



2025 CONCERT SERIES

JUNE 26, 7:30PM, AHS THEATRE
JULY 4, 7:30PM, AHS STADIUM

AMERICAN BAND COLLEGE



Marianne Gedigian, Flute Soloist



Marianne Gedigian joined the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University as professor of flute in fall 2023. She previously held the Butler Endowed Professorship in Flute and was a University Distinguished Teaching Professor at The University of Texas at Austin Butler School of Music.

Ms. Gedigian performed with the Boston Symphony Orchestra for over a decade, including several seasons as acting principal flute under Seiji Ozawa. As principal flute with the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra and acting principal flute with the Boston Pops, Ms. Gedigian has performed on dozens of recordings with the Boston

Symphony and Boston Pops Orchestras, Evening at Pops public television broadcasts as well as the nationally broadcast Fourth of July specials. She has also been heard on several John Williams' movie scores, including *Saving Private Ryan* and *Schindler's List* and can be seen in the film *Blown Away*. During her years in Boston, she performed as principal flute with every major arts organization including the Opera Company of Boston, Musica Viva, Boston Chamber Music Society, and as a member of Boston Ballet Orchestra. She was featured with flutist and vocalist Ian Anderson of Jethro Tull fame in performance at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. Ms. Gedigian has presented recitals, concerti, and master classes at numerous universities, conservatories, and festivals across the United States as well as in Australia, Canada, China, Italy, Japan, England and Austria.

Ms. Gedigian was a founding member of the Boston-based Walden Chamber Players and was formerly a member of the Dorian Wind Quintet, one of chamber music's preeminent and longest continuously active ensembles. Her solo recordings include *Voice of the Flute* and *Revolution*, both with pianist Rick Rowley. Summer festival appearances include Brevard Music Center, ARIA International Summer Academy, Round Top International Music Festival, the Tanglewood Music Center, and the Boston University Tanglewood Institute.

Robert Ponto, Guest Conductor

Robert Ponto recently retired from the University of Oregon as associate professor of conducting and assistant dean for admission and recruitment.

Originally from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, he received degrees from the University of Michigan and the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Prior to his appointment at the University of Oregon in 1992, Ponto held conducting/teaching posts at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, East Carolina University, Pacific Lutheran University, and in the public schools of West St. Paul-Mendota Heights, Minnesota.

Ponto's frequent appearances as guest conductor include the Detroit Chamber Winds, the Interlochen Arts Academy Band, and numerous state and regional honor bands throughout the United States. Ponto has also earned respect as a creative and inspiring teacher of conducting as well as his work with students throughout the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. His ensembles have appeared at state, regional, and national NAFME conferences, regional CBDNA conferences, the ABA, and the Bang On A Can contemporary music festival in New York City.

As an instrumentalist, Ponto's performance credits include the world premiere of Karlheinz Stockhausen's opera, *Saturday from Light* at La Scala in Milan, Italy, as well as many appearances with the Emmy Award-winning Washington Brass Quintet. Ponto is an active National Association for Music Education member and past president of the Northwest Division of College Band Directors National Association.

Tonight marks the twenty-second consecutive appearance at ABC as a conducting assessment faculty member and frequent soloist conductor for the June or July American Band College concerts.



Julie Giroux, Guest Conductor/Composer

Julie Ann Giroux was born in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, on December 12, 1961. She graduated from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA, in 1984. She began playing the piano at the age of 3, started composing at 8, and has been writing ever since. Her first published work for concert band, composed at the age of 13, was published by Southern Music Company.

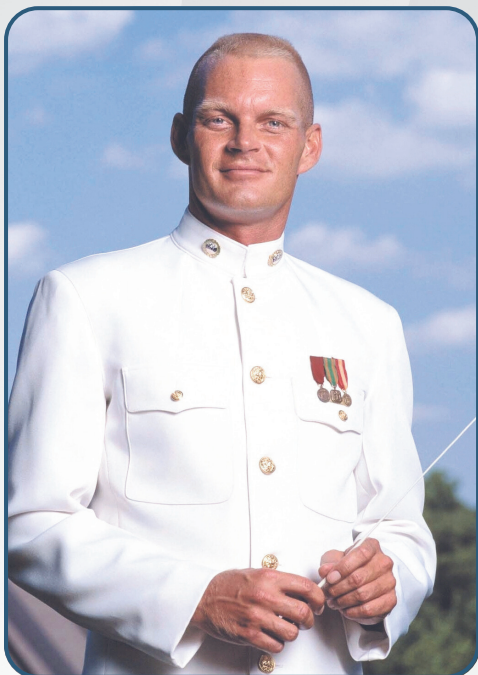
Julie began composing commercially in 1984. Oscar-winning composer Bill Conti hired her as an orchestrator. Her first project with Conti was “North & South,” the mini-series. With over 100 film, television, and video game credits, Giroux collaborated with dozens of film composers, producers, and celebrities, including Samuel Goldwyn, Martin Scorsese, Clint Eastwood, Madonna, Liza Minnelli, Celine Dion, Paula Abdul, Michael Jackson, Harry Connick, Jr., and Paul Newman. She has worked on projects that have been nominated for Academy Awards, Emmy Awards, Grammy Awards, and Golden Globe Awards. She has won individual Emmy Awards in the “Outstanding Individual Achievement in Music Direction” field. She was the first woman and the youngest person ever to win that award. She has won it three times.



