



BIGGER AND

BRIGHTER

Concert of the 2021 Pride Bands Alliance Conference
Nov. 21, 2021 | 7:00PM | Cullen Theater at the Wortham Theater Center



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am so happy to welcome you to the Pride Bands Alliance 2021 Annual Conference! Live! In Person!

As we gather for this “extended band family reunion”, we extend our sincerest gratitude to our hosts, the Houston Pride Band, who have had to endure so much to make their dream of hosting the conference come true. They originally planned this conference to take place over Labor Day weekend in 2017, under the name “The Stars at Night”. Just a week before the conference began, Hurricane Harvey unleashed unprecedented flooding across the city, forcing our Houston friends to cancel the conference. Years of planning and effort were drowned in the flood waters.

Nevertheless, Houston team persisted as they planned a new conference for July 2021. The effort was well underway when the novel coronavirus shut down all arts activities. They kept working in the hope that we would be past the pandemic by the planned date. They postponed their conference plans until now, fortunately missing the crest of the Delta wave. I have been so impressed by the conference team’s grit and grace in pursuing their dream through two enormously difficult situations. I hope you have a chance to thank them greatly for everything they have done so we can be together again.

When the global pandemic began, we soon learned that the medium and the method of our art—the air and our breathing—were the primary route by which the virus infected others. For a time, we despaired as we stayed at home, separated from our band families, the communities we serve, and the music that inspires us. As 2020 progressed, we shared ideas about ways to rehearse and perform virtually, rekindling our music while also making it accessible to an even wider audience than before.

Our Pride Bands are coming back “Bigger and Brighter”, rehearsing and performing again in person with a renewed commitment to providing visibility for our LGBTQ+ community. As we return to our concert halls and march in our streets, our pride provides an inspiration to those discovering their authentic selves and those looking for a positive expression of our community. Through our new music, we will continue to build bridges of acceptance to people all over the world.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clifton Norris".

Clifton Norris, President
Pride Bands Alliance
(he/him/his)

SAVE THE DATE! | May 26-29, 2022



SWEET HOME CHICAGO



PRIDE BANDS ALLIANCE 2022 | 40TH ANNIVERSARY

40 YEARS OF MUSIC, VISIBILITY, AND PRIDE

COME BACK TO WHERE IT ALL STARTED!



Register Today at
LGBA2022.org



BIGGER AND BRIGHTER

Pride Bands Alliance Concert | Nov. 21, 2021 | 7:00P | Presented by the **houston★pride★band**

PROGRAM

BLUEBONNET BAND

Kirkpatrick Fanfare

Sponsored by Larry Trout, dedicated to his family

David Lea, conductor

Andrew Boysen, Jr.

Don Ricardo

Sponsored by Robyn Rosencutter, dedicated to Lois Rosencutter

Deborah Hirsch, conductor

Gabriel Musella

Percussion by Rick Rodriguez

Shenandoah

Sponsored by Sharon Prince, dedicated to Pastor Diane McGeHee & Bering Memorial UCC

Dr. Jamal Duncan, conductor

Omar Thomas

Dusk

Sponsored by Lisa Mace, with much love in memory of Connie Moore

Beth Bronk, conductor

Steven Bryant

Journey Through Orion

Sponsored by Nicholas Droger

Dr. Joseph Accuardi-Gilliam, conductor

Julie Giroux

The March from 1941

Sponsored by Teresa Clemens & Deborah Hirsch, in honor and memory of General Raymond S. McLain (grandfather) & parents, Dr. and Mrs. Ted Clemens Jr.

Todd Dock, conductor

John Williams

arr. Paul Lavender

Program underwritten by William Fu





The Houston Pride Band dedicates this concert to the memory of Debbie Hunt (1961–2017), co-chair of the 2017 conference committee.

YELLOW ROSE BAND

Sogno di Volare

Sponsored by Jen Rodriguez, in memory of Debbie Hunt

Craig Bunch, conductor

Christopher Tin

arr. Matt Conaway

"Mars" from The Planets

Sponsored by Jason Svatek and George Gehring

Derek Hebert, conductor

Gustav Holst

arr. William Owens

This Cruel Moon

Sponsored by Michael Woods, in Memory of Ed Jones, band director, mentor, & friend

Dr. Jamal Duncan, conductor

John Mackey

Loch Lomond

Sponsored by Jan Wesson & Mary Beth Alsdorf, in loving memory of Stephanie Abbott, dear friend & heck of a farrier

Deborah Hirsch, conductor

Frank Ticheli

Seis Manuel from Islas y Montañas

Sponsored by Bryce Swinford

Beth Bronk, conductor

Shelly Hanson

The Right Stuff

Sponsored by David Lea, dedicated to Harry E.

David Lea, conductor

Bill Conti

arr. Jiří Kabát

Presented by the Houston Pride Band in conjunction with the Pride Bands Alliance



houston*pride*band

<http://houstonprideband.org>



<http://lgba.org>

Artistic Leadership

Artistic Directors

Deborah Hirsch
Houston Pride Band

David Lea
Houston Pride Band

Pep Band Conductor

Chris Foster
Houston Pride Band

Pride Band Alliance Directors

Dr. Joseph Accuardi-Gilliam
Rose City Gay Freedom Band

Derek Hebert
Mile High Freedom Band

Craig Bunch
Rose City Gay Freedom Band

Guest Conductors

Dr. Jamal Duncan
Arizona State University

Beth Bronk
Texas Lutheran University

Todd Dock
Diboll ISD

Bluebonnet Band

Flute/Piccolo

Brandon Gray¹
Taka Aoki¹⁸
Nicholas Davila⁸
David Doan⁷
Daniel Stevens²⁰
Amanda Brown¹¹
Jonathan Ellis⁸
Patrice Mustaaftaa⁹

Oboe

Stephen J. Brown²³
Rick Vaughan¹⁹

Bassoon

David DiCamillo⁸
Kevon Hall²
Juan Hernandez¹¹

Clarinet

Joe Dombrowski⁸
Mario Garcia⁶
Marty Johnson¹⁴
Simon Heppell⁶
William Fu⁸

Drew Garrett¹¹
Andrew Beals¹⁰
Alejandro Martinez¹⁵
Christian Montes¹⁰
Robyn Rosencutter⁸
Kayla DuBrow⁸

Bass Clarinet

Michael Eaves¹²
Curtis Anderson¹¹
Cheryl Dykstra⁹
Nicolas Droger⁸

Contrabass Clarinet

Andrew Beals¹⁰

Alto Saxophone

Drew LaBonne¹¹
Gene Terry¹³
Jamie Roberson⁵
Larry Trout⁸

Tenor Saxophone

Sean Casey⁵
Jason Morley¹
Lindsay Brown²¹

Baritone Saxophone

Brandon A. Lujan¹¹
Tony Daniel¹²

Trumpet

Adam Jatho⁸
Zachary Alcantara⁸
Melissa Terrell⁹
Mary Beth Alsdorf⁸
Amanda Pease¹⁸
Scott Helms⁶
Tim Yanok⁴

French Horn

Erin Watters¹
Tali Linton¹¹
Candace Weslosky Miller¹
Jose E. Garza MD⁸

Trombone

Leah Phillips¹¹
Nathan Brown¹⁰
Derek Hebert¹¹
Trudy J. Allen⁸
Tim Erickson²³
Noel Freeman⁸

