

WELS BAND FESTIVAL OBJECTIVES

- To Foster Christian fellowship among WELS high school students,
 - providing opportunities for the students to develop Christian friendships during rehearsals and social activities
 - $\circ\;$ creating an environment of cooperation rather than competition
- To expose students to a wide variety of band literature that promotes musical growth, both technically and aesthetically.
- To promote the music program and ministry of the host school in their association and the community.
- To make Band Festival financially feasible for all WELS high schools
 creating and sustaining a central WELS Band Festival account to fund the
 - steering committee, commissions, and other joint Band Festival projects
 - seeking other sources of funding such as matching funds, grants, and corporate gifts to help offset expenses
 - providing a WELS Band Festival music library database to clinicians so they can perform literature from past festivals

The mission of the WELS Band Festival is to foster Christian fellowship among WELS high school students as they prepare, rehearse, and perform band music, so that through their instrumental abilities the Lord will be praised. (Psalm 150)

Join us for the 2025 WELS National Band Festival at Martin Luther College, New Ulm, MN March 7-9, 2025



Visit www.welsfinearts.org for more information

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Meet the Schools
- Band Directors
- Clinicians
- Song Selections
- Student Participants
- Thank Yous

A big thank you to all of the WELS Schools and participants involved in making this year's WELS Band Festival a success.

MEET

THE

SCHOOLS

Thank you to all of the directors from each school for your dedication and hard work to your school's band program. Your commitment is a blessing to all.



ARIZONA LUTHERAN ACADEMY Phoenix, AZ





EVERGREEN LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL Tacoma, WA

Fox Valley Lutheran High School Appleton, WI



Hope Christian Academy Westland, MI



Illinois Lutheran High School Crete, IL



Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Jackson, WI



Luther Preparatory School Watertown, WI



Manitowoc Lutheran High School Manitowoc, WI



Michigan Lutheran High School St. Joseph, MI



Michigan Lutheran Seminary Saginaw, MI



Northland Lutheran High School Kronenwetter, WI



Shoreland Lutheran High School Kenosha, WI



to our Schools' Band Directors:

Arizona Lutheran Academy Joshua Severeid

Evergreen Lutheran High School Jodi Wosje

Fox Valley Lutheran High School James Neujahr

Hope Christian Academy Steve Grosinske

Illinois Lutheran High School Jonathan Witte

Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Angela Hohenstein Luther Preparatory School Ryan Stangl

Manitowoc Lutheran High School Charis Scharf

Michigan Lutheran High School Josiah Willitz

Michigan Lutheran Seminary Carl Boeder

Northland Lutheran High School Jennifer Heisinger

Shoreland Lutheran High School James Groth



WES SCHMANDT

Wes Schmandt teaches percussion and German at Kettle Moraine Lutheran High school in Jackson, WI. He also maintains a private studio and serves as coach for the Lutheran Vanguard Drumline. At KML he is the director of the high school and elementary schools' percussion ensembles. Mr. Schmandt keeps active in performance as a member of the Waukesha Area Symphonic Band. He has served as clinician for the WELS Band Festivals since 1992.

Mr. Schmandt lives in West Bend, WI with his wife, Sarah and three children, Michaya, Dylan, and Bryson.

JAMES C. RIPLEY

James C. Ripley is Professor of Music, and Director of Instrumental Music Activities at Carthage College. He also serves as Music Consultant of the Sakuyo Wind Orchestra at Sakuyo University in Kurashiki, Japan, where he was Music Director from 2001-2011. At Carthage, Dr. Ripley conducts the Wind Orchestra, Concert Band, and the chamber winds group AMATI. He also teaches classes in conducting, teaching methods, and psychoacoustics. Prior to his



appointment at Carthage, Dr. Ripley served as Assistant Professor of Conducting and Ensembles at the Eastman School of Music, where he was the Associate Conductor of the Eastman Wind Ensemble and Wind Orchestra, and conductor of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble at the River Campus of the University of Rochester. In 2012, Dr. Ripley received the Carlo A. Sperati Award from Luther College for outstanding service in the field of instrumental music.

Dr. Ripley received his D.M.A. in conducting from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with Donald Hunsberger. He has a M.M. in Wind Conducting from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and a B.A. in Music Education from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. Former positions held by Dr. Ripley were as Associate Director of Bands at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, and as a clinical faculty member at Luther College. In addition, Dr. Ripley taught for eleven years in the public schools of Minnesota and Iowa.

Dr. Ripley is an active arranger and editor of wind ensemble music. His performing edition of Howard Hanson's Triumphal Ode for Military Band is published by Carl Fischer, and his arrangements for The Donald Hunsberger Wind Library are available through Warner Brothers Publications. A new orchestration of Healy Willan's Royce Hall Suite is currently under consideration for publication. He collaborated with Morton Gould on the completion of the American Ballads for band and has made editions of Gould's American Patrol and Howard Hanson's Pan and the Priest for chamber winds and piano. Current projects include work on historical editions of music by Percy Grainger, Samuel Barber, and Leo Sowerby. He has authored several articles that have appeared in WASBE World, The Instrumentalist, Wind Works, BD Guide, and the Journal of Band Research.

