

The American Band College of Sam Houston State University

Now in its 22nd year of operation, the American Band College began as a summer workshop for school band directors. In 1992, a masters degree program was implemented in which six candidates enrolled. Today, there are over 250 band directors from more than 40 states and five foreign countries enrolled in this Sam Houston State University Masters Program. This summer, 67 will complete the degree requirements, bringing the total number of graduates in the first 17 classes to 570.

The teaching faculty for ABC includes 24 of the world's finest teachers, conductors, and composers. Each summer, a new faculty is presented, so that attendees are exposed to the expertise of more than 60 teachers during their three summers in Ashland. Local faculty include Scott McKee (Managing Director, 1998 ABC grad), Paul Kassulke (Director of Operations, 1994 ABC grad) and Max McKee (ABC Executive Director). ABC Graduates on the staff include Steve Accatino (California, 1995), Cathi Leibinger (Florida, 1999), Ted Burton (Oregon, 2000), Elizabeth Lonergan (Oregon, 2002), Jay Jones (California, 1998), Matthew Arau (Colorado, 2003), Marianne Robison (Oregon, 1996) and Tracy Wright (Georgia, 2004). Additional operations staff include Nel McKee (Financial Manager), Kay Kassulke, Carolyn Accatino and Amy Wright (Special Services) plus Angel McDonald (ABC Center for Research).

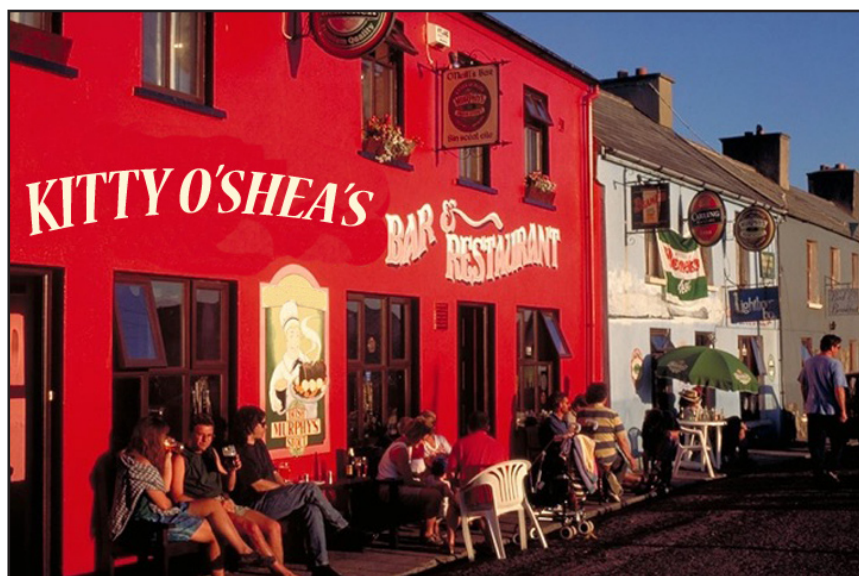
When candidates first enter the program (57 new students this year), the American Band College faculty administers an extensive entrance exam measuring 40 areas of teaching (instrument fingerings, embouchure development, percussion instruments and techniques, conducting, band literature and many others). From those results, each of the candidates develops a course of study that concentrates only on his or her seven to twenty areas of weakness. This includes annual written exams, video assessments and the completion of six special thesis projects. A new theory component was also introduced this year.

During their on-campus time each summer, candidates attend more than 70 sessions (covering many facets of band directing) while playing three hours a day in the ABC Directors' Bands. In these ensembles, candidates sightread more than 75 new compositions and also prepare 35 compositions for the two major public performances under eight guest conductors and two world-renowned soloists. This year, nearly 150 second and third year masters candidates serve as preparation conductors for the guest composers and directors as part of the American Band College evaluation process at Sam Houston State University.

