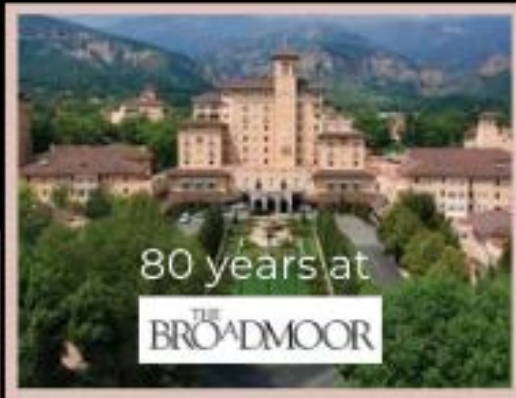


Colorado Music Educator

Conference Issue

Volume 70 Number 2

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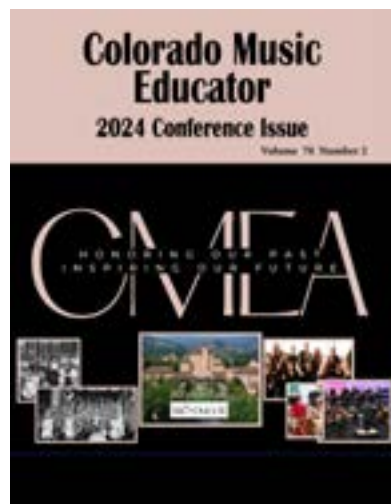


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Colorado Music Educator
c/o CMEA Membership
3617 Shoshone Street
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Colorado Music Educator

Winter

Volume 70, Number 2

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Clinic/Conference 2024

By Cynthia Eversole, CMEA President

Life isn't a matter of milestones, but of moments." – Rose Kennedy

The moments are endless for Colorado Music Educators as we honor the past and inspire the future. This year, we celebrate 80 years with the conference at the Broadmoor Hotel. Together, we have been fortunate that this relationship has endured and nurtured our profession. To reflect on the history of the last 80 years is also to understand where and why we have evolved to today's instructional practices. CMEA educators have experienced teaching during times of war, segregated schools, countless school funding formulas or initiatives, school violence, the growing evolution of electronic/digital music, and growing access to media. The raw acoustic nature of voice and instrumental expression has remained authentic to our moments through all of this change.



Our 2024 Clinic Conference will provide priceless moments for today's music educators who stand on the shoulders of those before us as Tri-M explodes with energy from our young music makers. Wednesday will begin the conference with Tri-M's Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser to energize our high school musicians and respective directors. Keeping with the theme of our future educators, Scott Lang will present on Wednesday night and Thursday regarding the future of music educator recruitment and retention. These are moments that matter and make a difference to our young musicians who are exploring the profession. Wednesday night is one of the biggest evenings we have had for a while. There will be several student demonstration ensembles to model lab experiences and a performance by the Air Force Faconaires.

Thursday will feature the Opening Session and membership keynote by Scott Lang. The CMEA board has put a lot of thought into re-envisioning this moment so that it is more meaningful and timely. We value all our attendees and want everyone to leave with a big smile to share throughout the day. In addition, CMEA is fortunate to also welcome NAFME Past President Mackie Spradley from Texas. Mackie is excited to speak with new and retired teachers concerning the evolution of diversity, equity, inclusivity, and access. I am thrilled to invite Mackie to speak at our new teacher reception. Be sure to pre-read the schedule and plan your conference experience to fit your personal needs. Our council chairs have worked extremely hard to make sure there is a place for everyone in their sessions.

This year's professional conference will provide moments for each attendee to grow in energy, pedagogy, perspective, self-care, and purpose. Just like ourselves, the Broadmoor Hotel has also had its moments of personal and physical growth. Eighty years ago, the moments shared at the CMEA Clinic/Conference were more similar to full days of concerts, recitals, and intimate clinics with the presenters...confined to a few rooms. The growth of our presence now makes use of almost all of the hotel campus. The hotel's support and understanding of our needs have led us to be the longest-standing conference ever to be held at the Broadmoor. These are moments that our music educators of yesterday only dreamed of. Today, we have the opportunity to enjoy moments of joy and concern to inspire the path of music education tomorrow.

Cynthia Eversole
CMEA President



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~ George Eliot

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Vocal Music News

By Alyssa Miller, Vocal Music Council Chair

Dear Vocal Music Educators of CMEA,

As the Vocal Music Council Chair, it is my pleasure to share the lineup of diverse offerings that await you at the CMEA 2024 Conference. This year's conference promises to be an extraordinary event, featuring captivating vocal music sessions, reading sessions, and performances by selected honor ensembles from across our great state.



1. Headliner Sessions by Dan Davison:

Embark on a musical odyssey with Dan Davison, our virtuoso guide through six headliner sessions. From honing the skills of beginning tenors and basses to cultivating a choir class that becomes a favorite for students, each session is a masterclass in itself. Delve into literature for middle-level and emerging high school ensembles, discover ways to improve tone and intonation in your choirs, and discover the alchemy behind instilling work habits, attitudes, and character that resonate. Each session is sure to leave a lasting impact on all attendees.

2. VMC Sessions:

Our conference is enriched by the expertise of colleagues from across the state, esteemed clinicians and professors. The VMC sessions span a rich spectrum of topics - from the intricacies of ear training and conducting injury prevention to discussions on standards, diversity and inclusion, and navigating how choral music educators can “Work Your Wage”, there is truly something for everyone. Immerse yourself in the collective knowledge and experience our vibrant choral music offerings.

3. Reading Sessions:

Explore diverse choral selections in our carefully curated VMC reading sessions. From Colorado composers to jazz/show/pop arrangements and tried-and-true arrangements for various vocal ensembles, these sessions offer a varied musical experience.

4. Honor Ensemble Performances:

Join us in celebrating excellence as 14 outstanding groups from schools across Colorado grace Broadmoor Hall B with their performances. These ensembles, under the direction of their dedicated educators, promise to inspire and showcase the talent flourishing within our state.

In the spirit of early preparation, I urge all CMEA members to register online between now and December 23rd for the benefits of early registration. This conference is a great opportunity to connect, learn, and be inspired. Let us come together at the Broadmoor in January 2024 to celebrate the richness of vocal music education in Colorado.

Wishing you all a blessed holiday season and an enriching experience at CMEA 2024!

Warm regards,

Alyssa A. Miller
Vocal Music Council Chair

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From the Instrumental Council Chair

By Tim Libby, Instrumental Music Council Chair

The Instrumental Music Council is excited to present an excellent lineup for the clinic/conference in January. The conference promises to be an invaluable opportunity for all music educators to learn, collaborate, and grow.

We are excited to announce two Wednesday evening sessions featuring musicians from the United States Air Force Academy Band. At 5:30pm Captain Michael Flynn will present a conducting clinic utilizing the Stravinsky Octet for Winds and at 7:30pm there will be a performance by the critically acclaimed USAF Falconaires Jazz Ensemble! Also, at 5:30pm ASTA will present a rehearsal lab featuring Dr. Robert Gillespie from The Ohio State University and the Denver School of the Arts Middle School Orchestra. These sessions will be truly inspiring so plan to include Wednesday evening as part of your conference!



Our Instrumental Council headlining presenters this year are Haley Armstrong from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, Robert Gillespie from The Ohio State University, and Jazz Trumpeter and DCI/WGI adjudicator Wayne Dillon. Headline topics will include “Work-life balance”, “Leading with influence vs. power”, “Teaching musical expressiveness in the school orchestra” and “Jazz improvisation for all” among others. Don’t miss the opportunity to learn from these outstanding educators and performers!

Throughout the conference we have clinics being presented by many of our Colorado colleagues and friends. We have sessions focused on equity and inclusion, specific instrument tips and techniques, concert programming, and more. You will find sessions specifically designed for jazz ensemble, marching band, orchestra, conducting, literature selection, and pedagogy. The schedule this year is packed with clinics as well as dedicated time to visit the exhibits!

In addition to the clinics, we have a great lineup of performing ensembles:

Guitar Ensemble – Denver School of the Arts High School

Orchestras – Altona Middle School, Prairie Middle School, Denver School of the Arts High School, Rock Canyon High School, Widefield High School

Concert Bands – Cheyenne Mountain Junior High School, Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School, Eaglecrest High School, Fossil Ridge High School, Monarch High School, Pine Creek High School

Jazz Bands – Boltz Middle School, Fairview High School, Ascent Jazz Band

Collegiate Ensembles – Colorado Christian University Orchestra, Colorado State University Jazz Lab 1, Metropolitan State University of Denver Gamelan Ensemble, University of Northern Colorado Orchestra

Perhaps the most important feature of this, or any other conference is YOU! Don’t underestimate the impact you have on your fellow music educators - you don’t have to be presenting a clinic or conducting an ensemble to change someone’s perspective or give them a new idea to revitalize their year. This conference is for you and about you. The time we share in fellowship with each other is priceless. Plan to attend the ASTA, ASBDA, or CBA general meetings. Share a meal with a friend you haven’t seen in months. Take this time to re-engage, re-energize, and re-ignite your passion for music and teaching at this year’s clinic/conference. We’re looking forward to seeing you at the Broadmoor!

Tim Libby

General Music Council News!

By Kalinda Theobald, General Music Council Chair

The General Music Council members are thrilled to share with our fellow general music educators that we have a fantastic line-up of local and national clinicians for our upcoming Colorado Music Educators' Association Conference 2023! Our opening session on Wednesday night of the conference will be presented by our incredible headlining clinician, Susan Brumfield. Susan will be presenting many other sessions over the course of the conference, so you will want to attend as many days as possible.



Mary Claxton, sponsored by Music Will, will be returning to the CMEA conference this year! Music Will is a renowned organization specializing in a modern approach to music education in our schools. Mary will be leading many amazing sessions including songwriting, hip-hop, drumming, and ukulele. We will also be hosting another Modern Band 101 workshop on Wednesday, so make sure you plan ahead if you would like to participate. More information will be coming soon!

John Jacobson will be joining us this year to present new song material and musical shows. ROCKE will be returning with a wonderful presentation on centers in the music classroom, complete with a Make-and-take session. The Rocky Mountain Orff chapter will have two clinicians joining us at the conference this year for double the educational benefits. Also, our two CEASC clinicians will each be bringing a session specifically tailored to general music teachers!

You won't want to miss the fresh reading sessions from Alfred Publishing. Join us on Saturday for their sessions entitled, "Just Add Kids" and "I Am Song: New 2-Part Rep for Kids." These will both be choral reading sessions complete with reading packets!

Finally, the GMC is pleased to announce that we will have FOUR performances this year! We will have three choirs joining us from Colorado Springs, Denver, and Grand Junction. We will also have a complete performance of a Broadway Jr. show with an accompanying clinic about how you can put on an elementary musical yourself!

This is a conference that you won't want to miss and one that you will never forget. I hope to see each and every one of you at CMEA 2024!

Sincerely,

Kalinda Theobald

College-University Music Council

By Martina Miranda, College and University Council Chair

Happy New Year!

I send greetings on behalf of the council, and hope that your holiday break was a time to relax and prepare for the beginning of another calendar year. We appreciate all that you do to inspire students as they engage in meaningful and creative musical experiences. As I have visited student teachers this fall, I continue to be impressed with the dedication each of you demonstrate, and I am looking forward to our annual reunion at the Broadmoor.



Our sessions at this year's Clinic-Conference represent topics that I know will provide new insights on community engagement, recruitment, self-care, organization, and a revisiting of instrumental and jazz techniques. We aim to provide sessions for collegiate students, early career teachers, and anyone who would like to reflect on their current practice and add something new to their toolbox.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve once again as the Chair of the College-University Council. My wonderful colleagues on the Council are deeply committed to effectively preparing the next generation of music educators. We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2024 Clinic-Conference this coming January!

Martina Miranda



Past Presidents of CMEA

1943-1946 Hugh E. McMillen+*
 1946-1948 Katharyn Bauder*
 1948-1950 Gus E. Jackson*
 1950-1952 Mabel Henderson*
 1952-1954 Paul Zahradka*
 1954-1956 Warner L. Imig*
 1956-1958 John T. Roberts+*
 1958-1960 John Held+*
 1960-1962 Byron Syring*
 1962-1964 Charles Meeker*
 1964-1966 Leo Meyer*
 1966-1968 Jo Ann Baird+*
 1968-1970 Dwight Dale *
 1970-1972 James Miller*
 1972-1974 Alex Campbell+*
 1974-1976 Ralph Levy*
 1976-1978 Larry Perkins*
 1978-1980 E'Rena Hockenberry*
 1980-1982 Kevin McCarthy
 1982-1984 Herbert Goodrich

1984-1987 Earl Berglund
 1987-1990 Elza Daugherty+*
 1990-1992 Norma Hess*
 1992-1994 Mike Weiker*
 1994-1996 Willie Hill, Jr.#
 1996-1998 Bette Lunn*
 1998-2000 Frank Montera*
 2000-2002 Michael Kornelsen
 2002-2004 Janet Montgomery*
 2004-2006 Steve Meininger
 2006-2008 Michelle Ewer
 2008-2010 Cindy McCaskill
 2010-2012 Tricia Kidd+
 2012-2014 Richard Shaw
 2014-2016 Mark Hudson
 2016-2018 Raleigh "Butch" Eversole
 2018-2022 Kevin Beaber

*deceased
 +SWMENC President
 #MENC President



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Tri-M News

By Michelle Ewer, CMEA Tri-M Chair

Greetings from Tri-M,

I hope some of you were able to log onto the Tri-M rally November 9th. It was nice to see representation from across the United States. It is also great to hear ideas from other chapters. The “Happy Birthday Project” is a national Tri-M idea. Find a local senior center and record your students playing Happy Birthday. Ask them to play it for their members on their special day. It has become very successful nationwide.

January 24th, 2024, will be here soon. Registration is open for Tri-M Day 2024. www.cmeaonline.org Click on the Tri-M tab. The cost is \$35 per student if you register by January 3rd. The cost increases to \$40 per student between January 4-12. Please plan ahead and take care of this prior to the Holiday Break. Registration does not include lunch, but you will have 90 minutes to grab food.



Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser will be our Keynote speaker this year. “The Critical Importance of Being a Positive Role Model - You make a Difference.” He is very excited to speak at our convention, and I can hardly wait to hear him. I am always so inspired after a Dr. Tim session. He has a presence that is contagious. He is also incredibly busy and is heading to Atlanta right after his keynote. Session 1 will be 9:15-10:00. Our keynote will be 10:15-11:30 with lunch immediately following Dr. Tim. Session 2 is 12:45-1:30, and Session 3 is 1:45-2:30.

Our three sessions are packed with opportunities to speak with other chapters, dance, play/sing, explore your inner self and take back ideas to school. Each session will have 5-6 choices. Students register for their own classes listing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices. Directors are notified prior to the conference of the final selections. Please plan to stay for our Grand Finale, where we come together in song. It is my favorite part of the conference. Bring your instrument and a folding stand. It is a wonderful way to end our day together.

I am pleased to say that this year there will be two Student/Director Roundtable discussions among your choices. Every year I hear, “It would be nice to talk with other chapters and directors to gather ideas.” Your request has been heard. Session 1 and 3 will have a Roundtable Discussion as an option. I encourage you to make sure members of your chapter are present at one or both of these sessions. It will be helpful for our new chapters.

Session Offerings:

- Promoting Dimensions of Wellness
- Make Your Jazz Solos Sizzle
- Professional Musician or Teacher or Both
- Enhancing Musicianship Through Movement
- Peer Assisted Learning: Students working together for a common goal
- Moving Well is a Good Move
- Pass the Baton: Teaching our student leaders conducting
- Choral Improvisation: It's not just for jazz choirs
- Composers, Consortiums and Contracts: What to know about working with composers
- Burning Out: Symptoms, levels and interventions for music students
- Making the Most of your College Experience
- Moving to Music: Line Dancing
- Cumbia: A building block of Latinx music
- Just Add Kids: Choral reading session
- Combating Imposter Syndrome with the Power of Presence
- Improvisation, Rhythm and Ear Training: Is fiddling the answer?

Tri-M News, continued

By Michelle Ewer, CMEA Tri-M Chair

As you can see there are many choices for a successful day. I suggest doing student registration during a Tri-M meeting to make sure you have all sessions covered. I encourage you to follow your passion and not sign up for a session because your friend is signing up for the same one. Divide and conquer. Your chapter will benefit from the growth.

The Broadmoor is a 5-star Hotel. Convention attire is business casual. If you have never experienced The Broadmoor I look forward to seeing your face when you arrive.

Sincerely,

Michelle Ewer

Tri-M Registration Deadline - January 12
Don't Let Your Students Miss This!

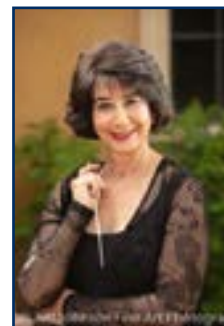


Membership News

By Andrea L. Meyers, Retired and Active Membership Chair

Dear CMEA Membership,

January at the Broadmoor! It rates as one of the most exclusive and world-renowned resorts in the world. The CMEA Clinic/Conference welcomes your participation. Quality and unique opportunities await at the new conference center. The schedule is filled with amazingly innovative sessions, performances, speakers, exhibits, along with exquisite dining enhanced by a beautiful surroundings. I fully expect to see you enjoy time at the Tavern, The Golden Bee ...go get stung ...and the amazing opportunities available throughout the Broadmoor. And, of course be sure to attend the University receptions – let's see your posts on Facebook and Instagram.



As one of your veteran Advisory Board members, I would encourage you to go and experience as much as possible in the spirit of collaboration and community. As Colorado music educators we enjoy a symphony of unique friendships, collegiality, and professionalism. Our 2024 CMEA Clinic/Conference promises to provide a perfect atmosphere for all our professional and personal interests. Lifetime memories will be made with first time and veteran attendees. These experiences will become part of our continued legacy. Specifically, I encourage you to attend sessions outside of your normal area of interest. Venture out, take new chances, and include someone that might be alone or new at our conference. We always have room for new people in our lives. There are incredibly inspired sessions and performances that will encourage new and creative involvement and will inspire your continued success in the classroom and beyond. Most significantly CMEA is here to provide you, your friends (and new friends), students and colleagues a place to refresh, revitalize and embrace our love of music.

Just being at the Broadmoor is exciting! The legacy of CMEA is built by your participation. It is multi-faceted and comes from a historical tradition of excellence. I would like to encourage you to review the schedule prior to attending the conference. This will insure your ability to navigate your time and spaces with ease. Also, by reading all the biographies of our speakers and presenters, as well as the descriptions of the events, the conference experience becomes more profound. This additional knowledge will contribute to a more definitive, memorable, and overall enjoyable CMEA experience. When you notice a specialized name tag ribbon such as a purple Retiree ribbon, State Assembly, Hall of Fame, Past-President, etc., take a moment to introduce yourself. These prominent educators, our leaders paved the way, helped to build our legacy, our traditions and history with exquisite wisdom and knowledge. A wealth of information with one of our honored leaders could prove invaluable. Start with a simple hello! I promise a worthwhile and inspiring conversation - fun too!

As always, our traditional Retiree Luncheon is a prominent event held exclusively for retirees including and honoring Past-Presidents and Hall of Fame inductees. We will be in the Lake Terrace Room at later time this year, so please make certain you register early to ensure your reservation. I have loved being your Colorado CMEA Membership Chair and I am always amazed at the enormous creativity within our organization. Over the years I have been fascinated by the creative diversity and exceptional presentations at CMEA. From my first performance as a teenager with Denver's George Washington H.S. Orchestra, I have attended, presided, hosted, performed and reveled in the success of CMEA. I have also written countless journal articles, communicated with hundreds of members, written and responded to equally as many emails, phone calls, meetings, presided over, and attended thousands of performances and sessions. I will always support your work and strongly believe in our legacy, the development of CMEA and our institutional history. In unison we embrace the past, enjoy the moment and look forward to the future. I am honored to be part of the history, legacy and beauty of our association. Whatever the future may bring, always know I am here for you. Please feel free to contact with any concerns, interests, questions or comments.

Musically yours,

Andrea Meyers

AndreaMeyers@comcast.net

CMEA Active and Retired Membership Chair

CMEA Hall of Fame, 2015

Research News

By Krissie Wiemer, Research Chair

The 2024 Colorado Music Educators' Association Conference will feature two research sessions on Friday and Saturday morning. I invite you to join us at one or both to hear a variety of research topics from graduate students and faculty representing CU Boulder, Colorado State, and the University of Northern Colorado. Presenters and topics include:

Garrett Graves will share an intrinsic case study describing the lived experiences of rural instrumental music educators in Colorado.

Samantha Torres will present work exploring current music education practices in the Philippines in the context of its colonial histories and the steps music educators and practitioners could take in the growing calls for decolonizing our music classrooms.

David Brax compared Nationals Association of Schools of Music (NASM) accredited undergraduate music education curriculum requirements across the state of Colorado, using NASM accreditation guidelines and will share the analyzed results.

Christy Go will present an exploration of modern band philosophy and pedagogy in two different school settings and its impact on aspects of educational equity.

Margaret H. Berg, Garrett Graves, Charles Oldenkamp, and Gentry Ragsdale will discuss results from a study describing three graduate students core reflection applications to preservice teaching, including how knowledge of core qualities informed teaching, how the core reflection model informed teaching, the challenges teachers experienced implementing the core reflection model, and how knowledge of core qualities informed music teacher educator identity development.

Seth Pendergast will present an examination of motivational style, job satisfaction, and occupational commitment among music teachers to determine profiles of motivation style among a group of music teachers and to understand the differences in job satisfaction and occupational commitment based on classroom motivational style.

Lindsay J. Fulcher will discuss the demographics of Colorado school music teachers, expectations of school music jobs, and desired professional development opportunities.

Charles Oldenkamp will share work centered on the academic and musical experiences of one music education major with dyslexia at a large research university in the mountain region of the United States.

Additionally we are always seeking research submissions for the CMEA Journal! We invite all researchers to submit a manuscript for publication consideration in the Fall, Winter, and Spring issues of the CMEA online journal. We welcome submissions of various topics and methodologies, including literature reviews and action research. This is a nice publication opportunity for junior faculty and graduate students. Please see previous journals for examples of work published: <https://cmeaonline.org/publications/>. Manuscripts should be emailed directly to both Krissie Wiemer and Margie Camp at: kristina.wiemer@unco.edu and margiecamp@comcast.net



Krissie Wiemer, Research Chair

CMEA Hall of Fame

1984-1985

*Katharyn Bauder, *Warner Imig, *John C. Kendel
*Hugh McMillen, *Leo Meyer, *John T. Roberts
*Wayman Walker

1985-1986

*JoAnn Baird, *Laurene Edmondsen, *Gus Jackson
*Curtis Johnson, *Ralph Levy, *Philomene Liesen

1986-1987

*Margaret Cassario, *Byron Gillett, *John Held
*E'Rena Hockenberry, *James Miller

1987-1988

*Phyllis Armstrong, *Alex Campbell, *Dwight Dale
*Eugene Hilligoss, *Lloyd Jensen, *Ed Kehn, *E.E. Mohr

1988-1989

Earl Berglund, *John Cummins, *Mabel Henderson
*Dwight Nofziger, *Randall Spicer, *Mary Villa

1989-1990

Steve Busch

1990-1991

*William F. Funke, *Ralph King

1991-1992

*Charles Byers, *Elza Daugherty, Dan Grace
Robert Hurrell, Kevin McCarthy

1992-1993

*Roger Dexter Fee, Jess Gerardi, *John Kincaid
*Larry Perkins, Duane Strachan, *Paul "Mickey" Zahradka

1993-1994

Harley Brown, *J. DeForest Cline, Patsy Nix
*L.E. "Dick" Smith, *Byron Syring

1994-1995

*Gregory Bueche, *Fred Fink, *Norma Hess
*Randolph Jones, *Margurite O'Day, *Mike Weiker

1995-1996

*Chuck Cassio, *Violette McCarthy, *Charles Meeker
*William Reeves, *Rodney Townley

1996-1997

*John McGregor, *Dorothy McKeag, Glenn Shull

1997-1998

*Patricia Guadnola, Don Shupe, Willie Hill, Jr.

1998-1999

Kenneth Butcher, *Shirley Reed,
*Larry Overton, Robert Zachman

1999-2000

Kenneth G. Evans, *Bette Lunn
Steven McNeal, Howard M. Skinner

2000-2001

*Frank W. Baird, Roxanne Bates
*Larry Wallace, *Otto Werner

2001-2002

*Frank Montera

2002-2003

Donald Kimble, Duane Zanotelli

2003-2004

Charlotte Adams, Michael J. Kornelsen
Richard A. Kusk, James A. Lunn, *Ed Nuccio

2004-2005

Doug Downey, Craig Ketels, Joe Ernie Montoya

2005-2006

Rebecca Anderson, Joseph Brice, James McNeal
David Prichard, *Jerry Teske, *Lynn Whitten
*Evelyn Whitten

2006-2007

Brian Hopwood, *Janet Montgomery, Keith Simpson

2007-2008

Elva Jean Bolin, Susan Day

2008-2009

*Barbara Grenoble, Jim Keller, Steve Meininger
Ron Revier, Cheryl Smith-Bidstrup

2009-2010

Steve Christopher, *Paul Schneider

2010-2011

Linwood Warwick

2011-2012

Ken Anderson, Margie Camp
Dotty Reaves, Peggy Rosenkranz

2012-2013

Dean Bushnell, Mike DeLuca, William Erickson

2013-2014

Michelle Ewer, Cindy McCaskill, Fred Selby, Ken Singleton

2014-2015

Andrea L. Meyers

2015-2016

Nancy Dunkin, WL Whaley

2016-2017

Ed Cannava, *Linda Hall, Richard Shaw

2017-2018

Richard Larson, Katharine Mason

2018-2019

Gary Ambrosier, Patricia Kidd

2019-2020

Gary Hall, Kirk Vogel, Jack Yonce

2020-2021

Cameron Law, Anne Paulu

2021-2022

James Austin, Tana Knopf

2022-2023

Amber Campbell, Sharon Darland, Sheri McKelfresh

* Deceased

2024 Performing Group Directors



Brenda Bartel - Colorado Academy - Elementary Choir

Brenda Bartel is in her seventh year at Colorado Academy, Denver, where she teaches K-5 music and directs the Lower School Choir which she founded six years ago. Teaching children the joy of making music and singing has been Brenda's passion for many years. Prior to joining Colorado Academy, she taught music and built elementary choir programs in public schools in Denver and Jefferson Counties and in the states of Kansas and Oregon. She has served as Assistant Director to the Evergreen Children's Chorale, as Choral Director for Young Voices for Peace through Denver's Mennonite Society of Musical Heritage, as Artistic Director to the Newton Community Children's Choir, Kansas, and as church choir director. Brenda and her family have volunteered for and directed non-profit development programs in Haiti and in Bolivia, South America. Brenda is an Orff-trained teacher and member of AOSA and the Rocky Mountain Chapter of AOSA, ACDA, and NAFME. She received her BA degree in music and BS degree in elementary education from Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas.



Dan Bell - Colorado Springs Youth Symphony - Ascent Big Band

Dan Bell is in his 2nd year of retirement after 34 years of teaching; 6 years in the district of Fort Lupton (CO), 3 at Rangeview HS (Aurora) and 25 years at Cheyenne Mountain as director of bands at Cheyenne Mountain Junior High, and assistant instructor at Cheyenne Mountain High School, Gold Camp Elementary, and Skyway Elementary. In his 25 years at Cheyenne Mountain, Mr. Bell's jazz band and

symphonic band have performed for the Colorado Music Educator's Clinic/Conference thirteen times. Dan has been the band director of the Colorado Mesa University (CMU) Middle School Music Camp symphonic band, taught at the CSU Fort Collins music camp for 26 years, and has a trumpet, french horn, tuba, and trombone private studio in Colorado Springs. Dan appears as a guest conductor frequently with Colorado regional honor bands. He is currently director of the jazz program for the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony organization. His wife Kari, kids Ryan, Katie, Kyle, and grandchildren Johnny and Kirby are the loves of his life!



