



SYMPHONIC BAND

Bryan T. Braue, conductor
Reed Thomas, guest conductor
Cameron Wilson, guest conductor

BAND of BLUE ALUMNI CLUB

2026 Hall of Fame Induction

MTSU
*School
of Music*

Middle Tennessee State University

T. Earl Hinton Music Hall

Wright Music Building

21 April 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

SYMPHONIC BAND

Bryan T. Braue, conductor

Dana Wilson (1946 -)
Shortcut Home (2003)

J. S. Bach (1685 - 1750) | trans. Goldman and Leist
Fantasia in G Major, BWV 572 (1703-7, 1957, 2012)
Reed Thomas, guest conductor

Alfred Reed (1921 - 2005)
The Hounds of Spring (1981)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872 - 1958) | trans. Beeler
Rhosymedre: Prelude on a Welsh Hymn Tune (1920, 1972)
Cameron Wilson, guest conductor

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David Maslanka (1943 - 2017)
Illumination (2013)

Edwin Franko Goldman (1878 - 1956)
The Chimes of Liberty (1922, 1937)

BRYAN BRAUE

Dr. Bryan Braue serves as Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at Middle Tennessee State University, where his responsibilities include directing the Band of Blue Marching Band, overseeing the athletic band program, conducting the university's Symphonic Band, and teaching a variety of music education courses. He earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree with an emphasis in Instrumental Conducting from the University of Florida, studying with Dr. David Waybright, Professor Jay Watkins, and Dr. Chip Birkner. During his doctoral studies, he co-taught Basic Conducting, served as a Graduate Conductor for the University Wind Symphony and Monday Night Concert Band, and assisted the Gator Marching Band in drill design, music arranging, and drumline instruction.



A native of Vero Beach, Florida, Dr. Braue earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Stetson University, where he studied under Dr. Bobby Adams. In 2006, he became Director of Bands at Clearwater High School, where his teaching responsibilities included the Marching Band, Symphonic Winds, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Music Theory, and Music History. In addition to his work at Clearwater High School, he served as Adjunct Professor of Percussion at Clearwater Christian College, District Chairman for the Florida Bandmasters Association District IX, and Chairman for the Pinellas All-County Secondary Bands.

From 2011 to 2013, Dr. Braue attended the University of South Florida, earning a Master of Music degree in Instrumental Conducting. Upon graduation, he was appointed Assistant Director of Bands at the university, a position he held for six years. During his tenure, he worked with the Herd of Thunder Marching Band, Basketball Pep Band, Show Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band, and served as Executive Director for the university's Summer Music Camps program, Festival of Winds, and Symphonic Celebration.

Prior to his appointment at Middle Tennessee State University, Dr. Braue served as Director of Bands at the University of Texas Permian Basin, where he directed the Spirit of the Permian Basin Marching Band, oversaw the Basketball Pep Band, conducted the Department of Music's Symphonic Winds and Brass Choir, and taught courses in conducting and music education. He also served as Academic Advisor for all wind and percussion majors and supervised elementary and secondary student interns throughout the Midland–Odessa region. Beyond his university duties, Dr. Braue was the Texas Music Educators Association Region VI Vice President and served on the advisory board for the Wagner Noël Performing Arts Center.

Dr. Braue maintains professional memberships with the Tennessee Music Educators Association (TNMEA), the Middle Tennessee School Band and Orchestra Association (MTSBOA), the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), and the National Band Association (NBA). He is also a member of numerous honorary organizations, including Pi Kappa Lambda, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Kappa Kappa Psi, Tau Beta Sigma, and Sigma Alpha Iota. In addition to his work at the university, Dr. Braue is a nationally recognized clinician, guest conductor, and adjudicator. He resides in the Murfreesboro area with his wife, Michelle, their cat, Nala, and their dog, Maestro.

REED THOMAS

Dr. Reed Thomas is the Director of Bands and Professor of Music and Conducting in the School of Music at Middle Tennessee State University, a position he has held since 2003. As well as guiding all aspects of MTSU band program, his teaching responsibilities include: conducting the Wind Ensemble and University Chamber Winds, teaching undergraduate courses in conducting and instrumental methods, graduate courses in conducting, wind and orchestral repertoire, and instrumental rehearsal problems. He is the founding conductor of the Three Rivers Wind Symphony, a professional group of wind and percussion players from Northeast Indiana and was the Conductor of the Littleton Chamber Winds in Littleton, Colorado from 1997-99. He has been a guest conductor throughout the United States, South Korea, China, Brazil, Panama, Columbia, Costa Rica, Portugal, Russia, United Kingdom, and several European countries. He currently serves as the Executive Musical Director of the Corazon Verde Band Festival in Paraiso, Cartago, Costa Rica.



