

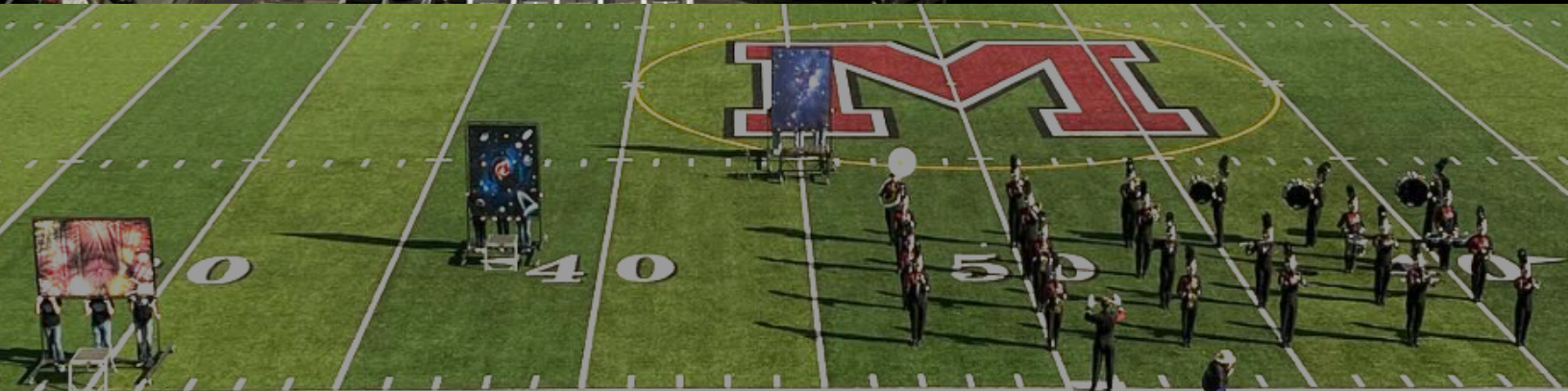
# NSBA

March 6th-8th  
Lincoln, NE  
Embassy Suites  
The Graduate Hotel



*The*  
**64TH ANNUAL  
CONVENTION  
2025**

EST. 1936



# THURSDAY

#NSBA64

11am-2pm	Executive Board Meeting	ESH Chancellor
11am-12pm	NIB Setup	
12pm-1:30pm	NIB sectionals	WMB
1:45pm-3:30pm	NIB rehearsal	WMB 132
3pm-6pm	Exhibits set-up	ESH AB
4pm-6pm	Registration	ESH Lobby
4pm-5:30pm	NIB rehearsal	WMB 132
5pm-5:45pm	Australian Music Reading Session <i>Doug Bogatz</i>	Graduate
5pm-5:45pm	Simplifying Jazz Articulations <i>Seth Burk</i>	ESH Chancellor
7pm-7:45pm	Northeast Area Jazz Ensemble Concert <i>Kevin McLouth, conductor</i>	ESH CDEF
7pm-9pm	NIB rehearsal	WMB 132
8:00pm-10:00pm	Exhibits Open House	ESH AB
9:30pm-10:30pm	Marching Band Meeting	ESH CDEF

# FRIDAY

7am-8am	Past President Breakfast	ESH Chancellor
7am-8am	Registration	ESH Lobby
8am-8:45am	Keynote Session <i>Greg Bimm</i>	ESH CDEF
9am-11:30am	Exhibits open	ESH AB
9am-9:45am	Gretna East Concert Band Concert <i>Graham Leavell, William Holke &amp; Zachary Howard, directors</i>	Graduate
9am-10am	Registration	ESH Lobby
9am-11:30am	NIB Rehearsal	WMB 132
10am-10:45am	<i>Making It Fit: Small Hands, Big Problems</i> <i>Kristin Parent</i>	ESH DEF
10am-10:45am	From Hot Cross Buns to Hindemith <i>Greg Bimm</i>	ESH C