Sarah Branton - Cherry Creek High School - Meistersingers

Sarah Branton is Director of Choirs at Cherry Creek High School where choirs under her direction have performed at numerous state and regional conventions, and toured around the world. She is Assistant Director and Section Leader with Kantorei, an adult chorus in Denver. Additionally, she has taught at the summer Sitka Fine Arts Camp in Sitka, Alaska, sings with ad hoc ensembles and is a classical and jazz string bassist. She currently serves as Chair-Elect for Colorado All-State Choir and previously served on the Colorado ACDA board. Ms. Branton holds music degrees from St. Olaf College and Colorado State University.

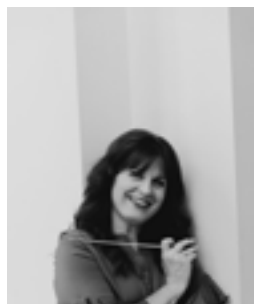


Nicholas Brenholtz - Grand Junction - Voices of the Valley

Mr. Brenholtz has taught at Broadway Elementary & Scenic Elementary since 2015; He has his B.A. from Colorado Mesa University and an M.M.

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from Colorado State University. He loves providing high-quality musical experiences to young learners, as well as cuddling his pug and lifting at the gym.



Jennifer Bruton - Colorado State University, Pueblo - Choir

Dr. Jennifer Bruton, a native of the Chicago area, is in her second year as the Director of Choral Activities at Colorado

State University Pueblo. She conducts the Concert Choir, Chamber Choir and Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Dr. Bruton also collaborates with faculty across the campus and takes advantage of any opportunity for her groups to perform on campus or in the surrounding area. In her first year at CSUP, the choirs performed at the state collegiate festival, gave two choral concerts, performed for the community-wide service commemorating World AIDS Day, and performed both the Duruflé Requiem and David Volk's American Credo alongside the Pueblo Choral Society. The choir's performance of Volk's "The Nature of Injustice," from American Credo (text by Justice Anthony Kennedy from the Obergefell decision) was a world premiere.



Adam Cave - Cherry Creek High School - Creek 21

Adam Cave is in his 16th year as choir director at Cherry Creek High School where he directs four choral ensembles.

Mr. Cave has been teaching for 22 years and has proudly led choirs on tours domestically and internationally, including five performances at the annual CMEA conference and one performance at Southwest ACDA in 2016. He is recognized as a Cherry Creek High School Teacher of the Year and served as president of Colorado

ACDA from 2017 to 2019. He currently serves on the staff of Young Voices of Colorado and is an active member of the Denver-based semi-professional choir, Kantorei. Adam received his Bachelor of Music in Music Education from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, and his Master of Music in Music Education and Conducting from Colorado State University. Adam and his wife, Emily, have three amazing sons: Owen, Arlo, and Elliot.



Mathew Coronado - Central High School - Madrigals Chamber Choir

Mathew Coronado is an educator and professional vocalist living in Grand Junction, Colorado. He is currently the director of vocal music

at Central High School in Grand Junction. There, Mathew directs six different vocal ensembles and teaches music appreciation. Ensembles under his direction have received superior and best in class ratings from the Colorado West Music Festival and CHSAA Large Group Festival. Mathew also is the music director for musical theatre productions at Central HS and has directed shows such as The Adams Family and Newbies, which received the Bobby G Award for 'Best Chorus' in 2023. Previously, Mathew had a 5-year tenure as director of choirs and music director for musicals at Gunnison Middle and High School in Gunnison, Colorado. There, his groups received high marks at music competitions, and he began several ensembles such as Belle Voix (advanced treble choir), Just for Show (show choir), and the GMS Summer Show Choir. Mathew music directed such musicals as The Little Mermaid and Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory and was proud to have fostered a community support of music and the arts in Gunnison.

Mathew is passionate about music education and performance. He has sung with the Western Colorado Chorale, the Grand Junction Symphony Cho-

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rus, Vocal Junction, and the Gunnison Arts Center Singers. He has been featured as the Tenor soloist in Handel's Messiah with the Messiah Choral Society of Grand Junction and in several works with the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Junction (J. S. Bach's Christmas Oratorio, Stainer's The Crucifixion, Dubois' Seven Last Words of Christ), and has performed a solo vocal recital at the United Church of the San Juans in Ridgeway, Colorado. Mathew is passionate about bringing this performance experience to enrich student's singing during rehearsal and through teaching private voice lessons.

A native of rural Wyoming, Mathew earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education K-12 and Performance from Colorado Mesa University and a Master of Music Education with an Emphasis in Choral Conducting from CU Boulder. Mathew also participated in a conducting fellowship with Dr. John Howard at the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Junction. When not teaching or performing, Mathew enjoys skiing, hiking, mountain biking, traveling, and enjoying local cuisine with his partner Maxwell and their dog Atticus.



Emily Crile -
Colorado Children's Chorale - Tour Choir

EMILY CRILE, Artistic Director, exhibits her passion and enthusiasm for choral music through developing and conducting singers of all ages. She currently directs Tour Choir, a premier treble ensemble. During the past 23 years with the Chorale, she has directed Prep, Apprentice and Transitions Choirs, worked with Concert and Tour Choirs, prepared children for appearances with the Colorado Symphony, Central City Opera, Opera Colorado, and Colorado Ballet, and toured throughout Australia, China, Costa Rica, Europe, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United States. With a commitment to equitable access for high quality music education, she crafted,

led, and administered School Partnership and Community Choir programs across the Denver Metro area and earned a certification in Facilitating Effective DEI Discussions from Dena Samuels Consulting.

Emily is the Past-President of the Colorado American Choral Directors Association and is an active choral clinician and presenter throughout the United States. Prior to joining the Chorale in 2000, she served as an Assistant Conductor with the Northern Iowa Children's Choir. She holds a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Colorado Boulder.



Benjamin Dale - *Rock Canyon High School - String Orchestra*

Benjamin Dale is now in his tenth year as Director of Orchestras at Rock Canyon High School in Highlands Ranch,

CO (Douglas County), and his twentieth year of teaching overall. In addition to directing the three Rock Canyon Orchestras, Mr. Dale also teaches three levels of Guitar classes. Furthermore, Mr. Dale teaches before and after school orchestra programs at two of the area elementary schools.

Mr. Dale is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music (Rochester, NY) where he completed a triple major in Cello Performance, Music Education, and Musical Arts (Music Therapy concentration) and a minor in viola da gamba. After graduating, Mr. Dale taught Orchestra in a suburb of Rochester for three years, and after moving to New Jersey, established a school-wide orchestra program at an inner-city charter school in Trenton, NJ. Upon moving to Colorado, Mr. Dale held the position of Director of Orchestras in the Standley Lake Area of Westminster (Jefferson County), where he taught at seven elementary schools and Standley Lake High School for five years.

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Mr. Dale is a proud husband to his beautiful and talented wife, Julia, the Choir Director at Rock Canyon High School, and father of an amazing boy, Charlie and his awesome younger sister, Ellie. In addition to spending time with his family, Mr. Dale loves Bach, baseball, and the great outdoors.



Jill Fischhaber -
Altona Middle School -
8th Grade Orchestra

Jill Fischhaber is the orchestra director at Altona Middle School where she teaches 6th, 7th and 8th Grade Orchestra and the Altona Pops Orchestra (a group that only performs popular music). Her program consists of six string ensembles and currently has nearly 200 students enrolled. She has taught in the St. Vrain Valley School District for 19 years. Prior to joining the staff at Altona Middle School, Mrs. Fischhaber was the orchestra director at Longmont High School and Longs Peak Middle School. She also taught orchestra in the Adams 50 school district from 2002-2004 and general music in the Jefferson County School District from 1996-2002.

Mrs. Fischhaber graduated with a Bachelor's in Music Education from the University of Northern Colorado in 1996 and received her Master's in Music Education with an emphasis in orchestral conducting from the University of Colorado in 2002. While at the University of Colorado she studied conducting with Akira Endo. She has performed as a violinist in the Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra, the Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra, The Rocky Mountain Orchestra, Metro State College of Denver's Symphony Orchestra and the Niwot Timberline Symphony.

Mrs. Fischhaber currently resides in Longmont with her husband, Curitis, and their three children, Oliver, Ellery and Daphne. All three of her children performed with her orchestras at Altona Middle School.



Sean Flanigan - All-State
Jazz Band - Small School
Conductor

A sought-after trombone soloist, conductor and teacher in the classical, jazz and commercial genres throughout the United States and abroad, Sean Flanigan

is the Director of Music Entrepreneurship Studies at Colorado Mesa University. He performed solo recitals, made guest conducting appearances and presented clinics at the National Conservatory in Caracas, Venezuela and as featured guest artist at El Sistema's Ibero-American Brass Festival in Barquisimeto, Venezuela. He has been invited numerous times to return to Venezuela to work for El Sistema, their world-famous orchestral training system. He has performed with numerous symphonic and opera orchestras, backed such artists as Dizzy Gillespie, Jimmy Heath, Clark Terry, Urbie Green, the Temptations, recorded for television, radio, and commercial CDs and has performed for numerous touring Broadway shows. Dr. Flanigan has many years of public-school teaching experience, most notably at the middle school level. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Trombone Performance from the University of North Texas where he was a Doctoral Conducting Fellow studying with Eugene Migliaro Corporon. He also holds Master of Music in Trombone Performance and Bachelor of Science in Music Education degrees from the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign. He serves as the 2024 Small Schools All-State Jazz Band Director.



Captain Michael Flynn
- United States Air Force
Academy - Falconairs

Captain Flynn's previous assignment was as Flight Commander and Associate Con-

ductor of the United States Air Force Band of the

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West, San Antonio, TX. Prior to his commission as an officer in the USAF, 1st Lt Flynn was a university professor in academia as the Director of Bands and Brass Instruction at Western State Colorado University in Gunnison, CO, Director of Bands at Sheridan College, Sheridan Wyoming, and Director of Bands and Western Music Specialist at the Edward Said and Daniel Barenboim National Conservatory of Music located in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, Israel.

Captain Flynn holds a Doctorate in Trumpet Performance with a conducting cognate from the University of Miami, FL. Conducting mentors include Catherine Rand, Gary Green, and the late Thomas Sleeper.

Captain Flynn maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor and clinician, and has led regional Honor and Select Bands across the country. He also conducted the first ever performance of both the First Suite and Second Suite for Military Band by Gustav Holst in Bethlehem and Ramallah, Israel, and in Damascus, Syria during a concert tour in 2011. As an orchestral trumpet player, Lt Flynn has performed with symphonies and bands across the globe under conductors such as Michael Tilson Thomas, Daniel Barenboim, Marin Alsop, Eduardo Marturet, Jeff Tyzik, Jerry Junkin, Frank Batisti, Eugene Corporon, and Garry Green.



John Garner - Fossil Ridge High School - Tenth Bass

John Garner has taught vocal music since 1997 at both the Middle and High school levels. He received both a Bachelor

and Master of Music Education degree from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley.

Mr. Garner has directed honor choirs and served as an adjudicator throughout the state of Colorado. Choirs under his direction have received top ratings and numerous awards including three previous performances at the CMEA convention. He has taken

choirs to perform across the country and in Europe.

In addition to teaching choir at Fossil Ridge, Mr. Garner is also the Technical Theatre director. He was recognized as the Colorado High School Theatre Teacher of the year for 2019-20 by the Colorado Educational Theatre Association.

Mr. Garner lives in Loveland with his wife, Cinnamon, their three children, Emma, Julie and Allister.



Daryl Gingrich - Rifle High School - Varsity Choir

Daryl Gingrich is in his 20th year as a Choir teacher at Rifle High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Vocal Music Education from the University of Minnesota Duluth in

2004. He holds a Masters of Music with Conducting Emphasis from Colorado State University in 2009. Mr. Gingrich has served on the CHSAA Music Committee (2010-2019) and Colorado Music Educators Association Vocal Council (2006-2018). Choirs under his direction have performed for the Governor of Colorado, Colorado State Vocal Gala, Colorado Association of School Boards, and CMEA 2014. At Rifle High School Gingrich teaches a beginning treble choir, a tenor-bass choir, Advanced treble choir, Advanced mixed choir, Music Theory, and Music Technology.

He has had the privilege to be the Music director of the RHS Drama department since coming to RHS. In 2019 his students went on the road and performed Matilda at Thescon in Denver. He has hosted CHSAA solo and ensembles, CHSAA Large Group, and District 8 Fall Vocal Clinic. He has been married to his beautiful wife, Noelle, for 17 years and they have two children, Ian and Klara.

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Jenny Hall -
Antelope Trails Elementary School -
Sussical the Musical

Jenny Hall is in her ninth year as the music teacher and drama director at Antelope Trails Elementary School in Academy School District 20. She relocated to Colorado Springs, Colorado eleven years ago from Memphis, Tennessee. Jenny has been teaching and directing for 26 years, and she is a licensed Colorado educator with endorsements in both Music and Drama (K-12). Jenny's experience includes teaching and directing in large, suburban districts in Colorado Springs, Colorado and Memphis, Tennessee. In Tennessee, Jenny took her skills beyond the K-12 classroom and served as the director of the youth musical theatre program at the Memphis Jewish Community Center for nearly a decade before relocating to Colorado. She has taught elementary general music and all levels of theatre, film, and stage movement. Jenny brings enthusiastic passion to the ensembles she leads, and she loves teaching Orff, World Music Drumming, ukulele, guitar, Modern Band, musical theatre, creative movement, and dance. At Antelope Trails, she teaches K-5 general music, directs grade level musical theatre productions for 1st through 3rd grade, conducts the 2nd-3rd grade choir, the 4th-5th grade choir, and the 4th-5th grade handbell choir, and produces and directs an extracurricular musical theatre production for the 4th and 5th grade. Jenny feels that her position at Antelope Trails Elementary is a perfect fit, combining the best of her strengths as a music educator and theatre director. Jenny views her role as a facilitator of creativity, no matter the age or skill level of the performers. In Memphis, Jenny directed productions that received nominations and won awards at the regional division of the High School Musical Theatre Awards, a division of the National Awards, the Jimmy Awards. She also has leadership experience as a Conference Coordinator for the Tennessee

Educational Theatre Association and as a Learning Coach/Teacher Mentor to help guide new teachers. In 2022, the Antelope Trails Elementary Handbell Choir was selected as an Honor Performance Group for the CMEA Conference, and this wonderful experience motivated Jenny to run for the District Representative position. She thrives on collaboration and creativity and benefits greatly from attending the annual CMEA Conference. Serving as a District Representative is the ideal way for Jenny to give back to the CMEA community and uphold the traditions of excellence—specifically the support and growth of its members—for which the CMEA is known. Jenny has earned a Bachelor's degree from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee and completed Master's degrees from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois and University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado. In her spare time, she enjoys running, hiking, indoor cycling, yoga, and spending time with her husband and cats.



Aaron Herman - Fossil Ridge High School -
Wind Symphony

Aaron Herman serves as Director of Bands at Fossil Ridge High School in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Fossil Ridge offers a comprehensive band program including three concert bands, two jazz bands, marching band, pep band, percussion ensemble, winter guard, and chamber ensembles. Under Mr. Herman's direction, the Fossil Ridge Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band received ratings of "Superior with Distinction" at the 2022 and 2023 CBA State Concert Band Festival. The Fossil Ridge Marching Band was the 2022 CBA Class 5A State Champion.

Mr. Herman received a Bachelor of Music in music education from Furman University and a Master of Music in wind conducting from Colorado

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State University. While at CSU, he served as a graduate assistant with the CSU Marching Band and Pep Bands, and as a guest conductor with the CSU Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band. His conducting teachers include Dr. Rebecca Phillips and Dr. Leslie Hicken. Before relocating to Colorado, Mr. Herman taught middle and high school band in South Carolina. Mr. Herman holds professional affiliations with the Colorado Bandmasters Association, the Colorado Music Educators Association, the National Band Association, the American School Band Directors Association, the National Association for Music Education, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Mr. Herman currently resides in Fort Collins with his wife Christina and two dogs, Annabell and Penny.



Elizabeth Hohweiler
- Rocky Mountain High School - Syrens

Elizabeth Hohweiler is in her twenty-third year of teaching vocal music in Colorado and her twelfth year at Rocky Mountain High School. She received both her Bachelor of Music Education and Masters Degree in Music Education with an emphasis in conducting from Colorado State University. Elizabeth began her career directing choirs at Estes Park Middle and High Schools. Following her tenure in Estes Park, she spent one year teaching high school vocal music and general music at Mountain View High School and Berthoud Elementary School. Prior to joining the music department at Rocky Mountain High School, Elizabeth taught vocal music and musical theatre at Leshner Middle School. At Rocky, Elizabeth directs the advanced and intermediate mixed choirs, advanced chamber choir, and treble jazz choir, all of which consistently receive superior ratings at festivals throughout the state. In addition to directing choirs at Rocky, Elizabeth is also the producer and vocal director of the spring musical theatre production, sponsor of the

Tri-M Music Honor Society and is currently serving as the chair of the Music Department. This fall, Elizabeth was excited to join the board of Colorado ACDA as the High School R&R Chair. Elizabeth resides in Fort Collins with her husband, Christopher, and their two children, Adam and Allison. This is Elizabeth's eighth appearance at CMEA.



Andrés Felipe Jaime
- University of Northern Colorado - University Orchestra

Colombian conductor Andrés Felipe Jaime has been appointed Director of Orchestra at the University of Northern Colorado. Highlights from last year's season of the UNC Symphony Orchestra include Stravinsky's Rite of Spring with the UNC Dance Program, and Puccini's full staged production of Suor Angelica with the UNC Opera Theater. Before coming to Colorado, Dr. Jaime worked for three seasons as Assistant Music Director of the Bogota Philharmonic Orchestra, and as Music Director of the Conservatory Orchestra at the National University of Colombia.

Dr. Jaime has actively worked with orchestras in Colombia and the United States, including the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Frost Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra of Colombia, Bogota Philharmonic Orchestra, Youth Philharmonic of Colombia, and Orquesta Sinfónica de Antioquia, among many others.

An advocate of the symphonic movement of Latin America, Dr. Jaime is an active researcher and performer. He is the author of *Orchestral Music of Latin America: A Catalog for Performers*; and co-author of *Latin Orchestral Music: an online catalogue*.

Born in Medellin, Andrés Felipe Jaime holds Mas-

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ter of Music degrees in cello and conducting from Texas Christian University, and a doctoral degree in conducting from the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami.



Travis Keller - Fairview High School - Jazz Ensemble 1

Travis Keller is in his 23rd year of teaching and has been the director of bands at Fairview High School in Boulder, CO for 19 years. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder in Music Education and a Master of Music Degree from Colorado State University with an emphasis in conducting. He has been a conductor and clinician around the state of Colorado since the year 2000 and his bands have performed and competed around the state and the country. The Fairview High School bands have been invited to perform at the Colorado Music Educator's Clinic/Conference, received continuous invitations to the Colorado Bandmasters State Concert Band Festival and the Fairview Marching Knights have been a 20 year finalist, including being a top 3 medalist band eight times in his career at Fairview. The bands have also performed at multiple Bands of America regional and super regional competitions. The Fairview jazz program currently has three big bands and six jazz combos. When he is not at work, Travis likes to hike, camp, play golf, and spend time with his wife Cathy and his two kids, Matthew (13) and Emma (10).



Enrique Lasansky - Denver School of the Arts - Full Orchestra

Dr. Enrique Lasansky was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and came to the United States at the age of nine. His musical studies began as a

clarinetist and was a student of the legendary Anthony Gigliotti, long-time 1st clarinetist of the Philadelphia Orchestra. Enrique obtained a B.A. in Music from Swarthmore College in 1978 and upon graduation, received a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship for clarinet and conducting studies in Europe. Subsequently, he received an M.F.A. in Orchestral Conducting from Carnegie Mellon University. During four summers at the Pierre Monteux School for Advanced Conductors in Maine and in private lessons at Hartford, Enrique studied with his principal conducting influence, Charles Bruck, Pierre Monteux's main protege. In 1991, Enrique received a Doctor of Musical Arts in orchestral conducting from the University of Arizona. That same year, he founded the Catalina Chamber Orchestra (CCO) in Tucson where he served as Music Director until 2008.

For nearly 25 years, Dr. Lasansky has been the director of orchestras at public schools across Texas, Arizona and Colorado. Since 2013, Dr. Lasansky has been the Director of Orchestras at Denver School of the Arts. Under his leadership, the DSA orchestras have appeared as honor performing groups at the Colorado Music Educator Association (CMEA) multiple times and have also been successful in national competitions. The DSA middle school Sinfonia won the American String Teacher's Association (ASTA) National Orchestra Festival (NOF) in both 2016 and 2018 while the high school ensembles performed at The Midwest Clinic in 2022 and 2015, achieved second runner-up at the 2018 National Orchestra Cup and in 2019 won first place in the NOF's high school full orchestra division. DSA was also selected by The American Prize as a 2023 finalist in the Youth Division and in 2020 as the country's best high school orchestra.

In addition to teaching, Dr. Lasansky is an accomplished musician and conductor. He served as clarinetist and bass clarinetist with the Arizona Opera Company and has appeared as guest conductor with the Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra, Tucson-Messiah Sing-In, Pima Community College

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Opera Theater, The Chandler Symphony, The Orquesta de Avellaneda in Buenos Aires, The Paris Sinfonietta and the La Orquesta del Estado de Mexico.



David Lonowski -
Poudre High School -
IMPALAPHONICS

David Lonowski has taught music since 2016 at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. This year marks his sixth year at Poudre High

School, his alma mater. He holds a Bachelor and Master of Music Education from the University of Colorado in Boulder where he directed the CU vocal ensemble Mile 21 A Cappella during his time as an undergraduate. Mr. Lonowski serves on the board of directors as the on-site coordinator for Colorado High School All-State Choir. Under his direction, the Poudre High School choirs have received superior ratings at various festivals throughout the state. In April of 2023 Poudre singers enjoyed the opportunity to work with Dan Forrest under the baton of Craig Hella Johnson at the Lincoln Center in New York City. Mr. Lonowski enjoys the opportunities for teaching a diverse group of students at Poudre through his work as choral director, vocal director for Poudre Theatre, guitar teacher, and music production & technology teacher. Mr. Lonowski loves living in his hometown and enjoys the sense of purpose that comes with directing the choirs he once belonged to as a high school singer. He lives with his fiancé, Anna, and their lively Australian Shepherd, Nas.



Jason W. Mabrey -
Eaglecrest High School -
Wind Ensemble

Director of Bands, Jason W. Mabrey holds a bachelor's degree in music education with an emphasis in trumpet performance, and a double master's degree in education

and conducting from Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

Currently in his 15th year at Eaglecrest High School in the Cherry Creek School District, Mr. Mabrey co-conducts the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band. He is also the director of the Jazz Bands, the Marching Band, and the Pep Band at EHS where he was selected as the 2017 Teacher of the Year. Prior to coming to Eaglecrest, Mr. Mabrey spent 3 years teaching band, orchestra, and choir at Everitt Middle School in the Jefferson County School District.

Under Mr. Mabrey's direction the Wind Ensemble has qualified for the Colorado Bandmasters Association State Concert Band Festival in 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2023, receiving the rating of Superior with Distinction in 2022 and 2023. The Wind Ensemble has also received a rating of Superior at the Colorado West Music Festival 8 times being awarded Most Outstanding 5A Band for the festival 4 times. The Jazz Bands have been a consistent high level performer at many Colorado Jazz festivals including being awarded the Most Outstanding 5A Jazz Band at the 2023 Colorado West Music Festival. Under his direction the Raptor Regiment Marching Band has grown to be one of the biggest in the state and can be seen performing in many parades and athletic events each year.

Mr. Mabrey's music performance, music education, and education mentors include Dr. J. Steven Moore, Dr. David Shaner, Wes Kenny, Jack Yonce, Dan Bell, Ed Cannava, and Jim Roome. His professional affili-

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ations include the Colorado Bandmasters Association, Colorado Music Educators Association, and the National Association for Music Education. He is also a proud member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Music Fraternity, Phi Beta Mu Music Fraternity, and the American School Band Directors Association. Outside of Eaglecrest Jason enjoys spending time with his wife Sarah, son Miles (who is in this year's Wind Ensemble), daughter Molly, and his friends. He also loves going to Bronco games, playing disc golf, and skiing.



Elizabeth Macy -
Metropolitan State University of Denver -
Gemelan Manik Kusuma

Elizabeth McLean Macy is an Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology in the Department of Music and Faculty Fellow in the Office of Diversity at Metropolitan State University of Denver, where she teaches classes on music and culture and serves as Area Coordinator for Musicology and Director of Global Music Ensembles. Macy also coordinates the Music Department's Visiting Artists Series on Music, Race, & Social Justice, highlighting the work of BIPOC musicians, performers, and scholars. She holds a BA in Music from Colorado College, an MA in Ethnomusicology from UC Riverside, and a PhD in Ethnomusicology from UCLA, where her dissertation research addressed the function of music tourism in post-disaster economies. Dr. Macy's current and ongoing research focuses on Balinese master musician I Made Lasmawan and his wife Ni Ketut Marni and the music and dance traditions of the village of Bangah di Baturiti in Bali. Currently a performing member of Denver's Gamelan Tunas Mekar, she began studying the music of Indonesia with Lasmawan in 1996. She is a founding member of Sanggar Manik Galih, a transnational music and dance studio based in Bali and Colorado, and teaches study abroad courses in Bali on Balinese music, arts, and culture.



Brian Margrave -
Cheyenne Mountain Junior High School - Band

Brian Margrave began teaching in the Cheyenne Mountain School District in the fall of 2007. He earned his stripes teaching mostly 4th-6th grade band for 15 years, and was lucky enough to be Dan Bell's assistant at Cheyenne Mountain Junior High for 11. Brian became the head director at CMJH in the fall of 2022.

A native of Colorado Springs, Mr. Margrave earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Colorado in 2007, and a Master's degree from the American Band College in 2010. He is a National Board Certified Teacher.

In addition to his duties in D12, Mr. Margrave is the conductor of The Colorado Springs Youth Symphony's Bravo Winds. Brian is President of the Pikes Peak Middle School Honor Band, and maintains a small private trumpet studio.

In 2015, Mr. Margrave was awarded the Outstanding Young Bandmaster Award by Phi Beta Mu. He is in demand as a guest conductor and clinician, having conducted honor bands across Colorado. Brian has presented several lectures at CMEA and Colorado Bandmasters Association events. When not doing something musical, Brian, his wife Kate, and 5-year old daughter Eva can often be spotted adventuring in the great outdoors.



Bri McCormick -
Fossil Ridge High School - Tenth Bass

Bri McCormick has taught choir since 2013 at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. She graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the Uni-

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versity of Northern Colorado in Greeley and holds a Master of Science in Educational Leadership and an active principal's license.

Mrs. McCormick serves as the Treasurer for Colorado All State Choir, and has also served on the governing board for Colorado Middle School All State Choir. Mrs. McCormick's choirs have received superior ratings at various festivals throughout the state and country, and have been selected to perform at the Colorado Music Educator's Conference.

Briana also serves as the Vocal Director for Fossil Ridge Theatre. In her spare time, she greatly enjoys performing with the chamber ensemble NOCO Singers, of which she is a founding member.

She lives in Windsor with her husband, daughter, and their pug named Batman.



