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Music Education at University of South Carolina



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tinyurl.com/yctpdann music education web page



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President's Message

Michael Moore, SCMEA President

No doubt we're all familiar with the phrase, "competitive edge." We often hear it used in the context of sports, business, and yes, even in reference to music. We all want the best for our students, and we're are committed to doing all we can to help them get ahead not just in music, but in life. But the idea of a competitive edge stems from an underlying scarcity mindset – a zero-sum game in which winners and losers compete for access to a finite amount of resources.

As an alternative, I think we should be promoting the use of the term "creative edge." Study after study here in our state and around the world confirms what we've known anecdotally for years: music profoundly impacts our capacity to succeed in a host of non-musical endeavors. According to a 2018 Gallup Student Poll¹ conducted right here in South Carolina, we see higher levels of engagement and hope among students enrolled in arts-rich schools. Students with high levels of engagement and hope are involved in and enthusiastic about school and learning and have ideas and energy for the future –critical elements for



success in school, developed and reinforced through study in the creative arts!

Multiple studies point to music's contribution to developing metacognition – our ability to learn how to learn (reflective skills, reflexive skills, planning strategy, self-monitoring/evaluating progress, self-regulation) – as well as emotional intelligence, teamwork, and an understanding of the collective good.² According to a 2013 study conducted by the German Socio-Economic Panel, "adolescents with music training have better cognitive skills and school grades and are more conscientious, open and ambitious. These effects do not differ by socio-economic status. Music improves cognitive and non-cognitive skills more than twice as much as sports, theater or dance."3

Findings from a similar recent study in Canada⁴ suggest "students who took school music courses, on average, outperformed their peers who took no school music courses, in standardized exams on English, mathematics, and science. Also, higher levels of school music course engagement corresponded to higher levels of academic achievement. These findings contradict notions of an opportunity cost conferred by taking music courses, which is commonly communicated in school policy debates... purporting that more time spent on music and less time spent on 'basic academic courses' (e.g., math, science, English) undermines achievement in those courses."

I could go on, but space does not allow. The cognitive and non-cognitive skills associated with music study substantiated in these and many other studies are what employers are looking for in today's work force. Suffice it to say, we are giving our students the creative edge!

Speaking of creativity, I hope you've made your plans to attend our annual SCMEA Professional Development Conference in Columbia, February 6-9, 2020. We're thrilled to have Dr. Chris Azzara deliver our keynote address and several sessions on teaching creativity through improvisation in general music, band, orchestra, and choir – something for everyone! We're also highlighting our growing Guitar Division with a guest performance and masterclass with the amazing Georgia Guitar Quartet. You won't want to miss this one. See you there!

¹ https://www.palmettoartsed.org/gallup.html

² https://www.aare.edu.au/blog/?p=4629

³ https://www.diw.de/documents/publikationen/73/diw 01.c.429221.de/diw sp0591.pdf

https://psycnet.apa.org/fulltext/2019-34936-001.html

Band Division

Chaz Paxton, President



I trust this letter finds you almost half way through a successful year! As you are wrapping up winter concerts and getting ready for winter break, I hope you are making plans to attend the 2020 SCMEA Professional Development Confer-

ence at the Columbia Convention Center February 6-8, 2020. Our President-Elect, Chuck Deen, has been hard at work putting together what is sure to be a stellar conference. We are excited to offer a wide range of clinics and performances, both through the Band Division and At-Large sessions, that will inspire and motivate directors at all levels.

We are continuing our partnership with the USC Alumni Center, which has turned out to be a wonderful venue for our main performances. In addition to the list of ensembles below, we are excited to continue both the All-State Jazz Combo and the Master Recital Competition, as well as the concluding concert featuring the Inter-Collegiate Band. This outstanding ensemble is comprised of 90-100 of the best college musicians from across South Carolina. Jack Stamp will serve as their clinician and the rehearsals are open to conference attendees. Thank you to the members of the College Division (CBDNA) of South Carolina, for working with us to provide an amazing way to wrap up our Professional Development Conference.

It is always a pleasure to feature several outstanding ensembles during the conference and this year will be no different. We are proud to offer a diverse slate of ensembles that will truly display the best of what our state has to offer. Congratulations to the following ensembles for being selected to perform:

We will also have our 6th Annual Jazz Social,

White Knoll Percussion Ensemble

Ben Berry, Director

Moultrie Middle School

Mason Mumford, Director

Pelion High School Jazz Band Otto Hage, Director

Irmo High School Symphonic Winds Roger Simpson, Director

Pendleton High School Wind Ensemble

Chris Moss, Director lle High School Wind Ens

Summerville High School Wind Ensemble
Leslie Gilreath, Director

Charleston Southern University Wind Ensemble
Marshall Forrester, Director

Carolina Wind Symphony

Tim Franklin, Director

which will feature the SCMEA Directors Jazz Band with a special guest artist to be named later! A big thank you to Pecknel Music Company and Yamaha Corporation of America for their continued support of this wonderful event.

We have several great clinics planned for the conference as well, presented by a wide range of clinicians that will bring a fresh perspective and innovative teaching techniques in an effort to help you in your classroom. You can find a complete list of clinics in this edition of the SC Musician and via the SCMEA apponce it is complete.

On the business side of things, our committee meetings will be held Thursday evening and Friday morning, and our General Business Meeting will be held Saturday at the conclusion of the Inter-Collegiate Band performance. Your attendance and participation in these meetings is truly the lifeblood of our organization. Please be involved!

As you can see, we have a packed conference full of a variety of offerings. Through these clinics and performances, it is our hope that you will be inspired and have your batteries "recharged" for the spring semester. I look forward to seeing you all in Columbia for our 2020 Professional Development Conference!

Choral Division

Nikki Belch, President

I hope you have had a great first semester of the school year! As you finish up your winter concerts and many performances this December, I hope that you have begun making plans to attend our SCMEA Con-



ference this February. We have great sessions planned and we have conference performances from middle school, high school, and college ensembles. It is very exciting to know what a great conference is ahead for us.

Our Division is sponsoring some exciting sessions this conference. In this age of data, student growth, and SLOs, you will not want to miss Eric Wilkinson's fantastic session entitled, "Assessment Strategies that Work." Dr Gregory LeFilis from Stetson University is presenting an extremely relevant session, "Choral Rehearsal Strategies, 3 Guys and 30 Girls." This is sure to be a session well worth attending. Dr Allison Mann from Kennesaw State will be presenting an informative session for choirs of all levels entitled, "Let's Talk Vibrato." Several sessions will also be presented by the fantastic Daniel Gutierrez on "The Engaged Singer" and "Embrace the Crack." I hope that you leave these sessions with not only information but a renewed energy going into the busy spring season.

As you "rest" over Winter Break, I hope that you continue to contemplate what opportunities you can provide for your students this year. As your representative for the Choral Division, I really enjoy seeing all of the fantastic activities and performances that you attend and create for your students. I urge you to continue the level of excellence that is evident in so many of our programs. If you are a new teacher or a new to your school teacher, reach out to experienced teachers and get involved in SCMEA events. We are strongest when we learn from each other and continue to do what is best for our students. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Collegiate Division



Lillian Tague, *President*The collegiate board is excited to see all of you at this year's SCMEA conference! We would like to send a warm welcome and Thank you to Cigi Curry from Furman University, serving as President-Elect, and Maria Manaeva from Newberry

College, serving as Treasurer. The board is looking forward to continuing to improve state wide collaboration between collegiate chapters. Be on the lookout for a collegiate newsletter that will be sent to all collegiate presidents! If you are proud of something that your NAfME chapter is doing please feel free to let us know whether it be in the band app or the SC-MEA Collegiate Facebook page. To join the SCMEA collegiate band page go to this link: https://band.us/n/a2ad11Zb6dAb3

The collegiate Division will be offering two professional development sessions one about Advocacy on a collegiate level presented by myself and one focusing on improvisation which will be presented by a guest clinician! We will also be having our collegiate business meeting which is where we will hold elections of officers for the 2020-2021 school year. Nomination forms for these positions have been sent to all collegiate chapter presidents. We are looking forward to seeing you all there!

The board is still looking for one of you to serve as Secretary or Advocacy chair for what is left of the 2019-2020 year! If you are interested in serving or know someone who would be please fill out a nomination form and send it to lillian.tague@newberry.edu or pcarney@limestone.edu

The board wishes you a happy season and are excited to see you at this year's conference!

Elementary Division

Tamara Silva, President

Did you know music aptitude stabilizes at age 9? That is around 3rd or 4th grade for most students. Wow! As elementary music teachers, we have a special and amazing opportunity to help each student lay a musical foundation for life. The musical environments



we foster can increase our young students' potential to understand, perform, and enjoy music long after they exit our classrooms. To learn more about the positive influence you can have on your young students' musical development, check out The Ways Children Learn Music by Eric Bluestine and A Music Learning Theory for Newborn and Young Children by Edwin Gordon.

Before we can concern ourselves with helping our students learn music, we must create safe, inclusive learning environments. Daily, I am reminded of the importance of building relationships with my students. Through strong relationships, we can share mutual trust and the students can achieve more by demonstrating the level of effort needed to reach my high expectations. Establishing relationships with hundreds of children may seem daunting, but it can be done. To begin, calling each child by name is powerful and important. After that, give them a chance to share what they like about music, what they want to learn more about, and rotate classroom leadership opportunities. Students care when you care. Try pulling students aside after class to tell them you noticed their extra effort today, speak to them about their behavior choices, or quickly work with them one-on-one to help them find their singing voice. I have been shocked at how many students can quickly find their singing voice when I work with them individually! Whatever the strategy, those relationships can become long lasting, can help you become a more effective teacher, and for me, are what ultimately bring me joy.

I hope you are having an inspiring and fulfilling school year music-ing! I missed being able to see everyone this fall. Canceling our workshop was quite a disappointment, but fortunately, Eric Young agreed to reschedule with us for next year. Go ahead and put next year's date on your calendar - Saturday, September 12, 2020 at Round Top Elementary, in Blythewood. Remember, the SCMEA conference is just around the corner - don't let the winter blues get to you! Attend the conference for some fresh, new ideas and techniques for choir, percussion, music centers and rotations, cultural diversity, singing games, literacy, STEAM with recorders, improvisation for developing musicianship, movement, expanding horizons, music advocacy, and to be inspired with the SCMEA SC Honor Choir Performance. Come to network and share ideas with all of your phenomenal colleagues from around the state. The Elementary Division Board worked hard to bring a wide variety of professional development sessions for the conference. Our clinicians will be Christopher Azzara, Patrick Carney, Suzanne Fleming-Atwood, Lynell Jenkins, Kelly Mraz, Laurie Orth, Aimee Pfitzner, and David Row.

Best wishes on your winter concerts and I look forward to seeing many of you in February!







Guitar Division

Benjamin Broughton, President

I hope as you are reading this that your year has started off well, and that you are getting ready for the push to the end of the year. While it



is a great honor to be able serve the membership as President, it is with sadness that I take the reins from Dr. Jason Sprankle who has stepped down due to health concerns. His vision and leadership has taken us from committee to division status, and I hope to be able to continue the great work he started. He will continue to contribute as our Past President and we all look forward to continuing to work with him in this capacity.

In November we had our 3rd annual All State Guitar auditions. Students from all over the state auditioned to be part of this prestigious group. This year we included the option for video submissions for students unable to make the live audition held at Dreher High School. These students will be conducted by a guest conductor on Friday morning at the SCMEA Professional Development Conference and at the SCMEA Guitarfest in May at River Bluff High School.

Speaking of our conference, we are also extremely proud to be co-sponsoring the Georgia Guitar Quartet as the keynote performers at this year's conference. They will be performing on Friday and will also be giving a master class with some of the All State performers later in the day. In addition to this, our conference director, Mr. Chris Essig has planned a great assortment of sessions and performances designed to help educators of guitar at all levels.

As for our meetings we will have our General Business Meeting on Thursday, and our Executive Board meeting on Saturday. You can find out more information about all of the Division's news and info at our new website: www.scmeaguitar.org I hope to see and meet you all in Columbia at the 2020 SC-MEA Professional Development Conference.

Higher Education Division

Susana Lalama, President

I'm confident that you all have had a busy yet exhilarating Fall semester as you welcomed new students into your classrooms and have continued to mentor returning students on their journey to becoming music teachers. Thank you to all who



were able to attend the September brainstorming web meeting. Our productivity showed as we were able to create plans to maintain accurate records of our graduates, outline a music performance-based assessment for add-on certification candidates, and explore strategies for helping music teachers in rural schools.

