

# *Yuletide* **TRIDE**

MATCHouston | December 3, 7PM



**houston ★ pride ★ band**

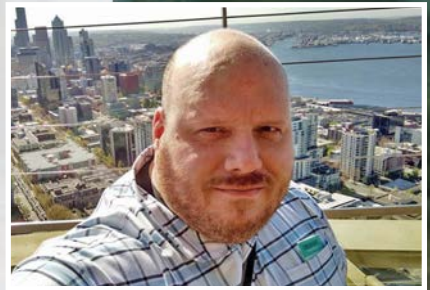
# a letter from the president

The infinite number of ways that we find meaning in the holiday season mirrors the beautiful diversity in our society. Whether you find joy in the religious traditions of Christmas and Hanukkah, or are inspired by the renewal found in the turning of a new year, or just appreciate the coming-together of families and friends during this beautiful time of year, the holidays give us a wonderful excuse to be festive, charitable, and break out our winter fashions, if only for a few weeks. Nothing in the holiday season is more evocative of warm memories and happy feelings than holiday music. Whether traditional carols or modern pop classics, holiday music makes us happy and gives musicians the chance to bring joy into the lives of our audience like no other time of the year.

Tonight, the Houston Pride Band is proud to present a concert full of holiday music and fun for the whole family. Join us on this Yuletide Ride through holiday classics, old and new. As we close 2016, let me say on behalf of the band, that we are all full of thanks for the constant support we receive from our families and friends. You make it possible for us to what we do: bringing music to the Houston community, supporting the LGBTQ+ community and our allies, and providing a safe, welcoming space for our musicians to come together for fellowship through music. While the list of people to thank could go on for pages, let me specifically say thank you to our core team of volunteers, our donors and benefactors, our straight allies, our cadre of 'band spouses', the teams at HSPVA and MATCH, and of course, to our audience! Happy Holidays!



**Chris Foster**  
*President, Houston Pride Band*



# *Yuletide* **Ride**

**Deborah Hirsch & Crawford Howell, Conductors**

Midnight Sleighride  
*adapted from "Lieutenant Kijé"*

Sergei Prokofiev  
*arr. Tom Wallace*

A Chanukah Celebration  
*Chanukah, The Dreydle Song, O Chanukah, Rock of Ages, Who Can Retell?*

arr. David Bobrowitz  
*scored by Kenneth Soper*

In the Bleak Midwinter

*Jason Stephens, conductor*

Gustav Holst  
*arr. Robert W. Smith*

## **HPB Tuba/Euphonium Ensemble**

Pat-a-Pan  
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Brooke Yahney, Ryan Horine, Russell Williams, Deborah Hirsch, euphonium  
Chris Foster, Robin Dunn, Crawford Howell, tuba*

arr. Alec Wilder  
*ed. Norlen Bewley*

Cowboy Christmas

arr. Jeff Simmons

Minor Alterations: Christmas Through The Looking Glass

David Lovrien

## **VOX: The Rob Seible Singers & Bering UMC Chancel Choir**

A Holiday Jazz Trio  
*Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!, I'll Be Home for Christmas, Jingle Bell Rock*

arr. Michele Weir

Jingle Bells Forever

J. Pierpont/John Philip Sousa  
*arr. by Robert W. Smith*

## **Intermission**

Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson

Fantasy on a Bell Carol

Edward J. Madden

A Holiday Happening  
*You're a Mean One Mr. Grinch, Linus and Lucy, It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year*

arr. by John Cacavas

Greensleeves

Alfred Reed

## **SaxWorx**

All I Want for Christmas is You

Mariah Carey & Walter Asanafieff  
*arr. by Kenneth Abeling*

*Kevin Taylor, soprano; Lupe Ybarra-Regan & Elizabeth De Los Rios, alto; Adrian Leyva, tenor; Lisa Mace, baritone*

Christmas Pipes

Brendan Graham  
*arr. by Michael Brown*

Merry Christmas, Darling

Richard Carpenter & Frank Pooler  
*arr. by Chris McDonald*

A Christmas Festival

Leroy Anderson

# houston★pride★band

## **conductors**

*Deborah Hirsch  
Crawford Howell  
Jason Stephens*

## **flute/piccolo**

*Miles Davis  
Christi Gell  
Jonathan Griffin, Jr.  
Ron Louvier  
Alex Martinez-Hage  
Sal Stow\*  
Joseph Tidline*