Shawna Mendez -
The Manning School -
Resonance

Shawna Mendez has been working as a performing arts teacher in Jefferson County for twenty-one years teaching choir, band, orchestra and musical theater. She is currently in her eighteenth year

at The Manning School of Academics and Arts in Golden, Colorado where she currently directs vocal music and musical theater. She directs two musicals each year and hosts summer theatre for kids across the district. She has spent a lot of time in music ministry and has directed worship teams, choirs and children's groups. Shawna has been a mentor teacher and has had numerous student teacher placements throughout the years. She has served on the curriculum writing committees for the district and served as a leader in numerous capacities. Shawna received her Bachelor of Music Education degree with choral emphasis from Metropolitan State University of

Denver and holds a Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from Colorado Christian University. As a quarter-finalist for the Grammy Music Educator Award in 2014, and a semi-finalist for the 2021 award, Shawna is thrilled to be recognized among such fine music educators.



Sara Miller - Widefield
High School - Symphony
Orchestra

Sara Miller is currently the Director of Orchestras' at Widefield High School in the Widefield School District 3 in Colorado Springs. She has taught in the school district since 2006 and currently conducts five orchestras including a full orchestra, a pop group and teaches two piano classes. Since 2016 Sara has directed the pit orchestra for the annual WHS musical. In 2020, the Widefield High School Chamber Orchestra was selected to perform at the ASTA (American String Teachers Association) national conference. This past year, the orchestra was again selected to perform and competed at ASTA receiving high ratings and professional feedback. Due to receiving high ratings at ASTA, the Orchestra has also been invited to compete in the National Orchestra Cup at the Lincoln Center in New York in 2025.

Sara graduated from University of Northern Colorado with a BA in Music and from Washington State University with a Masters in Music with emphasis in String pedagogy and conducting. She studied conducting under Dr. Keating Johnson where she was given opportunities to conduct the WSU college orchestra as well as several musicals. She has studied violin and viola with Mr. Richard Fuchs and Dr. Meredith Arksey.

Sara continues to share her passion and excitement for music and strings by mentoring young musicians and teachers. In addition to teaching at Widefield

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High School Sara enjoys playing with the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, where she frequents the viola section. She also has established a summer strings camp which gives young players an opportunity to grow through musical performance. Outside of her musical endeavors Sara enjoys being with her husband, the outdoors, skiing during the winter and mountain biking in the summer



Phillip Newland -
Columbine High School -
Columbine Silver

Phil Newland is in his fifth year as the Choir Director at Columbine High School,

where he directs a Treble Choir, a Tenor/Bass ensemble, the Advanced Women's group Columbine Silver, and the select mixed vocal jazz ensemble, Columbine Blue. He also teaches AP Music Theory, Beginning Guitar, and an Adaptive Music class, and serves as the Music Department Chair. Mr. Newland received his B.M.Ed and M.M.Ed from the University of Wyoming. Outside of the classroom, Mr. Newland is an active clinician and adjudicator throughout Colorado, Wyoming, and Nebraska. In his spare time, Mr. Newland enjoys spending time in the mountains, his dog Freeway Jones, and seeking out the best Mexican food.



Phuong Nguyen -
Boltz Middle School -
Jazz Band

Mr. Nguyen received his

Bachelor of Music Education degree from Colorado State University and learned from such greats as Dr. Charles Lawson, Dr. Gary Moody, and Dr. J. Steven Moore. He also received his Masters of Music in Conducting at Colorado State University, studying with Peter Sommer, Wes Kenney, and Dr. J. Steven Moore. While at CSU, Phuong was awarded the David Paul Knight Scholarship for Jazz, the Award of Highest Distinction at the CSU Research and

Creativity Symposium, and was a Senior Honors Recital recipient. Phuong currently plays saxophone and performs with the Fort Collins Wind Symphony, Twelve Cents for Marvin, Choice City Seven, the Fort Collins Jazz Friends as well as a slew of side projects. With more than 20 years of experience performing in Colorado rock/jazz/ska/reggae bands, he has performed with famous rock bands, Vietnamese pop stars, and has even starred in a few short films! Aside from guest-conducting clinics and teaching at Boltz Middle School (the best middle school in the world!), Mr. Nguyen also teaches private lessons and coaches students in the Youth Music Collective, a group of high school rock musicians from all over Fort Collins. Phuong currently lives in Fort Collins, Colorado, with his beautiful wife Nicole Wilshusen and two lovely daughters, Claire and Ella. He likes to hike, ride motorcycles, snowboard, play basketball, and watch cheesy action movies. Oh, and he's a huge Star Wars nerd.



Richard Niezen - Colo-
rado Christian University
- Chamber Singers

Richard Niezen, Ph.D., is an

Associate Professor of Music at Colorado Christian University. A former orchestral bassist, he has performed with orchestras on three continents. As an applied music faculty member, Dr. Niezen teaches violoncello and double bass, and leads the CCU Chamber Strings program. In addition, Dr. Niezen has taught String Methods, String Repertoire, as well as the string emphasis of Advanced Conducting. His dedication to training the 21st Century musician has led to work and research with the International Society of Music Educators (ISME), where he presented on adaptive postsecondary music education. He has also published and presented nationally and internationally on transformational learning and communities of practice.

Following an eleven-year tenure as Music Director of the Aurora Symphony Orchestra (ASO) he was

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awarded an official proclamation by the Aurora City Council, recognizing his positive impact in the cultural and educational communities of Aurora.

He has also served as a music director and music educator in a number of Colorado communities over the last two decades, and has been an advocate for the arts in culturally underrepresented areas. He is a member of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), and is a peer reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission.



(Corinne) Natasha Olson-Smith - *Denver School of the Arts High School - Guitar Ensemble*

Natasha Olson-Smith owns a private music studio and is a professional musician who performs and teaches in the Denver metro area. She studied guitar at the University of Denver, University of Miami, University of Colorado @ Boulder, the Berklee School of Music, and Carmen de las Cuevas in Spain. Natasha joined Denver School of the Arts (DSA) in the fall of 2022. Prior to that, she regularly had over 50+ students in her private music studio teaching guitar, ukulele, and bass to all different ages, levels, and genres. She is currently the Director of Guitar Studies at DSA teaching grades 6 thru 12.



Mike Perez - *Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School - Symphonic Band*

Mike Perez is in his twenty-third year of teaching and is in his eighteenth year as Director of Bands at Kinard Core Knowledge Middle School in Fort Collins, CO. Mr. Perez previously taught for five years in the Thompson School District at Erwin Middle School and Loveland High School with Sherree McLaughlin and Gary Hall.

Mr. Perez graduated from Loveland High School and received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Colorado. While at CU, he studied percussion with Doug Walter, conducting with Allan McMurray and Rob Carnachan, earned a Downbeat Magazine Outstanding Jazz Combo Performance award and was a concerto competition finalist on marimba. Mr. Perez received his Masters degree in Conducting from Southern Oregon University.

Mr. Perez's duties at Kinard Middle School include teaching over 250 students in three beginning bands, and three ensembles. Kinard's Symphonic Band was the first Colorado middle school band selected to perform at the prestigious Music for All National Concert Band Festival in 2018 and has performed five times as an honor band at the Colorado Music Educators Association Convention. The Symphonic Band and Honors Band at Kinard consistently earn superior ratings at local and state level festivals, typically represent one third of the Poudre School District Honor Band, and consistently have some of the most students accepted into the CU Middle School Honor Band. The Symphonic Band was demonstration group at the University of Northern Colorado's Conducting Symposium with Richard Saucedo and at the Colorado Music Educators Association Clinic Conference with Dr. Matthew Arau.

Mr. Perez's professional activities include having two master's degree projects published and featured in Band World Magazine (Oct. 2003 and April 2005), a member of the National Association of for Music Education, Phi Beta Mu and the Colorado Bandmasters Association. He also maintains a professional website www.mikeperezband.com that features middle level band resources and his technique book Essential Foundations, and an Instagram and YouTube channel called Mastering the Young Band.

Mr. Perez maintains a healthy work life balance by being an amateur 5K and 10K runner, hiking as many peaks in Rocky Mountain National Park as he

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can, snowboarding in Summit County, and cheering on his three high schoolers in sports and music activities.



***Kari Polmateer -
Eaglecrest High School -
Wind Ensemble***

Kari Polmateer is in her fourth year as the assistant band director at Eaglecrest High School and her nineteenth year of teaching. Prior to being the assistant band director at Eaglecrest, Kari taught at Sky Vista Middle School, PS 122 in Queens, New York and Hoosic Valley Junior/Senior High in New York. As the assistant band director at Eaglecrest, Kari co-teaches the concert band, symphonic band and wind ensemble. While at Eaglecrest, the wind ensemble has received Superior ratings the past two years at the Colorado Bandmasters Association (CBA) regional festival and was selected for the State Festival both years.

Kari grew up in western New York where she graduated from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Fredonia with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and The Hartt School of Music with a Masters of Music in Music Education.

When not working with the Eaglecrest bands, Kari enjoys spending time with her husband, DJ, and two children, Quinn and Andrew. She is a flute player with the Colorado Wind Ensemble as well. Kari is also an avid runner and has completed 16 marathons.



***Kirk Schjodt - Arapahoe
High School -
The Arapahoe Chorale***

Kirk R. Schjodt is in his sixth year as the Director of Choirs at Arapahoe High School in

Centennial, CO. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education from Dana College and a Masters of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. At Arapahoe, he leads five curricular choirs, one pop a cappella ensemble, and he teaches a 'voice lessons & music theory' class. He also assists with the school musical, he serves on various faculty committees, and he regularly sponsors student-run clubs including once as a powder-puff football coach. He previously taught in both Nebraska and in South Dakota where he was the recipient of the 2013 SD-ACDA Overture Award. In addition to teaching, he is a Metro Governor on the Colorado All-State Choir board, he sings with the Denver-area choirs Kantorei and Vocis Cordis, and he serves as the Chancel Choir Director at Bethany Lutheran Church in Denver.



***Marianna Simpson -
Colorado Elementary
All-State Choir***

Marianna Parnas-Simpson graduated with a Master's Degree in Choral Conducting from the St. Petersburg State Conservatory, Russia. She founded the award-winning St. Petersburg Girls' Choir Kamerton, which she directed for ten years before coming to the United States.

Since 1999 Mrs. Simpson has taught at Parker Elementary School, a Houston ISD magnet school for music, where she created the choral program that grew from 30 to 250 students, grade 1-5. In 2005 she was named Teacher of the Year.

In 2006, Ms. Simpson founded the Treble Choir of Houston, a youth ensemble for young women, grade 6-12, whose mission is Helping Young Women Find Their Voice.

From 2008 to 2010 Ms. Simpson served as the Artistic Director of the American Boychoir summer program in Princeton, New Jersey.

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Marianna's choirs have been selected to perform at many prestigious National and International Festivals and Conventions, including International Choral Festival Kathaumixw, American Choral Directors Association National Convention, Texas Music Educators Conventions, Organization of American Kodaly Educators and American Guild of Organists Conventions. Her choirs were winners of the American Prize National Competition (Youth Choir Division), were featured in Carnegie Hall and performed with the Houston Symphony Orchestra. Mrs. Simpson is in high demand as a clinician and guest conductor, offering masterclasses in United States and abroad. Her recent appointment was Children's Choir Conductor and Clinician for Organization of the American Kodaly Educators national convention. Additionally, she is a founding member of the Grammy © award-winning Houston Chamber Choir and has recorded six internationally distributed CD's. The recent recording, *Circlersong*, which featured Houston Chamber Choir and the Treble Choir of Houston, Marianna appeared in dual role: as the singer and conductor. Marianna is married to internationally recognized choral conductor, Robert Simpson.



Michele Starcher - Thomas MacLaren School - 5th Grade Choir

Michele teaches music to elementary students at Thomas MacLaren School in Colorado Springs. She holds a Master of

Music Education Degree with Kodaly Certification from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. She has a Bachelor's of Music Education Degree from the Ohio State University. She has taught elementary music most of her career and her passion is empowering students to be independent musicians.



Chuck Stephen - Monarch High School - Wind Ensemble

Chuck Stephen is in his 29th year teaching music. Mr. Stephen is currently in his ninth year as the band director and fine arts department

chair at Monarch High School. Prior to Monarch, Mr. Stephen taught at Lakewood HS, the Pomona HS area elementaries, Northglenn HS, Thornton HS, and Aztec HS in New Mexico. Throughout his career, Mr. Stephen's ensembles have been selected to perform at CMEA four times, and his marching bands have been a CBA State Championship finalist 18 times with 12 top five placements.

Mr. Stephen received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Northern Colorado in 1995 and his Master of Arts degree from the University of Colorado Denver in 2004. He was president of the Colorado Bandmasters Association 2009-2010 and is currently Instrumental Chair-Elect for CMEA. Mr. Stephen is active throughout Colorado and California as an adjudicator and clinician. Professional affiliations include Colorado Music Educators Association, National Association for Music Education, Colorado Bandmasters Association, Phi Beta Mu, and Boulder Valley Educators Association.



Ryan Sullivan - Colorado Elementary All-State Choir

Ryan W. Sullivan is the Director of Choral Activities, Coordinator of Vocal Studies, and Assistant Professor of Music at Arkansas State University. He conducts the flagship-ensemble

Concert Choir, Jonesboro Chorale, and Singing Statesmen. He teaches coursework in conducting

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and music education, and serves as an advisor to students in all three of the university's undergraduate music degrees.

Prior to his time at A-State, Sullivan was the Associate Conductor for the Dallas Symphony Chorus and served as the conductor of the UNT Collegium Singers and Baroque Orchestra. He has worked with children's and youth choirs at the Music-Arts Institute of Kansas City and at churches where he served as Music Director.

Sullivan has served as an invited clinician for honor choirs and choral festivals in Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Texas, and Portugal. As a Fellow for the ACDA International Conductor Exchange in Germany, he was an instructor and lecturer at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Stuttgart and the Hochschule für Kirchenmusik in Rottenburg. His credits as a baritone soloist and in professional choral ensembles include the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, San Antonio Chamber Choir, The Cecilia Ensemble (GA), Spire Chamber Ensemble, Boston Early Music Festival, and Austin Baroque Orchestra.

Sullivan serves as current Past-President for the Southwestern Region of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). He holds a Doctor of Music Arts from the University of North Texas, a Master of Music from Texas Tech University, and undergraduate degrees in Music Education and Vocal Performance from the University of Missouri – Kansas City Conservatory of Music. His principal conducting teachers have been Allen Hightower, Rick Bjella, Richard Sparks, and Joshua Habermann.



Wil Swindler - Colorado State University - Jazz I

Composer and saxophonist, Wil Swindler currently resides near Denver, Colorado, where

he leads Wil Swindler's Elevenet, the modern bop

quintet GoodRattle, and the Wil Swindler Quartet. In addition to his own bands, he is an active performer with the Peter Sommer Septet, The Annie Booth Big Band, Remy LeBouf's Assembly of Shadows, Al Hood's H2 Big Band, Colorado Symphony, the Ben Markley Big Band, and the Dallas Symphony. After receiving IAJE's Gil Evans Fellowship for 2008, Wil has completed numerous commissions from military bands, symphony orchestras, and big bands around the world. Wil has four albums available under his own name, Space Bugs (OA2 Records 2022), Universe B (OA2 Records 2010), The Right Riot (2014), and Chamber Jazz Ensemble (NohJoh Music 2006), and can be heard on numerous other albums including Ingrid Michaelson's Songs for the Season, Ben Markley's Ari's Funhouse and Clockwise, Steve Owen's Stand Up Eight, Peter Sommer's Happy-Go-Lucky-Locals, Ted Piltzecker's Vibes on a Breath, Tom Amend's Bishop's Lair, Al Hood/Dave Hansen's Jazz Muses and You're It, Bob Washut's Journey to Knowhere, and David Caffey's Enter Autumn and All in One. Mr. Swindler's most recent project is the premiere of his concerto for Jazz Trio with Symphony Orchestra, "The Point," which premieres on Oct 5, 2023.

As an educator, Wil is in demand as a saxophone and jazz clinician and joined the music faculty at Colorado State University as a jazz instructor in 2009. He is currently the coordinator of Jazz Studies and director of Jazz Bands at CSU. He is a frequent adjudicator for high school and college jazz festivals around the country and maintains a private saxophone/composition studio in the Denver area. Wil has served as an adjunct saxophone teacher and Jazz Ensemble director at Denver University, instructor at the University of Northern Colorado, and composition teacher for the Colorado Conservatory of the Jazz Arts. He is also the camp director for the CSU Jazz Summer Workshop.

Originally from Central Texas, Wil began studying music at age five, and picked up the saxophone at age nine. He earned a B.M. in Jazz Studies from

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the University of North Texas in 2001 where he played in, composed for, and recorded with the 1:00 Lab Band. In 2000 he attended the Henry Mancini Institute on a full scholarship from BMI, and received a commission the following year from HMI for a piece premiered at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles. In 2001, Wil relocated to New York City, where he played with Toshiko Akiyoshi and Bill Warfield's NY Fusion Ensemble, among others. During his time in N.Y., Wil studied saxophone with Dave Pietro and composition with Michael Abene and Jim McNeely as a member of the BMI Jazz Composers Workshop. In 2003, he returned to his hometown of Austin, Texas, where he co-founded the 10-pc Chamber Jazz Ensemble and served as musical director for vocalist Kevin Ahart. Mr. Swindler has lived in Colorado since 2006 with his wife April Johannesen, and daughter Anna.



***Kailee Timms -
Janitelle Junior High School
- Select Choir***

Ms. Kailee Timms uses her role as a teacher to encourage strong relationships and positive school culture through music.

Having spent the last 18 years at Janitell Jr. High, Ms. Timms has had the opportunity to build a music program with passion and excellence in the community in which she was raised. She works hard to immerse students in music with cultural and stylistic diversity. Janitell's singers consistently receive superior and excellent ratings at CHSAA Large Group Festival and Solo and Ensemble Festival. Every year, her students audition and are successfully accepted into the Colorado Middle All-State Choir and WSD3 Honor Choir. She strives to make her classroom a place where all are welcomed and valued no matter their background. Ms. Timms believes performing is necessary to being successful and is always looking for community opportunities to perform. Most recently her choirs have performed the national anthem at a Switch-

backs soccer game and Air Force men's basketball game. In 2021, her Select Choir was selected to sing at CASB.

In addition to teaching choir, you can also find Ms. Timms helping to organize and facilitate various events around Janitell with student council, teaching a drama class, holding an after school drama club, and coaching the Janitell Cheer squad.

Widefield District 3 is home to Ms. Timms. She attended French Elementary school when it first opened for 5th and 6th grade. She found her passion for music under the direction of Ms. Joyce Hanagan. She moved to Sproul Jr. High to learn and grow under the direction of Mr. Earl Berglund and later Ms. Teresa Krause. Upon the completion of junior high, she moved up to Widefield High School where she was pushed to be her best instrumental musician by Ms. Roxanne Bates. Ms. Timms received her Bachelors in Music Education from Doane University in 1999. She spent 6 years teaching K-12 vocal and instrumental music in Culbertson, Trenton, and Stratton, Nebraska before returning to her roots in Widefield. Upon returning to Colorado, she took a job at Janitell teaching band. She held that position for 9 years. In 2017, Ms. Timms made the move to choir where she has been ever since. Ms. Timms has been recognized as teacher of the year, by VFW Post 3917 and the Air Force Academy. She is currently a member of CMEA and NAFME.

When she is not in the classroom, you can find Ms. Timms being a champion for her children. Kidyn, a junior at Doane University, is studying history while performing with the Doane Band and Jazz Band. Ms. Timms makes several trips to Nebraska to attend most of Kidyn's musical performances. Elias is a junior at Mesa Ridge High School and is involved in band, choir, marching band, wrestling, swimming, and Boy Scouts. Needless to say, Ms. Timms is a chauffeur for Elias to and from all of his activities. Her support doesn't stop with just her children. She attends numerous district activities to encourage students, staff and other loved ones at commu-

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nity and district events



Heath Walter - *Castle View High School - Voices of the Pride*

Heath A. Walter, conductor, received his Master of Arts degree in Choral Conducting from Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois, his

Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Performance from Doane College in Crete, Nebraska, and his teacher certification from the University of Northern Colorado. This is his 28th year of teaching, and his 16th at Castle View High School. Mr. Walter currently conducts Saber Singers, Red Hot Women, Versailles, Voices of the Pride and teaches Piano Lab. His choirs have performed all around the Denver Metro and Windsor, CO areas, Coors Field, Pepsi Center, eleven Colorado Music Educators Association Clinic/Conferences, and have toured Arizona, Bahamas, Chicago, Florida, Germany, Italy, Los Angeles, New York City, Seattle, and Washington D.C. Mr. Walter was awarded the 1998, 2002, 2004, and 2006 Who's Who Among American Teachers. He was the 2015 Castle View High School Apple Award Winner. He has served as a guest clinician throughout Colorado. He is a member of ACDA, CMEA, COACDA, NAFME and served on the Colorado All State Choir board as chair, chair-elect, governor and past chair and has served as the COACDA High School R & S Chair.



Colonel Michael Willen - *United States Air Force Academy Band - Falconaires*

Colonel Michael James Willen is Commander of the United States Air Force Academy Band, Peterson Space Force

Base, Colorado. He is responsible for organizing, training, equipping and deploying 60 Airmen in 10 different musical configurations throughout a nine-state region of more than 869,000 square miles in addition to supporting the U.S. Air Force Academy's recruiting mission throughout the 48 contiguous states. The band performs over 400 missions annually that support U.S. Air Force and U.S. Air Force Academy outreach and engagement priorities to increase public understanding of the importance of airpower, the dedication and sacrifice of Airmen, and to build relationships that enhance the reputation of the Air Force as a respected, professional organization charged with an integral role in maintaining U.S. national security.



Chen Wu - *Prairie Middle School - Orchestra*

Chen Wu currently serves as the Orchestra Director and Department Coordinator at

Prairie Middle School in Aurora, CO, where she teaches 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Orchestra and Piano classes. During her tenure at Prairie Middle School, she has grown the orchestra program from 75 students to currently over 150 students. Prior to joining the Prairie Middle School, Ms. Wu taught band and general music at Riverside School in New Castle, CO, and orchestra at Bowie Junior High in Odessa, TX.

A native of Tainan, Taiwan (ROC), Ms. Wu began her musical training by studying piano at age seven and, later, flute. She is a graduate of Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where she received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music Education with a minor in Piano.

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Nathan Wubbena -
Boulder Children's Chorale
- *Bel Canto*

Nathan Wubbena received his Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Northern Colorado in 2011, and his Master of Music in Music Education with a Conducting Specialization at Colorado State University in 2018. He has conducted ensembles and taught students of all levels - elementary through adults, on both the Front Range and Western Slope. Nathan has had extensive experience teaching choral, musical theater, and contemporary genres, and is an accomplished performer in each.

He is the Artistic Director of the Boulder Children's Chorale and the Longmont Chorale. He is also Board President and Founder of Ascent Vocals. In 2015, Nathan received the Outstanding Young Music Educator Award from the Colorado Music Educators Association, which honors outstanding achievement in an educator with up to 5 years of experience. He is Chair Emeritus of the Colorado Middle All-State Choir board, of which he was a founding board member.

Mr. Wubbena has served as a guest clinician and conductor throughout the state of Colorado, directing the Colorado Springs District 11 Honor Choir, Western Slope Fall Vocal Festival, Northeastern Colorado High School Honor Choir, Western State Colorado University Directors Choir, and Middle School All State Directors Choir; he also adjudicates at ACDA festivals and Music in the Parks. Nathan resides in Longmont with his wonderful family: his wife, Anna, his son, James, and daughter, Claire. He enjoys cheering for the Broncos and spending time outdoors with his family and dog. It is Nathan's firm belief that music is for everyone; he works tirelessly to make that a reality for young and old alike, and then to create an environment where music and collaboration can bring beauty and joy to

both those that sing and those that listen



Drew Zarembo -
All-State Jazz Band -
Large School Conductor

Selmer artist Drew Zarembo enjoys worldwide reputation as an award-winning writer, a passionate conductor, and fiery performer. He has composed and arranged pieces for/ performed by the BBC Orchestra, the WDR and NDR Big Bands, the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Metropole Orkest, the Airmen of Note, Wycliffe Gordon, Dick Oatts, Randy Brecker, Eddie Gomez, Lee Loughane of "Chicago", the Vietnam Classical Players, and the Pyramid Jazz Orchestra in Kanazawa, Japan. At the age of 27, Drew joined the faculty of the award-winning University of Northern Colorado (UNC) jazz studies department in 2018 to teach jazz composition and arranging. One of Drew's most ambitious projects was writing a concert of music entitled "Crossing Chinese Opera with Jazz" during a two month residency in Zhuhai, China. Drew has published music through Alfred Music, Sierra Music, and has self-published over 70 works at his website, drewzarembo.com. Drew was ecstatic to receive the Sammy Nestico Award for his original composition "Kangaroo Bruise Blues" in 2018, which includes a follow-up commission with the elite jazz ensemble, the Airmen of Note. In 2015, Drew was awarded 1st prize of \$10,000 in the Sherman/Barsanti Inspiration Award at the University of North Texas (UNT) for his premier concert with his orchestra, the Unity Orchestra, which featured Eddie Gomez. Finally, Drew is proud to be a 3-time Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer winner.

In addition to writing music, Drew is an active saxophonist, keyboardist, and woodwind artist. He is equally comfortable on lead alto in big band, playing Hammond organ in a trio setting, or executing the high reed book in a musical pit orchestra. Drew's

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music releases have been as varied as his experiences – from YouTube big band video releases, to his albums “Two Sides of the Same Coin” and “Hologram”, and recently, short, home-made multi-tracked videos in the style of Jacob Collier.

Teaching is a fundamental part of being a jazz musician today, and Drew is delighted to be in demand as a clinician and guest artist. He was given the title of visiting professor for his work at the Contemporary Music Institute in Zhuhai, China. Additionally, he has given clinics and guest artist performances in Melbourne, Brussels, Tokyo, London, Hannover, The Netherlands, and in dozens of colleges and high schools in the United States. Drew has taught at the UNC and UNT summer jazz camps, as well as Arrowbear Music Camp in California, and the Golden Jazz camp in Zhuhai, China.

Congratulations to these
directors and their
outstanding music groups!

2024 Conference Session Clinicians



Carla Aguilar

Carla E. Aguilar is a professor and the Coordinator of Music Education at Metropolitan State University of Denver. Carla earned her Ph.D. in music education from

the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. She also earned a Master's degree from the Jacobs School and a Bachelor's degree from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, both in Music Education. Carla is the faculty advisor for the collegiate chapter of the National Association for Music Education at MSU Denver. Her research interests include policy related to music education, access to music education, student-centered learning, and arts integration. She has presented her research at the American Educational Researchers Association, the National Association for Music Education's Biennial Conference, the International Society for Music Education, and the Society for Music Teacher Education.



Gary Ambrosier

Gary Ambrosier is currently the president of the Colorado Music Adjudicator Association. Gary was instrumental in organizing and laid the ground work for this Association over 25 years ago. While doing this duty, he was the band director at Central High School in Grand Junction Colorado, then assistant

principal at Mt. Garfield and ending his teaching career as Music Supervisor for School District 51. Gary received his BA in Music Education at Colorado State University and Master's at Michigan State University. Gary taught K through 12 in Bayfield Colorado, Elementary band in Rudyard Michigan, and Glenwood Springs Then Central High School

teaching AP music theory, Jazz Bands, Marching, Concert and Symphonic bands and swimming. Every Thursday night for 14 years Gary directed the Centennial band, all volunteer group in Grand Junction. In addition to teaching for District 51, Gary taught trumpet, marching band techniques and even Water Safety for Colorado Mesa University off and on for 20 years.

Working with honor bands and students continues to be a passion of his through the participation in CMEA, serving on the board for several years as well as Instrument Chair. He was also the president for one year for the Colorado Bandmasters Association and Jazz Chairman for 5 years. Gary received the Colorado High School Activity Association Distinguish Service Awards in 2010, Colorado Band Master Hall of Fame in 2011 and the Colorado High School Activity Association Hall of Fame in 2013 and National Federation of State High School Associations Teacher of the year in 2013.

