



MTSU CONCERT BAND

Cameron Wilson, conductor

MIDDLE TENNESSEE WOODWIND ORCHESTRA

Logan Barrett, conductor

MTSU
*School
of Music*

Middle Tennessee State University

T. Earl Hinton Music Hall

Wright Music Building

6 April 2026 | 7:30 p.m.

PROGRAM

MTSU CONCERT BAND

Cameron Wilson, conductor

Michael Sweeney (1952 -)

Black Forest Overture (1996)

Ren Guang (1900-1941) | arr. Simon Yau Yuen Hing

Colorful Clouds Chasing the Moon (1935, 1986, 2012)

Andrew Boyson, Jr. (1968 -)

Urban Scenes (1993)

- I. Skyline at Sunrise
- II. The Business Day
- III. Church Steeples
- IV. Rush Hour
- V. Skyline at Sunset

INTERVAL

MIDDLE TENNESSEE WOODWIND ORCHESTRA

Logan Barrett, conductor

Philip Sparke (1951 -)

Overture for Woodwinds (2000)

Alfred Reed (1921-2005)

Fantasy on "Black is the Color (of My True Love's Hair)",
for **Woodwind Choir** (1973)

Chris Evan Hass (1993 -)

Infernal Waters, for **Woodwind Orchestra** (2025)

Commissioned by the Middle Tennessee Woodwind Orchestra

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.

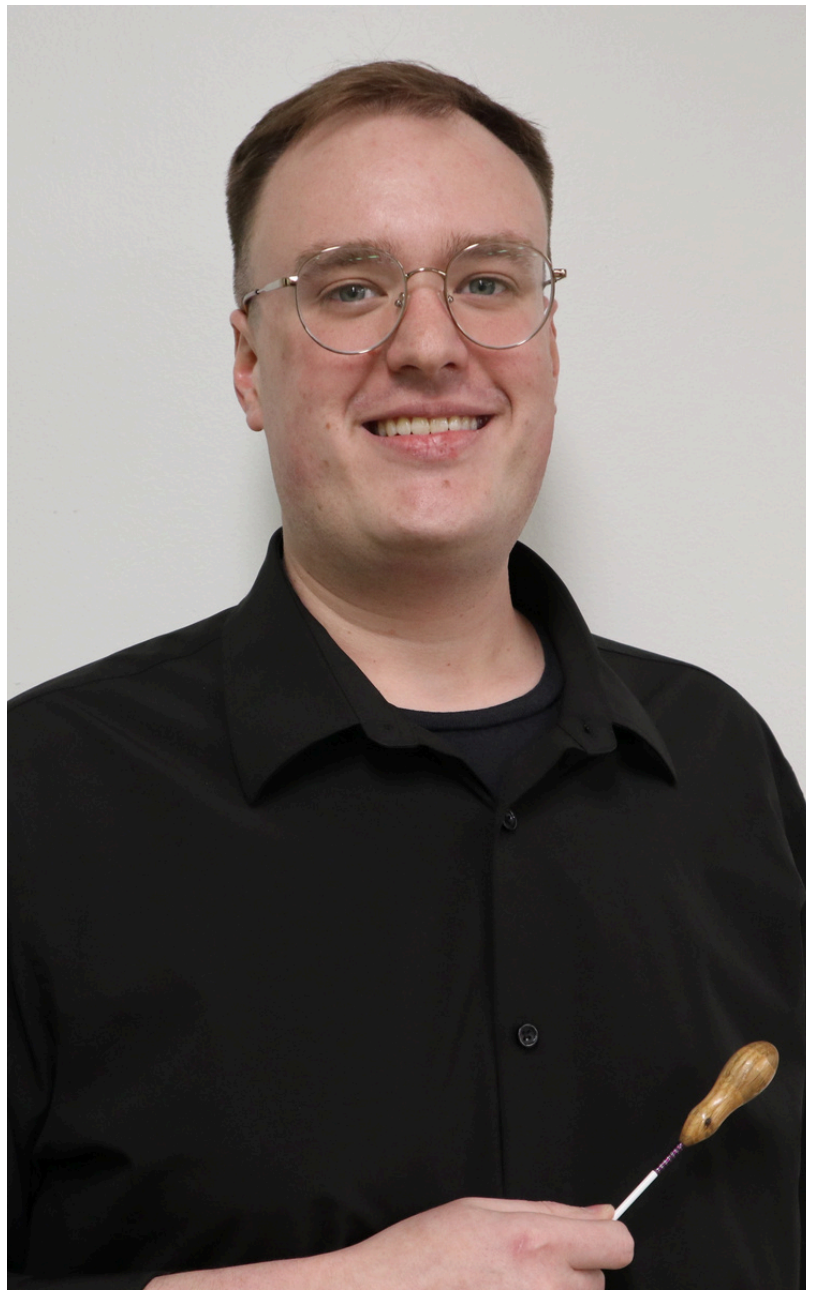
He has performed in many prestigious honor bands in the United States and abroad, performing in England, Germany, Switzerland, and Costa Rica among others. He has traveled as a member of the Tennessee Ambassadors of Music, The 80th Anniversary D-Day Marching Band, and the Middle Tennessee-Costa Rica 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.

