

the houston★pride★band presents

Merry
and
Bright



DECEMBER 8, 2018 • 7:00PM • MATCH

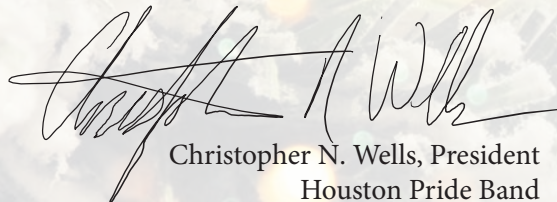
From the President

It seems as though we just were on stage performing at Zilkha Hall for our 40th Anniversary Celebration. Yet here we are, a week into December and swiftly moving through the holiday season. For me, the calendar of events seems to grow day by day, as performances, holiday parties, services, and gatherings with family and friends are added to my schedule. Yet despite all of these, I am constantly searching for ways to block out some time to relax, recharge, and focus on those in my life that matter the most. And it is my hope that tonight's concert is one of those centering times for all of you that have joined us...a time when you can sit back, listen to some great music (and join in the singing if you are so inclined), and truly get into the holiday spirit.

Despite all of the baggage that can come with the holiday season, it is my favorite time of the year. While there are some physical manifestations, like the decorations and the music, which have a very distinct and ever present influence on the mood during the holidays, there are other, more subtle attributes that are the real drivers of getting into the spirit of the season. These abstractions manifest themselves in many ways, such as the goodwill that seems to be present when you are out on the street, the desire to give back to others, or the wish to refocus on what's important and start anew.

Most important to me, however, is being able to be with the ones I love the most, and it is my hope that you are all able to celebrate the season with the ones you love the most, be it your family, your friends, or even us here tonight. Because you have joined us this evening, you are part of the Houston Pride Band family and as such, we are all thankful for this opportunity to be together. On behalf the board of the directors and the entire HPB, I want to wish you a Joyous Holiday Season. Whether you are celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, all, or none of the above, it is our hope that this concert tonight will truly help to make your holiday season both Merry and Bright.




Christopher N. Wells, President
Houston Pride Band

Merry and Bright



DEBORAH HIRSCH & DAVID LEA,
CONDUCTORS

PROGRAM

Fantasy on the Huron Carol

arr. by Robert Buckley

Holst Winter Suite

Gustav Holst

arr. Robert W. Smith

I. On this Day Earth Shall Ring

II. In the Bleak Midwinter

III. Old Brenton Carol

Midnight Sleighride

Sergei Prokofiev

arr. Tom Wallace

Adapted from "Troika", Lieutenant Kijé Suite

Slavonic Folk Suite

Alfred Reed

I. Children's Carol

II. Cathedral Chorus

The Bells of Christmas

arr. by Bob Krogstad & Ted Ricketts

INTERMISSION

A Most Wonderful Christmas

arr. Robert Sheldon

Fairy Tale of New York

Jeremy Finer & Shane MacGowan

arr. Sean O'Loughlin

Santa Baby

Joan Javits, Phil Springer & Tony Springer

arr. Michael Brown

Sean Saunders, vocalist

Carol of the Night

Richard L. Saucedo

Based on "Silent Night"

Mary's Boy Child

Jester Hairston

arr. Philip Sparke

Auld Lang Syne

arr. Chip Davis

arr. for band by Robert Longfield

All I Want for Christmas is You

Mariah Carey & Walter Afanasieff

arr. by Larry Kerchner

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PERFORMING MEMBERS

FLUTE/PICCOLO

*Bianca Bravo
Nicholas Davila
Christi Gell
Jamee Molander
Kerry Roy
Sal Stow**

OBOE

*Hunter Cauble
Matthew Hanson
Lupe Ybarra-Regan*

BASSOON

David DiCamillo
Becky Schlembach*

CLARINET

*Casey Cummings
Joe Dombrowski
Steven Escalante
William Fu*
Julian Hernandez
Paul Norris
Chelsea Rasing
Tiffiny Reckley
John Simmons
Jeffrey Taylor*