In addition to music Gary teaches CPR/1st aide and AED classes for American Heart. He really enjoys the outdoors especially in Alaska where his son is a principal in Ninilchik AK and owns a commercial fishing Boar His beloved Wife Annemieke of 53 years, joins him in Alaska where she usually catches the first and biggest fish.



Priscilla Arasaki

Priscilla Arasaki holds a Master's degree in Music Education from the University of Colorado Boulder and a bachelor's degree in Music Studies from the Butler School of

Music at the University of Texas at Austin. Primarily a violinist, Priscilla has studied with Strelsa Burks, Eugene Gratoovich, and Harumi Rhodes. She has received teacher training certification through the Suzuki Association of the Americas with Christie Felsing, Susan Baer, Ed Kreitman, and Mark Mutter.

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Priscilla is currently the Orchestra and Mariachi director at Sunset Middle School in the St. Vrain Valley School District. She began teaching Orchestra in Austin, Texas and then moved to Colorado, where she gained an interest in mariachi music and performance. Priscilla has taught at the middle school and high school level and has experience teaching strings, mariachi, and a variety of general music or secondary music courses. Priscilla is also a member of Las Dahlias, an all-female musical group that performs mainly mariachi music. This group has been featured with the Colorado Symphony, performed for Governor Polis's Inaugural Blue Sneaker Ball, and continues to promote mariachi music throughout the Front Range.



Haley Armstrong

Dr. Haley Armstrong serves as associate Professor and Director of Bands and Coordinator of Musical Activities at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology where she conducts the wind ensemble, jazz ensemble, and

university band and teaches courses in music history and theory. A native of Sonoma CA, she earned a Bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Trumpet Performance from Eastern Washington University. After graduation she taught middle and high school band in Medical Lake School District in WA, then earned a Master's Degree in Music education from Indiana University Jacob's School of Music, Bloomington, IN and her Doctorate in Conducting from the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS.

Before becoming to South Dakota Mines, Dr. Armstrong worked as a conductor for the U.S. Air Force Band in Washington D.C. Prior to that, she was the Commander and Conductor of the Air Force Band of the Pacific stationed near Tokyo, Japan providing all the musical support for Air Force missions across 36 nations. Dr. Armstrong also held command

positions for Air Force Bands in CA and OH. She started her military career as an enlisted trumpet player with three Air National Guard Bands across the U.S. and she continues to serve as a member of the Air Force Reserves.

As a guest conductor, Dr. Armstrong had the pleasure to work with multiple international and state-side ensembles, conducting community, school and professional groups in the U.S., Qatar, Japan and Guam. She continues to work in the educational community conducting festivals, presenting at conferences and giving clinics to young musicians.

Currently she is an active member of the SD Music Educators Association, the National Association for Music Education, College Band Directors Association, the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles and SD Bandmasters Association.



Chris Artega

Chris has over a decade of experience teaching in Denver-area high poverty schools as an out gay man. He graduated with his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Northern Colorado (UNC) in

2005. In 2017, Chris received his Master of Music Education degree from the University of Colorado Boulder where his cognate area was music technology. Concurrent to teaching music, he serves in the leadership position for community engagement at Force Elementary and hispanic populations. Chris has facilitated professional development for schools, districts, workshops, and CMEA in both music and LGBTQ topics.

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Roy Bailey

Roy Bailey is a Colorado-based educator and musician. Roy's career has been replete with opportunities to develop and inspire many upcoming musicians. As an educator, Roy has taught and/or led jazz bands, concert bands,

percussion ensembles, modern band groups, private lessons on various instruments: drums/percussion, keyboard, bass and saxophone. Roy recently began two community projects: DJ Concepts and Lifted Voices (spoken word/poetry through music). In addition to teaching, Roy presents workshops for elementary schools, colleges and community events. Among Roy's comprehensive drumming curriculum, topics that are often requested include: improvisation in modern music, culturally responsiveness to music and SEL outlets to music. Roy has also had the opportunity to perform with a variety of musicians/genres. Currently, Roy is preparing to lead a SEL/Spoken Word event for the Colorado Department of Education.



Brittany Bauman

Brittany Bauman is the Music Education Director for Nuvo Instrumental. She is the author of the WINDSTARS pre-band curriculum focused on bridging the instrumental gap between the recorder and

beginning band. Brittany's passion is to provide all students with an equal opportunity to succeed playing a wind instrument. Through her own pre-band teaching experiences, Brittany is a pioneer in this newly emerging area of music education. Brittany guides new pre-band educators in teacher training workshops internationally and presents frequently at MEA conferences across the United States and Canada. The WindStars pre-band method is cur-

rently being translated into Spanish, French and German with more languages anticipated to follow.



Laura Beer

Laura Beer, PhD, MT-BC, is a Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapist, and Rhythm, Breath and Lullaby Tier II Music Therapist. She has extensive clinical experience as a music

therapist, researcher, author, and educator. Laura has worked as a clinician in a wide range of settings, with her most recent clinical experience in residential housing unit for previously unhoused individuals. She is an Associate Professor of Music Therapy at CSU and the Lead Editor for Music Therapy Perspectives, one of the American Music Therapy Association's two peer-reviewed journals. She has numerous publications to her credit including Using Music in Child and Adolescent Treatment, co-written with Jacqueline Birnbaum, and Trauma-Informed Music Therapy: Theory and Practice, co-edited with Jacqueline Birnbaum.



Laura Beese

Laura Beese is in her fifteenth year of teaching general music and currently teaches K-5 music at Shepardson Elementary in Fort Collins, Colorado. She earned her B.M. degree in Music Education from the

University of Oklahoma and her M.M. in Music Education with Kodály emphasis from Colorado State University. She received her Orff-Schulwerk Certification through Arizona State University and completed Modern Band training through the Colorado chapter of Music Will. She was honored as the Fort Collins Rotary Club Teacher of the Month in May of 2023 and loves leading two Rock Bands and a Choir at Shepardson. Her graduate research project on the link between communal music

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making and prosocial skills in children earned her the award for Highest Achievement in Scholarship and Research for the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance at the CSU graduate showcase in 2017. Laura has presented workshops on SEL in the Music Room and on infusing modern music into the general music classroom. She currently serves as the ROCKE President Elect and will be Chapter President in the 2023-2024 school year.

Laura enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, running, and cycling.



Dan Bell

Dan Bell is in his 2nd year of retirement after 34 years of teaching; 6 years in the district of Fort Lupton (CO), 3 at Rangeview HS (Aurora) and 25 years at Cheyenne Mountain as director of bands at Cheyenne Mountain Junior High, and assistant instructor at Cheyenne Mountain High School, Gold Camp Elementary, and Skyway Elementary. In his 25 years at Cheyenne Mountain, Mr. Bell's jazz band and symphonic band have performed for the Colorado Music Educator's Clinic/Conference thirteen times. Dan has been the band director of the Colorado Mesa University (CMU) Middle School Music Camp symphonic band, taught at the CSU Fort Collins music camp for 26 years, and has a trumpet, french horn, tuba, and trombone private studio in Colorado Springs. Dan appears as a guest conductor frequently with Colorado regional honor bands. He is currently director of the jazz program for the Colorado Springs Youth Symphony organization. His wife Kari, kids Ryan, Katie, Kyle, and grandchildren Johnny and Kirby are the loves of his life!



Cayla Bellamy

Dr. Cayla Bellamy is a performer, collaborator, and pedagogue dedicated to advancing the music field through redefining standard practices in the

bassoon studio and chamber ensemble settings. She currently serves as Assistant Professor of Bassoon at Colorado State University, where she teaches applied bassoon, chamber music, and instrumental and virtual pedagogy, in addition to directing the New Music Ensemble and performing regularly with the Colorado Bach Ensemble and Pro Musica Colorado Chamber Orchestra.

As an active contemporary performer Cayla recently commissioned three new works by Jalen Thompson (for electric bassoon), Kevin Poelking (for flute, bassoon, and piano) and Frank Horvat (for flute and bassoon). Her debut album, *Double or Nothing* (2018), consists of premiere recordings for solo and duo bassoon and is available through the Mark Masters label on iTunes, Amazon, and Spotify. Recordings from this album earned her first honorable mention in the American Prize 2020 Ernst Bacon Prize for the Performance of American Music, and she is currently recording her second project, a collection of new compositions for bassoon titled *American Bassoon Voices*.

Cayla holds a Doctor of Music degree in Bassoon Performance and Literature from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, in addition to Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Music Education and Bassoon Performance from the University of Georgia, where she was distinguished as a National Presser Scholar. Her primary teachers include William Ludwig, Amy Pollard, William Davis, with additional studies with Nancy Goeres and Per Hannevold at the Aspen Music Festival and School. In addition to professional affiliations with the National Association for Music Education, College Music Society, and National Association of Wind and Percussion Instructors, she serves currently on

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the staff of the International Double Reed Society as Communications Coordinator and previously on the conducting faculties of the New York Summer School of the Arts and Emory Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Offstage, Cayla is an amateur endurance athlete with academic research focusing on coaching methodologies, burnout, and the intersections of artistic and athletic training.



Cherese Bennett

Cherese started teaching in 2004 after graduating from Indiana State University with a Bachelor of Music Education. Currently she is teaching at

Russell Middle School. She had the opportunity to teach in Kumamoto, Japan for a year in 2008. There she taught English to elementary and junior high school students through the JET Program. Even though she enjoyed her time there, she is very happy to be back teaching her passion, choral music. She has been a member of the All State Board since 2012.



Elaine Bennington

Elaine Bennington is a music educator at Clarendon Hills Middle School, where she teaches drama, choir, and general music as well as directing

the musical and show choir. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and Vocal Performance from Northern Illinois University, Magna Cum Laude with Upper Division Honors. Ms. Bennington currently serves as a choral co-coordinator for the Institute for Composer Diversity, and is one of the creators and managers of the ICD Choral Database. Ms. Bennington was selected to share her work at 2020 National ACDA Conference, 2022 National NAFME Conference, and at IMEC in 2023. As a first

year teacher, she was selected by her students as a recipient of the S.T.A.R. Award at Plainfield East High School. An active musician, she has sung with the St. Charles Singers and currently sings with the Chicago Choral Artists. Ms. Bennington is also a church musician, and in 2022, she toured the United Kingdom with the choir from St. Mark's Church of Geneva.



Margaret H. Berg

Dr. Margaret Berg is Professor of Music Education and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder. Dr. Berg received a BM in violin from the Cleveland Institute of Music, BS in music education

from Case Western Reserve University, MEd from the University of Cincinnati, and PhD from Northwestern University. She is co-author of the book *The ASTA String Curriculum: Assessment Companion*, as well as numerous book chapters and articles focused on sociology of music education, music teacher mentoring, music teacher education, effective practice, and school orchestra and applied studio curriculum and assessment, including a chapter on Core Reflection in the recently published *Oxford Handbook of Care in Music Education*. Dr. Berg has served on the editorial board for the *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*, *Journal of Music Teacher Education*, and *String Research Journal* and on the National ASTA Executive Board.



Scott Betts

Scott Betts has been a music educator since 1978. Having retired as a middle school choir and orchestra teacher in 2014, he substitutes and clinics whenever he can. Scott performs or conducts with many

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organizations on the western slope. He is a board member of and head judge for the Colorado Middle All-State Choir. In his spare time, Scott enjoys composing operas, exercising, and dancing the Argentine tango with his wife Alice.



Marti Bott

Marti Bott is in her twenty-second year as a music educator, and currently teaches Instrumental Music at Buena Vista Middle & High School in Buena Vista, Colorado. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree (K-

12, Instrumental & Vocal) from the University of Northern Colorado, a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Texas at Arlington, and holds an endorsement in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Education, K-12. In addition to serving as the CBA Central Mountains Representative from 2017-2023, she has also served as the CMEA District 6 Representative, and is currently the secretary for the Colorado chapter of ASBDA. She is currently an active member of CMEA, NAFME, CBA, ASBDA, and Phi Beta Mu. Mrs. Bott teaches Beginning Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Guitar/Modern Band, Marching/Pep Band, and middle school Drama, and she's taught music at all levels, grades K-12. She loves teaching at her small, rural school nestled at 8,000 ft. high in the Colorado Rockies! In her spare time, she loves mountain biking, nordic skiing, camping, performing music, attending concerts, and spending time with her family!



David Brax

David Brax is a passionate music educator, dedicated to fostering musical talent and innovation in the classroom. With degrees from Bowling Green State University (B.M.,

M.M.) and Western Governors University (M.Ed.), he is currently pursuing a Doctor of Arts degree majoring in Music: Music Education with a minor in Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership at the University of Northern Colorado. In his teaching roles, David serves as a Master Teacher at the UNC String Project and Graduate Part-time Instructor at the University of Northern Colorado, where he has taught undergraduate courses and directed the Campus Strings ensemble. He previously taught as Adjunct Instructor at Bluffton University (OH) and taught in 6-12 instrumental classrooms at Findlay City Schools (OH) and Westview High School (AZ.). Beyond his professional pursuits, David is an avid adventurer, having completed the Detroit Free Press Marathon and conquered numerous peaks in the Adirondack and Rocky Mountains.



Mary Kathryn Brewer

Dr. Mary Kathryn Brewer teaches voice and related subjects as an Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Northern Colorado (UNC). She previously taught at the University of Missouri, An-

derson University, Taylor University, and Ball State University. Dr. Brewer is passionate about vocal health, science, and pedagogy. As an active master-class teacher, she has worked with singers of various backgrounds and in various styles of music in masterclasses across the US and Guam. In addition to her teaching, Dr. Brewer is an active lecturer and performer.

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James Brody

James Brody's oboe playing was praised by the New York Times for its "wonderfully euphonious spirit." He studied the Alexander Technique with Marjorie Barstow, Barbara and William Conable, Elizabeth and Lucia Walker, and Erika Whittaker (among others) and

was teacher certified at The Alexander Foundation in Philadelphia. Brody is passionate about placing music making on a sound somatic basis. He created and directs the Musicians' Wellness Program at the University of Colorado, a comprehensive approach to the well-being of music students. He has taught the Technique throughout the United States and for ten years on William Bennett's summer flute courses in England. In September 2022, he co-presented at the Musicians and Performing Artists' Health and Performance Conference in Oslo, Norway. In addition to his ongoing Wellness for Musicians courses in the CU College of Music curriculum, he has directed an annual Summer Course in the Alexander Technique on the CU campus for 28 years..



Kristopher Brown

Reverend Kristopher Brown is a highly qualified Instructional Designer with over ten years of experience researching, developing, and implementing content designed for children that is unique, culturally sensitive, appropriate, and founded

in best educational practices.

Kristopher completed his Kodaly Certification program at Texas State University under Dr. Houlahan and Dr. Tacka and was announced as a teacher of the year in 2013. His experience in fine art pedagogies makes Kristopher uniquely qualified in researching and implementing worthwhile con-

tent that is culturally relevant, socio-economically informed, and tailored to the specific needs of the target audience.

Kristopher Brown has built a following online as "The Kodaly Viking", developing Body Warm-ups, Listening Maps, Technical Trainings, and best practices for Restorative Behavioral Management Videos. He now works as an independent education consultant, providing professional development, curriculum content creation and behavioral management sessions and is currently developing supplemental curriculum resources for Sound Thinking Interactive with Dr. Houlahan & Dr. Tacka.



Susan Brumfield

Dr. Susan Brumfield is Professor of Music Education at Texas Tech University, and holds a Ph.D. in Music Education from the University of Oklahoma. She is known throughout the United States and Europe as a clinician,

consultant, author, composer, arranger and choral conductor. Founder and Artistic Director of The West Texas Children's Chorus, Dr. Brumfield is in frequent demand throughout the world as a commissioned composer and guest conductor. Her choral music is published with Hal Leonard Music, Colla Voce Music and BriLee/Carl Fischer.

An internationally recognized expert in the Kodály approach, Dr. Brumfield is the author of *First, We Sing! Kodály-Inspired Teaching in the Music Classroom* (Hal Leonard), a set of Kodály-based of curriculum and resource materials for K-5 music. This comprehensive series includes a Teacher's Guide, Teaching Strategies for Primary Grades, Teaching Strategies for Intermediate Grades, Practice Activities for Rhythmic and Melodic Elements and several song anthologies: *100 Little Songs and Rhymes for Reading, Writing and More* (Primary Grades), *101*

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Songs and Games for Reading, Writing and More (Intermediate Grades), and First, We Sing: Songbooks One, Two and Three. A digital supplement includes materials for creating teaching slides and comprehensive materials for assessment.

Dr. Brumfield is the author Jean Ritchie's Kentucky Mother Goose, a book and CD memoir with American folk legend Jean Ritchie, which features rare and never-before-seen illustrations by Maurice Sendak. Other publications include Hot Peas and Barley-O: Children's Songs and Games from Scotland and Over the Garden Wall: Children's Songs and Games from England.



Jill Burgett

Dr. Jill Burgett is the Director of Choral Activities at University of Northern Colorado, conducting the UNC Concert Choir and Chamber Choir and teaching graduate choral methods and conduct-

ing coursework. Her doctorate is from Ball State University, where she was the Don Neuen fellowship recipient and subsequently served as Associate Director of Choral Activities. She holds an MM degree (choral conducting) from Ball State and a BM degree (magna cum laude) from Heidelberg University. For over a decade, Burgett conducted choirs in the Indiana public schools. She has served on the Indiana and Colorado ACDA boards and Central Division ACDA board as College and University R&S Chair. She has also served on the NCCO board, and is Past President, of Colorado ACDA. Burgett is an active festival clinician and conference speaker, and All State Choir Conductor. She is published in Choral Journal and New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians. Conducting venues include Varna (Bulgaria), Barcelona, Montserrat, Prague, Vienna, Budapest, London, Paris, New York Carnegie Hall and Rome. She has also taught conducting choral masterclasses in Rome, Bangkok and Barcelona.

Her recent sabbatical research on Catalan Choral Music has been presented nationally at SWACDA.



Clelyn Chapin

Dr. Clelyn Chapin serves as the Associate Director of Choirs at University of Northern Colorado and conducts the Denver Women's Chorus a 140-voice choir founded for members and allies of the LG-BTQ+ community with a focus

on social justice. Before beginning at UNC, Clelyn spent 14 years teaching and conducting secondary, collegiate, and community ensembles in Texas, Colorado, and Michigan.



Mary Claxton

Mary Claxton is a musician and educator based in Greeley, Colorado. She is the Colorado Director of Programs for a music education nonprofit

called Little Kids Rock, where it is her pleasure to support teachers and students across the state. In her gigging life, she plays drums for soul band, The Burroughs, who have played for notable festivals like The Boulder International Film Festival, New West Fest and the Denver Day of Rock. They have also opened for acts such as The Steve Miller Band, ZAPP and The Dirty Dozen Brass Band. Recently, Claxton has also been fronting her own project, an indie rock trio called Trash Cat, where she plays electric ukulele and sings.

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Jonathan Colson

Jonathan Colson is in his 7th year of teaching and has served as Director of Music at Rocky Ford Jr. Sr. High School his entire teaching career. At Rocky Ford, he teaches marching band, concert band, jazz

band, concert choir, select choir, music appreciation, music theory, and a special education music and movement class. In his time at Rocky Ford, he has restarted the marching band and jazz band to help educate students in multiple genres of music. In January 2022, Mr. Colson's Small Rural School Concert Band was selected to perform at the CMEA Conference.

Mr. Colson's educational background includes undergraduate degrees at Adams State University in Music Education, Music Composition, and Music Performance for Trumpet. In May 2022, Mr. Colson received his Masters Degree in Music Education with an emphasis in Composition from Adams State University.

Mr. Colson is currently the District 4 Instrumental Representative for CMEA, Colorado Bandmasters Association Small School Representative, and a member of ASBDA.

Mr. Colson has a passion for conducting concert bands where he gets to diversify his students in music from many cultures and composers from around the world.



Madeleine Cort

Madeleine Cort is originally from Las Cruces, NM and currently serves as the Director of Bands at Sunset Middle School in Longmont, CO. She began her music teaching career at the University of

Colorado Boulder, where she earned her Bachelor of Music Education Degree. After graduating, Ms. Cort served as the Instrumental Music Teacher at Clear Creek Middle & High School (Evergreen, CO) and guided all aspects of the program. During her time at Clear Creek, Ms. Cort gained experience teaching concert band, jazz band, piano, guitar, and music technology. She later earned her Master of Music Degree from Colorado State University, and served as the Associate Director of the Middle School Outreach Ensemble program (MSOE) at CSU. Her current position at Sunset Middle School has given her experience working with beginner instrumentalists and furthering her skills as a pedagogue of young musicians. In addition to her teaching schedule, she performs with the B-Flatirons Clarinet Quartet and the Longmont Concert Band. When Ms. Cort isn't teaching, she enjoys hiking, yoga, reading, and spending time with loved ones.



Casey Cropp

Mr. Cropp graduated from Colorado State University in 1980 with a bachelor's degree in Music Education. He began his teaching career in Haxtun, Colorado, teaching grades 5-12 band and 9-12 choir.

Two years later he was hired to teach band at Blevins Junior

High in Fort Collins and enjoyed five years there. In 1987 Mr. Cropp was selected to teach band at Rocky Mountain High School where he spent 26 years directing concert band, jazz band, marching band, dixieland band, chamber ensembles, and held the position of Performing Arts Department Chair for 20 years. He earned a master's degree in "Multiple Intelligences and the Creative Arts in Education" in 2001.

Under his direction, Rocky Mountain High School ensembles performed at the Colorado Music Educators Association Clinic/Conference, as well as

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festivals in Denver, Colorado Springs, Longmont, Loveland, Greeley, nationally in Washington, D.C. for the Memorial Day Weekend commemorating the World War II Memorial Dedication, and in Paris, France and London, England for the New Year's Day celebrations in 1994, 1997 and 2000. In the summer of 2008, Rocky Mountain High School Bands were selected to participate in the festival of concerts leading up to the Summer Olympics in Beijing, Xian, and Shanghai, China.

Mr. Cropp has been a clinician for festivals and honor bands in Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, New Mexico, Montana, and Paris, France. He continues to play professionally with several Northern Colorado ensembles and theaters and is the Music Director and Conductor of the Foothills Symphonic Band – a local adult band serving Northern Colorado.

Mr. Cropp is a member of Phi Beta Mu, the Association of Concert Bands, the Colorado Bandmasters Association, the Colorado Music Educators Association, is currently on the Board of the Colorado Bandmasters Association serving as the coordinator of the Colorado All-State Band. He has served CMEA as a district representative multiple times and as the Chair of the Instrumental Music Council, and is currently the President-Elect of this organization.

In the spring of 2004, he was awarded a Fulbright Memorial Fund Scholarship to study Music and Education in Japan. He was honored with the National Band Association Citation of Excellence in May 2013, as well as being selected to the Colorado Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame in 2016.



Stanley Curtis

Stanley Curtis has a multifaceted career as a trumpeter, composer, and early music specialist. After studying at the University of Alabama, the Cleveland Institute of Music, and in the Netherlands

on a Fulbright Scholarship, he received his Doctor of Music from Indiana University in 2005. In 2018 he retired from a 20-year career in the U.S. Navy Band in Washington, D.C. where he performed hundreds of concerts in the Washington, D.C., area, went on dozens of national and international tours with the Concert/Ceremonial Band, was a member and leader of the U.S. Navy Band Brass Quartet and, as a ceremonial bugler, performed Taps thousands of times at Arlington National Cemetery. He has served as assistant principal trumpet in the Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia (in Spain), and principal trumpet with the Evansville Philharmonic. He won third prize at the 1995 Altenburg Baroque Trumpet Competition, in Germany. He was also a concerto competition winner at Indiana University, Brevard Music Camp, and the University of Alabama. As a teacher, Dr. Curtis has taught at the University of Evansville, the Music School of the Orquesta Sinfónica, Catholic University of America, and at George Mason University. Since 2012, he has composed several award-winning solo and chamber works featuring the trumpet.



Julia Dale

Julia Dale has been the Director of Vocal Music at Rock Canyon High School since 2009, where she conducts the Tenor/Bass Chorus, Treble Choir, Echos Choir and the Jag Choir, teaches A.P. Music Theory and vocal directs the school musical each year. She is also the advisor for the Rock Canyon chapter of the Tri-M Music Honors Society. In addition to her teaching load, Ms. Dale is the department chair and serves as Colorado ACDA Women's Choir R&S Chair.

Prior to joining the Rock Canyon faculty in 2009, Ms. Dale studied at the distinguished Westminster Choir College where she served as the graduate assistant conductor to the Westminster Chapel Choir and the Westminster Symphonic Choir, which per-

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formed frequently with the New York Philharmonic and other world renowned orchestras. Additionally, she was a member of the Westminster Choir, Westminster Kantorei, and Westminster Symphonic Choir where she performed under esteemed conductors such as Kurt Masur, Ton Koopman, Pierre Boulez, Neemi Jarvi, and David Robertson.

Ms. Dale was the Director of Choirs at Palmyra-Macedon High School from 2004-2007 where her choirs frequently received Gold with Distinction ratings at festivals. Her choirs have toured Italy, New York City, Hawaii, Missouri, Colorado and were invited to perform with the prestigious Eastman School of Music Chorale under the direction of Dr. William Weinert.

Under Ms. Dale's direction, RCHS choirs have received the highest ratings at CHSAA competitions. Recent choral projects have included the world premier of Magnificat by composer Nathan Jones and many masterworks with orchestra, including Vivaldi's Gloria, Rheinberger's Missa in G and the Faure Requiem. Her students are frequently accepted to the Colorado All-State Choirs (both Classical and Jazz).

Ms. Dale is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, where she received a B.M. in Music Education with a vocal emphasis. She earned an M.M. in choral conducting from Westminster Choir College of Rider University. Ms. Dale has been an Apple Award nominee every year since she arrived at Rock Canyon and was honored to be Rock Canyon's Apple Award recipient in 2011. She has served as the Colorado All State Jazz Choir Co-Chair and on the CHSAA Music Advisory Committee in the past. Ms. Dale resides in Highlands Ranch with her husband and wonderful children, Charlie and Ellie. When not teaching, Ms. Dale can be found driving her kids to various sports, baking, at yoga, or cheering for the Red Sox.



Rachel Davis

Rachel serves as the Music Teacher at Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy in Denver teaching elementary, secondary choir, modern band, and music director of the schools

theatre program. She received her Bachelor's of Arts from West Chester University and Master's of Music from George Mason University. She has been teaching music since 2012.



Dan Davison

Dan Davison is a composer and choir director from the state of Washington, where he spent his entire 40-year career teaching junior high choir. Although now retired from public education, Dan continues to compose music and perform professionally with Male Ensemble Northwest.

Dan has more than 50 titles in print from publishers such as Walton, BriLee, Hinshaw, and Pavane. His most recent endeavors are focused on writing music for unbalanced choirs, especially those with only a handful of tenors and basses.

Dan has served as a clinician at state, regional, and national ACDA conventions, and continues to serve as a guest conductor throughout the Northwest.



Enrique De Almeida

Professor De Almeida holds a master's degree in Music Performance from The University

of Southern Mississippi. He is also a graduate of The Berklee College of Music with a degree in Jazz Composition. He is the leader of his own groups: The Agora Jazz Trio, the jazz fusion trio Triplicate, and

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the jazz fusion super group The Truth Project Band.

Henrique endorses Humes & Berg drum cases. He is an artist clinician for Sonor Drums, LP Percussion, DW, Vic Firth Sticks, Zildjian cymbals, Evans drumheads, and Earthworks Microphones.

As an accomplished author and published clinician, Henrique's educational products are often ranked high in Modern Drummer Magazine (most recent 4.5 star - Double Bass Integration for The Jazz Fusion Drummer). His books are an integral part of the Berklee College of Music curriculum and are currently available through the top publishing companies such as Berklee Press, Hal Leonard, Carl Fischer, Amazon, Drumeo-Canada and Hudson Music.

In 2017, Henrique became the music director and president of the online school TheDrumSetCoach.com and in the spring of 2020 he opened his own music school in Palmer Lake, Colorado called The Drum Set Coach Academy. In August 2022, Henrique resigned from his prestigious Berklee College of Music full-time Professor position in Boston, MA to be appointed full time Music Director for The Drum Set Coach Academy in the Colorado Springs area.

