

houston★pride★band

TRUE
COLORS



Sunday, May 22, 7PM | Resurrection MCC
Thanks to our season sponsors, Bunnies on the Bayou and Outreach United

FROM THE PRESIDENT

True Colors is a concert all about being your true and authentic self. For some of us, it was a long process fraught with inner struggle, but to see others, like Landon, who have discovered and embraced their true selves so early is a truly inspiring to end our concert season.

I joined this band almost four years ago, newly out without a support group, and this band immediately became a family to me. For all that the Houston Pride Band has given me, it has been an absolute honor to serve on the board for the past three years, and as president for the past two.

Thank you for this opportunity!

Next season, I will be passing the reins to a new band president, while I find new ways to serve the group as we prepare for another incredible season, and as we prepare to host the 2017 Lesbian and Gay Band Association conference here in Houston. Take a look at the last page of this program for a preview of what we have coming up.

I can't wait to see where we go next.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. [unclear]'.

TRUE COLORS

Michael D. Roberts and Deborah Hirsch, Conductors

Star Spangled Banner

John Stafford Smith
arr. Jack Stamp

"Here They Come" from Star Wars

John Williams
arr. Noel Freeman

Trumpeter's Lullaby

Leroy Anderson
arr. Philip J. Lang

Landon Richie, Soloist

Blue Shades

Frank Ticheli

Intermission

Fly Me to the Moon

Bart Howard
arr. Jack Gale

SaxWorx

Lisa Mace, Adrian Leyva, Kevin Taylor, Lupe Ybarra-Regan

Tango *Por Una Cabeza*

Carlos Gabriel
arr. Chris Foster

*Jason Stephens, Becky Schlembach, David DiCamillo, Bassoons
Chris Atieno, Nicole Taylor, Trudy Allen, Trombones
Ryan Horine, Euphonium; Chris Foster, Tuba*

"Defying Gravity" from Wicked

Stephen Schwartz
arr. Michael Sweeney

Fuego del Alma

Carl Strommen

Orange Bowl March

Henry Fillmore
arr. Andrew Balent

Morena Roas, Guest Conductor

No. 768 "Pineapple Poll", Suite from the Ballet
No 1. Opening Number

Arthur Sullivan
arr. Charles Mackerras

Duke Ellington in Concert

Duke Ellington
arr. Andrew Balent

True Colors

Billy Steinberg & Tom Kelly
arr. Michael Brown

houston★pride★band

artistic director

Michael Roberts

assistant director

Deborah Hirsch

flute/piccolo

Miles Davis

Jonathan Griffin, Jr.

Alex Martinez-Hage

Kevin Ramirez-Hinson

*Sal Stow**

oboe

Hunter Cauble

Lupe Ybarra-Regan

bassoon

David DiCamillo

*Becky Schlembach**

clarinet

Josh Cerame

Joe Dombrowski

*William Fu**

Adam Hile

Amanda Stafford

bass clarinet

Rosemary Perez

alto saxophone

Adrian Leyva

Christy McKinney

*Kevin Taylor**

tenor saxophone

Joseph Tidline

bari saxophone

Lisa Mace

trumpet

Mary Beth Alsdorf

Brandon Bates

*Christopher Hodge**

David Lea

Landon Richie

Jeremy Swearin

Jennifer Watts

Brooke Yahney

french horn

Jaunetta Cooper

Ryan Fountain

Jorge Gutierrez

Patrick Hanley

Kirsten Kurtz

Justin Madden-Rhinehart

*Alexa Thibodeaux**

trombone

*Trudy Allen**

Chris Atieno

Noel Freeman

Chris Longoria

Nicole Taylor

euphonium

Ryan Horine

Russell Ben Williams

tuba

Karimah Browne

*Chris Foster**

percussion

Lauren Anderson

Calvon Hinson

Debbie Hunt

Jen Rodriguez

*Jason Stephens**

* indicates section leader

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William Fu, Vice President

Noel Freeman, Treasurer

Becky Schlembach, Secretary

David DiCamillo, At-large

Chris Foster, At-large

Christopher Hodge, At-large

Lisa Mace, At-large

Jason Stephens, At-large

To all of our volunteers:

Autumn Esparza

Joseph Kluger

Michael Moore

Kenneth Regan-Ybarra

And to our audience

ARTIST BIOS

Michael Roberts, Artistic Director



Originally from Van Buren, Arkansas, Mr. Roberts attended West Texas A&M University where he studied conducting with Dr. Gary Garner & Mr. Don Lefevre. He received a bachelor's degree in music education double instrumental emphasis on Saxophone and Oboe. He has also earned hours towards a masters degree in Instrumental Conducting at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, studying with Dr. Jack Stamp. In addition to his conducting experiences with university and community ensembles, he has been an instrumental performer in various community ensembles throughout Arkansas, Texas, and Pennsylvania on Saxophone and Oboe.

During his years of teaching, Mr. Roberts has taught at both the middle school and high school levels. Bands under his direction enjoy much success around the state and country. Currently a music educator in the public schools, he is also an active adjudicator and clinician at various contests and festivals. He is an alumnus of Kappa Kappa Psi, Pi Kappa Lambda, and Alpha Chi. He is a member of the Texas Bandmasters Association and Texas Music Educators Association.

Deborah Hirsch, Assistant Director



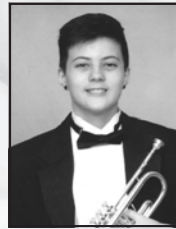
Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Deborah Hirsch graduated from the University of Kansas with Bachelor degrees in Music Therapy and Music Education and earned a Master of Music degree at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

Ms. Hirsch retired after her 37th year as a band director in the Pasadena Independent School District where bands under her direction have performed and competed successfully at the Texas

Renaissance Festival, Texas UIL Concert and Sight-reading Contest, Solo and Ensemble Contest, and Region Band competitions. The band was selected 3 times to perform at the state capitol for Arts Education Day and has performed the national anthem for 22 consecutive years for the Houston Astros.

Ms. Hirsch was named "Teacher of the Year" in 2014 and is an active member of Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association and Texas Music Adjudicators Association. She is also a member of the chancel choir at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church and a board member of Pasadena Little Theater.

Landon Richie, Trumpet Soloist



Landon Richie is excited to make his soloist debut with the Houston Pride Band. Landon began studying trumpet at the age of 10. He studies trumpet with Ms. Kari Parker. With only three years' experience, Landon has already enjoyed much success. As a beginner trumpeter, he was awarded Outstanding Brass Player. The following year was honored as the Most Improved 7th Grade Brass Player. Most recently, he earned first chair in the TMEA Region 13 Middle School All Region Band. He has received all first division, Superior ratings, at solo contests, and been named Trumpet Section Leader in the Dulles Middle School Honor Band.

Landon's other interests include being a member of the FBISD elementary regional choir, Tae Kwon Do (3rd degree black belt) and actively studies advanced Art techniques in ART III, under the guidance of Mr. Alonso Garcia.

Strongly supported by his family, Landon is also actively involved in the Houston LGBT Community as an activist for Equal Rights. He is the president and founding member of the Dulles Middle School Gay Straight Alliance Club, (Spectrum Alliance) the only middle school organization of its kind in Fort Bend ISD. He and his family have also actively campaigned for the protection of Houston's Equal Rights Ordinance, and advocates for Transgender rights wherever they are being challenged. He is thankful for the love and support of his parents and younger brother and sister.

PROGRAM NOTES

Star Spangled Banner

By John Stafford Smith, arranged by Jack Stamp

In 1986, Jack Stamp did an arrangement of the *Star Spangled Banner* for the UNT Wind Ensemble to be performed at the WASBE Conference in Boston. Years later, on Friday September 14, 2001, a former classmate of Dr. Stamp's called to see if he still had the arrangement. He located the manuscript and tweaked it a bit. It is inspired by the former East Carolina University Band Director's thoughts on arranging the national anthem, "It should be a citizen's love song to their country." The final version of this arrangement invokes the emotions struck when one reads the fourth verse of the Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key:

*O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their loved home and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n--rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then Conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto – "In God is our trust."
And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

This concert setting of the national anthem clearly celebrates the "True Colors" of the United States of America.