## **oboe**

*Hunter Cauble  
Lupe Ybarra-Regan*

## **bassoon**

*David DiCamillo  
Becky Schlembach\**

## **clarinet**

*Joe Dombrowski\*  
William Fu  
Adam Hile  
Deborah Hirsch  
Artezia Luna  
Rosemary Perez*

## **bass clarinet**

*Jon Hernandez  
Justin Madden-Rhinehart*

## **alto saxophone**

*Gonzalo Agudelo  
Fernando Arteaga  
Daniel Birch  
Elizabeth De Los Rios  
Daniel Garcia  
Adrian Leyva*

## **tenor saxophone**

*Kevin Taylor\**

## **bari saxophone**

*Lisa Mace*

## **trumpet**

*Mary Beth Alsdorf  
Brandon Bates  
Shawn Borgerding  
Randy Dunn  
David Lea  
Jennifer Watts  
Brooke Yahney*

## **french horn**

*Jaunetta Cooper  
Ryan Fountain*

*Jorge Gutierrez  
Christopher Hodge\*  
Jimmy Huynh  
Alexa Thibodeaux\**

## **trombone**

*Trudy Allen\*  
Chris Atieno  
Noel Freeman  
Chris Longoria  
Nicole Taylor  
Christopher Wells*

## **euphonium**

*Ryan Horine  
Russell Ben Williams*

## **tuba**

*Robin Dunn  
Chris Foster  
Crawford Howell*

## **percussion**

*Lauren Anderson\*  
Lindsey Bavousett  
Jen Rodriguez  
Jason Stephens  
Tony Tuckwiller*

*\* indicates section leader*

## **board of directors      special thanks**

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William Fu, At-large  
Christopher Hodge, At-large  
Adrian Leyva, At-large  
Jason Stephens, At-large  
Nicole Taylor, At-large*

*To all of our volunteers:  
Andrew Chu  
Autumn Esparza  
Jonny Lessard  
Michael Moore  
Kenneth Regan-Ybarra  
Jason Vetsch  
Kevin Taylor  
And to our audience*

# artist biographies

## Deborah Hirsch

*Interim Artistic 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.

## Crawford Howell

*Guest Conductor*

BORN AND RAISED in Channelview, Texas, Crawford Howell graduated from Baylor University with a Bachelor Degree in Music Education with an emphasis in instrumental music.



Mr. Howell's 29-year teaching career included six years in Channelview ISD and 23 years in Spring Branch ISD. During Crawford's career bands under his direction competed successfully in music festivals across the states of Texas and Florida, UIL Concert & Sight Reading Contest. Solo & Ensemble Contest and Region Band Competitions at the High school and Middle school level. Crawford also taught instrumental music privately (mainly Low Brass) over his career and had numerous students receive individual awards on Solo's at the Region and State level. Crawford has had numerous students audition and perform in the TMEA Region, Area, and State Orchestras and Bands.

Since retirement Crawford has enjoyed working with band programs in the Houston area, traveling with his partner Ed,

spending time with their Pug Lilly and his two cats Madison and Bailey. and taking life a little slower. Crawford is happy to be playing Tuba in the Houston Pride Band and conducting a few pieces now and then.

## Jason Stephens

*Guest Conductor*

JASON IS A GRADUATE from Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, where he received a Bachelor's of Music in 2003. He studied Conducting with Travis Albany and Dr. Barry Johnson and has additional conducting instruction from Craig Kirchoff, Professor of Conducting at the University of Minnesota (retired). After moving to Houston in 2004, Jason joined the Houston Pride Band as a bassoonist in 2005. He was named Interim Artistic Director in early 2006 and appointed Artistic Director in November of 2006. After six years leading the Houston Pride Band, he stepped down to be Assistant Director in 2011 and joined the percussion section. Jason re-assumed the role of Artistic Director in Spring 2014 until new directors were chosen at the end of the 2015 season. Jason also serves on the Board of Directors.