Henrique is in high demand as a teacher, producer/composer, and a sought-after artist. He has been approached by some of the top drummers in the world seeking drum set instructions. Drumming legends such as David Garibaldi, Bill Gibson, Mark Walker and many others have benefited from his educational materials. He has also been approached by shows such as ABC's "Dancing with The Stars" and other enterprises. He is constantly delivering high-praised products to the music industry and designing courses for the Berklee Percussion Department. Henrique works with some of the biggest names in the TV industry, such as HBO and the commercial enterprises, to include writing original music for TV campaign with companies such as Victoria's Secret and the Australian David Jones Department stores. He also recorded and toured nationally and

internationally with the acclaimed USAFA (United States Air Force Academy) Falconaires Contemporary Jazz Big Band and The USAFA rock band, Blue Steel. Henrique has performed several times at the prestigious Carnegie Hall. He also writes articles for Modern Drummer Magazine and has appeared in other publications such as the cover of Drumhead magazine with legendary drummer Steve Gadd. Henrique performs at music conferences such as PASIC (Percussive Arts Society International Convention), JEN (Jazz Educators Network), and numerous jazz festivals around the world. Henrique has performed for The President of the United States, Vice President, and Secretary of Defense. He has performed with an enormous range of artists: Victor Wooten, Steve Hunt (Allan Holdsworth), Bruce Gertz, Dave Samuels, Jerry Bergonzi, Gloria Estefan, Nat Adderley, Antonio Hart, Christopher Holiday, Donny McCaslin, Chris Speed, Igor Butman, Dave Valentin, Scotty Barnhart, Tiger Okoshy, Larry Coryell, Jeff Berlin, Nelson Rangel, Jeff Narell, Ira Sullivan, Victor Mendoza, Danilo Perez, Phil Wilson, Baron Brown, Matt Garrison, Bill Summers, Hilton Ruiz, Betty Carter, Willie Williams, Nando Lauria (Pat Metheny Group), Brazilian Pop Stars: Alceu Valenca, Gilberto Gill, Raul De Souza, Luiz Gonzaga, Hermeto Paschoal, also Brian Lynch, Leo Blanco, Luciana Souza, Katy Webster, and Oscar Kortaia, among others.

For information regarding studying with Henrique, and for a complete list of music educational products visit: TheDrumSetCoach.com



Thomas Dickey

Gold Prize Winner in the 2022 World Classical Music Awards and the 2nd Prize Winner of the 2019 Mozart & Tchaikovsky International Conducting Competition, Dr. Thomas Dickey has been reviewed by critics as a "dynamic and exciting conductor" whose conducting is "imbued with aplomb, energy, and pathos." Thomas currently serves as the

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Director of Orchestral Studies at Oklahoma State University, where he conducts the OSU Symphony Orchestra and guides all aspects of the orchestra and graduate orchestral conducting programs. He is also the Music Director & Conductor of the OSU Youth & Community Orchestras. Prior to his appointments in Oklahoma, he was the Director of Orchestral Activities at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville and Music Director & Conductor of the Dubuque Symphony Youth Orchestra (IA).



Wayne Dillon

Wayne Dillon holds a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts and Education from York University in Toronto, Canada, and a Master's degree in Jazz Performance/Pedagogy from The University of Miami, Florida.

Wayne is the former Director of Bands at Elizabeth HS in NJ and was recently awarded the 2021 NJ Jazz Education Achievement Award.

Wayne was also awarded the State of New Jersey Governor's Teacher Recognition Award for his work with the music program at Elizabeth High School. Wayne was recently appointed as Chief Judge for Winter Guard International in the Winds division. He is also an adjudicator for Drum Corps International and Bands of America. He has judged the prestigious National Championships for all three organizations over the past thirty years. Currently, Wayne is serving as a music judge liaison for DCI, responsible for judge assignments and training. Additionally, he is an educational clinician for Conn-Selmer Music and travels the country working with diverse band programs.

Formerly, Wayne served as the Brass Caption Head for the Boston Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps. He has also worked on the music staff of the ten-time World Champion - The Cadets, serving as the music supervisor in 2002. In 2010-2011, Wayne

served as a staff member for the US Army All American Marching Band. Recently, Wayne was honored with his induction into The Buglers Hall of Fame in 2020.

Wayne has played trumpet with The Studio Jazz Band and the Art Blakey Jazz Ensemble from the University of Miami. As a performing recording artist, Wayne has played with the Clearwater Jazz Holiday Festival and Outreach program. He has also performed with KC and the Sunshine Band, Al Chez (from the Dave Letterman band), Jeff Healey and Albert Collins, Steve Brosky, The Meteors, Jay and the Technics, Don Mayer, Tower Suite and The Hamilton Philharmonic.



Sarah Doddridge

Sarah Doddridge is a luthier at Boomer Music Company in Fort Collins, Colorado. She has been playing violin for over 20 years and studied with Richard Fuchs and Margaret Gutierrez at the University of Northern Colorado, earning her degree

in music education. Sarah started out her professional career as an orchestra and drama teacher in the public schools. Working with a limited budget and a large number of school-owned instruments, she did most of the minor repairs and maintenance needed to keep the instruments playing. That sparked her love and passion for lutherie, specifically restoration and preservation of old instruments. After leaving teaching, Sarah started training as a luthier at Boomer Music, taking classes with Rodney Mohr and David Orlin along the way. Now she is the lead repair tech at Boomer, working on instruments and bows for professional players in the area.

Sarah is an artist through and through. Aside from music and woodworking, she is also an avid photographer, and loves traveling and hiking to interesting places to take documentary style photos. She also enjoys playing soccer, tending to her plant collec-

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tion, and spending time with her partner Logan and their two dogs.



Raul Dominguez

Dr. Raul Dominguez is the Director of Choral Activities at Regis University where he conducts the University Choir and Concert Choir. Through his research focus, the choral music of the United Mexican States, he seeks to provide choirs with the necessary resources to facilitate artistic performances of Mexican choral music. Outside of Regis, Raul is the Associate Artistic Director for the Denver Gay Men's Chorus, a 120-voice ensemble that builds community through music, and the Director of their small ensemble, Off Kilter.

Prior to Regis, Raul earned Bachelor of Music degrees in Vocal Performance and Music Education from Oklahoma City University where he studied with Dr. Randi von Ellefson and Judith Willoughby. He then led the choirs at Clear Lake High School in his hometown of Houston, TX for four years. After Clear Lake, Raul earned his Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting at Ithaca College with Dr. Janet Galván. Recently, he earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Conducting and Literature at the University of Colorado Boulder with Dr. Gregory Gentry and Dr. Elizabeth Swanson.



Jeffrey Emge

Dr. Jeffrey Emge has taught at The University of Texas at Tyler since 2001, where he serves as Professor of Music.

A native of Knoxville, Tennessee, he was the first conductor of the wind ensemble at UT Tyler for 19 years, and currently instructs students in oboe, conducting, and music education. He has been a guest lecturer on music education and performed recitals

in China at Honghe University, Haerbin Teacher's College, Haerbin University, and the Shanghai Conservatory of Music. In 2006, he was one of fifteen US professors to win a national grant to study Japanese culture and history. He is active as an all-region conductor, performer and private teacher in east Texas. Recent publications include 40 Modern Studies for Oboe (on the Texas all-state Etude list) and Undergraduate Conducting, available from 2525 Publications. He earned the DMA in instrumental conducting from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory, where he was a student of Eugene Corporon. He has given presentations for the music teacher conventions in Georgia, Louisiana, California, and Texas. Dr. Emge performs on a Marigaux oboe and Lorée english horn.



Cynthia Eversole

Cynthia Eversole is in her 27th year of teaching elementary music in Colorado public schools and currently teaches at Lewis-Palmer Elementary. As a native of the Pikes Peak Region, Cynthia has participated as an active musician in

various community ensembles on clarinet and piano while also maintaining a private clarinet studio. She holds a degree from the University of Northern Colorado with an emphasis in instrumental music and has completed Orff-Schulwerk Levels I & II.

Prior to her position at Lewis-Palmer Elementary, Cynthia taught at Bates Elementary in Colorado Springs. She has held positions in CMEA, including Chair of the General Music Council and now CMEA President. Also active in the Rocky Mountain Chapter of AOSA, Cynthia has assisted with various committees including mentor/mentee & board nominations. In 2013, Cynthia was Chair of Student Performances for the National AOSA Conference in Denver where over 1,000 students participated. Cynthia is most proud of the collaborative

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work she has done with the CMEA DEIA Task Force since the summer of 2020.

Cynthia resides in Monument where she and her husband (also a music teacher) are fully vested in the Lewis-Palmer School District as homeowners, teachers, students, and parents. She is extremely proud of each of her 17-year-old twins that have established themselves as accomplished musicians in their own right.



Michelle Ewer

Michelle Ewer has been a professional educator for 40 years. Her career began in Westminster District 50 teaching elementary and middle school strings. She taught band in Jefferson County Public Schools for five years and was a strings specialist for 27 years. A member of

ASTA and CMEA, she has had groups perform for CMEA conferences as well as student performances at numerous state and local festivals, always receiving high ratings. She is often asked to present at CMEA and CASTA conferences and has served as president for both organizations. In 2014, she was inducted into the Colorado Music Educators Hall of Fame.

Ms. Ewer is the State Chair for TRI-M Music Honor Society as well as coordinator for CMEA TRI-M sessions, which include over 450 students from across the state of Colorado. In 2017, Mrs. Ewer became a part-time faculty member at CU Boulder School of Music where she coordinates placements for student teachers, and is support staff to mentors and mentees.

Michelle retired in 2016 and taught part-time at Ralston Valley HS for three years as well as still coaching at Columbine HS, Deer Creek MS, and Creighton MS. She earned her Bachelor of Music

Education from The University of Northern Colorado, and her master's in educational Administration from The University of Phoenix.



Keith Farmer

Born and raised in Colorado, Keith Farmer has been a music educator in the state for over 20 years. A graduate of the University of Colorado Boulder with a BME and VanderCook College

of Music with a MME, Keith gained his first teaching experience in the rural community of Elizabeth, bringing the music department into a new building and helping to hone the skills of those students.

Following this time, Keith moved firmly into the Denver metro area as the first band director at Rock Canyon High School and Rocky Heights Middle School. After setting a precedence of excellence in this school, Keith moved onto Grandview High School as the Director of Bands, a position he has held since that time.

At Grandview, Keith has enjoyed superior ratings for both his concert bands and jazz ensembles. His Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble I have both performed at the CMEA conference among many other national and international engagements. As a catalyst for positive change, Keith has implemented new programs including a Wolf Pride Marching Band designed to foster student leadership skills. In addition, his leadership has been recognized as the Co-Coordinator of the Performing Arts Department since 2009 and the Grandview Teacher of the Year in 2016.

In addition to his duties in school, Keith is engaged with national and local music education organizations in a variety of roles. He has served

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on the council and been instrumental chair for the Colorado Music Educators Association as well serving as the National Treasurer and currently the National President-Elect for the American School Band Directors Association.



Daniel Farr

Dr. Daniel Farr, Assistant Professor of Music and Associate Director of Bands at the University of Northern Colorado, received his Bachelor's and Master of Music Education degrees from Florida State University and a DMA

in Conducting from The Ohio State University. His teaching responsibilities at UNC include conducting the Symphonic Band, the undergraduate instrumental conducting track, and directing the acclaimed "Pride of the Rockies" Marching Band. He studied conducting with Russel Mikkelson, Patrick Dunnigan, and Alex Jimenez, and clarinet with Deborah Bish. Dr. Farr served as a band director in the public schools of Florida for 10 years before pursuing his doctorate. Research interests for Dr. Farr include commissioning new music for the wind band medium, best practices for middle and high school bands, and mental health awareness for music educators. He is actively sought after as a concert clinician and clarinet pedagogue. Daniel Farr's professional affiliations include the College Band Directors National Association, the Florida Music Educators Association, Colorado Music Educators Association, Colorado Bandmasters Association, and NAFME: the National Association for Music Education.



David Farrell

David E. Farrell (b. 1982) is a composer based in Denver, CO. David's music has been performed by ensembles across the United States,

including the Perrysburg Symphony Orchestra, North/South Chamber Orchestra, The Playground Ensemble, the Sam Houston State University Percussion Group, the University of Iowa Center for New Music Ensemble, and the University of Illinois Chamber Orchestra as winner of the University of Illinois Orchestra Composition Competition. His works have been featured at the SCI National Conference, The Electroacoustic Barn Dance, The Playground Ensemble's Colorado Composers Concert, Sam Houston State University Contemporary Music Festival, the Midwest Composers Symposium, and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chamber Music Institute. His music can also be heard on Meerenai Shim's album *The Art of Noise*, The Playground Ensemble's *8-Bit X-Mas*, and Patricia Surman's *New American*, Vol. 1. His research on composer commission pay can be read at NewMusicBox.com.

David studied at the University of Illinois and at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, where he earned a D.M. in Composition. His teachers have included Claude Baker, Zack Browning, Don Freund, Gabriela Ortiz, and Stephen Taylor. David is currently Assistant Professor of Music at Metropolitan State University of Denver. His music can be heard at davidefarrell.com.



Timothy Feerst

A native of Northern Virginia, Dr. Tim Feerst is Director of Percussion Studies at the University of Northern Colorado. Prior faculty appointments include the University of Texas Permian Basin, the University of Texas at Tyler, Trinity Valley Community College, the University of Utah, and North Central Texas College.

Dr. Feerst has performed with ensembles including the Amarillo Symphony, The Dallas Winds, the Dallas Symphony Chorus, the West Texas Symphony, Voces8, and the American Festival Pops Orchestra.

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Dr. Feerst has recording credits with The Southern Music Company, The Dallas Winds, Ryan Anthony and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and the North Texas Wind Symphony. Most recently, he recorded drums and percussion for indie artist Erica Lane's single "The Friendly Beasts," which reached #37 on the Billboard Adult Contemporary (AC) chart during the Holiday 2022 season.

Dr. Feerst has presented at the Texas Music Educators Association Conference, the National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy, and the College Music Society South Central Regional Conference. He is also active in the Percussive Arts Society (PAS) and currently serves on the University Pedagogy Committee.

Dr. Feerst proudly endorses Pearl Drums/Adams Musical Instruments, Black Swamp Percussion, Vic Firth and Balter sticks and mallets, and Zildjian Cymbals.



Matt Ferry

Matt Ferry is a dedicated and accomplished professional in music education and educational technology. With a passion for empowering educators

and enhancing student learning, he has excelled in various roles throughout his career.

Currently the Western Region Education Manager at MusicFirst, Matt brings over two years of experience to his position. Leveraging his expertise in music education, educational technology, and direct sales, he drives success and customer satisfaction.

Previously, Matt served as a Customer Success Manager at MusicFirst, ensuring customer success and delivering exceptional service for over a year. As a Partnership Manager at Edmentum for four years, he blended technology with individual teaching approaches to personalize student learning.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Matt's passion

for music education shines. He showcased his skills as a Front Ensemble Director at 5points Percussion, demonstrating administrative leadership, curriculum development, and program coordination. He has also held positions such as National Account Manager at Fuel Education LLC, Account Executive at Music Prodigy, Inc., and Northeast Key Account Manager at MakeMusic. Matt holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Education from the University of Minnesota.



Sean Flanigan

A sought-after trombone soloist, conductor and teacher in the classical, jazz and commercial genres throughout the United States and abroad, Sean Flanigan is the Director of Music Entrepreneurship Studies

at Colorado Mesa University. He performed solo recitals, made guest conducting appearances and presented clinics at the National Conservatory in Caracas, Venezuela and as featured guest artist at El Sistema's Ibero-American Brass Festival in Barquisimeto, Venezuela. He has been invited numerous times to return to Venezuela to work for El Sistema, their world-famous orchestral training system. He has performed with numerous symphonic and opera orchestras, backed such artists as Dizzy Gillespie, Jimmy Heath, Clark Terry, Urbie Green, the Temptations, recorded for television, radio, and commercial CDs and has performed for numerous touring Broadway shows. Dr. Flanigan has many years of public-school teaching experience, most notably at the middle school level. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Trombone Performance from the University of North Texas where he was a Doctoral Conducting Fellow studying with Eugene Migliaro Corporon. He also holds Master of Music in Trombone Performance and Bachelor of Science in Music Education degrees from the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign. He serves as the 2024 Small Schools All-State Jazz Band Director.

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Michael Flynn

Captain Flynn's previous assignment was as Flight Commander and Associate Conductor of the United States Air Force Band of the West, San Antonio, TX. Prior to his commission as an officer in the USAF, 1st Lt Flynn was a university professor in academia as the Director of Bands and Brass Instruction at Western State Colorado University in Gunnison, CO, Director of Bands at Sheridan College, Sheridan Wyoming, and Director of Bands and Western Music Specialist at the Edward Said and Daniel Barenboim National Conservatory of Music located in Jerusalem and Bethlehem, Israel.

Captain Flynn holds a Doctorate in Trumpet Performance with a conducting cognate from the University of Miami, FL. Conducting mentors include Catherine Rand, Gary Green, and the late Thomas Sleeper.

Captain Flynn holds a Doctorate in Trumpet Performance with a conducting cognate from the University of Miami, FL. Conducting mentors include Catherine Rand, Gary Green, and the late Thomas Sleeper.

Captain. Flynn maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor and clinician, and has led regional Honor and Select Bands across the country. He also conducted the first ever performance of both the First Suite and Second Suite for Military Band by Gustav Holst in Bethlehem and Ramallah, Israel, and in Damascus, Syria during a concert tour in 2011. As an orchestral trumpet player, Lt Flynn has performed with symphonies and bands across the globe under conductors such as Michael Tilson Thomas, Daniel Barenboim, Marin Alsop, Eduardo Marturet, Jeff Tyzik, Jerry Junkin, Frank Batisti, Eugene Corporon, and Garry Green. .



Zachary Fruits

Zachary Fruits has been at the helm of the Erie High School Band Program since 2023 after having spent 6 years directing the bands at Rock Canyon High School. Having taught

public schools in both Missouri and Colorado, he has developed award-winning concert, marching, and jazz programs. Mr. Fruits earned his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and Performance Diploma in Clarinet from Missouri State University. He received a Master's Degree in Wind Conducting from Colorado State University, serving as a graduate assistant with the CSU Bands Program.

Mr. Fruits instructs and manages all aspects of a diverse music program which include the Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Marching Band, Pep Band, Color Guard, Percussion Ensemble, and Guitar classes. His pedagogical objectives involve providing young people with well-rounded musical experiences, inspiring excellence at the highest level.

Mr. Fruits' mentors include Dr. Rebecca Phillips, Dr. Belva Prather, and Professor Jerry Hoover. Mr. Fruits is a member of Colorado Music Educators Association (CMEA), Colorado Bandmasters Association (CBA), the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), National Band Association (NBA), and Region Chair of the American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA).



Lindsay Fulcher

Dr. Lindsay J. Fulcher is Associate Professor of String Music Education and Area Head of Music Education at the University of Northern Colorado.

In addition to teaching music education and string pedagogy courses, she conducts the Campus String Orchestra and serves as Director and Lead Teacher of the UNC String Project. She earned her Bachelor of Music Education from Baldwin Wallace University and her Master's and Ph.D. in Music Education from Pennsylvania State University.

Dr. Fulcher taught high school orchestra in North Carolina where her students achieved great musi-

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cal growth. She is a frequent guest conductor and clinician and has worked with festivals in Colorado, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. She has presented sessions for teachers at the National ASTA Conference, Colorado ASTA Summer Conference, Music Educators Association Conferences in Colorado, Indiana, Kansas, Pennsylvania, and Texas, in addition to a variety of national research presentations.



Robert Gillespie

Bob Gillespie is Ohio State University Professor Emeritus of string education/string pedagogy. Under Dr. Gillespie's leadership, Ohio State University received the 2015 Institutional String Education Award as the premier string

education university in the country. Dr. Gillespie is a past national President of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA). He is a frequent guest conductor of All-State, region, and festival orchestras, having appeared in 49 states, Canada, Asia, and throughout Europe. He is coauthor of the Hal Leonard string method book series, *Essential Elements for Strings*, the leading string instrument teaching series in the US with sales of over eleven million copies. Also, he is co-author of the college text *Strategies for Teaching Strings: Building A Successful School Orchestra Program*, the *String Clinics to Go* DVD series, the *Teaching Music Through Performance in Orchestra* texts for GIA publications, and the new method series, *Rockin' Strings* for Hal Leonard. In summers, well over 1,600 teachers have attended the annual summer OSU String Teacher Workshop, the largest string/orchestra teacher-training workshop in America. In Columbus, he conducts the Columbus Symphony Chamber Strings Youth Orchestra. In 2020, Dr. Gillespie received the Paul Rolland Lifetime Achievement Award from the American String Teachers Association for significant contribution to the field of string teacher edu-

cation and string pedagogy. In 2022, he received the University of Michigan School of Music alumni Hall of Fame Award in recognition of his distinguished career in music education. In December 2023 he will receive the Medal of Honor from the Midwest Clinic for distinct services to instrumental music education and continuing influence on the development and improvement of bands and orchestras in America.



Christy Go

Christy Go is a current PhD student in Music Education at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Prior to pursuing her doctoral studies, Christy taught K-8 general music, modern band and orchestra in Aurora Public Schools. Based on experience teaching in England and Japan, Christy has special interest in culturally responsive pedagogy, equity in music education and providing more robust resources for teaching music of East Asia.



Ashley Graumann

Ashley Graumann is in the process of completing her Bachelor of Music Education K-12 degree with a minor in Special Education at the University of Northern Colorado. During her college years,

Ashley was part of a pit orchestra, participated in Marching Band, and attended the Flute Institute. She volunteered at an American Heritage Girls event and for Singers in the Middle. This summer she will be teaching ukelele at Camp Summit.

Ashley was born with congenital cataracts. When she was just three months old, she had two eye surgeries to remove her lenses and as a result started wearing contacts. Shortly after, she attended the

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Anchor Center for Blind Children to receive therapy and early intervention during her formative years. She had another eye surgery at eight months old for strabismus. At the age of three Ashley started wearing glasses along with her contacts for distance and close-up vision. Even with this correction, her visual acuity is very limited.

Ashley's lack of eyesight has been very challenging over the years, but it has given her motivation and resilience. In her free time, Ashley enjoys rock climbing, dragon boat racing, wake surfing, wakeboarding, and, of course, music..



Garrett Graves

Garrett Graves is a music education researcher pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Colorado

Boulder. He has pursued research interests in music

teacher identity development, undergraduate field experiences, outreach ensemble programs, and rural music education. His research has been presented at the National Association for Music Education Music Research and Teacher Education Conference, the Society for Music Teacher Education Symposium on Music Teacher Education, the Instrumental Music Teacher Educators Colloquium for Teachers of Instrumental Music Methods, and the Desert Skies Symposium on Research in Music Education. His work at the University of Colorado includes supervising field experiences, teaching, and serving as the graduate coordinator for the Middle School Ensembles Program. Prior to working in Colorado, he taught 6th through 12th grade band in rural Mississippi. Garrett lives in Fort Collins with his partner, Tess, as well as their rescue animals, Billie and Murphy.



Jennifer L. Grice

Dr. Grice has taught kindergarten through college level courses during her twenty-three years as an educator in Louisiana, Texas, Kentucky, Colorado, and most recently as the Assistant Director of Bands/Music Education Coordinator at Central Washington University.

She previously served as the Director of Education & Outreach with Conn-Selmer, Inc. working directly with Tim Lautzenheiser and as the Assistant Director of the "Pride of the Rockies" Marching Band at the University of Northern Colorado. Ensembles under her direction have performed at The Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, Music For All National Festival, and state music education association conventions. She has presented clinics/research at the Kentucky and Colorado music educator association conventions along with being a contributing author in the Teaching Music through Performance in Band series (GIA).

Dr. Grice holds the Doctor of Arts degree in wind conducting with a double emphasis in oboe performance and orchestral conducting from the University of Northern Colorado, a double Master of Music degree in wind conducting and oboe performance from the University of Louisiana at Monroe, and a Bachelor of Music Education degree in instrumental music from Arizona State University. Her conducting teachers include Timothy Russell, Richard Strange, Steven Pederson, Steven Moore, Richard Mayne, Ken Singleton, & Ray Cramer.

Recognized as a leading teacher/instructor of leadership, Dr. Grice is the founder and director of Command the Field, a drum major & leadership camp held throughout the United States. Her involvement in Drum Corps International include serving as drum major for the Velvet Knights Drum and Bugle Corps and conductor of the World Championship Phantom Regiment Drum and Bugle Corps in 1996.

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June Grice

I have been fortunate to have a career filled with music education. My master's and doctorate degrees are from The University of Iowa. I taught in public schools for half of my career and it included K-12 bands, choirs, guitar, general music, and theory. I taught the other half of my career at the University level - including Louisiana Tech, Colorado State University, and Morehead State University in Kentucky. I started the Kodaly Graduate Program at Colorado State University before going to my last position as Music Education Coordinator at Morehead State University in Kentucky. I gave my first clinic session at CMEA in 2004 and since have presented clinics in several states and at the International Kodaly Symposium. I am on the Emeritus Faculty at Morehead and have retired to Colorado Springs.



Christine Guter

Christine Guter is a jazz vocalist and studio singer in the Los Angeles area. She has a multitude of studio credits and has sung on dozens of Hollywood soundtracks including Hocus Pocus 2, Dr. Strange and the Multiverse of Madness, Disney's Mulan, Star Wars Rogue One, Sing!, Ready Player One, Star Trek Beyond, The Jungle Book, Jurassic World, Despicable Me 2, Men in Black 3, and Spiderman 3. She is a member of SAG-AFTRA and AFM.

An extraordinary educator, Christine is active internationally as a lecturer, adjudicator, and clinician, and has conducted numerous All-State Jazz and Honor Choirs. Christine is a member of the California Alliance for Jazz (CAJ), the Jazz Education Network (JEN), the California Music Educators Associ-

ation (CMEA), and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). She has served on the board of ACDA Western Division and the California Choral Directors Association as Vocal Jazz Chair. She is proud to be on the board for Jazz Education Abroad and is the jazz voice instructor for the Thailand Jazz Workshop.

In 2018, Christine received the prestigious "Jazz Education Achievement Award" from DownBeat Magazine, for her work as a jazz educator. She is currently the Director of Vocal Jazz at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at California State University Long Beach where she teaches private jazz voice lessons, vocal styles classes, class jazz piano, jazz theory, and directs the university's award-winning vocal jazz ensemble, Pacific Standard Time..



Jenny Hall

Jenny Hall is in her ninth year as the music teacher and drama director at Antelope Trails Elementary School in Academy School District 20. She relocated to Colorado Springs, Colorado eleven years ago from Memphis, Tennessee. Jenny has been teaching and directing for 26 years, and she is a licensed Colorado educator with endorsements in both Music and Drama (K-12). Jenny's experience includes teaching and directing in large, suburban districts in Colorado Springs, Colorado and Memphis, Tennessee. In Tennessee, Jenny took her skills beyond the K-12 classroom and served as the director of the youth musical theatre program at the Memphis Jewish Community Center for nearly a decade before relocating to Colorado. She has taught elementary general music and all levels of theatre, film, and stage movement. Jenny brings enthusiastic passion to the ensembles she leads, and she loves teaching Orff, World Music Drumming, ukulele, guitar, Modern Band, musical theatre, creative movement, and dance. At Antelope Trails, she teaches K-5

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general music, directs grade level musical theatre productions for 1st through 3rd grade, conducts the 2nd-3rd grade choir, the 4th-5th grade choir, and the 4th-5th grade handbell choir, and produces and directs an extracurricular musical theatre production for the 4th and 5th grade. Jenny feels that her position at Antelope Trails Elementary is a perfect fit, combining the best of her strengths as a music educator and theatre director. Jenny views her role as a facilitator of creativity, no matter the age or skill level of the performers. In Memphis, Jenny directed productions that received nominations and won awards at the regional division of the High School Musical Theatre Awards, a division of the National Awards, the Jimmy Awards. She also has leadership experience as a Conference Coordinator for the Tennessee Educational Theatre Association and as a Learning Coach/Teacher Mentor to help guide new teachers. In 2022, the Antelope Trails Elementary Handbell Choir was selected as an Honor Performance Group for the CMEA Conference, and this wonderful experience motivated Jenny to run for the District Representative position. She thrives on collaboration and creativity and benefits greatly from attending the annual CMEA Conference. Serving as a District Representative is the ideal way for Jenny to give back to the CMEA community and uphold the traditions of excellence—specifically the support and growth of its members—for which the CMEA is known. Jenny has earned a Bachelor's degree from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee and completed Master's degrees from Roosevelt University in Chicago, Illinois and University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colorado. In her spare time, she enjoys running, hiking, indoor cycling, yoga, and spending time with her husband and cats.