10:45am-11:30am	Exhibits only time	ESH AB
11:30am-12:50pm	Luncheon	ESH C/DEF
1pm-4pm	Exhibits open	ESH AB
1pm-1:30pm	Registration open	ESH Lobby
1pm-1:45pm	We Are What We Play: Developing a Programming Philosophy <i>Emily Threinen</i>	ESH C
1pm-1:45pm	Bassoon, It's Not That Scary <i>Hunter Holoubek</i>	ESH DEF
1pm-1:45pm	Teaching Non Bass Players to Groove on the Bass <i>Evan Lebouf</i>	ESH Chancellor
1:45pm-2:30pm	Exhibits only time	ESH AB
1pm-6pm	One on One consultation appointments with Greg Bimm	ESH DIRECTORS BOARD ROOM
2:30pm-3:15pm	Pound Middle School Concert Band Concert <i>Dr. Wade Howles, conductor</i>	Graduate
2:45pm-6pm	NIB Rehearsal	WMB 132
3:30pm-4:15pm	Clarinet Keys to Success <i>Diane Barger</i>	ESH Chancellor
3:30pm-4:15pm	Building Better Low Brass <i>Josh Calkin</i>	ESH DE
3:30pm-4:15pm	Composition in Any Classroom <i>John Kosch</i>	ESH F
4pm-5:30pm	Exhibits tear down	ESH AB
4:30pm-5:15pm	Millard North Wind Ensemble Concert Ryan Placek and Craig Mathis, <i>directors</i>	Graduate
5:30pm-6pm	Pre-banquet Social, Registration Open	ESH Lobby
6pm-8pm	Banquet	ESH C/DEF
8pm-9:30pm	Jack Brass Band Concert	ESH B/C/DEF

**EMBASSY SUITES WIFI**  
**Network: Bandmaster2025**  
**Password: embassy2025**

# SATURDAY

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8am-9:30am	General membership meeting	ESH AB
9am-11am	NIB Dress rehearsal	Graduate
9:30am-10:15am	Parade Marching Secrets to Success <i>Eric Fahrlander</i>	ESH A
9:30am-10:15am	Score Study for Band Directors <i>Greg Bimm</i>	ESH B
10:30am-11:15am	A Hands-on Approach to Teaching Rhythmic Counting Structures <i>Melissa Watzke and Michael Moore</i>	ESH A
10:30am-11:15am	Rethinking Your Warmup Routine <i>Dr. Andy Feyes</i>	ESH B
11:30am-12:15pm	Nebraska Intercollegiate Band Concert <i>Emily Threinen, Conductor</i>	Graduate
12:30pm-2pm	Phi Beta Mu Luncheon	Graduate

## Exhibits

Exhibits will be open throughout the convention. Please plan to attend the Thursday night session for fellowship and reconnection.

NSBA will provide appetizers and there will be a cash bar. This session will provide directors a time to socialize with each other while showing support for our exhibitors.

# Upcoming Events

CONCERT BAND FESTIVAL  
STATE JAZZ FESTIVAL  
YOUNG DIRECTORS BOOT CAMP  
STATE MARCHING CONTEST

APRIL 2-3  
APRIL 10-11  
JULY 11  
OCTOBER 25

## 2024-25 EXECUTIVE BOARD

**President**

Matt Rom  
Papillion La Vista  
South High School

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Chaz Fonda  
Blair Community  
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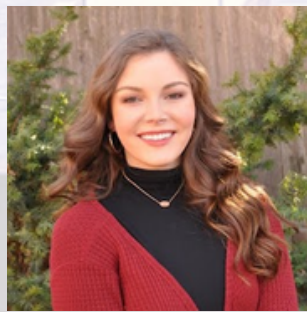
Barb Mock  
Travel With Barb

## Newly Elected Board Members



**President-Elect**

Michael Sindt  
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**Middle Level Chair**

Karlie Sines  
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School



**Public Relations**

Jason Smith  
Wahoo High School



**Treasurer**

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# Platinum Sponsors

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Custom Fundraising Solutions	Dietze Music	Doane University	Dogalicious Dog Treats
Embassy Suites by Hilton	Fruhauf Uniforms	Iowa Central Community College	Nebraska Ambassadors of Music
Percussion Source	Stanbury Uniforms	Stelling Brass & Winds	Travel With Barb
University of Nebraska at Kearney	University of Nebraska-Lincoln Glenn Korff School of Music	University of Nebraska at Omaha School of Music	Vertical Raise

## Gold Sponsors

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43rd Army Band- Nebraska Army National Guard	Schmitt Music
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## Silver Sponsors

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Thompson Music

## Exhibitors

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43rd Army Band- Nebraska Army National Guard	Percussion Source
Custom Fundraising Solutions	Schmitt Music
Dietze Music	Stanbury Uniforms, LLC
Doane University	Stelling Brass & Winds
Dogalicious Dog Treats	Thompson Music CO
Fruhauf Uniforms, Inc.	Travel With Barb
Iowa Central Community College	University of Nebraska-Lincoln Glenn Korff School of Music
Nebraska Ambassadors of Music	University of Nebraska at Kearney
Nebraska Music Education Association	University of Nebraska at Omaha-School of Music
NSBA Historian	Vertical Raise
Omaha Performing Arts	

# Northeast Area Jazz Ensemble

**Thursday 5PM- Embassy CDEF**



Dr. Jim Boullion spearheaded the formation of the Northeast Area Jazz Ensemble (NAJE) in 1980 with its primary mission to promote jazz music in the area. The group is a performance ensemble and outlet for area musicians (music teachers) and other professionals. His vision led to NAJE becoming a non-profit organization that helped purchase music equipment, provide scholarships for music students, and fund the Northeast Jazz Festival.

