

FRIDAY FANFARE - FEBRUARY 6, 2026

NEWSLETTER

MTSU*School
of Music*

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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

This weekend begins an important season in the life of the School of Music, when we welcome hundreds of prospective students and their families to audition for next year's entering class of MTSU musicians. This year, we are expecting several hundred auditionees across our February 7 and 28 audition days, the new President's Day Music Monday event on February 16, and our virtual audition portal. Many current students are here because they were encouraged to audition by friends, teachers, and other members of the School of Music family. If you know a high school senior looking to continue their musical journey in college, it is not too late for them to register and find their place in the School of Music for the fall.

Our current students and faculty have jumped back into in-person classes, rehearsals, and performances after a week of weather-induced remote instruction. Although the week brought considerable hardships and challenges for many in our area, it also reinforced many of the qualities that make the MTSU School of Music a terrific community. Teaching practices and modalities were modified, but learning continued. Faculty and staff worked with kindness and grace to help students experiencing limited access to power or technology. When we returned to the building on Monday, I felt a palpable excitement in my classes as the distance of the previous reminded us of how much we enjoy learning and making music together.

MTSU CENTER FOR CHINESE MUSIC AND CULTURE

10th Anniversary Celebration Concert

**FEATURING YAZHI GUO**

A world-leading performer of Chinese wind instruments and a member of the Silk Road Ensemble



HAIQIONG DENG
Florida State University



YUXIN MEI
University of North Texas



JINGYI ZHAN
Shaanxi Normal University



BEITONG LIU
Bard College
Conservatory of Music

Saturday, March 21 • 7:30 p.m.

Hinton Music Hall, Wright Music Building, MTSU

With **MTSU Jazz Faculty**, **MTSU Chinese Music Ensemble** and **alumni**,
and **Middle Tennessee Community Zheng Ensemble**

Led by **Mei Han**, Director, Center for Chinese Music and Culture

Presented by MTSU International Affairs, MTSU School of Music, MTSU
Center for Chinese Music and Culture, and the Distinguished Lecture Fund



Center for Chinese
Music and Culture

**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY.
SCHOOL OF MUSIC

**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY.
Office of
International Affairs

0126-8529 / MTSU prohibits discrimination based on sex, race, ethnic national origin, or other protected categories. Report concerns to the Title IX Coordinator. See the full policy at mtsu.edu.

I AM *true* **BLUE**

FEATURED FACULTY: DEANNA HAHN, FLUTE

Dr. Deanna Hahn is Professor of Flute at Middle Tennessee State University, where she teaches applied flute, woodwind methods, literature, and pedagogy, and directs the MTSU Flute Choir. She holds degrees from University of Northern Iowa and Indiana University and was named Outstanding Teacher in 2017–18. An active performer, Dr. Hahn appears regularly with the Nashville Opera and the Nashville Symphony. She is a two-time winner of the National Flute Association Young Artist Competition and has performed internationally as a soloist and clinician. Dr. Hahn has served on the faculties of Drake University, Sewanee, and the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts. An Altus Artist, she has released Inspirations From Tennessee/The Dolly Project and Diamonds Uncovered with pianist Jerome Reed.



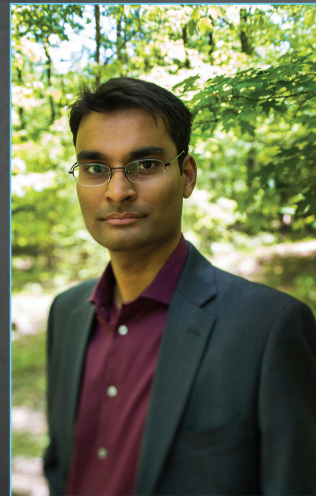
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Six MTSU clarinetists, **Yassin Adams, Ethan Bullock, Kelsa Rice, Lukas Sharp, Eric Sullivan, and Nate Taylor**, have been selected to perform at the International Clarinet Association's ClarinetFest in Incheon, South Korea. After a highly competitive international review process, this ensemble was hand-selected as a featured chamber group and will represent the MTSU School of Music on a global stage this July. Congratulations to this outstanding group.