Dr. Thomas is an active conductor and clinician who has received praise and critical acclaim for his artistic interpretations, thorough preparation, and innovative programming from composers such as David Maslanka, Nigel Clarke, Pete Madsen, James David, Kit Turnbull, Jonathan Newman, DJ Sparr, Shafer Mahoney, Peter Fischer, Jamie Simmons, and Robert Bradshaw, and from solo performers such as Jens Lindeman, Brett Baker, Harmen Vanhoorne, Peter Skaevard Sheppard, Steve Houghton, Eddie Daniels, Jennifer Gunn, David Cooke, Jonathan Gunn, and She-e Wu for his interpretive conducting. His groups have been invited to perform at venues throughout the United States, China, South Korea, Panama, and Costa Rica. Dr. Thomas is an avid supporter of new music, commissioning over 60 compositions since 2003 and presenting world premier performances to well over 45 compositions. He has been a strong supporter to music from Brazil, Latin America, Spain, Portugal, and China.

Dr. Thomas has seven Internationally released Compact Disc's featuring the MTSU Wind Ensemble including two on the Naxos Label; the critically acclaimed *Angel's in the Architecture* and *Earthrise*; and four on the Toccata Classics Label: *Nigel Clarke - Music for Symphonic Wind Orchestra*, featuring his epic work, *A Richer Dust*, commissioned by the MTSU Wind Ensemble, *Music for Trombone and Winds*, featuring newly composed works for solo trombone and wind ensemble, Bret Baker soloist, *Chosen Gems of David Maslanka*, and the most recently released *Firedance - Music of Peter Fischer*.

A native of Colorado, Dr. Thomas received his Ph.D. in Music with an emphasis in conducting from the University of Minnesota and both his Master's and Bachelor's degrees in Music Education from the University of Utah. Prior to his appointment at MTSU, he conducted at universities in Indiana and Colorado and was a public school Music Director at two high schools in Utah. He has written articles for the *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band Series* and is the Artistic Director of the annual Corazon Verde Music Festival in Paraiso, Cartago, Costa Rica. Dr. Thomas is an active member of several associations including the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE), Pi Kappa Lambda, Kappa Kappa Psi, and Phi Mu Alpha and is an honorary member of the Costa Rican Band Directors Association, the Korean Band Association, the China Bandmasters Association, and the Asian Pacific Band Directors Association.

CAMERON WILSON

John Cameron Wilson is a composer and conductor from Murfreesboro, Tennessee who is currently pursuing an M.M. in Instrumental Conducting at MTSU. He received his undergraduate degree in Music Theory/Composition from MTSU in 2022, during which time, he was also a member of the school's Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and "Band of Blue" Marching Band. He has served in such positions as Drum Major (Band of Blue) and Principal Trumpet (Symphonic Band) for several years. Additionally, he joined such organizations as The National Society of Leadership and Success, the American Choral Directors Association, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, where he also held many leadership positions, including Chapter President (Phi Mu Alpha).



While at MTSU, Wilson has accrued multiple awards for leadership and musicianship, including the Howard Malone Espirit de Corps Scholarship and the "Mr. Band-of-Blue" title. Most recently, he was awarded the College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Student Award (Graduate Level) for his proud representation of and services to the MTSU School of Music and its surrounding community.

He has performed in many prestigious honor bands in the United States and abroad, performing in England, Germany, Switzerland, and Costa Rica among others. He has traveled as a member of the Tennessee Ambassadors of Music, The 80th Anniversary D-Day Marching Band, and the Middle Tennessee-Costa Rica Honor Band. Before beginning his master's, Wilson served as the assistant conductor for the Middle Tennessee Woodwind Orchestra from 2022-2023.

As he continues his studies, Wilson plans to continue composing original works for various ensembles and media, arranging for marching band, and conducting large ensembles within and outside the university. After finishing his degree, he hopes to pursue a D.M.A. in Music Theory or Composition.

Dana Wilson | *Shortcut Home*

Shortcut Home is a rousing, rather elaborate fanfare that features each section of the ensemble. Drawing upon various jazz styles, the music proclaims and cascades, always driving towards the "home" of the final, C Major chord.

Shortcut Home was commissioned by the Hillsborough (New Jersey) High School Band, Mindy Scheierman, director.

