## Illinois State University Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts School of Music

# Thompson Junior High School Symphonic Band

Chandran J. Daniel & Julie Kleinmaier, conductors

# Traughber Junior High School Symphonic Band

Rachel Maxwell & Devin Cano, conductors Hunter Valkema, student teacher

&

# Illinois State University Symphonic Band

TJ Mack, *conductor* Mark Babbitt, *trombone* 

> Center for the Performing Arts April 24, 2024 Wednesday Evening 7:00 p.m.

This is the one hundred and eighty-ninth program of the 2023-2024 season.

## **Program**

Please silence all electronic devices for the duration of the concert. Thank you.

## **Thompson Junior High School Symphonic Band**

**Kvetchers** Laure Estes (b. 1959) Michael Sweeney Southern Folk Rhapsody (b. 1952) **Carol Brittin Chambers Byzantine Dances** (b. 1970) **Traughber Junior High School Symphonic Band** Douglas Akey Susato Prelude (b. 1957) Christina Huss & R. Alan Carter (b. 1962 & 1964) Randall Standridge (b. 1976) **Illinois State University Symphonic Band** 

> Katahj Copley (b. 1998)

> > Viet Cuong (b. 1990)

**Presentation of Scholarships** 

**Ancient Flower** 

The Hounds of Spring

Mark Babbitt, trombone

Yukiko Nishimura (b. 1967)

> Alfred Reed (1921-2005)

Scarborough Fantasy

Argentum

AYO

Howls and Hymns

## **Program Notes**

Thank you for joining us for today's performance of the Thompson & Traughber Junior High School Symphonic Bands as well as the Illinois State University Symphonic Band. We hope that you will enjoy our concert, and that you might consider joining us again for future performances here at the ISU School of Music. Please visit http://www.bands.illinoisstate.edu for more information. Thank you for your support!

## **Thompson Junior High School Symphonic Band**

*Kvetchers* Year Composed: 2020, Duration: 2:20 Laura Estes

Laura Estes (b.1959) is an American composer and educator. A South Florida native, Estes earned her bachelor's degree in music education from Florida State University and her master's degree in music education from Georgia State University. Before retiring in 2018, Laura Estes taught middle and high school band for 36 years, most recently in the Cobb County School System (Ga.) as the associate band director at Smitha Middle School. Throughout her career, her bands consistently earned Superior ratings at concert festivals and competitions, and her students were regular participants in All-State and Honor Bands, as well as solo and ensemble evaluations.

Ms. Estes was awarded the National Band Association's Citation of Excellence, as her middle and high school bands were selected on multiple occasions to perform at clinics in both Georgia and Alabama. In addition to presenting at GMEA, she has given clinics to future music educators at the university level.

Since retiring, she enjoys composing music for young band students while continuing to serve as an adjudicator, guest conductor, and clinician.

Program note from the publisher:

A colloquial term for "complainers," *Kvetchers* is a fun and quirky concert march in the style of a musical joke. Wonderfully scored, each section has its own "surprise," perfect for working on independent section playing.

Southern Folk Rhapsody Year Composed: 2005 Duration: 4:30 Michael Sweeney

Michael Sweeney (b. 1952) is an ASCAP award-winning American composer and musician.Sweeney studied music education and composition at Indiana University in Bloomington, and taught five years in public schools of Ohio and Indiana, where he taught many concert, jazz and marching programs (including three years with the respected Greenwood High School Marching Woodmen) for students from elementary to high school.

Since 1982, Mr. Sweeney has worked full time for Hal Leonard Corporation in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and is currently Director of Band Publications. In addition, he contributes as a composer and arranger in all instrumental areas. Sweeney is particularly known for his writing at the younger levels for concert and jazz bands, and has over 500 publications to his credit. His works appear on numerous state contest lists and his music is regularly performed around the world. An ASCAP award-winning composer, his Ancient Voices (1994) and Imperium (1992) are analyzed in music education texts from GIA Publications.