# NAJE

# Gretna East Wind Ensemble

Friday 9AM- Graduate



## Directors

Graham Leavell

William Holke

Zachary Howard

The Gretna East High School Wind Ensemble is a dynamic group of musicians who are dedicated to growing together as an ensemble. The group is composed of all 10th-12th grade instrumental music students who attend Gretna East High School. After the school's opening last year, the band program has quickly established itself as an important part of the school culture. The students have fully embraced the challenge of building a new program from the ground up and have taken the challenge in stride.

The group's success is a testament to the students' commitment and enthusiasm as they have helped to shape the new band program at GEHS. Students have bought into the directors' shared vision of creating something special - an environment where students work hard and support each other while performing at the highest level. Whether performing at school concerts or other events, the Wind Ensemble has become a source of pride for GEHS and its band program. In its short history, the group has earned a 1+ rating during its inaugural year at the NSAA District Music contest. The program has also won multiple awards in all aspects of the program including marching, jazz, winter arts, and solo/ small ensemble performance. As the band program continues to grow at Gretna East, the GEHS Wind Ensemble looks forward to taking on more challenging and varied music and further strengthening its role in the Gretna community. With a strong foundation and a culture of unstoppable commitment, the Wind Ensemble is ready to add the next chapter in its short and exciting story. We look forward to this opportunity to share our journey with you and hope you enjoy!





# Pound Middle School 8th Grade Concert Band

Friday 3PM- Graduate



**Dr. Wade Howles**  
**Director**

Since opening in 1963, Pound Middle School has had a legacy of master teachers leading their bands and outstanding young musicians populating their ensembles. Pound is one of twelve middle schools in Lincoln Public Schools, serving approximately 750 students daily. The Pound instrumental music program serves 140 students through a variety of ensembles including 2 sections of 6th grade band, 2 sections of 7th grade band, 1 section of 8th grade band, and 2 jazz bands. Students from Pound are regularly selected to NSBA 8th Grade All-State as well as numerous regional honor bands.

The 2024-25 edition of 8th Grade Concert Band at Pound Middle School is certainly no exception to the tradition of outstanding student musicians established at Pound. This group of 41 hardworking students rehearse as a full ensemble every day and has shown an incredible amount of growth as musicians since coming to Pound. This will be the first NSBA convention performance for any ensemble from Pound.

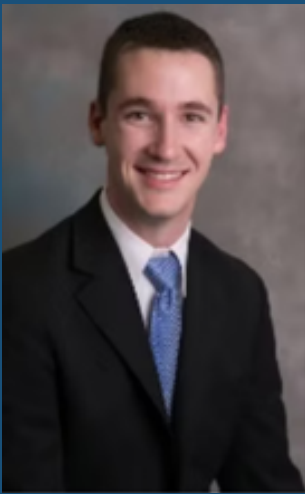


**Lincoln**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Millard North

## Wind Ensemble

### Friday 4:30PM- Graduate



**Ryan Placek**  
**Craig Mathis**  
**Directors**

The Millard North Band Program consists of approximately 250 students, consistently one of Nebraska's largest band programs. The school offers three Concert Bands, two Marching Bands, three Jazz Bands, three Pep Bands, Percussion Ensembles, Drumline, Color Guard, two Winter Guards, and numerous solo & ensemble opportunities. Band students also have the opportunity to participate in Musical Pit Orchestra, Show Choir Band, and two Symphony Orchestras. The ensembles consistently receive top ratings at state and regional competitions.

The Wind Symphony is the premier concert band at Millard North High School. The ensemble is made up of students in all grades and meets every day. Students in the band, especially the Wind Symphony, are highly involved students at Millard North. Approximately 30% of the students in band are involved in the academically rigorous International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. 93% of the students in Wind Symphony take Advanced Placement (AP), IB and Honors courses. The average ACT score of the Wind Symphony members is 30.1. 97% of Wind Symphony members are involved in at least one non-band school activity. 87% are involved in at least two non-band school activities, and nearly all students have a part-time job or volunteer regularly. With a tradition of excellence in both performance and academics, the Millard North Band is proud to be the recipient of the NSBA Excellence in Academic Achievement Award for the 12th consecutive year.