Baritone/Euphonium

Ryan Horine⁸
Russell Ben Williams⁸

Tuba

Justin Raines⁷
Chris Dodson²²
Chuck Varin¹¹
Chris Foster⁸

Percussion

Sally Canjura-Clayton¹⁸
Mitchell Cave¹
Christian Smythe²¹
Brad Gisclair¹¹
Derek Hassell²³
Abby Gaskins¹
Katy Okamoto⁹
Katie Steele²³
Julie Walsh²¹
Jen Rodriguez⁸
Bensen Kwan⁸
Christopher Lucas⁸

Performer Affiliations

Atlanta Freedom Bands¹
BandTogether²
Central Florida Sounds of
Freedom³

Columbus Pride Bands⁴
D.C.'s Different Drummers⁵
Desert Overture⁶
Gay Freedom Band of Los
Angeles⁷
Houston Pride Band⁸
Lakeside Pride Music
Ensembles⁹
Mid America Freedom Band¹⁰

Mile High Freedom Bands¹¹
Oak Lawn Band¹²
Philadelphia Freedom Band¹³
Pride of Indy Bands, Inc.¹⁴
Pride of San Antonio
Showband¹⁵
Rainbow City Performing
Arts¹⁶
Rose City Pride Bands¹⁷

San Francisco Lesbian/Gay
Freedom Band¹⁸
South Florida Pride Wind
Ensemble¹⁹
Tampa Bay Pride Band²⁰
The Lesbian & Gay Big Apple
Corps²¹
Triangle Pride Band²²
Affiliate Member²³



Yellow Rose Band

Flute/Piccolo

Jared Parker ¹⁹
Brian Luke ²¹
Aaron Reines ²³
Christi Gell ⁸
Jason LeBrun ¹⁶
Tracy Futch ¹¹
Karli Zackeru ¹¹
Christina Troglia ⁹

Oboe

Jamie Gunning ³
David Free ³

Bassoon

Courtney von Bergen ²³
D.J. Spaulding ⁹
Becky Schlembach ⁸

Clarinet

Gary Carroll ⁷
Doug Litwin ¹⁸
C Wayne Swearengin ¹²
Mike Woods ⁸
Andrew Diehl ¹⁶
Lenny Sanchez ¹⁶

David Tomola ⁴
Joshua Bayles ¹²
Blake Velde ¹⁹
Bill Reaney ²⁰
Jamie Schoffstall ⁹
Matthew Toland ⁹

Bass Clarinet

Arin Graner ¹¹
Miranda Rodriguez ¹²
Moirra Wilmes ¹⁸
Mindy Zimmerman ¹⁹

Contrabass Clarinet

Joshua Bayles ¹²

Alto Saxophone

Charles Roth ⁵
Fernando Arteaga ⁸
Sam Aquino Pogue ¹⁷
Len Ulibarri ¹¹
Kevin Taylor ⁸

Tenor Saxophone

Lorrie Foley ²⁰
Matt Akins ¹
Chris Mills ¹⁸

Baritone Saxophone

Lisa Mace ⁸
Van Mares ¹⁸

Trumpet

Bradley Connlain ¹⁸
Kathleen Nicole Fallin ¹
Rene Echávarri ¹⁵
Christopher Hodge ⁸
Jonathan E. Law ¹
Randy Sampson ¹⁶

French Horn

Justin Hensley ⁸
Ryan Barker ²¹
Zephaniah Mauro ¹¹
Kim Heron ¹⁷

Trombone

Nanette King ¹
Joseph Accuardi-Gilliam ¹⁷
Brian Bailey ²¹
Zef Hernandez-Hersh ¹²
David McBee ⁵
Christopher Longoria ⁸

Baritone/Euphonium

Andy Hemr ¹¹
Brooke Yahney ⁸
Ricoh Smith ³

Tuba

Will Segó ¹
John A Baker ⁶
Cliff Norris ¹
Russell Amaya ¹²
Brian Tighe ⁸

Percussion

Sally Canjura-Clayton ¹⁸
Mitchell Cave ¹
Christian Smythe ²¹
Brad Gisclair ¹¹
Derek Hassell ²³
Abby Gaskins ¹
Katy Okamoto ⁹
Katie Steele ²³
Julie Walsh ²¹
Jen Rodriguez ⁸
Bensen Kwan ⁸
Christopher Lucas ⁸

In Memoriam

Dan Berger, Trombone
Atlanta Freedom Bands

Bob Derickson, Oboe
*Founding Concert Band Director,
Atlanta Freedom Bands*

Jean Cavanaugh, Oboe
Atlanta Freedom Bands

Michael Lappin
*2013 Conference Organizer,
Atlanta Freedom Bands*

Dina Young, Clarinet
Former emcee, BandTogether

Lisa Smith, Flute
BandTogether

Keith Durling, Trombone/Baritone
BandTogether

Mat Hendrix, Flute
Charlotte Pride Band

Rick Rasko, Percussion
Former President, Columbus Pride Bands

Brandt Ventimiglia, Percussion
*Vice President,
Central Florida Sounds of Freedom*

Patricia León, Flute
Treasurer, Desert Overture

Richie Chameroy, Flute
Desert Winds Freedom Band

Tom Elliott, Flute
Desert Winds Freedom Band

Bruce Jewett, Tenor Saxophone
Desert Winds Freedom Band

Steve Collins, Percussion
D.C.'s Different Drummers

David Murphy, Timpani
Gay Freedom Band of Los Angeles

Jonathon Betancourt, Clarinet
Melbourne Rainbow Band (Australia)

Senta Harshbarger Beals, Raffle
Organizatrix
Mid America Freedom Bands

Ron Bull, Volunteer
Mile High Freedom Bands

Alex Pruzon, Tuba
Oak Lawn Band

Lisa Canjura-Clayton, Bass Clarinet/
Saxophone
*Drum Major, San Francisco Lesbian/Gay
Freedom Band*

Eddie Guarino, Clarinet
San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band

Chris Schlenker, Percussion
*Former Assistant Conductor, South Florida
Pride Wind Ensemble, Former Pride Bands
Alliance Board member*

David Lea



David Lea has been an Artistic Director for the Houston Pride Band since 2018. He joined the ensemble in 2016 and has previously served as trumpet section leader. When he's not conducting, he continues to play in the trumpet section and is a founding member of Brass Tax, an HPB brass quintet.

David earned bachelor's degrees from Texas A&M and Michigan State University in Psychology and Music Education, respectively. He earned his Master of Music Education from the University of North Texas. He has performed and participated in conducting symposiums with Drs. Kevin Sedatole and Craig Kirchoff, Dr. Matthew Westage, Michael Votta and Frank Battisti.

David is currently the Director of Bands at Michael R. Null Middle School in Northeast Houston. His bands have enjoyed successes at UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluations, and local and regional festivals. As a private trumpet teacher, his students have made Michigan All-state, earned first divisions at regional and state solo & ensemble contests, and had the honor of participating in the Michigan Youth Arts Festival. His professional memberships include Texas Music Educators and Texas Bandmasters Associations. David is an outspoken advocate for his LGBT+ students and was honored to support them by serving as the founding faculty advisor for a student organization focused on inclusion, acceptance, and community.

Artistic Directors

Deborah Hirsch



Now in her 6th season with the Houston Pride Band, Deborah Hirsch is originally from Baltimore, Maryland. She graduated from the University of Kansas with a bachelor's degree in music therapy and music education and earned a master's degree in music at Texas A&M University-Commerce. She also served in the 312th Army Band in

Lawrence, Kansas before moving to Texas.