Program note from publisher:

Some of America's most beloved folk melodies have been crafted into a work rich in musicality and strong in general appeal. The recurring strains of Swing Low, Sweet Chariot are woven together with Wayfaring Stranger, followed by a sensitive treatment of Steal Away. The piece then closes with a rousing gospel version of Every time I Feel the Spirit.

> Byzantine Dances Year Composed: 2018, Duration: 1:50 Carol Brittin Chambers

**Carol Brittin Chambers** (b. 1970) is an American composer, educator, and arranger. Ms. Chambers received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Texas Tech University and a Master of Music degree in trumpet performance from Northwestern University. She studied under Vincent Cichowicz, Will Strieder, John Paynter, Arnold Jacobs, and James Sudduth.

Chambers is the composer and owner of Aspenwood Music, LLC. She is commissioned each year to compose and arrange works for concert band, marching band, orchestra, and various other ensembles. Her concert works have been selected to the J.W. Pepper Editor's Choice List and the Bandworld Top 100 and have been performed at state educator conferences across the country, including the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. She has arranged and orchestrated marching shows for numerous high school and college bands across the country, as well as The Crossmen Drum Corps.

Ms. Chambers was named the winner of the 2019 WBDI (Women Band Directors International) Composition Competition. Program note by composer:

*Byzantine Dances* is generally meant to portray a set of Turkish dances. The opening dance is fast and energetic, written in the style of a Roma Gypsy dance. During this upbeat dance, the melody incorporates grace notes that are fun to play, while the harmony and bass line incorporate enjoyable countermelodies and syncopated lines. The slower section in the middle of the piece is written in the style of a Zeybek dance. This type of dance is often performed by a solo dancer symbolizing courage and heroism. The dancer uses outstretched arms, almost resembling a great hawk.

In this piece, I chose to incorporate some uniquely Turkish-sounding elements. Much of the melodic material is based on either the Byzantine scale or the harmonic major scale, both of which produce a somewhat exotic sound. Another element is the use of Turkish zills, or finger cymbals, which are often used in dances of this region.

The Byzantine Empire, also known as the Eastern Roman Empire, lasted from about 400 to 1453 A.D. and covered much of the area of what is now Turkey. With the conquest of the Byzantine Empire's capital, Constantinople, the Ottoman Empire began its reign in 1453. After World War I, the Ottoman Empire fell, and the Republic of Turkey was formed in 1923.

## **Traughber Junior High School Symphonic Band**

## A Susato Prelude Year Composed: 1994, Duration: 4:20 Douglas Akey

**Douglas Akey** (b. 1957) Is an American composer and teacher. Mr. Akey began his musical training in the public schools of Elmhurst, Illinois. He attended Arizona State University on a performance scholarship, earning a Bachelor of Music degree in instrumental music (1979) and a Master of Music degree in solo performance (1985).

In 1985, Mr. Akey received the Stanbury Award of the American School Band Directors Association as the outstanding young junior high school band director in the United States. From 1987 to 2006, Akey was director of bands and music/drama department chairperson at Hendrix Junior High School in Chandler, Arizona. His bands have been invited to perform numerous education conferences, including the 1994 Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic and the 1998 Music Educators National Conference.

Akey currently teaches music technology and band at the Mesa Academy for Advanced Studies in Mesa, Arizona, and serves as director of the Tempe Symphony Orchestra. He is in demand as a clinician, having directed many junior high school and high school honor bands throughout the United States. Mr. Akey is an active performer, having played with the Del Sol Brass Quintet and Arizona Brass Quintet, as well as the Phoenix and Tucson Symphony Orchestras. He currently serves as principal horn with the Tempe Symphony Orchestra.

Program note from score:

This work was first written in 1963 for brass band under the title Little Suite for Brass. Paynter's Tielman — or Tylman — Susato Tielman Susato (c. 1510/15 – after 1570) was a Renaissance composer, instrumentalist and publisher of music in Antwerp.Commissioned by and dedicated to the 1994 Greater Phoenix Performing Arts Program and the Junior High Honor Wind Ensemble.

