

FRIDAY FANFARE - NOVEMBER 14, 2025

NEWSLETTER

**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dr. Christopher Dye, Assistant Director - christopher.dye@mtsu.edu



We have entered the height of the fall performance season in the School of Music, with Hinton Hall averaging more than a concert a day in the month of November. This past week featured a breadth of outstanding musicianship through the five-show run of *Pirates of Penzance* in collaboration with the Department of Theatre and Dance, the veteran's celebration at the home football game, and 68 high schoolers from across the region performing in the annual HS Honors Orchestra.

We love to see Hinton Hall packed with audience members to each of our performances, with free admission and parking available for nearly every concert. When friends and family can't be here in person, the School of Music Live Stream channel on YouTube is also a terrific resource to support our performers. Recent highlights for me include the range of Brazilian, concert, and pantomimed rock star drumming on the November 5 Percussion Ensemble Concert and the multimedia presentation of art, textiles, and bugs from the Faculty Woodwind Quartet on October 30. I encourage you to revisit these and all the recent performances; the range of repertoire and style on display is remarkable.

We look forward to wrapping up the performance season and celebrating with the whole MTSU community as our outstanding performing groups showcase their tremendous achievements this semester.

FEATURED FACULTY: ANDREA DAWSON, VIOLIN/VIOLA

Dr. Andrea Dawson has been a vital part of the MTSU School of Music since 2007, where she teaches violin, viola, string chamber music, pedagogy, and literature, and conducts the Chamber Orchestra. A dedicated performer, she has given more than 60 solo and chamber concerts on campus and collaborates widely through the Stones River Chamber Players. Her artistry extends to performances across the U.S. and abroad, with recordings on Navona Records, Appointed concertmaster of the Tennessee Philharmonic Orchestra in 2023, Dr. Dawson continues to enrich MTSU's musical life through teaching, performance, and mentorship.



PIRATES OF PENZANCE!

In a stunning collaboration with the Department of Theatre and Dance, MTSU School of Music students took to the stage and orchestra pit of Tucker Theatre last week to present Gilbert and Sullivan's timeless classic, *The Pirates of Penzance*. Co-directors **Will Perkins (MTSU Opera Theater)** and **Kristi Shamburger (Chair, Theatre and Dance)** assembled a cast of 30 featuring students from their respective departments as well as others such as Aerospace and Journalism. **Angela Tipps (MTSU choral faculty)** helmed the orchestra, which was made up of MTSU students, alumni, and working professionals. We are grateful for the many generous donations received that helped to fund the orchestra. Audiences as well as a local critic hailed the professional-level production quality and lauded the inclusion of modern references that "allow[ed] a whole new generation to embrace what could otherwise be assumed to be an archaic artform." This interdisciplinary endeavor is the third between Music and Theatre following the success of *Sweeney Todd* and *Cinderella*, and the next is slated for the fall of 2027.



MTSU JAZZ IN THE SPOTLIGHT!

MTSU Jazz Ensemble I recently shared the stage with the Establishment Big Band at Seasons Restaurant in Murfreesboro. We've just posted a new video from the night, featuring the band playing my chart on Coltrane's Giant Steps. The whole sax section is out front, with solos by Trace Crabtree, Cade Spradlin, and Dylan Kubilus. They brought great energy to a classic tune.



Watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pF3eQOF143g>



One of our MTSU jazz combos spent last Friday, November 11, visiting three outstanding programs as part of our high school recruitment tour. They stopped at Blackman High School, Centennial High School, and Hendersonville High School, sharing original music and new arrangements with their students. The rooms were full of great energy and excitement as our students connected through performance and conversation. Each stop became a small exchange of ideas and inspiration. Students asked thoughtful questions, stayed engaged, and gave the band a warm welcome at every stop. We are grateful for the invitation and loved meeting so many future music-makers.

MTSU HONORS ORCHESTRA 2025



Sixty-eight outstanding high school musicians from across Tennessee and Georgia came together for the **2025 MTSU High School Honors Orchestra** on November 7–8. Students from Germantown, Arlington, Sewanee, Cookeville, Clarksville, Centerville, Duck River, the Greater Nashville area, Shelbyville, Murfreesboro, and McDonough, Georgia joined forces with members of the MTSU Symphony Orchestra for an inspiring Grand Finale Side-by-Side Concert in T. Earl Hinton Music Hall. A special congratulations to **Dr. Carol Nies**, Director of Orchestras, for leading this exceptional experience and creating an event that continues to inspire the next generation of performers. Bravo to all the students, faculty, and guest musicians who filled the stage with energy and artistry!