Anna Hansil

Anna Hansil is originally from Roswell, Georgia, and currently serves as the Choir Director at Sunset Middle School

in Longmont, Colorado. She earned her Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Colorado Boulder, where she studied voice with Jennifer Bird-Arvidsson. While at CU, she completed her student teaching at Superior Elementary School with Peggy Austin and Skyline High School with Jimmy Howe. Anna is in her second year of teaching, and she teaches five choirs at Sunset and co-directs the school musical. She gained her passion for singing in middle school, and is thrilled that she gets to provide positive musical experiences for her students, just as her teachers did for her. Anna enjoys guiding students through healthy vocal technique while providing a positive and safe learning environment. Anna is also a member of the Rocky Mountain Chorale, a Boulder-based community choir. Through RMC, she traveled with and conducted a chamber group of singers to the Alta Pusteria International Choir Festival in San Candido, Italy. She serves on the board of RMC and primarily assists with social media and recruitment. When Anna isn't teaching, she enjoys baking, being outside, and spending time with friends.



Julie Harrison

Julie Novak Harrison is an experienced music educator, music therapist, and director of the Bulldog Band at the

Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind, where she has worked for over 20 years. With a Master's degree in Teaching Students with Visual Impairment, Julie has a deep understanding of how to make music accessible and engaging for all learners. Her students have performed at a variety of venues throughout the state, including the State Capitol, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, and the Colorado Association of School Boards annual convention. Join Julie in this program to experience her expertise and passion for music education!.

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Krista Hart

Krista Hart is a former music educator with a passion for choral music. She attended Wichita State University and taught middle school music in the public schools. Follow-

ing her teaching years, she spent nearly a decade assisting directors in choosing literature for their choirs, and curating selections for dozens of choral reading sessions at Senseney Music in Wichita, KS. Additionally, she directed church choirs, performed with local choirs, and served on the boards of choral organizations. She continues to help people experience the joy of making music now by working on the Marketing and Editorial teams at Alfred Music, and performing with the Pasadena Master Chorus. The author of *Music-Go-Round: 100 Puzzle Pages for Young Musicians* and *A Music Teacher's Gratitude Journal*, Krista's newest publication is *The Mindful Music Classroom: Practical Strategies for Social-Emotional Learning*.



Laura Harvey

Laura Harvey is the Student Experience Senior Coordinator with the College of Arts & Media (CAM) at CU Denver. Laura is responsible for student recruitment and retention for CAM. She also manages the LYNX National Arts &

Media Camps, which are immersive summer camp programs for high school students designed to be a college preview for CAM programs. Laura has worked in higher education for 7 years (CU Boulder and CU Denver) in student services and advising.



Leila Heil

Leila Heil is Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses, specializing in choral music education. She enjoys

an active career as a clinician/conductor and has presented sessions at numerous national and international conferences including the Midwest Clinic, the Society for Music Teacher Education (SMTE) Conference, the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) Research and Teacher Education Conference, the NAfME National In-service Conference, the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) National Conference, the National Early Music Association (NEMA) Conference, the Research in Music Education Conference (RIME), and the International Jazz Educators Association (IAJE) Conference. She has also presented at state NAfME and ACDA conferences in Colorado, Arizona, Ohio and Texas. She has authored and co-authored articles for a variety of educational journals including the *Music Educators Journal*, the *Choral Journal*, *Visions in Music Education Research*, *Contributions to Music Education*, and the *Journal of Music, Technology and Education*.



Peter Hellyer

Peter Hellyer is the founder of Denver Percussion, Colorado's drum and percussion specialists. He holds a Bachelor of

Music from the University of Denver and a Master of Music from Temple University. Denver Percussion serves students, educators, and professional organizations throughout Colorado and the United States. Denver Percussion is known throughout the region for percussion equipment rentals. Some groups that have rented from Denver Percussion include the The Denver Nuggets Skyline, Black Eyed

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Peas, Beach Boys, Colorado Symphony, and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Locally, Denver Percussion works closely with nearly all community and professional bands and orchestras, The Blue Knights, Rise Percussion Ensemble, Black Diamond Percussion, and all major universities in the area. The company also is known for percussion repair and tuning of all percussion instruments and its mission of education for students and educators alike.

Peter has studied with renowned percussionists Alan Abel, John Kinzie, Tom Stubbs, and Doug Howard. His professional performances include orchestras such as the Colorado Symphony and Grand Teton Music Festival. He served as Executive Director of the Denver Young Artists Orchestra from 2008-2014 before leaving to grow Denver Percussion.



John Jacobson

John Jacobson is the author and composer of many musicals and choral works that have been performed by millions of children worldwide, as well as educational videos and tapes that have helped music educators excel in their individual teaching arenas.

John has staged hundreds of huge music festival ensembles in his association with Walt Disney Productions and directed productions featuring thousands of young singers including NBC's national broadcast of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, presidential inaugurations and more. He is also recognized internationally as a creative and motivating speaker for teachers and students involved in choral music education.

John is the founder and volunteer president of America Sings! Inc., a non-profit organization that encourages young performers to use their time and talents for community service. He stars in children's musical and exercise videotapes, most recently the

series "jump! A Fitness Program for Children" and was the Senior Contributing Writer for John Jacobson's Music Express Magazine. John's book *A Place In The Choir: Finding Harmony in a World of Many Voices* is rapidly becoming a staple with music teachers worldwide. Currently he is the president and creative content designer for JJ and Me, Inc. which is available through Musicplay Online.



Gregory Jasperse

Greg Jasperse is the Director of Vocal Jazz at Western Michigan University. He is also the director of Gold Company, WMU's award-winning vocal jazz ensemble.

No stranger to the stage or recording studio, his voice can be heard on numerous movie soundtracks including "Jurassic World", "Epic", "Oz, The Great and Powerful", "The Campaign", "Star Trek" and "Star Trek 2", Disney's "Sofia the First" as well as the Red Hot Chili Pepper's "Monarchy of Roses" and "The 2nd Law" from Muse.

Greg is a member of vocal group Vertical Voices. He has also been honored to tour with the New York Voices as a sub. Recent appearances include Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Riviera Maya Jazz Festival and the Gran Canaria Big Band as well as the New York Voices/Bob Mintzer Big Band tour in Japan, 2014. He has performed with Adele, Imogen Heap, Jennifer Holiday, Joe Williams, Rosemary Clooney, Dianne Reeves and Bobby McFerrin among others.

His compositions and arrangements are performed around the world by many of today's premier vocal ensembles including Chanticleer, the Philippine Madrigal Singers, the Los Angeles Master Chorale, Chicago Children's Choir, the St. Olaf Choir and Quava Vocal Group of Johannesburg, South Africa.

His conducting credits include all-state vocal jazz

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ensembles in Washington, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Arizona, North Dakota, New York, California, Oklahoma, Indiana, Missouri, Colorado, New Hampshire, Illinois, Iowa as well as the British Columbia Honors Jazz Choir and Musicfest Canada's Ellison Honour Choir, He is a graduate of University of Miami and Western Michigan University.



Alexandra Johnson

Alex Johnson has been teaching music in Colorado for the past 8 years. For the last 5 years, Alex has been teaching General Music and Band at Quist Middle School. Since 2019, the music program at Quist has experienced over

300% growth to include over 600 students in the band, choir, and general music programs.

Alex holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from the University of Colorado, and a Master's Degree in Music Education from the University of Northern Colorado.



Dirk Johnson

Dr. Dirk Johnson serves as the Director of Vocal Ensembles at Colorado Mesa University, where he directs the Vocal Arts

Ensemble, Vocal Chords, Soprano/Alto Choir, and Tenor/Bass Choir and teaches courses in conducting, choral literature, and choral methods. He formerly served as Artistic Director of the Charleston Civic Chorus, Director of Choral Activities and Music Department Chair at West Virginia State University, Visiting Professor of Conducting at the University of Virginia, and was Director of Choirs at Timpanogos High School, Pleasant Grove Junior High School, and the Waterford School near Salt

Lake City, Utah. He holds a D.M.A. in choral conducting from the College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati, and master's and bachelor's degrees in choral music education from Brigham Young University.

An active composer and arranger, Dr. Johnson has received commissions from collegiate and community choirs from around the country and regularly writes for ensembles under his direction. He was honored as winner of the 2015 John Ness Beck Foundation Award for composition of traditional sacred choral music. As a professional choral singer, he sang for two seasons with the Vocal Arts Ensemble of Cincinnati and for five years with the Tennessee Chamber Chorus and has performed as tenor soloist with the West Virginia Symphony Chorus and on WVSU faculty recitals. Dr. Johnson's scholarly research focuses on folk song and choral arranging. He has presented at the National Collegiate Choral Organization Conferences in 2013 and 2017, at multiple West Virginia ACDA Conferences, and at the 2015 National ACDA Conference.



Erik Johnson

Dr. Erik Johnson is an Associate Professor of Music Education and Coordinator of Instrumental Music Education at Colorado State University where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in music education and is the

director of the CSU Middle School Outreach Ensemble & Trying-on-Teaching programs. His scholarly writings and research have been published in the Journal of Research in Music Education, Music Educators Journal, Contributions to Music Education, Journal of Education and Training Studies, The Bulletin for the Council of Research in Music Education, and The International Journal of Disability, Development, and Education. His books and scholarly writings are also available through GIA, Oxford University Press, and Routledge.

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Andrew King

Andrew King is a Colorado native who grew up on the western slope. He holds a Bachelors of Music Education and a Masters in Music Education with an Emphasis in Conducting from

Colorado State University in Fort Collins, CO. Mr. King is a member of the Colorado Bandmasters Association, Colorado Music Educators Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia music fraternity, and the Colorado Masonic Lodge AF & AM. He taught K-12 band, choir, and general music in Hotchkiss, Colorado from 2005-2008. During that time he also conducted the Montrose Community Band and played in the North Fork Big Band and the Valley Symphony Orchestra. He moved to Colorado Springs in 2008 as the band director at Wasson High School where he taught band, audio technology, and guitar. In 2010 he started the band program at the reopened Galileo Middle School while teaching at Wasson High School. With the closing of Wasson High School in 2013, Mr. King moved to Mitchell High School as the director of bands until 2021. He is currently serving as the director of bands at Vista Ridge High School. Since 2008, he has played tuba in the Little London Winds as well as served as the groups's assistant conductor. In his free time, Mr. King likes to spend time with his wife, daughter, and son.



Andrew Knight

Dr. Andrew Knight is an associate professor of music therapy at CSU and teaches a course in Artist Wellness in fall semesters. His research has

been published in the Journal of Music Therapy and Music Therapy Perspectives, among other journals. Along with Drs. Blythe LaGasse and Alicia Clair, he is a co-editor of the 2018 Introduction to Music Therapy textbook published by AMTA.



Suzanne Kockler

Born and raised in northern Illinois, Suzanne Kockler grew up participating in some of the most reputable and competitive choral programs of the Midwest. Her K-12 upbringing in Woodstock, Illinois provided a strong foundation rooted

in excellence under the direction of Paul J. Rausch, and from 2002-2006, Kockler attended Luther College where she was privileged to continue her love of choral singing. She spent her secondary student teaching practicum with David R. Jensen at Prairie Ridge High School in Crystal Lake, IL.

Suzanne Kockler began her career in the fall of 2006 where she spent four years teaching elementary general music in the northwest suburbs of Chicago. In 2010, she accepted a position teaching general and choral music to students in 6th-8th grades. It was during her tenure at Northwood Middle School in Woodstock, IL when she fell in love with teaching middle grade students. In 2017, Kockler moved to Denver, Colorado where she continued her career teaching general and choral music for an additional six years, the past three of which she has spent building the choral program at Quist Middle School in Thornton, Colorado.

Kockler holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Luther College and a Master's Degree in Differentiated Instruction from Concordia University Chicago. She currently resides in Virginia where she teaches 6th-8th grade choir at Harper Park Middle School in Leesburg.

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William Kohut

William M. Kohut has served in the role of CMEA Executive Director for 25 years. “Bill” was a public-school music teacher and administrator for 36 years in Colorado. He retired as the Principal of the

Denver School of the Arts after 10 years as Principal, in June 2019. Bill served for 19 years as a school principal in the Denver Public Schools. Under his leadership The Denver School of the Arts was recognized as an Exemplary Arts School, and for 8 years under his leadership the Denver School of the Arts received a gold medal award from US News World Report as one of the top high schools in America. Denver School of the Arts was also awarded the Colorado John Irwin Award for Educational Excellence through the Colorado Department of Education for 10 years under his leadership. Bill was awarded the Colorado Music Educators Association “Honored Administrator Award” in 2013, and the Colorado Thespian’s “Administrator of the Year” award in 2011. Mr. Kohut has presented at numerous local, state, and national conferences on his work in educational leadership.

Mr. Kohut served as the President of the Arts Schools Network Board of Directors from 2017-2019 and was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of the Denver Public Schools Retired Employees Foundation. He is also an active arts education/school leadership and management consultant.



Pam Korth

Pam Korth graduated from Midland Lutheran College in Fremont, Nebraska, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music Education. She also

holds a Master’s Degree in Education from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Pam retired from teaching music in the public schools

after thirty six years, having taught in Nebraska and Colorado. She taught high school and middle school choirs, then moved to the elementary level. Pam spent most of her career in District 6 in Greeley and Evans, Colorado. She is one of the original directors of the Greeley Children’s Chorale and was a director with them for over 30 years. Pam was very honored to have them perform at CMEA many times through the years. Pam also sings in the adult Greeley Chorale. When she’s not performing or directing, Pam loves to spend time with her husband, Joe, their two children and granddaughters..



Bob Kreutz

Bob Kreutz, a native of Colorado, is in his 40th year as an educator and conductor. Bob is a professor at Colorado State University, teaching orchestral courses and acting as a university supervisor in the student teacher program since 2016. Prior to that, Bob was a

strings educator in the Thompson School District in Loveland for 30 years, where he taught at Thompson Valley High and Walt Clark Middle Schools. As a clinician, Bob has conducted orchestras throughout the region, specifically in Denver, Boulder, Colorado Springs, Fort Collins, Fort Morgan, Grand Junction, Lakewood, Longmont, Loveland, and Cheyenne, Wyoming. As a violinist, he performs regularly as a member of the Fort Collins Symphony Orchestra and other local orchestras. Bob is currently a part-time educational representative for Boomer Music Company, a local music store in Fort Collins. Mr. Kreutz attributes his love of music to his father, Colorado composer, Robert E. Kreutz; and mentors, Wilfred Schwartz and Steve McNeal.

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Misty Lamb-Nelson

Misty Lamb-Nelson lives in Granby, CO and is in her 5th year of teaching music in a public school setting. Previously Misty taught private and class piano lessons while attaining her Bachelor of Musical Arts Degree from Okla-

homa Baptist University, and her Master in Music, Piano Performance and Pedagogy Degree from Baylor University. After moving to the mountains and taking a break from teaching, she completed her Alternative Teaching License through Northwest BOCES and is currently working on completing the Kodály certification levels at CSU. She is past president of ROCKE, the Colorado Kodály chapter, and currently serves on the advocacy and public relations committee for OAKE. Misty is passionate about music, her students, and collaborating with others, especially as a rural school teacher. .



Scott Lang

For over three decades Scott Lang has been educating and advocating for music education. As a nationally known leadership trainer, Scott conducts over 100 workshops annually and works with some of our country's finest educational groups and performing

ensembles.

Scott is a well-regarded author with over ten publications to his credit including: *Seriously?!*, *Leader of the Band*, *Leadership Success*, *Leadership Travel Guide*, *Leadership Survival Guide*, *Sound Leadership*, *Music FUNdations*, and is the creator of the highly successful *Be Part of the Music* series.

Scott is also currently serving as the Director of Advocacy for Music & Arts, the nation's largest music retailer.

Mr. Lang currently resides in Chandler, Arizona with his beautiful wife Leah and their sons, Brayden, Evan, and their highly irrational but loveable Golden Retrievers Rexie and Riley. He has breathed in and out approximately 264 million times and plans to keep on doing so until he doubles that number.



Kevin Larsen

Kevin Larsen is the Director of Bands at Creighton Middle School and the five Lakewood Articulation elementary schools in Jefferson County Public Schools. Servicing over 250 students, he directs three

grade level concert bands, an extracurricular jazz ensemble and the 5th grade area beginning band. The Lakewood Elementary Articulation area prides itself on being the only area in JeffCo Public Schools where every 5th grader is required to participate in either band or orchestra.

A Colorado native from Broomfield, Mr. Larsen attended the University of Colorado Boulder where in 2007 he earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree. In 2013, Mr. Larsen received his Master of Music degree with an Education and Conducting Emphasis from Colorado State University.

Mr. Larsen proudly serves ASBDA as Colorado State Chair and is a member of KKΨ CBA, CMEA, NAFME and has been a member of the Broomfield Symphony Orchestra since 1996 and principal trumpet since 2008.

Kevin currently resides in Highlands Ranch with his wife Amy and their two sons Connor (9) and Nicholas (8).

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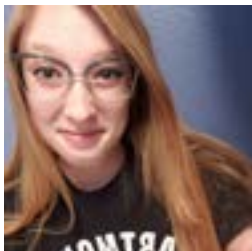


Tim Lautzenheiser

Tim Lautzenheiser is a well-known name in the music education world as a teacher, clinician, author, composer, consultant, adjudicator, and, above all, a trusted friend to

anyone interested in working with young people to develop a desire for excellence. His own career involves ten years of successful college band directing at Northern Michigan University, the University of Missouri, and New Mexico State University. During this time Tim developed highly acclaimed groups in all areas of the instrumental and vocal field.

Following three years in the music industry, he created Attitude Concepts for Today, an organization designed to manage requests for workshops, seminars, and convention speaking engagements focusing on the area of positive attitude and effective leadership training. He presently holds the Earl Dunn Distinguished Lecturer position at Ball State University. Tim also is the director of education for Conn-Selmer, and he serves as the national spokesperson for MENC's "Make a Difference with Music" program. Tim is a graduate of Ball State University and the University of Alabama. He was awarded an honorary doctorate from VanderCook College of Music. Additional awards include the distinguished Sudler Order of Merit from the John Philip Sousa Foundation, the Mr. Holland's Opus Award, and the Music Industry Award from the Midwest Clinic Board of Directors.



Rachel Lesser

Rachel is an elementary music teacher in Aurora, Colorado. This is her 6th year of teaching in Aurora Public Schools. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education and Cultural

Linguistic Diversity from MSU Denver. She completed her Master's Degree in Trauma Informed Ed-

ucation from Columbia College in South Carolina. When she is not teaching she loves baking, reading thrillers, and hanging out with her dog, Bluebell.



Megan Lewin

Megan Lewin is the Director of Bands at Westminster High School where she conducts the WHS Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Laboratory, Marching Band, Pit Orchestra, and oversees the

Athletic Bands.

Mrs. Lewin received her Bachelor of Music Education Instrumental Emphasis from The Hartt School in Hartford, Connecticut summa cum laude and Master of Music Education with a Cognate in Conducting from the University of Colorado Boulder. A passionate educator, Mrs. Lewin maintains an active private flute studio, acts as Woodwind Tech for local marching bands, and presents at national and international conferences. She is also the Colorado State Chair for Women Band Directors International and Band Chair for the Adams County Honor Festival. She is delighted to work with the amazing students, staff, and community at Westminster High School and loves every day with her Westy family!

Mrs. Lewin's professional affiliations include the Colorado Bandmasters Association, the Colorado Music Education Association, the National Association for Music Education, the National Band Association, the Colorado Flute Association, the National Flute Association, and Sigma Alpha Iota.



Tim Libby

Tim Libby is in his 24th year as Director of Bands at Cherry Creek high School. Prior to that he taught at Gateway High School in Aurora for

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four years. He graduated from the University of Northern Colorado with degrees in Music Education and Trumpet Performance. His ensembles have been selected to perform at the CMEA Conference 12 times, the Music For All National Concert Band Festival twice, and his Marching Band is a 17-time CBA State Finalist. In 2013, Mr. Libby was named the Cherry Creek high School Teacher of the Year, in 2015 he was recognized by Schol Band and Orchestra Magazine as one of 50 Directors Who Make A Difference and in 2020 he was named the Colorado Music Educator of the year by the National Federation of High Schools.



Xiaosha Lin

Xiaosha Lin currently serves as Director of Choral Activities at Whitworth University. Prior to teaching at Whitworth, she held positions as Director of Choral Activities at the University of Toledo and assistant conductor at Hong Kong Baptist University.

Lin is a sought-after conductor, adjudicator, and choral clinician in both the U.S. and China, where she is invited to workshops and clinics for all levels of choirs. Known as a dynamic conductor with her efficient and engaging rehearsal approach, often time her choirs are praised as “sang with strength, beauty, creativity, and such musicality.”

Lin received her graduate degrees in choral conducting from Michigan State University, Westminster Choir College, and Hong Kong Baptist University.



Michael Linert

Michael Linert enjoys a varied musical career as a cellist, singer, educator, and composer. Known for his engaging, impassioned performances as well as his inspiring, organized, and rigorous teaching

approach, he seeks to create a world fully enriched by music, providing accessible and varied opportunities for all who seek music in their lives.

Michael currently serves as the Performing Arts Department Chair and the Director of Orchestras and Mariachi at Westminster High School (Colorado) where he has been awarded the Teacher of the Year Award from Westminster HS, the Fred Award for Customer Service from Westminster Public Schools, the Exemplary High School Teacher Award from the American String Teachers Association, and the Arts and Culture Award from the Westminster Legacy Foundation.

Additionally, he serves as the workshop lead for the Aspen Music Festival and School's annual Mariachi Workshop for middle and high school students, and he has guest-lectured for the American String Teachers Association, Colorado Music Educators Association, University of Colorado Boulder, University of Northern Colorado, Indiana University, Florida State University, Kansas State University, among others.

By his wonderful students, he's known as Mr. Mom, Lord of the Strings, and All of the Things.
More Info: www.michaellinert.com

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Edwina Lucero

The Alliance for Music Education was formed in 2020, and unites organizations to identify and implement actions that address diversity, equity, and inclusivity in music education in Denver in a collective, transformational, measurable,

and sustainable manner



Christopher Luther

Violinist, violist, arranger, mentor, and pedagogue, Dr. Christopher Luther has established himself as a uniquely gifted performer and teacher through his diverse musical background and ability to reach and inspire students. As a performer, Dr. Luther has

been a featured soloist on National Public Radio, KUSC, televised performances on PBS, and many others including a performance on the Jay Leno Show with Sarah Barrielles. Notable chamber collaborations include the Miró String Quartet, Joseph Silverstein, Martin Beaver, and members of the Colorado Symphony and Los Angeles Philharmonic.



Jason W. Mabrey

Director of Bands, Jason W. Mabrey holds a bachelor's degree in music education with an emphasis in trumpet performance, and a double master's degree in education and conducting from Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

Currently in his 15th year at Eaglecrest High School in the Cherry Creek School District, Mr. Mabrey

co-conducts the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band. He is also the director of the Jazz Bands, the Marching Band, and the Pep Band at EHS where he was selected as the 2017 Teacher of the Year. Prior to coming to Eaglecrest, Mr. Mabrey spent 3 years teaching band, orchestra, and choir at Everitt Middle School in the Jefferson County School District.

Under Mr. Mabrey's direction the Wind Ensemble has qualified for the Colorado Bandmasters Association State Concert Band Festival in 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2023, receiving the rating of Superior with Distinction in 2022 and 2023. The Wind Ensemble has also received a rating of Superior at the Colorado West Music Festival 8 times being awarded Most Outstanding 5A Band for the festival 4 times. The Jazz Bands have been a consistent high level performer at many Colorado Jazz festivals including being awarded the Most Outstanding 5A Jazz Band at the 2023 Colorado West Music Festival. Under his direction the Raptor Regiment Marching Band has grown to be one of the biggest in the state and can be seen performing in many parades and athletic events each year.

Mr. Mabrey's music performance, music education, and education mentors include Dr. J. Steven Moore, Dr. David Shaner, Wes Kenny, Jack Yonce, Dan Bell, Ed Cannava, and Jim Roome. His professional affiliations include the Colorado Bandmasters Association, Colorado Music Educators Association, and the National Association for Music Education. He is also a proud member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Music Fraternity, Phi Beta Mu Music Fraternity, and the American School Band Directors Association. Outside of Eaglecrest Jason enjoys spending time with his wife Sarah, son Miles (who is in this year's Wind Ensemble), daughter Molly, and his friends. He also loves going to Bronco games, playing disc golf, and skiing.

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Elizabeth Macy

Elizabeth McLean Macy is an Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology in the Department of Music and Faculty Fellow in

the Office of Diversity at Metropolitan State University of Denver, where she teaches classes on music and culture and serves as Area Coordinator for Musicology and Director of Global Music Ensembles. Macy also coordinates the Music Department's Visiting Artists Series on Music, Race, & Social Justice, highlighting the work of BIPOC musicians, performers, and scholars. She holds a BA in Music from Colorado College, an MA in Ethnomusicology from UC Riverside, and a PhD in Ethnomusicology from UCLA, where her dissertation research addressed the function of music tourism in post-disaster economies. Dr. Macy's current and ongoing research focuses on Balinese master musician I Made Lasmawan and his wife Ni Ketut Marni and the music and dance traditions of the village of Bangah di Baturiti in Bali. Currently a performing member of Denver's Gamelan Tunas Mekar, she began studying the music of Indonesia with Lasmawan in 1996. She is a founding member of Sanggar Manik Galih, a transnational music and dance studio based in Bali and Colorado, and teaches study abroad courses in Bali on Balinese music, arts, and culture.



Kate Margrave

Director of Jazz Studies at Kate Margrave is in her 16th year of teaching at Pine Creek High School in Colorado Springs, CO and 20th year of her teaching career. At Pine Creek, she teaches marching band,

concert band, symphonic band, wind ensemble, chamber orchestra and string orchestra. Margrave received her Bachelors of Music in Music Education from Mansfield University in Mansfield, PA and her Masters of Music in Instrumental Conducting from

the American Band College in Ashland, OR.

Her passion is for conducting and literature, presenting multiple clinics on the subject throughout the United States. Margrave's enthusiasm and love for teaching music shines in her students, who work to achieve excellence through their musicality and perseverance. Her top ensemble, the Symphonic Band, has established a tradition of excellence known around the state. In March of 2016, the Symphonic Band had the honor of performing at the Music for All National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis, IN. In 2018, the Symphonic Band was selected to perform as a featured ensemble at the CMEA State Conference. She was a 2018 Semi-finalist for the Grammy Foundation Music Educator Award and was a recipient of the 2017 Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association. In 2021 Margrave was selected as the National Society of High School Scholars Top Educator of the Year.

Margrave lives in Colorado Springs where she enjoys the outdoors, especially camping, with her husband, Brian, daughter, Eva, and puppy Piper. She is an active member of Phi Beta Mu, the International Bandmasters Fraternity, serving as president, the Colorado Bandmasters Association, serving as 2nd Vice President, and the Colorado Music Educators Association.



