



DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC
Youngstown State University



The Cliffe College of Creative Arts and Communication
Youngstown State University &

THE DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Present

Youngstown State University

Wind Ensemble

OMEA Convention

& Tour 2020

THE YSU WIND ENSEMBLE

Stephen L. Gage, Conductor
Brandt Payne, Guest Conductor
Andrew Mitchell, Trombone

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

1:30 PM at Medina High School
Fine Arts Auditorium
Jason Locher, Director of Bands

7:00 PM at Hilliard Bradley High School
High School Auditorium
Andrew Carr, Director of Bands

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

2020 OMEA PDC
6:30 PM at the Cincinnati Convention
Center Grand Ballroom



YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY



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& Communication

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*Cliffe College of
Creative Arts
& Communication*



Phyllis M. Paul, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor

January 29, 2020

On behalf of the Youngstown State University (YSU) Cliffe College of Creative Arts and Communication and most especially on behalf of the historic Dana School of Music and our YSU Band Program, it is my pleasure to welcome you to today's concert at the Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) 2020 Professional Development Conference. We are honored to have been selected and hope that you will enjoy the Wind Ensemble's performance.

We are most appreciative to Kathleen McGrady, President of OMEA, and all the OMEA Board of Trustees members and Staff for their assistance with our preparations for today's events and their commitment to music education. I would also like to express sincere gratitude to our talented and loyal alumni for their continuing and tangible support and to the many music educators across the state and region who have entrusted their students to us and encouraged them to become a part of our YSU and Dana School tradition. Dr. Randall Goldberg, Director of the Dana School, and our distinguished and highly active faculty of artists and scholars are dedicated to helping our students pursue their passions and develop their talents, empowering them for success in this transformative time in which we live.

Congratulations to Dr. Stephen L. Gage, Director of Bands and Orchestra, and our terrific students! We are proud of your accomplishments and look forward to your performance.

With warmest regards,

Phyllis M. Paul, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor

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YSU DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC WIND ENSEMBLE—SPRING 2020

**YSU WIND ENSEMBLE –
SPRING 2020: KEY:**
Graduate Student
^ Principal * Section Leader

FLUTE/PICCOLO
Olivia Benna
Mckenzie Cooper *
Kayla Gilmore ^
Andriy Lassowsky

OBOE/ENGLISH HORN
Brynn Anstadt
John Anzevino
Camryn Doctor ^ *

BASSOON
Aerin Bettenhausen
Jonathan Buchholz * ^
Mary Elizabeth Dilley

CLARINET/BASS CLARINET
Sara Bucci
Kailey Coughlin
Colin Davis
Carmella Donofrio
Zachary Fromme
Elliot Kwolek # ^ *
Jamar Lee
AnnieRose Shealey

SAXOPHONE
Anthony Bonamase
Jake Jeges
Andrew Kovaleski # *
Noah Landry ^
James O'Donnell

EUPHONIUM
Ryan Dutton # * ^
Johnathan Fitch
Juan Rodriguez

HORN
Noah Cline
Benjamin Cross
Brendan Gage ^ *
Severino Paredes
Sarah Schwenke

TRUMPET
Ethan Barnard
Max Franko
Ross Hill *
Jordan King
Maria Mangine ^
Nicholas Mattiussi

TENOR TROMBONE
Dominic Gentile ^
Brandon Hackimer
Daniel Sager # *

BASS TROMBONE
Zaki Rahal ^

TUBA
Cyrus Adams
Bruce Deal ^*
Connor Remington

DOUBLE BASS
Sean Williams ^*

PERCUSSION
Nathaniel Adams
Terence Boggs ^ *
Michael Daniels
Jo'el Harrison
Mitchell Topf
Brett Whitely

PIANO/KEYBOARD
Shamar Brooks
Cody Tonkinson ^*

Dear Friends,

Thank you for attending today’s performance of the Youngstown State University Wind Ensemble at the Ohio Music Education Association’s 2020 Professional Development Conference. We are so proud of our talented students who will be featured in these concerts along with our dynamic faculty members Dr. Stephen Gage (Director of Bands), Dr. Brandt Payne (Director of Athletic Bands), and Dr. Andrew Mitchell (Professor of Trombone).

The Dana School of Music is one of the oldest music institutions in the United States; we have been training musicians since 1868. Our alumni may be found teaching at The Eastman School of Music and Peabody Conservatory and many other universities and conservatories as well as primary and secondary schools across Ohio and America, performing with the “Pershing’s Own” and “President’s Own” military bands, and enshrined in the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame.