Program note provided by the composer

J. S. Bach | *Fantasia in G Major*, BWV 572

The great *G Major Fantasia* for organ was composed between 1703 and 1707 during Bach's residence in Arnstadt. It was here, at the beginning of his career, that his music was found to be too full of "wonderful variations and foreign tones"; and certainly the *Fantasia* is strikingly dissonant in its constant texture of suspensions. But the breadth of the five-part polyphonic writing and the richness of the harmonic sonority make the *Fantasia* one of the grandest of all Bach's compositions for organ. It is also one that lends itself most perfectly to the sound and sonorities of the modern wind band.

The transcription by Richard Franko Goldman and Robert L. Leist was undertaken as a memorial to Edwin Franko Goldman, who was the first bandmaster to include the works of Bach regularly in the band's concert repertoire, and who did so much to introduce the music of this great master to wide audiences. In this transcription an attempt is made to recapture the sound of the Baroque organ through the medium of the modern band. The first performance of this transcription was given by The Goldman Band, Richard Franko Goldman conducting, on July 1, 1957.

Program note provided by the publisher

Alfred Reed | *The Hounds of Spring*

When the hounds of spring are on winter's traces,
The mother of months in meadow or plain
Fills the shadows and windy places
With lisp of leaves and ripple of rain

And soft as lips that laugh and hide
The laughing leaves of the trees divide,
And screen from seeing and leave in sight
The god pursuing, the maiden hid.

Algernon Charles Swinburne - *Atalanta in Calydon*

"*When the hounds of spring are in winter's traces,*" a magical picture of young love in springtime, forms the basis for the present purely musical setting, in traditional three-part overture form, of this lovely paean... an attempt to capture the twin elements of the poem, exuberant

youthful gaiety and the sweetness of tender love, in an appropriate musical texture.

The poem, a recreation in modern English verse of an ancient Greek Tragedy, appeared in print in 1865, when the poet was 28 years old. It made Algernon Swinburne literally an overnight success.

The Hounds of Spring was commissioned by, and dedicated to, the John L. Forster Secondary School Concert Band of Windsor, Ontario, and its director, Gerald A. N. Brown. The world premiere was in Windsor on May 8, 1980, conducted by the composer.

Program note provided by the composer

Ralph Vaughan Williams | *Rhosymedre*

In 1920 Ralph Vaughan Williams composed three preludes for organ based on Welsh hymn tunes, a set that quickly established itself in organ repertoire. Of the three, *Rhosymedre*, sometimes known as “Lovely,” has become the most popular. The hymn tune used in this prelude was written by a 19th century Welsh composer, J.D. Edwards, and is a very simple melody made up almost entirely of scale tones and upbeat skips of a fourth. Yet, around this modest tune Vaughan Williams has constructed a piece of grand proportions, with a broad arc that soars with the gradual rise of the tune itself.

The hymn tune in the long values is surrounded by a moving bass line and a treble obbligato in faster notes often characterized by descending sixths. Vaughn Williams has joined together hymn tune, bass, and obbligato in such a way to create an exceedingly fresh and integratiating tonal language, which seems all the more remarkable when one discovers from the score that there is scarcely an accidental in the entire piece.

Program note provided by the publisher

David Maslanka | *Illumination*

“Illumination” -- lighting up, bringing light. I am especially interested in composing music for young people that allows them a vibrant experience of their own creative energy. A powerful experience of this sort stays in the heart and mind as a channel for creative energy, no matter what the life path. Music shared in community brings this vital force to everyone. *Illumination* is an open and cheerful piece in a quick tempo, with a very direct A-B-A song form.

Illumination: Overture for Band was composed for the Franklin, Massachusetts', public schools. The commission was started by Nicole Wright, band director at the Horace Mann Middle School in Franklin, when she discovered that my grandnephew was in her band. The piece was initially to have been for her young players, but the idea grew to make it the center of the dedication concert at the opening of Franklin's new high school building. Rehearsals of *Illumination* were actually the first musical sounds made in their fine new auditorium.

Program note provided by the composer



Edwin Franko Goldman | *The Chimes of Liberty*

Written in 1922, just a few years after the end of World War I, Goldman's resplendent ***Chimes of Liberty*** gave musical voice to our renewed national spirit: one of joy, optimism and hope. Special features that mark the work occur in the trio. The most notable of these are the beautiful chime solo and the shimmering embroidery of the piccolo obbligato upon the repeat. In addition Goldman makes a subtle nod to the regimental march during the trio by incorporating distance bugle-call fanfares.

They're the chimes of liberty.
Chime that ring for you and me,
Where every loyal heart beats true,
They bring joy anew;
'Tis a song of loyalty
Of a nation brave and free.
Let us pray that they will ring for aye,
Our country's chimes of liberty!

