Wind Ensemble

University Band

Dr. James Popejoy, conductor

Katlynn Ellis, undergraduate conductor

Featured Artist

Benjamin Helfrich, euphonium

8:00 pm
March 9, 2021
Chester Fritz Auditorium
Program

Americans We

Tryptich II

A Longford Legend
  I. A Longford Legend
  II. Young Molly Bawn
  III. Killyburn Brae

Fantasy on “Yankee Doodle”  
Katlynn Ellis, conductor

Finale from “Symphony No. 2”  
Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
arr. Mark Williams

The University Band
James Popejoy, conductor

Mother Earth

Symphonic Variant No. 1
Benjamin Helfrich, euphonium

A Symphony of Fables
  I. The Lion and the Mouse
  II. The Pied Piper of Hamelin
  III. The Tortoise and the Hare
  IV. The Ugly Duckling
  V. The Three Billy Goats Gruff

Melanie Popejoy, narrator

Ride

The Stars and Stripes Forever

The Wind Ensemble
James Popejoy, conductor
PROGRAM NOTES

**Americans We (1928)**

Henry Fillmore (1881-1956) was the most flamboyant bandsman of his time, an era that stretched across 50 years. During those years he probably wrote, arranged and edited more band music than any other bandmaster in history, with over 250 works composed and 750 arrangements to his credit. In 1928, Fillmore was the conductor of his own 24-member professional band in Cincinnati. They were presenting a very popular series of concerts at the Cincinnati Zoo when they performed a new march that is today considered his best. While the march was an instant success, he had difficulty finding a good title. When the work was finally published the following year, he called it *Americans We*, and dedicated it “To All of Us.”

**Tryptich II (1985)**

Elliot Del Borgo (1938-2013) was a prolific composer of original music, having written over 600 works for concert band and orchestra. Born in New York, he was a student of famed 20th-century composer and educator Vincent Persichetti. His teaching career included extensive time with the Philadelphia public schools, as well as the Crane School of Music. In 1993, he was elected to the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. This work was dedicated to Anthony Maiello and the Crane Wind Ensemble.

**A Longford Legend (1996)**

Robert Sheldon (b. 1954) is one of the most performed composers of wind band music today. His teaching career included 28 years in the public schools, as well as at the University of Florida, Florida State University, Illinois Central College and Bradley University. As an internationally recognized clinician, he has conducted numerous honor bands around the world. Following seventeen years as Director of Concert Band Publications for Alfred Music, he now maintains an active composition and conducting schedule, regularly accepting commissions for new works. In 2020, VanderCook College of Music presented him with an honorary Doctorate in Music Education. *A Longford Legend* is based on the composer’s impressions of three poems found in a collection of 18th-century Irish ballades, and is written as a tribute to the wind band music of Grainger, Holst and Vaughan Williams.

**Fantasy on “Yankee Doodle” (1995)**

Mark Williams (1955-2008) held the Bachelor of Arts in Education and Master of Education degrees from Eastern Washington University. He served as woodwind performer and arranger for the 560th Air Force Band, and taught music in the state of Washington for many years, specializing in elementary band. One of the premier composers for school bands and orchestras, Williams had over 200 published works to his credit. *Fantasy on “Yankee Doodle”* is a free treatment of one of America’s most famous early songs. It was commissioned by, and premiered at, the Bethlehem Central School District Band Festival in Delmar, NY.

**Finale from “Symphony No. 2” (1872)**

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893) studied music at the St. Petersburg Conservatory where he was a student of Nikolai Zaremba and Anton Rubinstein. He toured throughout Europe and conducted at the opening of Carnegie Hall in 1891. Perhaps Russia’s most beloved composer, his Nutcracker, 1812 Overture, Swan Lake, Capriccio Italian, Romeo and Juliet, six symphonies, and many other works are performed regularly all over the world. This arrangement by Mark Williams of the finale to his “Little Russian” Symphony includes material based on folk songs from the Ukraine, a region sometimes affectionately called “Little Russia.”
**Mother Earth (2006)**

David Maslanka (1943-2017) attended the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and completed graduate work in composition at Michigan State University with H. Owen Reed. His works for winds and percussion have become especially well known. Among his more than 150 works are over 50 pieces for wind ensemble, including eight symphonies, seventeen concertos, a Mass, and many concert pieces. In addition, he composed a variety of chamber music, orchestral and choral works. Maslanka served on the faculties of the State University of New York at Geneseo, Sarah Lawrence College, New York Conservatory, and Kingsborough College. Commissioned by the South Dearborn High School Band of Aurora, Indiana, the title of this fanfare was taken from a poem by St. Francis of Assisi.