Some more things to look forward to are the clinics, sessions, and concerts at the annual SCMEA Professional Development Conference! We have some wonderful presentations scheduled for our division that I hope you will make plans to attend. The Research Poster session will take place on Saturday but we have added a graduate student presentation component. The top two graduate students (sorry professors, this is not for you!) will have the opportunity to present their research at one of our sessions! This is a great opportunity for graduate students to present research for an interested audience while continuing to support active music education research in South Carolina.

We have invited Dr. Scott Burstein from Little Kids Rock to lead a discussion and provide strategies on integrating Hip-Hop into arts education. We also have invited our own Dr. Rosetta Dingle to lead a panel discussion of recent graduates titled *From Campus to Classroom: Strategies for the First-Year Band Educator.* Of course we will have our February business meeting where we hope to have updates state education initiatives.

Also new this year are the special intersection sessions given by our keynote speaker, Dr. Christopher Azzara. These sessions are designed to include all music teachers, regardless of specialty, that deals with creativity, improvisation, and literacy in the music classroom. I hope that you make plans to attend at least one, if not all of his sessions.

I'm looking forward to connecting with all of you at the SCMEA Conference.

Orchestra Division

Ginger Greer, President

Greetings, Orchestra Division Membership.

Things that are new to our division this year: instituting the newly passed orchestra division bylaws, a new registration procedure for Region Orchestra and the Outstanding Performance Award. If you have not been attending the



meetings, you are probably feeling out of the loop!

Many of you experienced much frustration as you attempted to register students for region orchestra. NAfME made some changes to their website database, and caused major disruptions to our ability to log on to the state site. Once you got through that hurdle, hopefully the registration process was simple and user-friendly. Thanks goes to Brian Gencarelli and Susan Wines for setting up the Google forms and spreadsheet that we could reference in real time. While it was not completely seamless, it is a step in the right direction for modernizing our registration process.

As the region registration process began to unfold, it became evident that many folks were unaware of how the sponsorship rules changed eligibility for students that previously were allowed to participate. Please take the time to familiarize yourself on sponsorship eligibility before the February meeting at conference.

After many years of discussion, we will be voting to roll out the Orchestra OPA (Outstanding Performance Award) at the February conference meeting. If passed, it will be instituted this school year. Information can be found on the website with a draft of the proposed requirements. We look forward to programs across the state being honored and recognized for the work that they have been doing for many years! Many thanks to Erik Hines and his committee for the research and ongoing work getting this ready for implementation.

Another "big ticket item" that will be discussed and potentially voted on is the "Region 5" Proposal. This proposal can be found in the members only section of the Orchestra Division website. (You must be logged in to access the members only pages). The Coastal Region 4 of our state has experienced tremendous growth in SCMEA event participation, but it is

evident that issues with distance are of great concern. The biggest question at hand is if there are a sufficient amount of teacher/sponsors to meet the needs of two separate regions. In addition to the coastal situation, there are 24 counties state-wide that are currently undesignated, leaving ambiguity to where students living in those areas are to be served. It is important for the membership to study the information presented by Jonathon Depriest and his committee and be prepared for discussion and a potential vote.

Allison Key has many exciting and informational sessions planned for our Annual Conference in February. Sponsored by Alfred, David Pope, no stranger to our state, will be presenting. Orchestra members are encouraged to attend At Large sessions featuring Dr. Chris Azzara. His sessions include teaching creativity, improvisation, and music literacy. There will be 2 reading sessions, so plan to come and play along! Last year's conference featured the first of what will most surely an Annual ASTA social on Friday evening sponsored by Bernhardt House of Violins. There will be some door prizes and giveaways, as well as hors d'oeuvres and beverages. All are invited; you do not have to be an ASTA member to attend! It is a super place to unwind with colleagues before your Friday dinner plans. The SC Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, under the direction of Neil Casey, the Riverside Middle School Symphony, directed by Angela Rex and Kevin Styles, and Boiling Springs Middle School Honors Orchestra, directed by Josh Miller were all chosen as featured performers.

The 2019 All State Orchestra was a spectacular event showcasing 2 conductors with close ties to South Carolina: Dr. Amy Mason Sckipp, conductor of the 6-8 group, currently residing in Long Island, NY, but originally from Pickens County, and Mr. Miles Hoffman, conductor of the 11-12 groups, resident of Spartanburg, SC. The 9-10 group was led by Dr. Robert Garndner from Pennsylvania. The 2020 All State Orchestras will be conducted by Mr. Dale Clevenger, formerly the Principal Horn of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Dr. John Schimek from Oklahoma University, and Mrs. Ashley Gobbel Culley, SC native and current director in Cobb County, GA. The 2020 All State Orchestra Weekend promises to be a wonderful weekend of music making.

As always, please know that the Executive Board wishes to work together with you to offer the best experiences for orchestra students in our schools. Let us know how we can help.

Piano Division Karen Buckland, President

I hope you are having an inspiring year of teaching. There are several exciting Piano Division events in Winter 2020. The SCMEA Piano Festival will be held in January. Four piano events will take place during the 2020 SCMEA Professional Development Conference held February 6-8, at the Columbia Conference Center. All activities are for teachers interested in piano whether or not your specialty is teaching piano - everyone is welcome!

The 2020 SCMEA Piano Festival will be held on Saturday, January 25. Audition sites are Presbyterian College in Clinton, and Charleston Southern University in Summerville. The Festival is for every student from beginning through advanced levels of study. There are no set repertoire requirements, scales or cadences. Each student receives comments with a grade and a certificate of participation. The goal of the Piano Festival is to provide a positive performance experience. The Registration Form is on the Piano Division website page and the deadline for registration is January 13. Please let me know by December 20 an estimated number of your students attending the Festival so I can secure judges. I will gladly accept questions regarding repertoire or the Piano Festival and hope you will encourage your students to participate.

Conference Piano Division events include two Friday sessions: a Lecture/Presentation and the Piano Division Business Meeting, and two Saturday sessions: Master Class, and the Piano Division 2020 Honors Recital.

Dr. Stephen Taylor, Chair and teacher of piano-related courses at the South Carolina Governors School for the Arts and Humanities, will present a lecture entitled, Transitioning Late Elementary Piano Students into Intermediate Techniques and Repertoire. His presentation will be held on Friday, February 7, at 2:15-3:15 p.m. in Ballroom A. The Piano Division Business Meeting will be on Friday, February 7, at 6:00 p.m. in Carolina A & B.

Dr. Kaju Lee, Assistant Professor of Piano Pedagogy and Collaborative Arts at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, will conduct a master class for students from elementary, intermediate and advanced levels of study chosen by judges at the Piano Festival in January. This event will take place on Saturday, February 8, from 10:00-11:30 a.m. in Ballroom C. Students chosen to perform will be given an assigned practice time in the hall prior to the beginning of the master class. The Piano Division Honors Recital is scheduled in Ballroom C from 12:30-2:15. Students, selected for their musicality and preparedness by judges at the Piano Festival, will perform in the recital. Students chosen to perform will be given an assigned practice time in the hall prior to the beginning of the recital. The Piano Division Honors Recital, which highlights student piano performances in South Carolina, will conclude the Piano Division conference events.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions or if I can be of help as we work together to the further piano education and teaching in South Carolina. I can be reached at kbuck@presby.edu. I look forward to the Piano Division events and seeing you at the 2020 conference in February!









MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

AUDITIONS

September 28, 2019 November 9, 2019 February 15, 2020 March 21, 2020

DEGREE PROGRAMS:

Music, Instrumental | B.S.

Music, Keyboard | B.S.

Music, Vocal | B.S.

Music, K-12 Teacher Certification, Choral | B.S.

Music, K-12 Teacher Certification, Instrumental | B.S.

Music, K-12 Teacher Certification, Keyboard | B.S.

SCHEDULE AN AUDITION:

Dr. Anthony Lenti Audition Coordinator 864-388-8349 tlenti@lander.edu



GREENWOOD, S.C. www.lander.edu/music

SCMEA Conference Schedule Thursday, February 6, 2020

3:00pm-8:00pm Registration Opens (A)

Location: Lobby

3:00pm-5:00pm

SCMEA Executive Board Meeting

Location: Congaree A& B Presiding: Michael Moore

5:00pm-6:30pm

SCBDA Executive Board Meeting (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Presiding: Chaz Paxton

5:00pm-8:00pm

SCMEA Exhibits

Opening Night and Reception (A)

Location: Exhibit Hall

--7:30pm-

7:30pm-8:30pm

Guitar Business Meeting (G)

Location: Richland B & C

Presiding: Benjamin Broughton

7:30pm-8:30pm

SCBDA CPA Committee Meeting (B)

Location: Congaree A Presiding: Craig Davis

7:30pm-8:30pm

SCBDA Solo & Ensemble Meeting (B)

Location: Congaree B Presiding: Matt Boiteau

7:30pm-9:00pm

SCBDA Marching Committee Meeting (B)

Location: Hilton 1

Presiding: Leslie Gilreath

7:30pm-8:30pm

Choral S/E and Region Choir Meetings (C)

Location: Lexington A

Presiding: Erin Phillips and Dale Roth

7:30pm-8:30pm

Choral HS & MS CPA Meeting (C)

Location: Lexington B

Presiding: Cunningham & Jones

7:30pm-8:30pm

Choral Middle School Clinics Meeting (C)

Location: Richland A

Presiding: Christopher Hulsey

7:30pm-8:30pm

SCBDA Adjudication Meeting (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center

Presiding: Phillips

7:30pm-9:30pm

SCBDA All-State Committee Meeting (B)

Location: Carolina A & B Presiding: Jessica Wofford

Keys to letters in parentheses:

-8:30pm

8:30pm-9:30pm

Region Orchestra Meeting (O)

Location: Congaree A Presiding: Leonard

8:30pm-9:30pm

All-State Orchestra Meeting (O)

Location: Congaree B Presiding: Marcou

8:30pm-9:30pm

Choral All-State Meeting (C)

Location: Richland A Presiding: Lizzi Elliott

8:30pm-9:30pm

Orchestra Audition Committee (O)

Location: Richland B & C

Presiding: Buyer

8:30pm-9:30pm

Orchestra Meetings: OPA, Concert Perfor-

mance, and S&E (O)
Location: Lexington A

Presiding: Hines, Tipton, & Burrows

8:30pm-9:30pm

Choral Exploratory Meeting (C)

Location: Lexington B Presiding: Nikki Belch

Keys to letters in parentheses:

A = All audiences, B = Band, C = Choral, Co = Collegiate, E = Elementary, H = Higher Education, G = Guitar, O = Orchestra, P = Piano, I = Industry Showcase, FMES = Future Music Educators Symposium

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Fríday, February 7, 2020

Tentative Schedule as of December 2019

7:30am - 9:00am

Continental Breakfast (A)

Location: Lobby

7:00am -5:00pm Registration Hours (A)

Location: Lobby

9:00am - 5:00pm
Exhibit Hours (A)
Location: Exhibit Hall

-8:00am-

8:00am-9:00am

SCBDA Jazz Committee Meeting (B)

Location: Hilton 1 Presiding: Mark Yost

8:00am -9:00am

Alfred Music Reading Session (O)

Location: Carolina A & B
Clinician: Dr. David Pope
Presiding: Allison Key
Sponsor: Alfred Music

8:00am-9:00am

3 Steps To Better Sight Reading with Smart-

Music (I)

Location: Lexington B Clinician: Ted Scalzo

Industry: Alfred, Smart Music

8:00am-9:00am

Assessment Strategies that Work (C)

Location: Lexington A Clinician: Eric Wilkinson Presiding: Gregory Pittman 8:00am-9:00am

SCBDA Awards Committee Meeting (B)

Location: Richland A Presiding: Kevin Horton

8:00am-9:00am

Meet your Fellow Future Music Educators (FMES)

Location: Congaree A Presiding: Dr. David Cudd

8:00am-9:00am

Teaching Tips for Clarinets at All Levels (B)

Location: Congaree B Clinicians: Jessica Wofford

8:00am-9:00am

Our Favorite Things: Treble Choir Gems for the Classroom, Stage, Concert Hall and

Sanctuary (E)

Location: Richland B&C Clinician: Suzanne Fleming Presiding: Tamara Willing Silva

8:00am

White Knoll High School Percussion Ensemble (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Director: Benjamin Berry Presiding: Chuck Deen

Keys to letters in parentheses:

9:15am - 10:15am

The Power of Percussion (E)

Location: Richland B & C Clinician: Kelly Mraz

9:15am - 10:15am

Preparing for Careers in Music Education

(FMES)

Location: Congaree A

Clinician: Dr. Chris Hansen & Dr. Andrew Pettus

Presiding: Dr. David Cudd

9:15am - 10:15am

Donors Choose and the Music Classroom

(B)

Location: Congaree B

Clinicians: Jennifer Cantrell & Jessica Pym

Presiding: Leah Turner

9:15am - 10:15am

Choral Rehearsal Strategies: 3 Guys and 30

Gals (C)

Location: Lexington A

Clinician: Dr. Gregory Lefils Jr.

