

the houston★pride★band presents

# Divas!

MUSIC BY, FOR, AND ABOUT WOMEN



April 1, 2023  
8PM · MATCH

# From The President

Welcome! Tonight, the **Houston Pride Band** has a diva-licious program for you as we celebrate the influence and impact of women on music – it's time for **Divas!**

While females have made an impact in the world of popular music and Broadway (two genres we pay tribute to tonight), it's not as easy in the band and orchestra world. This concert serves to showcase the musical talent and creativity of females – as composers and as conductors. Female conductors are noticeably absent from the artistic leadership of the largest orchestras when their artistry should be celebrated. And pieces by women and LGBTQ composers are often difficult to find or are not sold by large music publishers. We hope the visibility we offer tonight helps spread awareness that female influence on all forms of music is valuable and important.

The Houston Pride Band received a distinct honor this spring – we have been selected by the Orange Show for Visionary Arts to be the official banner walkers for the **2023 Art Car Parade!** On Saturday, April 15th you'll be able to see members of the band participate in this iconic Houston event.

Make sure you get your tickets for our final concert of the season, "**Summer Love,**" on Saturday, June 10th here at MATCH. If you don't already, be sure to follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** and go to our website **houstonprideband.org** to subscribe to email updates of our upcoming events and performances. You don't want to miss a beat!

The Houston Pride Band appreciates your generous support. Your contributions help the band bring music and joy to our community throughout the year. Your ticket purchase tonight is just the beginning – be sure to go to **houstonprideband.org/donate** to make additional contributions and check out the other giving and sponsorship opportunities within this program for ways to support our organization.

Enjoy the show!

Yours in **PRIDE,**



Jason Svatek, President  
Houston Pride Band



# Divas!

MUSIC BY, FOR, AND ABOUT WOMEN

DEBORAH HIRSCH & DAVID LEA, CONDUCTORS

## PROGRAM

Purple Martin		Yukiko Nishimura
In Two Places	Jessie Meng, guest conductor	Haley Woodrow
My Soul to Keep	Pheobie Willis, guest soloist	Julie Giroux
A Carmen Celebration	Dana Pradervand-Sedatole, guest conductor	Georges Bizet arr. John Cacavas
Lady Gaga Fugue	Stefani Germanotta & Nadir Khayat arr. Giovanni Dettori & Johnnie Vinson	
Divas!		arr. Ralph Ford

## - INTERMISSION -

Lichtweg/Lightway		Jennifer Jolley
Adoration	Dana Pradervand-Sedatole, guest conductor	Florence B. Price tr. Cheldon Williams
The Legend of Zelda	transcribed for band by Noel Freeman, Houston Pride Band	Haim Saban & Shuki Levy
The Bicycle Shoppe		Lisa DeSpain
Over the Rainbow, from "The Wizard of Oz"	Jacklyn Dior, guest soloist	Harold Arlen & Yip Harburg arr. Warren Barker
Big Noise from Winnetka	Sharon Prince, guest conductor	Bob Harrat & Ray Bauduc arr. Robert W. Smith
Highlights from Dreamgirls		Henry Krieger & Tom Eyen arr. Jay Bocook

# houston pride band

## PERFORMING MEMBERS

### FLUTE/PICCOLO

Ruben Gomez  
Jonathan Griffin  
Donald Hale  
Theo Harrison\*  
Alex Martinez-Hoge  
Josh Wunderlich

### OBOE

Michael Moreau-Monier  
Lupe Ybarra-Regan  
Katie Zolvinski

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David DiCamillo\*  
Jeremy Hasan  
Becky Schlembach

### CLARINET

Kayla DuBrow  
William Fu\*  
Em Merrell  
Paul Norris  
K. Sarah Ostrach  
Chelsea Rasing  
Hannah Robertson  
Billy Skembos  
Jeff Taylor  
James Walker

