, Germany, and Canada. Currently, she is the principal flutist with Orchestra Indiana and collaborates with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Watanabe is also an active researcher, contributing to the field of ethnomusicology with her article “Essence of Mei,” published in *Flutist Quarterly* and translated into German and Dutch. She chaired the 66th College Music Society (CMS) National Conference in Miami in 2023.

With degrees from the University of Michigan, Eastman School of Music, and Musashino Academia Musicae, Dr. Watanabe is a certified meditation teacher and offers mindfulness workshops, demonstrating her commitment to holistic education and well-being. More about her work can be found on her website, www.mihokoflute.com.