LOGAN BARRETT

Logan Barrett is a native of Murfreesboro and double alumnus of MTSU's music program, where he earned his BM in saxophone performance (2019) and MM in instrumental conducting (2022). Following graduation, Logan founded the Middle Tennessee Woodwind Orchestra as a means to hone both his conducting and leadership skills in the real world as well as to provide performance opportunities for community members.

He has performed and conducted on international cultural exchange trips in collaboration with MTSU faculty, alumni and students, such as in central Costa Rica in with a group led by Dr. Reed Thomas, and Hangzhou, China with Dr. Dennis Hawkins Jr., Cameron Wilson, and the Purple Iris Wind Ensemble in a collaboration with Hangzhou Normal University. Outside of music, Logan is the Office & Events Manager for Project Transformation Tennessee, a children's literacy nonprofit located in the heart of Nashville. In his free time, Logan enjoys cooking, spending time with cats, reading fantasy/sci-fi novels, and playing D&D with friends every other weekend.



MTSU CONCERT BAND

Michael Sweeney | *Black Forest Overture* (1996)

Black Forest Overture presents a captivating tapestry of musical colors through its shifting harmonic identities and textures. With moments ranging from dark and mysterious, to adventurous, and even to restful tranquility, this work elicits true excitement and a fantastical narrative of your own interpretation. Though the composer does not quote anything directly as his inspiration for the work, the titular Black Forest of southern Germany has a history of kindling inspiration for many local folklores (resulting in many famous fairy tales we know today). This can be easily attributed to the piece's coruscating and imagination-inspiring qualities, leading any listener to believe such stories can, in fact, come to life...

Program note by Cameron Wilson



Michael Sweeney is an ASCAP award-winning American composer and musician. He studied music education and composition at Indiana University in Bloomington, and taught five years in public schools of Ohio and Indiana, where he taught many concert, jazz, and marching programs for students from elementary to high school. Since 1982, Sweeney has worked full time for Hal Leonard Corporation in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and is currently Director of Band Publications. In addition to this, he contributes as a composer and arranger in all instrumental areas. Sweeney is particularly known for his writing at the younger levels for concert and jazz bands, and has over 500 publications to his credit. His works appear on numerous state contest lists and his music is regularly performed around the world. An ASCAP award-winning composer, his *Ancient Voices* (1994) and *Imperium* (1992) are analyzed in music education texts from GIA Publications.