Giroux has also published an extensive catalog of classical works emphasizing original compositions for Wind Band, which are published by Musica Propria and distributed internationally. She is greatly sought after as a composer and recently completed her 5th Symphony “Sun, Rain & Wind,” which premiered in June 2018. Her music has been recorded and reviewed internationally, receiving top reviews, and her music has been performed at major music festivals the world over.

Giroux has been a true force in a male-dominated field and has accrued many previously male-only awards. She is a member of ASCAP, The Film Musicians Fund, Kappa Kappa Psi, and Tau Beta Sigma. She is a recipient of the Distinguished Service to Music Medal Award and Emmy Awards and was the first female composer inducted into the American Bandmasters Association in 2009.

Loras Schissel, Guest Conductor



Loras John Schissel has served as conductor of the Blossom Festival Band since 1998. He also regularly conducts the Blossom Festival Orchestra.

Mr. Schissel has travelled throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia conducting orchestras, bands, and choral ensembles. A native of New Hampton, Iowa, he studied brass instruments and conducting with Carlton Stewart, Frederick Fennell, and John Paynter. He has just completed his 20th season as founding music director of the Arlington-based Virginia Grand Military Band, an ensemble comprised of current and former members of the four major U.S. service bands. In 2005, Mr. Schissel was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association.

As a composer and orchestrator, Mr. Schissel has created an extensive catalogue of over 500 works for orchestra, symphonic wind band, and jazz ensemble, published exclusively by Ludwig/Masters Music.

He is a senior musicologist at the Library of Congress and a leading authority on the music of Percy Aldridge Grainger, Aaron Copland, and Leonard Bernstein. Deeply committed to young musicians, Loras has appeared as conductor of All-State music festivals and of festival bands and orchestras in more than thirty states. In July 2008, Mr. Schissel made his debut with “Pershing’s Own,” the United States Army Band, on the steps of the U.S. Capitol.

ABC's June 26th Concert

Star Spangled Banner.....Francis Scott Key
arr. John Stafford Smith

The Sinfonians.....J. Clifton Williams

Tango: The Gliding Girl.....John Philip Sousa
arr. Loras Schissel

Loras Schissel, Conductor

Gravity.....Julie Giroux

Julie Giroux, Conductor

Festivo.....Vaclav Nelhybel

Loras Schissel, Conductor

Schindler's List.....John Williams
arr. Calvin Custer

La Chasse.....Wilhelm Popp
arr. Gary Garner

Marianne Gedigian, Flute Soloist
Robert Ponto, Conductor

Embers of the Ancient Realms.....Michele Fernández

Italian Rhapsody.....Julie Giroux

Julie Giroux, Conductor

Intermission

An Evening With the Stars

Liberty Loan MarchJohn Philip Sousa
arr. Loras Schissel

Loras Schissel, Conductor

Eleanor Na Rún.....Julie Giroux

Teal Fusion.....Chris Evan Hass

Julie Giroux, Conductor

Symphonic Songs for Band (II. Spiritual).....Robert Russell Bennett

Loras Schissel, Conductor

Sunrise on Corot-7B.....Julie Giroux

Julie Giroux, Conductor

Zigeunerweisen.....Pablo de Sarasate
arr. Dokshitser/Mortimer

Marianne Gedigian, Flute Soloist

Robert Ponto, Conductor

Allelujah! Laudamus Te.....Alfred Reed

Loras Schissel, Conductor

*Commission.....Julie Giroux

***Gift from the ABC Graduating Class of 2025**

Jay Gephart, Conductor

Thank You For Coming!

American Band College's

That Our Flag was Still There.....Mike Davis

Scott McKee, Conductor

Gordon Goodwin's Little Phat Band (Set 1)

Song and Dance.....Richard Saucedo

Symphonic Gershwin.....George Gershwin
arr. Warren Barker

Richard Saucedo, Conductor

Halcyon Hearts.....Katahj Copley

Dr. Emily Threinen, Conductor

The Jazz Police.....Gordon Goodwin

Hunting Wabbits.....Gordon Goodwin

Gordon Goodwin's Little Phat Band, Guest Group

Dr. Travis Cross, Conductor

America the Beautiful.....arr. Carmen Dragon

Semper Fidelis.....John Philip Sousa

Dr. Emily Threinen, Conductor

American Barndance.....Richard Saucedo

Richard Saucedo, Conductor

To the Max.....Robert W. Smith

Jay Gephart, Conductor

4th of July Pops Show

Gordon Goodwin's Little Phat Band (Set 2)

A Bernstein Tribute.....Leonard Bernstein
arr. Clare Grundman

Dr. Emily Threinen, Conductor

His Honor March.....Henry Fillmore
arr. Fredrick Fennell

Walking Into History.....Richard Saucedo

Richard Saucedo, Conductor

Proud to Serve.....Mike Davis

Jay Gephart, Conductor

Rhapsody in Blue.....George Gershwin
arr. Gordon Goodwin

A Few Good Men.....Gordon Goodwin

Gordon Goodwin's Little Phat Band, Guest Group

Dr. Travis Cross, Conductor

American Salute.....Morton Gould
adapted by Philip Lang

Dr. Emily Threinen, Conductor

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

All Conductors

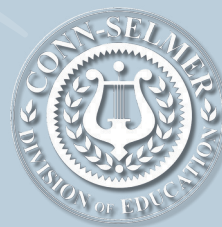
Thank You For Coming!