* Section Leader

BASS CLARINET

Nicolas Droger

ALTO SAXOPHONE

*Fernando Arteaga
Daniel Birch
Elizabeth De Los Rios
Jose Magdaleno
Kevin Taylor**

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Matthew Williams

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Lisa Mace

TRUMPET

*Eduardo Bulnes
Andrew Conger
George Gehring*
David Lea
Pablo Lopez
Jessie Meng
Jennifer Watts*

FRENCH HORN

*Jaunetta Cooper
Ryan Fountain
Jorge Gutierrez*
Kevin Molander*

TROMBONE

Trudy Allen
Chris Atieno
Noel Freeman
Matthew Hernandez
Avery Hodge
Chris Longoria
Jason Svatek
Christopher Wells*

EUPHONIUM

Ryan Horine
Crawford Howell*

TUBA

*Chris Foster
Travis Pope
Brian Tighe*

STRING BASS

Matt Hanson

PERCUSSION

*Lindsey Bavousett
Christopher Lucas
Jen Rodriguez*
Greg Siegrist
Jason Stephens
Tony Tuckwiller
Brooke Yahney*



Artist Biographies

Deborah Hirsch

Artistic Director

Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Deborah Hirsch graduated from the University of Kansas with bachelor's degrees in music therapy and music education, and earned a master's degree in music at Texas A&M University-Commerce. She was also a member of the 312th Army Band in Lawrence, Kansas before moving to Texas.

Deborah recently retired after 37 years as a band director in the Pasadena Independent School District, where bands under her direction performed and competed successfully at Texas Renaissance Festival, Texas UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest, Solo and Ensemble Contest, and Region Band competitions. The band was selected three times to perform at the state capitol for Arts Education Day and performed the national anthem for twenty-two consecutive years for Houston Astros. Deborah was named "Teacher of the Year" in 2014.

Deborah participated in the Colorado University Conducting Symposium in June, where she studied under Steve Davis, Dr. Donald McKinney, Dr. Matt Roeder, and Dr. Matthew Dockendorf. She is an active member of Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, Women Band Directors International, and Texas Music Adjudicators Association. Deborah is also a member of the chancel choir and bell choir at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church and a board member of Pasadena Little Theater.



Artistic Directors Deborah Hirsch & David Lea

David Lea

Artistic Director

A native Texan hailing from the Golden Triangle region, David Lea earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Texas A&M University and a bachelor's degree in music education from Michigan State University. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in music education from the University of North Texas.

David is entering his fourth year as a school band director in Pasadena ISD, where his bands have enjoyed successes at UIL and local and regional festivals. He is honored to support the diverse students at his school by serving as the faculty advisor for an LGBTQA+ student organization.

As a private trumpet teacher, his students have made Michigan All-state, earned first divisions at regional and state solo & ensemble contest, and had the honor of participating in the Michigan Youth Arts Festival.

David Lea makes his debut as Artistic Director this season and has been a member of the Houston Pride Band since 2016, formerly serving as trumpet section leader. When he's not conducting, he continues to play in the trumpet section and is a member of BrassTax, a Houston Pride Band brass quintet. He previously played solo cornet in the Capital City Brass Band and 10-piece ensemble, which took first place in their division at the Brass Band US Open.

Program Notes

Compiled by
Chris Foster

This evening's program opens with *Fantasy on the Huron Carol*. The Huron Carol (or "Twas in the Moon of Wintertime") is a Canadian Christmas hymn (Canada's oldest Christmas song), written in 1643 by Jean de Brébeuf, a Jesuit missionary at Sainte-Marie among the Hurons in Canada. The English lyrics were written in 1926 by Jesse Edgar. The hymn's melody is based on a traditional French folk song, 'Une Jeune Pucelle' (A Young Maid). Using this inherently beautiful traditional carol as a basis, **Robert Buckley** has created a symphonic fantasy for the concert stage. The haunting melody is woven through a series of rich and varied stylistic variants. Every section of the band gets a chance to be featured at some point resulting in a sparkling holiday gem.