Retiring after 37 years as a band director in Pasadena, Texas, Deborah enjoyed a successful career in public education. Ms. Hirsch was named "Teacher of the Year" in 2014.

As a participant the Colorado University Conducting Symposium in June 2016 Ms. Hirsch studied under Steve Davis, Dr. Donald McKinney, Dr. Matt Roeder and Dr. Matthew Dockendorf. In June 2019, she attended the Conn-Selmer Institute where she was able to study, consult and collaborate with many of her band idols—Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser, Dr. Paula A. Crider, Frank Troyka, Michael Sweeney and Richard Saucedo. In the 2019, Deborah was honored to direct the Association of Private Lutheran Schools Honor Band and the Texas Region 19 Class CC Band. In November 2021, she will be the guest clinician for the Texas Region 19 CCC Band in addition to sharing the podium at the Bigger and Brighter Conference of the Pride Bands Alliance.

Deborah is an active clinician, judge and consultant across the state and is a member of Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, Women Band Directors International and Texas Music Adjudicators Association.

Ms. Hirsch is also a member of the chancel choir and bell choir at Bering Memorial United Church of Christ and a long time member of Pasadena Little Theater.

Guests from Pride Bands Alliance

Dr. Joseph Accuardi-Gilliam



A National Board Certified Teacher of Instrumental Music, Dr. Joseph Accuardi-Gilliam has lived in the Portland area since birth. He studied music at Portland State University, where he earned both his Bachelor of Arts in Music, and his Master of Education degrees; and, more recently,



Joseph earned his doctorate in education at Lewis & Clark college. After a successful career as a high school band director, Dr. Accuardi-Gilliam is currently serving as an administrator at Skyview High School in the Vancouver Public Schools. An accomplished tuba player, Joseph has performed with the Pacific Crest Wind Symphony, SW Washington Wind Symphony, Oregon Symphonic Band, Newport Symphony Orchestra, Columbia Symphony Orchestra, Portland Festival Symphony and the Oregon Ballet Theatre.

Dr. Accuardi-Gilliam studied instrumental conducting with Dr. William Tuttle at Portland State University; and has attended conducting symposia with renowned wind band conductors Jerry Junkin, Richard Floyd, Dr. Allen McMurray, and Dr. Rodney Winther. Now beginning his seventeenth year as the Artistic Director of the Rose City Pride Bands, Joseph has also guest conducted the Hillsboro Symphony Orchestra, Portland Wind Symphony, and was a featured conductor at the Lesbian and Gay Band's Association National Conference in 2018. In his spare time, he enjoys winemaking, photography, winter sports and traveling with his family.

Conductor, Rose City Pride Bands

Craig Bunch



ASergeant and Clarinetist in the United States Army Reserve, SGT Craig Bunch is currently the Director of Bands and Orchestra at Hudson's Bay High School and Jason Lee Middle School in Vancouver, Washington. He began his musical journey following the footsteps of his high school choir director by pursuing a Bachelor of

Science in Music Education at Warner Pacific University. After spending some time in the classroom, SGT Bunch later earned a Master of Music Education from Boston University. This is SGT Bunch's 13th year teaching and he loves it more each year. SGT Bunch strongly believes in 'music for all' and uses the rehearsal hall as a pathway for community-building, advocacy for diverse student populations, and cultivating student leadership.

SGT Bunch attended the American Band College and studied under the baton of composers and conductors such as Frank Tichelli, Anthony Maiello, Johan de Meij, Paula Crider, and Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser. SGT Bunch is also an active member of the Lower Columbia River Music Educators Association, Technology in Music Education, and the National Association for Music Education.

Around Portland, Oregon, SGT Bunch has performed with the Rose City Wind Symphony, Portland Wind Symphony, Oregon Symphonic Band, Southwest Washington Wind Symphony, and is the former Artistic Director for Rose City Swing. SGT Bunch currently serves as the Associate Conductor for the Rose City Wind Symphony and performs with the 204th Army Reserve Band.

In his spare time, he enjoys going on adventures with his partner Sam and their dogs Boomer and Mango, gardening, making tamales, eating tacos, making salsa, drinking coffee, and enjoying dessert. Always dessert.

Conductor, Mile High Freedom Bands

Derek Hebert



Derek Hebert is in his seventh season as the Artistic Director of Denver's Mile High Freedom Bands. He joined the MHFB trombone section in 2012, took over as bandleader of MHFB Swing in 2013, and was appointed the organization's Artistic Director in spring 2014. Derek directs MHFB Winds and participates in each of

MHFB's ensembles and events. He also serves on several band committees, as an ex-officio member of the board of directors, and as the bands' Technology Coordinator.

Derek earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree with honors from the University of Colorado-Boulder and a Master of Music degree in conducting from Colorado State University where he studied with Professor Wes Kenney and Dr. Rebecca Phillips.

Derek is also the Director of Bands and Performing Arts Chair for The Academy in Westminster, Colorado. Since 2013, Academy Bands have grown exponentially and frequently receive the highest marks at music festivals across the state, scoring in the top 10% of high school bands from across Colorado. His students are routinely selected for Colorado All-State ensembles in band, orchestra, and jazz, as well as several local honor ensembles.

Derek and his husband Brad traded the humid swamps of their native Louisiana for the mountains of Colorado in 2006. Brad can often be found in MHFB's percussion section and involved in lots of creative endeavors for the bands. A little suburb north of Denver is home, where they live with their kitty Winifred.

Guest Conductors

Conductor, Arizona State University

Dr. Jamal Duncan



Jamal Duncan joined the faculty of the Arizona State University in Fall of 2020 as Associate Director of Bands and Assistant Professor of Instrumental Conducting. His primary responsibilities are conducting the Arizona State University Wind Symphony and teaching classes in the conducting curriculum. A native of Flint, Michigan, Duncan received

the doctor of musical arts in wind conducting and a master of music in wind conducting degrees from Michigan State University where he studied under the direction of Kevin L. Sedatole.

Prior to arriving to Tempe, Duncan was the Assistant Director of Bands at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. He served as Director of the Hogwild Pep Band, Assistant Director of the Razorback Marching Band, conductor of the symphonic band, and co-conductor of the wind symphony and concert band. He also taught courses in Instrumental Conducting.

An advocate of new Music, Duncan conducted the University of Arkansas New Music Ensemble. Duncan is actively involved in the commissioning and performance of works on the cutting edge of contemporary concert music.

Duncan received a bachelor of music degree from the University of Michigan with a dual emphasis in clarinet performance and music education. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity and the College Band Directors National Association. He holds honorary memberships in Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

Conductor, Texas Lutheran University

Beth Bronk

Beth Bronk, Director of Bands at Texas Lutheran University, conducts the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, the Hounds of Sound Pep Band, and teaches conducting and instrumental music education courses as well as coordinating the TLU Summer Music Academy and TLU Band Festival.

She earned her Bachelor of Music at the University of Texas at Austin, Master of Music in Trumpet Performance from the University of North Texas and completed her doctoral coursework in College Music Teaching at Teachers College, Columbia



University, New York. While at the University of North Texas she was appointed Trumpet Teaching Fellow and at Columbia University she taught Applied Trumpet and Brass Methods.

Before joining the faculty at Texas Lutheran University, she served as Director of Bands in Lampasas and Administrator of Music and Director

of Bands in New Braunfels, Texas. During her tenure at New Braunfels, her bands were consistent finalists at the UIL Texas State Marching Contest and in the TMEA Honor Band competition.