MTSU KEYBOARD ARTIST SERIES



Arunesh Nadgir
Piano

Friday, Feb. 13, 7 p.m.
Hinton Music Hall

Free and open to the public

Performing works by Dvořák,
Scriabin, Chopin, and Beethoven

music.mtsu.edu/keyboardseries



STEINWAY PIANO GALLERY
NASHVILLE



MIDDLE
TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Ascend
LIFE GROUPS

MTSU Arts
PROUDLY PRESENTS ART • DANCE • MUSIC • THEATRE

ENRICH
YOUR LIFE
through your gifts
College of Liberal Arts

I AM true
BLUE

©2020 Middle Tennessee State University. Middle Tennessee State University does not discriminate against students, employees, or applicants for admission or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a protected veteran. Questions or inquiries regarding prohibited discrimination in our admissions programs, and other policies, should be directed to the Office of the President for Civil Rights Compliance. This banner designed by handi-ink.com reporting the university's policies and can be located at Center Administration Building 310, 1301 East Main Street, Murfreesboro, TN 37132. Contact: 615.899.2118. The MTSU policy on non-discrimination can be found at www.mtsu.edu.

FACULTY NEWS

Angela Tipps is teaching a five-week Artist's Seminar in the Honors College entitled "Sounding Freedom: Music and the American Experiment at 250." The course explores music that has shaped and reflected American ideals from the Revolutionary Era to today. Fifteen students from the Honors College will present a final project: a protest music playlist, a concert of American classical music, or an analytical essay of a piece of "American" music. Angela is also part of the Buchanan Lecture Series on Monday, April 6th. The theme of the series is Revolutions, and Angela's topic is "Revolutions: The Music of Liberty." Angela is the Coordinator of the School of Music's Introduction to Music course, as well as conductor of the SOAL and TEBA Chorales.

<https://honors.mtsu.edu/lecture-series-spring-2026/>



DR. BRYAN HAYSLETT'S

LULLABY *Project*

6 PM | FRIDAY, FEB 6, 2026
HINTON HALL AT MTSU

NEWLY COMMISSIONED LULLABIES FOR CELLO
FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Spring Faculty Recital

February 5, 2026, 11:30 am,
T. Earl Hinton Hall

Alfonsina y el Mar Ariel Ramirez (1921-2010)
Farruca - trad. Flamenco (arr. W. Yelverton)
William Yelverton, guitar

Liebesleid (Love's Sorrow) Fritz Kreisler (1875-1962)
arr. Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)
Adam Clark, piano

"Mathematics" Sonata for Bassoon and Piano Alyssa Morris (b. 1984)
II. Trigonometry
Staci Spring, bassoon
Gyuhee Kim, piano

Golden Light in the Early Spring Brian Mueller (b. 1983)
Brian Mueller, percussion

TRK's Ian Clarke (b. 1964)
arr. Simon Painter

Deanna Hahn, flute

La ultima noche en la casa del Flamenco Kenji Bunch (b. 1973)
from "Cookbook for Clarinet and Piano"

Todd Waldecker, clarinet
Adam Clark, piano

Prelude and Fugue in C Minor, BWV 549 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Angela Tipps, organ



©2024 MTSU. All rights reserved. MTSU is an equal opportunity institution. MTSU is an equal opportunity institution. Report any discrimination to the Title IX Coordinator. See the full policy at www.mtsu.edu.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday, February 6 - Dr. Bryan Hayslett Faculty Cello Recital, 600pm (Hinton Hall)
- Saturday, February 7 - Nathanael Taylor Junior Clarinet Recital, 600pm (Hinton Hall)
- Monday, February 9 - Ethos Wind and Jazz Band Concert, 630pm (Hinton Hall)
- Tuesday, February 10 - Dr. Chris Combest Faculty Tuba Recital, 800pm (Hinton Hall)
- Friday, February 13 - Dr. Arunesh Nadgir Keyboard Artist Series, 700pm (Hinton Hall)



HORIZONS

Chris Combest, tuba
Gyuhee Kim, piano
Brian Mueller, percussion

Prokofiev
Sibbing
Cheethan
Penderecki
Corley



MTSU Faculty Recital
Tuesday, February 10th
8pm, Hinton Hall
MTSU School of Music
Free and open to the public

M
T
S
U



JAZZ Ensemble 1

Featuring Selections From:

Thad Jones, Bob Mintzer, Duke Ellington and Daniel Kuk

Thursday, February 19th 8:00 pm
Hinton Hall
Free Admission

Jazz Studies
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



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](#)

Share your Alumni news at <https://forms.office.com/r/8Eu72excj6>

To learn more about our programs and events at the School of Music, please visit music.mtsu.edu.