



Western Kentucky University
Potter College of Arts & Letters
Department of Music

Symphonic Band

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The sound of water is a symphony of tranquility. It soothes the soul and calms the mind. -Water Song

Dr. Matthew McCurry, *conductor*

&

Jazz Band

Dr. Sarah Herbert, *director*

Friday, March 7, 2025 | 7:30 pm
Van Meter Hall
Bowling Green, KY

Symphonic Band

Dr. Matthew McCurry, conductor

ROSSANO GALANTE

The Falls

JOHAN DE MEIJ

Aquarium

I. *Allegretto grazioso* | II. *Andante / Adagio* | III. *Allegro giocoso*

FRANK TICHELI

Loch Lomond

JULIE GIROUX

Celestial Seas

PIERRE LA PLANTE

American Riversongs

Brief Intermission

Jazz Band

Dr. Sarah Herbert, director

Frankie and Johnny..... Traditional / arr. Richards

James Baxter, *trombone* | Micah Buckham, *trumpet* | Lukas Ford, *guitar*

Woodyn' You Dizzy Gillespie/ arr. Tomaro

Isaiah McFadden, *tenor sax* | AJ McGillivray, *drums*

Alijah Brock & Lane Bibb, *auxiliary percussion*

Europa.....Carlos Santana / arr. Richards

Isaiah McFadden, *tenor sax*

Sugar Stanley Turrentine / arr. Taylor

Chloe Packard, *trumpet* | Nate Taylor, *alto sax* | Brent Layne, *trumpet*

Anna Donovan, *piano* | Micah Buckham, *trumpet* | Sammy Wooten, *bari sax*

Trinita..... Mark Taylor

Micah Buckham, *flugelhorn*

Spin Cycle..... Alan Baylock

Isaiah McFadden, *tenor sax* | Lukas Ford, *guitar*

SYMPHONIC BAND PERSONNEL

PICCOLO

Brenna Derby ^Δ

FLUTE

Marina Chiames*
Brianna Nolan
Kiris Ray
Gayle Rushing
Olivia Booher
AJ Morris
Kara Jones Pruitt
Sydney Watson
Geni Segovia
Talia Ellis
Abigail Esters
Sylvia Dodd

OBOE

Evelyn Hansen*
Renee Garrett

BASSOON

Cassie Barrett*
Tayrn Guyer

CLARINET

Nathanael Taylor*
Andrew Blosser
Zoey Hobdey
Rizal Duncan
Aaliyah Henry
Mary Pendergrass
Arabella Ross
Emily Horn
Sylva Ford
Paige Copen
Bailey Harris
Elise Richmond

BASS CLARINET

Ethan Tate
Kelsa Rice
Denny Oum

ALTO SAXOPHONES

Joshua Richards*
Hannah Herrmann
Evan Kenney
Anna Ward
Aidan Grindle
Randall Brown
Shaylee Baxter

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Noah Cherry
Colben Settle

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Hunter Baker

HORN

Jacob Steele*
Addison Griebel
Katherine Carpenter
Andrew Weddle
Samuel Porter

TRUMPET

Will Burris*
Simon Bozone
AJ Honeycutt
Jesson Campbell
Lukas Ford
Noah Woody ^Δ 

TROMBONE

Willow Strader*
Charlie Smith
Jeremiah Diaz
Ashton Hoelscher
Lucas White

BASS TROMBONE

Donnovan Jagers


EUPHONIUM

Tessa Edwards*
Sam Burns
Sorrell Brown

TUBA


Isaiah Serrano*
Ravynn Gardner
Pierce West
Nathaniel Delehanty

PERCUSSION

Diana Hendricks*
Addy McKenney
Willy Osorio-Hernandez
Connor Kizziar
Alijah Brock
Camden Clark 

PIANO

Camden Clark

* = Principal / Co-Principal
^Δ = Graduate Assistant
 = Assisting Musician



JAZZ BAND PERSONNEL

Nathaniel Taylor	<i>Alto 1</i>
Cailee Tucker	<i>Alto 2</i>
Isaiah McFadden	<i>Tenor 1</i>
Shaylee Baxter	<i>Tenor 2</i>
Sammy Wooten	<i>Baritone Saxophone</i>

