



# *South Carolina* **MUSICIAN**

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No. 2



February 8th - 10th, 2024  
Columbia, SC

**2024**  
Conference  
Edition



With Special Guest  
**WAYNE BERGERON**

# 9th Annual JAZZ SOCIAL

presented by



**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2024**

**8:00-11:00 PM**

**COLUMBIA METROPOLITAN  
CONVENTION CENTER  
BALLROOM A**

*featuring*  
**THE SCMEA DIRECTORS BIG BAND**  
*Dr. Robert Gardiner, director*

**THE FURMAN UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE**  
*Dr. Matt Olson, director*

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## Call for Articles

The SC Musician is looking for original articles regarding music education from teachers, researchers, or administrators for the 2022-2023 school year. Please submit your articles to Jake Henjes at [jake.henjes@scmea.net](mailto:jake.henjes@scmea.net)

## Call for Advertisements

The SC Musician is looking for advertisers for the 2022-2023 school year. For rates and sales, contact Jake Henjes at [jake.henjes@scmea.net](mailto:jake.henjes@scmea.net)

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# Lander University

## Department of Music

### Music Scholarship Auditions

September 30, 2023  
October 28, 2023  
February 24, 2024  
March 23, 2024

#### 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. Robert Gardiner, Audition Coordinator  
864-388-8236 | [rgardiner@lander.edu](mailto:rgardiner@lander.edu)

Additional Info: Dr. Reed Gallo, Dept. Chair | 864-388-8345 | [rgallo@lander.edu](mailto:rgallo@lander.edu)



Greenwood, S.C. | [www.lander.edu/music](http://www.lander.edu/music)





Colleen Marcou  
SCMEA President

# President's Message

Dear SCMEA Colleagues:

I am thrilled to welcome you all to this year's South Carolina Music Educators Professional Development Conference on February 8-10, 2024 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. As we gather together under a banner of music education and excellence, I am filled with excitement for the transformative experiences and valuable insights that await us over the conference weekend.

Our Professional Development Conference is more than just a gathering of professionals. It is a celebration of our shared commitment to nurturing the next generation of musicians and music enthusiasts. It is a platform where ideas converge, collaborations flourish, and creativity knows no bounds. By attending the diverse range of sessions, workshops, and panel discussions, you will have the opportunity to delve deeper into the latest trends, best practices, and emerging technologies shaping the landscape of music education today. And to top it all off, you will have the opportunity to witness and experience a multitude of amazing performances from a variety of genres and ages.

Our conference this year is proud to announce our keynote speaker, Dr. Mackie Spradley, the Immediate Past-President of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME). Dr. Spradley is a renowned music educator and a distinguished expert in the field. Her passion for music education and her ability to bridge the gap between tradition and innovation make her a beacon in our community. Dr. Spradley is a published author who focuses on music teacher effectiveness, culturally responsive teaching and equity in music education. Dr. Spradley's address promises to be enlightening and enriching and will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on you as educator, musician, and advocate.

I strongly urge everyone to actively participate in this year's conference - to engage with peers and embrace the wealth of knowledge surrounding you. Take this time to recharge your batteries and prepare for a spring of concerts, performance assessments, and festivals. It is through these interactions that we can collectively elevate the standard of music education and inspire our students to reach new heights of musical excellence.

I also want to encourage everyone to explore the exhibits and vendor displays. These partners play a vital role in supporting our educational initiatives, and their innovative products and resources can significantly enhance your teaching and learning.

As we embark on this incredible journey of learning and collaboration, let us be open to new ideas, receptive to diverse perspectives, and supportive of one another. Together, we can create a lasting impact on the lives of our students and contribute meaningfully to the future of music education.

Thank you for being a part of this enriching experience. I look forward to seeing you all engage, learn, and grow at this year's Music Educators Professional Development Conference!

# Editor's Note



Jake Henjes  
*SC Musician Editor*

Dear Readers,

I hope you all have enjoyed a successful and productive fall semester. I know many of us are feeling ready to rest and recharge before we begin the spring semester filled with so many exciting events.. Our annual conference will certainly help us get pumped up for teaching this spring! I am very excited to see you all at our spring conference this year to connect and spur one another on. There are many exciting performances and presentations being offered this year that I hope you'll take advantage of. Please keep in mind this schedule is not the final version and changes are still being made. The final schedule will be available online and in print at the conference. Please use this tentative schedule to begin outlining your conference experience to make it your most effective opportunity for professional development this year.

Please remember that the Musician is always seeking articles and advertisements, if you are actively researching a topic and would like to share your findings please reach out to me. If you or your institution would like to advertise with the Musician we offer several different packages and individual ads that can meet your needs and your budget.

Thank you all for your continued support of SCMEA and the SC Musician!

# Piano Division



Andrea Quinn, *President*

Greetings, SC musicians! I hope this letter finds you rejuvenated from your summer endeavors and ready to infuse music into the lives of more young people entering your classrooms this fall. Upon reflection, the Piano Division has had many successes in the last three years: We have increased the number of programs participating in our events, more than tripled the number of students participating in our Fall and Spring Festivals, and the continued legacy of getting some of the best adjudicators and clinicians from around the state for our events.

Spring Master Class Clinician, Dr. Irina Pezner, did an excellent job getting some technical and musical elements out of our featured students. The Spring Honors Recital directly followed and showcased many talented students from across the state at the University of South Carolina Recital Hall on Saturday, May 20, 2023.

We are improving our Piano Festivals by streamlining registration and adding a second adjudicator at each site in the 2023-24 school year to promote impartiality and benefit students and teachers. We are joining SCMTA to host the January Piano Workshop and student master class at Fox Music House in Charleston, SC. Several sessions will be with a nationally recognized Alfred composer and a master class featuring students performing their compositions. We are continuing to host more facilitators with sessions relating to piano education from around the country at our upcoming SCMEA Conference and possibly adding an event for class piano ensembles in the near future.

This year, our Fall Piano Festival will be held on December 1st for the Lower State at Yeaman's Park Presbyterian Church in Hanahan, SC, and on November 30th for the Upper State at St. David's Lutheran Church in West Columbia, SC. Our Fall Master Class clinician is Robert Kelley, a Lander University Piano and Music Theory professor. The Fall Honors Recital will be at the 2024 SCMEA Conference.

Our mission in 2023-24 is to continue connecting with as many Piano teachers and programs across the state as possible so they have all the support they need to thrive. Just like most of our officers and participating teachers, we have noticed that most teachers in the Piano Division are in more than one division. Some are in multiple areas by choice, and others to fill out their schedule. We have found that embracing being in numerous divisions can be a good problem: More music equals more avenues to reach more students that can impact their lives! If either describes you, please reach out so we can plug you and your students into worthwhile enrichment and learning opportunities!

If you're interested in learning more about the SCMEA Piano Division, feel free to contact me at [andrea\\_quinn.c@charleston.k12.sc.us](mailto:andrea_quinn.c@charleston.k12.sc.us)

# Higher Education



Rosetta Dingle, *President*

Dear Fellow Music Educators,

I wish to extend my thoughts regarding the power of music. I believe that music is innately multifaceted. Among others, the discipline of music may be used to teach, entertain, and connect. For instance, music educators may use specific compositions to inform students about specific events as students learn to perform those compositions. Solo artists and directors of ensembles present concerts and recitals that may be both entertaining and educational. Music educators may also connect music to principles of diversity and equity.

In performance and non-performance classes, music educators may use music from around the world to highlight diversity principles. Educators may also have students share the music of their culture and their community to highlight diversity principles. Students may demonstrate what they know because of cultural music experiences they've acquired in their communities. Peers may then be given opportunities to discuss and question each other about such practices.

Diversity and equity may also be developed by using students' cultural music practices as leverage for learning new, unfamiliar music. Music educators may find that students are more inclined to try new music when they understand practices of new music that are familiar to them. Additionally, diversity may be emphasized via students' musical creativity output. Specific criteria and guidelines could be determining factors for obtaining insights into students' creative products. Because of its multifaceted nature, teaching music not only improves music knowledge and skills, but it also presents additional learning opportunities.

As you prepare to attend the 2024 SCMEA annual conference, please join the Higher Education Division as we continue to advocate for music and music education in South Carolina.

# Band Division



Leslie Gilreath, President

Dear colleagues, as we begin to look toward this year's in-service conference, let me encourage you to make plans to attend and participate fully in your divisions, activities as well as general sessions. Many of our students will soon begin diligently, preparing for performances that will be part of their memories for many many years to come. Join us in celebrating the accomplishments of our programs highlighted in the excellent selection of ensembles for this year's conference. we are excited to see you all and enjoy the camaraderie of our colleagues and friends in a setting that celebrates music ed-

ucation in South Carolina. Make your reservations now, clear your calendars, and join us a Whole in Columbia for what is certain to be a great time together and a fantastic showcase of our programs across the state. Thank you all for everything you do every day to positively impact the lives of so many young people across the Palmetto State. have great teaching days, lots of peace and self-care, and much joy through music making.

I look forward to seeing you soon !!!

# Choral Division



Maurice Burgess, President

Greetings!

What a wonderful weekend of fellowship at our Choral Arts Workshop, Friday and Saturday, September 8-9, 2023 at University of South Carolina School of Music. Thank you so much to the USC School of Music for their graciousness in allowing us to use their facilities! We learned so much that weekend and left feeling inspired, rejuvenated, and productive!

Various events have been going live for registration through our [www.choraldvision.org](http://www.choraldvision.org) website. We are so excited about the passionate students auditioning for our top choir in SC in November, the students whose lives are enriched by our middle school clinics, and the sheer amount of students that will be impacted by what are absolutely outstanding region choir enrollments. Please, continue to spread the word and keep an eye out for emails and social media blasts as registrations open for other events!

Congratulations to our 2024 SCMEA In-Service invited choirs! We are excited to be inspired by Goose Creek High School Sziréndal under the direction of Mrs. Emily Bohl, Greenwood High School Eagle Singers led by Mrs. Gina Jolly, Sedgefield Middle School Concert Choir under the direction of Mr. Chadwick Redden, and Winthrop University Chamber Singers under the leadership of Dr. Jeremy Mims. Cannot wait to be inspired by their work as well as the diverse sessions including some by our very own SCMEA members chosen to present!

As always, feel free to reach out as my contact information is listed on the website! If you have any questions about a specific event, our chairpersons and committee members are listed there as well! We look forward to seeing you all February 8-10, 2024 at our SCMEA In-service Conference!

# Orchestra Division



Allison Key, *President*

Warmest greetings to the wonderful string educators of the SCMEA Orchestra Division. I hope this letter finds you happy and healthy as we are well into the school year. Our year started off with a great fall meeting. The reading session is always a favorite, the meetings were productive, and the professional development led by Peter Boonshal was motivating and inspirational. It is my hope we keep this positive energy to lead us through for a most productive year.

The Orchestra Division has successfully completed our Region Orchestra auditions. We are looking forward to our Region Orchestra events that will be held across the state on various weekends through the month of November. We have many wonderful clinicians from near and far that will undoubtedly provide an incredible musical experience for our young and talented musicians. All-State auditions are coming up on January 6 at Irmo High School and the All-State event will be hosted at River Bluff High School February 23-25.

It is with great excitement to share that Wando High School Orchestra, under the direction of Ryan Silvestri, has been selected to perform for the opening session of the SCMEA Professional Development Conference to be held February 8-10, 2024. League Academy, Chesnee High School, and the South Carolina Governor's School have also been selected as featured performances. Other sessions will include music advocacy, teacher identity, rutbusters, fundamentals, and reading sessions. Make sure to register by January 15 as you will not want to miss this year's conference!

The spring semester always proves to be hectic as our responsibilities and schedules intensify. I encourage you all to find time for self-care. The benefits of self-care help to manage stress, boost your self-esteem, protects your mental health, and increases energy levels. Finding that balance between work and personal life, in addition to self-care practices, will help fight exhaustion and burnout so we can be our best selves for our students.

Please reach out to trusted colleagues or the board if you have any questions or need assistance as we move into our busy season. Stay happy, healthy, and warm!

# SCMEA

## 2024 CONFERENCE

11:00am - 11:45am Location: Congaree (A&B)

### SCMEA Board Meeting

12:00pm - 2:00pm Location: Lobby

### Registration Opens

2:00pm - 3:00pm Location: Ballroom A,B, & C

### Wando Orchestra

3:30pm - 4:00pm Location: Downstairs Pre Function

### Cupcake Kick-Off!

4:45pm - 6:00pm Exhibit Hall

### Exhibit Hall Opens

-----3:30pm-----

B 3:30pm-4:00pm : Location: Exhibit Hall Entrance

### Carolina High School New Orleans Jazz Band

Mark Roddy - Director

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

H 4:45pm-5:30pm : Location: Congaree A & B

### JW Pepper Reading Session

B 4:45pm-5:30pm : Location: Richland B & C

### Edge of Your Seat Rehearsals:

Engage All Students All The Time

Dr. Matthew Arau

Scott Rush

E 4:45pm-5:30pm : Location: Lexington A & B

### Elementary Division Business Meeting

Seth Philips

O 4:45pm-6:30pm : Location: Carolina A & B

### Reading Session

### League Academy Performance

### Adjudication Training

Deep Dive with Debbie Lyle, 2 hour session

Tentative Schedule as of October 2023

Thursday, February 8, 2023

G 4:45pm-5:30pm : Location: Senate B  
**Guitar Division Committee Meeting**

-----5:15pm-----

B 5:15pm-7:00pm : Location: Alumni Center  
**SCDBA Board Meeting**

-----7:00pm-----

C 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Ballroom C  
**All-State Chorus Committee Meeting**

B 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Congaree A  
**SCDBA Concert Committee Meeting**

B 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Congaree B  
**SCDBA Solo/Ensemble Committee Meeting**

C 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Richland A  
**Middle School Choral Clinics Committee**

B 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Richland B & C  
**SCBDA Winter Ensemble Committee**

C 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Lexington A  
**Choral Division Solo & Ensemble Committee Meeting**

C 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Lexington B  
**High School CPA Committee**

B 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Carolina A & B  
**SCBDA All-State Committee**

B 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Lincoln  
**SCBDA Jazz Committee**

B 7:00pm - 7:45pm Location: Alumni Center  
**SCBDA Marching Band Committee**

# Friday

## February 9, 2023

Tentative Schedule as of October 2022

-----8:00am-----

8:00am - 8:45am Location: Carolina A  
**G Right Hand Guitar Technique:**  
 The Essentials and More!