While at TLU, Prof. Bronk has conducted nearly 300 band performances, presented dozens of times at state, national, and international conferences, and served as a clinician and adjudicator hundreds of times. Highlights include time spent with many high schools and middle schools in Texas, the Crossman and Boston Crusaders Drum Corps, and Japan's Shujitsu Jr. and Sr. High School Bands. Notable presentations include the International Society for Music Education in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Hawaii International Conference on Education, the Texas Bandmasters Association, Texas Music Educators Association, and The Midwest Clinic in Chicago, as well as presentations for Yamaha on the use of the Harmony Director. Serving as an adjudicator for the University Interscholastic League and Texas Music Educators Association in all areas has been a key part of her professional activity, and service highlights include her years as President for TMEA Region 12 and her time as the Vice-President for Professional Relations on the National Council of Tau Beta Sigma, coordinating the KKP-TBS National Intercollegiate Band.

Prof. Bronk has been awarded TLU's Distinguished Faculty Award for Service and Leadership, the Baenziger Professorship in Music, and the Harold D. Bier Award for Teaching Excellence. In 2020, she was nominated by her university for the Minnie Stevens Piper Award for Teaching Excellence. She currently serves as chair of the TLU Faculty Association.

Conductor, Diboll ISD

Todd Dock

M. Todd Dock Jr. is Director of Bands at Diboll ISD. He serves as administrative head of the instrumental program, and serves as conductor of the high school Wind Symphony and Diboll Lumberjack Marching Band. Mr. Dock additionally oversees the activities and curriculum of the Junior High Band. Currently in his 9th year of teaching, he came to Diboll in July of 2017 following five years of consulting





and teaching as Assistant Director in Nacogdoches, Texas. Under the direction of Mr. Dock the Lumberjack band has grown in size and in recognition. The marching band has received consecutive First Divisions at Marching Contest and the high school Wind Symphony helped to bring the first consecutive Sweepstakes award in the history of the program in the spring of 2021.

Mr. Dock is a graduate of Center, Texas and grew up in the music programs of the Texas public schools. He earned the Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from Texas A&M University, College Station. While at A&M Mr. Dock participated in the nationally famous “Fightin’ Texas Aggie Band”, Wind Symphony, Aggieland Orchestra, and the pep band “Hallabaloo.” As a member of the Corps of Cadets he held positions as the Corp Bugler, Section Officer, and Platoon Leader for the Ross Volunteers, the honor guard to the Governor of Texas. Mr. Dock holds a Masters in Music Education from Lamar University, Beaumont Texas. Here Mr. Dock was a student of Dr. Scott Deppe, Director of Bands, Lamar University, (Ret). While at Lamar, Mr. Dock was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda National Honor Society for Music. Mr. Dock also holds memberships with the Texas Music Educators Association, the Association of Texas Small School Bands, and the National Association of Military Marching Bands.

Emcees

Professional Lesbian

Nancy Ford



Nancy Ford found her voice as an out lesbian in 1977, and hasn’t shut up about it since.

LGBT media has published Nancy’s work since 1988, including her award-winning column, *WHAT A WORLD*, which entertains and inspires readers wherever it appears. As an interviewer, she has engaged high-profile personalities including Bette

Midler, Diane Keaton, Betty Buckley, Harvey Fierstein, Bea Arthur, Judy Collins, Melissa Etheridge, and countless other newsmakers and celebrities with wit and sensitivity.

Onstage, Nancy has performed in theatres, nightclubs, galleries, churches, and dives throughout the U.S. since 1982, appearing with Kate Clinton, Jason Stuart, Judy Tenuta, Janene Garofalo,

Lady Bunny, Janis Ian, and innumerable LGBTQ icons. During that time she has helped raise funds for innumerable non-profit groups supporting community charities.

A long-time supporter of the Houston Pride Band, Nancy currently works as a freelance editor and copywriter for a widely diverse bank of clients including the Montrose Star, an internationally distributed oil & gas magazine, wholesale carpet manufacturers, men’s underpants designers, and others.

She congratulates the band on its 44th season and finally bringing the Pride Bands Alliance national conference to Houston.

St. John Flynn



Born and raised in Coventry in the U.K., St. John came to the U.S. to attend graduate school. He has a B.A. with honours in French from the University of Liverpool and an M.A. in French from the University of Georgia. He taught in the UGA Comparative Literature department while working on his Ph.D., but left academia before completing his dissertation.

He has worked for top U.S. public TV and radio stations for more than twenty years including as host of the award-winning book show *Cover to Cover* for the Georgia Public Broadcasting radio network, as classical music director for KUHF/88.7FM and KUHA/91.7FM, and as Arts & Culture Director for Houston Public Media (TV 8, News 88.7 & Classical 91.7) where he hosted the daily radio arts show *The Front Row*; the *Opera Cheat Sheet* podcast; the Houston Symphony weekly radio broadcasts; and various TV arts programs including the Houston Symphony Season Announcements and the *Skyline Sessions*. He was also a cast member of *Manor of Speaking*, TV 8’s Emmy award-winning syndicated *Downton Abbey* after-show.

He is the longtime host of the Houston Grand Opera Guild’s *Opera Night Live* series and has appeared on stage as host or narrator with the Houston Symphony; Texas Music Festival Orchestra; Houston Youth Symphony; Houston Heights Orchestra; Symphony North of Houston; Valdosta (GA) Symphony; Piedmont College Orchestra; WindSync; METdance; Queensbury Theatre; and Lone Star Lyric Theatre, among others.

You’ll find St. John’s blog, *A Life With Culture*, online at www.stjohnflynn.com

PROGRAM NOTES

Andrew Boysen, Jr.

Kirkpatrick Fanfare

Commissioned by Central Missouri State University for the dedication of the James C. Kirkpatrick Library in March 1999, *Kirkpatrick Fanfare* has a definite Irish flavor, including a strain of *Danny Boy*. The “Fanfare” features driving rhythms and exciting brass figures, making this dramatic work sure to please both performers and audiences alike.

The premiere took place at the dedication ceremony held on March 24, 1999, conducted by Patrick F. Casey. It was an event of considerable pride for CMSU: the keynote speaker was Missouri’s then-Governor Mel Carnahan. Kirkpatrick had been Missouri’s secretary of state for 20 years. Casey described Kirkpatrick as “famously ‘Irish’ with his humor and attire.” Boysen had been made aware that Kirkpatrick was very proud of his Irish heritage, hence the resulting Irish flavor of the music.



Andrew Boysen, Jr. is presently a professor in the music department at the University of New Hampshire, where he conducts the wind symphony and teaches conducting and composition. Under his leadership, the UNH wind symphony has released six recordings and been invited to perform at regional

conventions of the College Band Directors National Association and National Association for Music Education. Previously, Boysen taught at Indiana State University and Cary-Grove (IL) High School, and was the music director and conductor of the Deerfield Community Concert Band. He remains active as a guest conductor and clinician, appearing with high school, university and festival ensembles across the United States,

Great Britain, and Australia.

Boysen earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in wind conducting at the

Eastman School of Music, where he served as conductor of the Eastman Wind Orchestra and assistant conductor of the Eastman Wind Ensemble. He received his Master of Music degree in wind conducting from Northwestern University in 1993 and his Bachelor of Music degree in music education and music composition from the University of Iowa in 1991.

Gabriel Musella, Percussion by Rick Rodriguez

Don Ricardo

Don Ricardo is a paso doble written in the Spanish tradition. It is dedicated to Mr. Richard Crain for his selfless devotion to the students of the Spring Independent School District, Houston, TX.

