

the houston ★ pride ★ band presents

CELEBRATIONS



JUNE 11, 2022
8PM · MATCH

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let's celebrate! The Houston Pride Band closes out its 2021-2022 concert season by highlighting music that gives us reason to celebrate! This Pride month, we wanted to get the party started with a festive and exciting concert!

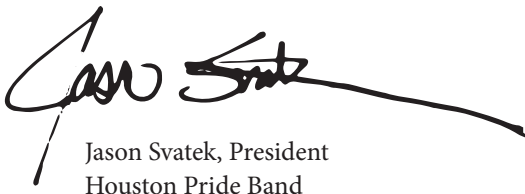
Tonight's concert highlights many different styles and origins of music that are deserving of celebration. We celebrate the diversity of music by composers Naohiro Iwai, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Yukiko Nishimura, Rossano Galante, Omar Thomas, and Victor López who bring us new and interesting perspectives and styles of music. We celebrate the excitement that music brings to dance through "Jitterbug!" and "Sambeando." We celebrate new twists on American classics like "76 Trombones," "Amazing Grace," and "The Saints Hallelujah." And we celebrate our LGBTQ Pride with "Rise" and "A Mother of a Revolution," dedicated to the strength and power of our movement for equality and acceptance.

Don't worry - there's still more Houston Pride Band to come this summer! We'll make our triumphant return to the streets of downtown Houston as we perform in the **Houston Pride Parade on June 25th**, and the band will be the featured performer at the **2022 Women Band Directors International Summer Conference here in Houston on Saturday, July 9th**.

We are also proud to announce our exciting concert programs for the upcoming **2022-2023 Season!** Check the back cover of your program for the list of concert themes – you won't want to miss a beat! **Season ticket packages** will be available this summer – stay tuned for more details! If you don't already, be sure to follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** and go to our website to subscribe to email updates of our upcoming events and performances.

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 donate.houstonprideband.org to make additional contributions and check out the other giving and sponsorship opportunities within this program for ways to support our organization.

Yours in **PRIDE**,



Jason Svatek, President
Houston Pride Band



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PERFORMING MEMBERS

FLUTE/PICCOLO

Jonathan Ellis
Christi Gell
Theo Harrison
Vanessa Jones

OBOE

Michael Moreau-Monier

BASSOON

David DiCamillo*
Becky Schlembach

CLARINET

Kayla DuBrow
William Fu*
Matthew Hanson
Paul Norris
Jeffrey Taylor

BASS CLARINET

Nicolas Droger

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Reginald Clark
Liz De Los Rios
Anthony Fernandez
Travis Howell

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Matthew Williams

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Lisa Mace

TRUMPET

Mary Beth Alsdorf
George Gehring*
Christopher Hodge
Adam Jatho
Jessie Meng
Tajudeen Ohiri
Laura Prier

HORN

Justin Hensley
Alexa Thibodeaux
Eric Weidner

TROMBONE

Trudy Allen*
Noel Freeman
Andrew Palermo
Nikolai Robinson
Jason Svatek

EUPHONIUM

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Bryce Swinford

TUBA

Chris Foster
Rudy Ramirez
Brian Tighe

PERCUSSION

Andrew Chu
Christian Hopkins
Sharon Prince
Jen Rodriguez*

* Section Leader



PROGRAM

Rise, A Gay Games Anthem

Rossano Galante

Ancient Flower

Yukiko Nishimura

Ngoma za Kenya (Jambo)

Paul Basler

A Mother of A Revolution!

Omar Thomas

España Cañi

Pascual Marquina
arr. Robert Longfield

- INTERMISSION -

The Saints' Hallelujah

arr. Luther Henderson
adapt. Michael Brown

Amazing Grace

Frank Ticheli

Sambeando (Samba Dancing)

Victor Lopez

Jitterbug!

Robert Buckley

Selections from Encanto

Lin-Manuel Miranda
arr. Paul Murtha

76 Trombones

Meredith Willson
arr. Naohiro Iwai



ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

DEBORAH HIRSCH

Artistic Director

Now in her 6th 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, an 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 LGBTQ+ students and was honored to support them by serving as the founding faculty advisor for a student organization focused on inclusion, acceptance, and community.