> Scarborough Fantasy Year Composed: 2023 Duration: 3:00 Christina Huss & R. Alan Carter

**Christina Huss** (b. 1962) is an American educator & composer. She received her Bachelor of Music in Education degree from the Valdosta State College in 1984 and graduated with her master's degree in music education from Valdosta State University in 1991. With a career spanning 35+ years in American music education, Ms. Huss has taught and conducted bands at both the middle school and high school level, most recently as director of bands at Valdosta Middle School, where she retired in 2016.

**R. Alan Carter** (b. 1964) Mr. Carter earned his Bachelor of Music degree from Valdosta State University in 1986. Mr. Carter is a retired band director of 31 years who spent much of his career with middle school band, principally in Brooks County, Georgia. He was chosen as 2014-15 Teacher of the Year for the Ware County Middle School. He is now an adjudicator and music consultant throughout the South.

He has done musical arrangements for marching bands, concert bands, and church choirs as well as solo and ensembles works for churches. Carter is a charter member of the Azalea Winds Classic Community Band and serves on the board. He also is a member of the Georgia Music Educators Association, American College of Piano Teachers, and the Professional Association of Georgia Educators.

Program note from publisher:

This hauntingly beautiful composition featuring beautiful original and traditional melodies with lush harmonic construction lets performers experience and learn about expressive playing in minor keys. With a lyrical legato flow, emotional key change, and several musically expressive moments for every section, this inspiring work offers a modern take on a timeless classic.

### Argentum Year Composed: 2015, Duration: 5:40 Randall Standridge

**Randall Standridge** (b. 1976) Is an American composer & arranger. Randall Standridge received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Arkansas State University. During this time, he studied composition with Tom O'Connor, before returning to Arkansas State University to earn his master's in music composition, studying with Tom O'Connor and Tim Crist. In 2001, he began his tenure as director of bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas. He left this post in 2013 to pursue a career as a full-time composer and marching arts designer.

Mr. Standridge's music is performed internationally. He has had numerous works selected to the J.W. Pepper's editor's choice. His compositions *Snake Charmer, Gently Blows the Summer Wi*nd, and *Angelic Celebrations* have been included in the Teaching Music Through Performance in Band series. He has had numerous works performed at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. His work *Art(isms)* was premiered by the Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and his work *Stonewall: 1969* was premiered at the National LGBA conference in 2019. Mr. Standridge is also a contributing composer for Alfred Music's Sound Innovations: Ensemble Development series.

Program note from publisher:

Using the Latin word for silver as its title, this stirring band work was commissioned to honor the career of Ron McHone (the composer's high school band director) and the 25th Anniversary of his tenure at Sheridan, Arkansas, High School. The work begins with a 7/8 section, an inside nod to Mr. McHone's fondness of the music of Claude T. Smith, then kicks into a highspirited Scottish sounding dance. After a reflective middle section, the piece recaps the introductory material before finally coming to a rousing conclusion.

## **Illinois State University Symphonic Band**

AYO

Year Composed: 2022, Duration: 4:10 Katahj Copley

**Katahj Copley** (b.1996) is an American saxophonist, composer, and educator. Copley holds a bachelor's degree in music education and composition from the University of West Georgia. Currently [2022], he is pursuing a master's in music composition at the University of Texas at Austin. He plans to attend Michigan State University for his DMA.

Copley's first work, *Spectra*, was premiered in 2017 by the University of West Georgia's Saxophone Ensemble. Since then, Copley has written over sixty pieces, including over twenty-five for wind band, which have been performed by many local high schools.

Aside from composing, Copley is an educator who teaches young musicians the joy of discovering music and why music is a phenomenal language. Music for Copley has always been this impactful thing in his life. It can soothe, it can enrage, it can quiet and it can evoke emotions that are beyond him and this world we live in. He believes that music is the ultimate source of freedom and imagination, and the most freedom he has had as a musician was through composing. Composition is like opening one's heart and showing the world his spirit, drive, and passion.