8:00am - 8:45am Location: Carolina B  
**H Meet Your Fellow Music Educators**  
 David Cudd

8:00am - 8:45am Location: Richland A  
**C Building A Strong Choral Community:**  
 Practical Rehearsal Strategies  
 Greg LeFils

8:00am - 8:45am Location: Richland B & C  
**B Balancing All The Things:**  
 Prioritizing family while maintaining high expectations in  
 your program  
 Tori Bevels

8:00am - 8:45am Location: Lexington A & B  
**E Making Music Special**  
 Katie VanderKooi

8:00am - 8:45am Location: Lexington A  
**O Reading Session**  
 Off the Beaten Path - Hidden Gems for Student Orchestras

8:00am - 8:45am Location: Senate  
**H Linguistics in Music Education**  
 Tyler Goodwin-Souffront

-----8:30am-----

8:30am - 8:45am Location: Alumni Center  
**B SCBDA AWARDS Committee**  
 Conference Room 1C

-----9:00am-----

9:00am - 9:45am Location: Alumni Center  
**B Fort Dorchester High School Percussion Ensemble**  
 Matthew Kilby & Haley Cowan - Directors

-----9:15am-----

9:15am - 10:00am Location: Carolina A  
**G Guitar Curriculum Sequence and Methodology:**  
 Expression from the First Day  
 Matthew Hinsley

9:15am - 10:00am Location: Carolina B  
**H Preparing for Careers in Music Education**  
 David Cudd

9:15am - 10:00am Location: Richland A  
**C Building Better Choirs:**  
 A New Approach to Developing Voice Technique  
 in the Group Setting  
 Alyssa Cossey

9:15am - 10:00am Location: Richland B & C  
**B Your Gift Will Make Room for You:**  
**D.E.I.A. From the Podium**  
 Marcus Morris

9:15am - 10:00am Location: Congaree A & B  
**E Move and Groove:Modern Ideas**  
 for Movement in the Classroom (QUAVER)  
 Anna Wiles

9:15am - 10:00am Location: Carolina A & B  
**O Music Advocacy - Offense vs. Defense**  
 9:15am-10:00am Location: Senate  
**H Empowering Collegiate Pre-Servicce Music Teachers**  
 Molly Blair

-----10:30am-----

10:30am - 11:45am Location: Ballroom A, B, & C  
**A GENERAL SESSION**  
**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION:** Dr. Mackie V. Spradley

-----12:00pm-----

12:00pm - 12:45pm Location: Lexington A & B  
**O Orchestra Lunch**

12:00pm - 12:45pm Location: Lincoln  
**Awards Luncheon**

12:00pm - 12:30pm Location: Congaree A  
**H Higher Education Division Meeting**

12:00pm - 12:30pm Location: Richland A  
**Co Collegiate Pizza Reception and Business Meeting**

12:00pm - 12:45pm Location: Alumni Center  
**B Dutch Fork High School**  
 Jeremy Ley - Director

1:00pm - 1:45pm Location: Ballroom C  
**C Sedgefield Middle School**  
 Chadwick Redden - Director  
 1:00pm - 1:45pm Location: Carolina A  
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**H** **Emotional Intelligence:** Your Key to Increased Engagement and Epic Communication  
Alex Swire-Clark

**H** 1:00pm - 1:45pm Location: Carolina B  
**Avoiding Common Pitfalls for Beginning Music Teachers**  
Susana Lalama

**B** 1:00pm - 1:45pm Location: Richland A  
**O** **C** **Upbeat Habits - GIA**  
Matthew Arau and Scott Rush

**B** 1:00pm - 1:45pm Location: Richland B & C  
**Jazz Artist Session**

1:00pm - 1:45pm Location: Lexington A & B  
**P** **To Proficiency and Beyond:**  
Renewing Functional Piano Skills for Classroom Teachers  
Jenna Braaaksma

**A** 1:00pm - 1:45pm Location: Senate  
**ASBDA Meeting**  
Suzanne Reed

**A** 2:15pm - 3:00pm Location: Lexington A & B  
**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**  
Dr. Mackie V. Spradley

-----1:45pm-----

**B** 1:45pm - 2:15pm Location: Alumni Center  
Rollings Middle School for the Arts  
Marie Evans - Director

-----2:15pm-----

**C** 2:15pm - 3:00pm Location: Ballroom C  
**Goose Creek High School**  
Director

**Co** 2:15pm - 3:00pm Location: Carolina A  
**Mind the Gap!** Filling in between College and Teaching  
Brandon Meeks

**H** 2:15pm - 3:00pm Location: Carolina B  
**Considering a Carrer in Music Edication:**  
Is this the job for me?  
David Cudd

**H** 2:15pm - 3:00pm Location: Richland A  
**Application of Steinway Technology to Teach, Learn, Listen and Inspire Rice Music**  
Phillip Powell

**P** 2:15pm - 3:00pm Location: Richalnd B & C  
**Purposeful Technology in the Music Classroom**  
Marissa Terranova

**E** 2:15pm - 3:00pm Location: Lexington A & B  
**Rethinking Your Recorder Curriculum**  
Laura Black

**O** 2:15pm - 3:00pm Location: Carolina A & B  
**Bridging the Gap Between Middle and Hlgh School Orchestra**  
Ryan Silvestri

-----3:30pm-----

**P** 3:30pm - 4:15pm Location: Ballroom C  
**Piano Performance - WHO IS PERFORMING?**

**Co** 3:30pm - 4:15pm Location: Carolina B  
**Real Life as a College Music Major**  
David Cudd

**C** 3:30pm - 4:15pm Location: Richland A  
**SC NATS MASTER CLASS**

**B** 3:30pm - 4:15pm Location: Richland B & C  
**Making Our Mark** - Another take on programming under-represented composers  
Jack Eddy

**E** 3:30pm - 4:15pm Location: Lexington A & B  
**Everyday Improvisation: It's Easier Than You Think!**  
Laura Black

**O** 3:30pm - 4:15pm Location: Congaree A & B  
**Finding Our Teacher Identity: A Journey of 1000 Miles**  
Elizabeth Reed

-----3:45pm-----

**B** 3:45pm - 4:45pm Location: Alumni Center  
**University of South Carolina**  
**Dr. Cormack Cannon - Director**

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

**O** 4:45pm - 5:45pm Location: Congaree A & B  
**Rutbusters 101**  
Sarah Ball

## Receptions: 5:45pm - 7:00pm

Claflin  
University  
Lexington A

Converse  
University  
Richland A

USC Alumni  
Reception  
Alumni Center

JAZZ SOCIAL  
8pm - 11:00pm  
Ballroom A

# Saturday

February 10, 2023

Tentative Schedule as of October 2022

-----8:00am-----

8:00am - 8:45am Location: Carolina A & B  
**Upbeat! The Power Within - GIA**  
 Matthew Arau

**C** 8:00am - 8:45am Location: Richland A  
**Saved by the Bell: Vocal Strategies of a Music Teacher and her SLP**  
 Shannon Day & Lisa Barksdale

**B** 8:00am - 8:45am Location: Richland B & C  
**If the "Shoe Fits": A Mouthpiece Fitting Process**  
 Zackery McCarter

**E** 8:00am - 8:45am Location: Lexington A & B  
**Help!...I Have a Substitute**  
 Bridget Burgess

**O** 8:00am - 8:45am Location: Congaree A & B  
**Reading session - Off the Beaten Path: Hidden Gems for Student Orchestras**  
 Allison Wilkinson

**A** 8:00am - 8:45am Location: Senate  
**Shaping SC's Virtual Resources for Music Education**  
 Jennifer Coffey

-----8:30am-----

**B** 8:30am - 9:15am Location: Alumni Center  
**Stratford High School**  
 Joshua Artz - Director

-----9:15am-----

**C** 9:15am - 10:00am Location: Ballroom C  
**Greenwood High School**  
 Gina Jolly - Director

**Co B C** 9:15am - 10:00am Location: Carolina A & B  
**Unhelpful Conducting Habits Learned From "Helping" Students**  
 John Ginocchio

**B** 9:15am - 10:00am Location: Richland B & C  
**The ABC's of Woodwind Methods: Flute, Clarinet, and Saxophone**  
 Beth Fabrizio

**E** 9:15am - 10:00am Location: Lexington B & C  
**Implementing a Culturally Responsive Approach to Singing in Other Languages**  
 Amalia Allan

**O** 9:15am - 10:00am Location: Congaree A & B  
**Leaner Centered Class**

**H** 9:15am - 10:00am Location: Lincoln  
**"Chosen Research presentations"**  
 Dr. Amanda Schlegel.

-----9:45am-----

**B** 9:15am - 10:00am Location: Alumni Center  
**SCBDA Adjudication Committee Meeting**  
 Conference Room 1C

-----10:15am-----

**B** 10:15am - 11:15am Location: Alumni Center  
**Blythewood High School Band**  
 Greg Mulzet - Director

-----10:30am-----

**C** 10:30am - 11:15am Location: Ballroom C  
**Winthrop Choir**  
 Jeremy Mims - Director

**A** 10:30am - 11:15am Location: Carolina B & C  
**Exceptional Musicians: Advocating for an inclusive music porgram - Special Leaners**  
 Lia Snead & Chloe Washington

**B** 10:30am - 11:15am Location: Richland B & C  
**Percussion From The Podium: Effective Communication and Management of Your Percussion Section**  
 Dylan Sims & Chris Lee

**E** 10:30am - 11:15am Location: Lexington A & B  
**Music is MUlti-sensory! Meeting Sensory Needs in K-12 Music**  
 Amalia Allan

**O** 10:30am - 11:15am Location: Congaree A & B  
**Fundamentals are Where The Magic Happens**  
 Joshua Miller

**A** 10:30am - 11:15am Location: Lincoln  
**Retired Members Meeting**

**H** 10:30am - 11:15am Location: Senate  
**SC Arts Enrollment Dashboard**  
 Roger Simpson

-----1130pm-----

# Lunch

## Visit Exhibits - Concessions Open

-----12:00pm-----

**P** 12:00pm - 1:00pm Location: Ballroom C  
Pano Masterclass  
Robert Kelley

**G** 12:00pm - 12:45pm Location: Carolina A & B  
**Community Engagement, Advocacy, and Fundraising for the Guitar Class**  
MISSING

**C** 12:00pm - 12:45pm Location: Richland A  
**All Voices Are Beautiful: Reimagining Singing**  
Andrew Schmidt

**E** 12:00pm - 12:45pm Location: Lexington A & B  
**Rockin' with Little Kids in the Elementary Music Classroom**  
Myrella Samuels

**O** 12:00pm - 12:45pm Location: Congaree A & B  
**Prep for your Rep**  
Beth Fabrizio

-----12:30pm-----

**O** 12:30pm - 1:15pm Location: Ballroom C  
**SC Governor's School Orchestra**

**B** 12:30pm - 1:15pm Location: Alumni Center  
Laing Middle School  
Adam Vernon-Young - Director

-----1:15pm-----

**P** 1:15pm - 2:30pm Location: Ballroom C  
**Piano Honors Recital**

**C** 1:15pm - 2:00pm Location: Richland A  
**The Gullah Geechee Cultural Origins of the Negro Spiritual**  
Eric Crawford

**B** 1:15pm - 2:00pm Location: Richland B & C  
**The First Day of Jazz Band**  
Chris Mitchell

**E** 1:15pm - 2:00pm Location: Lexington A & B  
**Using Visuals to Build a Community for Students with ASD**  
Christine Lapka

0

1:15pm - 2:30pm  
**Moving Beyond the Page**

Location: Congaree A &amp; B

Co

2:30pm - 3:15pm Location: Carolina A & B  
**Making the Most of Your Student Teaching Internship**  
Dustin King, Meredith Melven Henjes, Quintus Wrighten, & Michelle Ortiz

C

2:30pm - 3:15pm Location: Richland A  
**Musicianship Mindset: Kodály Applications in the Choral Setting**  
Emily Reeves Bohl

B

2:30pm - 3:15pm Location: Richland B & C  
**Designing a Meaningful and Effective Marching Production**  
William Jung

B

2:30pm - 3:15pm Location: Lexington A & B  
**Middle School Best Practices**  
Mike Doll

0

2:30pm - 3:15pm Location: Congaree A & B  
**Orchestra Committee Meetings**

B

2:30pm - 3:15pm Location: Alumni Center  
Intercollegiate Honor Band

-----3:30pm-----

C

3:30pm - 5:15pm Location: Richland A  
**Choral Division Business Meeting**

O

3:30pm - 5:15pm Location: Congaree A & B  
**Orchestra Division Business Meeting**

G

3:30pm - 5:15pm Location: Lincoln  
**Guitar Division Business Meeting**

P

3:30pm - 5:15pm Location: Senate  
**Piano Division Business Meeting**

B

3:30pm - 5:15pm Location: Alumni Center  
**SCBDA Business Meeting**

-----6:00pm-----

B

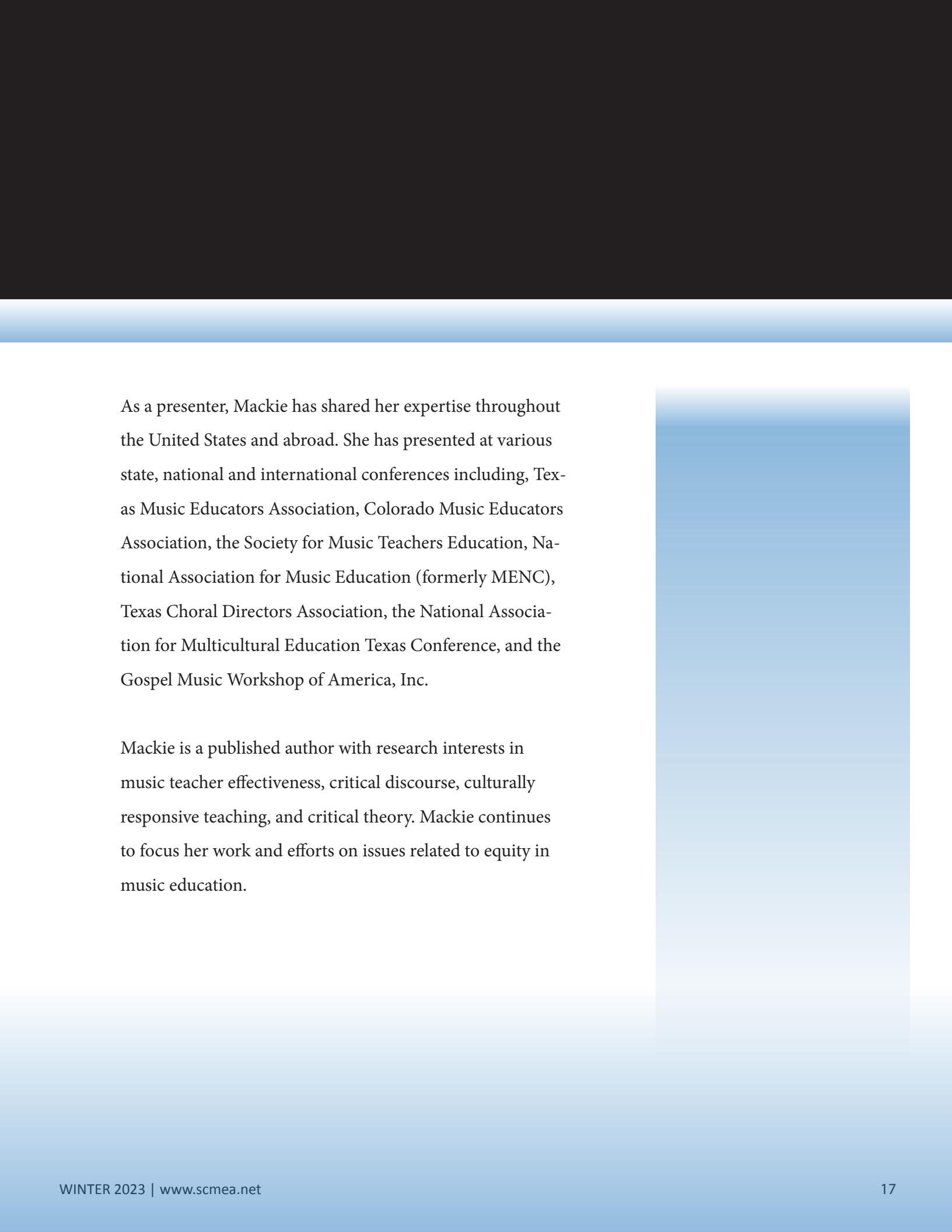
6:00pm - 8:15pm Location: Alumni Center  
**Master Recital Competition/SCBDA All-State Jazz Combo Concert**

# Keynote *Speaker*



Dr. Mackie V. Spradley

Dr. Mackie V. Spradley is the Immediate Past President of the National Association for Music Education and serves as the Director of Curriculum Programs at the Texas Education Agency in Austin, TX. She received the B.M. in Voice from UNT and M.A. in Vocal Pedagogy from Texas Woman's University, Denton. She received her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Anthropology from UNT. Spradley has published in academic journals and books, such as the National Forum of Multicultural Issues Journal, Texas Music Educators Conference Connections, and a book chapter in Educational Leadership and Music. She is a national speaker on music education, culturally responsive pedagogy, and critical theory.



As a presenter, Mackie has shared her expertise throughout the United States and abroad. She has presented at various state, national and international conferences including, Texas Music Educators Association, Colorado Music Educators Association, the Society for Music Teachers Education, National Association for Music Education (formerly MENC), Texas Choral Directors Association, the National Association for Multicultural Education Texas Conference, and the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc.

Mackie is a published author with research interests in music teacher effectiveness, critical discourse, culturally responsive teaching, and critical theory. Mackie continues to focus her work and efforts on issues related to equity in music education.

# Conference *Clinicians*



**Amalia Allan** is an Assistant Professor of Music Education at Anderson University. She teaches graduate level courses on music teaching and research, guides master's students in their research projects, and teaches undergraduate music methods.

Certified in all three levels of Orff Schulwerk, Dr. Allan is an elementary specialist who has taught music to children of varied abilities in both public and private school settings, including at a school for children with sensory processing disorders and an autism center. She has also directed award-winning elementary choirs and taught 18 years of private piano lessons to people of all ages and abilities. Dr. Allan is a passionate researcher whose research focuses on teaching music to people with diverse abilities, multiculturalism in music education, and music teacher preparation for inclusion.



**Sarah Ball** has been teaching orchestra for twenty six years, currently at North Gwinnett Middle School in Sugar Hill, Ga, where there are 550+ students enrolled in grades 6-8 orchestra.

Mrs. Ball holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Appalachian State University and a Master's in Curriculum and Instruction from Lesley University. She was named the NGMS Teacher of the Year for 2011-12 and was selected as the middle school Teacher of the Year for Gwinnett County. In 2018, Mrs. Ball was chosen as the GA ASTA String Educator of the year. In 2023, Ball was recognized at the National ASTA conference (Orlando) as the Elizabeth A. H. Green Award recipient.