His professional affiliations include the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (Past President), College Band Directors National Association, National Band Association, and the National Association for Music Education. Dr. Ripley has appeared as guest clinician and conductor throughout the United States, Canada, and Japan.

SONG SELECTIONS

FREE WILL OFFERING

Your free will offering will directly offset the costs of hosting WELS Band Festival at Manitowoc Lutheran High School

Feel free to scan the QR code for online donations.





Triumphal Ode

Howard Hanson (1896-1981), ed. James Ripley

Howard Hanson's music maintained a decidedly optimistic and romantic style throughout his lifetime, which was nurtured by his upbringing in the Swedish Lutheran church. Many of his early works were written in what he called a "free form", where two main themes in a melodic inversion relationship are presented and freely developed. *Triumphal Ode* was Hanson's first work for band - and indeed the first symphonic type work for band by any American composer - and written in 1918 while he was teaching at the College of the Pacific in Stockton, California.

1861

Jonathan Newman (b. 1972)

1861 is a lyric hymn-fantasia based on the beautiful 19th century Anglican hymn "Lead Me, Lord" written in 1861 by Charles Sebastian Wesley. Jonathan Newman's treatment of the tune is extremely colorful with particular attention to percussion effects. Wesley's text was for one verse only:

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness, make thy way plain before my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

The Lighthouse

JoAnne Harris (b. 1984)

A graduate of Concordia College, JoAnne studied choral music with René Clausen. She teaches media scoring at Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema (CUNY Brooklyn College), orchestration at Catholic University of America, and is a steering committee member of the Society of Composers and Lyricists in New York. Her cinematic credits include film and television programs 20/20, Primetime, and Dateline.

Harris wrote *The Lighthouse* in 2018 after enduring a lengthy travelogue by her parents about seeing every single lighthouse in Nova Scotia. During this travelogue, Harris's sister started pulling supplemental materials from the internet and found drone footage of Port Meadway Head. Harris's sister said: "I think this video would be better if you had scored it." This sparked Harris's idea for the piece, which is built around oscillating textures and minimalist influences.

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Dan Forrest (b. 1978), tr. Jess Langston Turner

Based on an old Irish hymn tune (Columbia), the text paraphrases Psalm 23. This arrangement is of choral composer Dan Forrest's setting of the tune, heard by Jess Turner while a student at Bob Jones University when the composer was professor there. The band arrangement was premiered by the Bob Jones University Wind Ensemble in 2007.

HeliX (Percussion Ensemble)

Eric Rath

HeliX was commissioned by a consortium of educators led by Indiana percussion educator Kyle Lutes. The purpose of the commission was to add serious, quality literature to the percussion ensemble repertoire focusing on four-mallet keyboard playing. To that end, a fair amount of fourmallet playing occurs throughout the piece.

The material in the last third of the piece was written first. This presented an odd challenge—to write backwards and think about how the music would have already developed instead of taking a melody at the beginning (shouldn't you start at the beginning?) and developing it. In that way, it was like seeing the top of a spiral, or helix, and rotating it downwards to see where it began. I often thought about the piece as if it were a maze to be solved or a code to be broken. —Eric Rath

Italian Polka

Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943), arr. Elena Lucas

Sergei Rachmaninoff, famed Russian composer and pianist, was celebrated around the world in 2023 for the centenary of his birth. The melody of the Italian Polka was known to have been heard played by an "old street organ pulled by a donkey" by Rachmaninoff while on vacation in 1906. This arrangement for band by Elena Roussanova Lucas follows the original version for piano four-hands.

After the Cakewalk

Robert Nathaniel Dett (1882-1943), arr. Lee Smith, ed. Dana Perna

Canadian-born Nathaniel Dett was a composer, organist, pianist and music professor who spent most of his professional career in the United States and is known largely for his work in combining music in the style of European Romantic composers with African-American spirituals. Late in his career, he adopted more contemporary idioms that were written for solo piano. Although Dett was to achieve notoriety for his compositions in more extended forms, earning the praise of John Philip Sousa and Percy Grainger (among many others), his earliest known works were full of the popular music he would have known during his youth. *After the Cakewalk* was written while Dett was still in his teens and was scored for a 28-piece "military" band in 1901 by Lee Orean Smith. The current setting for full wind orchestra is by Dana Paul Perna. The cakewalk predates its sometimes association with minstrel shows and is known to have its ascendancy out of the ring shout dance of plantation slaves. A cake was often awarded as a prize to the best dancer.

