

**SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE**  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

**OU Bands Preview**

*featuring*

**Brass Band**  
**Symphonic Band**  
*and*  
**Wind Symphony**

**Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Varner Recital Hall**

**Oakland University Brass Band**

Dr. Kenneth Kroesche, Conductor

*The Olympic Spirit*

John Williams (b. 1932)  
arranged by Christian Jenkins

*I Know Thou Art Mine*

Leonard Ballantine (b. 1950)

*Roman Carnival Overture*

Hector Berlioz (1803-1869)  
arranged by Frank Wright

*Dr. Kenneth Kroesche, conductor*

**Oakland University Symphonic Band**

Dr. Pamela L. Klena, Conductor

Mr. Jacob Greenwood, Guest Conductor

*Greek Folk Song Suite*

Franco Cesarini (b. 1961)

- I. *O Haralambis*
- II. *Stu Psiloriti*
- III. *Vasilikos tha gino*

*Dr. Pamela L. Klena, conductor*

*Exhale*

Sean O'Loughlin (b. 1972)

*Street Tango*

Astor Piazzolla (1921 – 1992)  
Arr. by Robert Longfield

*Mr. Jacob Greenwood, conductor*

*Women of the Podium*

Virginia A. Allen (b. 1953)

**Oakland University Wind Symphony**  
Dr. Gregory Cunningham, Conductor  
Mr. Jacob Greenwood, Guest Conductor

*Rivers of Air*

Jake Runestad (b. 1986)

*Dr. Gregory Cunningham, conductor*

*Nothing Gold Can Stay*

Steven Bryant (b. 1972)

*Mr. Jacob Greenwood, conductor*

*Of Our New Day Begun*

Omar Thomas (b. 1984)

“To Honor the nine victims and families of the June 17, 2015 terrorist attack on Mother Emanuel A.M.E. Church in Charleston, SC. Let us march on ‘til victory is won.”

### **Program Notes**

In a career that spans five decades, John Williams has become one of America's most accomplished and successful composers for film and for the concert stage. He has served as music director and laureate conductor of one of the country's treasured musical institutions, the Boston Pops Orchestra, and he maintains thriving artistic relationships with many of the world's great orchestras, including the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Mr. Williams has received a variety of prestigious awards including the National Medal of Arts, the Kennedy Center Honor, the Olympic Order, and numerous Academy Awards, Grammy Awards, Emmy Awards and Golden Globe Awards. He remains one of our nation's most distinguished and contributive musical voices.

In 1984, John Williams was already recognized as a leading composer of music for film, so it was only natural that the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee ask him to provide a fanfare for those games. His response was *Olympic Fanfare and Theme* and since then he has provided music to be used for the Olympics on three additional occasions. *The Olympic Spirit* was the second in this series and was written in 1988 for NBC's coverage of the summer games that took place in Seoul, South Korea. These pieces along with his *Summon the Heroes* and *Call of the Champions* truly capture the essence of the Olympic Games.

The melody, *I Know Thou Art Mine*, was first published in the June 1923 volume of *The Musical Salvationist*. Its composer, Commissioner Isaac Unsworth, was a singer who had never learned musical notation and never played an instrument. Remarkably, in his later years he was to discover an unusual gift for the fashioning of original melodies. These he would sing to his friends at the Music Editorial Department, who would notate and harmonize his work.

Leonard Ballantine was born and raised in Windsor, Ontario and his earliest musical memories include attending Detroit Symphony Orchestra concerts and hearing the Detroit Concert Band on Belle Isle. He studied music at the University of Toronto and would eventually become the National Secretary of Music for the Salvation Army in Canada.

One of Hector Berlioz's idols was the great sculptor Benvenuto Cellini, whose life seems to have been even more tempestuous than the composer's. Berlioz wrote an opera on the subject of Cellini in 1838, and fearing that the work would never be performed again, in 1844 constructed a concert overture called *Roman Carnival* out of some of the material in the opera. ***Roman Carnival Overture*** was arranged for brass band by Frank Wright and used as a test piece at the National Championships in 1966. The winners that year were the GUS (Footwear) Band under Stanley Boddington.