Mrs. Ball is involved in leadership roles in both ASTA and GMEA. She has served as state treasurer and president for GA-ASTA, was on the ASTA national board as Member-at-Large, and is currently the k-12 committee chair for ASTA. Mrs. Ball was the GMEA Orchestra Division Chair and is completing a two year term as GMEA Vice President for All State Events.

Mrs. Ball has presented professional development sessions at the school, county, state and national level including the national ASTA conference and The Ohio State University String Teacher's Workshop. She is active as a clinician, adjudicator, and conductor throughout the country. She is currently working on an author team with Chris and Margaret Selby for the GIA publication, "Habits of a Successful Young String Musician". Mrs. Ball started currently resides in Johns Creek, Georgia with her husband Jerrod, and their two cats, Topsy and Turvy.



**Dr. Matthew Arau**, author of *Upbeat! Mindset, Mindfulness, and Leadership in Music Education and Beyond* and founder of Upbeat Global, is an Associate Professor of Music and the Chair of the Music Education Department and Symphonic

Band Conductor at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. Dr. Arau serves as Leadership Editor for GIA Publications, Board Member of SLAM, and as a Conn-Selmer Education Clinician.

Dr. Arau has guest conducted and presented clinics on leadership, mindfulness, growth mindset, rehearsal techniques, and creating positive cultures in person in 34 states and 4 continents in person. He has presented at the International Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic several times, the Western International Band Clinic, the NAfME National Conference, numerous State and Regional Music Education Association Conferences, the ACDA Next Direction Conference, and the Conn-Selmer Institute. Thousands of high school students have attended his Upbeat! Leadership Academies across the country to develop their leadership skills and reach for their fullest potential. In addition to being in demand as a keynote speaker, presenter, and professional development facilitator, Dr. Arau has conducted honor bands in Australia, Greece, Cyprus, and Malaysia, and All-State honor bands across the United States.

Dr. Arau draws on a deep reservoir of fifteen years of experience as a successful middle school and high school band director in Loveland, Colorado, where he led his bands at Walt Clark Middle School and Loveland High School to numerous honor performances and championships and pioneered the Leadership Symposium. He lives with his wife Merilee in Neenah, Wisconsin accompanied by their two Dachshunds and two Sugar Gliders.



**Lisa Browne Barksdale**, soprano, B.M. Furman University, M.M. Northwestern University, M.C.D. University of South Carolina, CCC-SLP, CMVT-MT, is a Speech-Language Pathologist with Greenville ENT and a Lecturer in Music, Voice at Furman University. Prior to teaching at Furman, Lisa taught choral music to children and youth in churches as well as at Pace Academy in Atlanta. There, she also sang for many years with Robert Shaw in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra Chorus. Still committed to her craft, Lisa is a frequent soloist with the Greenville Chorale and the Herring Chamber Ensemble. Recently, Lisa became a Master Teacher for the McClosky Institute of Voice and currently serves as volunteer President of the non-profit organization. She lives with her family in Travelers Rest, South Carolina, where she is involved with music and worship at Trinity Presbyterian Church. In all her work, Lisa is passionate about helping her students and patients sing and speak healthily so that they may communicate with ease and freedom.

# Conference *Clinicians*



to the University of South Carolina School of Music faculty, she was an orchestra teacher in the Norfolk Public Schools (Virginia). Dr. Barnes research interests include community and school orchestra programs and access to music education for under-served youth. She is a co-author of Measures of Success for String Orchestra (published by The FJH Music Company). In 2019, she received the Career Researcher Award for the American String Teachers Association.



**Tori Bevels** serves as the Director of Bands at Easley High School in Easley, SC. She is in her eleventh year of teaching and seventh year at Easley High School. Prior to her time at Easley, Mrs. Bevels served as the Associate Director then Director of Bands at Sumter High School. She received her Bachelor of Music Education from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, SC. In 2019 Mrs. Bevels received her Master's in Music from the American Band College through Central Washington University. In the spring of 2023 Ms. Bevels completed an Ed.S. in School Leadership through Furman University. During her career, concert and jazz ensembles under her direction have received consistent excellent and superior ratings including two featured performances at the South Carolina Music Educators' Conference and Indoor Percussion Ensembles that medaled in 2018, 2019, and 2022 at CWEA Championships. The Easley Marching Band has also been a consistent finalist in Class 4A with Superior ratings. Ms. Bevels and husband Stephen welcomed their son, Weston, in July of 2022. The Bevels family loves to travel and enjoy outdoor activities in and around the upstate area!



Amelia Rollings Bigler, PhD, MM, currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music (Voice and Voice Pedagogy) at Coastal Carolina University (CCU). Dr. Rollings Bigler was the winner of the 2018 Van L. Lawrence Fellowship and the first-ever Clifton Ware Group-Voice Pedagogy Award. In 2023, she established the Center for Group-Voice Pedagogy and Research and launched the annual Summer Group-Voice Pedagogy Intensive workshop at CCU. Her primary research interests include musical theatre and contemporary commercial music (CCM) voice pedagogy, small and large group voice teach-

ing, historical voice teacher certification and education, and the effects of shoe heel heights, head position, jaw opening and other aspects of body alignment on acoustic and perceptual measures of singing efficiency. Publications have appeared in the Journal of Voice, the Journal of Singing, and Voice and Speech Review. Dr. Rollings Bigler currently serves as President of the Pan American Vocology Association (PAVA).



**Mrs. Vicki Bishop** is the Director of Elementary Music in Spartanburg District Six. She also teaches chorus and general music at Anderson Mill Elementary School. She has been an educator for 31 years, and was recognized as Teacher of the Year at Houston Elementary School in 1996 and Anderson Mill in 1999, the first year the school opened. She holds a Bachelor Degree in Music Education from Converse College, as well as a Master Degree in Music Education from the University of South Carolina in Columbia. She has an additional certification in Elementary Education, as well as a Gifted and Talented Education Endorsement. Mrs. Bishop is also a District Six Representative of the Kennedy Center Partner's in Education Program.

Mrs. Bishop lives in Roebuck with her husband Brent and daughter Chloe. She enjoys watching her daughter swim in area swim meets, traveling with her family, playing piano, singing in church choir, and doting on her pets.



**Mrs. Laura Black** graduated from UNC-Greensboro in 2007 with a degree in music education. She is currently pursuing her Master in Music Education at UNC-Greensboro, with a projected graduation in the summer of 2023. Laura has completed Levels 1 and 2 of Orff-Schulwerk and is excited about completing her certification with Level 3 soon!

Laura is in her 17th year of teaching. In her first four years of teaching middle school orchestra, her program grew from 35 to over 140 musicians; her students were active in All-County orchestras, Eastern District orchestras, and the NC Music Performance Adjudication, where they consistently earned 'Excellent' and 'Superior' ratings. While her first nine years of teaching were spent in middle school orchestra, she made the jump to elementary general music and has not looked back! She currently teaches at Rocky Point Elementary in Rocky Point, NC, teaching preschool through 5th grade. While at Rocky Point, Laura has received over \$30,000 in grants and donations to purchase new instruments and fund educational STEAM projects. Most notably, she was one of the recipients of Music and Arts "Be a Part of the Music" grant for 2022, which purchased violins for her growing after-school Strings Club. As a presenter, Laura has

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## Conference *Clinicians*

presented sessions at the district, state, and national levels about beginning elementary orchestra programs, developing recorder curriculums and teaching creative processes in the elementary music classroom, such as composition, improvisation, and storytelling.

In her free time, she enjoys sewing, playing the violin, and raising her four beautiful children with her amazing husband, Casey.



**Molly Blair** is a dedicated educator and researcher in the field of music education, known for her passion and commitment to fostering a positive learning environment for students. Born and raised in Lincolnton, North Carolina, Dr. Blair developed

a deep love for music from a young age, and studied music education at Western Carolina University, where she graduated with honors. During her time at WCU, Dr. Blair served as the Woodwind Coordinator for the Sudler Trophy winning Pride of the Mountains Marching Band, performed with the Wind Ensemble, and studied Flute with Dr. Eldred Spell.

After completing her undergraduate studies, Dr. Blair embarked on her teaching career in the greater Charlotte, NC area, where she taught middle and high school band. During this time, she worked with high school and collegiate marching bands, maintained an active adjudication schedule, and taught private flute lessons. Her exceptional teaching skills and ability to connect with her students quickly made her a respected figure within the educational community, including multiple presentations at the Georgia Music Educator's Conference, National Association for Music Education national conference, and the 8th International Symposium for Assessment in Music Education.

In 2018, seeking to further enhance their knowledge and expertise, Molly and her husband, Andrew, made the decision to enroll at the University of Georgia, where they pursued their master's and doctoral degrees. Dr. Blair received both her master's and doctoral degrees in music education. Her doctoral research explored the relationship between student self-talk, student beliefs about their musical ability, and the creation of supportive music classroom environments. Dr. Blair's innovative and thought-provoking research has earned her recognition within the music education community. Throughout her time in Athens, Molly was a graduate teaching assistant of instrumental music education in the Hugh Hodgson School of Music, worked with the Sudler Trophy winning Redcoat Marching Band, conducted the UGA Symphonic and Concert Bands, and performed with the Athens Flute Choir.

In 2023, Molly completed her doctorate in music education from the University of Georgia. Following her graduation, Molly and her family embarked on a new chapter in their lives and relocated to the Charleston, SC area. There, Dr. Blair accepted a teaching position DuBose Middle School, where she continues to inspire and guide young musicians.

Outside of her career, Molly finds joy and fulfillment in her per-

sonal life with her husband, Andrew, who not only has been a constant source of support throughout her educational pursuits, but also received his doctorate in percussion performance and composition from the University of Georgia in 2023. Together, they have a beautiful son named Bennett, and two dogs, Chaco and Fritz, who bring immeasurable happiness to their lives.



Dr. Jenna Braaksma serves as class piano coordinator and instructor in the piano pedagogy laboratory program at the University of Michigan. Her responsibilities include overseeing the class piano program and curriculum for undergraduate music majors and non-majors, working with graduate student instructors, and teaching group classes and private lessons in the laboratory program.

Dr. Braaksma has taught in a variety of educational settings at both collegiate and secondary levels. She previously served as the piano faculty and collaborative pianist at Buena Vista University where she taught private piano lessons and instructed group piano classes for music majors and non-majors. While at BVU, Dr. Braaksma also collaborated with choral ensembles and students in applied voice and instrumental lessons. At Dordt University, Dr. Braaksma taught the Piano Pedagogy and Introduction to Music Literature courses. Prior to teaching at BVU and Dordt, Dr. Braaksma directed the Understanding Music & Piano program at Augusta Raa Performing Arts Middle School in Tallahassee, FL. While completing her terminal degree at Florida State University, Dr. Braaksma taught group piano courses for undergraduate music majors and non-majors while also developing the curriculum for the inaugural group piano classes for adult learners offered through the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Foundation. At the University of Missouri, Dr. Braaksma taught group piano classes, collaborated with undergraduate music majors and graduate students, accompanied for choral ensembles, and coordinated the Experiencing Piano program, which offered beginner piano classes and lessons for children and Recreational Music Making classes for adult beginners. Additionally, Dr. Braaksma has managed a private piano studio for over ten years.

Dr. Braaksma is active as a collaborative pianist for vocalists and instrumentalists. Her extensive collaborative credits include serving with nationally acclaimed collegiate choral ensembles from Iowa State University, the University of Missouri, and Florida State University. As a choral accompanist, she has toured nationally and internationally with choirs to South Korea, Austria, Hungary, China, France, Ireland, Spain, and Scotland.

Dr. Braaksma is in high demand as a presenter at regional, state, and national music education conferences. She has presented sessions at state music education conferences in Arizona, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Indiana, and Florida, as well as the National Association for Music Education Eastern Division Conference (NAfME), Music Teachers National Association Conferences (MTNA), National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy (NCKP), and Music Teachers National Association Collegiate Chapters Symposiums.

# Conference *Clinicians*



**Ian Bracchitta**, a native of Westchester County in New York, performs as a bassist in the classical, jazz and popular idioms. He is the assistant principal bassist of the Greenville (SC) Symphony Orchestra and the principal bassist of the Spartanburg

Philharmonic. Ian performs in the bass sections of the Charlotte, Charleston and Hendersonville Symphony Orchestras. As a jazz bassist he has performed with Dianne Schuur, Kevin Mahogany, Kate McGarry, Freddie Bryant, Pat Harbison, George Mesterhazy, Hod O'Brien, Chris Vadala, John Stowell, The Tommy Dorsey, Nelson Riddle and Cab Calloway Orchestras among many others. Additionally, he performs frequently in the southeast in duo, trio and quartet settings. Ian has performed extensively in musical theatre playing with the Broadway national tours of Anastasia, Hello Dolly, Phantom of the Opera, Wicked, West Side Story, Beautiful-The Carol King Story, Legally Blond, A Chorus Line, Chicago, The Sound Of Music, The Producers, Young Frankenstein, The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess, Evita, Pippin, Grease, 9 to 5, Fiddler on the Roof, Camelot, My Fair Lady, Annie Get Your Gun, Something Rotten, A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder, Cinderella, Billy Elliot, Mary Poppins, The Drowsy Chaperone, Ragtime, The Boyfriend, Victor Victoria, Sweet Charity, White Christmas, Annie, The Scarlet Pimpernel among others. He has played orchestrally or as electric bassist for a host of performers including Edwin McCain, Celtic Woman, Burt Bacharach, The Fifth Dimension, Marvin Hamlisch, Shirley Jones, Carol Channing, Martin Short, Rich Little and Red Buttons among many others. Recording credits include Reflections with jazz guitarist Steve Watson, Canadian jazz guitarist Mark Guest's Happy Together, the duo of Garah and Gregory Landes-Synchronicity: Like Minds, Rebecca Nagle Synthetic Dances - Music for Oboe on Centaur records, Joe Burke Simply Romantic on Revere records, Oracle Evasive Actions and Peggy Haden I'm Glad There Is You among others. Additionally, he has performed on regional commercials and industrial soundtracks. A dedicated teacher, Ian's students have distinguished themselves by attending many of the finest music schools in the country. Ian is on the adjunct faculties of the South Carolina Governors School for the Arts and Humanities, Clemson and Furman Universities. He was the visiting lecturer of Double Bass at the University of South Carolina's School of Music from 2002-2006 and at UNC-Asheville from 2003-2013. Additionally, Ian maintains a private studio. He received a Bachelor of Music Performance degree from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, additional studies at the Berklee College of Music. He attended the Westchester Conservatory during high school. Ian is very thankful for his teachers Jack Budrow, Donald Palma, Orin O'Brien, Salvatore Macchia, Michael Moore, Anthony Beadle, Arnold Schnitzer and William Blossom.



**Benjamin** is the Director of the Guitar Program at Dreher High School in Columbia, SC. Benjamin currently serves as the Past President 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.



**Bridget Burgess** has been the music teacher at Pauline-Glenn Springs Elementary School here in Spartanburg District Six for the past 17 years. She is a graduate of Anderson University holding a Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Performance. Mrs. Burgess also holds double Master's Degrees in Music Education and Instructional Technology from Converse University and Gardner-Webb University, respectively. Mrs. Burgess had the honor of being selected Teacher of the Year by her colleagues in 2012. In addition to teaching, Mrs. Burgess has made professional vocal contributions to several award-winning recording projects and numerous musical productions. She is happily married to her husband of 21 years (William) and the proud mother of three beautiful, smart, and creative daughters. In her spare time she enjoys reading, watching movies, crocheting, traveling, singing in the choir at church and...making music of course!



**Cecilia Clark** is the Director of Bands at Allatoona High School in Acworth, Georgia. She attended Duquesne University and received a Bachelor of Science in Music Education. Her percussion teachers include Stanley Leonard, Gerald Unger, and Andrew Reamer. She studied conducting with Robert Cameron, Craig Kirchhoff, and Larry Rachleff. Ms. Clark also received a Master's Degree in Special Education from Duquesne. Ms. Clark's professional experience includes her role as Assistant Band Director at McEachern High School in Powder Springs, GA where she also served as Fine Arts Department Chair. Prior to joining the faculty at McEachern, Ms. Clark was the Director of Bands at Deer Lakes High School and Thomas Jefferson High School. She also taught beginning band in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Ms. Clark has served as a percussion consultant and technician for

## Conference *Clinicians*

several schools including Norwin Senior High School in North Huntingdon, PA. She was also the Front Ensemble Instructor for the General Butler Vagabonds Drum Corps and the Pit Captain Head for Conquest Percussion and Project Percussion Independent Open and World Class WGI Finalists. Ms. Clark is an active adjudicator, guest conductor, and clinician. She has served on the Review Committee for the National Association of Secondary School Principals, as a member of NAfME Band Advisory Committee, and as a Program Coordinator at the Music for All Summer Symposium. Her professional affiliations include the NAfME, GMEA, PAS, NBA, ASBDA, WBDI, and Mu Phi Epsilon. She is currently serving on the GMEA All-State Committee, NAfME Collegiate Advisory Council, and as President-Elect for the Servant Leadership Association for Music (SLAM). Ms. Clark is married to Patrick Clark, Band Director at McCleskey Middle School. They have two beautiful weimeraners, Mingus and Monk.