In 1979, Mr. Crain moved to Houston to become the Band Director at Spring High School. In 1982, he became Director of Music for the Spring Independent School District responsible for all levels of band, choir, elementary and drill teams. During the next 18 years under his leadership, Spring ISD became known as one of the foremost districts in the nation for music education. Bands under his baton garnered awards and honors both in the state of Texas as well as attaining national acclaim at festivals, contests and conventions.



After a successful teaching career that lasted for three decades, **Gabe Musella** serves as UIL Assistant Music Director in Austin, Texas. Mr. Musella is an active adjudicator, consultant, clinician, and composer whose music has been performed throughout the country and abroad by community, university,

and secondary school ensembles. His works for concert band, orchestra, and chamber ensembles are found on the UIL Prescribed Music List and on similar lists in other states.

He holds a Bachelor of Music Composition and a Masters of Music in Conducting, both from Texas Tech University where he studied with James Sudduth, Keith Bearden, and Mary Jeanne van Appledorn.



Rick Rodriguez is currently the percussion director and Associate band director at Cedar Ridge High School,



Round Rock, Texas. Mr Rodriguez and his ensembles have been fortunate to have several appearances at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic held annually in Chicago IL. Mr. Rodriguez is also a busy and active percussion arranger and versatile clinician. In his younger days, Rick was the “center snare” of the infamous University of North Texas PASIC Drum Line where he earned his bachelor’s degree. Rick has been a staff member of the Blue Devils, Phantom Regiment, Blue Knights and is currently with The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps. He has also been on the adjudicating staff of Drum Corps International, Bands of America, and is currently on the WGI judging panel.

Omar Thomas
Shenandoah

S*henandoah* is one of the most well-known and beloved Americana folk songs. Originally a river song detailing the lives and journeys of fur traders canoeing down the Missouri River, the symbolism of this culturally-significant melody has been expanded to include its geographic namesake—an area of the eastern United States that encompasses West Virginia and a good portion of the western part of Virginia – and various parks, rivers, counties, and academic institutions found within.

From the composer:

Back in May of 2018, after hearing a really lovely duo arrangement of *Shenandoah* while adjudicating a music competition in Minneapolis, I asked myself, after hearing so many versions of this iconic and historic song, how would I set it differently? I thought about it and thought about it and thought about it, and before I realized it, I had composed and assembled just about all of this arrangement in my head by assigning bass notes to the melody and filling in the harmony in my head afterwards. I would intermittently check myself on the piano to make sure what I was imagining worked, and ended up changing almost nothing at all from what I’d heard in my mind’s ear.

This arrangement recalls the beauty of Shenandoah Valley, not bathed in golden sunlight, but blanketed by low-hanging clouds and experiencing intermittent periods of heavy rainfall (created with a combination of percussion textures, generated both on instruments and from the body). There are a few musical moments where the sun attempts to pierce through

the clouds, but ultimately the rains win out. This arrangement of *Shenandoah* is at times mysterious, somewhat ominous, constantly introspective, and deeply soulful.



Described as “elegant, beautiful, sophisticated, intense, and crystal clear in emotional intent,” the music of **Omar Thomas** continues to move listeners everywhere it is performed. Born to Guyanese parents in Brooklyn, New York in 1984, Omar moved to Boston in 2006 to pursue a Master of Music in Jazz

Composition at the New England Conservatory of Music after studying Music Education at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. He is the protégé of lauded composers and educators Ken Schaphorst and Frank Carlberg, and has studied under multiple Grammy-winning composer and bandleader Maria Schneider.

Hailed by Herbie Hancock as showing “great promise as a new voice in the further development of jazz in the future,” educator, arranger, and award-winning composer Omar Thomas has created music extensively in the contemporary jazz ensemble idiom. It was while completing his Master of Music Degree that he was appointed the position of Assistant



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Professor of Harmony at Berklee College of Music at the surprisingly young age of 23. Following his Berklee tenure, he served on faculty of the Music Theory department at The Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Now a Yamaha Master Educator, he is currently an Assistant Professor of Composition and Jazz Studies at The University of Texas at Austin.

Steven Bryant
Dusk

This simple, chorale-like work captures the reflective calm of dusk, paradoxically illuminated by the fiery hues of sunset. I'm always struck by the dual nature of this experience, as if witnessing an event of epic proportions silently occurring in slow motion. *Dusk* is intended as a short, passionate evocation of this moment of dramatic stillness.

Dusk is part of a three-work "night cycle," continuing with *The Marbled Midnight Mile*, and concluding with *First Light*.



Steven Bryant's music is chiseled in its structure and intent, fusing lyricism, dissonance, silence, technology, and humor into lean, skillfully-crafted works that enthrall listeners and performers alike. Winner of the ABA Ostwald award and three-time winner of the NBA Revelli Award, Steven

Bryant's music for wind ensemble has reshaped the genre. A prolific composer, his substantial catalogue of music is regularly performed throughout the world. Recently, his *Ecstatic Waters* was premiered by the Minnesota Orchestra to unanimous, rapturous acclaim. The son of a professional trumpeter and music educator, he strongly values music education, and his creative output includes a number of works for young and developing musicians.

Bryant studied composition with John Corigliano at The Juilliard School, Cindy McTee at the University of North Texas, and Francis McBeth at Ouachita University, trained for one summer in the mid-1980s as a break-dancer

(i.e. was forced into lessons by his mother), was the 1987 radio-controlled car racing Arkansas state champion, has a Bacon

Number of 1, and has played saxophone with Branford Marsalis on *Sleigh Ride*. He resides in Durham, North Carolina with his wife, conductor Verena Mösenbichler-Bryant (Duke University).

Julie Giroux
Journey Through Orion

Journey Through Orion was commissioned by the Association of Concert Bands and premiered at its 28th annual convention in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, on May 6, 2006, under the baton of Colonel Arnald D. Gabriel. From the composer:

Pictures of the Great Orion Nebula, Barnard's Loop, M78, M43, the Molecular Clouds 1 and 2 and the Horsehead Nebula never cease to capture my imagination. I have journeyed there many times in my mind so I decided to sketch that journey with notes. Travel with the music 1,500 light years away into the constellation Orion the Hunter, into the Molecular Cloud Complex and through the Great Orion Nebula where stars and ideas are born.



Julie Giroux was born 1961 in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, and raised in Phoenix, Arizona and Monroe, Louisiana. She received her formal education from Louisiana State University and Boston University. She studied composition with John Williams, Bill Conti and Jerry Goldsmith, to name a few. Julie is an accomplished performer on piano and horn, but her first love is composition. She began playing the piano at the age of three and had published her first piece at the age of nine.

In 1985, she began composing, orchestrating, and conducting music for television and films. Within three hours after arriving in Los Angeles, she was at work on the music for the Emmy Award winning mini-series *North and South*, followed soon by work on the television series *Dynasty* and *The Colbys*, as well as the films *Karate Kid II*, *White Men Can't Jump*, and *Broadcast News*. She received her first Emmy nomination in 1988 for *North and South Part II - Love and War*, and over the next three years was nominated each year for her arranging and original compositions for the Academy Awards show. To date, Julie has well over 100 film and television credits and

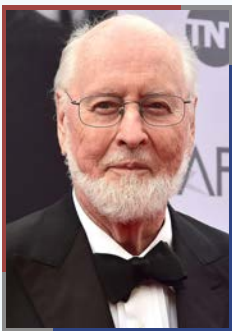


has been nominated for an Emmy several times. When she won her first Emmy Award, she was the first woman and the youngest person ever to win the award in that category.