# Jack Brass Band

**Friday 8PM- Embassy B/C/DEF**



The Jack Brass Band was formed in 1999 in the Twin Cities. Based on the traditions of New Orleans' brass bands, they are the ambassadors to the Crescent City's rich musical history.

The band plays "Feel-Good Music" for audiences of any age, for any occasion.

The band has the ability and repertoire to play everything from old New Orleans jazz from Louis Armstrong's era, to the modern street Mardi-Gras anthems with the instrumentation, feel, and energy they have mastered through countless gigs, parades, festival appearances, and trips to New Orleans to listen, learn, and play alongside the masters.

"If you like your gumbo spicy and your music hot, check out the Jack Brass Band," said Wynton Marsalis after hearing them.

Simply put, the Jack Brass Band brings the party to any event with a rich tradition and a groove that will make you want to get up and dance to the New Orleans sound.



# Nebraska Intercollegiate Band

## Saturday 11:30am - The Graduate

### Program

Infinity.....Katahj Copley  
One Life Beautiful.....Julie Giroux  
A Bernstein Tribute.....Bernstein/arr. Grundman  
Chester.....William Schuman  
The Liberty Bell .....John Philip Sousa

Emily Threinen is an Associate Professor of Music and serves as Director of Bands at the University of Minnesota School of Music in the Twin Cities. In this position, she conducts the acclaimed University Wind Ensemble, guides the graduate wind band conducting program, assists in undergraduate conducting, and provides administrative leadership for all aspects of the University of Minnesota-TC Band Program.



Prior to her position here, Threinen served as Director of Bands and Artistic Director of Winds and Brass at Temple University's Boyer College of Music and Dance in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Director of Bands at Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia; Director of the Duke University Wind Symphony in Durham, North Carolina; Director of the Concordia University Wind Ensemble in Ann Arbor, Michigan; Conductor of the Dodworth Saxhorn Band in Ann Arbor, Michigan; and Director of Bands and Instrumental Music at Harding High School in St. Paul, Minnesota, where she received the Outstanding Teacher Award.

Threinen consistently works with composers, arrangers, and performing artists of varied disciplines. Residencies and projects with composers are integral to her creative work. Threinen is published in multiple volumes of the GIA Teaching Music Through Performance in Band book series, where she has been recognized as a strong scholarly contributor. She is active, across the nation and abroad (appearances in Australia, Spain, Brazil, and Canada), as a guest conductor, clinician, and conference presenter.

A strong advocate for music education, Threinen is a proud Yamaha Master Educator and has served on the Executive Council of the Institute for Composer Diversity. In 2019, Threinen conducted the NAfME All-National Concert Band at the National Conference in Orlando, Florida. Additionally, she is an active member of these organizations: American Bandmasters Association (ABA), World Association for Symphonic Band and Ensembles (WASBE), College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), Big Ten Band Directors Association, National Band Association (NBA), National Association for Music Education (NAfME), and Pi Kappa Lambda and Kappa Kappa Psi as an honorary member. Threinen is a native of Minnesota and is a proud alumna of the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Class of 1999: Bachelor of Music Degrees in Clarinet Performance and K-12 Music Education.

Formed collaboratively in 1980 by Jack Snider and James Saker, the Nebraska Intercollegiate Band forges relationships among future educators, exposes collegiate musicians to high-quality repertoire and nationally-known guest conductors, and as a facet of NSBA engages in commissions of new compositions for wind band (grade 4-5). Students from colleges and universities state-wide are nominated by their directors to represent their institution. The NIB rehearses throughout the conference in Westbrook room 132 and attendees are encouraged to observe the ensemble and clinician at work. The concert in The Graduate Ardis Ballroom is free and open to the public.

### Australian Music Reading Session Doug Bogatz | 5PM | The Graduate

In collaboration with Brolga Music, we will spend this session reading through many different pieces you can perform with your Band at home! Bring your instrument and be ready to have some fun seeing some of the best Australia has to offer!



Doug Bogatz has been the Director of Instrumental Music at Omaha Westview High School since it opened in 2022. He is also the Instrumental Jazz Instructor at Midland University in Fremont, NE. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a Master of Music with a concentration in Music Education from the university of Nebraska at Omaha. At UNL, he was an active member of the jazz ensembles, concert bands, Cornhusker Marching BAnd, Kappa Kappa Psi, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. He was also active in chamber groups such as the Westbrook Saxophone Quartet.