### BASS CLARINET

Nicolas Droger

### ALTO SAXOPHONE

Fernando Arteaga  
Liz De Los Rios  
Anna Harkness  
Daniel Stover  
Kevin Taylor\*

### TENOR SAXOPHONE

Anthony Fernandez

### BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Lisa Mace

### TRUMPET

Mary Beth Alsdorf  
George Gehring\*  
Adam Jatho  
Tony Johnson  
Rose Kantorczyk  
Stefan McFall  
Jessie Meng  
Tajudeen Ohiri  
Laura Prier

### HORN

Jorge Gutierrez\*  
Brice Harkness  
Jimmy Huynh  
Mackenzie Klima  
Catherine Ruiz  
Eric Weidner

### TROMBONE

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Noel Freeman  
Nikolai Robinson  
Jason Svatek

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Crawford Howell  
Casey Sherrell  
Russell Ben Williams

### TUBA

Chris Foster  
Rudy Ramirez  
Brooke Yahney

### PERCUSSION

Lauren Anderson  
Jose Garza  
Christian Hopkins  
Sharon Prince\*  
Jen Rodriguez  
Dave Wallis

\* Section Leader



# Artistic Directors

## DEBORAH HIRSCH

Artistic Director

Now in her 7th season with the Houston Pride Band, Deborah Hirsch is originally from Baltimore, Maryland. She graduated from the University of Kansas with a bachelor's degree in music therapy and music education and earned a master's degree in music at Texas A&M University-Commerce. She also served in the 312th Army Band in Lawrence, Kansas before moving to Texas.

Retiring after 37 years as a band director in Pasadena, Texas, Deborah enjoyed a successful career in public education. Ms. Hirsch was named "Teacher of the Year" in 2014.

As a participant the Colorado University Conducting Symposium in June 2016 Ms. Hirsch studied under Steve Davis, Dr. Donald McKinney, Dr. Matt Roeder and Dr. Matthew Dockendorf. In June 2019, she attended the Conn-Selmer Institute where she was able to study, consult and collaborate with many of her band idols—Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser, Dr. Paula A. Crider, Frank Troyka, Michael Sweeney and Richard Saucedo. In the 2019, Deborah was honored to direct the Association of Private Lutheran Schools Honor Band and the Texas Region 19 Class CC Band. In November 2021, she was the guest clinician for the Texas Region 19 CCC Band and shared the podium at the Bigger and Brighter Conference of the Pride Bands Alliance.

Deborah is an active clinician, judge and consultant across the state and is a member of Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, Women Band Directors International and Texas Music Adjudicators Association.

Ms. Hirsch is also a member of the chancel choir and bell choir at Bering Memorial United Church of Christ and a long time member of Pasadena Little Theater.



Artistic Directors Deborah Hirsch & David Lea

## DAVID LEA

Artistic Director

David Lea has been an Artistic Director for the Houston Pride Band since 2018. He joined the ensemble in 2016 and has previously served as trumpet section leader. When he's not conducting, he continues to play in the trumpet section and is a founding member of Brass Tax, a HPB brass quintet.

David earned bachelor's degrees from Texas A&M and Michigan State University in Psychology and Music Education, respectively. He earned his Master of Music Education from the University of North Texas. He has performed and participated in conducting symposiums with Drs. Kevin Sedatole and Craig Kirchoff, Dr. Matthew Westage, Michael Votta and Frank Battisti.

David is currently the Director of Bands at Michael R. Null Middle School in Northeast Houston. His bands have enjoyed successes at UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Evaluations, and local and regional

festivals. As a private trumpet teacher, his students have made Michigan All-state, earned first divisions at regional and state solo & ensemble contests, and had the honor of participating in the Michigan Youth Arts Festival. His professional memberships include Texas Music Educators and Texas Bandmasters Associations. David is an outspoken advocate for his LGBT+ students and was honored to support them by serving as the founding faculty advisor for a student organization focused on inclusion, acceptance, and community.

