

*LaVilla School
of the Arts
Wind Ensemble*

*College Band Directors National Association
National Band Association
Southern Division Conference*

Northwestern State University
Natchitoches, Louisiana
February 20, 2020 | 2:00 p.m.






LaVilla School of the Arts

As part of The LaVilla School of the Arts, our mission is to provide opportunities that enhance students' creativity, self-discipline, teamwork, and appreciation for cultural diversity. The Band curriculum at LaVilla is designed specifically for the student who is focused on the serious study of instrumental music performance. Within the LaVilla, Band Program we strive to enable students to develop independent musicianship, individual performance skills, ensemble performance concepts, individual creativity, and the discipline required for serious study of music. LaVilla Bands offer numerous curricular and co-curricular ensembles that allow students to showcase their musical achievement through the performance of a wide range of instrumental music which include: Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Ashley Street Jazz Band, Davis Street Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, Chamber Ensembles.

The History of LaVilla

The historic LaVilla area was known as “The Harlem of the South” during its heyday as Jacksonville's jazz entertainment district. Duke Ellington, Cab Calloway, Ella Fitzgerald, Billy Holiday and other jazz greats performed along the Ashley Street strip from the 1920s through the 1960s. In 2000 LaVilla School of the Arts opened as a magnet school for the visual and performing arts, built on the former site of the Roosevelt Theatre. LaVilla draws middle school students from all parts of Jacksonville to its nine specialized arts area programs. LaVilla School of the Arts is a dedicated arts magnet middle school in Jacksonville, Florida that serves students in grades 6-8. The school's mission is to prepare students to meet the high quality academic and pre-professional arts curricula at the high school level; to nurture knowledgeable life-long supporters of the arts; and to provide in-school and out-of-school opportunities that enhance creativity, aesthetic and critical thinking skills, self-discipline, leadership, teamwork, and an appreciation for cultural diversity.

LaVilla was established with the idea to provide Jacksonville students with specialized training in vocal, band, orchestra, guitar, piano, drama, technical theatre, dance, visual arts, and creative writing. Arts and academic teachers work closely together to ensure all students receive a high-quality education according to the State of Florida's guidelines. The school has received Florida's A+ school recognition grade since it opened its doors. LaVilla offers advanced middle school courses along with a gifted track, as well as a few high school courses, such as Algebra, Geometry, and Biology. A key to our success both artistically and academically is the effective use of arts integration and collaboration. At LaVilla, both art and academic teachers collaborate on key concepts to ensure students have a clear understanding of material. LaVilla School of the Arts has a strong belief that arts integration allows students to be fully engaged while also empowering them to be responsible for their own learning. LaVilla School of the Arts consistently takes risks to create meaningful experiences that move beyond the formal classroom setting. LaVilla faculty and staff are always striving to be on the cutting edge with a focus on our school's mission to prepare students to meet the high quality academic and pre-professional arts curricula at the high school level, while nurturing knowledgeable life-long supporters of the arts.





LaVilla School of the Arts *Wind Ensemble*

Dr. Ann Adams Valle, Conductor

Symphonic Overture

Blessed Are They

from “A German Requiem”

With Soul Serene

Charles Carter (1926-1999)

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Arr. Barbara Buehlman

James M. David (b. 1978)

LaVilla Wind Ensemble

Flute

Elissa Bishop
Morgan Bowen
Nora Keagy
Sophia Parra
Kaia Raley-Blade
Sofia Rodriguez

Oboe

Laci Keenan
Twienchai Pieters

Clarinet

Charmaine Adams
Aliyana Alford
Jacob Dern
Joselyn Horton
Tyshai Maple
Emma Moody
Charlotte Roberts
Leo Stoval
Madisyn Welch
Raina Williams