We hope you will consider attending the Dana School and be a part of 150 years of excellence. Current students may earn BM degrees in Performance, Music Education, Composition, and Music Recording, as well as a BA degree with options in Entrepreneurship, Non-Profit Leadership, Interdisciplinary Game Studies, and many other areas. For more information about the Dana School of Music and our admission process, please visit our booth in the exhibition hall or at ysu.edu/music.

Best wishes for an excellent experience at OMEA 2020,



Randall Goldberg, Ph.D.
Director and Associate Professor of Musicology



REPERTOIRE

Manic Flourish (2019) Juan Rodriguez (b. 1999)
2019 YSU WE Fanfare Student Composition Winner

Suite No. 1 in Eb (1909) Gustav Holst (1874-1934)
ed. Colin Mathew

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Manic Flourish (1982) Claude T. Smith (1932-1987)

March (1911/1918) Percy Aldridge Grainger (1882-1961)
ed. Mark Rogers

Brandt Payne, Guest Conductor

Red Sky for Trombone and Wind Ensemble (2012) Anthony Barfield (b. 1896)
Andrew Mitchell, Trombone

Symphony No. 4 in F Minor (1878/2003) Pyotr Ilych Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)
IV. Finale arr. Lee Brooks

PROGRAM NOTES

Juan Rodriguez is a junior composition major and student of YSU Professor David Morgan. His composition Manic Flourish earned First Prize in the 2019 YSU Wind Ensemble Fanfare Contest. It is designed to open a concert with considerable energy and vitality, and the title refers to the chaotic effect created by a number of melodic lines being performed simultaneously.

Holst composed the Suite No. 1 in Eb in 1909, although there is surprisingly little information about this staple of the concert band repertoire. He entered “1st Suite for Military Band Op. 28A” in his notebook of compositional activity on the page for 1909, but there is no record of a performance or any mention of an intended ensemble before 1920. Although its beginnings may have been somewhat inauspicious, the work is a masterpiece of wind writing, sounding as fresh and original today as the day it was written.

The three-movement work begins with a Chaconne in which the melody is introduced by the low brass. The variations build slowly to a majestic finale. The Intermezzo, marked Vivace, is lighter and highlights Holst’s skill in writing for woodwinds. In contrast to the Chaconne, this movement ends quietly. The piece ends with a March movement in ABA form that weaves together two contrasting melodies as it moves toward a powerful conclusion. Many wind band lovers feel that this suite is the cornerstone work of the modern wind ensemble repertoire.

Premiered at the 75th anniversary of the MENC (now NAfME) in San Antonio by the United States Air Force Band who commissioned it, **Festival Variations** met with immediate and overwhelming acceptance. Legendary USAF Band conductor Col. Arnald Gabriel praised the work for its “brilliant technical passages coupled with its glorious romanticism.”



DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC AUDITIONS

The Dana School of Music will host audition days this semester on **Saturday, February 15 and Saturday, February 22**. Register for an audition at ysu.edu/music. For more information, please contact Danielle Lorenzi, Coordinator of Admissions and Recruitment at djlorenzi@ysu.edu or 330-941-2346.

ABOUT THE YSU WIND ENEMBLE & YSU BANDS

The wind band program at Youngstown State University encompasses a wide range of performance groups, from concert bands and chamber groups to marching, pep, and jazz ensembles. More than 270 students annually perform in one or more of these bands. Comprised from among the top wind and percussion students in the Dana School of Music, the Wind Ensemble performs a broad spectrum of music. The YSU Band Program includes the YSU Marching Pride, the YSU Basketball Band, the YSU Wind Ensemble, the YSU Concert Band, and Dana Chamber Winds.

The Wind Ensemble has been involved in numerous commissions and has hosted Michael Colgrass, Joseph Schwantner, Allen Vizzutti, Carter Pann, Karel Husa, Samuel Adler, Eric Ewazen, Frank Ticheli, Adam Frey, Anthony Iannaccone, Donald Sinta, David Gillingham, James Keene, Don Wilcox, Brian Balmages, Harry Watters, Anthony O’Toole, Ed Lisk, and numerous others on campus.

Pulitzer prize winning composer, Karel Husa called the ensemble’s performance of his music, “inspiring.” Frank Ticheli stated that the band “performed my music beautifully” and that the group was “hot!” Schwantner complimented the ensemble for “their artistry, and for their care and consideration” of his music. Composer/pianist Carter Pann was very complimentary of the collaborative music-making experience with *Concerto Logic* and said that the Wind Ensemble’s performance was “among the finest he had experienced.” Composer and prize-winning composer and author Michael Colgrass thanked the band for its “wonderful performance and recording” of his *Urban Requiem*.