Here They Come

By John Williams, arranged by Noel Freeman

Here They Come is the fourth movement of a suite for orchestra written by John Williams using his music from the *Star Wars* Saga. The music of *Here They Come* appeared in the original 1977 *Star Wars* as the second half of Ben's Death and Tie Fighter Attack. Our heroes have daringly escaped the Death Star following the death of Obi Wan (Ben) Kenobi, but before they can relax and mourn his loss they are swarmed by tie fighters. As Princess Leia shouts, "Here they come!" the intense, pulsing rhythms reveal the iconic theme of the Millennium Falcon and provide a sense of the tension and urgency of our heroes and relentlessness from the Empire.

Star Wars often is credited as heralding the beginning of a

revival of grand symphonic scores in the late 1970s. One technique in particular is an influence: Williams's revival of a technique called leitmotif, which is most famously associated with the operas of Richard Wagner and, in film scores, with Steiner. A leitmotif is a phrase or melodic cell that signifies a character, place, plot element, mood, idea, relationship, or other specific part of the film.

In celebrating the Houston Pride Band's "True Colors," Noel Freeman, trombonist and HPB Board member, offers his arrangement of this exciting theme.

Trumpeter's Lullaby

By Leroy Anderson, arranged by Philip J. Lang

Landon Richie, a 13-year-old trumpeter, makes his solo debut performing this standard of the solo trumpet repertoire. The Houston Pride Band is enthusiastic to showcase the artistic colors of a young transgender musician of such skill.

Trumpeter's Lullaby is a short composition written for solo trumpet and orchestra that was premiered on May 9, 1950 by the Boston Pops Orchestra with Arthur Fiedler conducting. The piece had its beginnings backstage at Symphony Hall in Boston, when Anderson was an arranger for the Boston Pops Orchestra. After a concert, Fiedler, and Principal Trumpeter Roger Voisin asked Anderson why he hadn't written a trumpet solo for him to play with the orchestra that would be different from the traditional solos, which were loud or triumphant. It occurred to Anderson to write a lullaby for trumpet – with quiet bugle notes played by the trumpet, while the orchestra was heard playing a lullaby background.

Blue Shades

By Frank Ticheli

After collaborating with the Jim Cullum Jazz Band and the San Antonio Symphony celebrating jazz music, Frank Ticheli was inspired to express his appreciation for growing up near New Orleans. Several years and compositions later, Ticheli realized *Blue Shades*. As the title suggests, the work alludes to the Blues, but is not literally a Blues piece. It is heavily influenced by the Blues, "blue notes" which are flatted 3rds, 5ths, and 7ths. The listener will hear many "shades of blue" depicted, from bright blue, to dark, to dirty, to hot.

The Pride Flag's color **BLUE** represents art. There is no truer American musical art form than jazz.

Fly Me to the Moon

By Bart Howard, arranged by Jack Gale

An old familiar tune, as performed by Frank Sinatra, *Fly Me to the Moon* was originally written by Bart Howard, and first performed in 1954 by Kaye Ballard under the title *In Other Words*. Frank Sinatra recorded the song in 1964, and by 1995, over 300 different versions had been recorded.

Today, the Houston Pride Band's SaxWorx ensemble performs their rendition of this classic song.

Tango Por Una Cabeza

By Carlos Gardel, arranged by Chris Foster

By the 1930s, while Big Band mania was storming the US, it was tango that was filling Latino dance floors. The Golden Age of Tango presented large orchestras, contemporaneous to the orchestral arrangements of North American swing music. Carlos Gardel (1890–1935) was a French Argentine singer, songwriter, composer and actor, and the most prominent figure in the history of tango.