# Program Notes

COMPILED BY CHELSEA RASING

## PURPLE MARTIN

Yukiko Nishimura (b. 1967) is a Japanese composer and pianist. Nishimura graduated from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 1990. One year later, she began graduate study with Alfred Reed at the University of Miami. In 1993 she went to the Manhattan School of Music for further study. She has studied composition with Atsutada Otaka, Dr. Alfred Reed, Dr. Richard Danielpour, and Giampaolo Bracali. She studied piano with Ivan Davis and Dr. Sara Davis Buechner. In 1994 she returned to Japan. Since 1996, she has given concerts consisting entirely of her own music in Japan.

*Purple Martin* is named after a type of North American swallow. Graceful in flight, musical in its pre-dawn singing, this big swallow is one of our most popular birds. Almost all purple martins in the east now nest in birdhouses put up especially for them. Martin housing has a long history: some Native American tribes reportedly hung up hollow gourds around their villages to attract these birds. Purple martins migrate to South America for the winter, but before leaving, they may gather to roost in groups of thousands in late summer.

## IN TWO PLACES

Haley Woodrow (b. 1984, Texas) is an American composer, arranger and conductor. Ms. Woodrow has always been curious about music. A native Texan, she began her performance career as a trumpet player, graduating from Grapevine High School in 2003 and attending the University of Texas at Arlington from 2003 to 2008. At UTA, she spent ten consecutive semesters as the jazz trumpet chair in the Jazz Orchestra. After seven years of employment as the orchestra director and arranger at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Arlington, Texas, she went back to school in 2014 and earned her master's in music composition at Texas Christian University.

Today Ms. Woodrow is a freelancing composer and arranger, and publishes her music through her company, Woodrow Music. Haley also teaches piano at the King's University and leads a chamber music and composition program for Tarrant County College. She and her husband co-direct a newly formed Dallas/Fort Worth based jazz orchestra as volunteers in the Texas State Guard.

Ms. Woodrow says of *In Two Places*:

One thing you'd never expect to do after graduating from college, getting married and being a homeowner is to move back in with your parents. But, as it turned out, my husband and I found ourselves in this situation in the fall of 2013. Around the same time, I decided to finally follow my gut and go back to school for what I'd always wanted to do – music composition. Having a background as a jazz trumpet player, I luckily landed in a graduate assistantship in the jazz department at Texas Christian University while pursuing my master's in composition.

As great as it was, I felt pulled in several directions, not having the typical schedule of a composer, but not having the life of a performance major either. In this season of my life, I experienced conflicting feelings attached to experiences with adulthood vs. adolescence, homogeneity vs. diversity, and the jazz approach vs. the contemporary classical approach. I so many ways, I felt literally in two places at once!

*In Two Places* begins with an oboe feature and utilizes a motivic tambourine part throughout the piece. It is comprised of two main

sections, both with strong melodies and a near constant eighth-note motor. Present throughout the composition is a fight between the major and minor modes. The last statement is purposefully written to convey ambiguity.

## MY SOUL TO KEEP

Julie Ann Giroux was born in 1961 in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, and raised in Phoenix, Arizona and Monroe, Louisiana. She received her formal education from Louisiana State University and Boston University. She studied composition with John Williams, Bill Conti and Jerry Goldsmith, to name a few. Julie is an accomplished performer on piano and horn, but her first love is composition.

Ms. Giroux says of *My Soul to Keep*:

On October 13, 2019 *My Soul to Keep* premiered with a 150-piece band and 150-piece chorus at the LGBA [Lesbian and Gay Band Association] National Convention in Orlando, the city where the second largest mass shooting in our country took place. The LGBA event is where ALL are accepted, celebrated and loved.

The massacre that took place the day I married my wife on our 20th anniversary, the day 49 people lost their lives and 53 were injured. The day we almost changed our wedding until Kay said the words "If we change our wedding, he wins." The day 49 people's stories came to an end.