John Williams, arr. Paul Lavender

The March from 1941

In the 1979 comedy film *1941* by Steven Spielberg, residents of Los Angeles mistakenly believe they are under attack from the Japanese in the aftermath of the assault on Pearl Harbor. The late John Belushi played Captain Wild Bill Kelso, a somewhat unstable yet affable Air Force pilot at the center of the action. According to John Williams, Kelso's antics "seemed to require a musical accompaniment that had humor and rhythmic vitality. As a result, I set myself the task of writing a zany patriotic march, that upon hearing, we might be moved to tap our feet to an imaginary parade going by and have fun doing it." The March from 1941 is indeed a fun-filled romp from beginning to end and is most certainly among Williams' best efforts in the genre of martial music.



In a career that spans five decades, **John Williams** has become one of America's most accomplished and successful composers for film and for the concert stage. He has served as music director and laureate conductor of one of the country's treasured musical institutions, the Boston Pops Orchestra,

and he maintains thriving artistic relationships with many of the world's great orchestras, including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Mr. Williams has received a variety of prestigious awards, including the National Medal of Arts, the Kennedy Center Honor, the Olympic Order, and numerous Academy Awards, Grammy Awards, Emmy Awards and Golden Globe Awards. He remains one of our nation's most distinguished and contributive musical voices.

Mr. Williams has composed the music and served as music director for more than one hundred films. Mr. Williams has received five Academy Awards and 50 Oscar nominations, making him the Academy's most-nominated living person and the second-most nominated person in the history of the

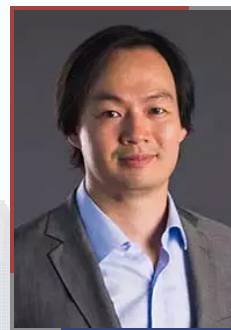
Oscars. His most recent nomination was for the film *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*. He also has received seven British Academy Awards (BAFTA), 22 Grammys, four Golden Globes, five Emmys, and numerous gold and platinum records.

Born and raised in New York, Mr. Williams moved to Los Angeles with his family in 1948, where he studied composition with Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco. After service in the Air Force, he returned to New York to attend the Juilliard School, where he studied piano with Madame Rosina Lhevinne. Mr. Williams holds honorary degrees from 21 American universities, including The Juilliard School, Boston College, Northeastern University, Tufts University, Boston University, the New England Conservatory of Music, the University of Massachusetts at Boston, The Eastman School of Music, the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and the University of Southern California.

Christopher Tin, arr. Matt Conaway

Sogno di Volare

Sogno di Volare is a setting of modern-Italian adaptations of Leonardo da Vinci's writings on flight. It was originally composed as the theme song to the video game "Civilization VI." The piece is based around the concept of exploration: both physically, in seeking out new lands, but also intellectually, in seeking out new frontiers of science, technology, and humanities. In the composer's own words, "My favorite way to describe *Sogno di Volare* is that it celebrates human exceptionalism."



Born to immigrant parents from Hong Kong, **Christopher Tin** grew up in northern California, firmly grounded in classical music, but heavily influenced by jazz, musical theatre, and the underground rave scene of 1990s San Francisco. He did his undergraduate work at Stanford and Oxford, graduating with honors with a BA in Music and English, and an MA in Interdisciplinary Studies in Humanities. He then received a Master of Music with Distinction from the Royal College of Music in London, where he graduated at the top of his class and won the Joseph Horowitz Composition Prize.

Tin is a two-time Grammy-winning composer of concert and media music. His music has been performed and premiered in many of the world's most prestigious venues: Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln Center, and the Hollywood Bowl. His song *Baba Yetu*, originally written for the video game "Civilization IV," is a modern choral standard, and the first piece of music written for a video game ever to win a Grammy Award.

Gustav Holst, arr. William Owens

Mars from *The Planets*

“**M**ars, the Bringer of War” is the first installment of *The Planets*, a seven-movement suite for orchestra composed between 1914 & 1916 by famed British composer Gustav Holst (1874-1934). This adaptation for concert band focuses on the main themes of the work, and evokes feelings from the intrepid to the serene. The piece begins quietly, but briskly, with a bold motif that defines the character of the work. The music gradually builds to a brief zenith before settling into the mysteriously serene middle section. Serenity soon develops into the quick and the aggressive as the music drives to a powerful and ever-looming climax.



Gustav Holst was an English composer and music teacher noted for the excellence of his orchestration. His music combines an international flavour based on the styles of Maurice Ravel, Igor Stravinsky, and others with a continuation of English Romanticism.

The son of a Swedish father and English mother, Holst studied at the Royal College of Music in London. His solo instrument was the trombone, and for some years after leaving the college he made his living as a trombone player in the Carl Rosa Opera Company and in various orchestras. He became music master at St. Paul's Girls' School in 1905 and director of music at Morley College in 1907. These were the most important of his teaching posts, and he retained both of them until the end of his life.

William Owens is a native of Gary, Indiana, and is a seasoned music educator and very active as a composer, clinician and conductor throughout the United States and Canada. Since 1993, Mr. Owens has written over 200 commissioned and



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published works for concert band, string orchestra and small ensemble. His music is performed and appears on required music lists nationally and abroad. William is a 1985 graduate of Chicago's VanderCook College of Music and the recipient of numerous awards and grants for composition. In January 2014, William formally retired from duty as a band director in Texas after 30 years. His spare time interests include sightseeing and reading, particularly motivational material and Presidential biography. William resides in Fort Worth, Texas with his wife and best friend, Georgia.

John Mackey

This Cruel Moon

This piece is an adaptation of the middle movement of *Wine-Dark Sea: Symphony for Band*. The full symphony tells the tale of Odysseus and his journey home following his victory in the Trojan War. But Odysseus' journey would take as long as the war itself. Homer called the ocean on which Odysseus sailed a wine-dark sea, and for the Greek king it was as murky and disorienting as its name; he would not find his way across it without first losing himself.

This Cruel Moon is the song of the beautiful and immortal nymph Kalypso, who finds Odysseus near death, washed up on the shore of the island where she lives all alone. She nurses him back to health, and sings as she moves back and forth with a golden shuttle at her loom. Odysseus shares her bed; seven years pass. The tapestry she began when she nursed him becomes a record of their love. But one day Odysseus remembers his home. He tells Kalypso he wants to leave her, to return to his wife and son. He scoffs at all she has given him. Kalypso is heartbroken. And yet, that night, Kalypso again paces at her loom. She unravels her tapestry and weaves it into a sail for Odysseus. In the morning, she shows Odysseus

a raft, equipped with the sail she has made and stocked with bread and wine, and calls up a gentle and steady wind to carry him home. Shattered, she watches him go; he does not look back.

John Mackey has written for orchestras, theater, and extensively for dance, but the majority of his work for



the past decade has been for wind ensembles, and his band catalog now receives annual performances numbering in the thousands.

In 2014, he became the youngest composer ever inducted into the American Bandmasters Association. In 2018, he received the Wladimir & Rhoda Lakond Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He resides in San Francisco, California, with his spouse, a philosopher who works on the ethics of technology, and also titles all of his pieces; and their cats, Noodle and Bloop.