9:15am - 10:15am

--9:15am--

All-State Guitar Ensemble (G)

Location: Ballroom A Director: Dr. Brett Floyd Presiding: Dr. Jason Sprankle

9:15am-10:15am

SCBDA Winter Ensembles Committee

Meeting (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Board Room

Presiding: Tom Padgett

9:15am - 10:15am

The Kids are Alright: Double Reed Equip-

ment Solutions (I)

Location: Richland A Clinician: Gillian Lopez Industry: Fossati Oboes

9:15am-10:15am

Ongoing Music Education Research (H)

Location: Lexington B

Presiding: Drs. Mandi Schlegel and Susie Lalama

9:15am - 10:15am

Intonation Matters: Developing Students'

Listening Skills in the Orchestra Class(O)

Location: Carolina A & B Clinician: Dr. David Pope Presiding: Ginger Greer

-9:30am-

9:30am

Charleston Southern University Band (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Director: Marshall Forrester

9:30am

Mini-Concert

South Carolina State Concert Ensemble (A)

Location: Exhibit Hall Director: Patrick Moore

--10:30am-

10:30am - 12:00 noon

General Session (A)

Location: Ballrooms B & C

This year's general session features a keynote address from Dr. Christopher Azzara, "Creativity at the Core: Inspiration and Meaning for Music Teaching and Learning." We will honor several SCMEA award recipients and close out the session with a performance from the dynamic Georgia Guitar Quartet.

Presiding: Michael Moore

Keys to letters in parentheses:

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Higher Education Business Meeting (H)

Location: Congaree B Presiding: Dr. Susie Lalama

12:00pm-1:00pm

Choral Division Executive Board Meeting

(C)

Location: TBD

Presiding: Nikki Belch

1:00pm

Moultire Middle School Honor Band (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Director: Mason Mumford Presiding: Chuck Deen

1:00pm-2:00pm

Rhythmic Success: Improving Students'

Precision and Confidence (O)

Location: Caolina A & B Director: Dr. David Pope Presiding: Ginger Greer

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Your Guide to Migrating from Classic to

New SmartMusic (I)

Location: Congaree B Clinician: Ted Scalzo

Industry: Alfred, SmartMusic

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Embracing the Change: Integrating Hip-

Hop into Arts Education (H)

Location: Lexington A Clinician: Dr. Scott Burstein Presiding: Dr. Susie Lalama

1:00pm - 2:00pm

3 Tech Success Stories from My Music Class-

room (I)

Location: Richland A Clinician: Linda Collins Industry: Quaver 12:00pm - 1:00pm

Collegiate Business Meeting/Luncheon (Co)

Location: Richland A Presiding: Lillian Teague

12:00pm-1:00pm

SCMEA Awards Luncheon

Location: Lincoln B (invitation only)

Presiding: Michael Moore

--1:00pm-

1:00pm-2:00pm

Georgia Guitar Quartet Master Class (G)

Location: Ballroom A Clinicians: Dr. Phil Snyder Presiding: Dr. Jason Sprankle

INTERSECTION SESSION

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Developing Musicianship through Improvi-

sation: How to Get Started (B & P)

Location: Richland B & C

Clinician: Dr. Christopher Azzara Presiding: Dr. Michael Moore

Session Repeated on Saturday at 8:00am

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Lunch & Visit the Clinics (FMES)

Location: Congaree A Presiding: Dr. David Cudd

1:00pm - 2:00pm

Move on Over: Centers and Rotations in the

Music Classroom. (E)

Location: Lexington B Clinician: Aimee Pfitzner Presiding: Denise Thomas

Keys to letters in parentheses:

1:15pm

Gilbert High School Sola Voce (C)

Location: Ballroom C Director: Craig Coelho Presiding: Camille Jones 1:15pm - 1:45pm

Dozier Winds of the 282nd Army Band (A)

Location: Exhibit Hall

-----2:15pm-

--1:15pm-

INTERSECTION SESSION

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Improvisation: How Was My Solo? Learning to Improvise Meaningful Solos (H & G)

Location: Richland B & C

Clinician: Dr. Christopher Azzara Presiding: Dr. Michael Moore

Session Repeated on Saturday at 9:15am

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Hearing Loss in Music Profession/Protect your Hearing (B)

Location: Richland A

Clinicians: David Santiago & Melissa Kednocker

Presiding: Chaz Paxton

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Sing a Song, Play a Game, Singing Games from Around the World (E)

Location: Lexington B

Clinician: Aimee Curtis Pfitzner

Presiding: Todd Monsell

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Transitioning Late Elementary Piano Students into Intermediate Techniques and

Repertoire (P)

Location: Ballroom A

Clinician: Dr. Stephen Taylor Presiding: Dr. Karen Buckland 2:15pm - 3:15pm

The Science of Breathing (I)

Location: Congaree B Clinician: Bill Rose Industry: Lung Trainers

2:15pm - 3:15pm

The Engaged Singer: Part 1 (C)

Location: Ballroom C

Clinician: Mr. Daniel Gutierrez

Presiding: Nikki Belch

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Considering a Career in Music education: Is this the job for me? (FMES)

Location: Congaree A

Clinicians: Phil McIntyre & Alicia Crutchlow

Presiding: Dr. David Cudd

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Maximize Musicianship in the School

Orchestra (O)

Location: Carolina A & B Clinician: Dr. Gail Barnes Presiding: Allison Key

2:15pm - 3:15pm

Japanese Wind Band Methods (B)

Location: Lexington A

Clinicians: Todd Smith & Kindall Smith

Presiding: Chuck Deen

-3:00pm

3:00pm-3:45pm

Cookie Break (A)

Location: Lobby

Keys to letters in parentheses:

--3:30pm

3:30pm

Irmo High School Symphonic Winds (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Director: Roger Simpson Presiding: Chuck Deen

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Teaching Ukulele through Popular Music Education (A)

Location: Lexington B Clinician: Dr. Scott Burstein

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Guitar Ensemble (G)

Location: Lexington A Clinician: Chris Essig

INTERSECTION SESSION

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Music Literacy Beyond the Page (E & H)

Location: Richland B & C Clinician: Dr. Christopher Azzara Presiding: Dr. Michael Moore

Session Repeated on Saturday at 10:30am

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Real Life as a College Music Major (FMES)

Location: Congaree A

Clinicians: Members of the Collegiate Division

Presiding: Dr. David Cudd

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Strategies for Teaching with Emergent Bilingual Students (A)

Location: Congaree B Clinician: Dr. Denisse Santos

-3:45pm-

Andrew Jackson High School Women's Ensemble (C)

3:45pm

Location: Ballroom C
Director: Lizzi Elliott
Presiding: Erin Phillips
------4:00pm-------

4:00pm

Riverside Middle Symphony Orchestra (O)

Location: Ballroom A

Directors: Angela Rex and Kevin Styles

Presiding: Ginger Greer

-----4:45pm-----

4:45pm - 5:45pm

Advocacy as a Collegiate (Co)

Location: Richland A Clinician: Lillian Teague Presiding: Dr. Patrick Carney

4:45pm - 5:45pm

Technique Building and Rehearsal Strategies for Your 8th Grade and HS Orchestras (O)

Location: Carolina A & B Clinician: Dr. Christopher Selby 4:45pm - 5:45pm

STEM to STEAM: Using space exploration and rockets in the recorder classroom (A)

Location: Ballroom A Clinician: Laurie Orth

4:45pm - 5:45pm

Let's Talk Vibrato!(C)

Location: Lexington B

Clinicians: Alison Mann and Todd Wedge

Keys to letters in parentheses:

--5:00pm-

5:00pm

Pelion High School Jazz Band (B)

Location: Ballroom C Director: Otto Hage

----5:45pm---

5:45pm

ASTA Social and Reception

Location: Lexington A
Presiding: Susan Wines
Sponsored by Bernhardt House of Violins

5:45pm

USC Alumni ReceptionLocation: USC Alumni Center

5:45pm

Claflin Alumni Reception

Location: Ballroom B

5:45pm

Converse College Alumni Reception

Location: Congaree B Presiding: Dr. Susana Lalama

5:45pm

Furman Alumni Reception

Location: Prefunction Area

5:45pm

Winthrop University Alumni Reception

Location: Richland B & C Presiding: Dr. Elisa Koehler

6:00pm

6:00pm

Piano Division Business Meeting (P)

Location: Carolina A & B Presiding: Dr. Karen Buckland

----8:00pm----

SCMEA Jazz Social (A)

Presented by Pecknel Music Company and Yamaha Corporation of America Location: USC Alumni Center Time: 8:00pm-11:00pm

The University of South Carolina Left Bank Big Band, Lauren Meccia, Director

&

The SCMEA Directors Big Band Dr. Robert Gardiner, Director

Guest Artist: Tommy Igoe

Mr. Igoe's appearance made possible through the generosity of Pecknel Music Company & Yamaha Corporation of America

Keys to letters in parentheses:

JAZZ SOCIAL

presented by

PECKNEL

MUSIC since and WYAMAHA With Special Guest

The University of South Carolina Left Bank Big Band Lauren Meccia, Director

featuring

The SCMEA Directors Big Band Dr. Robert Gardiner, Director

Friday, February 7, 2020 | 8:00-11:00 PM Pastides Alumni Center Ballroom

Saturday, February 8, 2020

Tentative Schedule as of December 2019

7:00am

SCMEA Past President's Breakfast

Location: Ruth's Chris Presiding: Martin Dickey Invitation Only

7:45am-12:00pm Registration Opens (A)

Location: Lobby

9:00am-1:00pm

Exhibit Hours (A)

Location: Exhibit Hall

--8:00am----

INTERSECTION SESSION

8:00am - 9:00am

Developing Musicianship through

Improvisation: How to Get Started (B & E)

Location: Richland B & C

Clinician: Dr. Christopher Azzara Presiding: Dr. Michael Moore

Session Repeated from Friday at 1:00pm

8:00am - 9:00am

The Engaged Singer: Part 2

Location: Lexington A
Clinician: Daniel Gutierrez
Presiding: David Richardson

8:00am - 9:00am

From the Campus to the Classroom: Strategies for the First-Year Band Educator (H)

Location: Congaree A & B

Clinicians: Dr. Rosetta Dingle, Costonzo Bryant-Martin, Corey Hagans, and Brittany Salley

Presiding: Dr. Susie Lalama

8:30am

Carolina Wind Symphony (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center

Director: Tim Franklin Presiding: Chuck Deen

8:00am - 9:00am

Recruitment and Retention Techniques for Band and Orchestra: Capturing the Hearts of African America (O)

Location: Carolina A & B

Clinician: Sharese Pearson-Bush

Presiding: Ginger Greer

8:00am - 9:00am

How to Survive Your First Year of Teaching

Location: Lexington B Clinician: Patrick Moore

Keys to letters in parentheses:

9:15am - 11:30am

Piano Master Class with Dr. Kaju Lee (P)

Location: Ballroom C Clinician: Dr. Kaju Lee

Presiding: Dr. Karen Buckland

9:15am-10:15am

Developing a Tri-M Chapter (A)

Location: Congaree A & B Clinician: Mary Lou Schweickert

9:15am - 10:15am

From the Bottom (O)

Location: Carolina A & B

Clinicians: Susan Wines and Chris Gratton

Presiding: Ginger Greer

9:15am - 10:15am

Advanced Classroom Guitar (G)

Location: Lexington B

Clinician: Benjamin Broughton

9:00am - Rehearsal

10:00am - Performance

South Carolina Elementary

Honor Choir Performance (E)

Location: First Baptist Church Clinician: Lynell Joy Jenkins Presiding: Tamara Willing Silva

-----10:30am--

10:30am

League Academy Chamber Singers (C)

Location: Ballroom A Clinician: Casey Kerr Presiding: Sarah Wahl

10:30am - 11:30am

The Science of Breathing (I)

Location: Lexington A Clinician: Bill Rose Industry: LungTrainers **INTERSECTION SESSION**

9:15am-10:15am

Improvisation: How Was My Solo? Learning to Improvise Meaningful Solos (C & Co)