Jason has been a guest conductor for the Oak Lawn Symphonic Band in Dallas, Texas and for Gay Games VIII in Cologne, Germany. He currently works for the Houston Public Library as manager for System Services and as music librarian for the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, a professional chamber orchestra in Houston, Texas. In addition to performing with the Houston Pride Band, Jason is 2nd bassoonist with the Houston Civic Symphony, and also plays with and serves on the Board of Directors for the Hurricanes Flag Football League of Houston, Houston's gay flag football league.

## VOX: The Rob Seible Singers & Bering UMC Chancel Choir

*Conducted by Rob Seible*

TONIGHT'S CHORAL ENSEMBLE is comprised from two of the groups which Rob Seible conducts - VOX: The Rob Seible Singers and Bering Memorial United Methodist Church.

VOX, a professional choir, is celebrating its 10th anniversary year, with two more concerts this season: A Close Harmony (Feb. 25), a concert with music of Manhattan Transfer, and Swingle Singers (May 13th) is "Rob's Pick", the best of 10 years of VOX.

The Chancel Choir from Bering Memorial UMC, for which Rob has been conductor since 1988, has a primarily volunteer membership, best known for its unaccompanied singing.

Both groups have several CDs available for purchase. For more information about either group, go to:

[WWW.VOX-RSS.COM](http://WWW.VOX-RSS.COM) OR [BERINGUMC.ORG](http://BERINGUMC.ORG)

# program notes

## Midnight Sleighride

Sergei Prokofiev/arr. by Tom Wallace

BORN IN 1891 RUSSIA, Sergei Prokofiev's works includes symphonies, band works, concertos, piano sonatas, and chamber music compositions. His better known works include the opera *The Love of Three Oranges*, the ballet *Romeo and Juliet*, the symphonic *Peter and the Wolf*, and the film music to *Alexander Nevsky*. In 1933, 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 into this version for concert band.

## A Chanukah Celebration

arr. by David Bobrowitz/scored by Kenneth P. Soper

A CHANUKAH CELEBRATION features five traditional Chanukah songs: *Chanukah*, *The Dreydle Song*, *O Chanukah*, *Rock of Ages*, and *Who Can Retell?*. David Bobrowitz has been a freelance bass trombonist, pianist, and composer in the New York area for over twenty years. He is the music department chairman, and band and orchestra director at Great Neck South Middle School. Kenneth P. Soper is the Director of Music for the Half Hollows School District. He holds a university position as Director of the Symphonic Winds at Long Island University. He is also the Music Director of the Atlantic Wind Symphony.

## In the Bleak Midwinter

Gustav Holst/arr. by Robert W. Smith

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER is a Christmas carol based on a poem by Christina Rossetti (1830-1894). The poem became a Christmas carol after it appeared in *The English Hymnal* in 1906 with a musical setting by Holst, and has remained virtually unchanged for 110 years. Gustav Holst (1874 – 1934) was an English composer, arranger and teacher.

Robert W. Smith scored this arrangement of Holst's movement in memory of his mother-in-law Alta Sue Hawkins who had been a clarinet player and band director. After an opening fanfare, the melody is stated by a solo clarinet representing Ms. Hawkins. The clarinet is joined by a French horn, euphonium and a

second French horn representing her three children on their chosen instruments. The American folk melody "Shenandoah" is used as the contrapuntal line representing Mrs. Hawkins's birth and rest in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley in Virginia. Smith (b. 1958) is a prolific contemporary composer of concert and orchestral literature, and teaches at Troy University.

## Pat-a-Pan & Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

arr. by Alec Wilder/ed. by Norlan Bewley

STARTED AT NEW YORK'S ROCKEFELLER CENTER in 1974, TUBACHRISTMAS has been a growing phenomenon of concerts & events presented annually around the world. It was conceived in by Harvey Phillips as a tribute to his teacher and mentor William J. Bell. TUBACHRISTMAS has become an annual coming-together of musicians to celebrate the holiday season and remind the world that beautiful music is not restricted to the high-pitched, treble voices of the orchestra. Traditional Christmas music performed at the first TUBACHRISTMAS was arranged by American composer Alec Wilder known for his many solo and ensemble compositions for tuba and euphonium. Today, TUBACHRISTMAS events are performed each year on four continents, including 26 events in Texas. The euphonium & tuba players of the Houston Pride Band are excited to perform two selections as a tribute to this iconic American musical event.