The typical instruments of Greek folk music are the clarinet, the mandolin, the violin, various types of tambourines, and the characteristic "buzuki." Greek folk music consists of a repertoire of three main groups of songs: traditional folksongs (*dimotiko*), folksongs from the immigrants (*rebetiko*), and songs from contemporary composers. The best-known author of Greek folk music is Mikis Theodorakis who, in addition to his political engagement against the fascist regime, has spread, through his melodies, the texts of the main Greek poets.

In ***Greek Folk Song Suite***, Franco Cesarini has elaborated three songs belonging to the most ancient tradition. The first, *O Haralambis*, is in 7/8 time, typical of a popular folk dance called *kalamatianos*. Originally, the song *O Haralambis* was sung to "tease" during weddings, since the text of the song refers to a young man who refuses to marry. The central part of the piece includes another folk song called *I Voskopula*. The second movement, *Stu Psiloriti*, refers to an ancient song from the Island of Crete. The Psiloritis is the highest peak of the Ida Mountains. The third movement of the suite is based on the song *Vasilikos tha gino*, a very ancient song of the Ipeiros region. Some characteristics of this movement are a reminder of the sirtaki, the most popular Greek dance abroad.

**Franco Cesarini** was born in 1961 in Bellinzona, Switzerland. He started his musical education at the Conservatory of Milan (Italy) studying flute and piano. He continued his studies with Peter-Lukas Graf at the Academy of Music in Basic where he earned his teaching diploma. He has won several competitions as a soloist and as a member of chamber ensembles, including first prize in the Swiss soloist competition in 1981. In 1984, the Ernst Gohner-Migros Foundation awarded him a scholarship. Cesarini continued his studies with Peter-Lukas Graf until obtaining his performer's diploma. He also studied music theory and composition with Robert Suter and Jacques Wildberger, and wind band conducting with Felix Hauswirth. Currently, Cesarini teaches wind band conducting at the Zurich Conservatory. In addition to arranging and composing, he conducts the "Civica Filarmonica di Lugano" and the "Civica Filarmonica di Balerna" and is a highly demanded adjudicator and guest conductor. Cesarini is a particularly versatile composer. As well as pieces for wind band and brass band, his list of works includes compositions for chamber ensembles, various solo instruments, voice, string orchestra, and symphony orchestra. Many of his works have already been recorded on CD.

*Program Notes from Mitropa Music  
Publications*

*Exhale* was commissioned by the New York State Band Director's Association. To be commissioned by such an incredible consortium of schools and educators is one of the highest honors a composer can achieve. *Exhale* is a composition born out of the directors' desire for innovative and creative writing for concert band to be included in the 2017 NYSBDA Honor Band Festival. The music in *Exhale* explores various forms of breathing we experience in our everyday lives. From resting to exercising, the music depicts these various states of breath. In addition, I wanted to explore the colors of the modern wind band both with the rich use of harmony and the textural use of composite rhythms to create an eclectic tapestry of sound. I still give the listener and the ensemble a melody to grasp onto, but I compliment that with waves of sound and colors.

**Sean O'Loughlin** (b. 1972) is the Principal Pops Conductor of Symphoria, the exciting new symphony in Syracuse, NY and the newly appointed Principal Pops Conductor of the Victoria Symphony in Victoria, B.C. Canada. His music is characterized by vibrant rhythms, passionate melodies, and colorful scoring. As a conductor and arranger, he has led performances with the Boston Pops Orchestra, the San Francisco Symphony, the Chicago Symphony, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, the Minnesota Orchestra, the Dallas Symphony, the Atlanta Symphony, the Houston Symphony, and the Seattle Symphony amongst others. He has served as conductor for national and world-wide tours with Josh Groban, Sarah McLachlan, and the Jerry Garcia Symphonic Celebration. He has also appeared on ABC's Good Morning America with Josh Groban and NBC's "A Very Pentatonix Christmas."