Location: Richland B & C

Clinician: Dr. Christopher Azzara Presiding: Dr. Michael Moore

Session Repeated from Friday at 2:15pm

9:15am - 10:15am

A View from the Pressbox: Using the Adjudication Process to Improve Your Band (B)

Location: Lexington A
Clinician: Dr. Nola Jones
Presiding: Chuck Deen

9:15am - 10:15am

Inspire Excellence in Your Young Band: Achieve the Most in Every Lesson (I)

Location: Richland A Clinician: Bruce Pearson

Industry: Neil A. Kjos Music Company

9:45am-10:15am

Furman Clarinet Ensemble (A)

Location: Exhibit Hall Director: Dr. Cecilia Kang

10:30am

Pendleton Symphonic Band (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center

Director: Chris Moss Presiding: Chuck Deen

10:30am - 12:00pm

Research Poster Session (H)

Location: Exhibit Hall Lobby Presiding: Dr. Amanda Schlegel

Keys to letters in parentheses:

INTERSECTION SESSION

10:30am - 11:30am

Music Literacy Beyond the Page (O & Co)

Location: Richland B & C

Clinician: Dr. Christopher Azzara Presiding: Dr. Michael Moore

Session Repeated from Friday at 3:30pm

10:30am - 11:30am

Arts-rich South Carolina Schools and Its Influence on Student Engagement and Hope

(A)

Location: Congaree A & B Clinician: Kim Wilson Presiding: Sharon Doyle

11:30am - 1:00pm

Orchestra Executive Board Meeting (O)

Location: Ruth Chris Presiding: Ginger Greer

10:30am - 11:30am

CPA Success Begins in Beginning Band (B)

Location: Richland A Clinician: Ashby Goldstein Presiding: Chuck Deen

10:30am - 11:30am

Teaching Guitar: Curriculum that Works

(G)

Location: Carolina A & B Clinician: Chris Essig

10:30am - 11:30am

Retired? Turning Your Life's Work into Your

Life's Hobby (A)

Location: Lexington B Clinician: Edna Grace

11:30am

11:30am - 1:00pm

Guitar Div. Executive Board Meeting (G)

Location: Hal's Chop House Presiding: Benjamin Broughton

11:30am - 1:00pm

Retiree Luncheon Meet & Greet

Location: Hickory Tavern Presiding: Edna Grace

---12:00pm-

12:00pm - 2:15pm

Piano Division Student Honors Recital (P)

Location: Ballroom C

Presiding: Dr. Karen Buckland

12:15pm

Mini-Concert

Winthrop University TubaBand (A)

Location: Exhibit Hall Director: Dr. Douglas Black

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Encouraging Improvisation in Orff Ensem-

bles with Ostinatos and more (I)

Location: Carolina A & B Clinician: Don Monaco Industry: Quaver Music 12:00pm

Summerville Symphonic Band (B)

Location: Alumni Center Director: Leslie Gilreath Presiding: Chuck Deen

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Tech Tools for Using Popular Music in Your

Classroom (A)

Location: Congaree A & B Clinician: Dr. Scott Burstein

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Kids That Dance (And Teachers Too!) (E)

Location: Richland B & C Clinician: David Row

Presiding: Tamara Willing Silva

Keys to letters in parentheses:

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Planning for the Future: The Arts Canvas of the People (A)

Location: Lexington A Clinician: Ashley Brown Presiding: Sharon Doyle

-1:15pm-

1:15pm

South Carolina Youth Philharmonic (O)

Location: Ballroom A Director: Neil Casey Presiding: Arlyn Mills

1:15pm - 2:15pm

The Art of Possibility: Expanding and Exploring Our Horizons (E)

Location: Richland B & C Clinician: David Row

Presiding: Tamara Willing Silva

1:15pm - 2:15pm

It DOES Matter! How effective conducting gesture can improve engagement, rehearsal, and performance. (B)

Location: Richland A

Clinician: Dr. Cormac Cannon

Presiding: Chuck Deen

1:15pm - 2:15pm

ASBDA Business Meeting (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Board Room

Presiding: Simpson

1:15pm - 2:15pm

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Embracing the Crack (C)

Location: Lexington A

in your ensembles (B)

Clinician: Marcus Morris Presiding: Leah Turner

Location: Richland A

Clinician: Daniel Gutierrez and Dr. Erin Plisco

Building Your Program Through Retention:

Tips and Techniques to keep your students

Presiding: Walter Graham

1:15pm - 2:15pm

6 Tips for Band Directors to Protect Music Students Physical Health (B)

Location: Congaree A&B Clinician: Dr. Javian Brabham

1:15pm - 2:15pm

Tricks for Teaching Beginning

Improvisation (B)

Location: Carolina A&B

Clinician: Dr. Michael Wilkinson

1:15pm - 2:15pm

Phi Beta Mu Business Meeting (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Board Room

Presiding: Mike Doll

--2:30pm-

2:30pm - 3:30pm

Advocating for a REAL K - 5 Music Educa-

tion: What happened to recess?(E)

Location: Richland B & C Clinician: Dr. Patrick Carney Presiding: Tamara Willing Silva 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Teaching Strings That Are Your Secondary

Instruments: The Right Method Rook as

Instruments: The Right Method Book as

Your Survival Guide(O)

Location: Carolina A & B Clinician: Nathan Tucker Presiding: Arlyn Mills

Keys to letters in parentheses:

2:30pm

SC Intercollegiate Honor Band (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Guest Director: Jack Stamp Presiding: Dr. Douglas Presley 2:30pm

Winthrop University Chorale (C)

Location: Ballroom C Director: Dr. Jeremy Mims Presiding: Nicolas Shumate

-----3:30pm-

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Choral Division Business Meeting (C)

Location: Ballroom C Presiding: Nikki Belch

3:30pm-4:30pm

Elementary Division Business Meeting (E)

Location: Richland B & C Presiding: Tamara Willing Silva 3:30pm - 4:30pm

Guitar Division Business Meeting (G)

Location: Richland A

Presiding: Benjamin Broughton

3:30pm - 4:30pm

Orchestra Divisioni Business Meeting (O)

Location: Carolina A & B Presiding: Ginger Greer

3:45pm-5:30pm

SCBDA Business Meeting (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Presiding: Chaz Paxton

----6:15pm----

6:15pm

SCBDA All-State Jazz Combo Concert (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Presiding: Mark Yost

-7:00pm--

7:00pm

SCBDA Master Recital Competition (B)

Location: USC Alumni Center Presiding: Matt Boiteau

Sunday, February 9, 2020

9am-12:00pm

SCMEA Executive Board Meeting

Location: Hilton Room 1 Presiding: Michael Moore

Keys to letters in parentheses:





Save the Date! 2020 NAfME All-National Honor Ensembles Orlando, Florida

November 4-7, 2020

The All-National Honor Ensembles represent the top performing high school musicians in each state across the country.

School ensemble directors must be a member of NAfME for students to be eligible to apply.

Participants will learn under renowned conductors and showcase their musicianship in a final gala concert.

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Keynote: Dr. Christopher Azzara

Pianist, arranger, author, and educator, Christopher Azzara has made important contributions to advancing the understanding of creativity and improvisation in the music learning process. An innovator in music teaching and learning, Dr. Azzara is Professor Music Education in the Department of Music Teaching and Learning and Affiliate Faculty of Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media at the Eastman School of Music. Teaching and performing internationally, he is the

author of numerous articles, arrangements, and books, including Developing Musicianship Through Improvisation and Jump Right In: The Instrumental Series (GIA). His arrangements for instrumental and vocal ensembles include A la nanita nana for choir and chamber orchestra or piano (Oxford), and Concert Selections for Winds and Percussion (GIA). His research and publications are concerned with meaningful relationships among listening, creating, improvising, reading, composing, and analyzing music in vocal and instrumental settings. Dr. Azzara's work appears in journals such as the Journal of Research in Music Education, the Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education, the Music Educators Journal, Early Childhood Connections, and in The New Handbook of Research on Music Teaching and Learning (MENC/Oxford), and Oxford Handbooks Online. He performs as a soloist and in various ensembles, including the Chris Azzara Trio, and has played on and produced many studio and educational recordings. In Rochester, he performs with freelance musicians, members of the Eastman School of Music Faculty, and members of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. An active teacher and clinician, he has presented and performed extensively throughout the United States, and in Canada, the Caribbean, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, China, Japan, and Australia. He has presented clinics and workshops in a variety of settings, including TEDxRochester, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Carnegie Hall, and leading music schools in this country and abroad.

Christopher Azzara is a native of Virginia and attended public schools in Fairfax County. After receiving the Bachelor of Music degree from George Mason University, he taught instrumental music in the Fairfax County Public Schools and performed as a pianist in the Washington D.C. area. He later received a Master of Music and a Ph.D. in Music Education from the Eastman School of Music. Prior to joining the Eastman faculty, Dr. Azzara was a professor at The Hartt School of Music, Dance, and Theatre of the University of Hartford, CT from 1991-2002.

Jazz Guest Artist:Tommy Igoe

Tommy Igoe is a world-class musician living in San Francisco. He has been long recognized as one of the finest drummers in the world and is the top-selling author in his field with four #1 titles on Amazon.com. He began drumming before the age of 2, started classical piano at 10, won every music competition available to him in High School, simultaneously winning two High Percussion awards with the legendary Bridgemen Drumlines. In 1997, Tommy wrote the drum set book for Disney's epic Broadway production of the "The Lion King" where he served as principal drummer and conductor. He has played drums on three Grammy award winning recordings and was



voted the World's #1 Jazz Drummer in the 2014 Modern Drummer Reader's Poll. He has created two ongoing weekly musical residency at iconic Jazz clubs in New York and San Francisco. His New York band, The Birdland Big Band, is the most popular weekly music event in the city for the last 9 years. His most recent and exciting project is the Tommy Igoe Groove Conspiracy, a 15-piece supergroup from the San Francisco that has quickly become an integral part of the San Francisco cultural landscape. He is currently the President of Deep Rhythm Music, his recording studio, publishing arm, record label and has several endorsement partners.

Feature Performance



Georgia Guitar uitar uartet

The Georgia Guitar Quartet (Kyle Dawkins, Brian Smith, Phil Snyder, and Jason Solomon) are a pioneering ensemble on the American chamber music and classical guitar scenes. These four musicians from the southeastern United States deliver a high-energy blend of breathtaking virtuosity and imaginative programming while taking an adventurous approach to classical music. Borrowing from both the past and present, the GGQ draws inspiration from the ever-evolving palette of music that has influenced them: classical masters such as Bach and Brahms, experimentalists in the vein of Cage and Stockhausen, and contemporary rock icons like Led Zeppelin and Radiohead. Audiences at a GGQ concert experience an exciting musical journey through an expansive array of genres, continents, and time periods. Accomplished composers themselves, the Quartet members frequently incorporate their own unique works into their dynamic concert programs. The incredible range and interactive spontaneity of a performance by the GGQ continually leaves audiences with something to remember, resulting in a thrilling new way to experience chamber music in the 21st century.

Formed in 1996 and hailing from Athens, Georgia, the Quartet performs throughout the nation in venues ranging from concert halls to popular music clubs. Recent concert highlights include performances in New York, Los Angeles, and a performance of Rodrigo's Concierto Andaluz with the Utah Symphony Orchestra. The GGQ has been featured on American Public Media's Performance Today on dozens of occasions. Their five critically acclaimed albums include their own arrangements and compositions. Several notable composers have dedicated new works to the GGQ, including Russian composer Nikita Koshkin, whose Suite for Four Guitars quickly became an audience favorite. The group has collaborated with modern dance groups and visual artists to produce multimedia performances and has recently embarked on a new collaboration with lyric baritone Robert Sims. With Sims, the GGQ adds American spirituals, blues, German art song, and rousing show tunes to its repertoire. In 2001, the Quartet was invited by Christopher Parkening to perform as the guest artists at his Twenty-Seventh Annual Masterclass in Bozeman, Montana. Parkening, the recognized heir to Andres Segovia, praised the GGQ, saying "the Quartet performs with good energy and technique, applies careful attention to detail, and maintains

a diverse repertoire." A review of their Piccolo Spoleto Festival performance in Charleston, South Carolina, described the concert as "a dazzling display of technical prowess, versatile programming, and audience rapport." The town of Athens, which boasts a rich musical heritage including R.E.M. and the B-52's, has honored the ensemble by awarding them "Best Classical Artist" in Athens five years in a row at the Athens Flagpole Music Awards.