Program note from the composer:

Salutations. Greetings. Hello. Hi. Hey. Yo. Ayo. These terms along with countless others have been used to greet people throughout history. However, the term "AYO" is different. Rooted from hip hop and jazz cultures, AYO is built in the black language. It's used to tell when something is right, when something is wrong, when something is awesome, and when something is too sweet for words. Its use is seen with your closest people, your family, or people who know you best. It's personal. In short, "AYO" is a personal embrace that can represent life.

With this piece I wanted build the kind of embrace you would get from this one word while also honoring its beginnings – using hip hop rhythms and colorful harmonies. By the end of the piece, we the listeners go from uncertainty to home; and with the uniqueness of the piece, we in turn celebrate not only a word like AYO but also celebrate life.

Howls and Hymns Year Composed: 2017, Duration: 8:00 Viet Cuong

**Viet Cuong** (b. 1990) is an American composer. Viet holds the Curtis Institute of Music's Daniel W. Dietrich II Composition Fellowship as an Artist Diploma student of David Ludwig and Jennifer Higdon. Viet received his MFA from Princeton University as a Naumburg and Roger Sessions Fellow, and he finished his Ph.D. there in 2021. At Princeton he studied with Steven Mackey, Donnacha Dennehy, Dan Trueman, Dmitri Tymoczko, Paul Lansky, and Louis Andriessen. Viet holds Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Peabody Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University, where he studied with Pulitzer Prize-winner Kevin Puts and Oscar Bettison. Viet is a member of BMI, the American Composers Forum, and the Blue Dot Collective, a group of composers who focus on writing adventurous new music for wind band. In 2020-2021, he was composer-in-residence at Kennesaw State University, Georgia. In 2024, he became one of the youngest members ever to be elected to the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.

Program note from the composer:

As the title suggests, Howls and Hymns is at its core inspired by the idea of uniting things that many people might consider to be disparate. In this case, these two entities are a young wind band and a professional-caliber trombonist. When Tim [Smith] approached me to write this piece, I found the concept incredibly inspiring, as many young musicians are not often exposed to professional-caliber musicians other than their band directors. Having opportunities to perform with such musicians is even rarer, despite the fact that these can be some of the most formative and memorable experiences for students.

Whether the trombone soloist is from the local orchestra, university, or even high school, I hope that this piece will continue to make these guest artist collaborations a normal occurrence, especially with ensembles that perform at a grade 3 level. Uniting musicians of skill levels and ages can only do good for our musical and artistic communities, and I was humbled to be a part of this project. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this piece possible, including Tim Smith and the eleven bands and their directors!

> Ancient Flower Year Composed: 2013/2015, Duration: 4:40 Yukiko Nishimura

**Yukiko Nishimura** (b.1967) composer and pianist. Nishimura graduated from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 1990. One year later, she began graduate study with Alfred Reed at the University of Miami. In 1993 she went to the Manhattan School of Music for further study. She has studied composition with Atsutada Otaka, Dr. Alfred Reed, Dr. Richard Danielpour, and Giampaolo Bracali.

She studied piano with Ivan Davis and Dr. Sara Davis Buechner. In 1994 she returned to Japan. Since 1996, she has given concerts consisting entirely of her own music in Japan.

Ms. Nishimura has received numerous commissions and has composed for piano, marimba, percussion, chamber music, band music, music for string instruments and orchestra. She has also been active as a pianist and an arranger. Her compositions Bright Moon and Sparkleberry respectively won special mention at the 15th and 26th International Competitions for Original Compositions for Band, held in Corciano, Italy. She also won the sixth Aoyama Award; and received second prize at the concerto competition at University of Miami as a pianist. Program Notes from the composer:

An oriental atmosphere is created by the floating melodies of this exotic piece, originally written for orchestra. In the opening, a long, sensitive melodic line emerges, supported by Western-style harmonies. Just as a dainty flower slowly opens, this expressive music blossoms into a work of delicate beauty.

## *The Hounds of Spring* Year Composed: 1981, Duration: 8:45 Alfred Reed

Alfred Reed (1921-2005) was an American composer, arranger, conductor, and educator. Born into a family of Austrian descent that cherished music, Alfred Reed began his musical studies at age ten on trumpet, and by high school age he was performing professionally in the Catskills at resort hotels. He served as musician and arranger during World War II in the 529th Army Air Force Band, for which he created more than 100 works, and following the war was a student of Vittorio Giannini at Juilliard.

