

# The American Band College of Sam Houston State University

Now in its twenty-fourth 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 6 candidates enrolled. Today, there are nearly 200 band directors from more than 40 states and three foreign countries enrolled in this Sam Houston State University masters program. This summer 53 will complete the degree requirements, bringing the total number of graduates in the first 19 classes to 699.

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 3 summers in Ashland. Local faculty and staff include Scott McKee (Managing Director), Paul Kassulke (Director of Operations, 1994 ABC grad), Max McKee (ABC Executive Director) and Nel McKee (Financial Manager). ABC Graduates on the staff include Cathi Leibinger (Florida 1999), Ted Burton (Oregon 2000), Elizabeth Lonergan (Oregon 2002), Jay Jones (California 1998), Marianne Robison (Oregon 1996), Steve Accatino (California 1995), Tracy Wright (Georgia 2004) and Danielle Miller (Oregon 2010). Additional operations staff include Kay Kassulke (Special Services), Angel McDonald (ABC Center for Research) as well as Carolyn Accatino (Concord, California) and Amy Wright (Chickamauga, Georgia).

When candidates first enter the program (nearly 50 new ones this year), the American Band College faculty administers two extensive entrance exams measuring 40 areas of teaching (instrument fingerings, embouchure development, percussion instruments and techniques, conducting, band literature and many others) as well as music theory. From those results each of the candidates develops a course of study that concentrates only on his or her 7 to 20 areas of weakness. This includes annual written exams, video assessments and the completion of 6 special thesis projects.

During their on-campus time each summer, candidates attend more than 70 sessions (covering many facets of band directing) while playing 3 hours a day in the ABC Directors' Bands. In these ensembles, candidates sightread more than 75 new compositions and also prepare 40 compositions for the two major public performances under 8 guest conductors and 2 world-renowned soloists. This year over 100 second and third year masters candidates serve as sightreading directors and preparation conductors for the guest composers and directors. This is part of the American Band College evaluation process at Sam Houston State University of Huntsville, Texas.

Guest conductors for this year's Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater concert include Anthony Maiello (George Mason University), Mike Bankhead (USAF Commander, ret/Utah State University Music Dept. Chairman), Robert Ponto (University of Oregon), Johnny Long (Troy University) and saxophone soloist, Eugene Rousseau (University of Minnesota).

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 Lowell Graham (USAF Band Commander, ret/Univ. of Texas-El Paso), Ralph Hultgren (Australian composer) and Peter Boonshaft (Hofstra University) Master of Ceremonies). Guest soloist is flutist, Marianne Gedigian.

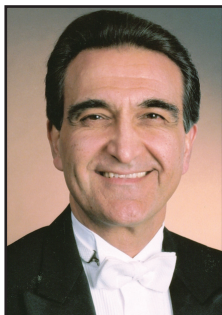
# The American Band College at the Crate

# A Star Spangled Night



Mike Bankhead • Anthony Maiello  
Robert Ponto • Eugene Rousseau  
Honoring John & Mary Lynn Long

Monday, June 25, 2012  
Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater  
Medford, Oregon



*Anthony Maiello*, now teaching at George Mason University, retired from the Crane School of Music in New York where he served as department chairman. He received his bachelors and masters degrees from Ithaca College and also studied at the National Conducting Institute in Washington, D.C. under the direction of Leonard Slatkin. Tony was appointed the Honorary Conductor of the United States Navy Band in Washington, D.C. Elected to membership in the American Bandmasters Association, he has appeared throughout the world as guest conductor and lecturer. This is his second appearance at the American Band College.



*Mike Bankhead*, retired Commander and Conductor of the United States Air Force Band, is now Chairman of the Department of Music at Utah State University. Prior to this appointment he served as conductor of the Green Bay (Wisconsin) Symphony Orchestra and as Music Department chairman at both California State University-Chico and Sam Houston State University. He has also been active in extensive development of international music events in South America where he appears frequently as a guest conductor and clinician. He is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association. In addition to appearances at Western International Band Clinic, he serves on the Advisory Board of the American Band College.



*Eugene Rousseau* long-time Professor of Saxophone at Indiana University (36 years) and since 2000 at the University of Minnesota, studied with Marcel Mule at the Paris Conservatory and with Fred Hemke at the University of Iowa, where he earned his doctorate. He was one of the organizers of the World Saxophone Alliance in 1969 and later served as its president. From 1982-1985 he was president of the Comité International du Saxophon. Rousseau has served as a consultant for saxophone research through the Yamaha Corporation since 1972 and has taught master classes at the Mozarteum in Salzburg since 1991.

## The American Band College Directors



*Max and Scott McKee Paul Kassulke*

*Paul Kassulke* is a full-time member joined our staff in 2007; he serves as Director of Operations for the American Band College and Western International Band Clinic. He also serves as a co-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 our summer staff in 1999. Now living in the Pacific Northwest, he and his wife, Kay, enjoy their 8 grown children and 16 grandchildren.