**Jennifer Coffey** has worked in education for 10 years, and joined the ABC Institute in 2021 as the Virtual Teaching and Learning Program Specialist. As a former K-12 public educator, Jennifer has a passion for serving SC's teachers. Holding a BA

in Dance Education from the University of South Carolina, she began her career as a middle school dance educator where she also discovered her love for coaching and mentoring. During her time in public education, Jennifer attended numerous summer arts institutes, presented at state arts education conferences, and also managed her school's Distinguished Arts Program Grant. She has served as president of the South Carolina Dance Association, and continues to serve as the chair of the organization's competition committee.



**Megan Cooper** is currently in her eighteenth year of teaching band. She is a native of Pendleton, South Carolina. Mrs. Cooper attended Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina. She graduated from Winthrop, Magna Cum Laude with

a Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education in 2006. Mrs. Cooper completed her Master's Degree in Education with a concentration in Classroom Leadership from Southern Wesleyan University in Central, South Carolina in 2019.

Mrs. Cooper is the Director of Bands at Gable Middle School in Spartanburg School District Six in Roebuck, South Carolina where she has enjoyed serving for the past sixteen years. Under her direction, the band program at Gable Middle School has experienced much growth and success with creating a positive culture and a student-centered band program while establishing

a legacy of excellence and professionalism. Bands under her direction have consistently earned Superior Ratings at the South Carolina Band Directors Association's Concert Performance Assessment Events along with other state and regionally adjudicated events. Additionally, Mrs. Cooper has had many of her band students selected into Region Honor Bands, the South Carolina All-State Band, as well as other local and regional band clinics. While at Gable, her bands have been awarded thirteen consecutive Outstanding Performance Awards by the SCBDA.

In addition to her responsibilities at Gable, Megan is a member of the South Carolina Band Directors Association where she has served on the Executive Board as the Corresponding Secretary since 2019. She is also a member of Phi Beta Mu - International Bandmasters Fraternity, The South Carolina Music Educators Association, The National Association for Music Education, Delta Omicron - International Music Fraternity, and Pi Kappa Lambda. Outside of her teaching at Gable, Mrs. Cooper enjoys serving as a judge and clinician for bands across the region.

Mrs. Cooper resides in Spartanburg, South Carolina with her husband Robbie, and their sons, Jack and Henry. When she is not teaching, she enjoys filling her time by taking road trips with her family, spending time with friends, reading, hiking, and exercising.



**Dr. Alyssa J. Cossey** (she/her) is a conductor, educator, scholar, and activist dedicated to expanding the choral canon and diversifying the podium. She is in demand as a clinician, adjudicator, conductor, and presenter, giving over one hundred

research and practitioner presentations across the U.S. Her research interests include performance practice issues in twentieth-century music, culturally responsive pedagogy, and intersectional feminism in the arts. She is a contributing author for a new choral text on women composers (edited by Hilary Apfelstadt) and an inaugural member of the professional women's choir, Mirabai. She is currently serving as Associate Director of Choral Activities at Coastal Carolina University. Before relocating to the East Coast for love, she was an Assistant Professor of Choral Music at the University of Arizona and prior to that, she taught both middle and high school choir in Southern California for nearly a decade. For additional information and resources, please visit [www.alyssacossey.com](http://www.alyssacossey.com).



**Eric Crawford** is interim chair of the music department at Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina. He holds a Ph.D. in musicology from The Catholic University of America. His research focuses on the rich tradition of Gullah music, specifi-

## Conference *Clinicians*

cally the retentions and alterations that have occurred since the antebellum period. Beginning in 2007, he conducted extensive field recordings on Saint Helena Island, site of the historic Port Royal Experiment, and his transcriptions are held at the Folklife Center at the Library of Congress. An outgrowth of this work was the Saint Helena Island Gullah Spirituals Project, which brought together noted scholars and students to preserve and foster the study of the earliest recorded Negro spirituals. In 2013, the Atheneum Press at Coastal Carolina University published his field interviews in a CD and accompanying booklet entitled *Gullah: The Voice of an Island*.

His work on historic Sandy Island led to the 2017 publication *At Low Tide: The Voices of Sandy Island*. This booklet and interactive multi-media project highlight the rich history of Sandy Island and the need to ensure this island's continued survival. As part of this effort, the National Park Service awarded Coastal Carolina University an African American Civil Rights grant to rebuild the island's historic school and create an interactive cultural center. Since 2018, Crawford has worked on the Gullah Geechee Digital Project, which digitizes more than 6,900 historic records from plantation journals, musical transcriptions, and contemporary oral histories. In 2021, he appeared in Henry Louis Gates' miniseries "The Black Church" and was music consultant for the Amazon miniseries "The Underground Railroad." His books are *Gullah Spirituals: The Sound of Freedom and Protest in the South Carolina Sea Islands* (University of South Carolina Press, 2021) and *Gullah Culture in America* (Blair Publishing, 2023).



**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 currently serves as the Associate Dean and Department Chair. 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.



**Shannon Day** is a graduate of Shenandoah University in Winchester, VA, where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education with a Vocal Performance Certificate and a Minor in piano. In 2020, she received her Master's Degree in Music Education from North Greenville University with a perfect 4.0 GPA. She is currently in her 7th year of teaching in South Carolina and began her career in Laurel, MD as a K-5th Grade Music Teacher and Elementary Choir Director in 2012.

In 2017, Shannon received the prestigious Maryland Music

Educator's Association Outstanding Music Teacher Award for her successful elementary music and choral programs. She was one of the few elementary school choral directors in the state to receive Superior Ratings at Concert Performance Assessments. Additionally, she served as the Assistant Director to the Prince George's County Elementary Honors Choir and presented at professional development meetings for choral directors in Prince George's County on topics including sight-reading and repertoire selection.

Upon moving to Inman, SC in 2017, she started teaching K-5th Grade General Music and 4th-8th Grade Chorus at Campobello-Gramling School. During her time at Campobello-Gramling School, Shannon significantly expanded the elementary and middle school choral programs. She became the first choral director at the school to ever receive a superior rating at CPA and broke school records for the number of students accepted into state choirs at the elementary and middle school levels. Notably, she guided the first-ever student to be accepted into the ACDA Southern Region Unchanged Cambiata Tenor Bass Honor Choir. Shannon was also selected by District Officials to lead the first-ever Spartanburg School District One Elementary Honor Choir, "One Voice," to perform on the steps of the South Carolina State House.

Last year, Shannon accepted a new position as the Choral Director of Mabry Middle School. Under her leadership, the program, consisting of over 100 choral students in treble, men's, and mixed chorus, has achieved superior ratings and 1st place awards at CPA and the Music in the Parks Festival in Atlanta, GA. Additionally, her men's chorus received the highest honor of Grand Champions in the middle school chorus division.

Throughout her teaching tenure, Shannon has directed numerous ensembles, Honors Choirs, and individual students to Superior Ratings at Concert Performance Assessments, competitions, Solo & Ensemble, and State & Regional level choirs. She is an active member of both the SCMEA and ACDA and performs as a member of the North Greenville Choral Arts Society, where she also serves as a board member.

Shannon is the proud wife of Andrew Day and a loving mother to three beautiful children: Lillian (10), Grant (8), and Owen (3)."



**Kathryn Dey, violist**, is originally from Lake Mills, Wisconsin. She is an innovative performer and educator, and has performed extensively throughout the United States, Europe and the Caribbean. Ms. Dey is a Surdna Foundation fellow and was awarded a grant to study and perform works for unaccompanied viola by American composer Lillian Fuchs.

She plays regularly with organist David Turner as The Lila Duo. Together the duo founded the Haiti Music Project, a program bringing over 2000 donated instruments to music schools and performing ensembles in the Central Plateau region of Haiti. Ms. Dey has also served as a program consultant and guest artist at the Palotti School of Music in Belize City, Belize.

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Her teaching has been recognized by ASTA, the American Viola Society and MTNA, among others, and students from her studio are now performing and teaching around the world. Ms. Dey regularly presents workshops to teachers and students throughout the United States and has been recognized for her unique emphasis on interdisciplinary connections between music, creative writing and acting. She is committed to building and sustaining rural South Carolina string programs in Chester, Fairfield, Jasper, Laurens, and Pickens counties.

Ms. Dey is on the faculty of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts, and the Swannanoa Chamber Music Festival workshop. She is a co-founder of the Eastman Summer Viola Workshop, as well as the Viola Intensive Workshop. Ms. Dey earned degrees in viola performance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison as a student of Sally Chisholm, and at the Eastman School of Music, where she served as teaching assistant to John Graham. Ms. Dey speaks fluent German, rides her bike wherever she can and together with her husband cellist Robert O'Brien, has been renovating a home in downtown Greenville, SC for over twenty years.



**Jack A. Eaddy, Jr.**, a native of Orangeburg, SC, is the Director of Athletic Bands at Western Carolina University, where he serves as the Director of Pride of the Mountains Marching Band and conducts the Symphonic Band. Dr. Eaddy holds degrees from the University of North Texas, University of Georgia, and the Florida State University. Dr. Eaddy taught for twelve years in Orlando, FL, where he developed a program that was recognized throughout the state for maintaining high standards despite the challenges his students experienced. Dr. Eaddy received the FMEA Tom Bishop Award recognizing a director who turned a program around, making a positive difference. Dr. Eaddy has presented at several conferences, including the Midwest Clinic and CBDNA Southern Division and Athletic Band Conferences. As a conductor, he was a selected participant in the 2018 US Pershing's Own Army Band's conducting workshop and received 2nd place for the 2020 American Prize in Conducting. Dr. Eaddy has earned a national reputation mentoring music directors and convenes two professional development seminars: Listen Up!!! score study sessions, and the Conductors' reToolbox, as well as hosts a national podcast, Tales from the Band Room, that focuses on strengthening music education programs in urban communities to have a life-long impact on students. Dr. Eaddy is a 2022 GRAMMY Music Educator of the Year finalist.



**Mr. Essig** received his M.M. in guitar performance from the University of South Carolina under the instruction of Christopher Berg and a B.A. in Guitar Performance from Geneva College.

Mr. Essig joined the Ben Lippen faculty in Fall 2011 as director of the Guitar and Worship Arts program. Under Mr. Essig's leadership, the guitar curriculum expanded to four sections in just two years. Mr. Essig has been teaching guitar for over 12 years and enjoys teaching and performing in the Columbia area. Mr. Essig served as the Dean of Fine Arts at Ben Lippen School from 2014-2018. He has given performances as a soloist at the University of South Carolina, Coker College, the Columbia Guitar Society, Geneva College, and Columbia International University. Mr. Essig conducted the All-State Guitar Ensemble in 2019 and has served as the Conference Chair, and is currently the President of the SMCEA Guitar Division. Mr. Essig specializes in classical guitar pedagogy. His teaching philosophy consists of helping students find healing, potential, and community through a holistic approach to music. Mr. Essig specializes in Classical Guitar Ensembles, Popular Music Ensembles, and Orchestra. His students regularly earn superiors at the SCISA Music Festival, Carowinds, All-State Orchestra, and All-State Guitar.



**Beth A. Fabrizio** holds a Bachelor of Music from the Eastman School of Music in Clarinet Performance and a Masters of Music in Conducting, Education and Performance from Ithaca College. She has studied conducting with Rodney Winther and Dr. Donald Hunsberger and Clarinet

with Michael Webster, Richard Waller, Stanley Hasty, William Osseck, Carmine Campione and performed in master classes with Richard Stoltzman.

Ms. Fabrizio maintains a private clarinet studio with numerous students pursuing careers in music education, music business, therapy, recording and performance. She herself performed as the principal clarinetist and personnel manager with The Greater Rochester Music Educators Wind Ensemble, and former Eb clarinet with The Perinton Concert Band. Beth is a freelance performer and is an active artist/ clinician for The D'addario Corporation and educational clinician with the Conn-Selmer Corporation. She has just recently retired after 36 years as a public school educator, and most recently from The Hilton Central School District as a director of Bands at Village Elementary. Beth is also presenting educational clinics and workshops thru Fabrizio's Musical Concepts.

Ms. Fabrizio has conducted honor bands and presented master classes and clinics across the United States, Europe, Japan and Malaysia. Beth has taught marching bands and drum and bugle corps throughout the United States and Asia. Ms. Fabrizio has

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been the brass caption head with The Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps, brass coordinator with The Pride of Soka from Tokyo, Japan, brass staff with Boston Crusaders, The Glassmen and Spirit of Atlanta. Beth adjudicates for DCI, BOA, WGI and numerous other state associations. She has also been inducted in to Delta Kappa Gamma, Sigma Alpha Iota and Alpha Chi Omega. Ms. Fabrizio is honored to be the founder and charter member of the newly formed Chi chapter of Phi Beta Mu and was inducted in May of 2022.



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Dr. Tim Fischer is a jazz guitarist, composer, and educator who has performed across the United States as well as in Europe. Growing up in Los Angeles, Tim had the good fortune to study and perform with many of the great musicians that call the city home. The lessons

learned during his formative years in Los Angeles are compiled on his debut album as a leader, *Due South*, which features his original compositions and arrangements performed by a mix of friends from both the West Coast and Midwest.

Tim is active in jazz education, having presented his research on the Miles Davis first quintet at Northwestern University,

University of Southern California, California Institute of the Arts, Eastern Washington University, Pasadena City College, and the Seattle Jazz Guitar Society. He is the coauthor of *Jazz Guitar Duets* (Mel Bay Publications); his writing has also appeared in *Just Jazz Guitar Magazine*.

Tim has worked as an adjudicator for the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival and as an instructor of combos and big bands for the Monterey Jazz Festival's Summer Jazz Camp. An experienced computer programmer, Tim has also presented clinics on website development and online marketing for the music and design schools at California Institute of the Arts. Prior to joining CCU, he taught music at several colleges throughout Los Angeles and St. Louis. Tim holds a doctorate in music from the University of Southern California.



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**John Ginocchio** is Director of Bands and Professor of Music at Southwest Minnesota State University where he conducts the Symphonic Chamber Winds, SMSU/Community Concert Band, and the SMSU Jazz Ensemble. He teaches conducting, orchestration, and instrumental music education courses and serves as

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chair of the Department of Fine Arts & Communication.

Dr. Ginocchio holds a Doctor of Arts degree in conducting and music education from Ball State University; a Master of Music degree in trombone performance from Ball State; and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Indiana University, Bloomington. He previously served as a doctoral assistant director in the band department at Ball State University, and he taught instrumental music for the Adams Central Community Schools in Monroe, Indiana for ten years.

Active as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator, Dr. Ginocchio has worked with bands of all levels throughout the Midwest and in Spain and has served on the jury for the Certamen Internacional de Bandas de Musica in Valencia, Spain. Research and writing interests include the music of the Festival of Moors and Christians, conducting, ensemble seating, wind chamber music, popular music in the classroom, and composition in the classroom. His articles have appeared in publications such as *The Instrumentalist*, *Contributions to Music Education*, and *the Music Educators Journal*. He has also contributed to the popular *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band* series. In addition, he regularly presents sessions at state, national, and international conferences.



**Tyler H. Goodwin-Souffront** is a hornist and composer for Greenville, South Carolina currently studying at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music with Denise Tryon, Jeff Nelsen and Richard Seraphinoff (in addition to the former Dale

Clevenger). He has previous degrees from Furman University (BM) and the University of North Carolina in Greensboro (MM) with Dr. Abigail Pack. In addition, he is an inaugural member of the Invested Musician program, where he studied with the principal horn of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Andrew Bain. Goodwin-Souffront is the fourth horn of the Brevard Philharmonic in North Carolina and plays regularly in various orchestras throughout the Southeast and Midwestern regions of the United States. His presentation "Linguistics in Music Education" has been featured at national and international conferences for musicians such as the Southeast Horn Workshop and the International Horn Society Summer Symposium at the University of Montreal in Canada. Tyler has a deep passion for language and music and incorporates the two into one cohesive unit to help better musicians professionally.



**Dr. Matthew Hinsley** received the 2020 Margaret Perry Award for Excellence in Education, was a 2019 recipient of the National Guild for Community Arts Education Milestone Award for more than twenty years of community service in the

arts. He was named Public Citizen of the Year in 2017 by the Texas Statewide Division of the National Association of Social Workers, and was a winner of a 2015 Austin Under 40 award. Hinsley has worked as a community arts organizer in Central Texas since 1996.