Outside college, Doug was a member of the Colts Drum & Bugle Corps from Dubuque, Iowa. He is an active member of NAFME, ASCAP, NMEA and NSBA. He has served on the NSBA Board as Public Relations Chair and NMEA Board as the Director of Auditions and Ensemble Affairs. He lives in Bennington with his wife Lindsey and children Gordon and Dorothy.

## Simplifying Jazz Articulations

**Seth Burk | 5PM | ESH - Chancellor**

This presentation is designed to empower music educators, regardless of jazz background, to confidently teach jazz articulation in a straightforward, accessible way. Jazz phrasing can feel complex, but by breaking down the core elements of swing feel, articulation patterns, and dynamic contrasts, we can make this rich genre approachable for students and teachers alike. We'll explore simple vocalization techniques and articulation exercises that align with natural speech patterns. These vocalization syllables are intentionally picked to directly transfer to wind instruments, simplifying the teaching and learning process. The session will also include practical methods for guiding students through common jazz articulations like accents, marcato, staccato, and legato phrasing with consistency and style. Perfect for band directors and music educators looking to introduce jazz articulation in a clear, step-by-step way, this session removes the intimidation factor from jazz teaching and makes it enjoyable for all.



Seth Burk is the Jazz Band Director at Lincoln High School, where he is dedicated to cultivating a love for jazz among his students. As an accomplished saxophonist and freelance jazz musician, Seth brings his real-world experience to the classroom, guiding young musicians in the art of jazz performance and improvisation. His background includes performances with the University of Nebraska Lincoln Jazz Orchestra and several jazz combos, where he developed his passion for ensemble playing. Seth's approach to teaching emphasizes making jazz both accessible and engaging, fostering an environment where students can explore, learn, and appreciate the nuances of this unique genre.

# NSBA 2025 Keynote Address



## **Greg Bimm**

### **2025 NSBA Keynote Speaker and Presenter**

**Greg Bimm** (Chicago Heights, Illinois) served as Director of Bands at Marian Catholic High School from 1977 through 2023. Under Bimm's direction, the Marian Band grew from 70 to over 280 members and built a reputation as one of the premier high school band programs in the U.S. Honors include 7 BOA Grand National championships, 21 BOA National class championships, and 34 consecutive BOA National Finalist appearances. Marian has won 42 successive Illinois State marching class championships.

The concert bands at Marian performed at the first BOA National Concert Festival and at numerous other state and national conventions. They have been undefeated in Catholic school concert contests for 41 years. They've appeared in the Macy's, Presidential Inaugural, and Rose parades and are among the few to receive both the Sudler Flag for concert band excellence and the Sudler Shield for marching band by the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

Bimm has received numerous NBA Citations of Excellence, the national ASBDA Stanbury Award for young band directors (1983), and twice the Sudler Order of Merit from the John Philip Sousa Foundation. In 1995, Bimm was the first high school band director to conduct the Illinois All-State band. Bimm received the Mary Hoffman Award of Excellence from IMEA and received career recognition from the Illinois Alliance for Arts Education.

He was named a Lowell Mason Fellow by the NAFME received the Distinguished Service Award from the Archdiocese of Chicago. Bimm was inducted into the inaugural class of the ISU College of Fine Arts Hall of Fame, the Distinguished Alumni at LaSalle-Peru Township High School, and the MFA-BOA Hall of Fame. Bimm received an honorary doctorate in music education from the Vandercook College of Music and the Chicagoland Music Educator John Paynter Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2019, Bimm was honored by the Midwest Clinic as a Clinic Legend and has been a member of the ABA since 1994.

### **NSBA Sessions**

#### **Presented By Greg Bimm**

**Friday, 8:00-8:45 AM**  
**Keynote Address**

**Saturday, 9:00-9:45AM**

#### ***From Hot Cross Buns to Hindemith***

*Marian Catholic gets students from over 55 different grade schools. Since there is no organized feeder system, most band students enter Marian with VERY limited background (many hardly beyond playing "Hot Cross Buns"). This session will examine how we move these students to a proficiency where they are able to play grade 6 repertoire at a very high level (Hindemith). This will include a look at Marian's unique student leadership structure as well as rehearsal techniques and philosophies.*