Georgia Guitar Quartet

Athens, GA Friday, February 7, 2020 10:30am, Ballroom B & C



Gail V. Barnes is Professor of Music Education and Director of the USC String Project at the University of South Carolina where she has prepared over 115 teachers for string and orchestra classrooms and studios. She edited Applying Re-

search to String Teaching and Playing for the American String Teachers Association and has published in many of the major music education journals. In addition, she has conducted student orchestras throughout the country and presented clinics at national and international conferences. She is also an administrator for a Facebook group for several thousand orchestra teachers and is a co-author of Measures of Success for String Orchestra, published by FJH Music Company, INC.



Dr. Javian Brabham serves as the Assistant Director of Bands at Young Harris College. He conduct the Young Harris Brass Ensemble, Concert Band, Purple Reign Pep Band, and the Young Harris Community Band, and instructs brass methods classes.

Dr. Brabham holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Florida State University. His graduate study includes a Masters degree from the University of New Mexico and Doctorate from Florida State University both in trumpet performance, with a certification in college teaching. He has conducted both band clinics and trumpet masterclasses throughout the Southeast. His music education experience includes staff teaching positions at both high school and middle school band programs in Florida and South Carolina.

Benjamin Broughton is the Director of the Guitar Program at Dreher High School in Columbia, SC teaching Guitar, Piano. Benjamin is currently the President-Elect of the Guitar Division of SCMEA. He is a graduate



of the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Music in Theory, and has authored the last two revisions to the Richland School District One's Guitar curriculum. On top of teaching in the classroom and privately, Benjamin teaches professional development seminars on teaching classroom guitar. He is an accomplished musician on multiple instruments, most notably the guitar.



Ashley Brown is the Deputy Director at the SC Arts Commission where she directs the short and long-term work of the Grants, Community Arts, Artist Services, Visual Art, and Arts Education departments. She spent the last 3 years as Arts Education Director at SCAC and previously served as the

Engagement Manager for Opening Nights Performing Arts at Florida State. She taught theatre in public school and worked as a professional theatre artist throughout the Southeast. Ashley received her BA in Theatre from Winthrop University and her MFA in Theatre Management from Florida State University.

Costonzo Bryant-Martin is the Band Director at W. G. Sanders Middle School located in Columbia, South Carolina. Prior to teaching at W. G. Sanders Middle School, he was the general music teacher and chorus director at Summerville Elementary School and Spann



Elementary School in Summerville, South Carolina. Mr. Bryant-Martin graduated from South Carolina State University and is currently pursuing a master's degree at Anderson University.



Scott Burstein is the National Director of Teaching and Learning for the non-profit Little Kids Rock. His duties include managing Little Kids Rock's musical content, curriculum, and professional development. He previously taught 12 years of public high school in Los Angeles, with

subjects ranging from Marching Band to AP Music Theory. Scott studied music at the University of California, Santa Barbara, the Eastman School of Music, and received his DMA in Music Education at the University of Southern California. While primarily a guitarist, he has performed on a variety of instruments in the fields of classical music and jazz.

Cormac Cannon is Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at the University of South Carolina, where he conducts the University of South Carolina Wind Ensemble, guides the graduate



wind conducting program, and oversees all aspects of the band program. His appointment follows four years as Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands, during which time the Symphonic Winds performed for the Southern Division Conference of the College Band Directors National Association and the SCMEA State Conference, and the Carolina Band was a featured performer at the CBDNA National Conference. Previously, Cannon served for six years on the faculty at Michigan State University College of Music. He holds degrees from the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and the University of Iowa.



Jennifer Cantrell is currently Director of Bands at John E. Ewing Middle School and Assistant Band Director at Gaffney High School. A graduate of Blacksburg High school, she received her Bachelor's

Degree in Music Education from North Greenville University and her Master of Music Degree in Music Education from Anderson University. Jennifer lives in Cherokee County with her husband Jonathan and daughter Caroline.



Dr. Patrick Carney has served as the Associate Professor of Music Education and Director of Instrumental Music at Limestone College in Gaffney, South Carolina since 2014. His responsibilities include directing the LC Wind Ensemble, teaching

the instrumental conducting sequence, coordinating all aspects of Limestone's comprehensive instrumental program and teaching the music education curriculum for all music education majors. His publications have appeared in Research Perspectives in Music Education, Florida Music Director, The Instrumentalist, and the Missouri Journal of Research in Music Education.

David Cudd is retired from public education where he served as a high school band/choral director and classroom teacher for 28 years. In the fall of 2015 he was named the Music Education Coordinator



at North Greenville University where he remains today. Dr. Cudd holds a Bachelor's degree in music education from Furman University, a Master's degree in music education from the University of Southern Mississippi, and has earned a Doctorate in educational leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Rosetta Dingle, Associate Professor of Music Education, teaches music methods courses at South Carolina State University and serves as the music education coordinator and university supervisor. With research interests in music integra-



tion, music aptitudes, creative-music thinking, and teacher retention, Dr. Dingle has made presentations at national and international conferences to include England, Austria, and Sweden. Dr. Dingle holds a Doctorate of Philosophy degree in Music Education from the University of South Carolina, Columba, SC; a Master of Music Education from Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA; and a Bachelor of Science degree in Choral-Voice Music Education from South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC.

Chris Essig received his M.M. in Guitar Performance from the University of South Carolina and a B.A. in Guitar Performance from Geneva College. Mr. Essig joined the faculty at Ben Lippen High School in the Fall of 2011 as director of the



Guitar and Worship Arts program. Under his leadership, the guitar curriculum has expanded to four levels including honors. Mr. Essig's students regularly achieve superior ratings at the SCISA Music Festival, participate in All State Ensemble, and compete at the Southern Guitar Festival and Competition. Much of Mr. Essig's career efforts recently have been devoted to developing effective teaching strategies, accessible repertoire, and sustainable curriculum for classroom school guitar programs.

Suzanne Fleming-Atwood has a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and a Masters of Music in Vocal Performance from the Catholic University of America. Ms.Fleming-At-



wood studied Opera and Voice at La Civica Scuola di Musica in Milan, Italy as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar. Currently, she is the full- time music teacher at Christ Our King-Stella Maris Catholic School, where she directs 4 choirs (grades 3-8), teaches General Music (grades 1-8), and presents an annual fully-staged musical. She also conducts along with her husband Scott Atwood the Youth Choir, the St. Cecilia Young Women's and the St. Gregory Young Men's Scholas at Christ Our King Church. Ms. Atwood is a sought after voice teacher, choral clinician and soprano.



Ashby Goldstein is currently pursuing a PhD in Music Education at The Ohio State University. He was the Director of Bands at Sebastian River High School in Sebastian, FL where he also served as the SRHS Fine Arts Department Chair and the North

Area Indian River County Music Coordinator. During his 15 years teaching middle and high school bands in Florida, ensembles under his direction have performed at the Western International Band Clinic, FMEA, the University of Georgia's Middle School Band Festival, the Music for All National Concert Band Music Festival, and the NBA/CBDNA Southern Division Conference. He is an active FBA adjudicator and has conducted honor bands in Florida and Georgia.



Edna Grace, received a B.S. in Music Education from South Carolina State College, a M.A. in Music from the Ohio State University, and a M.Ed. in Administration and Supervision

from the Citadel. Edna held posts as Band Director and General Music/Chorus teacher at Brentwood Middle from 1981-1991 and College Park Middle and Stratford High from 1991-2017. Bands under her instruction received the highest ratings at SCBDA Concert Festival and Solo and Ensemble Festival, while individual students were selected for membership in honor bands. The band programs were consistent recipients of the SCBDA Outstanding Performance Award and earned the honor of performance at the 2003 SCMEA conference.

Chris Gratton is a cellist and currently teaches strings at League Academy Middle School and Wade Hampton High School. Chris holds a Master of Music degree in Cello Performance from the University of Tennessee and a Bachelor of Music degree in Cello



Performance from the University of South Carolina. Chris has performed professionally with the South Carolina Philharmonic, Greenville Symphony, Symphony Orchestra Augusta, Long Bay Symphony, Spartanburg Philharmonic, Oak Ridge Symphony, Greater Anderson Musical Arts Consortium, Knoxville Opera, and the Palmetto Opera.



Daniel Gutierrez is a choir director at Nixa High and Nixa Junior High School. Daniel is an active conductor, clinician and presenter throughout the

country. Daniel has received accolades for his work as a teacher, being named Teacher of the Year for Springfield Public Schools and Southwest Missouri (also a finalist for the state TOTY award), Springfield "Hometown Hero" by KOLR, Springfield Rotary Award for Outstanding Community Service, honoree for Springfield Business Journal's 40 Under 40, quarterfinalist for the GRAMMY National Music Educator Award, and the recipient of the Missouri Choral Directors Association Podium Award. Daniel's Choral ensembles have won music festivals and have received numerous invitations to perform across the country.

Corey Hagans is the Band Director at Longleaf Middle



School in Columbia, SC and Assistant Band Director to the Westwood High School Marching Band in Blythewood, SC. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Instrumental Music Education from South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC, and is currently

pursuing a Master of Education degree in Educational Administration from the University of South Carolina. Prior to Longleaf Middle, Mr. Hagans taught general music and band at Fairfield Magnet School for Math and Science in Winnsboro, SC. He also served as the Assistant Band Director to the Fairfield–Central High School "Golden Griffin" Marching Band.



Dr. Christopher Hansen is an Assistant Professor of Music in the South Carolina School of the Arts at Anderson University, where he conducts the Anderson University Choir and teaches graduate and undergraduate

courses in music education. Dr. Hansen is an active choral conductor/clinician and is regularly invited to speak on topics in music education at regional universities and school systems. Dr. Hansen has fifteen years of successful teaching and conducting experience at the secondary and post-secondary level, and was named Orange County District Teacher of the Year in 2011. Dr. Hansen earned his PhD and MM from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and his BM from the UNC at Pembroke.



Dr. Nola Jones is currently a Conn-Selmer Educational Support Manager for the Southeast Region on the U.S. Previously she was Coordinator of Visual and Performing Arts for Metropolitan Nashville Public

Schools in Nashville, Tennessee. Her duties included instructional supervision of four hundred professional arts education specialists, curriculum planning, and implementation of Music Makes Us. Music Makes Us is a public/private partnership among Metro Nashville Public Schools, Nashville Mayor Karl Dean, and music industry and community leaders in Nashville. Its purpose is to ensure Metro Nashville Public Schools is a worldwide leader in music education, bringing the resources of the Nashville music community together to enable participation and foster student success for all of its 81,000 students.



Dr. Kaju Lee will share her teaching and musical insights with elementary, intermediate, and advanced piano students performing solos and ensembles. The student performers were selected at the SCMEA Piano Festival auditions.

Dr. Gregory W. LeFils Jr. is a visiting assistant professor of choral music education at Stetson University. His duties include teaching music education classes, conducting, and supervising student teachers. Dr. LeFils holds a Ph.D. in music education from The Florida State University.





Gillian McCallister Lopez has a Bachelor's degree in Music Performance from the University of North Texas and a Masters of Music from Texas State University. Although her primary focus in undergrad was bassoon, she split her Master's degree

equally between bassoon and oboe. Gillian currently maintains a small private studio and serves as the instructor of oboe as Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. She performs regularly throughout South Texas and is the second bassoonist for the Laredo Philharmonic.

Alison Mann is Associate Professor of Choral Music Education and Program Coordinator for Music Education at Kennesaw State University, where she teaches



coursework in Choral Methods, Advanced Choral Conducting and Literature, Foundations of Music Education, and Vocal Pedagogy for Ensemble Singing. Mann also supervises student teachers, coordinates edTPA, and serves as Conductor of the KSU Women's Choir. Additionally, she is a founding singer and personnel manager for Atlanta based professional chamber choir, Coro Vocati. Dr. Mann received her Ph.D. in Music Education and Choral Conducting from the University of Oregon, and a Masters of Choral Music Education and Bachelors of Choral Music Education from Florida State University.

Phil McIntyre received a Bachelor of Music degree in 1977 from Furman University and Masters of Arts in Education in 1982. Currently he serves as Director of Athletic Bands at North Greenville University. Pre-



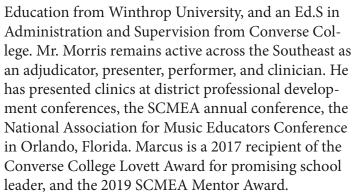
viously, he was Director of Bands at James F. Byrnes High School, where he served for 30 years, until his retirement from public school teaching in 2013. Bands under his direction have consistently earned top honors and accolades. Over his career, Phil has served the students and directors of South Carolina in virtually every leadership capacity including President of the South Carolina Band Directors Association (1995 - 1997), and President of the South Carolina Music Educators Association (2007 - 2009) and was honored by each with inclusion in the SCBDA Hall of Fame in 2000 and SCMEA 2011 respectively.