As Executive Director of Austin Classical Guitar (ACG), Dr. Hinsley has raised more than ten million dollars in support of broad concert, community engagement, and educational programming, building the nation's largest classical guitar nonprofit organization. In 2015 he joined the faculty at the University of Texas College of Fine Arts to teach courses in arts entrepreneurship and business management in the arts.

Dr. Hinsley is founder and a lead author of the ACG curriculum and music library that, paired with extensive direct service, has transformed classroom guitar education in public schools across the United States reaching tens of thousands of students. The curriculum, which is now used internationally, is in service in over fifty Austin-area schools including for-credit programs at the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and multiple Juvenile Justice centers.

Dr. Hinsley was trained as a classical guitarist and vocalist at the Interlochen Arts Academy, the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, and the University of Texas at Austin. He has written six books including *Classical Guitar for Young People*, *Creativity to Community: Arts Nonprofit Success One Coffee at a Time*, and the film-optioned fantasy series *Tinder & Flint*.



**Deirdre Hutton** has enjoyed a varied career as a teacher, chamber musician and orchestral player. Many of her violin students have gone on to study at prestigious music schools throughout North America including: The Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, Manhattan School

of Music, Oberlin Conservatory, Cleveland Institute of Music, University of Texas at Austin and the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. In addition, her students have been featured on the radio show *From the Top* and have participated in such summer festivals as the Heifetz Institute, Aspen School of Music, Bowdoin Music Festival, the New York String Seminar, National Youth Orchestra, National Repertory Orchestra, Meadowmount and National Orchestral Institute.

Deirdre completed her Bachelor of Music in Performance at the Eastman School of Music as a student of Oleh Krysa. At Northwestern University she was teaching assistant to Almita and Roland Vamos while earning a Master of Music degree. Additional studies included intensive private study with Itzhak Rashkovsky, Royal College in London.

She has given masterclasses through the US and internationally. Deirdre has been violin coach for the Greenville County Youth Orchestra's Young Artists Orchestra for the last ten years, as well as leading violin sectionals for numerous South Carolina Regional and All State Orchestras.

In addition to her work as a teacher Deirdre is an active cham-

ber musician. As violinist and founding member of the Poinsett Piano Trio she has performed concerts throughout the US, Germany and New Zealand over the last decade. <http://poinsettianotrio.com>

Deirdre has performed in numerous orchestras in the US and Europe including the New World Symphony (Miami, Florida), the Schlossfestspiele Chamber Orchestra (Heidelberg, Germany), the North Carolina Symphony, the Charleston Symphony (South Carolina), the Knoxville Symphony (Tennessee), and the Greenville Symphony (South Carolina). She was Assistant Concertmaster of the Roanoke Symphony (Virginia) and was Assistant Concertmaster for the last two seasons with the Spartanburg Philharmonic.

Prior to joining the SCGSAH faculty in 2019, Deirdre taught as Adjunct Professor at Furman University for 14 years.



Will Jung is in his 9th year teaching and is the current director of bands at Socastee High School in Myrtle Beach, SC. A native of Fayetteville, NC, he was a student of Rick Starling and Charles Dumas at Douglas Byrd

Middle and High. Will was a NC Teaching Fellow and attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he studied trumpet under Jim Ketch, conducting with Tonus Kalam and Dr. Evan Feldman, and education philosophy with Dr. Daniel Huff. He graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and is currently pursuing his Master's of Music Education at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

In 2019, he was selected as UNC World View Global Music Fellow where he and his cohort conducted research to integrated global music into classroom instruction. Will continues to study conducting under William Curry, conductor of the Durham Symphony.

His previous positions include director of orchestras at Millbrook High School in Raleigh, NC, band instructor in Qingdao, Shandong, China via the DCI China Fellowship, and general music/band director with National Heritage Academies.

Will is an active composer, arranger, and marching arts show designer. He recent accomplishments include writing for the Hong Kong Central Marching Band, who scored highest winds in their class at the 2018 WGI Taiwan Championships.



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**Robert Kelley** is a Professor of Music at Lander University. He teaches Class Piano, Applied Piano, Piano Ensemble, Second-Year Music Theory, Form and Analysis, Music of the World, and Music Composition. He holds the PhD in Music Theory

from Florida State University. Dr. Kelley also holds degrees in piano performance and music theory/composition from Furman University and James Madison University.



**Dustin King** is the Director of Bands at the Charleston School of the Arts High School. Originally from North Carolina, Dustin King received his Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Western Carolina University. At WCU he served in leadership

positions for the 2009 Sudler Trophy recipient "Pride of the Mountains" Marching Band, was the principal saxophonist for the WCU Wind Ensemble, and recipient of the Maxie Beaver Excellence in Music Education award given by the WCU School of Music. Mr. King received his Master's of Music Education degree in 2012, having served as a graduate assistantship with the University of South Carolina Bands under the direction of Dr. Scott Weiss and Dr. Rebecca Phillips.

Prior to his appointment at the Charleston SOA High School, he served as the Ridge View HS Director of Bands in Columbia, SC. The Blazer Band was a consistent SCBDA State Marching Band Championships contender and won numerous awards at competitions across the state, including being named 2019 3A Lower State & 2021 4A Lower State Champions. The concert ensembles consistently received superior ratings at the SCBDA Concert Performance Assessment and the RVHS Wind Ensemble was selected as a featured ensemble in the 2020 "President's Cup" Invitational in Washington, D.C., 2021 SCMEA Conference, and 2021 University of South Carolina Band Clinic. From 2012-2016, Mr. King served as the Director of Bands at Batesburg-Leesville High School in SC. The BLHS band under his leadership received numerous awards at the South Carolina Band Directors Association State Marching Band Championships, excellent & superior ratings at the SCBDA Concert Performance Assessment, and the Outstanding Performance Award from 2013-2016. In addition to these accolades, the BLHS Panther Band was one of sixteen American marching bands to perform in the London New Year's Day Parade on January 1, 2015.

Mr. King is an active member in the South Carolina Band Directors Association, having served on the association's executive board from 2015-2019. In February 2019, Mr. King was awarded the South Carolina Music Educators Association Outstanding Young Music Educator Award. He has received the National Band Association's "Citation of Excellence" and "Cer-

ificate of Merit for Marching Excellence". He is a member of NAFME, SCMEA, SCBDA, NBA, and Phi Beta Mu Honorary Bandmasters Fraternity.

Outside of teaching he enjoys spending time with his wife Kristen, son Evan, daughter Charlotte.



**Dr. Susana Lalama** is an Associate Professor of Music Education and Director of the Petrie School of Music at Converse University where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in music education and instrumental conducting. She is an active scholar and researcher in music education and serves as the conductor of the Spartanburg Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Symphony Ensemble. Dr. Lalama is an active band clinician, adjudicator, instrumental music education consultant, and mentor to new teachers.



**Dr. Christine Lapka** is committed to guiding teacher education candidates in the areas of exceptionalities in music, and elementary music methods at the University of Central Florida (UCF). Before UCF, Dr. Lapka was a professor of music at Western Illinois University. Throughout her career, she found her two undergraduate degrees invaluable to her teaching (Music Education & Music Therapy). She served the Illinois Music Educators Association, as the Learners with Exceptionalities Chair, for 15 years and received the Mary Hoffman Award of Excellence.

As a leader in disabilities in music, she presents across the country and has articles in music education journals. Her chapters are "Including Students with Disabilities in Instrumental Ensembles," in Exceptional Pedagogy for Children with Exceptionalities: International Perspectives (Oxford University Press) and "Breaking Down Barriers for Students with Disabilities in Your Choir" in The Choral Conductor's Companion (GIA).



**Dr. Christopher D. Lee** (BM University of Maryland, MM, and DMA University of South Carolina) is in his 11th year as the Director of Bands at Dreher High School. Dr. Lee conducts the Dreher Wind Ensembles, Dreher Marching Band,

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Dreher Jazz, Dreher Percussion, Dreher Brass Ensemble, and is the founder of the Dreher Steel Bands. He has attended conducting masterclasses with Sue Samuels, Emily Threinen, William Staub, Craig Kirchhoff, Jerry Junkin, Robert Carnochan, John Lynch, Robert Ambrose, Cody Birdwell, Kenneth Kiesler, and Jamie Nix. His teaching credits include the University of South Carolina, Lander University, Claflin University, Cadets of Bergen County Drum and Bugle Corps, Star of Indiana Drum and Bugle Corps, Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps, Thom Hannum's Mobile Percussion Seminars, Logan Elementary School & Eau Claire High School. An active clinician/performer for the Pearl Corporation, Avedis Zildjian Co., Innovative Percussion, Evans Drumheads, he has presented clinics/masterclasses at the SC Music Educators Association, NC Music Educators Association, University of North Texas, University of South Carolina, summer workshops, and many schools throughout the Southeastern US. Along with extensive teaching experience, Dr. Lee is the principal percussionist of the South Carolina Philharmonic Orchestra, an active solo steel drum performer, co-founder/lead steel pan player and manager of the Island Close By Steel Band. As a concert percussionist/drummer, he has performed in London, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center and with the Savannah, Augusta, Charlotte, Charleston, Long Bay, Florence, Greenville, Aiken and Atlanta Symphonies as well as Roger Williams, Roger Pemberton, Dick Goodwin, Bert Ligon, The Rat Pack, The Diamonds, The Moody Blues, Ray Charles, Andrea Bocelli, The Association, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Shirley Jones, the 1985-88 Garfield Cadets Drum and Bugle Corps and is the percussionist in-residence at Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church. His Broadway Show credits include National Tour (Columbia, SC Performances) Wicked, and Local Columbia, SC Theater Productions The Heathers, A. My Name Is Alice, A Chorus Line, West Side Story, Dream Girls, Jesus Christ Superstar, Oliver, La Cage Aux Folles, Falsettos, Kiss of the Spider Woman, Tommy, Chicago, The Life, Guys and Dolls among others and Camelot at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery Alabama. Dr. Lee is a member of the American School Band Directors Association, South Carolina Band Director Association, and South Carolina Music Educators Association.



**Gregory W. LeFils, PhD.** is a visiting assistant professor of choral music education at Stetson University, in DeLand, Florida. He has presented over 25 state and national conference sessions and conducted choirs and honor choirs throughout the southeast. His duties at Stetson include teaching music education classes, conducting, and supervising student teachers. Dr. LeFils holds a Ph.D. in music education from The Florida State University.



**Zackery McCarter** is a native of South Carolina having received his undergraduate degree in K-12 Instrumental Music Education from Winthrop University. He serves as the Director of Bands at Oakridge Middle School and as an Assistant Director for the Bands of Clover. His previous experience includes intermediate, middle, and high school instruction in the areas of general music, choir, and band in the Fort Mill, Chester, and York School Districts. He has had the privilege to work with students across South Carolina who have medaled at state contest 15 times over the past 17 years, including 4 Upper State Championships, BOA Regional Class Champion, Regional Finalists and Grand National Semi-Finalists.

While serving his school and incredible students, he is also an active member of the South Carolina Music Educators Association, South Carolina Band Directors Association, and the National Association for Music Education. As an educator outside of his own classroom in OMS, he travels across the Southeast as a clinician, judge, and presenter.



**Dr. Brandon Meeks** is from Charlotte, North Carolina, and is currently the Director of Athletic Bands and Assistant Professor of Music Education at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia. He is a graduate of Florida State University where he received his PhD and Masters in Music Education. He is also a 2009

graduate of Western Carolina University where he received a Bachelor of Science in Music Education. While at WCU, Dr. Meeks was a recipient of the prestigious North Carolina Teaching Fellows scholarship program. From 2009-2016 he served as the Director of Bands at East Lincoln Middle School in Iron Station, NC. During his tenure at East Lincoln, the band program experienced growth, consistently received Superior and Excellent ratings at state festivals and maintained a culture of high expectations and musical excellence. Dr. Meeks is a National Board-Certified Teacher, holds honorary memberships to Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, was named the 2013 East Lincoln Middle School Teacher of the Year, and was named the 2016 NC South Central Bandmasters Young Director Award for Excellence. He is an active presenter across the southeast, enjoys fitness activities and playing the piano and currently resides in Woodstock, Georgia.

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**Meredith Melven** is in her third year as the Director of Bands at Ashley Ridge High School in Summerville, South Carolina. During her time at Ashley Ridge High School, the concert bands and marching band

have consistently earned Superior ratings at SCBDA adjudicated events. Prior to her position at Ashley Ridge High School, she taught middle school band at Oakbrook Middle School in Summerville, SC and Colleton County Middle School in Walterboro, SC. At Oakbrook Middle, she grew the program to over 250 students, started jazz band and percussion ensemble classes, and consistently earned Superior ratings at SCBDA events. She was the 2020 Oakbrook Middle School Teacher of the Year and the 2020 recipient of the Phi Beta Mu Young Band Director Award for the Theta Chapter.

Melven attended the University of South Carolina, where she received her Bachelors in Music Education and Clarinet Performance Certificate. She holds a Masters in Music Education from Colorado State University, with an emphasis in conducting.

Melven has been a clinician for the Charleston Southern University Summer Music Camp and for the 2021 SCBDA Region Four Junior Concert Band. In addition to her experience in music education, Melven also has an extensive dance background; she served from 2014 - 2018 as an instructor, leadership coach, and judge for the Universal Dance Association (UDA), one of the country's largest dance education organizations and competitive circuits. In her time outside of band, she enjoys being with family and spending time outside in the beautiful lowcountry of South Carolina.



**Chris Mitchell** is continuing his 11th year teaching and 9th year as Director of Concert and Jazz Ensembles at Powdersville Middle School where he was named Teacher of the Year in 2018. He is a graduate from

Winthrop University and received his Master's Degree in Music Education from Central Washington University through participation in the American Band College. In 2019, he served as jazz clinician for the Pickens County Jazz Ensemble. He has served as a clinician for the Southern Wesleyan University Summer Jazz Camp for 5 years and combo leader for the Furman University Jazz Camp in the summer of 2023. When Mr. Mitchell is not teaching he spends his time at home with his wife and two corgis, or performing jazz with various groups across the upstate. Alongside his middle school teaching career, he also gives applied Jazz Saxophone lessons at Anderson University.



**Dr. Marcus Morris** currently serves as the Assistant Director of Bands at Dorman High School in South Carolina. He co-directs the Grade 6 Wind Ensemble and marching band, directs the Symphonic Band, and

works on the instructional staff for the Scholastic World Class Indoor Percussion.

A native of Spartanburg, South Carolina, Morris holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree and a Master in Music Education K-12 also from Winthrop University, his Ed.S in Administration and Supervision and Ed.D in Professional Leadership with an emphasis in Music Education from Converse University where he served as the first-ever President of the Graduate Student Association.

Dr. Morris remains active nationwide as an adjudicator, presenter, performer, and clinician. He has presented multiple clinics and keynote addresses at annual conferences, state-level arts conferences, and several school district PD days. In November 2019, Marcus presented a featured session at the National Association for Music Educators Conference in Orlando. He has recently presented at music education conferences in Louisiana, South Carolina, Alabama, Kansas, Kentucky, Indiana, and the 2022 MidWest Conference in Chicago.

He has conducted honor bands in several states, including North Carolina, South Carolina, and Florida. He is a part of the instructional staff for the Dorman High School Indoor Percussion, currently competing in the Scholastic World Division.

Dr. Morris is a 2017 recipient of the Converse College Lovett Award for Promising Educational Leader and the 2019 South Carolina Music Educators Association Mentor Award.

Mr. Morris is a member of the Percussive Arts Society, National Association for Music Educators, South Carolina Music Educators Association, Palmetto State Teacher's Association, the South Carolina Band Directors Association, and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.



**Dr. Joshua Miller** began his musical journey in Spartanburg School District 6 schools where he later graduated from Dorman High School. He received his Bachelor's degree from Furman University, and completed

a Master's and PhD at Clemson University. Dr. Miller's teaching career included time in Anderson School District One as well as Spartanburg School District Two. As a music educator he holds two main philosophies: kids who trust you can learn anything, and fundamentals are the key to musical success. Although he has transitioned from regular classroom instruction to an administrative role, he also serves as the conductor for the Prelude Ensemble of the Spartanburg Philharmonic Youth Orchestra. As an orchestra director Dr. Miller received numerous professional awards like Teacher of the Year, WYFF Golden Apple, as well as WYFF News 4 Teacher of the Year. His performance ensembles have also earned numerous awards at myriad festivals including the Gold Outstanding Performance award. Dr. Miller and his wife (Raven) have one son (Asher) and one daughter (Ayla). He enjoys watching as much Netflix as possible and spending time with his family.