Program note extracted from that used by the Louisville Concert Band (December 2013)



SYMPHONIC BAND

Conducted by Dr. Bryan Braue, the Middle Tennessee State University **Symphonic Band** has the distinction of being the band program's top symphonic ensemble. Its select mission is to provide instrumentalists with an opportunity to demonstrate and develop the techniques and musical instincts appropriate to a symphonic setting. With an emphasis on the distinctive characteristics of the large wind and percussion ensemble, the symphonic band's repertoire is culled from the rich resources of the wind band tradition. The MTSU Symphonic Band fosters the highest performance standards while offering its members an opportunity to expand their technical, intellectual, and musical horizons. The ensemble seeks to broaden performance and pedagogical skills through the programming of exemplary wind band literature while fostering an interest in the band as an integral part of the American musical scene. Membership is open to all MTSU students and placement is based on auditions held each semester.



ROSTER

Piccolo

Isabel Martinez

Flute

Katie Adair *

Lily Agee

Jaida Anthony

Oscar Cervantes

Emily Ruiz

Jessica Sabet

Oboe

Mai Gibbons *

Clarinet

Maryam Alsundani

Evelyn Bailon

Autumn Cadieux

Macy Howell *

Quinn Kindiger

Ethan Leonard

Madison Morrow

Esther Quirino

Jewelien Reindl

Bass Clarinet

Hailey Harrell *

Kathryn Sleezer

Bassoon

Andrejs Jansons *

Austin Wagner *

Saxophone

Brett Bell

Caleb Cunningham

Nastacia Eden *

Horn

Ace Coleman

Kenneth Diviney

Anderson Hassler

Amanda Laine

J. Mike Oshop *

Trumpet

Miguel Bello

Rebecca Chunn

Ronan Gunnoe

Miles Hall

Corbin Kersey *

Drew Sears

Ellie Sugden-Kundar

Owen Workman

Trombone

Benjamin Anderson

Drew Burroughs *

Aubrey Crosslin

Lucas McAlister

Aidan Mitchell

Eliza Wilber

Ashley Winsett

Euphonium

Jacob Bradley

Ashton Collier *

Tuba

Taylor Hawkins

Nathaniel James

Charlie Pettyjohn *

Janie Whitaker

String Bass

Rian Gunnoe *

Piano

Amelia Ochoa *

Percussion

Jackson Alford *

Grey Angelillo

Conner Hawks

Ted Hudgins

Cecil Joh

Logan Williams

* Section Leader

MTSU BANDS FACULTY AND STAFF

Dr. Reed Thomas, director of bands
Dr. Bryan Braue, associate director of bands/director of athletic bands
Dr. Dennis A. Hawkins, Jr., assistant director of bands
Ms. Jennifer Stenbridge, bands coordinator
Ms. Sarah Browning, graduate teaching assistant
Ms. Delana Renz, graduate teaching assistant
Mr. Cameron Wilson, graduate teaching assistant

MTSU WIND AND PERCUSSION APPLIED FACULTY

WOODWINDS

Prof. Don Aliquo, saxophone, woodwind coordinator
Dr. Deanna Little, flute
Dr. Keith Sorrels, oboe
Dr. Staci Spring, bassoon
Dr. Todd Waldecker, clarinet

BRASS

Dr. Michael Arndt, trumpet
Dr. Chris Combest, tuba
Prof. Angela DeBoer, horn
Dr. David Loucky, trombone, euphonium, brass coordinator

PERCUSSION

Prof. Julie Davila, percussion
Prof. Lalo Davila, percussion, percussion coordinator
Dr. Brian Mueller, percussion





In 2011, MTSU Arts was established to provide a singular brand through which the University community delivers our many outstanding art offerings to Middle Tennessee. Literally hundreds of performances, exhibitions, and concerts are held annually through MTSU Arts in our art, dance, music, and theatre programs. Our students' artistic expressions demonstrate the transformative power of education and the arts. Just as our students enrich their lives by showcasing their skills, we invite you to enrich yours by being a MTSU Arts Patron.

The MTSU Arts Patrons Society was created to enhance opportunities for our students in the performing and fine arts programs. When you become a member of the MTSU Arts Patrons Society, you support students with: scholarships to educational workshops and conferences, guest artist workshops and student art exhibits, theatre performances and concerts produced by students, and student music recording projects.

We are also pleased to announce that Ascend Federal Credit Union is the presenting sponsor of MTSU Arts for the 2025-26 season.





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