Recent collaborations include such artists as Sarah McLachlan, Adele, Josh Groban, Pentatonix, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry, Kelly Clarkson, Diana Ross, Journey, Melissa Etheridge, Weird Al Yankovic, Blue Man Group, Janelle Monáe, Audra McDonald, Hall and Oates, Gloria Estefan, the Indigo Girls, Diana Krall, Itzhak Perlman, Brandi Carlile, Martina McBride, and others.

Through his growing number of commissioned and published works, Sean is excited to continue contributing to the rich history of orchestral and wind band literature. His music is published by Excelcia Music, Hal Leonard, and Carl Fischer. He is a frequent guest conductor with professional orchestra around the country and abroad. An annual ASCAP Special Awards winner, Sean was a composition fellow at the Henry Mancini Institute in Los Angeles, and holds composition degrees from New England Conservatory and Syracuse University.

*Program Notes from Excelcia Music  
Publications*

Astor Piazzolla was keenly aware of the changing style of the Argentine national dance over his lifetime. Originally written for the bandoneon, **Street Tango** has become one of Piazzolla's most well-known works. Historically, the tango evolved from an earlier popular dance called the milonga, which is itself evolved from the Cuban rhythm known as habañera. Tango was initially regarded as a low dance as it originated in bordellos. By

1930 however, tango was the favorite dance of all classes in Argentina and was known as a daring dance around the world.

*Program Note by Robert  
Longfield*

Born in Argentina, raised in the musical melting pot of New York City before returning to his native country, **Astor Piazzolla** revolutionized the tango as a compositional form, incorporating jazz and classical idioms into what he called nuevo tango. He was also a virtuoso bandoneon player, an Argentine/Uruguayan instrument somewhat similar to an accordion. Piazzolla was spotted playing bandoneon by renowned pianist Artur Schnabel, who encouraged him to study composition with noted Argentine composer Alberto Ginastera. Ginastera, in turn, persuaded Piazzolla to enter a composition contest, and by winning, he was granted a scholarship to study with Nadia Boulanger in Paris. Boulanger quickly convinced Piazzolla to abandon his formal compositions, which she felt lacked originality, and explore his musical roots. He returned to Argentina, formed an octet, and developed his nuevo tango style of composition.

*Program Note by Steve  
Anthenien*

***Women of the Podium March*** is the official march of the Women Band Directors National Association (WBDNA). The composer premiered the march with The United States Army Band on July 8, 1986 during WBDNA's Summer Meeting in Washington, D.C.

**Virginia A. Allen** studied French horn at The Catholic University of American Washington, D.C., where she completed a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and a Master of Music Degree in Performance. She accepted a direct commission into the U.S. Army in 1977 and was assigned to the staff of the U.S. Army Element, Armed Forces School of Music in Norfolk, Virginia. While there, she served as the Student Company Commander, the Director of Training, and the Adjutant. She also organized and conducted the School of Music Student Brass Ensemble. When she assumed command of the U.S. Army Forces Command Band at Fort McPherson, Georgia in 1979, Captain Allen became the first woman to command and conduct an active military band since the integration of women into the military band program. For three years, she led the Forces Command Band in performances throughout the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 1982, Captain Allen was selected for assignment to the military's premier touring band, the U.S. Army Field Band at Fort Meade, Maryland. In addition to serving as the Associate Conductor of the Concert Band and as the Public Relations Officer, she also directed the Soldier's Chorus during the band's 1984 European Tour. In 1985, Captain Allen was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs at the Pentagon as a Staff Officer in the Media Relations Division. She returned to Fort McPherson in October 1986 to assume responsibilities as the Forces Command Staff Band Officer. Captain Allen's professional memberships include the National Band Association, Music Educators

National Conference, Georgia Music Educators Association, Women Band Directors National Association, and the National Association of Female Executives.