ABC 2025 Band Personnel

FLUTE			Junior Molina-Nogal	Colorado Springs	CO	Matt Clay	Meridian	ID
Rie Aoyama	Agoura Hills	CA	Cameron Papandria	Indianapolis	IN	Rachel Counihan	Burbank	CA
Sarah Bratton	Bend	OR	April Patrick	Colton	CA	Raymond Fong	Walnut	CA
Kira Diaz	Corona	CA	Gillian Richman	Valencia	CA	Robert Frey	Lakewood	CA
Lauren Duke-Scheffer	Myrtle Beach	SC	Charles Rogers	Manchester	NH	Gabrielle Helfrich	West Fargo	ND
Lauren Foley	Malden	MA	Benjamin Scharf	Mountain View	CA	Brett Hofmeister	Othello	WA
Irene Guggenheim-Triana	Silver Spring	MD	Allison Schmidtko	Tacoma	WA	Abigail Koehler	Greeley	CO
Valerie Johnson	Estacada	OR	Carly Swain	Courtenay, BC	CAN	Nathan Ksiazek	Norwalk	CA
Courtney Kubacki	Rockford	IL	TENOR SAX			Branden Lish	Kent City	MI
Chandra Lentz	Eagle Mountain	UT	Russell Corpuz	Chula Vista	CA	Luke Marlowe	Comstock Park	MI
Jennifer Lentz	Warren	MI	Jessica Creel	Huntsville	AL	Devon Melillo	Sioux Falls	SD
Allison Russell	Huntsville	AL	Ryan Emken	Westfield	MA	Alann Pak	Los Angeles	CA
Isabelle Swanton	New Bedford	MA	Katie Gilchrist	Sunnyvale	CA	Christopher Patton	Billings	MT
Payton Swartout	Hood River	OR	Austen Jankowski	Denver	CO	Carson Sachtleben	Fort Collins	CO
Charlotte Tanner	Hoschton	GA	John Kempself	Denver	CO	Brandon Searles	Ellensburg	WA
OBOE			James McLennan	Warren	MI	Caleb Shabestari	South Jordan	UT
Megan Shultz	Orting	WA	Paul Rataczak	Danville	CA	Victoria Shrote	Woodstock	GA
Jamie Trinajstich	Norwalk	CA	David Stankiewicz	Bakersfield	CA	Drake Van Roekel	Waukee	IA
Carly Vasquez	Prather	CA	BARI SAX			Andrew Whisler	Newark	DE
BASSOON			Evan Block	Santa Clarita	CA	BASS TROMBONE		
Erin Hanson	Vancouver	WA	Michael Camacho	Anaheim	CA	Wyatt Gilles	Sandy	UT
Laiton Pigg	Baxter	TN	Jean Marsicovete	Lake Hiawatha	NJ	EUPHONIUM		
Avery Smith	Whittier	CA	Daniel Pedro	Cumberland	RI	Daniel Alba	Montebello	CA
CLARINET			Donald Shiffermiller	Hughson	CA	Jacob Bubb	Fenton	MO
Eric Bloch	Honolulu	HI	Austin Yri	Bismarck	ND	Jared Cook	Alpharetta	GA
Justin Bunselmeier	Sacramento	CA	TRUMPET			Candice Crismond	Vallejo	CA
Erin Espinoza	Houston	TX	Benjamin Barber	Alto	GA	Paul Hanna	Vallejo	CA
Maribelle Fernandez	Pearl City	HI	Christopher Bergh	Kalamazoo	MI	David Hinsley	Fresno	CA
Caitlin Gilbert	Windsor Mill	MD	Andrew Brodin	Stanwood	WA	Adriana Jimenez	Chico	CA
Caleb Goncz	Holly	MI	Michael Buckstein	Monroeville	PA	Makala Milner	Killeen	TX
Laura Grabigel	Clarion	PA	Anna Damigella	Holliston	MA	Eric Rush	Smiths Station	AL
Therese Haberman	Watford City	ND	Todd Hanlon-Alle	Maplewood	MN	Alan Simpson	Payson	AZ
Daniel Hendrick	Tacoma	WA	Bryce Hansen	Irvine	CA	Emma Marie Surdilla	Clovis	CA
Jesus Hidalgo	Whittier	CA	Kenneth Harrison	Hermosa Beach	CA	Jacob Try	Pendleton	OR
Alison O'Bryan	Fairfax	VA	Kyle Housden	Elma	WA	Patrick Walsh	Acworth	GA
Nickolas Perini	Roseburg	OR	Michael Jennings	Ocala	FL	TUBA		
Grace Sledd	Fresno	CA	Shaylynn Johnson	Moorhead	MN	Sam Belleque	Molalla	OR
Ingrid Smith	Port Orchard	WA	Maximillian Jones	Grants Pass	OR	Benjamin Bucholtz	New Orleans	LA
Rebecca Speranza	Lewistown	MT	James Kulpa	Doha	Qatar	David Gelbaum	Torrance	CA
Deidria Tankersley	Knoxville	TN	Josiah Marsh	Catonsville	MD	Julian Greening	Oroville	CA
Jazareth Valencia	Modesto	CA	Cody Maynor	Seattle	WA	Lauretta Main	Spring	TX
Lauren Vandette	Astoria	OR	Alec Parker	Norwalk	CT	Scott Means	Lacey	WA
Jennifer Wegman-Ey	Columbia	MD	Niles Reynolds	Klamath Falls	OR	Miguel Montes	Desert Hot Springs	CA
Nathan Woods	North Charleston	SC	David Ruminski	Colorado Springs	CO	Joshua Perez	Alhambra	CA
BASS CLARINET			James Sharp	Fontana	CA	Casey Swart	Vancouver	WA
Davis Bitterman	Minneapolis	MN	Kristine Strege	Fargo	ND	PERCUSSION		
Nathaniel Kievert	Phoenix	AZ	Zac Tendick	Eugene	OR	Regine Abad	Hanford	CA
Christian Aljon Lozano	Moreno Valley	CA	Bridgette Tepper	Sterling Heights	MI	JaNae Anderson	Kamiah	ID
Mark McCann	San Diego	CA	Stephanie Trimble	Rawlins	WY	Kevie Bovaird	Columbus	OH
Kaitlin Shanks	Waterford Twp	MI	Dennie Turner II	Fresno	CA	Michael Broyles	Casper	WY
ALTO SAX			Providence VanDerWeide	Ames	IA	Anthony Caro	Ontario	CA
Harlow Alexander	Harrisburg	PA	Ken Weller	Kenmore	WA	Jocelyn Crecia	Aliso Viejo	CA
Gregory Alter Jr	St. Clair Shores	MI	HORN			John Gilchrist	Sunnyvale	CA
Cole Bass	Helena	MT	James Aerts	Chippewa Falls	WI	Kelli Harden	Clovis	NM
Chad Bischoff	Midland	MI	Jennifer Essary	Temple	TX	Israel Huerta	Palm Desert	CA
David Buroker	Orting	WA	Alexander Gellatly	Norwalk	CA	Philip Idell	Murrieta	CA
Martin Fierro	San Diego	CA	Olivia Ladun	Martinez	GA	Joe Jaeger	Brooklyn Park	MN
Tyler Funk	Pittsburgh	PA	Cua Lee	Brookings	OR	Kristian Labrie	Lowell	MA
Samuel Howard	Yakima	WA	Nathan Miles	Spokane	WA	Ronnie LaGrone	Beaverton	OR
Robert Ingram	Perry	GA	Gavin Nielson	Beatrice	NE	Morgan Martin	Warrenville	IL
Brendan Lockie	Fresno	CA	Siena Olson	Minneapolis	MN	Ian Martinez	Tacoma	WA
Bryan Mah	Elk Grove	CA	Jacob Schuler	Redmond	OR	Matthew Paquette	Warwick	RI
Jeffrey Malone	Glendale	AZ	Sara Slusher	Athens	AL	Michael Petersen	Rexburg	ID
Jacob Melgoza	Yorba Linda	CA	Dallas St Hilaire	Elk River	MN	Jonathan Schmidt	Harvard	MA
John Mellish	Barre	MA	TROMBONE			Troy Symington	Chico	CA
Preston Miller	LaFayette	GA	Jacob Bagot	Perryville	MO	Tyler Vandermeer	Denver	CO
						Lotan Yeung	Castro Valley	CA