Brent Layne	<i>Trumpet 1</i>
Micah Buckham	<i>Trumpet 2</i>
Chloe Packard	<i>Trumpet 3</i>
Evan Baker	<i>Trumpet 4</i>
Kristen Decker	<i>Trumpet 5</i>

James Baxter	<i>Trombone 1</i>
Colby Monarch	<i>Trombone 2</i>
Willow Strader	<i>Trombone 3</i>
Donovan Jagers	<i>Bass Trombone</i>

Anna Donovan	<i>Piano</i>
AJ McGillivray	<i>Drumset</i>
Alijah Brock	<i>Percussion</i>
Jayne Shannon	<i>Bass</i>
Lukas Ford	<i>Guitar</i>

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Celebrating 100 Years! | WKU Bands | 1925-2025

April 25	Centennial Gala Concert #1 Van Meter Auditorium VIP Reception Following	WKU Wind Ensemble & Symphonic Band 7:30p
April 26	Centennial Gala Concert #2 Van Meter Auditorium	WKU Campus & Community Band 7:30p

PROGRAM NOTES

The Falls (2018)

Rossano Galante (b.1967)

Highlighting the falls as it cascades over rocky terrain, sparkling wind and brass fanfares depict the water as it rushes forward before exploding over the edge. Melodic lines transport the audience into the mysterious and rapturous wilderness as this remarkable piece evokes one of nature's most glorious creations. Originally part of a two-movement work titled *Land Sketches*, the composer elected to publish only the second movement. Replete with Galante's signature heroic, soaring French horn lines, the piece has been named to the American Band College — BandWorld – WIBC top 100 new works for 2018.

- Program Note from the conductor's score

Aquarium (1991)

Johan de Meij (b.1953)

The suite ***Aquarium*** is Johan de Meij's third composition for symphonic band and features six tropical fishes, each of them represented by a motif, and surfacing as such in several guises. The composition consists of three movements, of which the second and third merge uninterruptedly into each other.

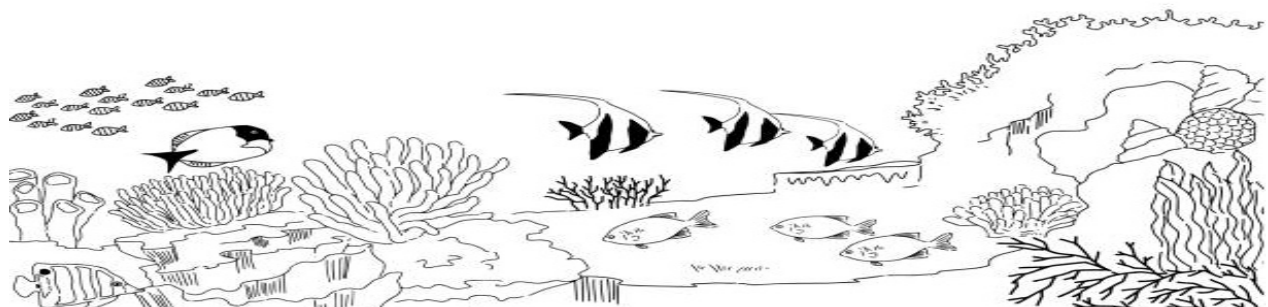
1. Allegretto grazioso (Neon Tetra, Electric Eel and Angelfish)
2. Andante/Adagio (Sea Horse and Zebra fish)
3. Finale: Allegro giocoso (Guppy & Co.)

The neon tetra motif functions as a kind of 'leitmotiv' and describes the beautifully coloured, frisky fish. A number of variants have been derived from this theme and will also appear in the other movements. The electric eel, in fact, is not represented by a motif, but by a rhythm based on the restless electric pulses made audible in some aquaria. The angel fish is represented by elegant chord clusters.

In the second movement the sea horse emerges out of the water vegetation and starts a dialogue with the zebra fish, which is represented by one melodic phrase in unison getting more and more threatening by adding parallel fifths and octaves. Simultaneously with the sea horse motif the neon tetra theme emerges, this time in 3/4 time and in Eb minor.