Composer biography extracted from The Wind Repertory Project

Ren Guang | *Colorful Clouds Chasing the Moon* (1935, 1986, 2012)

Colorful Clouds Chasing the Moon (彩云追月, Cǎi Yún Zhuī Yuè) is a well-known and regularly performed Cantonese “folk song” first written for orchestra in 1935, a time when traditional Chinese composition and Western influences began to intersect. Despite having only been written in the 20th Century, the song was adopted as a true folk song – a reflection of Cantonese spirit – and possesses significant status. The occasion of its conception was that of a recording project taking place in Shanghai for the British recording conglomerate EMI. As the tune was recorded and performed, it grew in popularity, and new settings of the tune were written throughout China in the post-World War II era. Eventually, this wind band setting was completed by Hong-Kong based composer Yau Yuen-hing in 2012. The tune’s incredible emulation of traditional Chinese music (and its subsequent cultural adoption) led many to believe that it actually wasn’t original and was simply taken from history and reorchestrated for modern orchestra.

The music is inspired by the serenity of a full moon glowing in the night sky, mingling with scattered clouds as they pass through various stages of illumination. Under the night sky background, the clouds and the moon chase each other. Yuen-hing's warm and playful orchestration compliments the simple, song-like contours of this melody which is reminiscent of Cantonese folk music. This tune is still widely performed, most commonly for Chinese New Year.

Below is one setting of text which can be performed with the work:

站在白沙滩 Standing on the ocean beach,	明月照窗前 The bright moon shines upon the window,
翘首遥望 Looking deeply forward,	一样的情思 My same feelings,
情思绵绵 Missing thoughts lingering,	一样的离愁 Same yearnings,
何日你才能回还 Wondering when you will return.	月缺尚能复圆 Even a waning moon can be round again.
波涛滚滚 Waves upon waves rolling,	日复一日 Day after day,
延绵无边 Stretching to the horizon,	年复一年 Year after year,
我的相思泪已干 My tears have dried up.	一海相隔难相见 Hard to see each other when separated by the ocean.
亲人啊亲人你可听见 My loved one, loved one, can you hear	亲人啊亲人我在盼 My loved one, loved one, I am longing,
我轻声的呼唤 My soft calls?	盼望相见的明天 longing for the day to see you again.
门前小树已成绿荫 The small trees in the front yard have Grown tall with the canopy greening,	鸟儿倦飞也知还 Even birds can be tired of flying and return home,
何日相聚在堂前 Wondering when we shall get together in the door front.	盼望亲人乘归帆 Wishing you will too.



Ren Guang (任光, Rén Guāng) was a noted Chinese composer of the early 20th century. Ren studied in Paris beginning in 1919, and there acquired the techniques of music composition. Consequently, his works are heavily influenced by Western music, particularly in their harmonic accompaniment and orchestration. Among his best-known compositions are *Song of the Fishermen* (渔光曲, Yú Guāng Qǔ) used as the theme song for a film of the same name, and *Colorful Clouds Chasing the Moon* (彩云追月, Cǎi Yún Zhūi Yuè). He also invited the

musician Huang Yijun to compose *The Flowers are Blooming and the Moon is Full* (花好月圆, Huā Hǎo Yuè Yuán) which was included on a 1935 recording Ren Guang supervised. After another research trip to France, where he set up a Chinese choir, he returned home in 1938 to concentrate on anti-Japanese propaganda with the opera *Turbulent Waves* (Hong bo qu) and *The Sorghum is Red* (Gaoliang hong le). In 1939, he traveled to Southeast Asia to assist the National Salvation Movement, and in 1940 he worked as a composer for the New Fourth Army, for which he wrote *The New Fourth Army Marches East* (Xin Si Jun dongjin qu). Ren would die in the Wannan Incident during the Second Sino-Japanese War in Wannan, southern Anhui, in 1941.

Program note researched and compiled by Cameron Wilson

Andrew Boysen, Jr. | *Urban Scenes* (1993)

Urban Scenes was commissioned by R. J. Metteer and the Lenox (Iowa) Junior High School Honor Band, premiering in 1993. The work is in five movements, each depicting a contrasting episode of daily life in the city. It is meant to be very programmatic and suggestive of images that might be connected with each of the titles. It is also meant to be a teaching piece and contains large contrasts in the use of harmonic language as well as an introduction to extended techniques such as singing and aleatory music. Thematically and stylistically, movements I (Skyline at Sunrise), III (Church Steeples), and V (Skyline at Sunset) are connected, and movements II (The Business Day) and IV (Rush Hour) are connected.