Guest conductors for this year's Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater concert include Frank Wickes (L.S.U., ret.), Johan De Meij (composer, Netherlands) and Dr. Scott Plugge (Soloist, Sam Houston State University).

The ABC Directors' Band also participates in the Ashland Fourth of July Parade and presents a two-and-a-half hour Fireworks Concert at Ashland High Football Stadium beginning at 8:00 p.m. (pre-concert music and special activities begin at 7:00 p.m.) Guest conductors for this year's July 4th concert include Paula Crider (U Texas, ret.), Mike Bankhead (U.S. Air Force Band Command, ret.), and Tim Lautzenheiser (ABC Grad Faculty and Master of Ceremonies). Guest soloist is U.S. Army trombone soloist, Harry Watters. The Fourth of July Concert will feature a one-hour video segment presented on two 16 x 9-foot video screens.

The American Band College At Kitty O'Shea's



Saturday, June 26, 2010
Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater
Medford, Oregon

The Origins of "At Kitty O'Shea's"

In 1995, Max McKee and Johan de Meij were in contact via email about a special Irish suite for band. In 2008, the McKee's visited Johan in Amsterdam, Holland where he was given a CD of favorite Irish tunes of Max McKee. In the months that followed, Johan did extensive research and added many of his own concepts to create the 16-minute suite.

Because of an annual America Band College get-together of 150 people at Kitty O'Shea's Pub at the Hilton Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, Johan came up with the title "At Kitty O'Shea's". To make the project work, ABC offered a special consortium price that included three complete works for band as well as the final version of "At Kitty O'Shea's" for use by the sponsor with his or her own band or community group. Following tonight's concert, the sponsors are invited to join the after-celebration with the 210 members of the ABC Directors' Bands where Johan will personally autograph the conductor's scores of "At Kitty O'Shea's".

The following individuals and organizations sponsored the creation of the "At Kitty O'Shea's" Consortium Project:

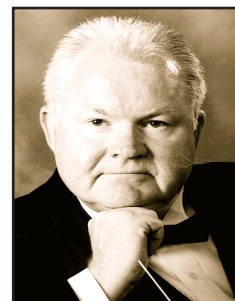
Steve Accatino, Director, Ygnacio Valley High School, Concord, California
Toshio Akiyama, Tokyo, Japan
Anchor Bay H. S., Molly Schack & David Visnaw II, Directors, New Baltimore, Michigan
Matthew R. Arau, Loveland High School, Loveland, Colorado
Bradley D. Beyer, Director, Freedom Christian High School Band, Hudsonville, Michigan
Bismarck H. S., Jon Baumann & Chris Dasovick, Directors, Bismarck, North Dakota
Samantha Blake, Director, Moorpark High School, Moorpark, California
Jeffrey and Sarah Bopp, St. Joseph, Michigan
Daniel Brown, Director, Freedom Academy Charter School, Camden, New Jersey
Ben Brueggemeier, Director, Joel E. Ferris High School Band, Spokane, Washington
Christopher Buckholtz, Toledo, Ohio
Lewis J. Buckley, Director, Metropolitan Wind Symphony, Boston, Massachusetts
Stephen Burdick, Director, Lake Chelan High School, Chelan, Washington
Ted Burton, Director, Mtn. View High School, Bend, Oregon
Ken, Patti, Toby, and Daniel Carter, Grass Valley, California
Century H. S., Tim Fogderud & Chris Dasovick, Directors, Bismarck, North Dakota
Jennifer Cloughly, Director, Eastside High School, Taylors, South Carolina
Matt Conaway, Director, West Lafayette Community School Corp., W. Lafayette, Indiana
Concordia Lutheran High School, Tomball, Texas
Paula A. Crider, University of Texas, Ret., Spicewood, Texas
Troy Cronkhite, Smithville R-2 Schools, Smithville, Missouri



Johan de Meij studied trombone and conducting at the Royal Conservatory of Music in The Hague. He has earned international fame as a composer and arranger. His catalogue consists of original compositions, symphonic transcriptions and arrangements of film scores and musicals. Besides composing and arranging, Johan de Meij has been active as a performer, conductor, adjudicator and lecturer. He has conducted some of the leading wind orchestras of Europe, Asia, Australia, North and South America and has led master classes around the world.