Written and first recorded in 1935, the tango, *Por Una Cabeza*, is named after the horse-racing phrase “by a head”, referring to a horse winning a race by the length of one head. The lyrics speak of a compulsive horse-track gambler who compares his addiction for horses with his attraction to women. *Por Una Cabeza* is one of Gardel's most popular compositions, having been featured in the films *Scent of a Woman*, *Schindler's List*, *True Lies*, *Easy Virtue*, and *All the King's Men*. It is also the tango which President Barack Obama danced while on a state visit to Argentina in March 2016.

Usually performed by solo singer or violin with accordion, piano, string bass, and guitar accompaniment, this arrangement of *Por Una Cabeza* organized by Chris Foster, our low brass section leader, for all of the woodwind and brass instruments who read bass clef music parts.

“Defying Gravity” from Wicked

By Stephen Schwartz, arranged by Michael Sweeney

Defying Gravity from Stephen Schwartz Tony award winning musical *Wicked*, is the signature song. It was originally recorded by Idina Menzel and Kristen Chenoweth on May 10, 2003. The song is mostly sung by the main character of the show Elphaba, the “Wicked Witch of the West” as the finale to the show's first act.

When Elphaba discovers the Wizard of Oz is not the heroic figure she had originally believed him to be, she vows to live without limits, going against the rules that others have set for her.

The Pride Flag's color **GREEN** represents nature. In the face of going against the rules and norms our culture, Defying Gravity speaks to every LGBT person's quest to be true to their spirit. It is human nature to pursue one's happiness and pursue a purposeful life.

Fuego del Alma

By Carl Strommen

Roughly translated as “Fire of the Soul,” *Fuego del Alma* embraces both “pasodoble” and “flamenco” styles. By using traditional Spanish harmonies, authentic rhythms, characteristic contrasting hand claps, and Spanish-style percussion, the piece sets a dramatic and electric atmosphere.

The Pride Flag's color **RED** represents life. There is very little that represents the vibrancy of life more than dance. The modern LGBT Community is known as a lively celebration culture rooted in human movement, from dance clubs to parades.

Orange Bowl March

By Henry Fillmore, arranged by Andrew Balent

Henry Fillmore (1881-1956) was the most colorful bandsman of his time, an era that stretched across fifty years. Fillmore's background in his family's publishing house, the Fillmore Brothers Company of Cincinnati, led him down a variety of productive paths as a composer including those of the hymn, popular overture, fox-trot, waltz, and his own specialty – the trombone novelty, such as *Lassus Trombone*, *Bone's Trombone*, or *Shoutin' Liza Trombone*.

The Orange Bowl March exhibits all of the wonderful qualities of Fillmore marches, memorable melodies and countermelodies, vital rhythm, and harmony. Our Houston Pride Band Silent Auction Winner, **Morena Roas**, guest conducts the march.

The Pride Flag's color **ORANGE** represents healing. Marches are the signature repertoire of bands. On June 28, 1970, the LGBT community commemorated the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots with the first Gay Pride marches in New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Chicago. Not only did these parades begin a healing

process, they advanced the equality movement, utilizing marching bands playing marches and other modern music to help galvanize supporters.

“Pineapple Poll” no. 768

Suite from the Ballet

By Arthur Sullivan, arranged by Charles Mackerras

Pineapple Poll is a Gilbert and Sullivan-inspired comic ballet, created by choreographer John Cranko with arranger Sir Charles Mackerras. *Pineapple Poll* is based on “The Bumboat Woman’s Story”, one of W. S. Gilbert’s Bab Ballads, written in 1870. The Gilbert and Sullivan opera *H.M.S. Pinafore* was also based, in part, on this story. For the ballet, Cranko expanded the story of the Bab Ballad and added a happy ending.

The Pride Flag’s color **YELLOW** represents sunlight. *Pineapple Poll* is a young girl, Polly, who sells flowers to sailors that have just arrived in Portsmouth. The Captain falls in love with this young girl. What better way to showcase sunlight than with a love story of a young flower girl.