*Program Notes from TRN Music Publications*

### **Conductor Biographies**



**Dr. Kenneth Kroesche**, Professor of Music, teaches Trombone, Euphonium and Tuba, as well as conducts the Oakland University Brass Band. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts and a Master of Music in performance from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, in addition to a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Texas State University.

Dr. Kroesche has appeared as a euphonium soloist with a number of notable ensembles, ranging from the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to the U.S. Army Band at the West Point Military Academy. The *Washington Post* described him as "an expert on the instrument." From 2000 to 2016, he appeared as a soloist at every international conference of the International Tuba & Euphonium Association, as well as numerous regional conferences across the country.

As an orchestral musician, he is the principal trombonist of the Oakland Symphony Orchestra, the university's orchestra in residence, and the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra. He is a frequent guest musician with the area's leading ensembles which include the Grand Rapids Symphony, Flint Symphony and Detroit Chamber Winds. In addition, each summer he performs as euphoniumist with the Toledo Symphony Concert Band.

In 2009, he formed the Oakland University Brass Band which since its inception has gone on to receive national and international recognition. In January of 2015, the group accepted an invitation to travel to England to perform in the Butlin's National Brass Band Festival & Competition. While there, the band was awarded 2nd place in their division and now holds the distinction of being the highest placing American band in the history of the competition. This invitation was extended as a result of having won the First Section of the North American Brass Band Championships in 2014 in Grand Rapids, MI. Since then, the band has performed at the country's leading brass band festivals and they are currently the 2018 and 2019 Grand Champions of the Dublin Festival of Brass in Dublin, Ohio.



**Dr. Pam Klena** is Visiting Assistant Professor of Music at Oakland University where she conducts the Oakland University Symphonic Band, teaches elementary and secondary instrumental music education methods courses, and supervises student teachers. Dr. Klena holds the Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro where she served as a graduate teaching assistant and studied with Kevin M. Gerald and John R. Locke. During her studies at UNCG, she conducted the Symphonic Band, University Band, Casella Sinfonietta, Wind Ensemble, and taught undergraduate conducting courses. Dr. Klena earned the Master of Music degree from Central Michigan University where she studied conducting with John E. Williamson. During her studies she conducted the University Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Symphony, Wind Ensemble, and assisted with the Central Michigan Marching Chippewas.

Prior to her graduate studies, Dr. Klena was the Director of Bands at Trinity Christian School in Sharpsburg, GA. She taught beginning, middle, and high school band, general music courses, and conducted school musicals. In addition to participating in the Georgia All-State Band, Dr. Klena served as coordinator and director for the Georgia Independent School Association All-Select Middle School Honor Band and Chorus.

Dr. Klena earned the Bachelor of Music Education degree from Lee University in Cleveland, TN, where she studied conducting with David R. Holsinger and Mark Bailey. During her time at Lee University, she traveled internationally promoting music education and leading masterclasses in countries such as Jordan, Brazil, and Kenya. She also was a founding member of a local beginning band program that afforded fifth-grade band students with free private lessons taught by college students.

Dr. Klena's primary research interest is gender diversity among wind band conductors and is committed to furthering inclusivity in the field. Her dissertation entitled, *Toward a More Inclusive Profession: A Qualitative Study of Female Wind Band Conductors*, interviews nationally-recognized female wind band conductors in order to glean insights into their experiences and perspectives. These distinguished women share their motivations, career and life experiences in hopes of furthering inclusivity within our field. Other research interests include audience engagement and recruitment in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. She believes this continuing research will enhance the field of music and conducting while the existence of wind band music in the academic environment continues to evolve. She also was selected to present her literature review, "Toward Resolving Gender Inequities in the Field of Wind Conducting" at the Michigan Music Conference and was a recipient of the CBDNA Mike Moss Study Grant. Dr. Klena is also a proud member of the College Band Directors National Association, Women Band Directors International, National Association for Music Education, College Music Society, Conductors Guild, Sigma Alpha Iota, Kappa Kappa Psi, and Pi Kappa Lambda.