MTSU Chamber Orchestra and select string chamber groups

Places Remembered

Sat, Nov 15 8:00pm

Hinton Hall

Mari Esabel Valverde
Granville Bantock

Martin Ellerby
Jorge Sosa

DAWN TO DUSK



Music for Piano Trio by MTSU faculty

Andrea Dawson, violin Bryan Hayslett, cello Eunbyol Ko, piano

Friday, Nov. 21 6:00pm Hinton Hall

Works by Shostakovich, Mozart, and Turina



月韻

SONGS BENEATH THE SILVER MOON

Traditional and contemporary Chinese works inspired by the moon

MTSU Chinese Music Ensemble
Director, Dr. Mei Han

November 25th, 2025, 7:00 PM
MTSU School of Music: Hinton Hall



HANDEL'S MESSIAH
Community Sing-a-long

The Christmas portion with Soloists & Orchestra
conducted by
Angela Tipps

Sunday, November 30th at 3:00 p.m.

TICKETS

Hinton Hall | Wright Music Building
1439 Faulkinberry Dr.
Murfreesboro, TN 37150

Tickets: \$10/K-12 Students,
\$20/Adult, Free with MTSU ID

Bring your own score,
borrow one at the door,
or just come listen!



Sponsored by The Middle Tennessee Choral Society and
MTSU School of Music



MTSU
SYMPHONY

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23
8:00 PM

- RESPIGHI- PINES OF ROME
 - BORODIN- PRINCE IGOR OVERTURE
 - BADELT- PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
 - TCHAIKOVSKY- NUTCRACKER SUITE
- Trepak, Dance of the Reed Flutes, Waltz of the Flowers

HINTON MUSIC HALL
MTSU SCHOOL OF MUSIC
FREE ADMISSION

THE MTSU BLUESOONS PRESENT

ALL BLUES

A Studio Recital
Featuring Works By

- Jenni Brandon
- Jacob Collier
- Miles Davis
- Thelonious Monk
- Rodgers & Hart
- Peter Schikele
- Alex Shapiro
- Melvin Solomon
- Pete Townshend

November 19th, 2025
Hinton Hall
6pm

JAZZ VOICE

STUDIO RECITAL

Sunday, November 23, 2025 3:00PM

Talia Bottiglieri Erin Seifert
Avery Brown Nick Shine
Lauren Glaeser Cade Spradlin
Patrick Jones Jade Taylor
Jordan Mathis Allison Wildrick
Phoebe Perkins Elizabeth Wilborn

Daniel Kuk, Piano, M.D.
Ethan Assad, Bass
Julia Rich, Instructor

Hinton Hall, MTSU School of Music

STRAIGHT AHEAD AND STRIVE FOR TONE



FACULTY NATURAL HORN RECITAL



Angela DeBoer
natural horn



Arunesh Nadgir
piano

Sunday, Nov. 23, 2025, 12 p.m.
T. Earl Hinton Music Hall | Wright Music Building

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I AM trueBLUE.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, November 15 – MTSU Chamber Orchestra, 8:00 pm (Hinton Hall)
- Sunday, November 16 – SOAL and TEBA Choirs Concert, 3:00 pm (Hinton Hall)
- Sunday, November 16 – Brass Chamber Ensembles Concert, 7:00 pm (Hinton Hall)
- Monday, November 17 – MTSU Oboe Studio Recital, 6:00 pm (IRH)
- Monday, November 17 – MTSU Jazz Ensemble I, 8:00 pm (Hinton Hall)
- Tuesday, November 18 – Schola Cantorum Concert, 7:30 pm (Hinton Hall)
- Wednesday, Nov. 19 – Bassoon Studio Recital, 6pm | Brent Webb Junior Horn Recital, 8pm (Hinton)
- Friday, November 21 – MTSU Faculty Trio, 6pm | Heather Benz Senior Violin Recital, 8pm (Hinton)
- Sunday, November 23 – Angela DeBoer Natural Horn Recital, 12:00 pm (Hinton Hall)
- Sunday, November 23 – Jazz Voice Studio Recital, 3:00 pm (Hinton Hall)
- Sunday, November 23 – Symphony Orchestra, 8:00 pm (Hinton Hall)

The FRIDAY FANFARE is a weekly newsletter of the MTSU School of Music
edited by Dr. Chris Combest - chris.combest@mtsu.edu

Want to see your event, faculty, student news featured? Submit it to the [Director's Advisory Box](#)
To learn more about our programs and events at the School of Music, please visit music.mtsu.edu.