**Saturday, 9:30-10:15AM**

#### ***Score Study for Band Directors***

*There are many books and articles about score study and how to mark a score, etc. This session will talk about how to prepare to understand a score, but will extend to how to prepare so that you can help students to perform the score AND help them to get the most musical value preparing and performing the piece. Some focus will simply be on the joy of studying both new scores and restudying scores that you have done before.*

### **Making it Fit: Small Hands, Big Problems**

**Kristin Parent**

**10 AM | ESH DEF**

**Band instruments are designed with adults in mind, many students struggle to correctly hold their instruments due to the size of their bodies leading to student frustration and pain. There have been numerous advancements in our field to accommodate people with physical limitations, whether from size or connective tissue disorders. This presentation will provide information on devices that can be used on a variety of instruments to help band directors accommodate students and alleviate an additional challenge for many students.**



**Kristin Parent is in her 13th year teaching 5-8th grade band. She is in her 6th year with Fremont Public School serving Fremont Middle School (7/8) and Johnson Crossing Academic Center (5/6). Previously, she was employed with the Music in Catholic Schools band program for 6.5 Years, serving 17 schools. Kristin received her undergraduate degree at Northwest Missouri State University and completed her graduate studies in Music Education at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. In 2018, she received the Jack R. Snider Young Band Director Award. She is an active performer on clarinet with the Omaha Symphonic Winds. Her interest in this topic stems from her struggles with small hands and auto-immune disorders, resulting in limitations and injuries that affect her own performance. When not teaching band Kristin enjoys spending time with her wife, Kim, and their five furry family members (cats: Jean-Luc, Larry, and Jed; dachshunds: Betti and Mandi). Live Long and Prosper.**



## **We Are What We Play: Developing a Programming Philosophy**

**Dr. Emily Threinen**

**1:00 PM | ESH C**

As conductors and teachers, our values are directly related to the pieces of music we ask our students and ensemble members to play. The purpose of this session is to offer creative, educational, and practical strategies in selecting programs. Topics include: student and director goals, four and one-year plans, soloists and chamber music, working with limited resources, repertory beyond promotional materials, representation and expectations within communities, parents, and state contests, and tips on creating a point of view.



Emily Threinen is an Associate Professor of Music and serves as Director of Bands at the University of Minnesota School of Music in the Twin Cities. In this position, she conducts the acclaimed University Wind Ensemble, guides the graduate wind band conducting program, assists in undergraduate conducting, and provides administrative leadership for all aspects of the University of Minnesota-TC Band Program.

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Threinen is a native of Minnesota and is a proud alumna of the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Class of 1999: Bachelor of Music Degrees in Clarinet Performance and K-12 Music Education.

## Bassoon! It's not that scary..

**Hunter Holoubek**

**1:00 PM | ESH DE**

This session is aimed at debunking the common mysteries and sharing my knowledge on teaching the bassoon. The barriers of bassoon can dissuade band directors from encouraging students to play the bassoon, especially in our state. I hope to leave attendees with a refresher on the instrument and a wealth of new knowledge they can bring back to their students. The presentation will cover the following topics and will also leave time for questions.

**Importance of Bassoon**

**Barriers & Solutions of Bassoon**

**Review of Bassoon Basics: Assembly, Embouchure, and Instrument Holding and Posture**

**Reeds: Where to buy, how to adjust for students, and how to care for them**

**Guiding students through the process of learning to play & Solutions**



Hunter Holoubek is the current director of bands at Plattsmouth Community High School, where he teaches HS Winds, HS Percussion, Music Theory, Music History, Music Appreciation, and 6th Grade Clarinets/Percussion at PCMS, as well as leading the Marching, Pep, and Jazz Band. Before coming to Plattsmouth, Hunter taught 5-12 Band at Yutan Public Schools. He is a proud graduate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha. His bands have received consistent superior festival and contest ratings in both concert and marching disciplines and were notably 2023 Class 1a Marching Band State Champions (Yutan).

Hunter also maintains a large private bassoon studio in the Omaha Metro and is a bassoon coach for OAYO. In his four years of teaching bassoon, his students have consistently been selected for NSBA 8th grade and NMEA Allstate, and has had over 5 students receive music scholarships and major in music. Hunter resides in Bellevue with his wife Autumn and their two dogs, birds, and tiger salamander. Outside of music, Hunter is involved in his church, collects anything and everything Star Wars and Lego, and loves spending time with his family at Beaver Lake.

### Teaching Non Bass Players to Groove on the Bass

Evan Labouef

1 PM | ESH F

Many times we find ourselves with no bass players who audition for our middle school and high school jazz groups. This clinic will provide helpful materials and instruction on how any educator can teach any instrumentalist to play, groove, and walk the bass for their ensemble.