Patrick Moore is an active percussion performer, educator, arranger, adjudicator and clinician. Patrick is an education endorser of Vic Firth Sticks and Mallets, and Majestic percussion. Moore is a published author having works published with Alfred Publishing

Company and Kendor Music. Moore has presented clinics at music education conferences in the United States and Guatemala. Currently, Patrick is the Director of Bands at South Carolina State University. Mr. Moore received his BM from the University of Arkansas, a Masters degree from Texas Tech, and is pursuing an Ed.D from Abilene Christian University.

Prior to becoming the Assistant Director of Bands at Boiling Springs High School, Mr. Morris was the Performing Arts Coordinator & Assistant Band Director for Laurens District 55 High School. A native of Spartanburg, South Carolina, Morris holds a Bachelor and Masters of Music



Kelly Mraz is in her tenth year as the music specialist at R.D. Head Elementary in Lilburn, Georgia. She also directs the R.D. Head Chorus and Drum Club. She has been teaching in Gwinnett County for fifteen years and was recognized as a county semi-finalist for Teacher of the



Year in 2015. Kelly received her Bachelors in Music Education and Percussion Performance from Ithaca College and her Masters in Percussion Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She is Orff-Schulwerk certified and her performing and teaching experience as a percussionist includes orchestra, steel band, Latin jazz, West African drumming, and marching band. She has presented for the Georgia Music Educators Association, Atlanta Area Orff Chapter Share, and the NAfME Academy.

With a Bachelor's degree in Opera Performance from the University of Hartford and a Master's degree in Music Education from Jacksonville State University in Alabama, Laurie



Orth is an experienced music educator, choir director and performer. She was a member of the Pittsburgh Opera Chorus, a young artist at Virginia Opera and Chautauqua Opera. Laurie was a regional finalist in the Metropolitan Opera's Young Artist Competition. Laurie completed her seventh year teaching general music and chorus to the home school community in the Augusta, Georgia. She is a faculty member of St. John UMC's Choir Camp and sings with the Augusta Choral Society, the Mosaic Choir, the Augusta Symphony Chorus and the Aiken Symphony Chorus.

Bruce Pearson has taught elementary, middle, and high school music students for over 40 years. In 1998, Dr. Pearson was awarded the prestigious Midwest Clinic



Medal of Honor in recognition of his outstanding contributions to music education. Dr. Pearson continues to serve as a guest lecturer, conductor, composer and author.

Sharese Pearson-Bush is an orchestra director in Charleston County School District and is an adjunct professor of low strings at Charleston Southern University. Mrs. Pearson-Bush earned a BM in Music Education with emphasis on Cello Performance and Music Therapy



from East Carolina University. In 2010, she earned a Master of Arts in Counseling from Webster University; and a Master of Education in Integrated Teaching through the Arts Curriculum from Lesley University in 2015. Currently, Mrs. Pearson-Bush is pursuing an Educational Doctorate with emphasis on Educational Leadership from the University of New England. Mrs. Pearson-Bush is an active member of the ASTA,SC-MEA, and South Carolina Educators Association. She is also a member of the Beta Psi Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternity for women.



Dr. Andrew Pettus received two Bachelor of Science degrees from the University of Alabama in music education and pure mathematics, a Master of Music degree from the University of Miami in music education with emphasis in

conducting under Professor Gary Green, and a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Minnesota in conducting under Professor Craig Kirchhoff. Dr. Pettus currently resides in Anderson, SC where he holds the position of Director of Instrumental Music at the South Carolina School of the Arts at Anderson University. He also serves as the conductor of the Anderson Symphony Orchestra.

Aimee Curtis Pfitzner has been the Lower School Music Director at Cannon School in Concord for 22 years. She holds a MM from UNC-Greensboro and completed Level I Orff-Schul werk Training at Bridgewater State



University in Massachusetts, Levels II and III at UNLV, and Master's Level at the University of Memphis. Aimee is a frequent presenter at AOSA chapter workshops around the US, Canada, and National AOSA conferences. Her books, "Hands to Hands, Clapping Songs and Games from Around the World", "Hands to Hands, Too", "Painted Music", and "Sing a Song, Play a Game, Singing Games from Around the World" are available from Beatin' Path Publications.



Erin Plisco is the Associate Director of Choral Studies at Missouri State University, where she conducts the Women's Chorus and Choral Union and teaches advanced choral conducting and graduate choral literature. She

holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in choral conducting from the University of Arizona, a MM in Choral Studies from Trinity College, University of Cambridge (United Kingdom), and a BM degree in Choral Music Education and Vocal Performance with a minor in Leadership Studies from Christopher Newport University. Ms. Plisco has conducted choirs of all ages, most notably serving as the Director of Choral Studies at Pinecrest High School in NC. Under her direction, the choirs received numerous awards at national festivals and competitions, performed by invitation at the NCMEA State Conference, and her chamber choir was the winner of The American Prize for high school choral ensemble performance in 2013.

David Pope serves as Associate Professor of Music Education and Chair of the Professional Studies Department at Baldwin Wallace University's Conservatory of Music. He is also a senior conductor and co-director of Florida State University's Summer String Orchestra



Camp. As an active adjudicator and clinician, he has conducted numerous all-state orchestras, regional honor orchestras, and served as a guest clinician for orchestra programs and university-level summer camps across the United States. Prior to Baldwin Wallace, Dr. Pope taught middle and high school orchestra in Tennessee, Florida, and Ohio. He also conducted the Camerata Orchestra at Case Western Reserve University, taught string pedagogy courses at the VanderCook College of Music, and served as a conductor for the Sarasota (FL) and Northern Ohio Youth Orchestra programs. Dr. Pope received his bachelor's degree and Ph.D. in Music Education from Florida State University and master's degree from the University of South Carolina.



Jessica Pym serves as the Director of Orchestra at Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School. Mrs. Pym received her undergraduate degree from North Greenville University and her Masters of Music Education from Converse

College. She is currently pursuing her Education Specialist degree from the University of the Cumberlands.



Bill Rose received his BMEd from Florida State University with graduate degrees in Music Education and Supervision and Curriculum from Florida International University. He and his LungTrainer's team

have conducted successful studies on building better breathing techniques. Bill was a teacher and administrator in the Miami-Dade School system for 40 years. As a music teacher, he directed bands, choruses and orchestra ensembles, all of which received superior ratings. His programs consistently enrolled over 300 students annually. During his musical career, Bill performed as a professional trumpet player as well as a vocal soloist, and had the opportunity to serve as the music director at several churches in the South Florida area. He also served as administrator in the district, working to raise the level of music education during his tenure.



David Row loves teaching music to kids! David teaches in the Cherokee County School District outside of Atlanta, GA. He holds a Master's Degree in Music Education from the University of Missouri – Kansas City Conservatory, completed three levels

and a master course in Orff Schulwerk training, and has extensive experience with critical thinking in the arts. David is an active clinician and has presented workshops at state and local conventions across the United States and Canada. On his blog, MakeMomentsMatter.org, David shares ideas about classroom content, management, lesson plans, critical thinking, and more.

Brittany Salley serves as the Band Director at Alcorn Middle School in Columbia, SC. Prior to that, Ms. Salley taught in the Charleston County School District for three years. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Instrumental Music Education from



South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC, a MM from Anderson University, and a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona.



Mr. Santiago is a native of Columbia, South Carolina where he graduated from Irmo High School in 1981. He received his Bachelor of Music Education in 1985 from the University of South Carolina and received a Master of Music

Education in 1986 from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Mr. Santiago is in his third year serving as Director of Athletic Bands and Assistant Band Director at Newberry College in Newberry, SC. He serves as the director of the Scarlet Spirit Marching Band and assist with recruiting perspective students to Newbery College and the Music Department. He looks forward to this opportunity to continue to shape students through his passion of music and education. Mr. Santiago received the 2014 South Carolina Bandmaster of the Year Award given by the Phi Beta Mu national band fraternity and was inducted to the Phi Beta Mu Hall of Fame in 2018.

Dr. Denisse Santos currently serves as Visual and Performing Arts Coordinator for Charleston County School District (SC). Prior to this appointment, Dr. Santos was the Director of Bands and Fine Arts Department Chair at CE Williams Middle School in the same school district. Dr. Santos has held po-



sitions as Fine Arts Coordinator for Benton Harbor Area Schools (MI), Director of Bands and Orchestras at Mann Middle School in Lakewood, WA, 5-12 Band Director at Auburn Adventist Academy in Auburn, WA, and K-12 Music Teacher at Hinsdale Adventist Academy in Hinsdale, IL. A native of Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, Dr. Santos holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Andrews University, a Master of Music Education from VanderCook College of Music, and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Music Education from Boston University. Dr. Santos remains active in her field as mentor, presenter, and clinician, and recently founded Team T.E.A.C.H., an online teacher support network.

Ted Scalzo has taught Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Marching Band, Advanced Music Theory & Composition, and Multimedia for 36 years at Bay Shore High School, NY. In addition he has taught classes at SUNY Fredonia, SUNY Potsdam, C.W. Post and Hofstra



University. Ted is a current member of Suffolk County Music Educators Association, NYSSMA, TMEA, TBA, TI:ME and NAFME. Ted also served on the New York State School Music Association Technology committee and has been an Apple Distinguished Educator since 2005. Since retiring from teaching Ted is working with MakeMusic as a trainer, clinician and higher ed consultant.



Mary Lou Schweickert is in her 39th year as the band teacher at Hand Middle School in Columbia. She is Nationally Board certified in Instrumental Music, and plays trombone in the South Carolina Philharmonic. The Tri-M chapter at her school has been active for 12 years.

Conference Clinicians

Dr. Christopher Selby is the author of Habits of a Successful Orchestra Director, and co-author of the Habits of a Successful String Musician series, a collection of string method books for middle and upper level orchestras published by GIA. He is an active cli-



nician and conductor, and he has presented sessions at The Midwest Clinic, the 2016 NAfME National Conference, five American String Teacher Association (ASTA) National Conferences, and numerous state conferences across America. He currently directs the high school orchestras at the School of the Arts in Charleston, SC. Under his direction, the School of the Arts HS Orchestras performed at the 2019 Midwest Clinic, and they won the 2016 ASTA National Orchestra Festival's top award of Grand Champion in the competitive public school division.

Kindall N. Smith received her MM in Saxophone Performance from The Hartt School in West Hartford, Connecticut and her BM in Music Education and a



Performance Certificate in Saxophone at the University of South Carolina. She has served as a Band Director at DuBose Middle School and an Assistant Director at Summerville High School. Mrs. Smith is a recipient of the National Band Association's Citation of Excellence for her outstanding contribution to bands. Mrs. Smith has conducted observations at several Japanese institutions including Inagakuen-Sogo High School, Senzoku-Gakuen College of Music, and the Tokyo-Kosei Wind Orchestra.

Todd B. Smith is the Director of Bands at Stratford High School in Goose Creek, SC. Mr. Smith holds a Master of Music Education degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Bachelors in Music Education from the University of South Carolina.



Under his direction, the Bands of Stratford music programs have all earned consistent superior ratings as well as being officially recognized as a "Program of Note" by the SCBDA. Most recently the Stratford Wind Orchestra has performed for the University of South Carolina Band Clinic and the SCMEA In-Service Conference. Mr. Smith is also an active clinician.



Lillian Tague is a Senior at Newberry College and serves as President of the Collegiate Division. She has attended NAfME's national Advocacy Day in Washington, DC three times and is actively involved in her school's NAfME chapter. While attending school

Ms. Tague also runs the after school and summer fine arts programs at Reuben Elementary and the Prosperity Civic Center with Boys and Girls Club of the Midlands.

Pianist **Stephen Taylor** is celebrating more than thirty years as a professional performer and teacher. Having served for ten years on the piano and pedagogy faculty at the University of South Carolina School of Music, he is currently in his thirteenth year on the faculty of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and



Humanities in Greenville, SC, where he chairs the music department and teaches piano-related lessons and coursework. Dr. Taylor holds performance and pedagogy degrees from The Juilliard School, the University of Louisville and the University of South Carolina.