*My Soul to Keep* will be FREE of cost to everyone. Forever. Free to play-free to download-free for everybody.

We are our brothers keepers. We are our sisters keepers. Your soul is mine to keep safe. My soul is yours to keep safe. Please join me in celebrating the glory & memories of the lives lost and forever changed by gun violence.

I leave you the final lyrics of the last few measures of "My Soul to Keep."

*Some will watch  
Some will pray  
All will bear my soul away*

## A CARMEN CELEBRATION

Some of the most famous themes ever written come alive in this fantastic medley of *There's The Chorus of the Street Boys*, *Habanera*, *Gypsy Song*, *Toreador Song*, *March*, and *The Procession of the Bulls*.

## LADY GAGA FUGUE

A convincingly traditional Baroque fugue based on the opening strains of Lady Gaga's hit *Bad Romance* is played throughout the ensemble, creating an interwoven, classic take on a traditional pop standard.

Johnnie Vinson (b. 8 May 1944, Andalusia, Ala.) is an American composer and educator. Dr. Vinson is emeritus director of bands and professor of music at Auburn University. He received the Bachelor of Science and Master of Education degrees in music education from Auburn, and the Doctor of Arts degree in music theory from the University of Mississippi.

With well over 400 published works, Dr. Vinson is an internationally recognized arranger/composer of music for band. He has served as an adjudicator and clinician throughout the United States and Canada.

## DIVAS!

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This medley features songs from some of the pop divas that we all know and love: Shania Twain, Celine Dion, Brittany Spears, Madonna, and Whitney Houston are all featured. Tunes include: *Man! I Feel Like a Woman, That's the Way It Is, (You Drive Me) Crazy, Beautiful Stranger, and I Learned From the Best.*

## LICHTWEG/LIGHTWAY

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Jennifer Jolley (b. 1981, Bellflower, Calif.) is a composer and sound artist influenced by urban environments and nostalgia.

Originally from Los Angeles, Dr. Jolley was an assistant professor of music at Ohio Wesleyan University. She earned both her D.M.A. and M.M. at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music and her B.M. at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music.

Dr. Jolley joined the composition faculty of the Texas Tech School of Music in 2018 and has been a member of the composition faculty at Interlochen Arts Camp since 2015. She teaches various music composition courses including computer music programming and sound art.

Dr. Jolley says of *Lichtweg/Lightway*:

*Lichtweg/Lightway* is a wind ensemble piece based on the Keith Sonnier's light installation in Connecting Level 03 in Terminal 1 at the Munich Airport. Bright fluorescent neon lights line the walls of a typical airport walkway to both guide travelers to where they are going and to help them cope with the stress of being in transit.

In this piece I musically portray the rhythmic placement of red and blue light emanating from this neon installation by creating a constant eighth-note ostinato that is heard throughout the piece. Just as the panes of glass, mirrors, and aluminum sheets refract and scatter the colorful neon light, this ostinato is diffused amongst the different colors in the ensemble.

## ADORATION

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Arranger Cheldon Williams says of *Adoration* and composer Florence Price:

Florence Price (1887-1953) was a prolific American composer whose race and gender made it difficult for her contributions to join the widely accepted musical canon in the decades following her life. A trailblazer, Price is considered the first Black woman recognized as a symphonic composer and was the first to have her music performed by a major American orchestra when the Chicago Symphony Orchestra gave the world premiere of her *Symphony No. 1* in 1933.

Price's catalog of works boasts an impressive array of symphonies, concertos, chamber music, various symphonic works, choral works, piano music, and music for the organ. *Adoration* in its original form is one of Price's compositions for organ and fits within the genre of her semi-secular output. My goal in transcribing this piece is to grant performers exposure to Price's story and the gift of performing her music outside of its intended medium.