Elizabeth McCord

Nick Newman is a second Elizabeth McCord is currently the general music teacher and choir director at Louisville Elementary in Louisville, Colorado. She is the chair of the Boulder Valley School District Elementary All-District Choir and a Co-Teacher Leader for

general music teachers in BVSD. Elizabeth started her teaching career in BVSD in 2012. She received her undergraduate degree in Music Education with a Vocal Emphasis from Williams Baptist University

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in Walnut Ridge, AR in 2012. Then her Masters of Music Education with a choral conducting emphasis in December 2016 from the University of Colorado Boulder. She works closely with the School of Music at the University of Colorado welcoming student teachers and practicum students into her classroom. She is passionate about helping her students foster their love and appreciation of music.



Bri McCormick

Bri McCormick has taught choir since 2013 at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. She graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Northern

Colorado in Greeley and holds a Master of Science in Educational Leadership and an active principal's license.

Mrs. McCormick serves as the Treasurer for Colorado All-State Choir, and has also served on the governing board for Colorado Middle School All State Choir. Mrs. McCormick's choirs have received superior ratings at various festivals throughout the state and country, and have been selected to perform at the Colorado Music Educator's Conference.

Briana also serves as the Vocal Director for Fossil Ridge Theatre. In her spare time, she greatly enjoys performing with the chamber ensemble NOCO Singers, of which she is a founding member.

She lives in Windsor with her husband, daughter, and their pug named Batman.



Peggy McCreary

Peggy McCreary is an Orff Specialist at the Grenoble Studio of Musical Arts. She received her B. M. from the University of New Mexico and

her Orff Teacher Training Certificate from the University of Denver. She has taught percussion and recorder at teacher training courses at the Universities of Denver, Northern Colorado, Hawaii, and New Mexico, workshops for American Orff Schulwerk Association chapters nationwide, and has presented at more than two dozen AOSA National Conferences. She led numerous instrument repair workshops for Colorado school districts and online.



John McGuire

Dr. John McGuire has a vast array of performance and teaching experiences. He has performed with many orchestras around the world, most notably the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Dallas Opera, the Fort Worth Symphony, the New World Symphony in Miami, FL, and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago. John

has also toured internationally with the acclaimed Fortress Brass Quintet, of which he is a founding member.

As a soloist he was awarded the title "Yamaha Young Artist," has been a finalist in the American Horn Competition, and has appeared as a guest artist at many workshops, festivals and schools across the world. With several world-premiere performances to his credit, John is a passionate proponent for the creation of new solo horn literature as well as a sought-after contemporary music performer.

John currently serves as Associate Professor of Horn at Colorado State University in Ft. Collins, Colorado. His major professors were Charles "Skip" Snead, William Capps and Dale Clevenger.

John will also be the host for the 2024 International Horn Symposium at Colorado State University in July 2024.

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Jennifer McIntyre

Jennifer McIntyre is a former teacher and now owns Once Upon a Mind, an independent educational bookseller in Colorado. She specializes in finding books to accompany educators' curricular needs and sharing ideas for integrating children's books into the classroom.



Andrea Meyers

Veteran Cellist and Music Educator Andrea Meyers has enjoyed an exceptional career. She has been recognized by the Colorado Music Educators Association (CMEA) with a 2015 induction into that organization's Hall of Fame. Her career highlights include leadership roles as a Past-President of the Colorado Chapter of the American String Teachers Association, receiving the "Lifetime Service Award" and "Outstanding String Teacher." National ASTA participation includes multiple leadership roles, including Membership Chair and Member-at-Large. Ms. Meyers is a recipient of the CMEA 25-Year Award and the National ASTA Chapter Leader Award. She enjoys and continues to work as an adjudicator for the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) Orchestra.

Ms. Meyers loves performing with Parker Symphony Orchestra, Littleton Symphony and the Lone Tree Orchestras. Within CMEA, she serves on the Advisory board as the Active & Retired Membership Chair, as well as Secretary of the University of Denver Lamont Society Council. Her experience spans decades as a professional music educator in the Boulder Valley, Douglas County and multiple school districts, as an orchestra director, cellist, conductor, adjudicator, clinician and music advocate.

Highly sought as a guest conductor, Ms. Meyers has conducted the National Repertory Orchestra,

the University of Colorado/Boulder Summer Music Academy Middle School Orchestra (2012), and the CASTA Middle School String Camp. Additionally, she conducted the Honors Chamber Orchestra Festival at Fort Lewis College, and numerous festivals and honor orchestras throughout Colorado. Beyond her home state, she has conducted the Alabama All-State Orchestra and the Florida All-State Orchestra. She is truly inspired and enjoys conducting these various orchestra for their unique personalities, creativity and musicianship.

A Colorado native and graduate of George Washington High School, Ms. Meyers earned her Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Northern Colorado and received her Master of Arts from the University of Colorado at Denver. Another special career distinction includes recognition as a "Music Education" Grammy quarterfinalist. She currently plays on a Neuner-Hornsteiner cello, but is on the lookout for a new cello with which to partner. Her special interests include traveling, reading, working out, spending time with friends, family, freelance 'gigging' and special events as a member of the Denver Musicians' Union.



Alyssa Miller

Alyssa A. Miller is the current Vocal Music Council Chair for the Colorado Music Educators Association. She taught both middle school and high school choir for seven years in Academy District 20. Alyssa holds a Bachelor of Music Education with a vocal emphasis from

the University of Wyoming and a Masters in Music Education with an emphasis in choral conducting from University of Colorado Boulder. Alyssa was honored to receive the Colorado Outstanding Young Music Educator award from CMEA in 2017. She has been a member of ACDA since 2013 and CMEA since 2015. Alyssa had numerous students

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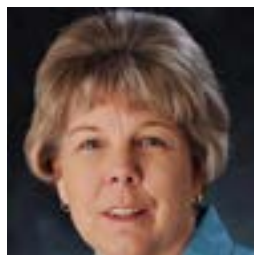
participate in CO Middle School All State Choirs from 2016-2019 and has had the pleasure of coaching 28 students to participate and be accepted into the CO High School All State Choirs in 2020-2022. Since 2018, Alyssa has also coached 24 students to participate in regional and national ACDA Honor Choirs. This year, Alyssa is serving as the assistant choir coordinator for the 2024 SWACDA 7-9 TB Honor Choir.

Alyssa is married to her wonderful husband, Ian. They have two beautiful girls, Mackenzie and Riley, and one crazy bird-dog, Laramie. She currently enjoys being a stay-at-home mom and is so thankful for this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to pour into her own children.



Margaret Miller

Margaret Miller is Senior Instructor of Viola and Chamber Music and Coordinator of the Graduate Quartet Program at Colorado State University. She performs throughout the West and has been a clinician at CMEA, WMEA and Colorado ASTA.



Martina Miranda

Martina Miranda is an Associate Professor of Music Education at CU Boulder. Her teaching responsibilities include elementary music methods for undergraduate

and graduate students, supervision of student teachers, and graduate course topics exploring implications of musical development for music teaching and learning experiences. Martina has over 16 years of experience as a Pre-K through 6th grade General Music teacher, and has presented at state, national, and international conferences. She holds Orff and

Kodaly certifications.



Jason Missal

Jason Missal is Director of Bands and Assistant Professor of Music at The University of Utah. His duties at Utah include conducting the Wind Ensemble, leading the graduate wind conducting program, and overseeing all aspects of

the band program.

Previously, Dr. Missal was the Associate Director of Bands at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and Associate Director of Bands at Abilene Christian University (TX). He also taught in the public schools of Jenks, Oklahoma.

He holds degrees from the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Colorado at Boulder, and Oklahoma State University and his primary conducting teachers are Jerry Junkin, Allan McMurray, Gary Lewis, and Joseph Missal.



Charles Moore

Dr. Charles Moore currently serves as Instructor of Voice at the University of Northern Colorado and is an active founding member of Opera

S.O.S. at LSU, a program to designed to provide meaningful experiential opportunities for budding professional singers. He is active in preserving the music of the Caribbean and specializes in performing the works of minority composers.



Phuong Nguyen

Mr. Nguyen received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Colorado

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State University and learned from such greats as Dr. Charles Lawson, Dr. Gary Moody, and Dr. J. Steven Moore. He also received his Masters of Music in Conducting at Colorado State University, studying with Peter Sommer, Wes Kenney, and Dr. J. Steven Moore. While at CSU, Phuong was awarded the David Paul Knight Scholarship for Jazz, the Award of Highest Distinction at the CSU Research and Creativity Symposium, and was a Senior Honors Recital recipient. Phuong currently plays saxophone and performs with the Fort Collins Wind Symphony, Twelve Cents for Marvin, Choice City Seven, the Fort Collins Jazz Friends as well as a slew of side projects. With more than 20 years of experience performing in Colorado rock/jazz/ska/reggae bands, he has performed with famous rock bands, Vietnamese pop stars, and has even starred in a few short films! Aside from guest-conducting clinics and teaching at Boltz Middle School (the best middle school in the world!), Mr. Nguyen also teaches private lessons and coaches students in the Youth Music Collective, a group of high school rock musicians from all over Fort Collins. Phuong currently lives in Fort Collins, Colorado, with his beautiful wife Nicole Wilshusen and two lovely daughters, Claire and Ella. He likes to hike, ride motorcycles, snowboard, play basketball, and watch cheesy action movies. Oh, and he's a huge Star Wars nerd.



Mario Yuzo Nieto

Yuzo Nieto has served the far northeast as both a music teacher and a general elementary teacher for 8+ years at Barney Ford Elementary, SOAR Charter, and Highline Academy. Currently, he has

received approval from UNCO's Music Education Department for his dissertation proposal on implementing culturally and community responsive pedagogical frameworks in music education with a focus in Educational Leadership & Policy Studies. In addition to his research/coursework at UNCO, he

designs & teaches curricula and professional learning with a similar focus across educational content areas – music/arts, sciences, social studies, literacy, mathematics, and leadership. To that end, Yuzo has become the Co-founding Executive Artistic Director of Radical Arts Academy Denver (#RAAD) alongside Chief Education Officer, Kelly Okoye. RAAD aims to provide high-quality arts-based learning (ABL) of the whole child from a lens of critical consciousness and community responsive pedagogy that promotes concrete pathways for students to learn through the arts to obtain/realize self-actualization and career readiness within the arts and in life. RAAD serves students in ECE-8 (and beyond) and will launch officially in Denver Public Schools at the new Ceylon Campus in Far Northeast Denver (FNE), CO in 2024

Yuzo has two elementary-aged children and is the bandleader, lead vocalist, tenor saxophonist, djembefola and primary composer for the one and only Xicanxbeat orchestra (Afrobeat / Chicano Hip-Hop / Cumbia) called Los Pink Hawks.



Loni Obluda

Loni E. Obluda is a Colorado native having grown up in Pueblo, CO where she studied Suzuki Violin with Ms. Ann Pineda-Fuentes for 15 years. Loni received her Bachelor of

Music Education, with an emphasis in String Performance, from the University of Northern Colorado, where she studied violin with Professor Richard Fuchs and graduated with honors. During her undergrad, Mrs. Obluda was hired to teach the inaugural classes of beginning violin, for the non-profit, early childhood organization, "The Union Colony Children's Music Academy," and was also the interim orchestra director at Greeley West High School during the 2007-2008 school year. It was through these two opportunities that Mrs. Obluda began to flourish as an educator in Northern Colorado.

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Currently, Mrs. Obluda is in her 14th year of instrumental music instruction at Leshar Middle School in the Poudre School District. While at Leshar, Mrs. Obluda has directed many ensembles that have received Superior Ratings at various regional and state-level festivals. In addition, under her direction, The Leshar Advanced Chamber Orchestra was part of an elite group of ensembles that received an invitation to perform at the 2020 Yamaha “Music For All National Festival” in Indianapolis, IN. Of the seven ensembles selected to perform, the Leshar Advanced Chamber Orchestra was the ONLY Middle School ensemble given this great honor; all of the other groups were high school orchestras. In addition to National recognition, the Advanced Chamber Orchestra performed at last year’s 2022 CMEA conference as an Honor Performing Group, which marked their third invitation to be a featured ensemble at CMEA.

Mrs. Obluda is immediate past-president of the Colorado Chapter of ASTA and lives in Fort Collins, Colorado with her husband, Dan. Loni and Dan are both proud to be music educators, UNC Alumni, and are even more honored to be a part of the well-established tradition of excellence in music education, in the Poudre School District/ Northern CO Community.



Sarah Off

Violinist Sarah Off has established herself as an innovative and passionate performer and educator. Her performances have been described as “receiving rapturous reception” (The Times – London) “brilliant and seamless with great focus” (AZ State Press) and “intuitively talented” (Bridge Initiative). Her diverse and multi-faceted performance career have included collaborations and performances with the Arizona Contemporary Music Ensemble, Oh My Ears New Music Festival, Epik Dance Company, Tempe Center for the Arts Theater Company, Crested Butte Music Festival, the Brentano and Orion

String Quartets among many others. In addition to her performance career, Sarah currently serves as Assistant Professor of Violin and Music Business and Director of the Center for Arts Entrepreneurship at the University of Northern Colorado. As an educator, Sarah works to ensure students enter the field of music as fully equipped, well-rounded, skilled musicians and entrepreneurs. She aims to provide a solid understanding and command of their instrument and musicianship, balanced with expertise in entrepreneurship and business savvy.



Charles Oldenkamp

Charles Oldenkamp is pursuing a Ph.D. in Music Education from the University of Colorado Boulder as the MacFerran Doctoral Fellow. At CU, Charles has worked with the Center for Teaching and Learning, served as the lead graduate coordinator for the CU Middle School Ensembles program, and taught several undergraduate music education courses. Previously, performance. He has presented at the NAIME Biennial Conference, Suncoast Music Education Research Symposium, Colorado Music Educators Association Conference, Iowa Music Educators Association Conference, the Iowa Bandmasters Association Conference, and the Northeast Iowa Bandmasters annual meeting. Charles holds a Master of Music from Colorado State University in conducting with an emphasis in music education and a Bachelor of Arts in music education from Augustana University in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

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Kelly A. Parkes

Dr. Parkes joins us from the Music Education Department of the College of Music, University of Colorado, Boulder. Her primary research interests are in music and music education assessment; measuring musical learning within K-12 settings and the applied studio; teaching readiness, professional dispositions and reflective practices in pre-service teachers; as well as teaching effectiveness and teaching quality. Her research contributions to the profession include over 40 publications in blind peer-reviewed refereed journals or blind peer-reviewed conference proceedings. In addition to 8 invited book chapters and 2 co-edited books, she has made over 100 presentations at state, national, and international conferences, presenting research across the United States, Australia, Canada, the UK, Italy, Germany, and Taiwan. Based on her expertise, she has been invited to give over 40 keynotes, professional workshops, plenary talks, and professional development seminars to K-12 teachers and colleagues at the university level throughout the United States.



Becky Paschke

Becky Paschke was the former Instrumental Music Director at D'Evelyn Jr/Sr High School in Denver, CO. Under Paschke's direction, her ensembles have multiple state marching band titles and superior ratings at festivals. In 2021, the D'Evelyn Marching Band was selected to perform in the Presidential Parade

Across America for the Inauguration Ceremony. Becky is the current President for the Colorado

Bandmasters Association. Paschke was recognized as one of Yamaha's 40 Under 40 Music Educators in 2020. She also was inducted into the Blue Knights Hall of Fame in 2021. She is currently an Activity Director and Assistant Principal at Conifer High School. Becky performs in the Denver Broncos Stampede.



Seth Pendergast

Seth Pendergast is an Assistant Professor of Music Education at Colorado State University where he teaches courses in vocal music education, creativity and technology, graduate music education courses, and choral ensembles. He studies motivation and participation in the music classroom and his most recent scholarship includes publications in the *Journal of Research in Music Education*, *Music Educators Journal*, *Choral Journal*, and *Update: Applications of Research in Music Education*.



Kris Pierce

Kris Pierce retired from Dist. 6 in 2020 after 31 years, most recently serving as Director of Choral Music and Elementary Music Specialist at Chappelow K-8 Arts Magnet School. Her middle school choir, the Treble Rebels, made two appearances at CMEA and multiple students were chosen for the Colorado Middle All-State Choir from its inception to 2020. For the past 27 years, Kris has served as a conductor of the Greeley Children's Chorale who have been chosen to perform at CMEA several times. She was a guest conductor for the Fort Collins All-City Elementary Choir and the Brighton Middle School Honor Choir as well as other regional honor choirs. Kris holds a Bachelor of Music Education with a vocal emphasis, a Masters degree in Elementary Education and received her Orff Certification from the University

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of Northern Colorado. She is currently an adjunct professor for the elementary music methods class at UNC. She has been the music director for many musicals, most recently the Greeley Stampede Troupe's rendition of *Suessical Jr.* She has conducted several church choirs and currently serves as choir director for St. Patrick's Presbyterian Church in Greeley. In her spare time she sings with the Greeley Chorale and loves to hang out with her husband Larry and their 5 grandkids as well as her 5 kids (Nana is her favorite job!).



Ryan Plakorus

Ryan Plakorus is the Vocal Music Director at Wheat Ridge High School where he is currently the director of 4 choirs, and producer of the fall play and spring musical. He is also

a Tri-M Chapter sponsor.

Mr. Plakorus graduated from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, CO where he studied Music Education with a Vocal/Piano/General Emphasis. There Mr. Plakorus was the inaugural recipient of the Greeley Chorale Conducting Scholarship and participated in many choirs and productions while at UNC. In addition, he also traveled to Germany where he performed roles and in the chorus with Opera Classica Europa. He loves connecting with others and learning and growing with the students through music. Mr. Plakorus loves to watch TV, read, be with friends and family, and take trips to the mountains. He also loves choir, and loves to sing as he is a professional singer at Holy Ghost Catholic Church.



Samantha Post

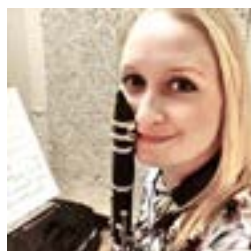
Sam Post has been teaching at Miller Middle School in Durango for the last five years. She is a long-standing

attendee of CMEA, graduating from Colorado State University. Post began teaching middle school flutes when she was in high school and discovered a talent in instruction. She has taught a myriad of classes from instrumental band, to choir, to production, and more. Post has doubled the size of her band program twice in her time at Miller through the pandemic. At her school, Post has troubleshooted the auditorium lighting and sound equipment back to a functioning system, and single-handedly returned talent shows to the school. Under the direction of Post, the Miller band and choir have received Superior ratings at Music in the Parks Festivals for the first time.



Megan Quilliam

Megan is currently pursuing a PhD in Ethnomusicology at CU. She received a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Sydney's Conservatorium of Music in 2012. Her doctoral research takes her back to her home country of South Africa quite often. She has worked for CU Presents since 2016.



Gentry Ragsdale

Gentry Ragsdale is a music education doctoral student at the University of Colorado Boulder.

She earned a Master's degree in clarinet performance from the University of North Texas and a Bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Texas at Arlington. Ms. Ragsdale taught grade 6-12 band in north Texas for nine years prior to attending CU Boulder, where she teaches woodwind methods and introduction to student teaching courses.

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Kathleen Raphael

Ms. Raphael is not only a champion of the Arts, but she is also passionate about data-driven instruction. She began her career in District 38 teaching reading intervention with

a drive for reaching struggling students. She later embraced opportunities to teach AP English classes, mentor fellow teachers, coach field hockey, and serve in technology leadership roles. Prior to joining the staff at Pine Creek in 2021, she was an Assistant Principal in Widefield District 3 where she focused on curriculum and assessment.

Kathleen believes that music education is strongly correlated with academic achievement and strongly encouraged her own two children's musical endeavors, both choir and band, throughout their K-12 journeys. Music is a part of her family: her husband plays in the pit band for two high schools, her daughter has a BA in music, her mother continues to play clarinet for New Horizons Band, and her mother-in-law is a well-known jazz pianist. For her, "music is the soul of life," and she regularly has a music track playing in the background of her mind. Outside of school hours you'll find Ms. Raphael and her husband exploring the world through travel, cycling, attending music festivals, or reveling in activities of a multigenerational home.



David Rickels

David A. Rickels is Associate Professor of Music Education at the University of Colorado Boulder. His diverse teaching background includes a range of settings from kindergarten

through college, including high school concert and marching bands, elementary beginning band and general music, and college music education methods courses. Dr. Rickels has served as the national Chair

of the Society for Music Teacher Education (SMTE), and also is a current member of the editorial board of the Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education. His own research has appeared in major journals, in addition to presentations at national and international conferences. Dr. Rickels holds graduate degrees in music education from Arizona State University.



Anna Robinson

Anna Robinson has been a music teacher for 14 years and currently teaches K-5 General Music and Choir at Padilla Elementary School in Brighton, CO. She previously taught for 10 years in Telluride R-1

School district as preK-3rd General Music Teacher. Anna received her Master's of Music degree from Colorado State University where she also earned her Kodály levels 1-3, and also completed Orff-Schulwerk levels 1-3 at The University of Northern Colorado. Anna served on the CMEA General Music Council for 4 years as a District 7 representative and now as District 2 rep. She has also served as a board member for the Four Corners chapter of AOSA. Additionally, she will be serving as "secretary-elect" for the Regional Organization of Colorado Kodály Educators. Anna also directs the "Prima Voce" ensemble of the Boulder Children's Chorale.

Outside of teaching, Anna has been a company member and vocal director of the Telluride Theatre Company. She has also sung with the Telluride Choral Society, and in a small quartet called "The Jeweltones". Anna also enjoys going to the gym, hiking, skiing, and watching sports.

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Jess Rushing

Jess Rushing, Ph.D., MT-BC, earned her Bachelor and Master of Music in Music Therapy from the Florida State University. Dr. Rushing received her Doctorate in Rehabilitation Sciences from the University of Kentucky. She has worked

clinically with all ages from premature infants to end-of-life with considerable experience in medical, private practice, and mental health. Dr. Rushing's research interests include music therapy in acute post-stroke care, music therapy supervision using Self-Determination Theory, and community engagement. In addition to teaching and research, she has previously owned a private practice and supervised the UofL Music Therapy Clinic. She is a Fellow of the National Institute of Infant and Child Medical Music Therapy and has completed training in Neurologic Music Therapy. Dr. Rushing is currently the chair elect of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine (ACRM) Arts and Neuroscience Networking Group and has served the American Music Therapy Association as a past chair of the Interprofessional Collaborative Resource Committee and on the Assembly of Delegates. She enjoys continuing to be an active clinician..



Mike Scott

Mike Scott is an avid performer and adjudicator, has been singing and performing for over 30 years, and has earned a reputation as a leading music

educator in the Pacific Northwest. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree in Choral Music Education from Central Washington University, where he sang in the prestigious CWU Chamber Choir under Dr. Gary Weidenaar and nationally acclaimed CWU Vocal Jazz 1 under Vijay Singh.

Mike earned his Masters in Choral Conducting

from Western Washington University studying with Dr. Angela Kasper and Professor Tim Fitzpatrick and has reinstated and reinvigorated the vocal jazz program at WWU. He has had the great opportunity to perform with many great vocal jazz icons including Bobby McFerrin, Nancy King, John Pizzarelli, Sara Gazarek and Josh Nelson, and more. A musician on the side as well, he performed in a professional vocal jazz group named Last Call directed by Kelly Kunz (from Groove For Thought). As an educator, Mike has presented at National and Regional NAFME, ACDA and JEN conferences, taught middle, high, and collegiate ensembles, and has directed numerous traditional and jazz honor choirs throughout North America. His ensembles have consistently earned top honors and have performed at both state and regional conferences. Mike is currently the Director of Choral/Vocal Studies at Columbia Basin College and is in demand as an adjudicator and retreat clinician for secondary and collegiate vocal ensembles. He resides in West Richland, WA with his wife Angela, his daughter Penny, his son Ollie, and his lovely old lady cat, Agnes.



Richard Shaw

Richard Shaw graduated from the University of Colorado, Boulder and has been a music educator for over 35 years. His bands were consistent award winners and were selected to perform at the Colorado Music Educators Conference on 6

occasions. Under his direction, the marching band at Air Academy High School was state champion 3 times, 12 time regional champions and performed in the Tournament of Roses Parade and the Miami King Orange Parade. Mr. Shaw is a Past-President of the Colorado Music Educators Association. Richard is in the Colorado Bandmasters and CMEA Hall of Fame and received the Phi Beta Mu Outstanding Bandmaster Award, Pikes Peak Music Educators Hall of Fame, Alumnus of the Year, University of

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Colorado College of Music. He is in constant demand locally and nationally as an adjudicator and clinician. Mr. Shaw currently serves as the Colorado Bandmasters Chairman of Marching Affairs.



Marianna Simpson

Marianna Parnas-Simpson graduated with a Master's Degree in Choral Conducting from the St. Petersburg State Conservatory, Russia. She founded the award-winning St. Petersburg Girls' Choir

Kamerton, which she directed for ten years before coming to the United States.

Since 1999 Mrs. Simpson has taught at Parker Elementary School, a Houston ISD magnet school for music, where she created the choral program that grew from 30 to 250 students, grade 1-5. In 2005 she was named Teacher of the Year.

In 2006, Ms. Simpson founded the Treble Choir of Houston, a youth ensemble for young women, grade 6-12, whose mission is Helping Young Women Find Their Voice.

From 2008 to 2010 Ms. Simpson served as the Artistic Director of the American Boychoir summer program in Princeton, New Jersey.

Marianna's choirs have been selected to perform at many prestigious National and International Festivals and Conventions, including International Choral Festival Kathaumixw, American Choral Directors Association National Convention, Texas Music Educators Conventions, Organization of American Kodaly Educators and American Guild of Organists Conventions. Her choirs were winners of the American Prize National Competition (Youth Choir Division), were featured in Carnegie Hall and performed with the Houston Symphony Orchestra. Mrs. Simpson is in high demand as a clinician and guest conductor, offering masterclasses in United States and abroad. Her recent appointment was

Children's Choir Conductor and Clinician for Organization of the American Kodaly Educators national convention. Additionally, she is a founding member of the Grammy © award-winning Houston Chamber Choir and has recorded six internationally distributed CD's. The recent recording, *Circlersong*, which featured Houston Chamber Choir and the Treble Choir of Houston, Marianna appeared in dual role: as the singer and conductor. Marianna is married to internationally recognized choral conductor, Robert Simpson.



Mackie 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.

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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.



Eric Stacks

Eric Stacks retired from full-time teaching in Adams 12 Five Star Schools in 2021. He holds bachelor and master degrees in music, but more importantly holds grandchildren, Raelynn and Kinsley, earning the title of “Papa”. Having previously taught elementary, middle, and high school music in Colorado for 21 years, he continues to teach private voice and enjoys adjudicating choirs in Colorado, Oklahoma, and Kansas. He supports the Theatre Department at Legacy High School as Technical Director, Set Designer/Builder, and Orchestra Pit Conductor.



Karen Stacks

Karen Stacks is the Director of Choral Studies and Theatre at Legacy High School in Broomfield, CO where she conducts the Legacy Chorus, Advanced Treble Choir, Concert Choir, and Twilight Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Legacy

choral ensembles under her direction have performed at CMEA, Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, the Apollo, Staten Island College Freedom Festival, the Disney Jazz Festival, and the Winter Park Music Festival. Mrs. Stacks has been honored to be guest clinician for the Adams 12 and Adams 50 Middle School Honor Choirs, and adjudicator at the Colorado West Invitational Music Festival, and Large Group Music Festivals in Colorado, Kansas, and Oklahoma. Legacy choral en-

sembles have consistently received “I” ratings at the CHSAA Large Group Festival, CHSAA Vocal Jazz Festival, and the UNC Jazz Festival since Mrs. Stacks undertook leadership in 2001. Theatrically, Mrs. Stacks sponsors Thespian Troupe #7654 and directs all plays and the spring musical involving over 100 students including a live student orchestra. Legacy’s production of Harvey was honored to perform as a Main Stage Show at the 2018 Colorado State Thespian Conference in addition to the production of “Bad Auditions On Camera” being selected for the 2020 Digital Thespian Conference Mainstage. Mrs. Stacks holds a Master of Music degree from SBTs with choral studies under such nationally known conductors as Dr. Milburn Price and Dr. John Dickson, and drama under Mozelle Clark Sherman. She also holds Music Education degrees from Southwest Baptist University and Missouri State University as well as an endorsement in Theater Education. Mrs. Stacks currently serves on the CHSAA Music committee and was formerly the Membership Chair for the Colorado ACDA.