Nathan Tucker is the Director of Orchestras at Dreher High School in Columbia, South Carolina. He holds degrees in wind conducting and music education from The University of Alabama and is currently

pursuing the Doctor of Musical Arts in Instrumental Conducting at The University of South Carolina. He has previously held teaching positions with the Albertville City Schools (AL) and Horry County Schools (SC). Mr. Tucker is an active conductor having worked with the Tuscaloosa Youth Orchestra (AL) and currently the South Carolina Philharmonic Youth Orchestras as the conductor for the Symphonic Orchestra. He has served as a conductor for Chamber Music Charleston and pursued further conducting studies in California at both the Cabrillo Festival of New Music and the Los Angeles Conductors Institute. He has served also as Principal Horn for several seasons with the Gadsden Symphony Orchestra (AL) and performed with many other orchestras throughout The Southeast.

Conference Clinicians

Jessica Wofford, a National Board Certified Teacher, is currently in her tenth year in Spartanburg District 1, teaching band at Holly Springs - Motlow Elem. and Mabry



Middle. She was named the 19-20 "Teacher of the Year" for Mabry Middle School. Mrs. Wofford is on the Executive Board for the SCBDA, serving as the All-State Chairperson. Previously, Mrs. Wofford was the band director at Berry Shoals Intermediate School, where she was named "Teacher of the Year" for the 2008-2009 school year. Mrs. Wofford earned her bachelor's degree in Music Education from Furman University as well as master's degrees in Clarinet Performance and Educational Technology, both

from the University of South Carolina.



Todd Wedge is an Assistant Professor of Voice at Kennesaw State University. Prior to this appointment, Mr. Wedge was Head of the Vocal Music department at the Ruth Asawa San Francisco School

of the Arts - a public arts magnet that specializes in pre-conservatory curriculum for classical voice and musical theater. Mr. Wedge sang three seasons with GRAMMY award-winning men's ensemble Chanticleer where he sang in over 200 cities and 13 countries in many of the world's most prestigious concert halls. Mr. Wedge is frequently seen in Atlanta and throughout the U.S. as a recitalist, guest conductor, lecturer, and clinician.



Eric Wilkinson is the director of the Wando High School Choir in Charleston, South Carolina and is co-author of "Habits of a Successful Choir Director" published by GIA Publications as well as "Habits of a Successful Choral Musician."

Wilkinson's choirs performed at the ACDA Southern Division Convention in 2014 and they have also performed solo concerts in Carnegie Hall, St. Peter's Basilica, the Washington National Cathedral and Pearl Harbor. Under his direction the Wando Choirs have premiered new choral works by Ēriks Ešenvalds, Michael John Trotta, and David Brunner. Mr. Wilkinson is a National Board Certified Teacher and was awarded the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award in 2007.



Michael Wilkinson joined the faculty at USC in Fall 2017 as Assistant Professor of Trombone and performs regularly with the South Carolina Philharmonic & also at Pearlz Upstairs. Prior to USC, he was Assistant Professor

of Trombone and Jazz Studies at the University of Central Florida, performing extensively in Orlando with the Brass Band of Central Florida. Michael was also Visiting Instructor of Trombone at the Crane School of Music in Potsdam, NY, and a Faculty Associate in Jazz Studies at Arizona State University, where he completed MM and DMA degrees in Trombone Performance. He has a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the University of Arizona, and is an alumnus of the Disney/ Grammy All-American College Jazz Band. Michael is an S.E. Shires Trombone Artist and plays Shires tenor and bass trombones. He also performs on alto trombone, F contrabass trombone, cimbasso, and euphonium.

Kim Wilson is the Arts in Basic Curriculum (ABC) Project Director. A passionate art educator herself, she works with organizations and agencies across the state to meet ABC Project's mission – to provide leadership to achieve quality,



comprehensive arts education for all students in South Carolina.

Susan Wines' enthusiasm for music and teaching began as a double bass player in middle school and continued to develop through teacher encouragement as well as participation in several honor orchestras opportunities. Susan Wines holds a Bachelors of Music in Instrumental Music Education from Converse College and a Master of Ed-



ucation in Teacher Leadership from American College of Education. In addition to being the Director of Orchestras at Wade Hampton High School, she has enjoyed being an adjudicator for numerous performance assessments, a guest speaker and mentor for pre-service teachers, and a guest clinician in several states.



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SCMEA 2019 Performing Groups - Choir



Gilbert High School
Sola Voce
Gilbert, SC
Friday, February 7, 2020
1:15pm, Ballroom C

Gilbert High School is located in a rural community of the award winning Lexington County School District One. The Gilbert High School Chorus is comprised of three honors level ensembles, Bel Canto, Sola Voce, and Chamber Choir. This highly successful choral program consistently earns superior ratings in both performance and sight reading at Choral Performance Assessment and other festivals. Students consistently audition and participate in the South Carolina All-State Chorus, South Carolina American Choral Directors Honor Choirs, and ACDA Regional Honor Choirs. Most recently, students from the GHS Chorus performed Mass In Blue by Will Todd at Lincoln Center.

Andrew Jackson High School Women's Ensemble Kershaw, SC Friday, February 7, 2020 3:45pm, Ballroom C



The Andrew Jackson High School Women's Ensemble, under the direction of Lizzi Elliott, is the top performing ensemble in the choral department. The group was established in 2012. Since their formation, the group has consistently earned superior ratings at numerous festivals in both performance and sight reading. The Women's Ensemble had the pleasure of performing at the 2017 SC ACDA Fall Conference. This group also performs within the Lancaster community for festivals, schools, and organizations. The members of the Women's Ensemble strive to improve as musicians and love the challenge of a new musical endeavor.

SCMEA 2019 Performing Groups - Choir



League Academy
Chamber Singers
Greenville, SC
Saturday, February 8, 2020
10:30am, Ballroom A

For the past 10 years the League Academy Chamber Singers have set a high standard for performance and music literacy in Greenville County. They have performed in multiple community events, such as the Roper Mountain Holiday Lights, Greenville Swamp Rabbits Hockey Game, Chick-fil-a Christmas Caroling, and a Greenville County District School Board Meeting. This choral ensemble has also performed for many school-wide events including sports games, Veterans Day, District and State led events hosted on site, and multiple Open Houses through the years. These singers have earned a Superior Rating at the South Carolina Middle School Choral Performance Assessment for 5 years running, earning their 1st Superior with Distinction this year! They have received Superior and Excellent Ratings for sight-reading as well. They have also performed in multiple national Music Festivals, including Music in the Parks, Music Showcase Festivals, Festivals of Music, OrlandoFest, and Festival Disney earning Superior ratings every year and 1st and 2nd rankings in the Middle School Mixed Choir Division. The school is proud to see multiple students from the Chorus move on to our district's Fine Arts Center for Voice, Vocal Jazz, Art, Creative Writing, Orchestra and Theater. The ensemble is comprised of a variety of students. Many are also members of other Advanced level ensembles such as Orchestra, Art, Theater, and Band. These singers are an exceptional group of leaders who are self-managing, dedicated and proud of their ensemble and school. They treat each other with respect, kindness, and compassion. They are loyal, dependable and selfless to the other members. They are high achievers and set the bar for engagement, rigorous learning and expectations. They receive high praise from their administration, teachers and peers. They are the League Academy Chamber Singers from Greenville, SC.

The Winthrop University Chorale, the principal touring choir among the ensembles in the Department of Music, consists of outstanding undergraduate and graduate students, more than half of whom are music majors and minors. One of the oldest student organizations in Winthrop's history, the group has included male singers

since 1977, after an 88-year history as a women's chorus. The Chorale has given invitational performances at state and Southern Division conferences of the American Choral Directors Association and the South Carolina Music Educators Association. This ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Jeremy Mims.

Winthrop University Chorale Rock Hill, SC Saturday, February 9, 2019 2:30pm, Ballroom C



SCMEA 2020 Performing Groups - Elementary

Lynnel Joy Jenkins is Artistic Director of the Princeton Girlchoir and choral teacher at the Timberlane Middle School of the Hopewell Valley Regional School District in Pennington, New Jersey. Dr. Jenkins' varied conducting and teaching experience ranges from the elementary to collegiate level. She served as Assistant Professor of Music Education at Westminster Choir College of Rider University and Conductor of the Resident Training Choir at the American Boychoir in Princeton, New Jersey.



Dr. Jenkins is a choral music educator of international stature, having lectured and conducted in China, Hong Kong, Iceland, and South Africa. Jenkins has conducted honor charges for three divisional and several state conferences for the American Charal Director

choruses for three divisional and several state conferences for the American Choral Directors Association, one national conference for the Organization for American Kodály Teachers, numerous all-state choruses and choral festivals, and presented interest sessions for these professional music associations.

She currently serves on the conducting staff for the Vocal Arts Camp of the James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Prior to this position, Jenkins was on the conducting staff of the Temple University Children's Choir in Temple University's Music Preparatory Division where she served for three seasons. In her last year with Temple, she was the Associate Music Director of that ensemble. A former music specialist at the Haverford School in Haverford, Pennsylvania, she developed and implemented a general music program for elementary school children based on the pedagogy of Kodály. She served on the teaching staff for Kodály Certification Programs at Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas and Westminster Choir College. Jenkins shares her approach to choral pedagogy in a chapter she wrote for the The School Choral Program: Philosophy, Planning,

South Carolina Elementary Honor Choir Saturday, February 8, 2020 9:00am Rehearsal

10:00am Performance First Baptist Church - Columbia Organizing, and Teaching published by GIA.

Recognizing her contributions to the field of music education, Westminster Choir College inducted Jenkins into the Music Education Alumni Hall of Fame and presented her with the Alumni Merit Award. Jenkins earned degrees from Westminster Choir College of Rider University (B.M.), Temple University (M.M.) and University of Arizona (D.M.A.), and at the first two institutions was awarded the Elaine Brown Conducting Award.

SCMEA 2020 - Mini Concerts

South Carolina State University Ensemble Friday, February 7, 2020 9:30am, Exhibit Hall 282nd Army Band Dozier Winds Friday, February 7, 2020 1:15pm, Exhibit Hall

Furman University Clarinet Ensemble Saturday, February 8, 2020 9:45am, Exhibit Hall Winthrop University
TubaBand
Saturday, February 8, 2020
12:15pm, Exhibit Hall

The White Knoll High School Percussion Ensemble is composed of approximately 25 students ranging from eighth through twelfth grade. The ensemble has performed at various festivals and events around the Midlands areas always earning an excellent or superior rating. On the marching band field, they have won several high percussion awards in their class at various marching festivals and students regularly earn region band chairs as individual performers. This will be their first time performing at the South Carolina Band Director's Association Convention.





Benjamin Berry is currently in his tenth year as a music educator and his sixth at White Knoll High School. Before arriving at White Knoll, Ben taught at several high schools and junior high schools in Texas. He was formerly an Associate Band Director and Director of Percussion Studies at Hidalgo

White Knoll High School
Percussion Ensemble
Lexington, SC
Friday, February 7, 2020
8:00am, USC Alumni Center

High School, Robert Vela High School, and Robert E. Lee High School. His percussion ensembles have consistently earned excellent and superior ratings on stage and he has helped his students consistently achieve superior ratings in Solo and Ensemble Contests as well as all region and all state appointments. He received his Bachelor in Music Education Degree from Ithaca College (Cum Laude) where he studied percussion with Gordon Stout and Conrad Alexander. Other instructors have included Robert Zolnowski, Iain Moyer, Jason Inhat, and Neil Larrivee. After marching tenors for one year with DCA's Empire Statesmen from Rochester, NY in 2007, he became a member of The Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps in 2008. He was a member of the front ensemble for the 2008 and 2009 seasons. Other performing ensembles include various steel bands, percussion ensembles, and the Palmetto Concert Band.





Irmo High School Symphonic Band is composed of students with the ability to perform advanced band literature. This ensemble is the primary performing organization in the instrumental music department during the winter and spring. The Symphonic Band has performed at many music conferences and conventions. Invitational performances include the Midwest Clinic and National Adjudicators Invitational (NAI). In 2000 they were the only band in the United States to be awarded the Sudler Flag of Honor.