Frank Wickes, is the recently retired Director of Bands of Louisiana State University, where he served for the last 30 years. He has served as the President of the National Band Association and the American Bandmasters Association. He received his degrees from the University of Delaware and the University of Michigan. He has been honored with an endowed Alumni Professorship at LSU. Under his leadership the Tiger Band has become one of the best in the SEC.



Bruce Dinkins is the current Director of Bands at Bowie High School in Austin, Texas. Previously, he brought great success to band programs in Georgia and South Carolina. He received his degrees from the University of Tampa, the New England Conservatory and has done additional study at the Julliard School of Music. He is a member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association and is the only four-time recipient of the National Adjudicators Invitational Festival's Honor Band Award.



Scott Plugge is Professor of Saxophone and the Associate Director of the School of Music at Sam Houston State University. He received his degrees from Baylor University and Northeastern University. Dr. Plugge is an active soloist and clinician and has performed, on call, with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. He has served on the faculties of Central Connecticut State University, DePaul University, Southern Methodist University and the University of Texas at Arlington.

The American Band College Directors



Paul Kassulke is the full-time Director of Operations for the American Band College and Western International Band Clinic. He also serves as Associate Editor for Bandworld Magazine. He taught band in the Lutheran high schools

of Wisconsin and Minnesota for thirty years. He is a member of the first graduating class of ABC (1994) and joined the summer staff in 1999. Having moved to the Pacific Northwest in 2007, he is fully integrated into the complexities of running WIBC, Inc. He and his wife, Kay, have eight grown children and eleven grandchildren.

Scott McKee is Managing Director of the American Band College and Organizing Chairman of Western International Band Clinic (now in its 32nd year). In 2004, he was elected as an Associate Member of the American Bandmasters Association and is co-editor of Bandworld Magazine. He served as a band director in the public schools of Oregon from 1995-2002, created the Siskiyou Symphonic Band, a 75-piece honor group comprised of students from southern Oregon high schools and recently formed the Willamette Valley Honor Band in the Eugene area. He has five children and lives in Springfield, Oregon with his wife, Stacy Swartout-McKee, who prepped the "ABC Choir" for tonight's performance of "At Kitty O'Shea's".

Max McKee and Tim Lautzenheiser founded the ABC Summer program in 1989. Max taught at Southern Oregon University from 1967-1997, but continues to serve as Executive Director of ABC. He is co-editor of Bandworld Magazine and Board Chairman of Western International Band Clinic. In 1981, he was elected to membership in The American Bandmasters Association and served on its Board of Directors. He is currently on the John Philip Sousa Foundation Board. In 1998, he received the Sousa Foundation's highest award, The Medal of Honor. In 2003, he was inducted as an honorary member of Phi Beta Mu; then in 2005, he received the Midwest Clinic's Music Industry Award. In the summer of 2006, the American School Band Directors Association presented him with the A.A. Harding Award. He has been married to Nelwyn Spicer McKee for 48 years and has four grown children and nine grandchildren.