Frank Ticheli

Loch Lomond

At the time in Scottish history when **Loch Lomond** was a new song, the United Kingdom (which united Scotland, England, and Wales) had already been formed. But the Highland Scots wanted a Scottish, not an English King to rule. Led by their Bonnie Prince Charlie (Prince Charles Edward Stuart) they attempted unsuccessfully to depose Britain's King George II. An army of 7,000 Highlanders were defeated on April 16, 1746 at the famous Battle of Culloden Moor.

It is this same battle that indirectly gives rise to this beautiful song. After the battle, many Scottish soldiers were imprisoned within England's Carlisle Castle, near the border of Scotland. *Loch Lomond* tells the story of two Scottish soldiers who were so imprisoned. One of them was to be executed, while the other was to be set free. According to Celtic legend if someone dies in a foreign land, his spirit will travel to his homeland by "the low road"—the route for the souls of the dead. In the song, the spirit of the dead soldier shall arrive first, while the living soldier will take the "high road" over the mountains, to arrive afterwards.

The song is from the point of view of the soldier who will be executed: When he sings, "ye'll tak' the high road and I'll tak' the low road" in effect he is saying that you will return alive, and I will return in spirit. He remembers his happy past, "By yon bonnie banks... where me and my true love were ever wont to gae [accustomed to go]" and sadly accepts his death "the broken heart it ken nae [knows no] second Spring again."

The original folksong uses a six note scale; the seventh scale degree is absent from the melody. The lyric intertwines the

sadness of the soldier's plight with images of Loch Lomond's stunning natural beauty.

Loch Lomond was commissioned by Nigel Durno, for the Stewarton Academy Senior Wind Ensemble of East Ayrshire, Scotland, with funds provided by the Scottish Arts Council. The premiere performance was given on June 18, 2002 by the Stewarton Academy Senior Wind Ensemble at Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow, Scotland.



Frank Ticheli joined the faculty of the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music in 1991, where he is Professor of Composition. From 1991 to 1998, Ticheli was Composer in Residence of the Pacific Symphony.

Ticheli is well-known for his works for concert band, many of which have become standards in the repertoire. In addition to composing, he has appeared as guest conductor of his music at Carnegie Hall, at many American universities and music festivals and in cities throughout the world, including Schladming (Austria), Beijing and Shanghai, London and Manchester, Singapore, Rome, Sydney and numerous cities in Japan.

Ticheli received his doctoral and master's degrees in composition from The University of Michigan. His works are published by Manhattan Beach, Southern, Hinshaw and Encore Music and are recorded on the labels of Albany, Chandos, Clarion, Klavier, Koch International, Mark and Naxos.

Shelley Hanson

Seis Manuel from *Islas y Montañas*

The *seis* is the traditional song and dance form of the Jibaro people, the peasant farmers of the mountains of Puerto Rico. At least 50 distinctive types of *seis* have been identified. "Seis" means "six" in Spanish; the term originally meant a dance for six men or six couples. ***Seis Manuel*** is movement 3 of the 4-movement suite *Islas y Montañas*. *Seis Manuel*, is based on a traditional recurring harmonic pattern

called the *seis mapeye*, over which a singer improvises a melody. Because of the very long history of military bands in Puerto Rico, with a particular importance placed on low brass and clarinets, those instruments are given solos. In keeping with the Puerto Rican tradition of naming a *seis* after someone important to its creation, this SEIS was re-named in honor of conductor Manny Laureano, who commissioned and premiered the piece.



Shelley Hanson's compositions have been performed throughout the United States, Europe, Latin America, and Asia. Also a conductor, record producer, and clarinetist, she and her band, Klezmer and All That Jazz, have performed her Concerto for Klezmer Band and Orchestra with The

Minnesota Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony, North Carolina Symphony, and many others. Recently, Klezmer and All That Jazz recorded traditional and original music for the award-winning audiobook version of the classic Yiddish play *The Dybbuk*. A member of the Minneapolis Pops Orchestra, she has recorded orchestral and chamber music for Virgin Records, Teldec, Innova, and others, and was a soloist for the soundtrack of the feature film *Out of the Wilderness*.

After receiving a Ph.D. in Performance, Music Theory, and Music Literature from Michigan State University, Hanson conducted university orchestras and wind ensembles for 15 years.

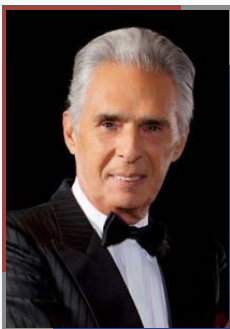
Bill Conti, arr. Jiří Kabát

The Right Stuff

A film which wasn't particularly successful at the time, ***The Right Stuff*** has grown a large following over the years. Philip Kaufman's adaptation of Tom Wolfe's novel charts America's Mercury space program and the space race with the Russians. Kaufman's instructions to composer Bill Conti were clear: keep it small. The producers' instructions were also clear: make it as big as possible. Since he had been hired by the latter, that's the direction the composer went—and it certainly seems to have been a wise decision.



This suite of music from *The Right Stuff* (arranged by Jiří Kabát) opens with “Breaking the Sound Barrier”, presenting the main theme before an explosion of adventure music. The Russians intervene for the second section, “Training Hard/Russian Moon.” “Tango” does what it says—its appearance is unexpected, but it’s a lovely tune. The finale is the spectacular “Yeager’s Triumph”, one of the most heroic and entertaining pieces in all of film music. Conti sends his main themes through the wringer and they emerge somehow even more triumphant, even more heroic than before.



Bill Conti is one of Hollywood’s most respected composers and conductors for both film and television. He was born in Providence, Rhode Island and began studying piano at age seven under the tutelage of his father, an accomplished pianist, sculptor, and painter. He received a bassoon scholarship from

Louisiana State University where he majored in composition and played jazz piano at many of the local night spots to help defray the costs of his education. Conti also went on to The Juilliard School of Music, where he studied with such musical greats as Hugo Weisgall, Vincent Persichetti, Roger Sessions, Luciano Berio, and Jorge Mester. He received Bachelors and Masters of Music degrees from Juilliard.

He moved to California in 1974 and began to seek work as a film composer in Hollywood. Almost one year to the day after Conti’s arrival in Los Angeles, he was asked to score *Harry and Tonto*, a film about a man and his cat. Art Carney’s Oscar win for Best Actor brought national attention to the film and to Conti’s score. Soon after, he was asked to compose the score for the film that would launch his career to new heights, *Rocky*, where he received his first Oscar nomination for Best Original Song, “Gonna Fly Now”. In all, Conti has been nominated for three Golden Globes, thirteen Emmy Awards (winning three), and three Academy Awards, winning an Oscar for Best Original Score for *The Right Stuff* in 1983.

ABOUT THE HOUSTON PRIDE BAND

Serving as a community band in Houston’s gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community, the Houston Pride Band has several groups that perform at community events throughout the year as well as concerts and parades. We also provide a fun social experience for musicians.

The Houston Pride Band has a proud history spanning four decades. Originally known as the Montrose Marching Band, the organization was formed by a small group of musicians in 1978 as a way to make new friends and to provide entertainment for Houston’s gay and lesbian community.