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PROGRAM NOTES

COMPILED BY CHELSEA RASING

RISE, A GAY GAMES ANTHEM

In 2014, *RISE: A Gay Games Anthem*, was commissioned by the Federation of Gay Games to accompany the raising of the official Gay Games Flag.

Rossano Galante (b. 1967) is an American composer. Galante earned a degree in trumpet performance from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1992. He then was accepted into the film scoring program at the University of Southern California and studied with film composer Jerry Goldsmith.

Mr. Galante has composed music for the films *Bite Marks*, *The Last Straight Man*, *Monday Morning* and *Channels*. He has served as orchestrator for over sixty studio films including *A Quiet Place*, *The Mummy*, *Logan*, *Big Fat Liar*, *Scary Movie 2*, *The Tuxedo*, and *Tuesdays With Morrie*, to name only a few. Mr. Galante says of Rise:

“This composition is heroic, uplifting, evocative of achievement, reverent, and welcoming. The work has global appeal, referencing the spirit embodied by the three guiding principles of the Gay Games: Participation, Inclusion, and Personal Best.”

ANCIENT FLOWER

An oriental atmosphere is created by the floating melodies of this exotic piece, originally written for orchestra. In the opening, a long, sensitive melodic line emerges, supported by Western-style harmonies. Just as a dainty flower slowly opens, this expressive music blossoms into a work of delicate beauty.

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.

NGOMA ZA KENYA

Paul Basler (b. 1963) is an American composer. Mr. Basler says of *Ngoma za Kenya (Jambo)*:

“*Ngoma za Kenya (Jambo)* was commissioned by the Florida Chapter of Phi Beta Mu, National Honorary Bandmasters Fraternity. The title of the work is in Kiswahili (the predominant language of East Africa) and translates as “Music of Kenya; Hello.” The composition was created from extended sketches I wrote while living in Nairobi, Kenya in 1993–94 as the Senior Fulbright Lecturer in Music at Kenyatta University. The sketches for “Jambo” were written several weeks after arriving in Nairobi and reflect the immense excitement of being in Africa. This movement reveals a fascination with the sound of open, perfect fifths, parallel chordal motion and the incessant droning of conga drums, a traditional African instrument. Stylistic influences in the work come

from my experiences with Kenyan choral traditions (call and response) and the joyful, optimistic and celebratory nature of Kenyans.”

A MOTHER OF A REVOLUTION!

Omar Thomas (b. 1984) is an American composer, arranger and educator. Born to Guyanese parents, Omar moved to Boston in 2006 to pursue a Master of Music degree in jazz composition at the New England Conservatory of Music. He is the protégé of Ken Schaphorst and Frank Carlberg, and has studied under Maria Schneider.

Omar’s music has been performed in concert halls across the country. He has been commissioned to create works in both jazz and classical styles. His work has been performed by such diverse groups as the Eastman New Jazz Ensemble, the San Francisco and Boston Gay Men’s Choruses, and the Colorado Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Thomas says of *A Mother of a Revolution!*:

“This piece is a celebration of the bravery of trans women, and in particular Marsha “Pay It No Mind” Johnson. Marsha is credited with being one of the instigators of the famous Stonewall uprising of June 28, 1969 -- one of the pivotal events of the LGBTQ liberation movement of the 20th century -- which is commemorated annually during the worldwide Gay Pride celebrations. Existing as a trans woman, especially a trans woman of color, and daring to live authentically, creating space for oneself in a transphobic world, is one of the bravest acts I can imagine. Over 20 trans women were murdered in the United States in 2018 alone. There is no demographic more deserving and, frankly, long overdue for highlighted heroism and bravery. The disco vibe in the latter half of the piece is meant to honor club culture, a sacred space held amongst LGBTQ persons in which to love, live, mourn, heal, strategize, connect, disconnect, and dance in defiance of those outside forces who would seek to do LGBTQ persons harm simply for daring to exist and take up space.