Robert Stahly

Engaged in every aspect of music, Robert Stahly is an award-winning Northern Colorado-based musician. As an educator Mr. Stahly has taught instrumental music for over a decade. While serving as Director of Orchestras

at Longmont High School from 2009-2022, Stahly grew the orchestra program to over triple its size while at the same time increasing the quality and diversity of the ensembles. The LHS Chamber Orchestra consistently ranks as one of the top high school orchestras in Colorado and was selected to perform at the Colorado Music Educators Conference in 2016. In 2016 Stahly was recognized as one of the top six educators in the St. Vrain Valley School District with an “Encore Award” and in 2019 Stahly was a finalist for “Teacher of the Year”. He created the

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Music Technology and Stage Technology classes. In 2014 he took over the AP Music Theory class.

Outside of the classroom, Stahly spent eleven years working with the Loveland High School Marching Band in a variety of capacities: Tuba Instructor, Assistant Director, Sound Engineer, and Lead Visual Instructor. He is the conductor of the Longmont Youth Symphony String Ensemble, the Denver Young Artists Orchestra String Ensemble, and is a frequent guest conductor and clinician.

As an instrumentalist Stahly has performed in six countries with a variety of ensembles playing cello, tuba, and bass. Most recently he was appointed Associate Principal Cellist of the Longmont Symphony, having previously being a member of the section. Stahly freelances with other ensembles in the area, and has appeared on several recordings.

A 2008 graduate of Colorado State University, Stahly received degrees in Music Education, Tuba Performance, and a String Pedagogy Certificate. Since then, he has continued to study at programs such as the CU Conducting Workshop, Conductors Institute at Bard College, MSU Conducting Symposium, Eastman School of Music Conducting Workshop, and CCM's Opera Bootcamp.



Michele Starcher

Michele teaches music to elementary students at Thomas MacLaren School in Colorado Springs. She holds a Master of Music Education Degree with Kodaly Certification

from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. She has a Bachelor's of Music Education Degree from the Ohio State University. She has taught elementary music most of her career and her passion is empowering students to be independent musicians.



Ryan Sullivan

Ryan W. Sullivan is the Director of Choral Activities, Coordinator of Vocal Studies, and Assistant Professor of Music at Arkansas State University. He conducts the flagship-ensemble Concert Choir, Jonesboro Chorale, and Singing Statesmen. He teaches coursework

in conducting and music education, and serves as an advisor to students in all three of the university's undergraduate music degrees.

Prior to his time at A-State, Sullivan was the Associate Conductor for the Dallas Symphony Chorus and served as the conductor of the UNT Collegium Singers and Baroque Orchestra. He has worked with children's and youth choirs at the Music-Arts Institute of Kansas City and at churches where he served as Music Director.

Sullivan has served as an invited clinician for honor choirs and choral festivals in Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Texas, and Portugal. As a Fellow for the ACDA International Conductor Exchange in Germany, he was an instructor and lecturer at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Stuttgart and the Hochschule für Kirchenmusik in Rottenburg. His credits as a baritone soloist and in professional choral ensembles include the Santa Fe Desert Chorale, San Antonio Chamber Choir, The Cecilia Ensemble (GA), Spire Chamber Ensemble, Boston Early Music Festival, and Austin Baroque Orchestra.

Sullivan serves as current Past-President for the Southwestern Region of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). He holds a Doctor of Music Arts from the University of North Texas, a Master of Music from Texas Tech University, and undergraduate degrees in Music Education and Vocal Performance from the University of Missouri – Kansas City Conservatory of Music. His principal

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conducting teachers have been Allen Hightower, Rick Bjella, Richard Sparks, and Joshua Habermann.



Kalinda Theobold

Kalinda Theobold is a music director in Grand Junction, CO where she has lived her whole life. She is proud to be a part of the leadership team for CMEA. She has served on the

General Music Council for two years as the District 7 rep, two years as the chair-elect, and now she is honored to step into the role of chair. She is looking forward to working with her fellow music educators to help continue the incredible legacy of CMEA as an organization.



Jerry Tolson

Jerry Tolson is professor of jazz studies and music education at the University of Louisville. He chairs the De-

partment of Academic/Professional Studies, directs jazz ensembles, and teaches jazz pedagogy, jazz history, and African American Music classes. Tolson's articles have appeared in *Music Educator's Journal*, *Jazz Educator's Journal*, *The Journal of Jazz Studies*, and *The Instrumentalist*, and he has contributed to *Teaching Music Through Performance in Jazz*, *Jazz Pedagogy: The Jazz Educator's Handbook and Resource Guide*, and *The Jazzer's Cookbook: Creative Recipes for Players and Teachers*. He's also authored *The Jazz Commandments: Guidelines for Jazz Style* (Excelcia/Kendor) and *African American Music: History and Heritage* (Kendall-Hunt).

Tolson has recorded five CDs, *Nu View*, *Back at the Track*, *Late Night Cruise*, *Black Sand Beach*, and *Fresh Squeezed*, and has worked with artists Delfeayo Marsalis, Antonio Hart, Don Braden, Rufus Reid, and Benny Golson and has appeared in Europe, Barbados, Brazil, and Trinidad.



Samantha Torres

Samantha Torres, music educator, is pursuing a Master of Music Education degree at the University of Colorado Boulder. She received her Bachelor

of Music in Music Education degree from the University of the Philippines Diliman, is a licensed professional teacher in the Philippines, and has worked as a Music teacher at the Ateneo de Manila University. While teaching in Ateneo, she also earned her Kodály Methodology and Choral Techniques certificate.

Her research interests include general music education, inclusive education, and social justice in music education.



Ryan Unangst

Ryan Unangst is a Colorado native, and an Educational Music Technology Specialist for Romeo Music. As a kind of 'Jack of all trades' he's taught

elementary general music, middle school modern bands, digital music production, musical theater, and High School marching band percussion and technology. Having a diverse blend as a teacher, performer, and clinician has given him a unique lens into the application of technology in classroom and ensemble settings, and how it can best serve the development of students and educators alike. Since starting with Romeo Music, Ryan has specialized in Live Audio production and integration, and has presented on live-audio best practices at conferences and professional development sessions across the country.

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Wanda Vásquez García

Wanda Vásquez García is a general music educator, choir director, author of “From Across the Street/Del otro lado de la calle”, advocate, and clinician. A native of the Dominican Republic currently living

in Colorado, she holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education from the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, the first University on the American Continent, and a Master’s Degree in Music Education with an emphasis on choral music from the University of Northern Colorado. Wanda is also a Chorister Guild Institute Alumn.

Currently, she is the general music teacher at the Escuela Bilingüe Pioneer in Lafayette, Colorado, and a Co-Coordinator Choral Database for the Institute for Composer Diversity.

As a K-5 music educator, she believes music is a very effective way to create connections and build bridges promoting the uniqueness and self-expression of each individual in the classroom. As an author, she embraces the power of a story in order to connect with one’s own roots and the diversity around us. She is passionate about the importance of increasing diversity and representation in music education from a culturally relevant, responsive, and sustaining lens. Music education should engage the learners in ways that are fun, meaningful, and inclusive in order to embrace each other with respect, tolerance, justice, and a sense of belonging.

Wanda has presented clinics and reading sessions promoting multicultural music, Dominican folk music, culturally responsive teaching, and music technology in the elementary classroom at Colorado ACDA, CMEA, NafME Easter Division, FABSS, and Little Kids Rock Modern Band Summit.



Javier Vinasco

Colombian/Mexican clarinetist
Javier Vinasco has specialized

in the performance of Latin American music, an effort which is available in his 20 solo albums, one of them which was nominated to the Latin Grammy. In his performances as soloist with relevant Latin American orchestras, as well as in recitals in Japan, Europe, and the Americas, he has performed multiple premieres by Latin American composers, including several works dedicated to him.

In 2020, he founded Clarinete Mestizo, an educational digital platform to promote the music for clarinet from Latin America. Mr. Vinasco earned a Doctorate in Music from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. He is the Colombian National Chairperson at the International Clarinet Association and a Yamaha, Cero Records and Légère Reeds Artist.

As a professor, Dr. Vinasco has taught at prestigious universities in Colombia and Mexico, has given masterclasses in several universities in the USA and Latin America, and in 2023 he joined the University of Northern Colorado as Associate Professor, Director of the Bachelor of Arts in Latinx Music.



Kirk Vogel

Kirk Vogel spent his entire music education career involved with Colorado schools including teaching assignments at Palisade Jr/Sr High School, Bayfield Middle and High School and Heath Junior High/Heath Middle School in Greeley. During his career

he taught band, orchestra, choir and jazz band. In retirement Kirk continues to be active as a composer, guest conductor, adjudicator and an educator/clinician. He was inducted into the Colorado Music Educators Hall of Fame at the 2020 CMEA state

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convention.

Mr. Vogel has also had a successful career as a composer of band and orchestra music, being published by Kjos Music, Alfred Music, Grand Mesa Music, Southern Music and his own company, WI Music (Wilderness Impressions Music). His compositions Kokopelli, Three Waters Mountain, Escalante, and Perseids were the winning entries in the CMEA Composers Competition in 1993, 1996, 1998, and 2000. His compositions have been performed at state music conventions, the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, the National Flute Association Convention and the American School Band Directors Association National Convention.

He resides in Greeley, CO, with his wife, Susan. They have two grown daughters. On his free days he loves to spend time with his family hiking, biking, skiing or photographing nature.



Luke Wachter

Luke Wachter is an educator and musician from Denver, CO. He holds degrees in music education and percussion performance from the Metropolitan State University of Denver.

Luke was a founding teacher at Kunsmiller Creative Arts Academy, a public arts magnet school in Denver Public Schools where he taught instrumental and general music and Career and Technical Education. Luke's teaching focus is on access, culturally responsive education, creativity, and aesthetic thinking. He has served on the Colorado State Music Standards Review Committee and is the education chair of the Playground Ensemble. Currently, Luke is the Associate Director for Educational Initiatives at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Denver. He has also performed extensively as a drummer and percussionist in both the Denver Metro Area and Vancouver, BC, Canada. His current projects include The Playground Ensemble, improvised minimalist percussion group Perc Ens, and creative

music project Handhold an Android.



Rachel Waddell

With energy, imagination, and a passion for people, American conductor Rachel Waddell

proves an unabashed advocate for the 21st-century orchestra. Prior to Colorado State University, she served as director of orchestral activities, and assistant professor with the Arthur Satz Department of Music at the University of Rochester in New York. The UR orchestras gained recognition as a two-time national winner of the American Prize's Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award in Orchestral Programming in 2019 and 2020. In 2021, they won international acclaim in collaboration with conducting colleague Tiffany Chang and Oberlin Conservatory through a digital performance of Beethoven's Choral Fantasy, named Best Instrumental Performance of 2021 by the LIT Talent Awards. Rachel maintains a busy profile in the professional and academic worlds. She has conducted the Rochester, Las Vegas, and Fort Wayne Philharmonics, the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, and Cleveland's Suburban Symphony. As associate conductor of the Canton Symphony Orchestra in Ohio, Rachel conducted more than 80 performances of classical, pops, and education concerts. She has attended numerous conducting programs including the Dallas Opera's prestigious Hart Institute for Women Conductors, and Mark Shapiro's Conducting Intensive at Juilliard. She recently made her Vienna debut conducting *Così fan tutte* as part of the Vienna Opera Academy, and in Summer 2023, she studied with Yannick Nézet-Séguin and Kensho Watanabe at Le Domaine Forget Charlevoix. Rachel co-founded Conductors for Change, Inc., a 501(c)(3) for anyone reimagining the future of the American orchestra.

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Kathy Ward

Kathy loves music and sharing it with others. As a child growing up in Maine she shared a lot of music in a musically active church, home and school system (Bangor, Maine). Her secondary education includes a Bachelor in Sacred Music from Central Bible College, Springfield, MO, Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Maine and Masters of Music Education with Kodály emphasis from Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Her teaching experience includes teaching K-12 general and vocal music in Maine for seven years and general music in Pueblo D70 for 23 years. She has taught private and group piano, private and group voice, and Kindermusik lessons. In addition, she has enjoyed many years as a church musician (accompanying and directing a variety of choirs) and as an accompanist for schools, festivals, workshops, churches and most recently Bella Prima Musica, a multi leveled community choir program in Pueblo. She is the former president of the Maine ACDA, served several years on the CMEA General Music Council, and as a “member at large” on the ROCKE board. She represented early childhood music educators on the CDE Music Standards revisions committee of 2020. The blessings of her family include her husband of 38 years, 3 adult children, 2 in laws and her precious grandchildren.



Max Waters

Max is a licensed K-12 music educator located in Denver, CO. His passion is using the music of today to connect us with music of the past and he teaches students to play instruments, sing, and create music using software to help them find identity and passion through art and collaboration.



Kim Watkins

Kim Watkins completed dual master's degrees in music education and in vocal performance at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her professional experience includes 29 years of secondary choral teaching in Colorado and in North Carolina public school systems. During her graduate studies at the University of Colorado, Mrs. Watkins advanced as a finalist in voice competitions sponsored by the Denver Lyric Opera Guild and the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Additionally, she appeared as Madame Lidoine in Dialogues of the Carmelites, and as Gianetta in L'Elisir d'Amore. She also served as conductor of the University Women's Choir and as an instructor for various music education courses. Mrs. Watkins has been a soloist with The Arvada Chorale, The Boulder Chorale and The Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra (through a Boulder Chorale collaboration). She has adjudicated the undergraduate vocal competition at CU Boulder, as well as vocal competitions by the Longmont Chorale and the Saint Vrain Valley School District. Mrs. Watkins is the Founding Director of The Boulder Children's Chorale, which launched in 2010. In 2013 and in 2016, Mrs. Watkins was selected as an Encore Award Finalist by the St. Vrain Valley Education Foundation. In 2014, Mrs. Watkins received The Saint Vrain Valley Superintendent's Excellence in Education award. In 2023, Mrs. Watkins Altona Middle School Show Choir was selected as a performing group at CMEA.



Krissie Weimer

Dr. Kristina (Krissie) Weimer is an assistant professor at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, specializing in instrumental music education. She earned degrees in Music Education from West

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Virginia University (B.S., M.M.) and The Pennsylvania State University (Ph.D.). Her PK-12 teaching experiences include middle school band and general music, elementary general music, early childhood music, and elementary special education. She has presented at multiple state, national, and international conferences on a variety of topics including sound before sight pedagogies, creativity and improvisation, teacher wellness, recruiting and retaining students, teaching music with autoimmune disease and chronic illness, student practice habits, effective modeling strategies, and presence. Her research focuses on music teacher mentoring and professional development. She has published in *Visions of Research in Music Education*, *General Music Today*, *Update: Applications of Research in Music Education*, *Contributions to Music Education*, and *Journal of Music Teacher Education*. She is an active member of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA), Instrumental Music Teacher Educators (IMTE), and Society for Music Teacher Educators (SMTE) where she serves as co-facilitator of the Music Teacher Educators: Recruitment, Preparation, and Professional Development Areas of Strategic Planning and Action (ASPA).



Nat Wickham

Nat Wickham is a dynamic trombonist who enjoys a career as a classical and jazz solo artist, recording artist, clinician, adjudicator and educator, and performs throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. Currently,

he is Professor of Music at the University of Northern Colorado.

Wickham's work as a jazz artist encompasses the entire spectrum in the genre. Having been resident jazz trombonist and trombone pedagogue at Jazz en Vercors in France, he has toured France on four occasions, performing in major jazz venues and conducting educational workshops. He is currently lead trombonist and jazz soloist in the Colorado Jazz Orchestra, and is in demand as a jazz trombonist throughout the United

States. For six years he was lead trombonist and soloist in the Bob Curnow Big Band and has performed with the Woody Herman Orchestra, Natalie Cole, the Nelson Riddle Orchestra, and numerous other jazz artists. As a classical artist he performs a wide variety of solo repertoire in recitals and is frequently featured as guest soloist with professional, university and high school orchestras and wind bands. He was the first-ever soloist with the Ensemble Henri Tomasi in Marseille, France for their inaugural concert in 2014. In addition to his solo career, he is principal trombonist with the Greeley Philharmonic Orchestra, trombonist with the Denver Municipal Band and the Fort Collins Symphony, and has performed with the Colorado Symphony, Colorado Ballet, Rochester Philharmonic, Colorado Music Festival, Spokane Symphony, and Boulder Philharmonic Orchestras, and the Boulder Brass.



Lindsey Wilhelm

Lindsey Wilhelm, Ph.D., is an associate professor of Music Therapy at Colorado State University, an affiliate of the Columbine Health Systems Center for

Healthy Aging, and a member of the Sound Health Network. As a board-certified music therapist, her research examines how music and music-based approaches support older adults and the aging process, and topics relevant to the education and clinical training of music therapy students.



André Wilkins

André Wilkins is the current music and theatre director at Salida High School in Salida, CO. He earned his B.A. in Music Education from Western Colorado University in 2007 and his

M.M. in Music Education from Adams State University in 2014. André has been a Colorado public school music teacher for the past 14 years in Salida and on the Western Slope. He has been invited to guest conduct honor bands all over the state as well as clinic a variety

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of performance ensembles. He has served four terms on the CMEA board as the district 6 representative and has presented at CMEA three times. When André isn't teaching he enjoys spending time with his wife Cailey and daughter Dilse. He also enjoys disc golfing, mountain biking, tele skiing, and fly fishing (well getting on the river in general).



Michael Willen

Colonel Michael James Willen is Commander of the United States Air Force Academy Band, Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado. He is responsible for organizing, training, equipping and deploying

60 Airmen in 10 different musical configurations throughout a nine-state region of more than 869,000 square miles in addition to supporting the U.S. Air Force Academy's recruiting mission throughout the 48 contiguous states. The band performs over 400 missions annually that support U.S. Air Force and U.S. Air Force Academy outreach and engagement priorities to increase public understanding of the importance of airpower, the dedication and sacrifice of Airmen, and to build relationships that enhance the reputation of the Air Force as a respected, professional organization charged with an integral role in maintaining U.S. national security, and the Fort Collins Symphony, and has performed with the Colorado Symphony, Colorado Ballet, Rochester Philharmonic, Colorado Music Festival, Spokane Symphony, and Boulder Philharmonic Orchestras, and the Boulder Brass.



Graeme Winder

Graeme Winder is the CEO / Founder of Keys & Kingdoms. With over 20+ years of teaching research and experience,

he has dedicated his life to finding new ways to bring music learning to all students using the power

of technology and gaming. Graeme is also the author of the SRM method.

College of Music Outstanding Alumnus, and is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association. He was the Phi Beta Mu "Most Outstanding Band Director" in 2017, inducted into the Colorado Bandmasters Hall of Fame in 2018, and the CMEA Hall of Fame in 2020.



Julia Wirth

Julia Wirth is currently the Director of Vocal Music at Clear Creek Middle School and High School in Evergreen, CO. For the last five years, she

has focused on building proper vocal technique and a passion for singing in her performers. She received her bachelor's degree in Music Education with a choral emphasis from the University of Colorado Boulder and holds her masters from the University of Northern Colorado in Education Curriculum Studies and Instruction. As a teacher she values relationship building, collaboration and respect. She believes in creating student leaders and works to ensure her students become self-sufficient musicians and people. When she isn't in the classroom, she is performing around the metro area and has recently been the featured soprano soloist in Mozart's Requiem, Arnesen's Magnificat and Forrest's Requiem. Ms. Wirth loves spending time in the mountains and hiking with her dogs.



Arjen Wynja

Arjen Wynja is a second-year music education student at Colorado State University. Arjen is vice-president of CSU's CNAfME chapter and has been involved in the CSU Middle School Outreach Ensembles as the assistant social

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justice coordinator and brass teaching artist. With a primary instrument of trumpet, Arjen has played in multiple CSU ensembles including the Wind Symphony, Jazz Ensembles, and CSU Marching Band. He is also a member of the CSU Honors Program and serves on the CSU Music Student Advisory Council. Arjen believes in developing the art and craft of lifelong musicianship and enjoyment of music in any music education setting. A native of Lyons, Colorado, Arjen enjoys gardening and spending time in the beautiful outdoors.



F. Jackson Yonce

Jack Yonce is a freelance music educator, conductor, adjudicator and musician, having retired in May 2018 after twenty one years as Director of Bands at Cheyenne Mountain High School and

twenty-eight years in public school music education. Groups under Mr. Yonce's direction have been selected to perform at the Colorado Music Educator's Association Annual Convention thirteen times, to the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival three times, and have performed three times in Carnegie Hall and in the Kennedy Center and Dallas Meyerson Center.

Jack is a past president of the Colorado chapter of Phi Beta Mu and the Colorado Bandmasters Association; he currently serves the C.B.A. as Chairman of Concert Band Activities. Mr. Yonce has been named a Cheyenne Mountain High School Teacher of the Year twice, a Gateway High School "Unique Teacher of the Year", a University of Colorado-Boulder College of Music Outstanding Alumnus, and is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association. Jack was the Phi Beta Mu "Most Outstanding Band Director" in 2017, inducted into the Colorado Bandmasters Hall of Fame in 2018, and the CMEA Hall of Fame in 2020.



Zoe Zanoloff

Zoe Zanoloff is a Master of Music Education student at Colorado State University. During her time at CSU, Zoe has worked as a graduate teaching assistant and served CSU CNAfME as the general music representative. This summer, Zoe began pursuing her Kodály certification, which she plans to finish after graduating this spring.



Drew Zaremba

Selmer artist Drew Zaremba enjoys worldwide reputation as an award-winning writer, a passionate conductor, and fiery performer. He has composed and arranged pieces for the BBC Orchestra, the WDR and NDR Big Bands, the Vanguard Jazz Orchestra, Dallas and Memphis

Symphony Orchestras, the Metropole Orkest, the Airmen of Note, the Julliard Jazz Orchestra, Wayne Bergeron, Carmen Bradford, Dick Oatts, Randy Brecker, Larry Braggs, Jazz Melbourne, and the Pyramid Jazz Orchestra in Kanazawa, Japan.

Drew is currently the artistic director of the Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra (CJRO) and the regional artistic director of Vail Jazz. Drew joined the faculty of the award-winning University of Northern Colorado (UNC) jazz studies department in 2018 to teach jazz composition.

Drew's recent releases include "Reunion", his premiere big band album, produced by John Clatyon, and released through Outside In records in September 2023. Drew also released a jazz large ensemble EP entitled "My Mind on Quarantine", which features other new modern compositions penned by Drew. Finally, Drew is proud to serve as the artistic director of the Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra

(CJRO), who recently recorded their third album “Compared to What”, featuring funk and soul legend Larry Braggs.



Allison Zema

Allison Zema is the current Director of Choirs at Lyons Middle Senior High School, where she teaches grades six through twelve. Hailing originally from sunny southern California, she received her Master of Arts Degree with concentrations in Choral Conducting and Vocal Performance from the University of Colorado Boulder in May of 2018. Zema’s personal accomplishments include national and international choral tours as a singer and conductor to South Africa, the United Kingdom, Hungary, and Slovakia, where her women’s choir received first place in their category at the Bratislava international Youth Music Festival in 2014. In addition to her musical passions, she enjoys swing dancing, photography, and her beautiful cat, Mr. Bingley.

Handout
Materials will be
available on the
CMEA
Conference App

Please take time
to thank all the
Clinicians!



Exhibitor News

By Rick Shaw, Exhibits Chair

Hello Colorado Music Educators and our exhibitor community is extremely excited to have the 2024 conference so close to being here. There are many of our returning companies and organizations as well as a number of people joining us for the first time. Technology continues to be an area we strive to have representation from, and we are excited to have several new to CMEA this year.

A huge thank you to our counsels for again adding dedicated exhibit time to each of their schedules this year. I encourage every member to plan time to visit the exhibits and have conversations with the exhibitors that make a financial and time commitment to supporting you the teacher. If you have a performing group at the conference, we are welcoming students, parents, and guests to visit the exhibits during their conference experience.

We will again be offering the Thursday night Exhibitor Reception from 5:00-6:30. Passed appetizers will be provided as well as a free drink ticket to the first 200 that attend. This is always a fun evening and a relaxed time to visit with many exhibitors.

Check your conference program for exhibit hours and I look forward to seeing everyone pass into the Bartolin Hall for your visit.



Rick Shaw
CMEA Exhibit Chair

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ASBDA

www.asbdaband.org

Founded in 1953, the American School Band Directors Association (ASBDA) is an extremely prestigious national organization for band directors of the highest quality. The primary goal of the ASBDA is to promote the concert band as the focus of an educational curriculum which teaches music as an artistic expression.

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Ascend Performing Arts

www.ascendperformingarts.org/

Ascend Performing Arts is a multi-faceted, youth performing arts organization dedicated to elevating life performance through the pursuit of excellence in music.



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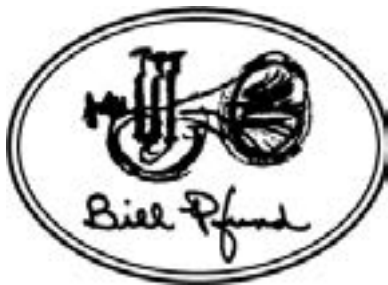
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Central City Opera Association

www.centralcityopera.org

Central City Opera is the fifth-oldest opera company in the USA. Our in-person and virtual education programs serve students, teachers, and lifelong learners around Colorado.



Colorado Bandmasters Association

www.coloradobandmasters.org

The Colorado Bandmasters Association Exists To: Promote comprehensive music education through participation and performance in band Provide support, leadership, and educational opportunities to students/directors.



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www.childrenschorale.org

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Colorado Christian University

www.ccu.edu/music

Colorado Christian University's School of Music remains committed to both the Christ-centered spiritual and musical development of our students into skilled musicians and leaders.



Colorado College Department of Music

www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/music

Colorado College welcomes students to an intensive learning environment built on community, collaboration, inclusivity, and experiential learning that prepares them for lifelong growth and leadership.



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www.music.colostate.edu

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Develop the knowledge and skills for excelling in a variety of fields. Fort Collins is a "Top 10" city, and features a thriving arts community.



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<https://www.csupueblo.edu/music/>

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TO VIEW
THE CSU MUSIC
BROCHURE



UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE DEGREE AREAS

EDUCATION | CONDUCTING | THERAPY | PERFORMANCE | COMPOSITION | JAZZ STUDIES

FULL-TIME MUSIC EDUCATION MASTERS DEGREES

M.M., Music Education | M.M., Music Education with Licensure | M.M. Music Education, Composition

INNOVATIVE ONLINE DEGREES with SHORT-TERM SUMMER RESIDENCIES

M.M., Music Education, Kodály | M.M., Music Education, Conducting | M.M., Music Therapy

SPECIALIZED GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Colorado Kodály Institute | Dalcroze-based Eurythmics Course | Graduate String Quartet Program
Opera Fort Collins Apprentice Artists | Arts Management Degree | Ph.D. in Music Therapy

ANNUAL ALL-STATE INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS

Videos help high school instrumental students prepare for upcoming auditions. Available each fall

2024 AUDITION DATES: **JAN. 20, FEB. 10, AND FEB. 17**

Undergraduate Scholarships and Graduate Assistantships Available; Registration required.