## THE LEGEND OF ZELDA

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Noel Freeman is a Houston-based trombonist, arranger, and budding composer currently in his 16th season as a member of the Houston Pride Band. His work includes small ensembles, band, orchestra, and jazz. His first major orchestral composition will premier in 2024.

Mr. Freeman has this to say of his composition:

*The Legend of Zelda* is a high fantasy action-adventure video game franchise developed and first released by Nintendo in 1986. The series centers on the various incarnations of Link, a courageous young Hylian

man, with pointy, elf-like ears; and Princess Zelda, a magical princess that is the mortal reincarnation of the goddess Hylia. This theme is recurring throughout the *Legend of Zelda* game franchise. Composer Chad Seiter adapted this theme and numerous other musical selections from the franchise into a 30th anniversary suite called *Symphony of the Goddesses*. This theme was incorporated as the overture to the suite and represents the courage and heroism of Link and his fierce battle to protect the Triforce of Courage and save Princess Zelda and the magical land of Hyrule from Ganon, an evil warlord-turned demon king.

## THE BICYCLE SHOPPE

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Lisa DeSpain (b. 1964, Columbus, Ohio) is a New York City-based composer of musical theater, opera, and concert works. Commissioned by a wide range of ensembles, Lisa has composed works for The United States Air Force Band of Flight, Copland House/Hendrick Hudson High School, New York Choral Society, New Haven Symphony Orchestra, and the womens choir Bella Voce.

A force in the musical theater education world, Lisa is the go-to arranger for Broadway educational choral works including *Hamilton, Once, American Idiot, Next To Normal*, and more.

Lisa was the first jazz composer awarded a Copland House Residency. Living and composing in Copland's home profoundly impacted her artistic mission. Inspired by Copland's legacy, Ms. DeSpain strives to explore and expand the boundaries of the American musical language, to create artistic works uniquely identifiable as American. She is a professor of music and theater at LaGuardia Community College - CUNY (City University of New York).

## OVER THE RAINBOW

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*Over the Rainbow* from "The Wizard of Oz" was originally sung by one of the original divas, Judy Garland, and was awarded the Oscar in 1939 for Best Original Song. It has also always been a favorite of the LGBT community, evoking the dream of many young people to find a Technicolor escape from their gray surroundings. The song has been recorded by many since the Judy Garland original, including Patti LaBelle, Israel Kamakawiwo'ole, Rufus Wainwright, and P!nk.

## BIG NOISE FROM WINNETKA

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A classical jazz band piece originally written in 1938, this piece was famously covered by the Divine Miss M herself, Bette Midler, on her 1979 album *Thighs and Whispers*. Midler's career started in 1965, however coming to prominence in the 1970s with live performances at Continental Baths, a gay bath house in the basement of the Ansonia Hotel in NYC. Midler was recently inducted as part of the 44th Kennedy Center Honors for lifetime artistic achievements.

## DREAMGIRLS

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*Dreamgirls* is a Broadway musical, with music by Henry Krieger and lyrics and book by Tom Eyer. Based on the show business aspirations and successes of R&B acts such as The Shirelles, James Brown, Jackie Wilson, and others, but closely follows the story of The Supremes as the musical follows the story of a young Black female singing trio, portrayed by Jennifer Holiday, Sheryl Lee Ralph, and Loretta Devine, called "The Dreams", who become music superstars. *Dreamgirls* was nominated for 13 Tony Awards in 1982, including Best Musical, and won 6 awards, including Best Actress in a Leading Role in a Musical for Holiday for her portrayal of Effie White. The musical was then adapted for a movie in 2006, starring Beyonce, Anika Noni Rose, and Jennifer Hudson, in which Hudson won Best Supporting Actress for her portrayal of Effie White, becoming the youngest African American to win an Oscar at the age of 25. Featuring a driving pulse and memorable tunes, this energetic arrangement includes: *Dreamgirls; And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going; and Move (You're Stepping on My Heart)*.