Conn-Selmer

WORLD-CLASS SUPPORT



Legendary People. Legendary Brands.

Starting in 2017, Conn-Selmer and the American Band College created a partnership to benefit ABC Candidates and their band programs. In addition to clinician sponsorships for both ABC and WIBC, Conn-Selmer has extended special annual equipment pricing on their instruments so students have access to high-end instruments during ABC.

We are also excited to announce two full scholarship awards annually for attending Conn-Selmer Institute in Elkhart, Indiana. Conn-Selmer and the American Band College cover all food, travel, and CSI registration. The Managing Director (Division of Education), Mike Kamphuis, will present special awards to two ABC students this summer.

Conn-Selmer graciously covers some of our guest faculty/educators at ABC each summer. Paula Crider and Richard Saucedo's appearances at ABC 2025 in Ashland, Oregon are graciously sponsored by Conn-Selmer.

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Michele Fernández

Michele Fernández is a published composer, clinician, adjudicator, and performer. Her Jazz and Symphonic compositions have premiered at Midwest, CBDNA, IAJE, MEA, and All-State/Regional venues as well as professional settings. Her works are published or scheduled through Hal Leonard, Excelcia/Kendor, Doug Beach, JW Pepper, Murphy Music Press, Print Music Source/Jazz Zone, and Jazz Lines/Walrus (*Michele Fernández Music*). She is a member of Phi Beta Mu (Omega Chapter) and actively participates in FBA, JEN, ISJAC, and MBDNA. She frequently acts as a guest clinician/conductor for All-State and Regional Honors Jazz/Symphonic groups and has lectured at the Midwest Clinic ('07/'16), JEN '22, and various State MEAs. She is a sponsored clinician and freelances for universities and districts nationwide.