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**Justin Morris** is a graduate of Tougaloo College with a B.A. degree in Humanities with an emphasis in Music and a graduate of Augusta State University with a Masters in Music Education. Mr. Morris

has been teaching young people music for 14 years. Mr. Morris currently serves as Director of Bands at Langston Hughes High School in Fairburn, Georgia. Morris previously served as Director of Bands at Burke County High School in Waynesboro Georgia. He previously taught high school, middle school, and collegiate band in the Atlanta, Augusta, and Savannah areas. Mr. Morris is a member of the Georgia Music Educator's Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, Inc.



Robert O'Brien, Born in Princeton, NJ, began playing the cello at age eight. Mr. O'Brien plays regularly throughout the Southeast and has appeared recently as a soloist with the Foothills Philharmonic and the

Macon (Georgia) Symphony. As a chamber musician his programs have been heard on Peachstate Public Radio and on South Carolina Educational Radio. Recent performances include solo recitals in Kinston, NC and Greenville, SC. A former instructor at the Columbus (Georgia) Academy of Music, Mr. O'Brien was part of the first successful HUD sponsored Suzuki string program. Through this innovative program he was involved in bringing Suzuki and traditional cello instruction to public housing projects in western Georgia. He has been a guest artist at the Pallotti School of Music in Belize City, Belize, and recently performed a set of recitals on the Visbek Kulturkries series in northern Germany. In collaboration with the Zanmi Lasante Community Center of Cange, Haiti Mr. O'Brien teaches strings and repairs instruments through a music outreach project benefitting the young musicians of the Orchestre Communicaire du Cange. He is the cello instructor of the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities and assistant principal cellist of the Greenville Symphony Orchestra. Mr. O'Brien holds a degree from Peabody Conservatory in cello performance where he was a student of Stephen Kates. He has also worked with Leonard Rose, Janos Starker and former Fine Arts Quartet violinist Abe Loft. Mr. O'Brien was recently the recipient of a grant from the Surdna Foundation to study Baroque cello technique with members of Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra and cellist Pieter Wispelwey of the Netherlands. Mr. O'Brien performs on a cello made in 2002 by David Burgess, and also plays a modern made Baroque cello and piccolo cello. When he's not practicing you can find him doing the New York Times crossword puzzle in pen or making sourdough bread.



**Mrs. Ortiz** is the director of bands and elective department leader at Muller Road Middle School in Blythewood, SC. Under her direction, the Muller Road Middle School Bands have consistently received

Superior and Excellent ratings at South Carolina Band Directors Association sponsored events. Ortiz has served as a fine arts leader in Richland Two and helps organize the annual Richland School District Two Honor Band Clinic.

Prior to her current position, Mrs. Ortiz was the director of bands at E. L. Wright Middle School in Columbia, SC for nine years. Throughout her career, her students have participated in multiple festivals: Dixie Classic Festival, Music in the Parks, Carowinds Music Festival, and the Charleston Music Festival. Under her direction, the E. L. Wright Middle School Symphonic Band performed at the 2010 SCMEA conference. Mrs. Ortiz was also a co-director of the Richland School District Two Honor Band that performed at the SCMEA conference in 2015.

Mrs. Ortiz is a graduate of the University of South Carolina where she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Music with an emphasis in Music Education and Performance Certificate in 2001. Mrs. Ortiz also earned a Master of Music degree in 2009 from the University of South Carolina.

Mrs. Ortiz is an avid supporter of future music teachers, having been a cooperating teacher since 2007 and mentoring students from both the University of South Carolina as well as Newberry College. Mrs. Ortiz has been a guest speaker for music education students at the University of South Carolina and served as an alumni mentor for the Future Band Director Academy at the University of South Carolina.

As a french horn player, Mrs. Ortiz teaches privately and works as a clinician. She is an active member of the Palmetto Concert Band and performs professionally with various brass ensembles. Mrs. Ortiz holds professional affiliations with the Phi Beta Mu, SCBDA, SCMEA, ΣAI, and KKΨ. Mrs. Ortiz and her husband, Jason, reside in Columbia, SC with their three children, Evelyn, Adam and Jason.



**Dr. Philip M Powell** is a Professor of Music and has been a faculty member at Coastal Carolina University since 1988, teaching piano, pedagogy and music history. Since moving to South Carolina, Dr. Powell has

maintained an active performing schedule with concerts frequently heard on South Carolina Public Radio. In South Carolina, Dr Powell has performed with South Carolina Symphony Orchestra, the Jupiter Symphony Orchestra and is a frequent soloist with the Long Bay Symphony, playing concerto repertoire ranging from Mozart to Gershwin. As a collaborative pianist, Dr. Powell has appeared with artists such as Kennedy Center Honors recipient Martina Arroyo, Soprano; Ignat Solzhenitsyn, piano;

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Sungwon Yang, Cello; David Jolley, French Horn; Grammy nominated Tine Thing Helseth, trumpet and Grammy nominated composer and flutist; Valerie Coleman. He has also served as a President of the Coastal Concert Association, Music Director of Festival of Music and Art at Pawley's Island, founding Director of Musicale de Geneve series and a member of the Board of Directors of the Litchfield Dance Arts Academy and of the Long Bay Symphony. In 2021, Dr. Powell was inducted into the Steinway and Sons "Teacher Hall of Fame" which serves as a tribute to the many outstanding mentors with whom Dr. Powell has the privilege to work. Dr. Powell holds the BMA from University of Oklahoma, where he studied with Drs. Todd Welbourne and Edward Gates. He also attended the Aspen Summer Music Festival as a student of the Late Edith Oppens. Dr. Powell holds a Masters of Music Education degree from Indiana University, where he was a student of both the late Karen Shaw, and Shegio Neriki. He has a Doctorate of Music also from Indiana University, where he was a student of the Late Michel Block



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**Andrea Kemper Quinn** has been the Director of the Piano & Orchestras at James Island Charter High School since 2007. The Piano program was established in 2008 and has grown to be the largest, most

successful non-magnet Piano program in the tri-county area in SC. The Orchestra Program most recently received a straight Superior rating at the 2018 and 2020 SC State Music Performance Assessment. Her Piano and Strings students regularly perform in and around the community. She spent nine years teaching Chorus at JICHS from 2007-2017, saw enrollment more than triple under her direction, and taught IB Music. Quinn was Co-Chair of the Leadership Team for the 2017-18 school year and Fine Arts Chair for JICHS from 2016-2018 and is currently the Performing Arts Chair since 2018. Quinn is also Vice Chair of the Leadership Team since 2022 and the JICHS Secretary for the Board of Directors since 2021. She has been a finalist for Teacher of the Year at JICHS several times.

A native of Miami, Florida, Quinn is currently studying at the University of New England to attain an Ed. D in Education Administration. She has her Masters Degree in Education Administration from UNE and a Masters in Music Education from the University of South Carolina, where she was the USC String Project Graduate Assistant. Quinn earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education with a double principal in piano and cello from the University of Miami. She studied piano with the late Dr. Teresa Escandon at the University of Miami and Celia Rodriguez as a child in Miami. She studied cello with Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Carolina Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of South Carolina Dr. Robert Jesselson, the College of Charleston professor of cello Natalia Khoma, and the University of Miami cello professor Ross Harbaugh. Quinn is a graduate of Dutch Fork High School in Irmo, SC.

As of July 2023, Quinn is the President of the SCMEA Piano Di-

vision and is active in several SCMEA divisions. She is a member of the Lambda Kappa Psi Music Honors Society. Including the JICHS Curriculum, which includes two levels of String Orchestra, IB Music and Piano 1-4 Honors, she has also taught middle school Chorus, Orchestra, and Guitar, as well as Elementary Strings and General Music in her more than 21 years as a music educator. Although there are many successes, Quinn's main goal is to instill a love for music in her students and become lifelong appreciators of the performing arts.

Quinn appears as a featured solo cellist throughout Charleston and is known for both her classical and improvisational styles. She has played cello for the 2018 and 2020 SC ACDA choirs, and at the Montreat Worship and Music Conference. She has been the Guest Conductor for the Beaufort and Berkeley All County Middle School Orchestras and been the Large Cello Choir clinician for the SC Cello Choir events. Quinn is currently a member of James Island Presbyterian Church, where she is cellist in residence.



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**Elizabeth A. Reed** is an Assistant Professor and Area Coordinator of Music Education at Miami University (OH). Since 2018, Dr. Reed has been the Executive Director of the National String Project Consortium

([www.stringprojects.org](http://www.stringprojects.org)). She taught all levels of Orchestra for 11 years in Fairfax County, VA, and one year of middle school orchestra in Chapin, SC. Dr. Reed received degrees in music education and studied cello at the University of South Carolina and the Eastman School of Music. As a researcher and clinician, she focuses on music teacher identity, culturally responsive pedagogy, student-centered pedagogy, and pitch perception.



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**Emily Reeves Bohl** is the Director of Choral Activities at Berkeley Center for the Arts at Goose Creek High School. Emily is in her ninth year of teaching music and directing choirs in varied settings. Students

under her direction have been selected for regional, state, and national honor choirs, and choirs under her direction have consistently received superior ratings in adjudicated settings. She has also served as Music Director/Conductor for musicals including: You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown (2021), Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella (2021), and The Wizard of Oz (2022). Outside the classroom, Emily maintains an active performing schedule throughout South Carolina. She can be heard regularly as staff soprano at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, and with professional choirs including The King's Counterpoint, Vox Regis, and Cantores Charleston. Professional affiliations include

## Conference *Clinicians*

the National Association for Music Education, Organization of American Kodály Educators, and the South Carolina chapter of the American Choral Directors Association, where she serves as the Chair for Treble Repertoire and Resources. Emily has served as a clinician in varied settings, most recently serving as a Clinician for Waccamaw Schools Fall Premiere (2022) and as Director of Senior Choir at Charleston Southern University Summer Music Camp (2021). She is also active as a presenter, especially in the area of the Kodály concept and its applications to Choral Pedagogy. Recent presentations include the SC American Choral Director Association Conference (2022), and Berkeley County School District's Conference (2023). Bohl holds the Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Charleston Southern University (2015), the Master of Education in Administration and Curricular Supervision from the University of Oklahoma (2019), and the Master of Music in Music Education - Kodály from Holy Names University (2020); where she was a recipient of the Logan Fellowship in Education.



**Scott Rush** is the team lead for the Habits series by GIA Publications and is the former Director of Bands at Wando High School in Mount Pleasant, SC. He is a graduate of the New England Conservatory

of Music in Boston, Massachusetts and the University of South Carolina. He currently serves as co-conductor of the Charleston Wind Symphony, a semi-professional ensemble in Charleston, South Carolina.

Under his direction, the Wando Symphonic Band performed at the 2007 Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic and were recipients of the 2007 Sudler Flag of Honor administered by the John Philip Sousa Foundation. His marching bands were two-time BOA Grand National finalist.

Mr. Rush is active as a conductor, clinician and adjudicator throughout the United States and Canada. He is the author and co-author of fourteen highly touted books, some of which include: *Habits of A Successful Band Director*, *Habits of a Successful Beginner Band Musician*, *Habits of a Successful Musician*, *Habits of a Successful Beginner Band Musician*, *Habits of a Successful Middle School Musician*, *The Evolution of a Successful Band Director*, *Habits of a Successful Middle School Band Director*, *Habits of a Significant Band Director* and *Pathway to Success* for GIA Publications. Mr. Rush has served as President of the South Carolina Band Directors Association and is a former member of the Board of Directors for the National Band Association. In 2010, Mr. Rush was elected into the prestigious American Bandmasters Association and in 2011 was awarded the Bandworld "Legion of Honor." In 2016, he was awarded the Edwin Franko Goldman Award by the ASBDA for contributions to music education.



**Myrella Samuels** is a music educator who began her teaching career in Spartanburg School District 7 in 2011 as a band director. She is a graduate of Furman University (B.M.) and Converse University (M.M.). She made the move to elementary school music in 2018 and is currently an established Music Will educator who teaches music through popular music and modern instruments. Ms. Samuels first learned about Music Will and their approach to music education during her graduate work at Converse University. She quickly realized that in her new setting as an elementary music teacher, the principles taught and emphasized by Music Will would impact her students greatly.

Ms. Samuels teaches traditional elementary school music with a twist of popular music, drum set, ukulele and guitars at all grade levels. She enjoys watching her students learn traditional music lessons and concepts in a fresh, inspiring way that is just plain fun!

Trained as a trombonist, she herself first picked up a ukulele in hopes of playing along with her elementary students as they sang in music class. The students were enamored with the "little guitar" and naturally wanted to play too. A teacher's grant through the Junior League of Spartanburg and a Donors Choose furnished her school with two classroom sets of ukuleles that are used for a beginning ukulele unit with all of 3rd grade and several ukulele clubs.

These ukuleles sparked a different kind of interest in instrumental music at Drayton Mills Elementary School (DMES) and since their incorporation into the curriculum, Myrella has also added a rock band to the ensemble offerings at DMES.

When she's not teaching, Myrella enjoys collecting stamps in her passport, sunrises, hiking, and walks on the beach after a long morning of scuba diving.



**Andrew Schmidt** is currently a PhD student at Georgia State University, pursuing a degree in Teaching and Learning with a focus in Music Education. He is also a part-time lecturer at Kennesaw State University where he teaches musical theater voice and theory. Andrew has sung with professional choruses such as Kinnara, The Crossing, and The Thirteen. He is also the director of the Summer Singers of Atlanta, EarlyBird, and Voces Altum. Andrew currently holds a certificate of figure proficiency in Estill Voice Theory, incorporating this knowledge with his research interest of expanding multivocality in singers.

# Conference *Clinicians*



**Roger Simpson** proudly serves South Carolina's Arts students and educators as Education Associate for the Visual and Performing Arts with the South Carolina Department of Education where his primary

responsibilities include overseeing the arts teaching standards, providing and organizing professional learning opportunities, and managing the Arts Curricular Innovation Grants Program and the Archibald Rutledge Scholarship Program. Some of Mr. Simpson's past experiences include classroom teacher, teacher technology leader, district arts lead, arts enrichment program director, arts clinician and consultant, arts organization board member, and professional development presenter and facilitator. He believes strongly in the importance of mentorship and enhancing mentor/mentee relationships. Mr. Simpson has been honored by the National Band Association, the South Carolina Music Educators Association, School Band and Orchestra Magazine, and his school colleagues twice as teacher of the year. He is a practicing musician and continues to develop his musical artform. Mr. Simpson resides in Gilbert with his wife, Jeanette. In his free time, Mr. Simpson can be found in the skies flying his Cessna 172.



**Dylan Sims** is the currently the Assistant Director of Bands at Gold Hill Middle School in Fort Mill, SC. Mr. Sims previously served as Director of Bands at York Middle School in York, SC, Associate Director of Bands at Cuthbertson High School in Waxhaw, NC and Associate Director of Bands in Spartanburg School District 4, in Woodruff, SC.

Mr. Sims, originally from Cassatt, SC, obtained his undergraduate degree at Limestone College (now University) and his graduate degree from Anderson University. As a performer, Mr. Sims has performed throughout the Southeast, including South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, and Florida, as well as internationally in London, England.

Ensembles under Mr. Sims have received numerous accolades with notable performances at the USC Band Clinic in Columbia, SC, twice at the North Carolina Music Educator Association's Conference in Winston Salem, NC, Festival Disney in Orlando, FL, the Music for All Percussion Festival and Chamber Festival in Indianapolis, IN, the President's Cup in Washington D.C., the Music for All Southeastern Concert Regional in Atlanta, GA, and WGI World Finals in Dayton, OH. These ensembles have been successful in achieving state championships, circuit championships, superior ratings, and region and all-state performers.

Recently, Mr. Sims was named a 2022 and 2023 Grammy Music Educator of the Year Quarterfinalist, a First Bank "Out of this World Educator," School Band and Orchestra Magazine's "50 Directors Who Make a Difference," and a 2023 Yamaha "40 un-

der 40" Educator. He has obtained, on three occasions, the National Band Association "Citation of Excellence". He also serves as an education consultant with Vic Firth, Inc. He serves on the administrative staff of Civitas Independent, a perennial WGI PIO Finalist and 2022 Silver Medalist, and as a board member of the Carolina Arts Collective.

Mr. Sims also holds memberships in the National Association for Music Education, South Carolina Music Educators Association, South Carolina Band Director's Association, and the National Band Association.



**Lia Snead**, A New York native, earned her Bachelor of Music Education from Armstrong State University in Savannah, GA. While in Savannah, she was active as a private trumpet instructor and marching

band instructor at Savannah State University. After graduation, she became the Director of Bands at Robert W. Groves High School, where she revived the band program and helped them earn their first superior ratings at festival in over a decade. In 2014, Lia became a conducting graduate assistant at Northern Illinois University. After graduation, she became the Associate Director of Bands at Richmond Hill High School in Richmond Hill, GA. While there, the program consistently received straight superior ratings and won numerous awards at both concert and marching festivals. Lia recently received a DMA in conducting from the University of South Carolina and has graciously accepted the position of Director of Bands at Wartburg College.