The third movement starts with only two instruments (trumpet and xylophone), but as it is often the case with guppies, their number rapidly increases. Piccolo and alto saxophone introduce the guppy theme, followed by several instrumental combinations. Every theme from the first movement 'swims by' once more, after which the principal motif leads us to a brilliant ending. ***Aquarium*** was commissioned by the Dutch Music Foundation "Fonds voor de Scheppende Toonkunst."

- Program Note from the conductor's score



Loch Lomond (2002)

Frank Ticheli (b.1958)

Frank Ticheli's setting of the famous folksong is simple yet charming, preserving faithfully the melody and adding interesting harmonic vocabulary. **Loch Lomond** tells the tale of two Scottish soldiers who were imprisoned at Carlisle Castle in England, following the Battle of Culloden Moor. One of the soldiers was to be executed, while the other was to be set free. According to Celtic legend, those who died in foreign lands had their spirits travel to their homelands through the "low road," the route for the souls of the departed. The song is from the point of view of the soldier to be executed, who tells his friend "ye'll tak' the high road and I'll tak' the low road," in effect saying that the freed soldier will return alive, while he himself would return in spirit. He remembers his past and the "bonnie lass" (pretty girl) he will never see again "by yon bonnie bonnie banks of Loch Lomond", and sadly accepts death. The lyric intertwines the sadness of the soldier's plight with images of Loch Lomond's stunning natural beauty. The composer says about the work, "in my setting, I have tried to preserve the folksong's simple charm, while also suggesting a sense of hope, and the resilience of the human spirit. The final statement combines the Scottish tune with the well-known Irish folksong, *Danny Boy*. It was by happy accident that I discovered how well these two beloved songs share each other's company, and I hope their intermingling suggests a spirit of human harmony.

*By yon bonnie banks,
And by yon bonnie braes (slopes),
Where the sun shines bright, on Loch Lomond
Where me and my true love
Were ever wont to gae (go)
On the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.*

*Oh! y'ell tak' the high road and I'll tak' the low road,
An' I'll be in Scotland afore ye',
But me and my true love will never meet again
On the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond.*

Loch Lomond was commissioned by the Stewarton Academy Senior Wind Ensemble of East Ayrshire, Scotland, Nigel Durno, conductor. It received its premiere on 18 June 2002 by the commissioning ensemble at Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow, Scotland.

- Program Note by Nikk Pilato and Conductor's Score

Celestial Seas (2014)

Julie Giroux (b.1961)

Celestial Seas is a musical story covering the next 5 billion years as it pertains to our galaxy, the Milky Way and its eventual collision with the Andromeda Galaxy which is approximately 2.5 million light years away from the Milky Way. By mathematically fast forwarding time, scientists also agree that none of the planets will collide with each other since they are all spread so far apart. Such distances are hard to imagine. The actual size of the planets, measurements in light-years and time passing, not by thousands of years, but by billions, is difficult for the mind to grasp. Our sun is 1,287,000 times larger than Earth. It takes more than a million Earths in mass to equal that of the sun.

In relation to time and size, we as humans become so very small, like a grain of sand on a beach that is on a grain of sand on a larger beach a million times over, which is still too significant a representation of a human. Five billion years from now as the collision starts, there will be no humans on earth to see the extraordinary light show that will go on for thousands of years because our sun will be so much stronger by then on its nova journey. The surface of the earth will be burnt to a crisp. Some scientists think Mars may be far enough away to survive. I look at it like this – all we have to do is a little planet hopping over the next 4 billion years and we won't have to travel too terribly far to find a new home because the entire galaxy is going to pay us a visit.

Celestial Seas opens with humans represented by three notes which make up a six-note melody. Those three notes are the building blocks for the entire work which takes us from now to the collision of the Milky Way and Andromeda galaxies and beyond. Extreme dynamic contrasts, crescendos and decrescendos, the constant changing of chords and tempos, and the continuous variations of the original melody are all musical attempts to keep us constantly sailing chronologically and physically on celestial seas.

Commissioned by the Missouri Bandmasters Association for the 39th Anniversary of the Missouri All-State Band Premiered at the 77th Annual Missouri Music Educators Association Conference January 31, 2015.