The Wind Ensemble has performed at the MENC National Convention, for 11 OMEA State Conventions since 1998 including a January 2020 feature performance, for CBDNA Regional and National Conventions, and for the ABSDA National Convention. In 2005, Stephen Gage and the band made their NYC Carnegie Hall debut. In November 2015,

the YSU WE returned to Carnegie Hall for another feature performance. The group has released a total of eight professionally produced and critically acclaimed CDs:

<i>Lions, Jesters, and Dragons, Oh My!</i>	(1998)
<i>Star Wars and Other Scores</i>	(2000)
<i>Carnival</i>	(2002)
<i>Spin Cycle</i>	(2004)
<i>Tipping Points</i>	(2006)
<i>Urban Requiem</i> < NAXOS	(2008)
International>	
<i>Old Wine in New Bottles</i> < NAXOS International>	(2013)
<i>Made in Youngstown</i>	(2018)

After the June 2008 & January 2013 NAXOS releases, the following critical reviews were offered:

“Another solid entry for Naxos’s Wind Band Classics series has been made by the Youngstown State University Wind Ensemble directed by Stephen L. Gage. Everything about this disc was well done: performance, music selection, programming, the whole works.”
Sequenza21 CD Reviews, Jay Batzner

“Listening to this offering, I found myself increasingly disbelieving that the Youngstown State University’s Wind Ensemble is a student organization . . . I still find the fit and finish of their performances astonishing.”
Fanfare, William Zyrgowski

“. . . the swinging rhythms of the gospel songs from the Deep South used by Donald Grantham in Starry Crown belong to American musicians, the playing of the student ensemble, conducted by Stephen Gage, is as good as any professional group.”
David’s Review Corner David Denton



Colonial Song

In this piece the composer wished to express feelings aroused by thoughts of the scenery and peoples of his native land, Australia. Grainger dedicated it to his mother. What follows are the composer’s thoughts on his *Colonial Song*:

No traditional tunes of any kind are made use of in this piece, in which I have wished to express feelings aroused by thoughts of the scenery and people of my native land, (Australia), and also to voice a certain kind of emotion that seems to me not untypical of native-born Colonials in general.

Perhaps it is not unnatural that people living more or less lonelily in vast virgin countries and struggling against natural and climatic hardships (rather than against the more actively and dramatically exciting counter wills of their fellow men, as in more thickly populated lands) should run largely to that patiently yearning, inactive sentimental wistfulness that we find so touchingly expressed in much American art; for instance in Mark Twain’s *Huckleberry Finn*, and in Stephen C. Foster’s adorable songs *My Old Kentucky Home*, *Old Folks at Home*, etc.

I have also noticed curious, almost Italian-like, musical tendencies in brass band performances and ways of singing in Australia (such as a preference for richness and intensity of tone and soulful breadth of phrasing over more subtly and sensitively varied delicacies of expression), which are also reflected here.

Red Sky is a 14-minute composition based upon the Big Bang Theory. Commissioned by Professor Brad Kerns and The University of Kentucky Wind Symphony, this work was premiered in October of 2012 and recorded in November of the same year.

According to the theories of physics, if we were to look at the universe one second after the Big Bang, the scientific explanation of how our universe started, what we would see is a 10-billion-degree sea of neutrons, protons, electrons, anti-electrons (positrons), photons, and neutrinos.

Red Sky paints a picture of the Big Bang Theory and space, matter and energy, but it also has a deeper meaning: that we are all the same as human beings, and to realize that wherever we are in the world, in this large universe, that we’re all connected.

Program Note by Anthony Barfield

When a former student from the Moscow Conservatory challenged Pyotr Tchaikovsky about the “program” for his **Fourth Symphony**, the composer responded, “Of course my symphony is programmatic, but this program is such that it cannot be formulated in words. That would excite ridicule and appear comic ... In essence, my symphony is an imitation of Beethoven’s Fifth; i.e., I imitated not the musical ideas, but the fundamental concept.”

Like the first movement of the symphony, the Finale bursts forth with a blaze of sound. Marked *Allegro con fuoco* (with fire), the music races by in a raging inferno. Abruptly, Fate returns and the symphony concludes with barely controlled frenzy, accented by cymbal crashes.

This setting for wind ensemble was created by Dr. Lee Brooks, a dear friend of the YSU Wind Ensemble, who also was the recording engineer and producer until 2008. Brooks created this transcription for the YSU WE and conductor, Stephen L. Gage, in 2003, when it was premiered. A recording of this arrangement is on YSU WE CD3, *Spin Cycle* (2004).