We pump our fists to honor the life, heroism, activism, and bravery of Marsha P. Johnson, to honor the legacy of the Stonewall revolution, to honor the memory of the trans lives violently ended due to fear and hatred, and in honor of trans women worldwide who continue to exist Unapologetically and who demand to be seen.

This piece was commissioned by the Desert Winds Freedom Band, under the direction of Dean McDowell, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Stonewall uprising.”

ESPAÑA CAÑI

España Cañi has been one of the band world’s most popular paso dobles for many years. Known equally well at the bullfight arena and in the concert hall, the mood of the work is set at the opening with staccato rhythm patterns played at a deliberate tempo -- as if from a distance. Unlike the typical military or concert march, the paso doble is often performed at a tempo which may vary from time to time, depending on both the circumstances of the performance and the apparent wishes of the composer. Marquina’s varied experiences in the musical and

social life of Spain obviously helped him in the composition of this imaginative and exciting paso doble.

THE SAINTS' HALLELUJAH

Jazz great **Luther Henderson** created a number of classic settings for the Canadian Brass, and this is one of his best! Skillfully adapted by Michael Brown directly from the quintet version, here is the clever pairing of *When the Saints Go Marching In* with *The Hallelujah Chorus*. This unique and entertaining production number is sure to be a showstopper.

AMAZING GRACE

Frank Ticheli (b. 1958, Monroe) is an American composer and conductor. Mr. Ticheli says of *Amazing Grace*:

"I wanted my setting of *Amazing Grace* to reflect the powerful simplicity of the words and melody -- to be sincere, to be direct, to be honest -- and not through the use of novel harmonies and clever tricks, but by traveling traditional paths in search of truth and authenticity.

I believe that music has the power to take us to a place that words alone cannot. And so my own feelings about *Amazing Grace* reside in this setting itself. The harmony, texture, orchestration, and form are inseparable, intertwined so as to be perceived as a single expressive entity.

The spiritual, *Amazing Grace*, was written by John Newton (1725-1807), a slave ship captain who, after years of transporting slaves across the Atlantic Ocean to the New World, suddenly saw through divine grace the evilness of his acts. First published in 1835 by William Walker in *The Southern Harmony*, *Amazing Grace* has since grown to become one of the most beloved of all American spirituals.

Amazing Grace was commissioned by John Whitwell in loving memory of his father, John Harvey Whitwell. It was first performed on February 10, 1994, by the Michigan State University Wind Symphony, John Whitwell conductor."

SAMBEANDO (SAMBA DANCING)

Victor López (b. 1950, Cuba) is an American composer, conductor and administrator. Dr. López holds music education degrees from the University of Florida and Florida International University, including a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) degree in Educational Administration and Supervision. Dr. López says of *Sambeando*:

"Samba is the most widely recognized form of Brazilian music today, and the title of this exciting composition literally translates to "samba dancing," or as some may claim, "partying all the time." Samba is no doubt the best-known form of Brazilian music worldwide and has certainly become an icon of Brazilian national identity. With its roots in Africa, the exciting and intricate rhythms of the samba are contagious, and they take many forms of the various popular rhythm and regional dances that originated from drumming. The samba is important to

the Brazilian people because, as an original music genre, it is seen as musical expression of urban Rio de Janeiro, the largest city in Brazil.

The love of samba is very much engrained in every "Brasileiro" as they celebrate Samba National Day on December 2nd every year. Additionally, in February, one of the world's largest parties and carnival celebrations is held for five days, and visitors can experience the numerous samba schools that compete annually in the Carnival with thematic floats, elaborate costumes, and original music."

JITTERBUG!

In preparation for composing this piece, Robert studied numerous recordings of the major swing bands of the 1930's and 1940's. His intention was to capture the essence of the jazz age with an original piece of music. Each of the swing bands had their own "signature" sounds, which were immediately recognizable to their flocks of enthusiastic fans. This composition puts these various sounds and rhythms together in homage to a vibrant and innovative time in American music. Jitterbug! was written as a tribute to Dal Richards – Canada's King of Swing – who recently passed away at the age of 99. He fronted his own swing band for almost eighty years. Commissioned by the West Vancouver (BC) Youth Band - Douglas Macaulay, director.