With over 250 published works for concert band, wind ensemble, orchestra, chorus, and various smaller chamber music groups, many of which have been on the required performance lists in this country for the past 20 years, Mr. Reed was one of the nation's most prolific and frequently performed composers.

His work as a guest conductor and clinician took him to 49 states, Europe, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Australia, and South America, and for many years, at least eight of his works have been on the required list of music for all concert bands in Japan, where he was the most frequently performed foreign composer today. He left New York for Miami, Florida, in 1960, where he made his home until his death.

Program note from the composer:

When the hounds of spring are in winter's traces, a magical picture of young love in springtime, forms the basis for the present purely musical setting, in traditional three-part overture form, of this lovely paean... an attempt to capture the twin elements of the poem, exuberant youthful gaiety and the sweetness of tender love, in an appropriate musical texture. The Hounds of Spring was commissioned by, and dedicated to, the John L. Forster Secondary School Concert Band of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, and its director, Gerald A. N. Brown. The world premiere was in Windsor on May 8, 1980, conducted by the composer.

### **Biographies**

**TJ Mack** is the Assistant Director of Bands at Illinois State University where he directs the Symphonic Band, Pep Band, and teaches courses in Music Education. He also writes drill and assists with Big Red Marching Machine, with over 350 undergraduate students participating. TJ is currently the faculty advisor for United Sound, an organization that gives music lessons to adults with disabilities in Bloomington-Normal and is the director of the ISU Jr High/Sr High Band Camps. He is a co-developer of the Emile Rhythm app, an active drill writer for many high schools and universities, and also enjoys many opportunities to be a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout Illinois.

Previously, TJ was a graduate teaching assistant at The Ohio State University while completing his Master of Music degree in Wind Conducting. While at Ohio State, he was awarded the Clare Grundman Scholarship Award and worked extensively with the concert bands, marching and athletic bands, and taught undergraduate conducting. A native of Illinois, he holds his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Wheaton College and taught 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade band for six years in Northwestern Illinois.

Trombonist **Mark Babbitt** enjoys a multi-faceted career as a soloist, orchestral musician, and teacher. Currently principal trombone of the Peoria Symphony Orchestra, he has performed extensively with the Seattle Symphony and Opera. With the Seattle Symphony he recorded the music of Bodine, Borodin, Brahms/Sheng, Dvorak, McKinley, Mahler, and Schuman.

Mark has been active in the recording industry, projects include: "Valkyrie", "The Incredible Hulk", video game "The Prince of Persia", and Trey Anastasio's "Time Turns Elastic".

He has performed as guest principal trombone with Seattle Symphony, Oregon Symphony, Honolulu Symphony, Illinois Symphony, West Virginia Symphony, Heartland Festival Orchestra, and the Decatur Millikin Symphony Orchestra.

As a soloist, he has appeared with the Peoria Symphony, Everett Symphony, Chelan Bach Festival Orchestra, San Francisco Wind Ensemble, Seattle Wind Symphony, Cascade Winds, as well as several university ensembles throughout the country.

Since 2010, Dr. Babbitt has been Professor of Trombone at Illinois State University. Additionally, he served for ten years as Associate Professor of Trombone at Central Washington University. He holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music, Cleveland Institute of Music, and the University of Washington.