**Symphonic Variants No. 1 (1984)**

James Curnow (b. 1943) is president, composer, and educational consultant for Curnow Music Press. Having taught at the University of Illinois, he also served as Composer-in-Residence (Emeritus) on the faculty of Asbury College, and as editor of all music publications for the Salvation Army. He has received numerous awards for his compositions, including the Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association, the Volkwein Award, and the Ostwald Award. Curnow has been commissioned to write over two hundred works for concert band, brass band, orchestra, choir and various ensembles, with his published works numbering well over four hundred. Winner of the ABA/Ostwald award for Band Composition, Symphonic Variants for Euphonium and Band was commissioned by Dr. Harry Begian and the University of Illinois Symphonic Band, and premiered by Philip Franke of the United States Marine Band.

**A Symphony of Fables (2006)**

Julie Giroux (b. 1961) studied composition with John Williams, Bill Conti and Jerry Goldsmith, to name a few. With over 100 film, television and video game credits, Giroux collaborated with dozens of film composers, producers and celebrities. Projects she has worked on have been nominated for Oscars, Emmys, Grammys and Golden Globe awards, and she has won individual Emmy Awards for Music Direction. The first female composer inducted into the American Bandmasters Association, Giroux has also published many classical works with emphasis on compositions for the wind band.

A Symphony of Fables was commissioned by The United States Air Force Band of Flight, stationed at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio. From the composer:

Once I had decided upon composing a work based on fables and had chosen the five fables that I would musically tell, I was faced with the decision of style. Taking to heart the often spoken phrase “write what you know about,” I decided after great debate to compose all the fables in what I consider to be “old school” style. What I mean by that is I used styles which I believe I would have heard as “background” music in my head or at the movies when I was young. Keep in mind that when I was a child, my favorite musical story compilation was Disney’s “Fantasia.”

Once I had decided upon composing a work based on fables and had chosen the five fables that I would musically tell, I was faced with the decision of style. Taking to heart the often spoken phrase “write what you know about,” I decided after great debate to compose all the fables in what I consider to be “old school” style. What I mean by that is I used styles which I believe I would have heard as “background” music in my head or at the movies when I was young. Keep in mind that when I was a child, my favorite musical story compilation was Disney’s “Fantasia.”
PROGRAM NOTES

Each of the five separate movements depicts a well-known fable, as well as the corresponding moral:

I. The Lion and the Mouse (Aesop)
   The moral: "No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted"

II. The Pied Piper of Hamelin (Brothers Grimm)
   The moral: "Never go Back on Your Word"

III. The Tortoise and the Hare (Aesop)
   The moral: "Slow but Steady wins the Race."

IV. The Ugly Duckling (Hans Christian Anderson)
   The moral: "Beauty is in the Eyes of the Beholder"

V. The Three Billy Goats Gruff (of Scandinavian Origin - version from Norway)
   The moral: "Never be Greedy"

Ride (2002)  
Samuel R. Hazo (b. 1966) is a talented and prolific composer, having written music for bands at all levels, as well as for television, screen, and theater. His works have won numerous awards and been performed in prestigious settings around the world. He holds bachelors and masters’ degrees from Duquesne University, and has taught music at all levels, kindergarten through college. The piece is intended as a tribute to Dr. Jack Stamp, former Chair of the Music Department at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a gifted composer in his own right. Hazo conceived Ride while following Professor Stamp from the IUP campus to Stamp's home in the country. The music is the composer's reflection of their drive through the Pennsylvania countryside that night, which, as you will hear, must have been pretty wild!