**Jacob Greenwood** is the Associate Director of Bands at Troy High School. Appointed in 2018, his roles include instructing the Troy Colt Drumline, Percussion Ensembles, Jazz, AP Music Theory and Music Technology courses. In addition to conducting the Campus Band, he assists in conducting the Cadet, Concert and Symphonic Bands as well as the award-winning Troy Colt Marching Band.

Prior to his appointment in Troy, Jacob was the Director of Bands at Leslie Public Schools. Hired in 2010, he spent 8 years rebuilding and maintaining both the middle school and high school band programs. During his time at Leslie, he tripled the program's enrollment, received consistent superior ratings at MSBOA festivals, performed in New York City, Chicago, and St. Louis, collaborated with professional musicians and commissioned new compositions. In addition to the concert and marching programs' success, his drumline groups were requested to perform at Detroit Piston's half-time shows and his jazz band invited to perform at Michigan State University events.

Jacob holds an undergraduate degree in Music Education from Michigan State University. While at MSU, he was a member of the award-winning Spartan Marching Band Drumline, principal percussionist of the Wind Symphony, and drum set player in the jazz program, Spartan Brass, and salsa band.

Jacob is now in his second year of pursuing a master's degree in Conducting from Oakland University, working closely with Dr. Cunningham, Dr. Klena and the incredible musicians of the OU Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band.



**Dr. Gregory Cunningham** is Director of Bands, Professor of Music, and Instrumental Music Program Coordinator at Oakland University, where he conducts the Oakland University Wind Symphony, teaches undergraduate and graduate coursework in instrumental conducting, and serves as Music Director of the Oakland Symphony Orchestra, a regional orchestra in residence at OU. Beginning his 25th year at OU, the range of performance activities of the Oakland University Wind Symphony, the university's premiere auditioned wind band has significantly diversified in terms of regional scope and comprehensiveness of repertoire. Within the last decade, the OU Wind Symphony has toured throughout the state of Michigan, performed twice at the Michigan Music Conference, and was one of eight

collegiate bands, invited through blind peer review, to perform at last year's 2018 College Band Directors National Association North Central Conference.

Prior to his appointment at OU in 1997, Gregory was the Doctoral Conducting Intern at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign (1994-1997). During his residency, Cunningham taught courses in conducting, served as a staff conductor within the University of Illinois Band Department, was an Editorial Assistant for the Journal of the Council of Research in Music Education, made appearances as guest conductor with the Champaign-Urbana and Illini Symphony orchestras, and performed as the Principal Conductor of the Springfield-based (IL) Sangamon Valley Youth Symphony and Sangamon Valley Youth Chamber Orchestra.

From 2010 – 2015, Dr. Cunningham served as Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Warren Symphony Orchestra, a regional professional orchestra located in Southeastern Michigan.

Dr. Cunningham remains very active as a clinician and adjudicator of high school and middle school orchestras/bands and has served as guest conductor for various district and state level honors ensembles throughout the Midwest, Northeast and Southeast. He has presented/co-presented workshops for instrumental music teachers at the Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin Music Educators conferences, has co-presented at the MENC National Conference, and the Symposium on Music Teacher Education. He has made guest appearances as an Artist in Residence at the University of Illinois–Urbana Champaign, the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire, the University of North Carolina – Wilmington, and has also served on the summer faculties of the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, Illinois Summer Youth Music, University of Iowa Summer Music Camp, and Shell Lake Music Camp.