## Cowboy Christmas

arr. by Jeff Simmons

THIS FUN MEDLEY combines several familiar holiday tunes into an homage to the famous film scores of 20<sup>th</sup> century Western films. You're sure to smile at hear the familiar style of John Wayne-style films mashed up with your favorite Christmas carols. Arranger Jeff Simmons has been publishing band music for over 25 years and currently lives in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina where his is a church music director and the keyboardist & saxophonist at the Carolina Opry.

## Minor Alterations: Christmas Through The Looking Glass

David Lovrien

LET'S PLAY A GAME of Christmas hide-and-peek! Composer David Lovrien twists your favorite Christmas melodies into something new and inventive...a little darker perhaps, but still familiar and full of wonder. By transposing the tunes from major keys to minor keys, changing styles and overlapping melodies onto one another, each carol takes on a completely new character. Alternately dramatic and funny, wistful and energetic, this medley is full of musical surprises from start to finish. David Lovrien has been a member of the saxophone section of Dallas Wind Symphony for over 15 years. He is also a founding member of the renowned Texas Saxophone Quartet. His compositions and arrangements have been performed

throughout the world, and his website celebrating the life and work of John Philip Sousa is recognized as the best Sousa authority on the Internet.

## A Holiday Jazz Trio

arr. by Michelle Weir

THIS TRIO OF HOLIDAY FAVORITES was compiled by Professor Michelle Weir, a jazz faculty member at the UCLA and a former member of the Grammy-nominated vocal group, Phil Mattson and the PM Singers. The Houston Pride Band is happy to welcome our friends at VOX: The Rob Seible Singers to our concert this year.

## Jingle Bells Forever

arr. by Robert W. Smith

TAKE AMERICA'S FAVORITE MARCH, throw in some "show biz" and a beloved holiday classic, and you get this fun selection. Arranger Robert W. Smith has crafted this improbable concert march out of J. Pierpont's "Jingle Bells" and John Philip Sousa's "Stars and Stripes Forever". You'll hear very recognizable strains of our national march, woven together with one of our best-loved holiday songs.

## Sleigh Ride

Leroy Anderson

FAMOUS FOR HIS "concert music with a pop quality" (his own words), Leroy Anderson (1908 - 1975) possessed not merely a skill in technique and a rich melodic gift, but also an engaging sense of humor. He was particularly successful in creating descriptive pieces that effectively borrowed sounds and rhythms of the extra-musical world, such as the ticking of a clock, the clicking of a typewriter, and the ringing of sleigh bells. Anderson is best known for imaginative, witty pieces, such as *The Typewriter*, *Fiddle Faddle*, *Blue Tango*, and *The Waltzing Cat*, that chart a course between classical and pops. For his contribution to the recording industry, Leroy Anderson has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Sleigh Ride was not originally written as a Christmas piece but as a musical vignette that describes an old-fashioned winter's day. He began work on it during a heat wave in August 1946. The Boston Pops recording of Sleigh Ride was the first pure orchestral piece to reach No. 1 on the Billboard Pop Music chart. In the 1950s, Mitchell Parish wrote lyrics to the tune (with no mention of any particular holiday). In 2010, ASCAP named Sleigh Ride the most popular piece of Christmas music in the USA based on performance data from 2,500 radio stations nationwide.

## Fantasy on a Bell Carol

arr. by Edward Madden

EDWARD J. MADDEN IS A COMPOSER, arranger and conductor and is a former director of bands and orchestras at Brookline

High School in Massachusetts, as well as a former professor at the University of Alaska. He crafted the popular "Carol of the Bells" into this complex, nuanced band piece.

## A Holiday Happening

arr. by John Cacavas

IN ADDITION TO HIS band and orchestra music arrangements, John Cacavas (1930-2014) had a 40-year career as a film and television composer, working on over 80 different projects, including the films *Airport '75*, *Airport '77*, and *Horror Express*. Best known for his work in television, Cacavas's credits include *Mrs. Columbo*, *The Eddie Capra Mysteries*, *Hawaii Five-O* and *Kojak*, for which he earned an Emmy nomination. This piece is a medley of three 1960s Christmas classics, all of which are associated with television: "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch" (from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, 1966), "Linus and Lucy" (introduced in *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, 1965), and "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year" (recorded by singing Andy Williams and featuring in his 1963 Christmas special).