Michele recently retired after 30 years of teaching in Miami, where her ensembles at Miami Senior HS gained international acclaim. They were selected for the Midwest Clinic (Chicago '93 & '98), IAJE (Boston '94 & NYC '97), Montreux Jazz Festival (Switzerland '96), FMEA (Tampa '94 & '97), and various national publications. She and her students were featured in a documentary on "CBS Sunday Morning" and in Band Director's Guide and Downbeat Magazine. Before focusing on writing and clinics, she performed as an oboist in Miami and as a rhythm section player in an Afro-Latin/Jazz group.



Chris Evans Haas

Chris Evan Hass (b. 1993) is a composer and arranger from Ann Arbor, MI. Praised as "beautifully expressive" (The WholeNote) and "thrillingly off-kilter" (Double Reed Journal), his music inspires and is influenced by his favorite artists.

With rhythmic complexity and lush harmonies, Chris's music has been performed worldwide by renowned musicians, including the New York Philharmonic and U.S. Army Band. His works have been featured at conferences such as the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic and the Texas Music Educators Association Conference. A key figure in the saxophone and brass community, his chamber works are often showcased at the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition and the International Trombone Festival.

Chris holds Composition degrees from Central Michigan University (M.M.) and Western Michigan University (B.M.), studying with David Gillingham and Evan Ware. He resides in Jackson, MI, with his wife, son, and three dogs (Pesto, Basil, and Olive).

Scott McKee

ABC Organization



Scott is the Chief Executive Officer of the Western International Band Clinic and the American Band College. He works closely with Central Washington University regarding coursework for the ABC program.

Scott holds a bachelor's degree in music education from Southern Oregon University and a master's degree through the American Band College (1998).

He taught in the public schools of Oregon, (Scappoose and Springfield High Schools), where the concert bands consistently received superior ratings at festivals.

In 2004, he was elected as an Associate Member of the American Bandmasters Association, where he now serves as chairperson of the ABA Associate Committee. In 2023, he received the Oregon Music Educators Association Exemplary Service to the Profession award. He currently works annually with the Pacific Honours Ensemble Program, a cooperative endeavor that brings top students in Australia to Seattle for WIBC and the most outstanding Western International Band Clinic students to Australia.

Scott was the founder/conductor of the Willamette Valley Honor Band, from 2006-2020. Currently, Scott is the conductor of the Eugene Symphonic Band in Eugene, Oregon.

M. Max McKee

ABC Organization



Co-Founder of Bandworld Magazine and Western International Band Clinic, Max is Professor Emeritus of Music at Southern Oregon University where he served as Director of Bands from 1967 to 1994. He is the founder and Executive Director of the American Band College master's degree program.

He also continues as an Ex-officio Board member of WIBC, has served on the Oregon Arts Commission, and as Chairman of the Board for the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

He received the NBA Citation of Excellence and is a two-time recipient of the Sousa Foundation's Sudler Certificate of Merit. In 1999, he was inducted into the Northwest Bandmasters Association and received the Sousa Foundation's highest award, The Medal of Honor.

He is a 1981 elected member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association and hosted its 1988 national convention in Ashland. He served on its Board of Directors from 2000-2002. Max was also presented the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic's Music Industry Award, the A.A. Harding Award by the ASBDA as well as the World of Music Award from the Women Band Directors International. In 2015 the WBDI also presented him with the Al G. Wright Award.

Deb Knisely

ABC Organization



An American Band College graduate of 2011, Deb is the Director of Operations of ABC. Before earning her M.M. at ABC, she received her Bachelor of Music (B.M.) in Music Education from Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey.

She has been active throughout the state of New Jersey in secondary music education, running auditions for regional and all state events from jazz to orchestra to band. Deb has held the office of President of the South Jersey Band and Orchestra Directors Association and Region III New Jersey Association of Jazz Educators President. She has recently received the New Jersey Music Educators Distinguished Service Award for having made significant contributions to music education in the state of New Jersey.

Deb began her teaching career in Lakewood, New Jersey before moving to Cinnaminson High School. In her 18 years at Cinnaminson, along with the performance-based classes, she instituted classes in AP Music Theory, Chamber Music, Digital Music Engineering and Production, and General Music. Deb's Marching Band has won many awards during her tenure, and the Concert Band has been selected to represent Region III at the New Jersey State Concert Band Gala three times.

Deb is involved in local community and professional performance ensembles in the Eugene, Oregon area.

Stacy McKee
ABC Organization



As the choir director/clinician with the American Band College and staff member with Western International Band Clinic, Stacy joined us as Executive Assistant in 2021.

Stacy holds a bachelor's degree in music education from University of Oregon. In 2021, she retired with 30 years in music education, having taught choral music in Oregon. Her most recent position was the Director of Choral Music at Springfield High School in Springfield, Oregon.

Currently, she works for the University of Oregon supervising student teachers. She enjoys landscaping, being a grandmother, and traveling with her family.