## Thompson Junior High School Symphonic Band

Chandran J. Daniel & Julie Kleinmaier, conductors

#### Flute

Allysson Aceves Shruti Vavilala

**Bassoon** Adam Omar

#### Clarinet

Sophia Augustine Kadence Blocker Angel Dent Karina Huerta Lucas Martin Alex Schaefer Amber Simson

**Bass Clarinet** Ruby Dailing

Ruby Daning

#### Alto Saxophone Larissa Aragon Jeleyah Galvez Adrianna Lanzara Madelyn-Jordyn Mensah

**Tenor Saxophone** Christopher Dutton

**Baritone Saxophone** Macie Pope

#### Horn

Christian Garza Smogur Weston Sofia Tarnowski**Trumpet** Beckham Brolley Adam Chilelli Sophia Glynn Aubyn Holtz

**Trombone** Rowan Dyche

#### **Baritone** Nathanial Goress Maxwell Harris Grey Slater

**Tuba** Lewis Barrett Joseph Schuck

Percussion Rashaad Campbell Henry Clinton Armani Gonzalez Leo Guglielmi David Lara Jack Royster

# **Traughber Junior High School Symphonic Band**

Rachel Maxwell & Devin Cano, conductors Hunter Valkema, student teacher

#### Flute

Emma Camacho Teagan Davis Samantha DiCosola Aiden Lozano Olivia Melinauskas Mallory Paustenbach Layla Rafeh Sydney Saucier

#### Oboe

Leilani Del Valle

**Bassoon** Daniella Davi

#### Clarinet

Melina Acosta Olivia Baez Jake Gilbert Sofia Herrera Jillian Jensen Kendra July Harsimran Kaur Justin Leracey Aela Dairlene Munyaneza Teto Jayda Neal Taylor Pavelka Ella Salas Nora Taylor

#### **Bass Clarinet**

Nathan Olandese Samantha Simmert Brandon Thilk

#### **Alto Saxophone**

Natalia Hernandez Lara Kattoum Cameron Moore

#### **Tenor Saxophone** Isabella Gonzalez

Corinne Zikmund

**Baritone Saxophone** Yvette Lapidu

#### Horn

Brayden Daleiden Max Weglarz

#### Trumpet

Charles Butkus Bradley DeAngelis Landin Doyle Chase Farries Claire Flanigan Miranda Kruglik Gwendolynn Moffett Logan O'Day Samuel Padilla Owen Peat Kennedy Wickie

#### Trombone

Lane Abbott Teagan Bywater Luke Cyncar Lucy McCambridge Jonah McCoskey Maxwell New Sophia Padilla Katelynn Pescador Sara Rogers Maxwell Schmeckpeper Callie Struve Justin William

#### Baritone

Cadence Collins Shelby Van Kley

#### Tuba

Chace Lafferty Jamal Robinson Brian Williams

#### Percussion

Laura Carson Jude Kowalski Tyler Liska Declan McClure Jacob Modaff Blake Musson Lily Roller Eli Smith Kimberly Vazquez

Illinois State University Symphonic Band

### TJ Mack, conductor

#### Flute

Maya Denic Sarah Huber\* Sam Kapus Elizabeth William

**Oboe** Kathryn Tepen\*

**Bassoon** Samantha Skinner\* Justice Tolan

Clarinet

Karen Bautista Xavier Blanco, bass Carly Bridgewater Anna Cagwin Hannah Donahue Casper Faltz Ben Keene Cian Martinez\* Mikey Moran Alicia Reese Ryan Rubio

#### Saxophone

Quinn Barker Abram Kamm David Lukaszczyk Kalli Reeves Gunnar Tejes\*

#### Horn

Ryn Bradison Franklin Daviau Alyssa Kleinmaier Will McNally Nick Proenza Joseph Sandy Jessica Wenc\*

#### Trumpet

William Greer Ryan Kelly Grace Morris Kevin Riedl Sam Roberts Allison Schmuldt\* Ezra Tirado Lauren Wallace Matthew Weaver

#### Trombone

Iona Dillon\* Jacob Ensor Alyssa Greer Riley Hobart, bass Noah Lampel Brian Nicolellis

#### Euphonium

Miles Maxwell Colin Norsworthy Jei Jandura\*

#### Tuba

Jennifer Gehrke Tony Pelini Ryan White\*

#### Percussion

Brendan Boss Caleb Buie Ben Haushalter\* Casey Judge Carlos Montoya Jacob Wolfmeyer

Graduate Teaching Assistants: Jeason Lopez, Christopher Bulding, Alexis Piña



#### THANK YOU

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