# Guest Artist



**Jacklyn Dior**  
**Guest Emcee & Soloist**

Jacklyn Dior is a Houston Area Bearded Drag Entertainer who loves to share her joy with all around her. She is active in the Houston LGBTQIA community and can frequently be seen helping to raise funds for many of our LGBT charities. She is the current Miss Lone Star, and Miss Southern States Bearded Queen, and was Girl of Montrose 2021.

When not in Drag, Jacklyn sings with many organizations around Houston, and teaches choir in Houston area schools. She also loves to play volleyball with Lone Star Volleyball Assoc.

You can see Jacklyn weekly at Buddy's Houston for Tuesday Trivia, and on Fridays for the RuPaul's Drag Race viewing parties.



**Pheobie Willis**  
**Guest Soloist**

Soprano, Pheobie Willis is a native Houstonian raised in southwest Houston. Ms. Willis graduated with her B.A in Music from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas and her MLA with a focus in music from the University of St. Thomas. Ms. Willis has been a chorus member and featured soloist for the Houston Ebony Opera Guild, The Scott Joplin Orchestra, and other ensembles across the city of Houston.



**Jessie Meng**  
**Guest Conductor**

Originally from Missouri, Jessie grew up in the Midwest earning a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Missouri and a Masters in Music from Indiana University. She began her career in music in Midland, Texas. There she was a member of the Midland Odessa Symphony and a band director at Midland High School. For the past 15 years Jessie has been a music educator and freelance performer in the Houston area.

Jessie has been a proud Houston Pride Band member since 2018 and enjoys spending her time with her wife Carmen, her granddaughter Elena, and their two dogs Hazel and Frida. She also enjoys playing softball with the Hurricanes in the Montrose Softball League. This year Jessie was awarded Teacher of the Year.





## **Dana Pradervand-Sedatole**

### **Guest Conductor**

Dana Pradervand-Sedatole is completing her 35th year of teaching and is currently the Associate Director of Bands at the University of Houston. Prior to coming to the University of Houston, Ms. Pradervand-Sedatole was the Director of Bands at Oak Ridge High School in Conroe, Texas. During her six-year tenure, the band received numerous awards including 2nd Runner-Up in the TMEA 6A Honor Band Competition, UIL State Marching Contest qualifier and a 2-time National Wind Band Honoree.

Ms. Pradervand-Sedatole began her teaching career as the Assistant Band Director at Monterey High School in Lubbock, Texas and later became the Director of Bands at Evans Junior High. She moved to San Antonio, Texas in 1992 to become the Director of Bands at Wood Middle School. While at Wood MS, her Wind Ensemble was a TMEA Honor Band Finalist twice. In 2001, she was named the Director of Bands at Judson High School in Converse, Texas. During her tenure at Judson the band enjoyed many successes including being named an Area Honor Band Finalist, performing at the Bands of America National Concert Band Festival, and performing at the National Youth Concert in Carnegie Hall.

Ms. Pradervand-Sedatole is a graduate of Texas Tech University and a student of Mr. James Sudduth. After completing her degrees, Ms. Pradervand-Sedatole began study with Mr. Eddie Green. She is an active clinician and adjudicator across the country and is currently serving as President of the Texas Music Educators Association. She maintains professional affiliations with the Texas Bandmasters Fraternity, American Bandmasters Association, Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity, Texas Music Adjudicators Association and serves on the Board of Trustees for The Foundation for Music Education.



## **Sharon Prince**

### **Guest Conductor**

A native Texan, Sharon received her bachelors and master's degrees in music education from Texas Woman's University. After college, Sharon began her career as a band director in Pasadena ISD at Beverly Hills Intermediate School.

During her 24-year tenure at Beverly Hills, Sharon was the music department chair, named Teacher of the Year, served as UIL Region 19 junior high chair, and was the piano accompanist for numerous musicals at Dobie High School and South Houston High School.