- John Dally, Director, Mira Mesa High School, San Diego, California
- Dixie Detgen, retired from Buchanan Community Schools, Buchanan, Michigan
- Patrick Doerr, Director, Sweetwater High School, National City, California
- Anthony P. Ebert, Garden City, Kansas
- Chris Fogderud, Director, Brainerd High School, Brainerd, Minnesota
- Craig French, Rolla, Missouri
- Tom Gard, Waukesha, Wisconsin
- Dr. Gary P. Gilroy, Director of Bands, CSU, Fresno Wind Orchestra, California
- Nicholas Greeson, Director, Wayne Valley High School, Wayne, New Jersey
- Joe F. Gullledge, Director, Rock Hill High School, Rock Hill, South Carolina
- Nathaniel Haskew, Director, Southside High School, Southside, Alabama
- Band Directors of Hacienda La Puente USD, California
- Alexander Higgins, Warminster, Pennsylvania
- David Hodges, Director, McNary High School, Keizer, Oregon
- Bruce J. Houston, Director, Southeastern Massachusetts Community Concert Band, Medway, MA
- Matthew B. Houston, Poteau, Oklahoma
- Mark Johnsen, Director, Sherman Oaks Center for Enriched Studies, Tarzana, California
- Paul & Kay Kassulke, American Band College, Ashland, Oregon
- Deb Knisely, Director, Cinnaminson High School, Cinnaminson, New Jersey
- Joseph LaBrie, Fairfax County, Virginia
- Angela Lang, Valley Springs, California
- Adam D. Larson, Director, Skyline High School, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Jay S. Londgren, Director, Korea International School, Bundang, South Korea
- Scott MacLennan, Director, Lord Byng Secondary School, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- Brian Margrave, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Andrea Matthews, Port Angeles, Washington
- Kathleen Matthews, In memory of Glenn Matthews, Southern Oregon College 1946-1977
- Max & Nell McKee, American Band College, Ashland, Oregon
- Scott McKee & Stacy Swartout-McKee, American Band College, Ashland, Oregon
- Nancy Moser, Director, Joaquin Miller Middle School, San Jose, California
- James Neujahr, Director, Fox Valley Lutheran High School, Appleton, Wisconsin
- Deborah Nevin, Director, Lincoln High School, San Diego, California
- Ira Novoselsky, Bandworld MusiClips Editor
- Palos Verdes High School, Palos Verdes Estates, California
- Cynthia and Corey Plank, Portland Community Wind Band, Oregon
- Joshua Prout, San Diego, California
- James Quirion, Director, Cypress High School, Cypress, California
- Stephen Rodrigues, Director, HP Baldwin High School, Wailuku, Hawaii
- Robert L. Sax, Key Largo, Florida
- John & Toni Skelton, Salem, Oregon
- Catrina Tangchittsumran, Arlington, Virginia
- Brandon VanDyke, Director, Tualatin High School, Tualatin, Oregon
- Kim Walker, Director, Hermiston High School, Hermiston, Oregon
- Washington Community H. S., Jim Tallman and Lisa Parrott directors, Washington, Illinois
- Jeri Webb, Westview High School, Director, San Diego, California
- Don Wilcox, Conductor, The Northport Community Band, Northport, Michigan
- Bryan Willer, Manson, Iowa
- David Williams, Director, Doherty High School, Colorado Springs, Colorado
- Tracy & Amy Wright, Ringgold, Georgia



— Program —

- Liberty Bell March.....John Philip Sousa
Frank Wickes, Conductor
- Wind in the Willows Johan de Meij
 - 1. The River
 - 2. Ratty and Mole
 - 3. Mister Toad
 - 4. The Return of Ulysses
 Johan de Meij, Conductor
- Allegro Energico (from Sonata, Op. 29)..... Muczynski
- Czardas Vittorio Monti
arr. Anderson

Scott Plugge, Saxophone Soloist
Bruce Dinkins, Conductor
- God of Our Fathers..... George Warren
arr. Claude Smith

Frank Wickes, Conductor



— Intermission —

- Colonial Song..... Percy Grainger
arr. Mark Rogers
- Commando March Samuel Barber
arr. Collinsworth

Frank Wickes, Conductor
- Carnival of Venice J. Demersseman

Scott Plugge, Saxophone Soloist
Bruce Dinkins, Conductor

The Combined Bands of ABC in The World Premiere of

- At Kitty O'Shea's Johan de Meij
The Darling Girl From Clare • Deirin Dé • The Star of County Down
Siuil a Ruin (Walk My Love) • The Kerry Dances • Finale: Jigs and Reels