## Greensleeves

arr. by Alfred Reed

GREENSLEEVES IS A TRADITIONAL English folk song and tune dating from the 16th century. The famous Christmas song, "What Child Is This?", combines the melody with lyrics hailing the newborn Christ, "whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch and keep". This arrangement is one of the staples of wind ensemble holiday music, featuring lush harmonies and haunting melodies in many sections of the band.

Arranger Alfred Reed (1921-2005) was born in New York City. Acquainted with symphonic and operatic repertoire from an early age. He studied at Juilliard and became a staff composer and arranger with NBC, then ABC. He later conducted the Baylor Symphony Orchestra, worked as a music editor, and taught at the University of Miami for 27 years. He composed over 500 works for band, wind ensemble, orchestra, chorus and various chamber ensembles.

## All I Want for Christmas is You

Mariah Carey & Walter Afanasieff/arr. by Kenneth Abeling

COLUMBIA RECORDS RELEASED "All I Want for Christmas is You" on November 1, 1994 as the lead single from Mariah Carey's fourth studio album, *Merry Christmas*. Written and produced by Carey and her writing partner, Walter Afanasieff, the song is one of few modern Christmas songs which has become a staple of holiday music around the world. With over 14 million copies sold, it is the #11 best-selling single of all time. Kenneth Abeling joined the US Army as a saxophonist in 1982 and served as Staff Arranger for five regional US Army bands during his 33 year military career.

## Christmas Pipes

Brendan Graham/arr. by Michael Brown

BRENDAN GRAHAM is one of Ireland's most famous lyricists and songwriters. His most-known composition is the lyrics to the song "You Lift Me Up," most famously recorded by Josh Groban. *Christmas Pipes* is featured on Celtic Woman's second studio album. It spotlights a lilting Celtic style and distinctive melody which is immediately identifiable as being in the Irish tradition. This band version is arranged by MSG Michael Brown, who is currently the Chief Arranger for the U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" in Washington, DC. The Houston Pride Marching Band has performed many of Mr. Brown's arrangements in recent years.

## Merry Christmas, Darling

Richard Carpenter & Frank Pooler/arr. by Chris McDonald

RECORDED IN 1970, *Merry Christmas, Darling* was a number one hit for The Carpenters during the Christmas season in 1970, 1971, and 1973. The song has become a standard inclusion on almost any holiday compilation CD featuring music from the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This concert band version was crafted by Chris McDonald, a Nashville trombonist and composer, who has composed orchestrations for Carrie Underwood, Jennifer Holliday, Martina McBride, Amy Grant, Sara Evans, and scores of others. He has orchestrated scores for several major motion pictures, among them the 2001 release, "All The Pretty Horses" which was nominated for a Golden Globe for best musical score.

## A Christmas Festival

Leroy Anderson

A CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL includes excerpts from "Joy to the World," "Deck the Halls," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Good King Wenceslas," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," "Silent Night," "Jingle Bells," "O Little Town of Bethlehem," and "Adeste Fidelis." Listen for the clever ways that Anderson weaves these themes together and his unconventional treatments of one or two of the traditional carols. A Christmas Festival is one of the best-known orchestral/band medleys of holiday music and is a favorite of both performing musicians and audiences alike.

The Houston Pride Band  
is made possible  
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Bering Memorial UMC | 1440 Harold St., Houston TX

**SATURDAY MAY 13, 2017 7:30PM**

Rob Seible, Artistic Director | To stay current with upcoming events, join our mailing list at [www.vox-rss.com](http://www.vox-rss.com)



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The 2016-2017 season is a special one for the Houston Pride Band. We've moved our concerts to MATCH, and we're hosting an international convention of LGBT band members in 2017. Please consider helping us reach our fundraising goals by donating at <http://houstonprideband.org/donate>

# 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.

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# LGBA

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.

### 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](http://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.



the houston pride band presents



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7 PM Concert  
September 3, 2017

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**TAPAS**  
MATCH

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Wortham Center

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