The mission of the Houston Pride Band is:

- *To provide a welcoming, comfortable and safe musical outlet for LGBTQ+ and allied musicians to participate in a community band setting.*
- *To encourage interest in public and private music education through concerts and events that uplift and inspire musical interest in people of all ages.*
- *To use musical performances to support local community organizations and events.*
- *To host and participate in local, state, national, and international conferences that foster the continuing participation of all individuals in community musical programs.*

Learn more about us at <http://houstonprideband.org>





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<small>Atlanta, Georgia</small> Atlanta Freedom Bands	<small>New York, New York</small> The Lesbian & Gay Big Apple Corps
<small>Saint Louis, Missouri</small> BandTogether	<small>Kansas City, Missouri</small> Mid America Freedom Band
<small>Cleveland, Ohio</small> Blazing River Freedom Band	<small>Denver, Colorado</small> Mile High Freedom Bands
<small>Columbus, Ohio</small> Columbus Pride Bands	<small>Minneapolis, Minnesota</small> Minnesota Freedom Band
<small>Orlando, Florida</small> Central Florida Sounds of Freedom & Color Guard	<small>Dallas, Texas</small> Oak Lawn Band
<small>Charlotte, North Carolina</small> Charlotte Pride Band	<small>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</small> Philadelphia Freedom Band
<small>Washington, D.C.</small> D.C.'s Different Drummers	<small>Indianapolis, Indiana</small> Pride of Indy Band, Inc.
<small>Phoenix, Arizona</small> Desert Overture	<small>San Antonio, Texas</small> Pride of San Antonio Showband
<small>Palm Springs, California</small> Desert Winds Freedom Band	<small>Cincinnati, Ohio</small> Queen City Freedom Band
<small>Albuquerque, New Mexico</small> Encantada, The Band of Enchantment	<small>Seattle, Washington</small> Rainbow City Performing Arts
<small>Rochester, New York</small> Flower City Pride Band	<small>Portland Oregon</small> Rose City Pride Bands
<small>Boston, Massachusetts</small> Freedom Trail Band of Boston	<small>San Francisco, California</small> San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band
<small>Los Angeles, California</small> Gay Freedom Band of Los Angeles	<small>Fort Lauderdale, Florida</small> South Florida Pride Wind Ensemble
<small>Houston, Texas</small> Houston Pride Band	<small>Tampa, Florida</small> Tampa Bay Pride Band
<small>Chicago, Illinois</small> Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles	<small>Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, North Carolina</small> Triangle Pride Band



PRIDE BANDS PRESIDENTS CIRCLE

Pride Bands Presidents Circle recognizes the visionary individuals whose personal dedication and philanthropic investments enable the Alliance to fulfill our mission of pride and visibility through music.

Launched in 2015 by past LGBA Presidents Doug Litwin, Russell Ben Williams, Judy Ames, Robb Blackwell, Adam DeRosa and Betsy Smith, the Presidents Circle recognizes annual contributions of \$500 or more.

We are thankful for the donors who have joined Presidents Circle these past six years. They have contributed more than \$71,000 to help Pride Bands participate in special events like Stonewall 50-WorldPride 2019 and to assist in funding commissioned pieces. Individuals who have donated to the fund in 2020–2021 are listed below.

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- Loren McGlade
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Proclamation



Pride Bands Alliance

WHEREAS, the **Pride Bands Alliance** was formed in 1982 to support the growth of lesbian and gay community bands and to promote LGBT plus music, visibility and pride through an international network of thirty LGBT plus and affirming bands; and,

WHEREAS, originally formed as the Montrose Marching Band, the Houston Pride Band was a founding member of the Pride Bands Alliance and has represented the City of Houston on the national stage, using its talents to raise awareness for causes relevant to Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community; and,

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2021, the Houston Pride Band will celebrate the **Pride Bands Alliance's** 39th anniversary at its annual conference, culminating with a performance at the Wortham Center's Cullen Hall; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Houston commends the **Pride Bands Alliance** for its accomplishment and commitment to the LGBT plus community and extends best wishes for continued success.

THEREFORE, I, Sylvester Turner, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim November 21, 2021, as

Pride Bands Alliance Day

in Houston, Texas.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 11th day of November, 2021.

Sylvester Turner
Mayor of the City of Houston

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP 2021

Conference Committee Co-Chair

Russell Ben Williams



Russell joined the Houston Pride Band in 1990, and soon joined the board of directors and served as band president for several terms throughout the '90s. He has participated in the production of two previous conferences, including Houston's 1991 "Stars Across America" LGBA conference, and led the Houston Pride Band's joint effort with the

Dallas' Oak Lawn Band to host the 1996 LGBA conference in San Antonio, Texas.

Russell was elected to the LGBA board of directors where he served one term as Secretary from 1997-1999, two terms as President from 1999-2003, and two terms as Vice President for Community Outreach from 2003-2007. As President, Russell coordinated efforts with Rev. Troy Perry for LGBA's performance at "Now More Than Ever," a celebration of same-gender marriage on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the Millennium March on Washington in 2000.

As V.P. for Community Outreach, Russell was instrumental in working with new bands in formation and advising them in their early stages to prepare them in their efforts to become new member bands.

Russell retired from LGBA shortly after the Saint Louis, MO conference in 2007. He enjoyed a quiet, peaceful life for a few years before coming out of retirement in 2015 to co-chair the 2017 LGBA conference committee. He re-joined the Houston Pride Band's Board of Directors in 2018.

Conference Committee Co-Chair

Elizabeth De Los Rios



After receiving her bachelor's in music performance and obtaining her music educator certificate, Elizabeth took a different direction from wanting to teach music and instead decided she wanted to use her musical talent in a relaxed community setting. Her experience with Pride Bands Alliance, formally known as LGBA, started in 2016 when

she joined the Houston Pride Band as a saxophone player. A year in, Elizabeth knew she wanted to contribute more to the organization and served on the bands Board of Directors as marketing coordinator from 2017 to 2019.

Her experience with the organization led Elizabeth to accept being co-chair for the "Bigger and Brighter" 2021 conference. This will be her first time attending and co-chairing a Pride Bands Alliance conference.

Elizabeth is originally from McAllen, TX and has lived in Houston for 10 years. She obtained her master's in educational leadership from University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and currently works at Baylor College of Medicine, School of Medicine as their Accreditation Project Manager. She enjoys spending time with her wife Vanessa De Los Rios, cuddling with their miniature pinscher fur baby, Cody, traveling, spending time outdoors, drinking wine and cooking.



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Joe Dombrowski

Concert Planning Coordinator

Kevin Taylor

Program Manager

Christopher N. Wells

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The Houston Pride Band would like to extend our special thank you to our sister band in Dallas, the **Oak Lawn Band**, for their generous donation which helped make this conference possible.

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Bigger and Brighter might be coming to an end, but it's still early in Houston Pride Band's 2021-2022 Season!

Please consider making a tax deductible donation to the Houston Pride Band at

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PRANCERS & Vixens



Celebrations



CONCERT SEASON 2021-22

Upcoming Concerts
at MATCH

Prancers & Vixens Sunday, Dec. 11 | 7 PM

Take a rollicking ride with Santa and his reindeer as the Houston Pride Band sets off on a musical holiday adventure.

Enjoy many familiar favorites like White Christmas, Greensleeves, a Charlie Brown Christmas, All I Want for Christmas is You and of course, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer!

Starry Night Saturday, Apr. 13 | 7 PM

Space City will enjoy a program inspired by 'stars' and space.

May include selections from Holst's The Planets, Star Wars, Star Trek, Apollo 11, A Star is Born, and more.

Celebrations Saturday, June 11 | 7 PM

Kicking off your summer block party with music inspired by a variety of festivals and celebrations.

Selections may include Festive Overture, La Fiesta Mexicana, Elsa's Procession, Kool & The Gang, Joy, Olympic Fanfare, & more.

All Concerts at MATCH
3400 Main St, Houston, TX 77002

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