SELECTIONS FROM ENCANTO

Encanto is a 2021 American computer-animated musical fantasy comedy film produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios and distributed by Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures.. *Encanto* follows a multigenerational Colombian family, the Madrigals, led by a matriarch whose children and grandchildren—except for Mirabel Madrigal — receive magical gifts from a miracle that helps them serve the people in their rural community called the Encanto. When Mirabel learns that the family is losing their magic, she sets out to find out what is happening, and save her family and their magical house.

Lin-Manuel Miranda (b. 1980) is an American composer, playwright, actor and singer, best known for creating and starring in the Broadway musicals *Hamilton* and *In the Heights*.

76 TROMBONES

76 Trombones is the signature song from the musical play *The Music Man* (1957), which was written by **Meredith Willson**. The song also appeared in the 1962 film and in the made-for-TV movie adaptation in 2003. It is also a piece commonly played by marching and military bands.

The arrangement was written by Japanese composer Naohiro Iwai. Most of Iwai's career was spent as a jazz and pop performer and composer. He has made an effort to bring these styles to groups like wind ensembles, brass ensembles, and orchestras that more often play in the Classical style.

What to Do During Intermission

We invite you to take this time to get to know the people around you a little better. Since you're all at this concert, you already have something in common—a love of music! Say hello and find out what brought them here. Also, feel free to get up and stretch. We encourage you not to leave the concert. We enjoy having you as a part of the audience so please come back to your seat and enjoy the rest of the performance.

What to Do After the Concert

We look forward to connecting with you in several ways. It's as easy as 1-2-3-4!

1

Like us on Facebook and Instagram

- <http://facebook.com/HoustonPrideBand>
- @houstonprideband
- We encourage you to share, like, and be part of our online community.

2

Give us a shout out on your favorite social media venues!

We love receiving your support and online enthusiasm about our concerts!

Tag us on Facebook or Instagram.

3

Donate to the Houston Pride Band

The Houston Pride Band is a 501(c)3 non-profit charitable organization that relies on the financial support of generous donors like you to bring music to communities across Houston and the State of Texas, provide performing opportunities to local musicians, and share the musical experience through various educational opportunities. Thank you for your support!

4

Finally, Subscribe to our mailing list

To learn more about upcoming concerts and events, subscribe to our mailing list. Houston Pride Band will not share your contact information with other organizations. Just do one of these:

- Email the information below to info@houstonprideband.org
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A MOTHER OF A REVOLUTION!

Thank you Lisa Mace and Nancy White

ESPAÑA CAÑI

Thank you Mary Beth Alsdorf & Jan Wesson

THE SAINTS' HALLELUJAH

Thank you Russell Ben Williams

AMAZING GRACE

Thank you Sharon Prince, in honor of
Bob Manchester and Rob Seible

SAMBEANDO (SAMBA DANCING)

Thank you Theo Harrison

JITTERBUG!

Thank you Nicolas Droger

SELECTIONS FROM ENCANTO

Thank you Music & Arts - Katy and Houston

76 TROMBONES

Thank you HPB Trombones

Where does my donation go?

The Houston Pride Band relies on donations from generous supporters like you.

Any donation you make helps the band out in the following ways:

- paying for storage to safely house the band's equipment
- covering costs of new music purchases
- rental of trucks to transport equipment to performances
- replacement and maintenance of band owned instruments
- marketing and advertising for the band's performances
- purchase of band polos and t-shirts for parades and public performances

Consider making a tax deductible donation - or better yet, become a **monthly sponsor** of the band by making a recurring donation throughout the year. Just go to <http://houstonprideband.org/donate> and click on the "Donate" button. From here, you can make a one time donation, or open the "Donate" menu, and select "Donate Monthly" to become a monthly sponsor.



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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 7:00 to 9:00 PM. For additional details, please visit our website at houstonprideband.org or email info@houstonprideband.org.

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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.

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.

Honey, stop the car!

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