Lia is active as a clinician, adjudicator, guest conductor, and performer. She is a member of NAfME, MEA, and Tau Beta Sigma, National Honorary Band Sorority.

Lia is married to her college sweetheart, fellow band director, and PhD student at USC, Mr. Derrick Snead. Together, they have adopted an Old English Bulldog named Bruno.



**Emilio Terranova** is an Assistant Professor and coordinator of the Commercial Music and Jazz major at Coastal Carolina University. Up until his move to South Carolina in August of 2021, Emilio was an

active jazz bassist in the Los Angeles area. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree in Jazz Bass from California State University Northridge under the guidance of Gary Pratt and Darek Oleszkiewicz, then continued under Darek's and jazz bass legend Charlie Haden's direction at California Institute of the Arts to earn a Master of Fine Arts degree in Jazz Bass Performance. Prior to his hire at Coastal Carolina University, Emilio directed high school jazz big bands, adjudicated in regional jazz honor bands, lectured at music education conferences, and was an adjunct professor of music at a community college in Southern California. At CCU Emilio is a faculty member in the Commercial Music and Jazz

# Conference *Clinicians*

concentration and directs the Jazz Big Band.

Emilio has performed alongside jazz greats Larry Koonse, David Roitstein, Howie Shear, Kim Richmond, John Daversa, and countless others at Los Angeles' top jazz venues including Catalina Bar & Grill, Blue Whale, and Sam First Bar. He recorded on over a dozen albums in his short tenure in the Los Angeles jazz scene and has played internationally including performances at Umbria Jazz and Winter Jazz Festivals. Emilio's band Chord Four won first place in the 2017 CONAD Jazz Contest in Italy and has had the privilege to play festivals and venues throughout Italy. Emilio is a member of Jazz Education Network (JEN) and performed at their 2018 annual conference in Dallas, Texas.



**Dr. Charlie J. Toomer, Jr.**, currently serves as the Director of Choral Activities at Claflin University. His experience as a choral director for over twenty years has enabled him to effectively build and manage

successful choral programs. He has a proven history of implementing strategic recruiting practices that have led to the growth of choral programs under his tutelage. His positive professional presence in rural, suburban and urban communities is evidenced in the array of top vocalists that he's been able to recruit to his choirs nationwide.

Dr. Toomer's served as Choir Director for the Manatee School for the Arts (Palmetto, Florida), Edward Waters College (Jacksonville, Florida), and served as Director of Choral Activities at Florida A&M University. He was instrumental in building partnerships between the universities and neighboring public school systems by hosting workshops, adjudicating district and state festivals and holding master classes with various choral groups. He consistently worked with public and private school choral directors to enhance the appreciation of choral music.

Dr. Charlie J. Toomer, Jr. holds a Ph.D. in Choral Conducting / Music Education and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting performance degree from Florida State University. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Florida A&M University. He is a member of the American Choral Director's Association (ACDA), National Association for Music Education (NAfME), Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, and Kappa, Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity. He also serves as Director of Music at Woodlawn Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, FL



**Jesus Fuentes** is an active pianist, arranger, composer, and educator. Currently based in Myrtle Beach, Jesus is an Assistant Professor of Music at Coastal Carolina University, where he teaches group piano, jazz piano and directs the CCU jazz combo. Jesus holds a DMA in Jazz performance with a cognate in Piano Pedagogy from the

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a MM in Jazz Performance from Texas Tech University and a BM in Commercial Music from the University of Texas at El Paso. Jesus is a member of Jazz Education Network and his quartet was invited to perform at their 2021 annual conference in Dallas, Texas.

While Jesus is mainly a Jazz pianist, he has studied and regularly performs a variety of genres including Classical, Latin, and most commercial music styles. As a Jazz pianist he has played with world renowned artists such as Tom Harrell, Allen Vizzutti, Jaleel Shaw, Jiggs Wigham, and The Glenn Miller Orchestra, as well as performed in the Winnipeg Jazz Festival, and the CU Jazz Festival. In other genres, Jesus has accompanied artists such as Joe Ely, Mac Davis, Ian Moore, and Il Divo.

Jesus has received multiple academic awards throughout his music studies including a Doctoral Fellowship at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana in 2020. Jesus was sponsored by the Promising Artists of the 21st Century Jazz Program to travel to Colombia as a member of the UTEP Jazz Quartet to perform and give masterclasses in 2016, and receiving the 2015 Presser Undergraduate Scholar Award at the University of Texas at El Paso.



**Katie VaderKooi** is an elementary music teacher and board-certified music therapist. She has taught music for ten years in Schaumburg, IL, and Greenville, SC. Studying music therapy has deepened her understanding of and passion for teaching students with special needs. When not teaching, Katie loves making music, playing volleyball, and baking!



**Alicia W. Walker** is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Studies at the University of South Carolina, where she directs the Concert Choir and the Garnet Chorale (SSAA) and supervises the graduate conducting program. Dr. Walker travels regularly to South Africa to teach continuing education for choral directors, and she is frequently invited to conduct and teach in the UK and in Taiwan. Dr. Walker has conducted at major venues including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York, and Southwark and Canterbury Cathedrals in England. Her choirs have been selected to perform for NCCO, SCMEA, and for South Carolina's ACDA conference. Dr. Walker's pedagogy and professional interactions are marked by a commitment to excellence, collaboration, and inclusion. An experienced music educator, Dr. Walker taught at the elementary, middle and high school levels, followed by appointments at the University of Georgia and the University of South Carolina, where she supervised Secondary Choral Music Education. She is a Past President of Southern Region ACDA and Georgia ACDA, and she developed ChorTransform, ACDA's service-learning initiative for student chapters. She is the Program Chair for the

*Continued on pg. 36*

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2024 Southern Region ACDA Conference. Her focus on professional mentoring led Dr. Walker to found Facets™ a leadership retreat for women conductors. In Columbia, she conducts a chamber choir of music educators called Limited Time Only, and she maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator. Dr. Walker was guest editor of the February 2021 Choral Journal, ACDA's focus issue on pedagogy. She is the author of "The Holistic Conductor," an online graduate conducting text; her research interests include conducting pedagogy, service-learning, and choral composers of the English Musical Renaissance. She is a Life Member of ACDA and holds memberships in NAfME and NCCO.



**Chloe Washington** completed her Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Oboe Performance at Ithaca College in Ithaca, NY. She earned her Master of Science in Special Education from Purdue University Global, then earned her Education Specialist (EdS) degree in Music Education from Auburn University. She is currently finishing her PhD program at Auburn University in Music Education. Chloe began her teaching career at St. Andrew's School in Savannah, GA where she worked for two years before building the middle school band program at Rice Creek School. During her tenure at Rice Creek, her ensembles consistently earned Superior ratings at festival and her students were regularly chosen for District Honor Band. Chloe is currently the Band Director at Oglethorpe Charter School in Savannah, GA. Throughout her teaching career, Chloe has encountered many students with special needs and is passionate about creating inclusive musical ensembles. She is an active performer and enjoys spending time at the beach and relaxing at home with her two cats.



**Anna Wiles** taught PK-5 General Music in Georgia and Tennessee before joining the QuaverEd Team as an Implementation Specialist. She earned her BA in Music Education from Lee University and completed

Kodály Certification from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. Wiles is passionate about empowering music educators through professional learning.



**Dr. Blair Williams** is Director of Professional Development for the American String Teachers Association. She has served our string teaching community in public schools, higher education, civic and youth symphonies, and in the string studio for over 20 years. A frequent guest conductor, clinician, lecturer, and adjudicator, Dr. Williams enjoys working with and learning from teachers, musicians, and students across the country. She has served on committees and boards for international, national, state, and local music associations and organizations including ASTA, NSPC, Credo, SMTE, and TMEA. She has published articles and chapters in International Journal of Music Education, Journal of Research in Music Education, Update: Applications of Research in Music Education, American String Teacher, SmartMusic, and volume 4 of Teaching Music Through Performance in Orchestra. She holds degrees from Baylor University (BME), Kansas State University (MM), and The Ohio State University (PhD).



**Dr. Jesse Willis** is currently an Associate Professor of Music at Coastal Carolina University in Conway, South Carolina. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Texas Tech University, a Master of Music degree from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and a Doctor of Music Degree from Texas Tech University. At CCU, Willis is the Director of Percussion Studies and is the artistic director of the CCU Percussion Ensemble and CCU World Percussion Ensemble. Under his direction, these ensembles have been invited to perform showcase concerts at PASIC, SCMEA and several Percussive Arts Society State Day of Percussion events.

Dr. Willis is a sought after adjudicator, performer and clinician who has been invited to perform or present at several professional music conferences, including PASIC, SCMEA, TMEA, CMEA, LMEA, The National Kodály Convention, The National Orff Conference, and a number of state PAS events. He is currently a member of the Long Bay Symphony Orchestra in Myrtle Beach, SC and has performed with several other symphony orchestras in the Carolinas, Indiana and Texas.

Willis has also maintained an active career within the marching arts. He has worked with several championship high school band programs in Indiana and Texas and served as a drum line instructor for the Sudler Award winning Texas Tech University Goin' Band From Raiderland. He was a performing member of the Blue Knights Drum and Bugle Corps and has been a percussion instructor or consultant for several DCI World Class drum and bugle corps, including the Madison Scouts, Carolina Crown and the Blue Stars.

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Dr. Willis is the Vice President of the South Carolina Chapter of the Percussive Arts Society and is an active member of several professional music organizations, including the South Carolina Music Educators Association, The National Association of Music Educators and the Percussive Arts Society.

Willis is a Yamaha Performing Artist and is currently an educational endorser for Vic Firth and Remo.



degree in Music Education and a 2 time graduate of The University of Georgia with a Master in Music Education degree and a Doctor of Education in Music Education. While at CSU, Wright participated in several ensembles, including the CSU Marching Bucs where he was the Drum Major for 2 years, Wind Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, and the Pep Band. He served under the direction of Mr. John Watkins, Dr. Patrick Carney, and the late Mr. Sid Haton. He also studied percussion with Mr. Sean McGrew, Ms. Katy Vogt, and Dr. Andy Harnsberger. Wright served as a student teacher at Wando High School and Cario Middle School under the supervision of Scott Rush and Jeff Scott. Upon graduation from CSU, Wright was appointed Director of Bands at the Academy of Richmond County High School in Augusta, GA where he was voted Teacher of the Year in 2006. During his six year tenure at ARC, Wright walked into a program of 40 students and grew to over 120 within 4 years. The marching, concert, and jazz programs consistently received superior and excellent ratings at district and regional festivals.

In 2015, Wright was named the new Director of Bands at Berkmar High School in Lilburn, GA. The Berkmar band program has grown to over 130 students since Wright's arrival. The Berkmar band has also received superior ratings at various local and regional marching, concert and jazz band festivals. Wright previously served as Director of Bands/Assistant Professor of Music at Savannah State University. During his tenure at SSU, the university was named a Conn-Selmer Institution. Wright has also implemented recruiting activities such as the Honor Band Festival, Tiger Band Day, and the Summer Middle and High School Band Camp. The Savannah State band program continued to grow and flourish under Wright's leadership. Wright is a member of the Georgia Music Educators Association, National Education Association, College Band Directors National Association, Conductor's Guild, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America. Wright is often sought after as an adjudicator, clinician, and mentor. He is also a published researcher in music education having published articles in the Georgia Music

News and other publications. He has presented at Music Education Conferences in New Mexico, Arizona, Rhode Island, Ohio, Washington, Illinois, Nevada, Maine, South Carolina, Indiana and Georgia. Wright has also been selected to present at the 2016 National Association for Music Education in Grapevine, Texas.



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**Dr. Quintus F. Wrighten, Jr.** is the Assistant Director of Bands and Associate Director of Athletic Bands at the University of South Carolina. In addition to conducting the University Bands,

he teaches courses in conducting and band methods, supervises student teachers, co-directs the basketball bands, and coordinates the volleyballband. While completing doctoral study, he served as the Associate Director of Bands at the University of Memphis, where he directed the marching band, conducted the Symphonic Band, and taught courses in undergraduate conducting and instrumental materials and methods. His appointment at the University of South Carolina follows public school teaching experience that spans thirteen years in middle and high schools of South Carolina, with his ensembles being recognized on state, regional, and national levels for consistent performance excellence.

Wrighten earned the Doctor of Musical Arts in Wind Band Conducting from the Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music at the University of Memphis, where he studied conducting with Kraig Alan Williams, Albert T. Nguyen, and Nicholas V. Holland, III. He earned a Master of Music Education with an emphasis in Wind Conducting from the University of Southern Mississippi, where he studied with Thomas V. Fraschillo, Gary W. Adam, and Steven R. Moser. He earned the Bachelor of Music from the University of South Carolina.

Wrighten remains active across the Southeast and Southwest as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor. He serves the Theta Chapter of Phi Beta Mu as the President and actively serves as a member of the South Carolina Band Directors Association. He holds additional professional memberships in the College Band Directors National Association, National Band Association, American School Band Directors Association, Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, the National Association for Music Education, and the South Carolina Music Educators Association. Wrighten also holds honorary membership in Tau Beta Sigma National Honorary Band Sorority and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

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**Courtney Wyatt** is the Associate Band Director at Clover High School. A native of Clover, Courtney rejoined the program after graduating Summa Cum Laude from Winthrop University and is now in her tenth year teaching at Clover. As Associate Director, Courtney leads the Jazz Ensemble, Brass Quintet, NTC Trumpet Ensemble, Concert Band and Symphonic Band. At the high school, she is the lead music theory instructor and assists in the direction of the Pride of Clover Marching Band. She also aids in private and group instruction at Clover and Oakridge Middle Schools. Outside of teaching at Clover, Courtney spends much of her time performing and teaching privately throughout the greater Charlotte area. Courtney is currently the Principal Trumpet of the Carolinas Wind Orchestra and serves on the CWO Board of Directors. She is active in the South Carolina Band Directors Association, South Carolina Music Educators Association, National Association for Music Education, International Trumpet Guild, and Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society.



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Fort Dorchester High School  
Percussion Ensemble  
North Charleston, SC  
Friday, February 9, 2024  
12:00pm, Alumni Center

SCMEA 2024 Performing Groups / Band



Matthew Kilby is an educator and performer in North Charleston, South Carolina. He is currently Associate Band Director, Percussion Instructor, and Steel Band Director at Fort Dorchester High School, where he was

honored with Rookie Teacher of the Year 2018-2019. He also assists with the Gateway Program, teaching gifted and talented young percussionists in Dorchester School District 2.

Matthew earned his Master's from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and his Bachelor of Music with Honors from UNC-Chapel Hill in North Carolina. He has studied with Kevin Bobo, Steve Houghton, Michael Spiro, John Tafoya, Dr. Juan Alamo, Dan Davis, Dr. N. Cameron Britt, and Dr. Joe Galvin. He is currently in Boston University's DMA in Music Education program.

At IU, Matthew was the principal of the Wind Ensemble, played in several orchestras, and was the timbale player for IU's Latin Jazz Ensemble. After completing his MM, Matthew was an Associate Instructor under Michael Spiro, teaching group conga lessons to graduate and undergraduate percussionists and non-major percussion

students. He was the teaching assistant/co-director for the Afro-Cuban Ensemble and Brazilian Ensemble.

As a composer/arranger, Matthew's pieces have been performed by the Indiana University Brazilian Ensemble, the Indiana University Steel Band, Furman University's Percussion Ensemble, Coastal Carolina University's Steel Band, and various high school percussion ensembles. Matthew's composition "Photovoltaic" is available through C. Alan Publications. His newest piece, "Pocket Sized Funk Machine," was performed at the 2023 SCMEA conference by Cane Bay HS and is available through Tapspace Publications.



Dutch Fork High School  
Symphonic Winds  
Irmo, SC  
**Saturday, February 9, 2023**  
**12:00pm, Alumni Center**



Mr. Jeremy Ley is in his fifth year as Director of Bands at Dutch Fork High School. Originally from Mount Pleasant, SC, Mr. Ley graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of South Carolina in 2015 with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education.

Mr. Ley was the Assistant Band Director at Dutch Fork Middle School from 2015-2018. The Dutch Fork Middle School Band is a consistent recipient of the SCBDA Outstanding Performance Award and consistently receives Superior ratings at Concert Performance Assessment. In 2017, the 8th grade band was named Grand Champion at the Southern Star Music festival in Atlanta, GA.