*Scott McKee* is Managing Director of the American Band College and Organizing Chairman of Western International Band Clinic (now in its 34th 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 and created the Siskiyou Symphonic Band, a 75-piece honor group comprised of students from southern Oregon high schools. Six years ago he formed the Willamette Valley Honor Band in the Eugene area. He has 5 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 and 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 2005 he received the Midwest Clinic's Music Industry Award, in 2006 the American School Band Directors Association A.A. Harding Award and 2011 the Women Band Directors International World of Music Award. He has been married to Nelwyn Spicer McKee for 50 years and has 4 grown children and 9 grandchildren.



## Honoring Johnny and Mary Lynn Long



The Southwest Alabama Community Band (2011). John M. Long, Conductor.



The Troy University Band in the 1990's. Dr. John M. Long, Conductor.

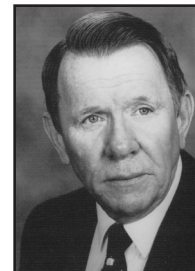


Johnny & Mary Lynn 1955

Tonight, Johnny Long will conduct the grand finale to the 2012 Craterian Theater concert of the American Band College: "The Stars and Stripes Forever." During his presidency of the American Bandmasters Association in 1988-89, he and several other members of the ABA were responsible for moving through Congress a bill that made "The Stars and Stripes Forever" the Official March of the United States of America. Tonight, we emphasize that important accomplishment in a very special way. (Our sincere thanks to the Medford Kiwanis!!



*Robert Ponto*, Director of Bands at the University of Oregon, previously taught at Oberlin Conservatory, East Carolina University, Pacific Lutheran University and in the public schools of Minnesota. He has also served as conductor of the Eugene Symphonic Band and as a faculty member at the University of Oregon Summer Camp. In addition, he is an elected member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. Recently, he accepted a new position at the University of Oregon as Assistant Dean of Admissions and Recruitment.



*John M. Long* is Director of Bands Emeritus and Dean of the School of Fine Arts at Troy University. He is Honorary President of the National Band Association and Past President and Honorary Life Member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. His Robert E. Lee High School Band is the only high school band in Alabama listed in the John Philip Sousa Foundation's Roll of Honor of great high school bands prior to 1960. His Troy University band played for many national conventions including the American Bandmasters Association and the College Band Director's National Association. His marching band was seen on NBC, CBS and ABC television and appeared in four Presidential inaugurations in Washington, D.C.

In 1997 he was elected to the Alabama Bandmasters Hall of Fame. In 1984 he was selected as the Outstanding Music Educator of the year by the Alabama Music Educators. In 2005 he received the Al G. Wright Award, a national distinction presented by the Women Band Directors International. He served as the President of the Troy Chamber of Commerce, as President of the School Board, as President of the Rotary Club and as well as Commander of Post 96, Veterans of Foreign Wars.

On July 1, 2011 CBS News presented a special on his accomplishments, a story about his Southwest Alabama Community Band, which his wife of 60-plus years, Mary Lynn, has served in various facets of organization and operation. In 2012 the Kennedy Center of the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. presented Dr. Long with the Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award accompanied by a \$10,000 cash award as the only recipient in the field of music. He and Mary Lynn have two children, John Jr. and Deborah Lynn plus a granddaughter, Melissa Jane. In 1988, he served as President of the ABA, which was hosted by Max and Nell McKee in Ashland, Oregon, thus striking up a life-long friendship.



## — Program —

Light Cavalry ..... Franz von Suppe  
transcribed H. Fillmore/R. Foster

Chester ..... William Schuman

Mike Bankhead, Conductor

Turning Point ..... Bryan Kidd  
(2002) © Bryan Kidd (ASCAP)

Anthony Maiello, Conductor

Diversion for Alto Sax and Band ..... Bernard Heiden

Porgy and Bess ..... George Gershwin  
arranged Eugene Rousseau

Eugene Rousseau, Alto Saxophone Soloist  
Robert Ponto, Conductor

Sousa! ..... John Philip Sousa  
arranged Warren Barker

Anthony Maiello, Conductor



## — Intermission —

Hail the Dragon ..... Philip Sparke

Twin Ports Overture ..... Mark Camphouse

Anthony Maiello, Conductor

Fiesta del Pacifico ..... Roger Nixon  
Mike Bankhead, Conductor

Tosca Fantasy ..... Giacomo Puccini  
arranged Ralph Hermann

Introduction et Variations sur Le Carnival de Venise ..... J. Demierssemann  
arranged Fred Hemke

Eugene Rousseau, Alto Saxophone Soloist  
Robert Ponto, Conductor

"Gallop" from the First Suite for Band ..... Alfred Reed

Mike Bankhead, Conductor

The Stars and Stripes Forever ..... John Philip Sousa

John M. Long, Conductor