- Program Note from the composer



American Riversongs (1991)

Pierre La Plante (1943-2024)

Wisconsin native Pierre La Plante is an American composer with French-Canadian roots. His works for band have been performed internationally. His approach to composition is informed by his many years teaching both beginning and high school band in Wisconsin. About this piece, the composer says:

American Riversongs is based on traditional and composed music of an earlier time, when the rivers and waterways were the lifelines of a growing nation. *American Riversongs* begins with a rousing setting of "Down the River", followed by an expansive and dramatic treatment of "Shenandoah" or "Across the Wide Missouri," as it is sometimes called. After a brief transition, a brass band is heard playing a quadrille-like version of Stephen Foster's "The Glendy Burk." As the "Glendy Burk" travels along, a second theme is introduced by piccolo, flutes and tambourine. The second theme is based on a Creole bamboula tune that probably originated in the Louisiana delta region. The bamboula theme is marked by an incessant syncopated ragtime rhythm and used to good effect in the coda to bring *American Riversongs* to a rowdy, foot-stomping close.

- Program Note from the composer



The Barren River Steamer – *The Bowling Green*



The Barren River Steamer – *The Evansville*

2024-2025 ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Sam Hines	Bennie Beach Scholarship
Steven Bernard	Dr. Kent Campbell Scholarship
Carter Edwards	Melissa and Wes Madison Scholarship
Amber Cain	Charles Smith Music Scholarship
Bethany Dashzeveg	Patti Stanton Scholarship
Alison Schimmell	Dr. Samuel W. and Jeane Payne Tinsley Endowed Music Scholarship
Shaylee Baxter	Dr. Samuel W. and Jeane Payne Tinsley Endowed Music Scholarship
Reagan Schmidt	Ida Weidemann Music Scholarship
Dalton Childress	Mitzi Groom Music Scholarship
David Holt	Edith Wilson Music Scholarship
Taylin Hamilton	Sylvia Kersenbaum Music Scholarship
Brent Layne	Jean and C. Robert Blankenship Scholarship
Chloe Packard	Jean and C. Robert Blankenship Scholarship

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Woodwind, Brass, and Percussion Faculty

Heidi Álvarez, D.M.A.	Florida State University	Flute
Mark S. Berry, D.M.A.	University of Michigan	Percussion
Emily Britton, D.M.A.	Florida State University	Horn
Courtney Calvert, M.M.	Western Kentucky University	Clarinet
John Cipolla, D.M.A.	University of North Carolina, Greensboro	Clarinet/Saxophone
Jared Cummings, D.M.A.	Florida State University	Saxophone
Diana Dunn, M.M.	Rice University	Oboe
Keegan Finkbine, M.M.	University of Georgia	Bassoon
Scott Harris, D.M.A.	University of Oklahoma	Percussion Tech/Advising
Sarah Herbert, D.M.A.	Cincinnati Conservatory of Music	Trumpet
Matthew McCurry, D.M.A.	West Virginia University	Associate Director of Bands
Marilyn Nije, M.M.	Manhattan School of Music	Clarinet
Gary Schallert, D.A.	University of Northern Colorado	Director of Bands
Christopher Schmidt, M.M.	University of Louisville	Tuba/Euphonium
Jefferson Tunks, M.M.	Cincinnati Conservatory of Music	Trombone

Western Kentucky University Bands

Director of Bands	Dr. Gary Schallert
Associate Director of Bands/Athletic Bands.....	Dr. Matthew McCurry
Assistant Director of Athletic Bands.....	Dr. Scott Harris
Graduate Assistants	Brenna Derby, Noah Woody
Band Managers.....	Shaylee Baxter, Michael Cecil, Patrick Johnson Colby Monarch, Alison Schimmell, Cailee Tucker

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance and support of the following:

Dr. Timothy Caboni, President, Western Kentucky University
 Dr. Robert "Bud" Fischer, Provost, Western Kentucky University
 Dr. Terrance Brown, Dean, Potter College
 Dr. Zachary Lopes, Chair, Department of Music
 Emily Lindsey, Office Coordinator, Department of Music
 Jeffrey "Smitty" Smith, Technical Director, Van Meter Auditorium
 Sarah Thomas, Van Meter Hall
 Delta Omicron | Phi Mu Alpha | Sigma Alpha Iota