Duke Ellington in Concert

By Duke Ellington, arranged by Paul Murtha

The music of Duke Ellington helped define jazz music in America, and this swingin’ medley brings the Duke’s magic to the masses. These familiar tunes are delightfully arranged for young and old alike. Titles include: *Take the A Train*, *Don’t Get Around Much Anymore*, *Caravan*, *Mood Indigo*, and *It Don’t Mean a Thing If It Ain’t Got That Swing*.

The Pride Flag’s color **INDIGO/VIOLET** represents harmony/human spirit. America’s art form jazz leads the world of music with unique harmonies. It communicates the raw form of the human spirit with improvisation of melody and accompaniment in real time by performers.

True Colors

By Billy Steinberg & Tom Kelly, arranged by Michael Brown

Billy Steinberg originally wrote “True Colors” about his own mother. Tom Kelly altered the first verse and submitted the song to Anne Murray, who passed on the song. He then sent it to Cyndi Lauper. Lauper completely dismantled the gospel ballad like form and created a breathtakingly stark version that has become

a standard in the gay community. In various interviews, Lauper elaborated that the song had resonated with her because of the recent death of her friend, Gregory Natal, from HIV/AIDS. While not directly promoted as a song defending LGBT rights, Lauper is pleased that her song was adopted by the LGBT community. Years later, Lauper co-founded the True Colors Fund, a non-profit dedicated to eradicating LGBT youth homelessness.

The Pride Flag’s TRUE COLORS

In 1978, San Francisco artist Gilbert Baker designed what is believed to be the first modern gay pride flag by combining 8 different colored stripes, each with its own symbolism: pink for sexuality, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sunlight, green for nature, turquoise for art, indigo for harmony, and violet for the human spirit. Baker later dropped pink and merged turquoise and indigo into blue, leaving the flag with its contemporary six colors. When San Francisco gay activists marched to protest the 1978 assassination of city supervisor Harvey Milk, they marched with Baker’s flags.

Support our Season Sponsor



2016 Event Calendar



Outreach Pool Party

A wet and wild time
June 11, 2-5PM



Coming Out Party

A fabulous auction and open bar
October 8, 6-9PM

Outreach United is a nonprofit organization which is dedicated to help bring a better and more positive awareness and understanding to the Houston GLBT community. Each year, they hold several events benefitting local LGBT organizations. The Houston Pride Band is proud to be a 2016 beneficiary.

The Houston Pride Band Thanks our generous 2015-2016 Season Donors & Sponsors

The Houston Pride Band is made possible by grants from



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* Indicates performing member

houston★pride★band

our story

Serving as a community band in Houston's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community, the Houston Pride Band has several groups that perform at community 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 three 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 Lesbian and Gay Band Association (LGBA), a national musical organization made up of over twenty-five bands across the nation and around the world. With LGBA, members of the Houston Pride Band have been able to participate at every Gay Games, several Presidential Inaugurations, and conferences throughout the world.

mission

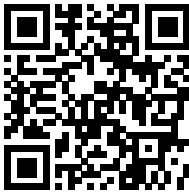
The mission of the Houston Pride Band is:

- To provide a welcoming, comfortable and safe musical outlet for LGBT and allied musicians to participate in a community band setting.
- To encourage interest in public and private music education through concerts and events that uplift and inspire musical interest in people of all ages.
- To use musical performances to support local community organizations and events.
- 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

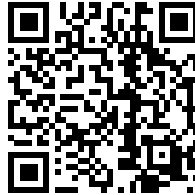
The Houston Pride Band is open to all brass, woodwind, and percussion players of all skill levels. The band rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 PM at The Houston School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA), 4001 Stanford Street in Montrose.

donate



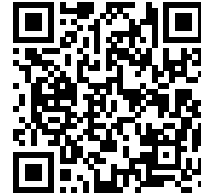
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The Lesbian and Gay Band Association (LGBA) is a musical organization comprised of concert and marching bands from cities across the United States and the world.

LGBA
Music. Visibility. Pride.

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.gaybands.org.



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