



Oklahoma City Symphonic Band

Dr. Mark G. Belcik, Conductor

Spangled Heavens

and Other Moments of Joy!

Tuesday, February 22, 2015

7:30pm

Oklahoma City University

Margaret E. Petree Recital Hall

Kirkpatrick Fine Arts Center

2501 N Blackwelder Ave

Oklahoma City, OK 73106

www.okcband.org



Dr. Mark G. Belcik is the Associate Dean of the Wanda L Bass School of Music at Oklahoma City University, a position he has held since 2001. He holds degrees in Music Education from The University of Michigan, a Master's in Horn Performance from The University of Oklahoma and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Instrumental Conducting from The University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Belcik's teaching experiences include appointments at the University of Texas at Austin, where he was the Associate Director

of the Longhorn Band, the University of New Mexico, Valdosta State University, Bear Creek High School (CO) and Ardmore High School (OK). His high school bands have earned national recognition and won sweepstakes awards in Oklahoma and Colorado. Dr. Belcik is an active clinician, judge and guest conductor. He has conducted All State and Honor Bands in several states and has presented clinics at State, Regional and National Conventions. He currently serves as the Principal Conductor and Music Director of the Oklahoma City Symphonic Band, and is past President of the Oklahoma Association of Music Schools. He is on the board of the Oklahoma Youth Orchestra and Oklahoma Concert Band Foundation.

The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band
would like to extend a special thank you
to Oklahoma City University
for hosting our concert.

Oklahoma City Symphonic Band

Piccolo

DeLee Francis *
Glenda Gatz *

Flute

Wendy Bersche
Marilyn Bonds
Ann Bowman
Alix Darden
Ivy Douglas
DeLee Francis *
Glenda Gatz *
Sonie Liebler
Erika Stevens Olinger *
Vicki Repetto
Courtney Roark
Barbara Roewe
Bethany Rowligs
Cathy Voorhies

Oboe

Lacey Fisher
Ned Hughes
Bonnie Jump

Clarinet

Alexandra Amidon
Frances Ayers
Cathie Birchall
Warren Cadwell *
Kaci Coday
Pam Cottrill
Nancy Degraff
Sherry DiJorio *
Mischa Gray
Cyndi Gustafson
Evie Lee Hall
George R. Jay
Sharon Kieklak *
K. Fred Landefeld
Leisa Mayberry
Debbie Miller
David Purcer
Nan Scott
Tasmin Williams

Bass Clarinet

Frances Ayres
Tom Ayres
Pat Fair
Susan Semrau
Deborah Walls

Contra-Alto Clarinet

Pat Fair

Bassoon

Joan Baird
Kathryn McKinney *
Robert M. Smith

Alto Saxophone

Ed Cantrell
Beki Ervin
Summer Greene
Drew Hoelscher
John Humphreys

Tenor Saxophone

Rudell Adkison
Faye Sullivan
Robert Westbrook

Baritone Saxophone

Jim McGee *

Trumpet

John Adkison
Mike Banowetz
Gary Childers
Derek Childers
L. Dennis Doan
Henry Dolive
Marshall Douglas
Mike Ford
Bill Gipperich
Dennis Jamison
Joshua D. Smith
Larry Taylor
Kendall Wahpepah

French Horn

Samantha Carlson
LouAnn Dillard
Jenny Beth Jones
Mike Luther
Jensen Mecca
Rick Spence

Trombone

Cliff Francis
Louis Hemphill
Stewart McMinimy
Aaron Mitchum
Carl Reno *
Christopher Sambrano
C. J. Smith
Charles Womack *
Duncan Woodliff

Euphonium

Dennis Beringer
Richard Moore
Jimmy Neighbors
Dave Rosbach
Phyllis Smith *

Tuba

Sean Gold
Pat Purdy
Gene Smith
Percussion
McKeever Arnold
Kristen Bradley
Mike Forcina
Chase Gulliver
Michelle Hedges



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**Spangled Heavens
and Other Moments of Joy!
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Joy Revisited	Frank Ticheli
Tribute	Travis J. Cross
Divertimento for Band I. Prologue II. Song III. Dance IV. Burlesque V. Soliloquy VI. March	Vincent Persichetti
The Black Horse Troop	John Philip Sousa edited, Frederick Fennell
Intermission	
Amazing Grace In memory of Phyllis Dominguez (1943-2015), longtime member of the band.	Frank Ticheli
Spangled Heavens I. Holy Manna II. Restoration III. Sweet Canaan	Donald Grantham
My Fair Lady	Alan Jay Lerner & Frederick Loewe transcribed, Robert Russell Bennett



Joy Revisited (2005) Frank Ticheli (1958-)

The American composer Frank Ticheli's music has been described as "powerful, deeply felt...crafted with impressive flair and an ear for striking instrumental colors. (South Florida *Sun Sentinel*) "Joy Revisited" is a prime example of his craft. In his words: "The main melody and overall mood of this work were inspired by a single event: the birth of our first child. A simple little tune grabbed hold of me in the hours preceding her birth and refused to let go throughout the day and many days

thereafter. Indeed, until I jotted it down in my sketchbook, it did not release its grip."