Bass Clarinet

Jay Howard
Makenna Jobes

Bassoon

Kaitlyn Baird
Leylani Cordero
Genesis Olmeda-Perez

Alto Saxophone

Isabel Bianchetta
Leilani Diaz
Elijah Maneja
Alanna Simmons

Tenor Saxophone

Dru Verge

Trumpet

Ruben Kluz
Michael Nutter
Madison Quinn
Devin Reale
Norah Shihadeh

Horn

Luna Bessa
Aiden Bower
Jeffrey Horton
Shakairah Major
Jack Webb

Trombone

Auggie Kirkpatrick
Danilo Quilaton
TJ Shistle
Josie Villadiego-Rojas

Euphonium


Dylan Bacmeister
Chase Dattoli
Isaiah Reyes

Tuba

Donovan Brown
Noah Marsh
Cristian Vasquez

Percussion

Aiden Cooper
Gabe Jennings
Makayla Kline
Luke Malobay



Program Notes

Charles Carter (1926 - 1999) was a composer and arranger of band music for more than 45 years. His contributions to the concert band literature are numerous and well known. Carter received the Bachelor of Music degree from Ohio State University and the Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with Bernard Rogers and Wayne Barlow. When he was a senior at Ohio State he wrote his first symphonic band composition, which was performed the next year. After graduating from Eastman, Carter returned to Columbus, Ohio, where in the fall of 1951, he began arranging for the Ohio State marching band and was part-time instructor of low brass. At that time Manley Whitcomb, the OSU Director of Bands, asked him to write another piece to premiere at the American Bandmasters Association meeting. In 1952, he wrote his first two compositions designed for the educational market. The titles were *Metropolis* and *Overture in Classical Style*, both eventually published by Bourne, Inc.

In 1953, Manley Whitcomb invited Mr. Carter to go with him to Florida State University as his assistant. For the next 43 years Carter arranged for the various bands at FSU. Throughout his career he continued to compose band pieces for the educational field. In 1984, he was presented with the Distinguished Service to Music award by Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity.

Symphonic Overture is a contemporary-sounding overture of medium difficulty so scored that it can be performed with equal success by large and small groups alike. Employing the familiar three-part form (A-B-A), the opening section has a theme that is robust in character and with considerable rhythmic interest. The second theme, slow and expressive in character, is a free form based on the opening idea introduced by the first flute. At the return of the first section, the first theme is treated as a fugue subject, building to great heights as all four entrances are achieved. As the "exposition" concludes, the contrapuntal texture gives way to a homophonic quality which closes the piece. The coda, as is characteristic, utilizes material from the first theme.

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897) was not a religious man in the usual sense of the term. A German Requiem is sacred but non-liturgical, and unlike a long tradition of the Latin Requiem, as its title states, it is a Requiem in the German language. It is believed that Brahms was inspired to write his requiem after his mother died in February 1865, a loss that caused him much grief. In addition, Brahms's lingering feelings over Robert Schumann's death in 1856 may also have been a motivation. Although the Requiem Mass in the Roman Catholic liturgy begins with prayers for the dead, A German Requiem focuses on the living, beginning with the text, "Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted." Although the idea of the Lord is the source of the comfort, the sympathetic humanism persists throughout the work. A German Requiem marked the first time that Brahms combined orchestra with chorus and soloists, composed between 1865 and 1868. It comprises of seven movements, which together lasts 65 to 80 minutes, making this work his great choral masterwork. While the style is romantic, the form is clearly influenced by Handel and reflects Brahms' intensive study of earlier masters. *Blessed Are They* is the first movement of A German Requiem. The original version pairs the chorus with the orchestra to create a heavy and somber mood.

*Blessed are they that mourn;
For they shall be comforted.
They that sow in tears shall reap in joy.
He that goeth forth and weepeth,
bearing precious seed,
Shall doubtless come again with rejoicing,
bringing his sheaves with him.*



Program Notes

Upon graduating from Northwestern University in 1960, Barbara Buehlman became a nationally recognized band director with first division ratings in District, State, and National competitions and through numerous performances at conventions and clinics. In 1983, she assumed full-time responsibilities as administrator of the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic and Associate Conductor of the Northshore Concert Band. In a career that lasted from 1960 – 1997, Barbara Buehlman achieved national renown in various aspects of instrumental music education. Her Round Lake Grade School Bands achieved the highest levels of success possible. She wrote numerous band arrangements, several of which are still in print. Her setting of Blessed Are They from Johannes Brahms' Ein deutsches Requiem appears on many state lists of recommended literature. Buehlman was recognized throughout her career; in addition to Midwest Clinic Medal of Honor and the Meeting Professional of the Year, she was elected to the prestigious American Bandmasters Association (only the second female to achieve this), received an honorary Doctorate from the Vandercook College of Music, and had the Barbara Buehlman Young Conductors Award from the Illinois Grade School Music Association named after her.