Program note by Elizabeth Schwar

2019-2020 YSU BANDS STAFF

Dr. Stephen L. Gage, Director of Bands, Professor of Music
Dr. Brandt Payne, Director of Athletic Bands, Associate Professor of Music
Ryan Dutton, Athletic Bands Graduate Assistant
Elliot Kwolek, Graduate Assistant
Daniel Sager, Graduate Assistant
Zachary Fromme, Bands Librarian
Kyle Zimmerman, Bands Equipment Manager

ABOUT THE SOLOIST

ANDREW MITCHELL has appeared as a soloist and clinician throughout the United States and Europe. He joined the faculty of Youngstown State University in 2018. Mitchell is a member of Spectrum Brass, and was recently appointed Second Trombone of the Canton Symphony Orchestra. He frequently performs with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and many other ensembles in his native Detroit area, including the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings, the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra, and the Motor City Brass Quintet. He has previously held positions in the Sinfonia Gulf Coast, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra, and the Midland Symphony Orchestra. He has also performed with the Brass Band of Battle Creek, and the orchestras of Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Toledo, Tallahassee, Flint, Lansing, Ann Arbor, and Youngstown. Summers, he is an Artist-in-Residence at the Bay View Music Festival. Mitchell earned the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Michigan.

He was previously Assistant Professor of Trombone at Ball State University. Mitchell is an artist for the Edwards Instrument Company.



ABOUT THE CONDUCTORS

STEPHEN L. GAGE has served as Professor of Music and Director of Bands & Orchestra at Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music since 1993. In July 2014, Gage was appointed as the conductor of the YSU Dana Symphony Orchestra in addition to his work with the YSU Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds. He holds degrees from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, the Eastman School of Music, and the State University of New York at Fredonia where he also earned the Performers Certificate and was a concerto winner.

Gage studied conducting with Harry John Brown, Donald Hunsberger, David Effron, Roy Ernst, James Keene, H. Robert Reynolds, and Paul Vermel. In September 2012, he was appointed as the Principal Conductor of the W. D. Packard Concert Band in Warren. He is also in his 26th season as the Edward Zacharias Memorial Chair/Conductor of the Youngstown Symphony Youth Orchestra. Previous teaching positions include serving as Director of Bands &



Orchestra at Emporia State University (KS) and as Director of Bands at Auburn High School (NY); in 2017, Gage was inducted into the inaugural class of the Auburn High School (NY) Music Hall of Fame and was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Ohio Chapter of Phi Beta Mu. Presented with the YSU Distinguished Professor Award in Teaching and Service, he was also the recipient of the Marty Manning Faculty Mentor Award at YSU.

Gage has written numerous published articles on conducting, rehearsal techniques, and wind band literature, and he is an active wind band and orchestral guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator of international repute. He has worked with many high school honor bands and orchestras as well as a number of university wind bands throughout the United States. His list of guest conducting appearances includes the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra, the U.S. Air Force Band, the U.S. Army Band: "Pershing's Own", and the U.S. Army Field Band & Chorus, among others. The list also includes experiences in Canada, Ireland, and in 34 states. Gage and his wife Stephanie have three children and one grandchild.

BRANDT PAYNE is Director of Athletic Bands and Associate Professor of Music for the Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University. At YSU he conducts the marching band, pep band, and concert band. He teaches courses in conducting, instrumental music education, marching band drill design, and graduate wind literature. Payne has held similar academic appointments at the University of Hawai'i and University of Wyoming. He began his teaching career as a high school band director in the Red Oak Public Schools in Red Oak, Iowa.

An author, guest conductor, and clinician throughout the United States, Payne co-authored the new editions of two textbooks, including the Complete Marching Band Resource Manual, with University of Pennsylvania Press and Conducting; the Art of Communication with Oxford University Press. He has published articles with the Instrumentalist, and written literature and recording reviews for the International Trombone Association Journal. Payne has given presentations at the national conferences of the College Band Directors National Association and the CBDNA National Athletic Band Symposium. He also conducts the Stambaugh Youth Concert Band in Youngstown, Ohio, a group comprised of over eighty young musicians from Ohio and Pennsylvania.



A native of Iowa, Payne holds a Bachelor of Music degree in trombone performance and teacher certification from the University of Iowa, a Master of Music degree in trombone performance and, Doctor of Musical Arts degree in conducting, both from Arizona State University, in Tempe.