**Evan LeBouef (b. 1994)** began his music career in his home state of Texas as a high school student. He would arrange for his high school band and compose for his own rock and jazz groups. LeBouef then moved on to college at Lamar University where he earned a Bachelor and Masters degree in Music. While in attendance at Lamar, LeBouef studied under saxophonist and song writer Don Rollins, saxophonist Rick Condit, and percussionist and composer Dr. Francisco Perez . Other notable teachers include John Wasson (TAMU-C), Steven Feifke (Berklee NY), and Brian Lewis (Berklee Bos.). After graduation LeBouef took his talents to Austin Texas where he played with local groups while continuing to write for other ensembles.

LeBouef has written for many groups varying from middle school ensembles and marching bands to professional jazz orchestras and chamber groups. LeBouef continues to research topics including guitar effect pedals and how they've changed popular music and is an active clinician in the Texas and Nebraska jazz and wind band scenes. LeBouef is currently pursuing his DMA degree in Jazz Studies with an emphasis in Jazz Composition at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln under Tom Larson and Greg Simon.

## Clarinet Keys to Success

Diane Barger

3:30 PM | ESH D

Forgot what you learned in your college clarinet skills class and are struggling to improve your clarinet section? This session will focus on important aspects of clarinet pedagogy for beginning through high school-aged clarinetists geared toward the band director, general music teacher, and aspiring clarinet teachers. Topics such as tone production, focus of air, articulation, finger technique, and equipment for success will be discussed in the presentation, and remedies for problems that occur all too often with the developing clarinetist will be addressed.

An informative handout will be presented to all attendees.



Praised by critics for her “great virtuosity and flair” and “exquisite artistry”, Diane Barger is the Ron and Carol Cope Professor of Music (Clarinet) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, a position she has held since 1994. She received the 2013 Annis Chaikin Sorensen Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Humanities and the 2001 Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts Distinguished College Teaching Award at UNL. She is principal clarinet of Lincoln’s Symphony Orchestra and is Past President of the International Clarinet Association (ICA). She also served the ICA as President (2022-2024), President elect (2020-2022), Nebraska State Chair (2010-2020), Pedagogy Chair (2016-2018), Artistic Director of the 2012 ClarinetFest®, Treasurer (2004-2010), and Coordinator of the High School Solo Competition (2003-2005).

She also serves as NACWPI Nebraska State Chair and is a Buffet Crampon Artist/Clinician, a Légère Endorsing Artist, and a member of the Silverstein Pro Team. In addition to her work as a collegiate educator, Barger actively works with pre-college clarinetists and is involved in mentoring her cadre of clarinet instructors at Cornerstone Academy of Clarinet, LLC where she serves as Founder and Professor of Clarinet. Her primary clarinet teachers were Frank Kowalsky and Robert Marcellus.

### Building Better Low Brass

Dr. Josh Calkin

3:30PM | ESH E

Your bands can only sound as good as your low brass! From equipment to technique to how to keep your kids engaged and thriving, come get all your low brass questions answered.



Josh Calkin is the Director of Bands at Wayne State College in Wayne, Nebraska where his duties include directing the Wind Ensemble, Wildcat Marching Band, and Mariachi Negro y Oro. He also teaches all applied low brass. Josh holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Plymouth State College, a Masters Degree in Tuba Performance from Boise State University and a DMA in Tuba Performance from the University of Iowa. He is an artist with Adams Marching Brass and Denis Wick Mouthpieces and performs regularly with the Nebraska Brass Band, Sioux City Symphony Orchestra, A Touch of Brass, and the Northeast Area Jazz Ensemble.

### Composition in Any Classroom

John Kosch

3:30PM | ESH F

This session will offer some tried-and-true strategies for introducing composition in large ensemble rehearsals. Even though composition has been listed as a national standard of music education since 1994, it is frequently omitted from classroom curriculum due to teacher discomfort, lack of time, or other logistical challenges. Composition is notably absent in large ensemble settings; although music educators have tried to supplement ensembles with courses containing composition, most music students grades 6–12 have very little opportunity to write original music. Composition does not need to be a complicated and scary process— in fact, it can start as something arbitrary! It doesn't need to take time away from other practical skills— we can use composition to assess other content knowledge, like scales and chords. And by referencing solfege or scale degrees, we can engage with students in ensembles of any size or type, composing with them in real time.