Dr. James M. David (b. 1978) is an internationally recognized composer who currently serves as Associate Professor of Composition and Music Theory at Colorado State University and is particularly known for his works involving winds and percussion. His symphonic works for winds have been performed by some of the nation's most prominent professional and university ensembles and his compositions have been presented at more than fifty national and international conferences. As a native of southern Georgia, Dr. David began his musical training under his father Joe A. David, III, a renowned high school band director and professor of music education in the region. This lineage can be heard in his music through the strong influence of jazz and other Southern traditional music mixed with contemporary idioms. He graduated with honors from the University of Georgia and completed his doctorate in composition at Florida State University under Guggenheim and Pulitzer recipients Ladislav Kubik and Ellen Taaffe Zwilich. His music is available through Murphy Music Press, C. Alan Publications, Wingert Jones Publications, and Potenza Music and has been recorded for the Naxos, Mark, GIA WindWorks, Albany, Summit, Luminescence, and MSR Classics labels.

With Soul Serene is Dr. David's third work written specifically for younger musicians and was inspired by a poem composed by an American Civil War soldier in 1864. John Worrell Northrop fought for the Union and was captured and sent to Andersonville Prison which was about 100 miles from David's hometown. Andersonville was a notoriously cruel and miserable place, but Northrop's poem reflects a man who remained optimistic in the face of adversity..

*I've struggled hard for victory,
In pride, although in pain,
With Soul Serene and spirit free,
And so I must again.*

With Soul Serene attempts to capture the indomitable spirit of Northrop's words, while reflecting on the harsh and conflicted past of the Southern United States. Howard Hanson's Chorale and Alleluia served as a guide for the form of this piece and the "alleluia" motive is quoted liberally in the second half of this work. Ultimately, David's hope with this composition leaves listeners with a sense of optimism for the future, despite the many tensions that pester our present day.



Dr. Ann Adams Valle Director

Dr. Ann Adams Valle joined the band faculty at LaVilla School of the Arts in Jacksonville, Florida in the Spring of 2014. At LaVilla, she directs the Wind Ensemble and co-directs the Concert Band and Symphonic Band. In addition, she is on the music faculty at the University of North Florida where she teaches applied oboe and has been the conductor of the University Concert Band. She received the Doctor of Music in Oboe Performance, the Master of Music in Oboe Performance and the Master of Music Education degrees from Florida State University and the Bachelor of Music degree in Oboe Performance from Western Michigan University.

Dr. Valle started her teaching career as Director of Bands at DeLand Middle School in DeLand, Florida, where she built a successful band program to over 300 students. Concurrently, she was a Visiting Professor for Oboe and Music Education at Stetson University from 1989-2014. She has extensive experience as a college professor teaching oboe, chamber music, and music education. Dr. Valle is regularly asked to adjudicate oboe and chamber music for the FBA State Solo and Ensemble Assessment and to present in-service clinics throughout the region. In 2019, Dr. Valle conducted the Florida All-State Middle School Honor Band at our FMEA conference. As Director of Bands at LaVilla School of the Arts, bands under her direction have consistently received superior ratings at the Florida Bandmasters Association Music Performance Assessment.

Dr. Valle has a passion and enthusiasm for music and teaching young students to develop independent musicianship, individual performance skills, ensemble performance concepts, individual creativity, and the discipline required for the serious study of music. She has been an active member of the Florida Bandmasters association since 1990, presenting master classes and clinics for All-County Bands, the Florida Bandmasters Association, and the Florida Music Educators Association. Dr. Valle is an active recitalist and clinician. She is a frequent performer with various orchestras and chamber ensembles throughout Florida. She is an active member of the International Double Reed Society, the College Music Society, the National Association for Music Education, the Florida Music Educators Association, the National Band Association, and the Florida Bandmasters Association.



Mr. Thomas Flynn Director

Mr. Thomas Flynn joined LaVilla School of the Arts in 2016. At LaVilla, he directs the Symphonic Band and co-directs the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band. Prior to coming to Jacksonville, he taught band and choir in grades 5-12 in Poplar Grove, Illinois. As the band and choir director at North Boone High School, he directed all music ensembles and served as music director of the musical. Previously, Mr. Flynn taught elementary band in Barrington, Illinois and directed the pep band at Barrington Middle School - Station Campus. He has taught beginning band students during every year of his career and has a particular interest in teaching pulse and rhythmic concepts. Mr. Flynn graduated cum laude from Illinois State University with the Bachelor of Music Education degree. As a trombonist, he has performed in Florida with the First Coast Wind Symphony and University of North Florida Concert Band, and in Illinois with the Rockford Wind Ensemble and Kishwaukee Valley Concert Band. He also enjoys playing piano and learning the works of Scott Joplin. Mr. Flynn is a member of the National Association for Music Education, the Florida Music Education Association, the Florida Bandmasters Association, the International Trombone Association, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.



