## The American Band College of Southern Oregon University

Now in its 21st 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 Southern Oregon University Masters Program. This summer, 52 will complete the degree requirements bringing the total number of graduates in the first 16 classes to 510.

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 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 1997) 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 (70 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.

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 130 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 Southern Oregon University.

Guest conductors for this year's Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater concert include Lowell Graham (U.S. Air Force Band Command, ret.), Anthony Maiello, (George Mason University) and the U.S. Army Herald Trumpets, Capt. David Paroby, conductor.

The ABC Directors' Band also participates in the Ashland Fourth of July parade and then 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 Jan Van der Roost (Belgian composer), Mike Bankhead (U.S. Air Force Band Command, ret.), Cynthia Hutton (SOU Director of Bands) and Tim Lautzenheiser (ABC Grad Faculty and Master of Ceremonies). Guest soloist is Hollywood flutist, Jim Walker. The Fourth of July Concert will feature a one-hour video segment presented on two 16 x 9-foot screens.

## The American Band College at the Craterian with **The U. S. Army Herald Trumpets**



Lowell Graham • Anthony Maiello Capt. David Paroby

Friday, June 26, 2009 Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater Medford, Oregon

## 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 the last 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 nine grandchildren.

Scott McKee is Managing Director of the American Band College and Organizing Chairman of Western International Band Clinic (now in its 31st 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; has now formed the Willamette Valley Honor Band. He has five children and lives in Springfield, Oregon with his wife, Stacy Swartout-McKee, who is Choir Director at Springfield High School.

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. In 2005, he received the Midwest Clinic's Music Industry Award, and in the summer of 2006, the American School Band Directors Association A.A. Harding Award. He has been married to Nelwyn Spicer McKee for 47 years and has four grown children, plus nine grandchildren.



*Lowell Graham* is Director of the School of Music, University of Texas-El Paso and is the former Commander/Conductor of the United States Air Force Band. He served in the Air Force for 28 years following his studies for degrees at the University of Northern Colorado and the Catholic University of America. He is currently the director of the National Symphony Orchestra of Paraguay.



Anthony Maiello, now teaching at George Mason University, retired from the Crane School of Music in New York. He received his degrees from Ithaca College and also studied at the National Conducting Institute in Washington, D.C., under the direction of Mr. Leonard Slatkin, Musical Director of the National Symphony Orchestra. Tony is the honorary conductor of the United States Navy Band.



*The U.S. Army Herald Trumpets* serves as the official fanfare ensemble for the President of the United States. Founded 50 years ago, the Herald Trumpets have performed at many notable events, including 12 presidential inaugurals, the "G8" Economic Summits in 1984, 1990, and 2004, the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations, and most recently, the arrival of Pope Benedict XVI at the White House in April of 2008. Their conductor is Captain David Paroby.

## American Band College DVDs and CDs

Visit our web site at www.bandworld.org where you can order memento video and audio recordings for the past 12 years. At the web site, click on ABC CD/DVDs (left side of our home page). This will take you to the complete catalog of available items.





		Fanfare	. U.S. Army Herald Trumpets
Star-Spangled Banner	arr. Damrosch-Sousa		
United States Army Herald Trumpets M. Max McKee, Conductor		Festive Overture	arr. Donald Hunsberger
		United States Army Herald Trumpets	
Skysplitter!Vincent Oppido Anthony Maiello, Conductor		Capt. David Paroby, Conductor	
The Sinfonians	Clifton Williams	Heartland Sketches	Mark Camphouse
On the Overland Stage to El Paso Lowell Graham, e		Ein Volksfest Overture	arr. Ernst Rembach
Overture To Candide Leonard Bernstein arr. Walter Beeler		Symphony on Themes of John Philip Sousa -	Mvt. 2 Ira Hearshen
		Battle Royal March	
His Honor Henry Fillmore arr. Frederick Fennell		Lowell Graham, Cond	arr. Tony Gibbs uctor
Anthony Maiello, Conductor		Eternal Father, Strong to Save	John B. Dykes arr. Claude T. Smith
American Salute		Anthony Maiello, Cond	
United States Army Herald Trumpets		COMBINED BANDS & U.S. ARMY HERALD TRUMPETS	
Capt. David Paroby, Conductor		The Stars and Stripes Forever John Philip Sousa Lowell Graham, Conductor	
— Intermis	sion —		