Ticheli received his doctoral and master's degrees in composition from the University of Michigan. He joined the faculty of the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music in 1991, where he teaches composition. He has won numerous awards for his compositions, including the Charles Ives and Goddard Lieberson Awards, both from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In March of 2008, Frank Ticheli appeared with the Oklahoma City Symphonic Band as guest conductor in its performance of "An American Elegy" and "Simple Gifts," and "Wild Nights". (edited from www.FrankTicheli.com, www.manhattanbeachmusic.com)

Tribute (2007) Travis J. Cross (1977-) American composer Travis J.



Cross's writing with his characteristic graceful melodic lines and expressive figures showcase this beautiful and touching lyrical piece for symphonic wind band.

"Tribute" was commissioned by the Southwest Iowa Bandmasters Association and premiered by its Senior High Honor Band in 2006 under the baton of the composer. Cross earned his bachelor of music *cum laude* from St. Olaf College, MN, and master and doctor of music degrees in conducting from Northwestern University-Evanston, IL. He currently is associate professor of music and department vice-chair at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he conducts the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band and directs the graduate program in wind conducting. In 2004, Cross participated in the inaugural Young Conductor/Mentor Project sponsored by the National Band Association. The same year he received the Distinguished Young Band Director Award from the American School the Band Directors Association of Minnesota.



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About the Band...

The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band's mission is to provide a challenging and enriching musical experience for its members, to offer quality concerts for the community, and to inspire future generations of musicians.

The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band is comprised of approximately one hundred professional and amateur musicians. This historic band has performed in the Oklahoma City area for decades. The members are a cross-section of the community made up of all different professions. They are musicians who find that the band gives them a chance to grow musically.

Rehearsals are held every Tuesday evening throughout the year with the exception of May and August. The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band performs several concerts at a variety of venues including high schools, universities, churches and area parks and has hosted several talented composers as guest clinicians over the years, including Patrick Sheridan in 2014, Dr. Frank Ticheli in 2008, Dr. Jack Stamp in 2006 and Dr. John Zdechlik in 2003. The organization hosts an annual Young Artist Competition for high school students. The students compete by audition for the opportunity to perform with the band and to win a cash prize.

Members volunteer for many positions in the band and on the board of directors for the Foundation to help make the rehearsals and concerts the best experience possible. Oklahoma City Symphonic Band members have found gratification in having the band as an outlet to perform as well as to develop camaraderie with their peers. It is the perfect example of an opportunity for a lifelong continuing education in music.

We welcome new members. Due to the success and growth of our band, we have limits on instrumentation in each section but if a section is full, we will place your name on a waiting list. Regardless of whether there is an opening or not, we offer the option to sit in with the band as a guest for two rehearsals as long as it is not immediately preceding a concert. Our summer season is open to everyone.

The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band is sponsored by the Oklahoma Concert Band Foundation, whose purpose is to engage in the promotion, appreciation and support of concert band music throughout the State of Oklahoma.



The Black Horse Troop March (1925) John Philip Sousa (1854-1932) Ed. Frederick Fennell (1914-2004)

Composer, conductor, and patriot John Philip Sousa is known as “The March King.” His stirring march music is featured by wind bands during our national holidays, parades, and ceremonial occasions. His marches are known and performed all around the world. Sousa composed 136 marches between 1873 and 1931. The patriotic “Stars and Stripes Forever”, written in 1896, has become his signature march. It was the last piece he conducted before his death in 1932.

Congress declared it the National March in 1987. As director of the U.S. Marine Corps Band from 1880-1892, Sousa developed “The President’s Own” into an outstanding performance ensemble. He organized his own personal band which he conducted until his death. Composer of 15 operettas and other music genre, Sousa was also an author, poet, and editor. Sousa’s patriotism and love of horses, during the golden age of the U.S. Cavalry, shows through in this stately march. (www.dws.org/sousa/)

The editor of this march, Frederick Fennell writes: “My father had taken me [age 11] to a concert by Sousa’s Band at the Public Auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio. At the end of the concert Sousa turned and faced the audience. This was obviously a sign, for the whole of Troop “A” of the Ohio National Guard Cavalry—The Black Horse Troop—walked their horses up the aisles and onto the stage. Standing at attention behind the Band they faced the audience as Sousa led his musicians in the first performance of the march. Their reception as they made their way to the stage was wild enough, but the tumultuous applause for all at the conclusion was like no other I had ever heard.” According to Fennell, “The Black Horse Troop” is considered one of Sousa’s greatest and most elegant march. (*Performing Arts Encyclopedia, Library of Congress*)