Andrew Boysen, Jr. is presently a professor in the music department at the University of New Hampshire, where he conducts the wind symphony and teaches conducting and composition. Under his leadership, the UNH wind symphony has released seven recordings and been invited to perform at regional conventions of the College Band Directors National Association and National Association for Music Education. He remains active as a guest conductor and clinician, appearing with high school, university, and festival ensembles

around the world. Boysen earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in wind conducting at the Eastman School of Music, where he served as conductor of the Eastman Wind Orchestra and assistant conductor of the Eastman Wind Ensemble. He received his Master of Music degree in wind conducting from Northwestern University in 1993 and his Bachelor of Music degree in music education and music composition from the University of Iowa in 1991. He maintains an active schedule as a composer, receiving commissions from festival, university, and high school concert bands across the United States. Boysen won the International Horn Society Composition Contest in 2000, the University of Iowa Honors Composition Prize in 1991 and has twice won the Claude T. Smith Memorial Band Composition Contest, in 1991 and 1994. Boysen has several published works with the Neil A. Kjos Music Company, Wingert-Jones Music, Alfred Music, Masters Music, and C. Alan Publications, including pieces for band, orchestra, clarinet and piano, and brass choir.

Program note and composer biography provided by the composer

MIDDLE TENNESSEE WOODWIND ORCHESTRA

Philip Sparke | *Overture for Woodwinds* (2000)

Overture for Woodwinds was commissioned for The Berkshire Young Musicians Trust (England), who required a testing piece for the woodwind section of their concert band. The piece opens with a strong unison passage based on the interval of a fifth and develops with a passionate legato. This is followed by the main vivo section of the work based on the earlier 'fifth' figures. A bridge passage leads to a short chorale figure and a rhythmic climax, which dissolves into a plaintive solo for oboe over staccato clarinets. Following a recapitulation of the main theme the oboe returns triumphantly before the opening unison passage reappears to provide a stirring coda.

Program note provided by the publisher



Philip Sparke is a British composer and arranger. Mr. Sparke studied composition, trumpet and piano at the Royal College of Music, where he gained an ARCM. It was at college that his interest in bands arose. He played in the college wind orchestra and also formed a brass band among the students, writing several works for both ensembles. His conducting and adjudicating activities since have taken him to most European countries, Scandinavia,

Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the United States. He runs his own publishing company, Anglo Music Press, which he formed in May 2000. Sparke wrote the *Overture for Woodwinds* for the Berkshire Young Musicians' Trust (England) in the same year, and it was later as the opening track on *Twisted Skyscape* (2014) recorded by Shea Lolin and the Czech Philharmonic Woodwind Orchestra with his direct oversight.

Composer biography extracted from The Wind Repertory Project

Alfred Reed | *Fantasy on "Black is the Color (of My True Love's Hair)"* (1973)

"Black Is the Colour (of My True Love's Hair)" is a traditional folk song first known in the Appalachian Mountains region of the United States in 1915, but most probably originating from Scotland. Many different versions of this song exist, some addressed to females and others addressed to males, as well as other differences. It has also been used in wind band works such as the second movement of David Maslanka's *Child's Garden of Dreams*, and more widely covered by popular artists, such as Nina Simone in 1959.

This version is a short fantasy arranged by prolific band composer, Alfred Reed, for a fully realized woodwind choir with harp and bells as optional accompaniment. It was written as an homage to Charles Bradley and the Atlanta All-City Woodwind Choir in 1973. Charles Bradley was an avid educator of the Atlanta school system at the time, a master performer and teacher of all woodwinds, and most notably led the Emory Wind Ensemble. This version of *Black* is out of print and has only been performed a handful of times. The MTWO is grateful to Mr. Colby Swails, director of the Midland Community Band in Midland, TX, for sharing this piece of history with us.