Rejouissance

James Curnow (b. 1943)

Rejouissance was commissioned by the St. Joseph (Michigan) Municipal Band in honor of John E.N. Howard, the band's conductor from 1947 to 1987. *Rejouissance* in French means "enjoyment" or "make happy"; in English it is "rejoicing". In music of the 17th and 18th centuries, the term was used to denote a short composition of a lively or playful nature which brings enjoyment to the listener. This fantasia (a composition in which "free flight of fancy" prevails over contemporary conventions of form or style) is based on Martin Luther's *Ein' Feste Burg* (A Mighty Fortress Is Our God).



STUDENT PARTICIPANTS

Students are listed by instrument. Please take a minute to look through the names of all of the talented participants involved in this year's band festival.

Thank you to all of the students for your hard work and dedication to put on this beautiful concert for us today.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Instrument	Student
Flute	Emma Henkel
Flute	Dorcas Wang
Flute	Arabella Baumann
Flute	Morgan Hokanson
Flute	Emma Weishalla
Flute	Parker Roberts
Flute	Ayla Johnson
Flute	Adeline Kruschel
Oboe/English Horn	Nadia Wingerter
Bassoon	Faith Weigand
Bassoon	Bethany Fick
Clarinet	Heather Young
Clarinet	Julia Strey
Clarinet	David Wang
Clarinet	Elizabeth Vogt
Clarinet	Anna Krahn

School

Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Manitowoc Lutheran High School Northland Lutheran High School Illinois Lutheran High School Luther Preparatory School Michigan Lutheran Seminary Arizona Lutheran Academy Luther Preparatory School Fox Valley Lutheran High School Shoreland Lutheran High School Fox Valley Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Michigan Lutheran Seminary Manitowoc Lutheran High School Manitowoc Lutheran High School

Instrument

Clarinet Clarinet Clarinet Clarinet Clarinet **Bass Clarinet Bass Clarinet** Alto Sax Alto Sax Alto Sax Alto Sax Tenor Sax Bari Sax Trumpet Trumpet Trumpet Trumpet Trumpet Trumpet Trumpet Trumpet Trumpet Horn Horn Horn Horn Horn Horn Trombone Trombone Trombone Trombone Trombone Trombone Trombone Euphonium Euphonium Euphonium Euphonium Tuba Tuba Tuba

Student

Jonah Toppe Ella Erdmann **Madison Zehner** Adelynn Huff **Tyler Henning Grant Kruse Dylan Schmandt Alyssa Straling Bowen Gaedtke Adrianna Hengst Aiden Bozorov** Cecilia Brueckner Jonah Eckert **Garrett Robinson Anthony Pomarico** Tempi Zondag **Charlie Manzano Henry Laabs Matthew Schiemann Ben Pasbrig** Luke Robinson **Norah Jaeger** Ashlynn Kionka Logan Brooks **Thomas Zondag Emmalee Sysak** Margaret Italiano **Elijah Johnson Megan Lippert** Isaiah Klemp Elijah Ruddat **Henry Jaeger Caleb Race Joseph Brooks Benjamin Lemke** Joseph Ungemach **Peter Amundson** Josiah Hutchinson **Bobby Wilson Henry Pape Benjamin Liebich** Nika Pittenger

School

Fox Valley Lutheran High School Fox Valley Lutheran High School Michigan Lutheran High School Michigan Lutheran High School Evergreen Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Evergreen Lutheran High School Manitowoc Lutheran High School Northland Lutheran High School Illinois Lutheran High School Evergreen Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Michigan Lutheran Seminary **Evergreen Lutheran High School** Shoreland Lutheran High School Manitowoc Lutheran High School Fox Valley Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Michigan Lutheran Seminary Fox Valley Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Manitowoc Lutheran High School Shoreland Lutheran High School Michigan Lutheran High School Illinois Lutheran High School Arizona Lutheran Academy Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Manitowoc Lutheran High School Fox Valley Lutheran High School Fox Valley Lutheran High School Illinois Lutheran High School Hope Christian Academy Manitowoc Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Shoreland Lutheran High School Hope Christian Academy Fox Valley Lutheran High School Michigan Lutheran High School **Evergreen Lutheran High School**

Instrument

String Bass Percussion Percussion Percussion Percussion Percussion Percussion Percussion

Student

Katelyn Grady Michaya Schmandt Derek Diehl Isaiah Kramp Clara Kopotzke Ricky Li Rachel Babler Ryan Schmidt Allie Hinz

School

Fox Valley Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Illinois Lutheran High School Michigan Lutheran Seminary Fox Valley Lutheran High School Manitowoc Lutheran High School Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School Arizona Lutheran Academy Luther Preparatory School





Thank you to all of the following people for their help and commitment in making this year's band festival a success.

Johnsonville Culver's Manitowoc Ice Sabbatical Brewing Heid Music WELS Band Fest Steering Com. Host Families and volunteers Joel Ungemach Meredith Milbrath Renee Schmill Jennifer Knutson Rachel Severeid Andrea Grasenick Tracy Gaedtke Rochelle Manzano Kelly Ruddat Rita Redeker Jane Johnston Lois Schneider Larry Schneider Lori Miller Holly Zirbel Paul Durkee Nathan Gurgel Kathy Kock Pastor Rik Krahn