The Stars and Stripes Forever (1896)  
John Philip Sousa
Known as the "March King," John Philip Sousa (1854-1932) ranks among the most famous of American composers and conductors. After serving as the leader of the U.S. Marine Band from 1880 until 1892, Sousa formed his own band, touring in the United States, as well as Europe. Although known for his marches, Sousa also composed 15 operettas, 70 songs, 11 waltzes, 14 humoresques, 27 band fantasies, 15 suites, and many other original works and transcriptions. According to Sousa, The Stars and Stripes Forever was divinely inspired. As he returned home from Italy in 1896, homesick for America and saddened by the recent death of his band’s manager, a "band in his head" started playing the march. At home on Christmas day 1896, he wrote this music down note for note, exactly as he had heard it. One of the most popular marches ever written, President Ronald Reagan signed legislation in 1987 designating The Stars and Stripes Forever as the National March of the United States of America.

Note of Thanks to:
Robert Brooks, Associate Director of Bands
Tammy Mulske, Assistant Director of Bands
Brian Pfeifer, Assistant Director of Bands
Cory Driscoll, Assistant Director of Bands
Mary Morales, Band Graduate Teaching Assistant
Brokini Wink, Concert Bands Librarian
University of North Dakota Music Faculty & Staff
Chester Fritz Auditorium Executives & Staff
UNIVERSITY BAND
Dr. James Popejoy, conductor

Flute/Piccolo+
Savannah Asmann - Campbellsport, WI
Lexi Bowman - Bismarck
*Jayme Cepek - Mandan
Zachary Fischer - Horace
Cassidy Holth - Carrington
Linea Peterson - Williston +
Jennifer Rowe - St. Francis, MN

Trumpet
Noah Hesse - Bismarck
Nicholas Holte - Thompson
Patrick Keating - London, England
Richie Osborn - Grand Forks
Hannah Stewart - West Fargo
*Jadalyn Wagner - Litchfield, MN

Horn
Emily Shirek - Hettinger
*Gina Wiechelman - Portland, OR

Clarinet
Shawna Anderson - Devils Lake
*Lucas Custardo - Saint Paul, MN
Katlynn Ellis - Minot
Ally Heidt - Fargo
Courtney Houseal - Manning
Holly Schiesl - Pequot Lakes, MN
Paige Staigle - Bismarck
Abbygail Wiekamp - Minot

Trombone
Josh Bender - Hendersonville, TN
*Destiny Koskela - Chisholm, MN
Joseph Langenwalter - Wahpeton
Mason Motschke - St. Cloud, MN

Euphonium
*Nathan Brigandi - Colchester, CT
Brady Zimmerman - Grand Forks

Bass Clarinet
*Matthew Hanlin - Houston, TX
Megan Williams - Stewartville, MN

Tuba
*Thomas Iken - Bismarck
Melissa Leet - Palmer, AK

Alto Saxophone
Chelsey Afshari - East Grand Forks, MN
Mario Arocho - Andover, MN
Will Carlson - Chanhassen, MN
*Gabe Stahl - Austin, TX

String Bass
Alex Christensen - Cottage Grove, MN

Tenor Saxophone
*Rafael Torres - West Fargo
Andrew Trotter - Watford City
Josie Wagner - Maple Lake, MN

Percussion
Austin Clausen - Grand Forks
Trevor Fisk - Williston
*Dietrich Schlchtman - Hillsboro
Isaac Vogt - Moorhead, MN
Jacob White - Williston
Madison Williams - Lakeville, MN
*Brohna Wink - Drayton

Baritone Saxophone
Josephine Nelson - Forman

* section leader

Members are listed alphabetically to acknowledge each player's contribution.
Wind Ensemble

Dr. James Popejoy, conductor

Flute/Piccolo +
Jemel Canapi • Rolla
*Katie Cermak • Mandan +
Brandon Leao • Grand Forks
Ian Lin • Taichung, Taiwan
Alissa Schell • Baker, MT
Maren Schettler • Bismarck
*Gina Tietz • Bismarck +

Trumpet
Dawson Domke • Jamestown
Dr. Cory Driscoll • UND Music Faculty
Chris Harrison • Glenburn
*Gabriel Schettler • Bismarck