Program note researched and compiled by Logan Barrett

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Alfred Reed was one of America's most prolific and frequently performed composers, with more than two hundred published works for concert band, wind ensemble, orchestra, chorus, and chamber ensemble to his name. He also traveled extensively as a guest conductor, performing in North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia. He was born in New York and began his formal music training at the age of ten. From 1955 to 1966 he was the executive editor of Hansen Publications, a music publisher. He was professor of music at the University of Miami (where he worked with composer and arranger Robert Longfield) from 1966 to 1993 and was chairman of the department of Music Media and Industry and director of the Music Industry Program at the time of his retirement. He established the very first college-level music business curriculum at the University of Miami in 1966, which led other colleges and universities to follow suit. At the time of his death, he had composition commissions that would have taken him to the age of 115. Many of Reed's wind band compositions have been released as CD recordings by the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra.

Composer biography extracted from The Wind Repertory Project

Chris Evan Hass | *Infernal Waters* (2025)

Explore the fiery river of Phlegethon in this demented piece for woodwind orchestra, ***Infernal Waters***. Gruesome and twisted harmonies depict this mythological river and its function in the underworld to boil the souls of those who committed violent acts against their fellow men during their life. Thus, this music is vicious and brash throughout, primarily using one snappy rhythmic motif in diverse contexts and changing meters to show Phlegethon's constancy and power. Other sinister themes are presented over time as this river flows strong with fire and fury." This piece was commissioned by the Middle Tennessee Woodwind Orchestra as part of a consortium with Dr. Justin Swearingen, director of instrumental activities at Monmouth College, IL.

Program note provided by the composer



Chris Evan Hass is an American composer, arranger, and conductor. Chris holds degrees in composition from Central Michigan University (M.M.) and Western Michigan University (B.M.). His primary teachers include David Gillingham, Evan Ware, Christopher Biggs, and Lisa Coons. Chris's music has been performed across the United States and has received international recognition with performances throughout Asia and in Australia, New Zealand, and Switzerland. His music has been performed by ensembles including the New York Philharmonic Principal Brass Quintet, the Sinta Saxophone Quartet, and the Third Coast Trombone Choir. Chris has had pieces featured at new music festivals including Indiana State University's Contemporary Music Festival, New Music Detroit's Strange Beautiful Music Festival, and various Society for Composers Inc. conferences. He has also had performances at the Indonesia Orchestra and Ensemble Festival, Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, National Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition, and the U.S. Navy Band International Saxophone Symposium. Chris currently resides in Jackson, Mich., where he works as a freelance composer and teaches private lessons for low brass students at Northwest Public Schools.

Composer biography extracted from The Wind Repertory Project



MidTNWoodwindOrchestra



midtnwoodwindorchestra



Middle Tennessee Woodwind Orchestra



Middle Tennessee Woodwind Orchestra



**MTSU Concert Band in Rehearsal
Spring 2026**

MTSU CONCERT BAND

The **Middle Tennessee State University Concert Band** is available for all interested students who want to continue to enhance their musical outlet without having the pressures of a rigorous concert schedule or audition process.

The group meets only during the spring semester on Monday evenings and performs one concert at the end of the semester. Participation does not require an audition. Membership consists of students from across the campus, as well as instrumental music education majors who play secondary and tertiary instruments.



ROSTER

FLUTE

Zaiden Allen – Music Education

Maryam Alsudani – General Science, Music Education

Christin Casey – Elementary Education, Music (minor)

Shay Goehring – Biology-Physiology (focus)

Taylor Hawkins – Music Education

Charlie Mayo – Psychology, Communications (minor)

OBOE

Cadence Russell – Music Education

CLARINET

Jaida Anthony – Music Education

Nastacia Eden – Music Education

Daviah High – Criminal Justice

Shyla Scales – Visual Arts

Jacey Thomas – Audio Production, Video and Film Production, French and Honors (minor)

Deshaunti Williams – Psychology

BASS CLARINET

Talicia Copney – Psychology

Maia O'Brien – Journalism, Communication (minor)

BASSOON

Ethan Bullock – Music Education

Ace Coleman – Music Education

SAXOPHONE

Damien Baker – Astrophysics

Michaeli Mollatiere – Allied Health Science

Chloe Porter – Aerospace, Computer Science (minor)