In 1995, Sharon was named as the Director of Fine Arts for Pasadena ISD overseeing all music programs, drama, dance, and art. Since her retirement in 2005 she is active as a mentor, clinician, adjudicator for bands and accompanist for solo and ensemble contests.

Sharon is a member of the handbell ensemble at Bering Memorial United Church of Christ and integral part of the music ministry. She is a member of Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, Texas Retired Teachers Association, Women Band Directors International, and Handbell Musicians of America. Sharon was honored in July 2021 to be inducted into the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame.

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Thank you Fernando Arteaga

## A CARMEN CELEBRATION

Thank you Lisa Mace & Nancy Wintle

## DIVAS!

Thank you Antoine & Tony

## DREAMGIRLS

Thank you Theo Harrison

## IN TWO PLACES

Thank you Judith & Charles Klima,  
In Honor of Nick Allan

## LADY GAGA FUGUE

Thank you Nikolai Robinson

## THE LEGEND OF ZELDA

Thank you Noel Freeman

## LICHTWEG/LIGHTWAY

Thank you Nicolas Droger,  
To all my travels

## OVER THE RAINBOW

Thank you Tony Johnson

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The advertisement features a background image of a church interior with large, classical columns. The text is overlaid on this image in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The main headline is 'THIS AIN'T YOUR ORDINARY WORSHIP'. Below it, the church name 'BERING MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST' is written in a smaller font. At the bottom, the address and phone number are provided.

Advertise with the  
Houston Pride Band!  
Please email  
[info@houstonprideband.org](mailto:info@houstonprideband.org)  
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# houston★pride★band

## our story

Serving as a community band in Houston's LGBTQ+ community, the Houston Pride Band has several groups that perform at local events throughout the year as well as concerts and parades. We also provide a fun social experience for musicians.

The Houston Pride Band has a proud history spanning four decades. Originally known as the Montrose Marching Band, the organization was formed by a small group of musicians in 1978 as a way to make new friends and to provide entertainment for Houston's gay and lesbian community.

The Houston Pride Band is a member of the Pride Bands Alliance, a national musical organization made up of over thirty bands across the nation and around the world. With Pride Bands Alliance, members of the Houston Pride Band have been able to participate at every Gay Games, several Presidential Inaugurations, and conferences throughout the world.

## mission

The mission of the Houston Pride Band is:

1. To provide a welcoming, comfortable and safe musical outlet for LGBTQ+ and allied musicians to participate in a community band setting.
2. To encourage interest in public and private music education through concerts and events that uplift and inspire musical interest in people of all ages.
3. To use musical performances to support local community organizations and events.
4. To host and participate in local, state, national, and international conferences that foster the continuing participation of all individuals in community musical programs.

## membership & rehearsals

The Houston Pride Band is open to all brass, woodwind, and percussion players of all skill levels. The band rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. For additional details, please visit our website at [houstonprideband.org](http://houstonprideband.org) or email [info@houstonprideband.org](mailto:info@houstonprideband.org).

[houstonprideband.org](http://houstonprideband.org) • [facebook.com/houstonprideband](https://facebook.com/houstonprideband)



## PROUD MEMBER OF THE PRIDE BANDS ALLIANCE

Formerly the Lesbian and Gay Band Association, the Pride Bands Alliance is a membership organization comprised of concert and marching bands from cities across the United States and the world.

Great performances are the most visible manifestation of the lesbian and gay band movement. Member bands across the country appear in hundreds of concerts, parades, and community events every year. For more information, visit [www.pridebands.org](http://www.pridebands.org).

## AND THE ASSOCIATION OF CONCERT BANDS

The Houston Pride Band is also a member of the Association of Concert Bands. The mission of the Association of Concert Bands is to foster excellence in Concert Band music through performance, education, and advocacy. ACB has formed Blanket Performance Licensing Agreements with both BMI and ACSAP for performance rights for its members.

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