Horn
Casey DeVos • Bismarck
Kelsi Mansfield • Fountain, CO
*Erika Pelach • Two Harbors, MI

Trombone
Ben Pfeiffer • Jamestown
Jack Smukowski • Plymouth, MN
Nick Stokke • Grand Forks
*Brady Zimmerman • Grand Forks

Bass Trombone
Sam Seidman • Los Angeles, CA

Euphonium
*Benjamin Helfrich • Berthold
Grace Klee • Bismarck
Melissa Leet • Palmer, AK
Chancellor Quituuga • Minot

Tuba
*Ryan Block • Marlton, NJ
Patrick Ruder • Maple Grove, MN

String Bass
Michael Farrick • Barnesville, MN

Alto Saxophone
*Zachary Fischer • Horace
Kennedy Kappenman • Sioux Falls, SD
Olivia Truscott • San Diego, CA

Percussion
Jace Catalan • Fargo
*Katlyn Ellis • Minot
Maisy Lindseth • Grand Forks
Dr. Brian Pfeiffer • UND Music Faculty
Brianna Wink • Drayton

*section leader

Members are listed alphabetically to acknowledge each player's contribution. They all serve as principal musicians.
Katlynn Ellis is a senior music education major at the University of North Dakota where she studied percussion with Professor Emeritus Michael Blake and Dr. Brian Pfeifer, conducting with Dr. James Popejoy, and composition with Dr. Michael Wittgraf. She currently serves as Drum Major of the "Pride of the North" Marching Band, and Percussion Section Leader of the Wind Ensemble. She is also a member of the Twelve O'clock Jazz Ensemble, Steel Pan Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, New Music Ensemble, and plays clarinet in the University Band. Named the 2020 "Presser Scholar" for the UND Department of Music, Katlynn has also received awards for "Outstanding Achievement in Percussion Performance" and for "Outstanding Achievement in Composition." She is the recipient of the Marching Band's "Patrick 'Doc' Devig Dedication Award" and was selected for membership in Pi Kappa Lambda, the National Music Honor Society. She is the President and Founder of the UND Percussion student organization, and serves as President of the UND NAFME Collegiate chapter. Katlynn currently teaches private music lessons, and has served as a mentor coordinator with the Grand Cities Children's Choir.

Benjamin Helfrich is a senior music performance major at the University of North Dakota where he studies euphonium with Dr. Joel Pugh and composition with Dr. Michael Wittgraf. He has served as a leader with the UND Tuba Quartet, and is principal euphonium in the UND Wind Ensemble. He also serves as principal euphonium in the North Dakota 188th Army Band.

James Popejoy is Director of Bands and a Professor of Music at the University of North Dakota. Conductor of the Wind Ensemble, University Band, and Wind Ensemble Chamber Players, he instructs graduate and undergraduate courses in conducting, instrumental literature, and jazz pedagogy. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Central Missouri State University, the Master of Arts in Conducting from the University of Iowa; and earned the Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting with a minor in Jazz Studies from the University of North Texas. Among numerous honors, he has received two Outstanding Faculty Awards from the UND Greek Council; Outstanding UND Student Organization Advisor Award; Distinguished Alumnus Award from CMSU; selection as Educator of the Year by the North Dakota Music Educators Association; two North Dakota Spirit Faculty Achievement Awards; the UND Faculty Award for Individual Excellence in Teaching; and the Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association. Dr. Popejoy regularly contributes to the "Teaching Music through Performance in Band" series, having also served as a production assistant and performer on the recordings that accompany these resource materials. In his twenty-first year at UND, he served as Director of Bands and Percussion Studies at McLennan Community College in Texas for five years; was a public-school music educator in Missouri for nine years; and has founded and conducted numerous community ensembles. Dr. Popejoy is a member of CBDNA, WASBE, NBA, NAFME, JEN, PAS, Manitoba Band Association, North Dakota National Band Association, and the North Dakota Music Educators Association, and has served on the Executive Boards for NDMEA, NDNBA and CBDNA. Past President for the North Central Division of the College Band Directors National Association, he maintains an active schedule as a jazz vibist, clinician, adjudicator and guest conductor.