Chandler Schell – Audio Production, Music Industry (minor)

Graham Thompson – Journalism

TRUMPET

Andreina Alba – Psychology

Ryan Francis – Computer Science, Math (minor)

Connor Mitchell – Music Education

Kayla Ownby – Music Education, Oboe Performance

Sarah Thielen – Digital Marketing

HORN

Ryan Ford – Aviation Management

Miles Hall – Music Education, Music Industry

Rielly Harris – Music Education

Megan Hickman – Psychology, Communication and Mental Health Services (minors)

TROMBONE

Evelyn Bailon – Music Education

Tommy Buchanan – Mechatronics Engineering

Chris Horner – Aerospace

Becky Wyman – Continuing Education

EUPHONIUM

Andrew Ebbs – Chemistry

Aaliyah Patton – Public History, Early Childhood Education

TUBA

Nick Clayton – Audio Production

Ashton Collier – Music Industry

PERCUSSION

Jocelyn Bullock – Music Education

Ethan Christian – Music Performance, Accounting

Aubrey Crosslin – Music Education

Addison Eckholdt – Music, Political Science

Joseph Flores – Music Education

Hailey Harrell – Music Education

MIDDLE TENNESSEE WOODWIND ORCHESTRA

The **Middle Tennessee Woodwind Orchestra** was originally founded as the Middle Tennessee Wind Orchestra in 2023 in Murfreesboro by MTSU alumni Logan Barrett with Cameron Wilson as assistant director, under nonprofit sponsorship of Love Learning Music LLC. The ensemble was originally envisioned as a space for music program alumni and MT community members to have an ensemble to perform challenging repertoire in. In order to accommodate our instrumentation later that year, we pivoted to a woodwind-only model. Since then, the MTWO has permanently changed the “Wind” to “Woodwind”. Inspiration for this switch also came from listening to the music of *Twisted Skyscape* (2014), an album of exclusively British woodwind orchestra music by Shea Lolin and the Czech Philharmonic Woodwind Orchestra. Shea is now a friend and supporter of the ensemble. The MTWO moved operations to Nashville in 2024 and has since performed throughout the city, been awarded a grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission, commissioned 2 original works as part of a consortium of 8 universities/ensembles from across the US (*Meltdown* (2025), Kevin Krumenauer | *Infernal Waters* (2025), Chris Evan Hass), and have had several members perform internationally through their connection to the group as an unexpected benefit. Most recently, we performed a video game music concert featuring arrangements by ensemble members, and hope to do another concert like it later this year.



ROSTER

FLUTE

Rebecca Percy (piccolo/flute) - Data Analyst
Taylor Meyers - Music Production Coordinator
Lisa Navarro - Banker (Retired)
Dillon Wright - Floral Manager

OBOE

Wren Requist - Software Developer

CLARINET

Matt Davich (Eb/Bb) - Retired
Bobby Dunning - Sr. Royalties Coordinator
Michael Serafino - VU Student
Tyler Bryan - Pharmacy Technician
Ding Cheng - VU Student
Kelcy Scarbrough - Surgery Coordinator
Grace Waldrop - Band Director

BASS CLARINET

Seth Tramel - Elementary School Music Teacher

CONTRABASS CLARINET

Kelsa Rice - MTSU Student

BASSOON

Callie Compton - Medical Editor
Sarah Strasinger - HS Front Office Manager
Kate Requist - Engineering Professor

SAXOPHONE

Isaac Collins - Mechanical Engineer
Wyatt Anderson - Claims Processor
Parker Shepherd - Vanderbilt Athletics
Jackson Wright - Freelance Musician
Bryan Garside - Manager of Label Services
Riley Trauscht - Freelance Musician

MTSU BANDS - PERFORMANCES SPRING 2026

Wind Ensemble

Tuesday, April 7 | 7:30 p.m. | T. Earl Hinton Music Hall

Chamber Winds and Symphonic Band

Tuesday, April 21 | 7:30 p.m. | T. Earl Hinton Music Hall

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.





MT Bands
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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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