### **Brass Band Personnel**

#### **Soprano Cornet**

Jordan Berg

#### **Solo Cornet**

Alexis Dill\*  
Thomas Corbett  
Elliana Gustincic  
Filip Starostka

#### **Repiano Cornet**

Nicole Tremonti

#### **Second Cornet**

Parker Eckman

#### **Third Cornet**

Jacob Packard  
Zachary Oberdier

#### **Flugelhorn**

Anna Greyerbiehl

#### **Solo Horn**

Derek Kolp

#### **First Horn**

Jonathon Esbri

#### **Second Horn**

Jessie Pruehs

#### **First Baritone**

Christopher Warren

#### **Second Baritone**

Andrew Pettit

#### **Trombone**

Maybelynn Dill\*  
Dustin Freeman  
Matthew Niemi

#### **Bass Trombone**

Josh Tobias

#### **Euphonium**

Iyla Miller\*  
James Long

#### **E-flat Tuba**

Brandon Thibault\*  
Brian Wiik

#### **B-flat Tuba**

Noah McDonald\*  
Tarek Murray

#### **Percussion**

Taylor Atkinson\*  
Jacob Voight  
David Smit

## **Symphonic Band Personnel**

### **Flute**

Letty Costilla\*  
Caroline Wickersham  
Natalia Robb  
Alexandra Becker  
Adanna Walker  
Haley Horton  
Pamella Kraemer (Piccolo)  
Margaret Lanfear  
Brianna Rivard

### **Oboe**

Yuki Harding

### **Clarinet**

Taylor West\*  
John Girard  
Robert Combs  
Hope Lewis  
Emily Laurence  
Marissa Lockwood  
Shane MacFadyen

### **Bass Clarinet**

Amber Brozowski  
Karlie Welch

### **Bassoon**

Olivia Friedenstab\*  
Zane Garrison Williams

### **Alto Saxophone**

Dallas Kelly\*  
Courtney Marshall  
Sada Reed

### **Tenor Saxophone**

Zofia Wagner

### **Baritone Saxophone**

Sydney Kloka

### **Horn**

Jessie Pruehs\*  
William Riegel-Green  
Gabby DiCesare

### **Trumpet**

Parker Eckman\*  
Jacob Packard  
Zachary Oberdier  
Jordan Berg  
Kole Micakaj  
Alexander Russ

### **Tenor Trombone**

Tristan Hughes\*  
Matthew Niemi  
James Wissbrun

### **Euphonium**

Andrew Pettit\*  
Lumie Wellman  
Austin Meister

### **Tuba**

Brian Wiik\*  
Tarek Murray

### **Percussion**

Joshua Fuzi\*  
David Smit  
James Donaldson  
Ben Moenssen  
John Musa

## Wind Symphony Personnel

### **Piccolo**

Claudia Montoya-Hernandez\*

### **Flute**

Claudia Montoya-Hernandez\*

Corrin Kliewer+

Hannah Combs

Zachary Merkle

### **Oboe**

Yuki Harding\*

### **Clarinet**

Marissa Lockwood\*

Benjamin Pruehs

Austin Chasnick

Jason Wend

### **Bass Clarinet**

Robert Combs\*

### **Soprano Saxophone**

Brant Ford\*

### **Alto Saxophone**

Brant Ford\*

Tyler Hewitt

### **Tenor Saxophone**

Ian Mahoney

### **Baritone Saxophone**

Jacob Beswick

### **Horn**

Derek Kolp\*

Mary Gass

Ethan Eliassen

Jesse Pruehs

### **Trumpet**

Alexis Dill\*

Anna Greyerbiehl

Jordan Berg

Thomas Corbett

Conlan Lang

### **Trombone**

Mabelynn Dill\*

Dustin Freeman

### **Bass Trombone**

Josh Tobias\*

### **Euphonium**

Iyla Miller\*

Christopher Warren

### **Tuba**

Noah McDonald\*\*

Brandon Thibault\*\*

### **Percussion**

Kyle Paoletti\*

Mattheas Boelter

Collin Arena

Taylor Atkinson

Jacob Voight

Peyton Miller

Dan Schiller

### **Piano**

Peyton Miller\*