Robert Buckley

Inspired by the many works of Gustav Holst, **Robert W. Smith** created his *Holst Winter Suite*, which includes three movements, each of which is inspired by a winter-themed composition by Holst. The suite is dedicated to Ms. Alta Sue Hawkins, a retired Virginia band director and Smith's mother-in-law, who introduced him to the sacred music works by Holst. The first, "On This Day Earth Shall Ring", is based on the *Piae Cantiones*, composed in 1582 and arranged by Holst for chorus in 1924. The second movement, "In the Bleak Midwinter" was composed by Holst in 1908 and is based on a 19th century poem of Christina Rossetti. Finally, *Old Brenton Carol* is based upon "Come Ye Lofty" which was originally harmonized by Holst in 1910. While the three movements are becoming staples of the concert band holiday repertoire, they are seldom performed together as the full Winter Suite, as composed by Dr. Smith, who is the Director of



Robert W. Smith

the Music Industry program at Troy State University.

In 1933, Russian composer Sergei Prokofiev was asked to write a film score for the Russian film *Lieutenant Kijé*. Soon after the film's release, Prokofiev received an invitation from the Moscow Radio Symphony Orchestra to create an orchestral suite from his *Kijé* film music—probably the first instance of a film score being adapted into a significant musical work. The fourth movement, *Troika* (a Russian three-horse sleigh), musically invoked a winter sleigh ride by the fictional lieutenant. It was adapted in 1958 by Eddie Sauter and Bill Finegan into a jazz band arrangement called *Midnight Sleighride*. It was this jazz interpretation that **Tom Wallace**, noted band music arranger, adapted for concert band.



Eddie Sauter & Bill Finegan

In 1944, **Alfred Reed** composed the large symphonic work *Russian Christmas Music*. Based on the liturgical music of the Eastern Orthodox Church, the themes of the suite provide an impression of old Russia during the holiday season. Two of the most famous melodies from *Russian Christmas Music* are included in the *Slavonic Folk Suite*, this shorter work for that Reed created for wind band. First, "Carol of the Little Russian Children" is based on a 16th century Russian carol. Second, the "Cathedral Chorus" is the majestic finale of both works.



Alfred Reed

The first act of the concert concludes with *The Bells of Christmas*. Based on traditional holiday favorites and loaded with a creative mix of styles and treatments, this medley was created for full orchestra by Bob Krogstad and adapted for concert band by **Ted Ricketts**, the former Music Director at Walt Disney World. The work includes "Ding Dong! Merrily on High!", "Carol of the Bells", "Silver Bells", "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day", and "Jingle Bells".



Bob Krogstad

The second act kicks off with a joyous medley of contemporary holiday favorites arranged by **Robert Sheldon**, the Director of Concert Band Publications at Alfred Music Company. Included are holiday favorites "Winter

Wonderland”, “I’ll Be Home for Christmas”, “Santa Claus is Comin’ to Town”, “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas”, and “It’s the Most Wonderful Time of the Year”. We’re sure you will enjoy this aptly-titled work *A Most Wonderful Christmas*.



Robert Sheldon

Recorded by the Celtic punk band The Pogues, featuring singer Kirsty MacColl, *Fairytale of New York* was released in 1987 and has remained an enduring and popular holiday favorite ever since.

Comprised of two main sections, the opening is melancholy and lyrical, followed by the second part in a driving and energetic Irish-flavored groove. This arrangement for concert band was created by composer **Sean O’Loughlin**, who is the Principal Pops conductor for the Victoria Symphony Orchestra in British Columbia.