Mr. Chris Banks Director

Originally from the Atlanta area, Mr. Banks attended Georgia State University with an early interest in Music Education as well as Applied Performance. After extensive study with members of the Atlanta Symphony and the Chicago Symphony, Mr. Banks attended the prestigious Juilliard School in New York as a Gluck fellowship recipient and earned a Performance Certificate in Bass Trombone under the tutelage of Mr. Joseph Alessi, Principal Trombone of the New York Philharmonic. While in New York Mr. Banks studied with more than a dozen Artists from The New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Boston Symphony, Philadelphia Orchestra, Berlin Philharmonic, Vienna Philharmonic, Empire Brass Quintet, and American Brass Quintet.

Performances include recordings and live engagements with the New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony, St. Luke's Orchestra, American Brass Quintet, Meridian Arts Ensemble, Brooklyn Symphony, and many others including being a member of the Equali Trombone Quartet and the Avalon Brass Quintet that won the 1990 New York Brass Conference Chamber Music Competition. Mr. Banks has also performed extended engagements with the Minnesota Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony, and the Burning River Brass Ensemble. Upon graduation, Mr. Banks won an appointment as Principle Bass Trombone with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra in South Carolina, performed and recorded with the Orchestra Brass Quintet, and gave featured solo performances as part of the renowned Spoleto Music Festival. After four years with the CSO, Mr. Banks won the Bass Trombone position with the Jacksonville Symphony, which he held until 2002.

Mr. Banks has held adjunct Trombone Faculty positions at several Universities including University of South Carolina and The Juilliard School Pre-College. While completing a degree in Philosophy at the University of North Florida, Mr. Banks began teaching at LaVilla School of the Arts, in Jacksonville, Florida and accepted a full time position in 2004. At LaVilla, Mr. Banks is fortunate to be one of the three instrumental music faculty, and works collaboratively with Dr. Ann Adams and Mr. Thomas Flynn in every aspect of the program with special responsibility for the two Jazz Bands, Chamber music, and Percussion programs. Mr. Banks is an active member of FMEA, FBA, and NAFME, notably serving as the Florida All-State Middle School Jazz Band coordinator 2013-2016, and has served in numerous roles for FBA District 17.







Acknowledgements

LaVilla School of the Arts Administration

Lianna Knight - Principal

W. Kevin Brown - Assistant Principal

Anthony T. Sznakowski - Assistant Principal

Dr. Diana L. Greene, Superintendent of Duval County Public Schools

The Faculty and Staff of LaVilla School of the Arts

The Band Parents for their continued support of the LaVilla Band program

A very special Thank you to the dedicated efforts of the LaVilla Band Support Team:

Angie Welch - Trip Coordinator

Shellie and Wayne Simmons

Harriott Hobbs

Rodney Peterson - donor for student scholarships

James Ranch - Program Graphic Design

“Let us be grateful to people who make us happy;
they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.”

Marcel Proust

I am so grateful to have chosen one of the most exciting and fulfilling professional careers available to me as a musician, and to have had so many very important teachers in my life. The LaVilla Wind Ensemble students have put their hearts and souls into preparing for our performance. These students touch my soul every single day.

Some thoughts for my students as we approach our performance today:

“We have studied, prepared, experimented, probed; we have learned the composition, and have the technique well in hand. We understand what the music is about, what the music has to say to the audience. We understand what we have to do to deliver that message. The focus of attention has moved from the technical, from the mental, to the instinctive where the conductor and the players become one with the music. The determination, the confidence and the emotion is elevated to the highest possible level. The concert begins now. No more planning, no more trying and failing, no more fear, this is it. The drama begins. The players are challenging the composition to give up its substance and meaning. As they move through the concert, things get yet more dramatic - no letting up. We are in this to the end. This is what we planned for, this is what we worked for, and this is what it is all about!”

Music from Skill to Art by Bobby L. Adams



LaVilla School of the Arts Wind Ensemble

CBDNA / NBA Southern Division



Northwestern State University
Natchitoches, Louisiana
February 20, 2020 | 2:00 p.m.