Tim Lautzenheiser
ABC Advisory Board



Well-known in the music education world as a teacher, clinician, author, composer, and clinician, Dr. Tim's career as a band director includes ten years of university teaching in Michigan, Missouri, and New Mexico. He served three years as Executive Director of Marching Bands of America and is president of Attitude Concepts for Today.

He is currently the Vice President of Education for the Conn-Selmer Company. He has served as a member of the Western International Band Clinic Board of Directors since 1985 and presents clinics at the American Band College in Ashland, Oregon. In 2000 he was elected as an Associate Member of the American Bandmasters Association.

Dr. Tim was a key figure in the formation of the American Band College in 1989 presenting clinics every year from 1989-2010.

Jay Gephart
ABC Advisory Board



Jay Gephart joined the faculty of Purdue University in the fall of 1995 after having completed 12 years as a public school band director. In 2009 he was promoted to Full Professor.

In November 2006, Professor Gephart was appointed the Al G. Wright Chair of University Bands and Orchestras. Jay recently stepped down as the 5th director of the Purdue "All-American" Marching Band, in which he served as director from 1995 - 2024. He continues to serve as chair of the Bands and Orchestras department, direct the Purdue University Wind Ensemble, and conduct other indoor ensembles.

Under his direction, the Purdue Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra have shared the stage with some of the nation's outstanding soloists and have represented Purdue at the Indiana Music Educator's Association state convention on two occasions. In 2012 the Purdue Wind Ensemble performed a concert at the national convention of the American Bandmasters Association. He has also served as a guest conductor, clinician, lecturer and adjudicator both nationally and internationally. In May, 2008, he traveled with the Purdue "All-American" Marching Band to Beijing, China. He is a recipient of the Indiana Outstanding Bandmaster Award and served as President of the Indian Bandmasters Association and the American Bandmasters Association.

ABC Operational Staff

Lance Beckford	2024 Grad	Brian Peter	2008 Grad
Allison Davis	2018 Grad	Marianne Robison	1996 Grad
Allison Lacasse	2018 Grad	Shawn Roiller	2011 Grad
William Leather	2013 Grad	Matt Sexauer	2014 Grad
Elizabeth Lonergan	2002 Grad	Ron Simmons	Since 2013
Mark Morette	Since 2014	Amy Wright	Since 2023
Nell McKee	Since 1989	Tracy Wright	2004 Grad
Randy McKee	Since 2005		

Dr. Travis J. Cross, Guest Conductor



Dr. Travis J. Cross serves as professor of music and director of bands at UCLA, where he conducts the Wind Ensemble and leads the graduate wind conducting program. He chaired the music department from 2018 to 2023 and served as associate dean for academic mentoring and opportunity during the initial years of The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music. Cross has conducted the UCLA Wind Ensemble at the California All-State Music Education Conference and College Band Directors National Association Western/Northwestern Division conference and prepared the band for centenary performances of Leonard Bernstein's Mass with Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Cross earned doctor and master of music degrees in conducting from Northwestern University and the bachelor of music degree cum laude in vocal and instrumental music education from St. Olaf College. His principal teachers were Mallory Thompson and Timothy Mahr. Prior to graduate

study, he taught for four years at Edina (Minn.) High School, where he conducted two concert bands and led the marching band program.

Cross has appeared as a guest conductor, composer, and clinician in nearly 40 states; internationally in Australia, Canada, China, Germany, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates; as featured band clinician at the Texas Music Educators Association Clinic/Convention; and on several occasions at the Music for All National Festival and Midwest Clinic. He has engagements in California, Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Utah, China, and Singapore during the 2024–25 season. Cross is a Yamaha Master Educator.

Jay Gephart, Guest Conductor



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Richard Saucedo, Guest Composer/Conductor

Richard L. Saucedo is currently Director of Bands, Emeritus, after retiring from the William H. Duke Center for the Performing Arts at Carmel High School in Carmel, Indiana. During his 31-year tenure, Carmel bands received numerous state and national honors in the areas of concert band, jazz band, and marching band. The CHS Wind Symphony performed at the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival three times (1992, 1999, and 2004) and was named the Indiana State Champion Concert Band most recently in 2013. The group also performed at the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago in December 2005. The Carmel Marching Greyhounds have finished in the top ten at the Bands of America Grand National Championship for the past 15 years and were named BOA National Champions in the fall of 2005 and again in 2012.



The Indiana Bandmasters Association named Mr. Saucedo Indiana's "Bandmaster of the Year" for 1998-99, and the Indiana Music Educators Association named him the "Outstanding Music Educator" in the state of Indiana for 2010. In recent articles, Halftime, School Band and Orchestra, and Brasswind/Woodwind Magazines have highlighted his accomplishments. Mr. Saucedo was inducted into the Music for All Hall of Fame in March of 2015.

Mr. Saucedo is a freelance arranger and composer, having released over 300 marching band arrangements, concert band, orchestral works, and numerous choral compositions. He is currently on the writing staff for the Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation. His concert band works have been performed worldwide by middle school and high school bands as well as college and university groups. He is a member of the Conn-Selmer Division of Education and currently serves as assistant chief judge for Bands of America Marching Band Competitions.