Divertimento for Band (1950)

Vincent Persichetti (1915-1987)

The “Divertimento” was originally written for orchestra, but as the woodwind, brass, and percussion figures evolved, American composer Vincent Persichetti developed the piece which has been described as “alternating between a sense of mischief and a poignant vein of nostalgia.” Commissioned for The Goldman Band, it has become one of the most widely performed works in the entire wind band repertoire. Premi-

ered in 1950, the piece received such great accolades that, by 1955, it had been performed in every state in the U.S. Heralded as one of the major figures in American 20th century music, Persichetti was influenced by Stravinsky, Bartok, Hindemith, and Copland. His first compositions were published at age 14. By the age of 20, he was head of the theory and composition department at Philadelphia’s Combs College of Music, and also studying conducting at the Curtis Institute and piano and composition at the Philadelphia Conservatory. Persichetti composed for nearly every musical medium and particularly for wind band, with over 120 published works. (From OCU Band Program Notes Database; and program notes of the Claremont Winds)

The Divertimento consists of six short movements which demonstrate rhythmic and contrapuntal savoir-faire blended neatly with tongue-in-cheek humor and lyrical nostalgia: *Prologue; Song; Dance; Burlesque; Soliloquy; and March.*

Amazing Grace ((1994) Frank Ticheli (1958-)

Once again the Band turns to Frank Ticheli’s great artistry to celebrate the life and honor the memory of our band member and friend Phyllis Dominguez. This moving piece was commissioned by John Whitwell in loving memory of his father, John Henry Whitwell. The composer defines his writing: “I wanted my setting of “Amazing Grace” to reflect the powerful simplicity of the words and melody.... I believe that music has the power to take us to a place that words alone cannot. And so my own feelings about “Amazing Grace” reside in this setting itself. The

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harmony, texture, orchestration and form are inseparable, intertwined so as to be received as a single expressive entity. The spiritual was written by John Newton (1725-1807), a slave ship captain who, after years of transporting slaves across the Atlantic Ocean to the New World, suddenly saw through divine grace the evilness of his acts. First published in 1835, "Amazing Grace" has since grown to become one of the most beloved of all American spirituals." (www.manhattanbeachmusic.com/html/amazing_grace.html)



Spangled Heavens (2010) Donald Grantham (1947-)

American composer Donald Grantham was commissioned to write a composition for the Hill Country Middle School Symphonic Band, Texas, by its directors. His work was premiered by this talented young music ensemble. This rich musical offering consists of three highly contrasting movements using melodies from the shaped note tradition of 19th century hymns. "Holy Manna," "Restoration," and "Sweet Canaan" are skillfully crafted with original

material for a wonderful work that has become a mainstay of concert wind band literature. (www.jwpepper.com)

Born in Duncan, Oklahoma, Grantham received a Bachelor of Music from the University of Oklahoma, then his MM and DMA from University of Southern California. He has studied under the famous French composer, Nadia Boulanger at the American Conservatory in France. A well-known music educator, Grantham has received a Guggenheim Fellowship and three separate grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. He currently teaches music composition at the University of Texas at the Austin Butler School of Music.

(www.donaldgrantham.com)



Frank Loewe

Alan Jay Lerner My Fair Lady (Selections for Concert Band) (1956) Frederick Loewe, composer (1904-1988), Alan Jay Lerner, lyrics (1918-1986), Trans. Robert Russell Benton (1894-1981)

“My Fair Lady has been one of the most performed musicals in the U.S. Lerner and Loewe created a classic musical adaption for the 1913 original stage play “Pymalion” by George Bernard Shaw, in 1956. It became an immediate and spectacular success—artistic and financial—in the history

of American theater. Playing a record 2,717 performances on Broadway alone, it went on to break all other existing world records. Revivals continue to the present day with the latest opening just last year on Broadway. The collaboration of lyricist Lerner and composer Loewe came late in their careers. Harvard-educated Lerner wrote material for radio and for individual performers in the 1930s. Loewe, born in Berlin, came to the U.S. in 1924 and gradually worked his way into theater music. The two were introduced in 1942 and, five years later, scored their first hit in the fantasy “Brigadoon”. (www.broadwaymusicalhome.com, www.Kennedy-center.org)



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Oklahoma Concert Band Foundation Young Artist Competition 2015

Open to any woodwind, brass or percussion musician in the 11th or 12th grade currently enrolled in a high school or home school music program in the state of Oklahoma. Auditions have already been held and the winner for 2015 is flutist Olivia Jouressek.

The winner will receive \$500 and the opportunity to perform his or her solo in concert with the Oklahoma City Symphonic Band in April 2015.

For complete information and application visit our website at www.okcband.org.



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