Irmo High School SymphonicBand

Columbia, SC

Friday, February 7, 2020 3:30pm, USC Alumni Center Mr. Simpson is currently in his ninth year as Director of Bands at Irmo High School where he served as Teacher of the Year for the 2017-2018 school year. He received his Bachelor's Degree, Magna Cum Laude, in Music Education with a minor in Secondary Education from Charleston Southern University and Master's Degree in Conducting

from the American Band College of Sam Houston State University. Since his arrival at Irmo, the band program has seen growth in both quality and quantity. The Irmo Marching Band has been a medalist at the SC Marching Band Championships, the Irmo Symphonic Band and Symphonic Winds have received Superior with Distinction ratings at the South Carolina Concert Band Performance Assessment, and the Irmo Jazz Band entertains audiences throughout the state. Prior to his arrival at Irmo, Mr. Simpson served as the Director of Bands at Barnwell High School and Hartsville High School where he was teacher of the year in 2010. At Barnwell High School, Mr. Simpson created the first Jazz Band in known school history. Under his direction the Hartsville High School Red Regime Marching Band won the SCBDA 3A Lower State Marching Band Championship in 2009 and represented the state of South Carolina in the 2011 National Memorial Day Parade in Washington, DC. Mr. Simpson was a member of the World-Finalist GLASSMEN Drum and Bugle

Corps and was twice awarded the GLASSMEN's Distinguished Service Award, one of the corps' highest honors. In 2011, Mr. Simpson was honored by the South Carolina Music Educators Association as the SCMEA Oustanding Young Music Educator of the Year. In 2016 Mr. Simpson was recognized by School Band and Orchestra Magazine as one of their "50 Directors Who Make a Difference." Mr. Simpson is the state chair of the American School Band Directors Association and is a member of Phi Beta Mu, the International Bandmasters Fraternity. Her performs with the Carolina Wind Symphony, Palmetto Concert Band, and Saint Andrews Presbyterian Church Orchestra.





The mission of the Carolina Wind Symphony is to present entertaining and exciting live performances, and to rehearse wind and percussion literature at the highest artistic, expressive, and technical levels. The Carolina Wind Symphony is a community of gifted musicians from numerous professions and vocations who perpetuate the experience of life-long music-making. Through rehearsal and insightful performance of standard wind band repertoire, as well as innovative new compositions, we seek to develop new audiences of all ages for wind and percussion music.



Carolina Wind Symphony
Columbia, SC
Saturday, February 8, 2020
8:30am, USC Alumni Center

Charles "Tim" Franklin is the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Carolina Wind Symphony. He has served as the Director of Bands at Columbia High School (SC), Irmo High School (SC), South Lakes High School (VA), and James Madison High School (VA). He also served as Director of Bands and Orchestras at the Frederick County (MD) Vi-

sual and Performing Arts Academy, and as Coordinator of Bands and Orchestras for Richland County (SC) School District One. Bands under his direction have performed at the National Concert Band Fes-

tival, the MENC National Convention, the Southern Conductors Symposium at the University of Southern Mississippi, and the University of SC Concert Band Clinic. Marching bands under his direction have won numerous grand championships including two top-ten finalist placements by the Irmo High School Band at the Bands of America Grand Nationals. Mr. Franklin is a nine-time recipient of the National Band Association's "Citation of Excellence." He has served as an adjudicator of both concert and marching events, and as a clinician and guest conductor throughout the mid-Atlantic and southern states. Tim Franklin has presented workshops at the University of Maryland, West Chester State University, and East Texas State University. His professional affiliations include the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, SCMEA, SCBDA, Virginia Band and Orchestra Directors Association, Virginia Music Educators Association, the Maryland Music Educators Association, and life member of the International Percy Grainger Society.



Pendleton High School
Pendleton, SC
Saturday, February 8, 2020
10:30am, USC Alumni Center





Chris Moss is the Director of Bands at Pendleton High School in Pendleton, South Carolina, and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from the Florida State University and a Masters Degree in Music Education from Anderson University. Chris has performed in many organizations including the Florida State University Marching Chiefs, the Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps, Paradigm Winter Guard, and Northeast Independent Winter Guard. Previously, Chris served nine years as the Assistant Band Director and Color Guard Caption Supervisor at Byrnes High School in Duncan, South Carolina. Additionally, Chris has

served on the brass staff with Capital Regiment Drum & Bugle Corps and the Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps. Chris studied Trombone with John Sizemore, Matt Anderson, and Dr. John Drew and is currently a member of the Anderson University Wind Symphony, the Poinsett Wind Symphony, and the Palmetto Posaunen Trombone Choir Chris through his design company, Innovative Visual Concepts, currently serves as drill designer and conceptual consultant for many bands and winter ensembles across the Southeast with numerous honors including Bands of America Regional Finalists, South Carolina Marching Band State Champions, Winter Guard Scholastic Circuit Champions, WGI Regional Finalists and Champions, and WGI World Championship Finalists. Chris is currently a member of the South Carolina Band Director's Association and the National Association for Music Education while being a National Board Certified Educator. He also currently serves as an Adjudicator for Drum Corps International and Bands of America and has attended the WGI Judge's Academy.



Summerville High School
Summerville, SC
Saturday, February 8, 2020
12:00pm, USC Alumni Center

Leslie Gilreath is the Director of Bands at Summerville High School in Summerville, SC where he conducts the Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Marching Band, and Jazz Bands. Summerville Concert Ensembles receive consistent superior ratings and have been featured at SCMEA and MENC Southern Division Conferences. He is a native of Anderson, South Carolina and a graduate of Furman University where he majored in Music Theory and studied conducting and orchestration with Jay Bocook. He studied composition with Michael Hennagin and

Carolyn Bremer at the University of Oklahoma. His compositions have been played at the prestigious Midwest Clinic and are available from C. Alan Publications and www.lesliegil-reath.com. He has been the recipient of Citations of Excellence and Citations of Merit for Marching Excellence from the National Band Association and is in demand as a composer and arranger. Mr. Gilreath is a National Board Certified Teacher, the 2011 Summerville High School Teacher of the Year and a Dorchester District Honor Teacher of the Year. He currently serves as the SCBDA Marching Committee Chair.



Moultrie Middle School Honor Band

Mount Pleasant, SC Friday, February 7, 2020 1:00pm, USC Alumni Center

Mason Mumford is the Director of Bands at Moultrie Middle School in Mount Pleasant, SC. This is his 11th year teaching, 4th year at Moultrie. Previously, he taught at Easley High School, Pickens Middle School, and Gettys Middle School. Bands under Mr. Mumford have consistently earned superior ratings at the State Concert Performance Assessment, as well as a unanimous superior rating at the 2019 National Adjudicators Invitational in Atlanta. The Honor Band also earned the Outstanding Woodwinds Performance Award for the middle school division. Mr. Mumford earned his Bachelor of Music in Education from Furman University in 2008. While at Furman, he studied trumpet with Dr. Gary Malvern, music education with Dr. Les Hicken, and was an active member in all of the performing ensembles, including the Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Band, and Paladin Regiment. Mason Mumford's professional affiliations include the South Carolina Band Directors Association, where he serves as a member of the Jazz Committee, helping run both All-State Jazz audtions and Jazz Concert Performance Assessment. He is also the Site Chairman for the West Ashely site for Con cert Performance Assessment. He is a member of the National Association for Music Educators and is an alumnus of Phi Mu Alpha. Mr. Mumford performs as a member of the Poinsett Winds and the Charleston Wind Symphony.

Pelion High School Jazz Band Pelion, SC Friday, February 7, 2020 5:00pm, Ballroom C

Charleston Southern University Wind Ensemble

Charleston, SC Friday, February 7, 2020 9:30am, USC Alumni Center SC Intercollegiate Honor Band South Carolina

Clinician: Jack Stamp Saturday, February 8, 2020 2:30pm, USC Alumni Center

SCMEA 2020 Performing Groups - Orchestra

Riverside Middle School Symphony Orchestra Greer, SC Friday, February 7, 2020 4:00pm, Ballroom A



Angela M. Rex is a Greenville, SC native and currently serves as the Orchestra Director at Riverside Middle School, in Greer, SC. Ms. Rex has taught

orchestra in Greenville County since 2007 at Hill-crest High School, Bryson Middle School and now Riverside Middle School. Under her leadership, her orchestras have earned consistent Superior ratings at SCMEA Concert Performance Assessment and other area music festivals. Before returning to Greenville to teach, Ms. Rex taught at Western Kentucky University and served as elementary strings coordinator in Spartanburg School District 7 from 2000-2005.

Ms. Rex earned her bachelors in Violin Performance from Appalachian State University, where she served as concertmaster of the ASU symphony for all 4 years. She earned her Master's Degree in Violin Performance from Converse College.

Over the last 18 years, Ms. Rex has served as a guest conductor for several Region and All-County orchestra events throughout South Carolina, North Carolina and Kentucky. In addition, she has given several presentations at the SC Music Educators Conference. Ms. Rex was selected as the Teacher of the Year for Bryson Middle in 2011, earning top 3 finish as Teacher of the Year for all of Greenville County.



The Riverside Middle Symphony Orchestra is in its 7th year. Comprised of mostly 7th & 8th grade students from the band and orchestra programs, the RMS Symphony performs at concerts and competitions annually. The band and orchestra programs at RMS average an enrollment of 180 in each of the programs. The RMS Symphony is under the direction of Angela Rex and Kevin Styles.



Kevin Styles is a native of Travelers Rest, SC and is currently the Band Director at Riverside Middle School in Greer, SC. Mr. Styles has taught in Greenville County for 36 years at J.L. Mann High School, Beck Middle School, Lakeview Middle School, North-

wood Middle School, as well as Riverside Middle. He previously taught in Cherokee County at several schools in Gaffney, SC. His bands have earned numerous Superior ratings at SCBDA Concert Performance Assessment as well as other regional festivals. The Riverside Middle School Band has been the recipient of the Outstanding Performance Award ten times.

Mr. Styles earned his Bachelor of Music degree from Furman University and the Master of Music degree from Converse College. He has served as Conductor of the Aspire Music Camp in Greenville for the past six summers. Mr. Styles was selected as Teacher of the Year for Lakeview Middle in 1998. He was also selected as Teacher of the Year and received the WYFF Golden Apple Award at Riverside Middle in 2014.



SCMEA 2020 Performing Groups - Orchestra



South Carolina Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Columbia, SC Saturday, February 8, 2020 1:15pm, Ballroom A

Founded in 1964, the S.C. Philharmonic Youth Orchestras (SCPYO) offer exceptional orchestral playing experience for young people throughout the Midlands. Each year more than 200 students participate in four orchestras, comprised of the very best student musicians. Membership in the SCPYO program is open to students throughout the state, ages 8 through high school, on an auditioned basis.

Neil Casey is the assistant director of orchestras at the University of South Carolina, as well as the Music Director of the South Carolina Philharmonic Youth Orchestras. At USC, he teaches conducting, violin, chamber music, conducts Opera at USC and the USC Campus Orchestra, an ensemble that he created. Previously, Mr. Casey was the assistant conductor of the Augusta (Ga.) Symphony, Conductor of the Armstrong Atlantic Youth Orchestra (Savannah, Ga.), and a faculty member at the Conductors Institute in Columbia and the Opera Master Classes in Charleston, South Carolina as part of Piccolo Spoleto.



An active guest conductor, Maestro Casey has appeared with the former Savannah Symphony, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Oregon Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, Knoxyille Symphony, Spokane Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Savannah Sinfonietta

Knoxville Symphony, Spokane Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Savannah Sinfonietta, South Carolina Philharmonic, Greater Anderson Music and Arts Consortium Chamber Orchestra, Hilton Head Symphony Orchestra, Newberry Festival Orchestra, Karelian Philharmonic Orchestra (Petrazovodsk, Russia), Greater Spartanburg Philharmonic, Aiken Symphony, Charleston Symphony, and several national and international tours with the Hollywood Concert Orchestra. For the past few years, Neil has been the conductor for the Columbia Festival Orchestra's Nutcracker Ballets as well.

Passionate for opera, Neil has appeared with the Augusta Opera and conducted Claflin University's Celebration of Black Pioneers in the field of opera featuring renowned soprano, Leona Mitchell. In his post as conductor of Opera at USC, Maestro Casey has led performances of over 20 different productions. In January of 2002, he was appointed to the position of Assistant Conductor of the American Music Theatre for a television production of Robert Ward's Roman Fever. Mr. Casey is also the conductor on several cd's featuring operas by Robert Bradshaw with the Palmetto Camerata on the Beauport Press Label. During the 2011-2012 season, Maestro Casey made his debut with the Western Plain's Opera for productions of Leoncavallo's I Pagliacci and Puccini's Gianni Schicchi.

Committed to education, this year marks Neil's fifth season as Music Director/Conductor of the South Carolina Philharmonic Youth Orchestras. Neil earned both his B.M. in music education and violin performance, and his M.M. in orchestral conducting from the University of South Carolina, where he was the recipient of the 1997 Van Doren Award (awarded to the Most Outstanding Graduating Senior/Music Ed Track).

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