Sean O’Loughlin

Written in 1953, *Santa Baby* was a huge hit for Eartha Kitt, who recorded three different versions of this song, about a tongue-in-cheek Christmas list for Santa featuring some extravagant gifts. Since then, the song has been recorded by many music stars such as Madonna, Kylie Minogue, Michael Bublé, Kellie Pickler, Taylor Swift, Gwen Stefani, and Ariana Grande. Our performance of **Michael Brown’s** arrangement for concert band will feature a special guest performance by a close friend of the Houston Pride Band. Brown is currently the Chief Arranger for the United States Army Band in Washington, DC.



Eartha Kitt

Composer **Richard L. Saucedo** created a new take on “Silent Night” with his piece *Carol of the Night*. This version is both reverent and creatively arranged, featuring an opening in a minor key which gradually evolves into a more traditional version with some unique harmonic twists. Saucedo is currently the Fine Arts chairman and Director of Bands at Carmel High School in Carmel, Indiana.



Richard L. Saucedo

In 1956, Walter Schumann asked composer and actor Jester

Hairston to compose a new Christmas song for his Schumann’s Hollywood Choir. Hairston retrieved a calypso melody he had created for a friend’s birthday party and created *Mary’s Boy Child*. The song went on to be recorded by Harry Belafonte and Mahalia Jackson (separately) in 1956. The song returned to prominence in 1978 with the popular cover by German disco group Boney M. in 1978. This concert band version was created by British composer **Philip Sparke** and features the band’s lower woodwind instruments.



Philip Sparke

As we look toward a new year in 2019, it seems appropriate to include *Auld Lang Syne* as part of this year’s program. Based on a Scots poem written by Robert Burns, it is one of the best-known melodies in English-speaking countries, the title may be translated into English idiomatically as “long ago” or “old times.” This version was arranged by **Chip Davis**, the genius behind techno group Mannheim Steamroller whose musical mastery and technical wizardry is sometimes described as “18th Century Rock ‘n’ Roll.” Composer and arranger **Robert Longfield**, Director of the Greater Miami Symphonic Band, adapted the piece for concert band. Audience members should feel free to join the band in singing the lyrics at the climax of the piece:



Chip Davis

For auld lang syne, my dear,
for auld lang syne,
We’ll take a cup of kindness yet,
for auld lang syne.
Auld lang syne.

We close the program with the most popular songs of all time. Written and recorded by Mariah Carey in 1994, *All I Want for Christmas is You* has gone on to become a staple of the holiday season. It is currently the 11th highest grossing single of all time, and is the third holiday song on the list behind Bing Crosby’s “White Christmas” (#1) and his “Silent Night” (#3). The Houston Pride Band wishes you all a wonderful holiday season and hope you enjoy this **Larry Kerchner** arrangement as our gift to you.



Mariah Carey

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.org/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.

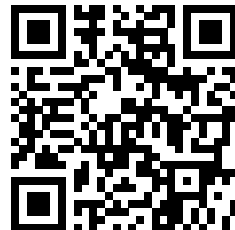
3. Donate to the Houston Pride Band

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
- Visit houstonprideband.nationbuilder.com/subscribe
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SPECIAL THANKS

Russell Ben Williams,
Production Manager
Joe Dombrowski,
Program and Graphics
Chris Foster,
Librarian
And to our volunteers.



From left to right: Fernando Arteaga, Jason Svatek, William Fu, Christopher Wells, Elizabeth De Los Rios, Brooke Yahney, Noel Freeman, Russell Williams, Pablo Lopez

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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.

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mission

The mission of the Houston Pride Band is:

1. To provide a welcoming, comfortable and safe musical outlet for LGBT 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 or email info@houstonprideband.org.

PROUD MEMBER OF THE LESBIAN AND GAY BAND ASSOCIATION

LGBA
Music. Visibility. Pride.

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.

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.

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.



40

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Join us as we celebrate our 40th season



On the Red Carpet

March 2, 2019 • 7:00P • MATCH

Celebrate Oscar™ Season with Houston Pride Band's tribute to the movie music and original songs which have taken home the golden statue.



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