The Dutch Fork High School Band has received many accolades under Mr. Ley's direction. The Symphonic Winds has consistently received Superior ratings at SCBDA Concert Performance Assessment and received a Superior with Distinction rating in 2022 and 2023. In 2023, the Symphonic Winds was a featured performer at the University of South Carolina Band Clinic. The band has recently placed a record number of students in the SCBDA Region 2 Honor Band as well as a record number of students receiving a callback for All-State Band auditions. Since 2015, the Dutch Fork Band has received the SCBDA Outstanding Performance Award every year that it has been given.

Mr. Ley has been working with Silver Spirit Marching Band for the past 7 years. In that time, the marching band has achieved many accolades, including two 2nd place and a 3rd place finish at the SCBDA 4A Lower State Championships. The marching band has been a SCBDA 4A State finalist every year since 2015, and has performed at the 2017 Bands of America Regional Championships in Winston-Salem, NC and the 2019 Bands of America Regional Championships in Johnson City, TN. While at USC, Mr. Ley was a member of the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Winds, Left Bank Big Band, Trumpet Ensemble, and the Carolina Band. Additionally, Mr. Ley has had the opportunity to study conducting with Rebecca Phillips. Mr. Ley was also a member of the Wando High School Band in Mount Pleasant, SC. In addition to being named 5A State marching band champions, Mr. Ley participated with the band in the 2007 Midwest Clinic in Chicago, IL, and was a finalist in the 2009 Bands of America Grand National Championships in Indianapolis, IN. Mr. Ley's professional affiliations include the South Carolina Band Directors Association, the South Carolina Music Educators Association, and National Association for Music Education. Mr. Ley is also a recipient of the Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association.

Outside of teaching, Mr. Ley enjoys spending his time as a music producer and has music released under his name on several streaming services including Spotify and Apple Music. Mr. Ley is also a co-owner of Pendle Alpacas, an Alpaca farm owned by his family in Jefferson, NC.



**Chesnee High School Orchestra**  
Chesnee, SC  
**Friday, February 9, 2024**  
**1:30pm, Ballroom A**



Tammie Gillespie Burrows' love for music began at an early age when she started playing violin in elementary school. In 1999, she graduated from Anderson University with a bachelor's degree in Music Education with a concentration in violin and voice. In 2004, she earned a Masters degree from Southern Wesleyan University.

After graduation from Anderson University, she began her teaching career with Spartanburg District 2 orchestras, where she served as the orchestra director for Chesnee Middle School and Boiling Springs Middle. In 2001, Mrs. Burrows became the director at Chesnee High School and continued to serve as the director at Chesnee Middle School. As the director at Chesnee High School, she has led the high school orchestra to twenty-one consecutive superior ratings at the SCMEA Concert Performance Assessment performing grades three, four, and five repertoire. The high school orchestra has received superior ratings at festivals across the southeast.

In addition to teaching at Chesnee High and Chesnee Middle School, she enjoys serving as an adjudicator for the Solo & Ensemble festival, Concert Performance Assessment, and guest conductor for several summer music camps. She was also the guest clinician at the ASTA Violin/Viola Choir in 2015 and 2018. Mrs. Burrows was the guest conductor of the Senior Region Two orchestra in 2016 held at her alma mater Anderson University, Region Three 9-10 Orchestra in Lexington, SC in 2018. She also serves as the President-Elect for the SCMEA Orchestra division. Tammie Burrows has been recognized as a WYFF Golden Apple Teacher Award Recipient for the 2012-2013 school year and the Chesnee High School teacher of the year for the 2022-2023 school year. Mrs. Burrows is also Spartanburg School District Two's lead fine arts teacher.



Rollings Middle School  
of The Arts  
Band Core  
Charleston, SC  
Friday, February 9, 2024  
1:45pm, Ballroom C



A native of Columbia, South Carolina, Marie Evans graduated from Spring Valley High School and studied Music Education at The University of North Texas, The University of Southern Mississippi, and The University of Georgia. She has studied flute performance with Constance Lane, Mary Karen Clardy, Sharon Lebsack, and Angela Jones-Reus, performed flute and piccolo in ensembles under Matthew Mailman, Eugene Corporon, Tom Fraschillo, David Gregory, and Scott Rush, as well as been a feature soloist in Master Classes with Michel Dubost and James Galway.

Ms. Evans began her career in education at Lovejoy Middle School in Clayton County, Georgia in 1999, before moving to Mount Pleasant, South Carolina in 2004 to teach at Moultrie Middle School. In 2015 she became the Band Director at Rollings Middle School of the Arts in Summerville, SC. Her bands have consistently received Superior Ratings at Concert Festivals and Concert Performance Assessments, performed at Disney, Universal Studios, The Georgia Governor's Mansion and SCMEA State Convention. Students during her tenure at each school have been represented in District, Region, and All-State Bands and many have gone on to pursue music (both performance and education) as a career.

Marie Evans is a member of Sigma Alpha Iota, Phi Mu Alpha, and Phi Beta Mu, South Carolina Music Educators Association, and South Carolina Band Directors Association. Her greatest music education influences include her father - Charles Elliott (former music educator), her high school band director -Ken Robbins, her friend and colleague - Scott Rush (author for GIA Publications), friend Mitch Santiago (former music educator), as well as countless other friends and colleagues.



Ridge View High School  
World Percussion Ensemble  
Columbia, SC  
Saturday, February 9, 2024  
2:45pm, Ballroom A



Mr. Hipps is a graduate of Western Carolina University where he received a Bachelor's degree in Music Industry. Mr. Hipps studied percussion performance under Dr. Mario Gaetano and performed with the percussion ensemble, wind ensemble, concert band, Gamelan ensemble, and held leadership positions for the Pride of Mountains Marching Band under the direction of Bob Buckner and Matt Henley. During his time at WCU, Mr. Hipps performed with the Spirit of Atlanta Drum and bugle corp. Mr. Hipps has been teaching in Richland School District Two since 2007, while teaching at Dent Middle School, Mr. Hipps created the world percussion and percussion ensemble programs where he received the Honor of Teacher of the Year. Mr. Hipps directed the Blue Diamond Steel Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Brazilian Batucada Ensemble. World percussion ensembles under the direction of Mr. Hipps have been recognized across the Southeast and regularly receive superior ratings at state festivals. Mr. Hipps is a member of the South Carolina Percussive Arts Society, South Carolina Band Directors Association and is proudly endorsed by Innovative Percussion as an Artist/Educator. Mr. Hipps lives in Columbia, SC with his wife Andrea who is also a music teacher in Richland Two.



**The University of  
South Carolina  
Symphonic Band  
Columbia, SC**  
**Friday, February 9, 2024**  
**10:30am, Ballroom C**

The University of South Carolina Wind Ensemble performs music representing a broad continuum of time periods and styles, from the core of the classic band repertoire to new and experimental works for winds and percussion. Committed to a rotational seating system and variable instrumentation, the Wind Ensemble creates for its student members a deeply meaningful musical environment with highly individualized attention. Musicians place into the ensemble through a blind audition process each semester and membership in the ensemble, like all bands at USC, is open to any USC student regardless of major or classification.

Demonstrating a strong commitment to new music, the Wind Ensemble regularly premieres works by, and interacts with, many of today's preeminent composers. Recent collaborations include composers Omar Thomas, Joel Puckett, John Mackey, Augusta Read Thomas, Steven Bryant, and Han Lash.



The USC Wind Ensemble has been selected for performances at the 2012, 2017, and 2024 South Carolina Music Educators Association Professional Development Conferences, the 2014 American Bandmasters Association Conference, the 2022 College Band Directors National Association Southern Division Conference, and the 2013 and 2023 CBDNA National Conferences. As a way to honor and support the band directors and students of the SCBDA, the USC Wind Ensemble regularly performs at high schools throughout the state and hosts high school students at the USC Bands Future Band Director Academy and annual USC Band Clinic.



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**PETER R. MARSH FOUNDATION**



Peter R. Marsh Foundation



Stratford High School  
Jazz Orchestra  
Goose Creek, SC  
Saturday, February 10, 2024  
8:30am, Alumni Center



Greg Priest, born and raised in Aiken, SC, is in his eleventh year of teaching. This is his third year at Stratford High School, having taught previously at Aiken High School for seven years. Mr. Priest attended the University of South Carolina where he graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Music Education and Saxophone Performance Certificate in 2013. He received his master's degree in music education from the American Band College through Central Washington University in 2021. He is a certified AP Music Theory teacher and a National Board Certified Teacher, and was recognized as a Golden Apple Award winner in 2016.

In his spare time, Mr. Priest enjoys playing golf, hanging out with his dog Wallace, and spending time with his wife Kaitlyn Priest.



**Greenwood High School  
Choir  
Greenwood, SC  
Saturday, February 10, 2024  
9:15am, Ballroom C**

Gina Jolly is currently in her 25th year of teaching Music K-12.

**Teaching experiences:**

Gallman Elementary in Newberry School District (1997- 1999)- Elementary Music

Hodges and Pinecrest Elementary in Greenwood Dist. 50 (1999-2003)- Elementary Music

Edgewood Middle School and Ninety Six High School in Greenwood Dist. 52 (2003-2006)- Choral Director

Greenwood High School in Greenwood Dist. 50 (2006 - present)- Choral Director

**Education:**

BA in Music Education from North Greenville College in 1996

Masters in Music Education from University of South Carolina in 2005

National Board Certification in 2002 and renewed National Board Certification in 2012

**Professional Affiliations:**

ACDA: American Choral Directors Association (2016-present)

NAfME: National Association of Music Educators (1995- present)

President Elect of the SCMEA Choral Division (2011-2013)

President of the SCMEA Choral Division (2013-2015)

Past President of the SCMEA Choral Division (2015-2017)

SCMEA Executive board (2011-2017)

SCMEA All- State Committee

SCMEA Choral Festival Committee

Judge for the South Carolina All- State Chorus

Clinician for several Choral Clinics and music camps in South Carolina and Georgia

Choirs under her direction have consistently received superior ratings at Choral Festivals for Performance and Sight Reading and a large number of students under her direction have been selected for the SCMEA All-State and SCACDA Honors Choirs.

Gina resides in Greenwood SC. has two daughters, Kayla and Rachel, and Two precious Grand daughters Kinlee and Karsyn.



**Sedgefield Middle School  
Concert Choir  
Goose Creek, SC  
Friday, February 9, 2024  
1:00pm, Ballroom C**

Chadwick Redden is a proud product of Florence One Schools, having graduated from South Florence High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Limestone University. Sedgefield

Middle School in Goose Creek, South Carolina has been Mr. Redden's professional home for six years, where in his short time has produced a thriving



Goose Creek High School  
Sziréndal  
Goose Creek, SC  
Friday, February 9, 2024  
2:15pm, Ballroom C



Emily Reeves Bohl is the Director of Choral Activities at Berkeley Center for the Arts (BCA), housed at Goose Creek High School. Emily is in her eighth year of teaching music and directing choirs in varied settings. Students under her direction have been selected for regional, state, and national honor choirs, and choirs under her direction have consistently received superior ratings in adjudicated settings. Emily is also an Adjunct Professor at The College of Charleston, where she teaches courses in the Master of Arts in Teaching program and oversees practicum students in Choral Music Education. Outside the classroom, Emily maintains an active performing schedule throughout South Carolina. She can be heard regularly as staff soprano at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, and with professional choirs including The King's Counterpoint, Vox Regis, and Cantores Charleston. Professional affiliations include the National Association for Music Education (SCMEA), Organization of American Kodály Educators (KMEC), and the South Carolina chapter of the American Choral Directors Association (SCACDA), where she serves as the Chair for Treble Repertoire and Resources. Emily has served as a clinician in varied settings, most recently serving as a Clinician for Waccamaw Schools Fall Premiere (2022) and as Director of Senior Choir at Charleston Southern University Summer Music Camp (2021). She is also active as a presenter, especially in the area of the Kodály concept and its applications to Choral Pedagogy. Recent presentations include the SC American Choral Director Association Conference (2022), and Berkeley County School District's Conference (2023).



Blythewood High School  
Wind Symphony  
Blythewood, SC

Saturday, February 10, 2024  
10:15am, Alumni Center



Greg Mulzet began his music career the same way as most of his students: in middle school band. He had early success as a trumpet player and earned first chair in multiple ensembles, including the North Carolina All-State Band the Youth Symphony of the Carolinas. He went on to earn a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In addition to teaching high school band in NC, FL, and NY, Greg has consulted and arranged for competitive marching programs around the country. He traveled globally as a trumpet player, performing in Australia, France, Hong Kong, and on multiple cruise ships. In 2001 he became a cast member of the Emmy and Tony Award-winning Broadway show *Blast!*, in which he was a lead trumpet and soloist.

In an effort to expand his music horizons, Greg began composing music in 2008. He became a graduate assistant to Dr. Dennis Kam at the University of Miami, where he conducted the New Music Ensemble, taught music theory and ear training, and completed his Master's Degree in Music Composition. He went on to complete his PhD under the guidance of Dr. Perry Goldstein at Stony Brook University in New York.

In 2018, Greg became Director of Bands and Assistant Professor of Music at Fairmont State University in West Virginia. In addition to his duties leading the band program, he taught courses in conducting, instrumental techniques, theory, and music education. Under his leadership and recruiting, the band program nearly doubled in size, and incoming classes of music majors tripled. Yet COVID forced the university to make difficult financial choices, and rather than teach a college band with no music majors, Greg chose to pursue a new path in South Carolina.

Since Greg's arrival at Blythewood High School, the marching band has grown by nearly 65% and been a consistent SCBDA 5A State Finalist. At CPA, Blythewood's two bands have been awarded only "Superiors with Distinction", with the Wind Symphony performing in Grade VI and Grade VI Masterworks. Blythewood's participation in All-State reached new highs; in 2023, 37 BHS musicians were seated in Region 3, and seven were seated in All-State. Now in his third year at Blythewood, Greg is supported by his loving wife Emma, and their two daughters, Charlie (4) and Ellie (1).

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**School of Music**  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA





Winthrop University  
Chamber Singers  
Rockhill, SC  
Saturday, February 10, 2024  
10:30am, Ballroom C

Dr. Jeremy Mims is Associate Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities at Winthrop University. Previously he was on the faculties of Clarke University and Whitman College, where he conducted the choirs and orchestra. He was also a public school educator in El Paso, TX.

A musician of multiple talents and diversity, Jeremy has appeared on national and international concert and opera stages as a conductor, collaborative pianist, violinist, and a tenor chorister. An active clinician and collaborative pianist, Mims has served as conductor and pianist for numerous high school all-region and all-state choirs, as well for professional and university choruses. He conducted the Winthrop Choirs in a performance at Carnegie Hall in 2018. In 2022, he received second place for the Dale Warland Award in Choral Conducting for his role as artistic director of *Inspirar*, his community choir in South Carolina. In addition, the Winthrop Chamber Singers and *Inspirar* both received third place in their categories in choral performance for the American Prize in 2022. Twice he has served as the pianist and associate director at the Prague Choral Festival. In May 2023, he conducted two concerts in Bulgaria, as part of the Varna International Festival.

Mims has presented at regional and national conventions of the American Choral Directors Association. He holds degrees from Hardin-Simmons University and the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance and is the Director of Music at Grace Lutheran Church in Rock Hill, SC.



Laing Middle School  
Symphonic Band  
Mount Pleasant, SC  
Saturday, February 10, 2024  
12:30pm, Alumni Center



Adam Vernon-Young is the Director of Bands at Laing Middle School of Science and Technology. Mr. Vernon-Young has been with the program since 2019 and took over as head Director of the program for the 2022-23 school year. Under his direction, the Band has grown significantly in size and impact, receiving consistent Superior ratings from adjudicated performances, and leading the top ensemble to perform for the first time ever at the State Concert Festival in Spring 2023.

Mr. Vernon-Young received his Master of Arts in Teaching degree from the University of South Carolina, where he also previously received his Bachelors in Music Theory, as well as an Undergraduate Performance Certificate in Bass Trombone.

During his time at Carolina, Mr. Vernon-Young accumulated numerous performance and teaching credits, including playing with the USC Wind Ensemble, conducting one of the University Bands, and serving as a Graduate Assistant for two seasons with the University's Marching Band. Other performance credits include being a finalist at the American Trombone Workshop National Solo Competition, and two years marching with the World Class Drum and Bugle Corps, Carolina Crown.

Mr. Vernon-Young is a regular instructor, consultant, and guest conductor with various groups across the Southeast, working with high school marching and concert programs, as well as University ensembles. He also currently serves on the brass staff of the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps from Lacrosse, WI. He is an avid arranger and composer, and has written for numerous competitive high school groups, as well as for the University of South Carolina's own "Mighty Sound of the Southeast." His professional affiliations include the National Association for Music Education, and both alumni and honorary membership in the Kappa Kappa Psi, National Honorary Band Fraternity.

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