Dr. Emily Threinen, Guest Conductor



Dr. Emily Threinen is an Associate Professor of Music and serves as Director of Bands at the University of Minnesota School of Music in the Twin Cities. In this position, she conducts the acclaimed University Wind Ensemble, guides the graduate wind band conducting program, and provides administrative leadership for all aspects of the UMN-TC Band Program.

Prior to her position here, Threinen served as Director of Bands and Artistic Director of Winds and Brass at Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Director of Bands at Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia; Director of the Duke University Wind Symphony in Durham, North Carolina; Director of the Concordia University Wind Ensemble in Ann Arbor, Michigan; Conductor of the Dodworth Saxhorn Band in Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Director of Bands and Instrumental Music at Harding High School in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she received the Outstanding Teacher Award. She is active, across the nation and abroad (including appearances

in South Korea, Singapore, Costa Rica, Australia, Spain, Brazil, South Korea, Singapore, Costa Rica, Australia, Spain, Brazil, and Canada), as a guest conductor, clinician, and conference presenter.

A strong advocate for music education, Threinen is a Yamaha Master Educator and has served on the Executive Council of the Institute for Composer Diversity. Additionally, she is an active member of these organizations: American Bandmasters Association (ABA), World Association for Symphonic Band and Ensembles (WASBE), College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), Big Ten Band Directors Association (BTBDA), National Band Association (NBA), National Association for Music Education (NAfME), and Pi Kappa Lambda and Kappa Kappa Psi as an honorary member.

Gordon Goodwin's Little Phat Band



Even for a successful composer and arranger in Hollywood, Gordon Goodwin's numbers are impressive: A 2006 GRAMMY Award for his Instrumental Arrangement of "Incredits" from the Pixar film *The Incredibles*, three Emmy Awards, and thirteen GRAMMY nominations.

Here's another impressive number to add to the list: eighteen. As in the number of musicians in Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band, one of the most exciting large jazz ensembles on the planet. Populated by L.A.'s finest players, the Big Phat Band takes the big band tradition into the new millennium with a contemporary, highly original sound featuring Goodwin's witty,

intricate, and hard-swinging compositions in a veritable grab bag of styles: swing, Latin, blues, classical, rock, and more. A steady, persistent audio diet of the giants of jazz, pop, rock, and funk has nourished Goodwin's being since childhood. Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Buddy Rich, Thad Jones and Mel Lewis, Earth, Wind and Fire, and Tower of Power, among many others, filled the well with the music his band makes today. And like those other bands, Goodwin's music is nothing less than astonishing when experienced live.

Goodwin's ability to combine jazz excellence with any musical style makes his writing appealing to fans across the spectrum. That's why both beboppers and headbangers dig Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band. Established in 2000, the Big Phat Band's debut recording, *Swingin' For The Fences* (Silverline Records), featured guest artists Arturo Sandoval and Eddie Daniels. It made history as the first commercially available DVD-Audio title ever released and the first DVD-Audio title to receive two GRAMMY nominations.

The band's second album, *XXL* (Silverline Records), was released on DVD-Audio and compact disc in 2003. Charting its first week, *XXL* garnered three GRAMMY nominations for Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album, Best Instrumental Composition ("Hunting Wabbits") and Best Instrumental Arrangement with Vocals ("Comes Love" with Brian McKnight and Take 6), while winning the Surround Sound Award for "Best Made for Surround Sound Title." The list of guest artists matched the high quality of the first release and featured, among others, Johnny Mathis and the incomparable Michael Brecker.

The Big Phat Band's third album, *The Phat Pack* (Immergent Records), with guest stars Dianne Reeves, David Sanborn, Eddie Daniels, and Take 6, received a GRAMMY nomination and spent 31 weeks on the Billboard jazz charts. Released in September 2008, the Big Phat Band's fourth recording, *Act Your Age*, far outsold every other big band record in its path. Produced by acclaimed guitarist Lee Ritenour, it featured a host of terrific guests, including Patti Austin, Chick Corea, Dave Grusin, and even Ritenour himself, plus a special appearance by the late pianist Art Tatum on a stunning performance that had jaws dropping right and left. The critically acclaimed *Act Your Age* garnered three GRAMMY nominations.

A keyboardist and woodwind player, Goodwin has built a larger-than-life reputation throughout the music industry for his composing, arranging and playing skills. Ray Charles, Christina Aguilera, Johnny Mathis, Toni Braxton, John Williams, Natalie Cole, David Foster, Sarah Vaughan, Mel Torme, Brian McKnight and Quincy Jones are just a few of the artists with whom he has worked. Goodwin has also conducted world-renowned symphony orchestras in Atlanta, Dallas, Utah, Seattle, Toronto and London.

Goodwin's cinematic scoring and orchestration craft can be heard on such films as *The Sorcerer's Apprentice*, *Escape to Witch Mountain*, *Get Smart*, *Glory Road*, *National Treasure*, *The Incredibles*, *Remember The Titans*, *Armageddon*, *The Majestic*, *Con Air*, *Gone In 60 Seconds*, *Enemy of the State*, *Star Trek Nemesis* and even the classic cult film *Attack Of The Killer Tomatoes*. Goodwin's soundtrack to Looney Tunes' *Bah HumDuck!* – a wacky Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck riff on the classic *A Christmas Carol* – also features the Big Phat Band's patented sound.

Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band joins Telarc International, a division of Concord Music Group, with the April 12, 2011 release of *That's How We Roll*. The band's first CD in over two and a half years features 10 new Goodwin originals and the Gershwin classic "Rhapsody in Blue." Special guests include Gerald Albright, Dave Koz, Marcus Miller and Take 6.

**Kevin Axt, Bass • Wayne Bergeron, Trumpet • Joey Deleon, Rhythm • Gordon Goodwin, Keyboards • Vangie Gunn, Vocalist
Greg Sadler, Drums • Brian Scanlon, Saxophone • Francisco Torres, Trombone • Andy Waddell, Guitar**

ABC - A Short History

Development of the Master's Degree

Launched as a workshop for band directors in the summer of 1989, only 26 attended. By 1992, then President of Southern Oregon University, Joseph Cox, had created an empty-shell degree concept through the Oregon State Board of Higher Ed and ABC instantly qualified. Within six months ABC had the degree formulated and had six would-be candidates from 1991 plus seven new students form the basis of the new degree program.



The ABC Graduating Class of 2024

In 1994, the first graduating class of six completed the degree by taking exit written and oral exams. From that class, Elva K. Lance later became Director of Bands at Mississippi State University and Paul Kassulke joined ABC/Bandworld/WIBC full-time in 2007 as Director of Operations until his retirement in 2022.

In the early years, the ABC Band was a combination of attending directors, with a few working on the degree, and community musicians who helped fill out the instrumentation for public concerts. By 2002, we found it necessary to split to two bands with over 175 attendees including 140 master's candidates.

In 2018, the American Band College program realigned with Central Washington University with over 200 full-time candidates in the program. By August of 2022, our graduate total since 1994 surpassed 1,200 from 49 states and 17 foreign countries.

Guest Composers and Conductors

One of ABC's greatest assets is its immersion program concept that allows candidates to study with 24 of the world's finest teachers each summer. This faculty includes experts on each of the band instruments as well as top conductors who lecture on conducting and serve in assessment faculty roles, as each of our candidates conducts music with one of the two bands. Candidate work prior to the start of ABC makes it possible for them to conduct and prepare music for the visiting guest conductors and soloists who will appear on the public concerts (June 26 and July 4).

Over the years, guests have included some of the best-known composers in our business as well as the finest conductors and soloists. Just to name a few...

Composers:

<i>Brian Balmages</i>	<i>John Mackey</i>
<i>Warren Barker</i>	<i>Francis McBeth</i>
<i>James Barnes</i>	<i>John O'Reilly</i>
<i>Johan de Meij</i>	<i>Alfred Reed</i>
<i>Frank Erickson</i>	<i>Randall Standridge</i>
<i>Julie Giroux</i>	<i>Robert W. Smith</i>
<i>David Holsinger</i>	<i>Frank Ticheli</i>
<i>Ralph Hultgren</i>	<i>Jan Van der Roost</i>
<i>John Kinyon</i>	<i>Bill Whelan</i>

Conductors:

<i>Mike Bankhead</i>	<i>Julie Giroux</i>
<i>Peter Boonshaft</i>	<i>Anthony Maiello</i>
<i>Ray Cramer</i>	<i>Robert Ponto</i>
<i>Paula Crider</i>	<i>Alfred Watkins</i>
<i>Frederick Fennell</i>	<i>Frank Wickes</i>
<i>Jay Gephart</i>	<i>Lowell Graham</i>
<i>Cynthia Johnston Turner</i>	

Soloists:

<i>Joe Alessi</i>	<i>Eugene Rousseau</i>
<i>Julian Bliss</i>	<i>Doc Severinsen</i>
<i>Brian Bowman</i>	<i>Pat Sheridan</i>
<i>Boston Brass</i>	<i>Bobby Shew</i>
<i>Canadian Brass</i>	<i>Robert Spring</i>
<i>Dallas Brass</i>	<i>Allen Vizzutti</i>
<i>Marianne Gedigian</i>	<i>Jim Walker</i>
<i>Mariachi Sol De Mexico</i>	<i>Wild Rovers</i>
<i>Sam Pilafian</i>	<i>Harry Watters</i>



Johan de Meij's Riverdance Finale, 2016

Commissions & Premieres

As early as 1990, ABC frequently did first performances of new pieces written by Hollywood composer, Warren Barker.

In 2006, Johan de Meij premiered his setting of Patrick Doyle's music from "Henry V". In 2007, "Dublin Dances" was commissioned and composer, Jan Van der Roost from Belgium conducted the premiere. A year later, the ABC class of 2008 commissioned Robert W. Smith to write the official march "To the Max." In 2010, an ABC Consortium Commission resulted in the world premiere of Johan de Meij's "At Kitty O'Shea's."

The 25th anniversary year of 2013 included four world premiere performances including the Johan de Meij/Bill Whelan band setting of "Riverdance" plus "Five by Five" for the three trumpet soloists, "American Anthem" for Arnald Gabriel & "Caravan Fantasy" for Doc Severinsen. In 2016, ABC premiered another new work by Mike Davis to accompany our annual July 4th Presentation of the Flags: "...that our flag was still there." And so it goes!



2016 Premiere "That Our Flag Was Still There"

American Band College



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