

Instrumental Ensembles Faculty & Staff

Mike Fansler, Director of Bands

Matt Thomas, Associate Director of Bands

John Cooper, Director of Jazz Studies

Richard Hughey, Director of Orchestral Activities

Michael Stryker, Associate Director of Jazz Studies

Rick Kurasz, Percussion Ensembles

Kevin Nichols, Marching Band Percussion

Karla White, Office Administrator

Keith Dossett, Graduate Assistant for Bands

Katie Herrenbruck, Graduate Assistant for Bands

Colin Weber, Graduate Assistant for Bands

Alberto Racanati, Graduate Assistant for Faculty Brass Quintet

Aaron Kippola, Graduate Assistant for Jazz Studies

Byron McChord, Graduate Assistant for Jazz Studies

Nina Blaszk, Graduate Assistant for Orchestras

Winds & Percussion Faculty

John McMurtery, flute

Michael Ericson, oboe

Eric Ginsberg, clarinet

Douglas Huff, bassoon

John Vana, saxophone

Randall Faust, horn

Bruce Briney, trumpet

John Cooper, trumpet

John Mindeman, trombone/euphonium

Terry Solomonson, tuba

Rick Kurasz, percussion

Kevin Nichols, percussion

Matthew Hughes, string bass

Piano Faculty

Jeffrey Brown

Michael Stryker (Jazz)

Tammie Walker



THE WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

College of Fine Arts & Communication

School of Music

presents

Showcase of Bands 2015

Final Concert

featuring

WIU Concert Band

Matt Thomas, conductor

and

The Showcase of Bands 2015 Honor Band

Daniel Schmidt, guest conductor

COFAC Recital Hall
Saturday, February 14, 2015
4:00 PM

Western Illinois University Concert Band

Flute

Clare Takash LaGrange, IL
Maureen Doran O'Dell, IL
Emma Kermott..... Sterling, IL
Heidi Maier Forrest, IL

Oboe

Kayleigh Marcotte Springfield, IL
Allison Dyché..... Bourbonnais, IL

Clarinet

Rachel Levison Longmont, CO
Brian Drews..... South Elgin, IL
Madison Thielsen Naperville, IL
Meghan Mahoney Bloomington, IL
Montana Farrell Davenport, IA
Ashli Augsburger..... Mt. Pleasant, IA

Bassoon

Joel Prescott Burlington, IA
Alexis Thompson East Peoria, IL
Gracen Giordano..... Pontiac, IL

Saxophone

James Buennig (alto) Geneseo, IL
Colin Weber (alto) Rochelle, IL
Mason Moss (tenor) ... Rock Island, IL
Brian Backer (bari)..... St. Charles, IL

Trumpet

James Funk Peoria, IL
Allison Smith Roseville, IL
Michelle Bingheim Quincy, IL
Brittney McDaniel..... Chicago, IL
Nicholas Pearl Worth, IL

Horn

Kamron Wilson..... Geneseo, IL

Trombone

Tyler Guthrie Peoria, IL
Armando Mejia Bensenville, IL

Tuba

Kimberly Truemper Macomb, IL

Percussion

Stephanie Bergland East Moline, IL
Jami Hockensmith..... Villa Park, IL
Don Winston..... Chicago, IL
Dakota McWhortor Springfield, IL

Biographies

Dr. Daniel J. Schmidt is Professor of Bands at Northern Arizona University. Prior to this appointment, he was director of bands and professor of saxophone and double reeds at Mars Hill College in North Carolina. College ensembles under his direction have received international reputations, touring Europe, performing at various conventions including the CBDNA Regional Conventions in 2002, 2006, and 2010 as well as a variety of state MENC conventions. The NAU Wind Symphony has made promotional recordings for Warner Bros. Music and Carl Fischer Music. Prior to Dr. Schmidt's appointment at Mars Hill College, he was the associate director of bands at Syracuse University, directing the 230-piece "Pride of the Orange" marching band and various concert and pep bands.

Dr. Schmidt received the Bachelor of Music Education degree from Florida State University and was appointed director of bands at Hudson High School in Pasco County, Florida, in 1987. He is the first person to receive the Master of Music in wind conducting from the University of North Texas while emphasizing saxophone performance and musicology (1993). Dr. Schmidt is also the first person to receive the Doctorate of Musical Arts in wind conducting from the University of Kentucky (2000).

Dr. Schmidt was the recipient of a Fulbright Award to Australia in 1993, but refused this opportunity to join the Syracuse University faculty. He has served as clinician and adjudicator throughout the country. He is the Primary Conductor and Director of Scholarly Publications for Carl Fischer Music of New York.

Projects have included acting as the coordinating editor for the recent series of band scores entitled *Percy Grainger: The Critical Edition*. He is the author of *My First Klosé*, *My First Wagner*, *My First Universal Method*, *My First Barrett*, and *My First Weissenborn*, five intermediate lesson workbooks for woodwinds, and is the co-author of *Protocol: A Guide to the Collegiate Audition Process* for trumpet, clarinet, trombone, saxophone, and flute.

He is the conductor of the Trade Winds, a professional ensemble that does promotional recordings of new music for Carl Fischer and Wingert-Jones since 2002. Dr. Schmidt is also a performing artist for the Yamaha Corporation of America and is the Arizona State Chair and Vice-President of the Western Region for the College Band Directors National Association.

Dr. Matt Thomas is the Associate Director of Bands at the Western Illinois University School of Music. His responsibilities at WIU include conducting the Concert Band, University Band, Pep Band, and directing the "Marching Leathernecks," as well as teaching instrumental conducting and other courses within the undergraduate music education curriculum.

A native of the Midwest, Dr. Thomas was born and raised in Evansville, Indiana. He attended the University of Kentucky as a trumpet student of Terry Everson, and graduated from the institution with a Bachelor of Music Education degree. He then taught in the Cobb County, Georgia, school district, where bands under his direction gave feature performances at the University of Georgia Middle School Festival and The Midwest Clinic, an International Band and Orchestra Conference.

Dr. Thomas' graduate studies included a Master of Music degree in Wind/Band Conducting and a Ph.D. in Music Education from The Florida State University, where he was a conducting student of Richard Clary. During his time at FSU, Dr. Thomas was an associate conductor with the numerous graduate and undergraduate concert ensembles, taught courses in music education and conducting, and designed drill for the 400 member marching band. He and his wife, Ann, reside in Macomb with their four children, Emma, Ben, Kate, and Will.