John Kosch currently teaches applied composition at Concordia University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His compositions have won awards from organizations like ASCAP, Downbeat magazine, NAFME, Tribeca New Music, Austin Classical Guitar, and the American Prize. Previously, Kosch spent time as a full-time 5–12 instrumental music teacher in Elm Creek, NE, and in Lincoln Catholic Schools. It is his goal to help K–12 music teachers find creative ways to implement composition in the classroom.

### Parade Marching Secrets to Success

Eric Fahrlander

9:30AM | ESH DEF

This session will cover basics of Parade Marching to include Music Selection, Formation Set-up, Do's and Don'ts. This session is focused especially for younger band directors with limited experience in Parade Marching.



Eric Fahrlander is in his 37th year of teaching, having taught both in Texas and Nebraska. Currently he is the director of bands at Crete High School, where he teaches marching band, concert band, jazz band, and guitar at the high school, and team teaches at the middle school as well. Currently there are 380 students involved in the 6-12 band program in Crete Public Schools. He has a Bachelor of Music degree from Kearney State College and a Masters of Music degree from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. In addition to his teaching duties, he has also served as Chairmen of Band Affairs for the Nebraska Music Educators Association and President of the Crete Education Association. Eric Fahrlander is a member of NSBA, NMEA, Phi Beta Mu, and is a past member of the 43rd Army National Guard Band. Eric and his wife Julie live in Crete and have two adult children, Stefan and Rae.

### A Hands-On Approach to Teaching Rhythmic Counting Structures

**Melissa Watzke and Michael Moore**

**10:30AM | ESH DEF**

Through the use of manipulatives, we have created a system to help young band students understand how to break down rhythmic counting structures. Using this hands-on approach, students have shown growth in their ability to demonstrate understanding of beat duration, how rhythmic patterns are broken down, and then apply that understanding toward written rhythmic work and their performance of these rhythms. This presentation is designed for teachers of middle level students, but the ideas and information could easily be adapted toward more advanced students. This will be a hands-on demonstration allowing attendees to see our process in action. Attendees are invited to bring iPads or laptops, but that is not required.



Melissa Watzke has 20+ years of experience teaching band in Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska, with her last thirteen years at Mission Middle School in Bellevue Public Schools.

Mrs. Watzke received her Bachelor's Degree in Instrumental Music Education from Northwest Missouri State University in 2000, and her Master's Degree in Music from the American Band College of Sam Houston State in 2010. She has two college-aged daughters and resides in Elkhorn, NE with her husband, her dog, and her cat.



Michael Moore is in his 3rd year teaching band and jazz band at Mission Middle School in Bellevue, NE. He previously taught general music for 2 years in Omaha Public Schools, and spent 5 years as brass staff for the Bellevue East HS Marching Band. Michael received his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from the University of Arkansas in 2017, and his Master's Degree in Trumpet Performance from Western Michigan University in 2019, where he held multiple graduate assistantships with the Graduate Brass Quintet and the School of Music. He has performed with the Arkansas Philharmonic Orchestra, the Fayetteville Jazz Collective, and as a featured soloist at multiple trumpet and jazz festivals. Michael currently lives in Elkhorn with his wife (and fellow band director) Abby Rood.



### Rethinking your Warmup Routine

Dr. Andy Feyes

10:30AM | ESH C

This session will discuss and demonstrate various practical warm up exercises for band. The presented exercises will be framed around the teaching of musical concepts, including Tone Quality, Balance, Intonation, and the growth of Ensemble Listening Skills. Exercises will be demonstrated by a small chamber ensemble.



Andrew Feyes has the honor of serving Doane University as the Director of Instrumental Music. In this role he leads the Doane Concert Band and Tiger Pep Band while instructing courses in conducting, instrumental music methods, and applied trumpet lessons. Dr. Feyes holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Bowling Green State University in his native state of Ohio, and both a Masters of Music in Wind Band Conducting and a Ph.D. in Music Education from Kansas State University. While under his direction, the Doane Concert Band performed at the 2023 Nebraska Music Education Association's annual conference, provided a performance clinic at the 2024 Nebraska Bandmasters Association annual conference, and annually tours the Midwest.

Feyes is proud to have been named the 2022-23 Doane University Student Council Faculty Member of the Year, and looks forward to serving the state of Nebraska as the Director of Collegiate Affairs on the NMEA Board of Directors beginning in January 2025. As a conductor and trumpeter, Feyes has performed in Greece, New Zealand, Australia, and France, as well as state and national conferences. Andrew is married to Kelsey Feyes, a Special Educator in Crete Public Schools, and together they have two wonderful daughters, Clara Jo (10) and Alexandra (8).



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