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NEC Preparatory School

Youth Brass Ensemble
&
Junior Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble
&
Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble Concert Band

Eli Epstein

Music Director, Youth Brass Ensemble

Jared Cassidy

Music Director, Junior Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble

Alfred Dentino

Music Director, Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble Concert Band

Allison Lacasse

Assistant Director, Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensembles

Tuesday, May 20, 2025

7:30 p.m.

New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

YOUTH BRASS ENSEMBLE

Felix Mendelssohn
(1807-1847)
arr. Geoffrey Bergler

Beati Mortui, Op. 115

Maria D'Ambrosio
(b.1997)

Triumph and Dance

Orlando De Lassus
(1530-1594)
Edited by Robert King

Providebam Dominum

Giovanni Gabrieli
(1557-1612)
Edited by Robert King

Canzona per Sonare No. 2

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)
Edited by Robert King

Contrapunctus I from *The Art of the Fugue*

JUNIOR MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH WIND ENSEMBLE

Samuel R. Hazo
(b.1966)

In Flight

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)
arr. Robert Longfield

Appalachian Spring

Robert W. Smith
(1958-2023)

Encanto

Jack Wilds
(b.1986)

Wellspring

Julie Giroux
(b.1961)

Khan

PROGRAM (continued)

MASSACHUSETTS YOUTH WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT BAND

John Philip Sousa

(1854-1932)

Edited by Robert E. Foster

With Pleasure

Eric Whitacre

(b.1970)

The Seal Lullaby

Julie Giroux

(b.1961)

Opa!

Percy Grainger

(1882-1961)

Irish Tune from *County Derry*

Leonard Bernstein

(1918-1990)

trans. Clare Grundman

Slava

NEC Youth Brass Ensemble

Eli Epstein, *Conductor*

Trumpet

Robert Cabezud

Charlie Yeaw

Daniel Geho

Nash Ten Hagen

Maddie Sjoblom

James Joseph Goodfellow

Trombone

Thomas Markey

Timothy Lai

Euphonium

Miles Settembre

Tuba

Robert Lowrance

Luke Wong

Ryan Kim

French Horn

Jane Geyer

Congratulations to the graduating Youth Brass Ensemble
Senior!

Luke Wong

NEC Junior Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble

Jared Cassedy, *Conductor*

Flute

Chloe Trester Carrano
Talia M Chin
Alina E Falcao
Suyun (Amy) Hou
Karen Hua
Elaine Jang
Solonga Julia Jin
Esther Kim
Arya Koul
Satsuki Morita
Sarang Park
Jiwan Ryu
Lexing (Lexi) Sun
Bella Tan
Xiuhan (Harry) Zhu

Piccolo

Chloe Trester Carrano

Oboe

Ian Kim
Theodore (Theo) Lee
Louisa Sun

Clarinet

Idan Sitao Chen
Sophie Grochowski
Jayden Kim
Ethan Yee Sern Lam
Cecilia Hayon (CeCe) Lee
Yujeong Janice Lee
Clara McGill
Anewmi Joseph Paluszek
Irene Yoonseo Park
Sungjin (Eric) Pyo
Alyssa Chunyi Wang

Bass Clarinet

Javeed Moussignac

Bassoon

Raymond Liu

Alto Saxophone

Philbert Fu
Pascale McAvoy
Andrew Ming Qiao
Ryan Wang
Benjamin Zhang

Tenor Saxophone

Meenakshi (Meena) Senthil

Baritone Saxophone

Pierson Mun

French Horn

Aviva Bella Abramowitz
Jiho Lee
Flynn Ewer*

Trumpet

Peter Aloisio
Nishanth Bangalore
Evelyn Braman
Timothy Juwon Choi
Eli Gewurz
Jinyu (Ann) Gu
Penelope June Halpainy
Tyler S. Kim
Harry Lee
Russell Hojoon Lee
Maddie Sjoblom

Trombone

Cheng (Tiger) Qian
Elliott Shoemaker
Nola Lourdes Xavier

Euphonium

Ben Edward Hubbard
Miles H Settembre

Tuba

Ryan Kim
Robert Lowrance

Percussion

Sihan Chen
Winston Longley
Yida (Nathan) Zhou
Isabella Butler*
Kendall Floyd^

Piano

Damian Lee

* NEC College Musician

^ Guest Musician

NEC Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble Concert Band

Allison Lacasse, *Conductor*

Flute

Kabir Devgan
Valentina Fayzullina
Hanna Kim
Catherine Li
Maggie Li
Jace Sawicka
Vivian Shi
Emilly Zhou

Piccolo

Kabir Devgan
Sylvia Sakata

Clarinet

Aya Bernstein
Felix Cao
Xianyi Ji*
Rohan Miovic*
Chasity Thompson*
Qingyin Yang

Bass Clarinet

John McCurley

Bassoon

Andrew Salaru*

Alto Saxophone

Abigail Cartisser
Alexander Chen
Benjamin Hanna
Charlotte Johnson
Andre Leung
Jonathan Peng
Ian Swinger

Tenor Saxophone

Aznye Mo

Baritone Saxophone

Lauren Barr

French Horn

Charlotte Lyng+

Trumpet

Jacob Gruneich
Adam Sugarman
John Qi
Cody York^

Trombone

Rebecca Bertekap*
Quinton Krull*
David Paligora*

Euphonium

Jeffrey Davison*

Tuba

Peter Lopes
Nolan Zimhus

Percussion

Gustavo Barreda*
Jake Haskins*
Trygve Lebakken*

+ MYWE Mentor Student

* NEC College Musician

^ Guest Musician

Congratulations to the graduating MYWE CB Seniors!

Felix Cao
Benjamin Hanna
Charlotte Johnson
Andre Leung
Jonathan Peng
Sylvia Sakata

Eli Epstein

Music Director, Youth Brass Ensemble

Eli Epstein enjoys a multi-faceted career as performer, educator, conductor and author. Epstein was second horn of the Cleveland Orchestra (1987-2005), and horn professor at the Cleveland Institute of Music (1989-2005). He has appeared several times as soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra and Cleveland Orchestra.

Epstein left Cleveland in 2005, and moved to Boston to devote more time and energy toward educational and creative endeavors. He is currently on faculty of New England Conservatory and Professor of Horn at Boston Conservatory at Berklee. At NEC, Epstein is on the college faculty, NEC at Walnut Hill, and Brass Chair of the Preparatory School. Epstein's students hold positions as chamber musicians and teachers, and have won posts in more than 30 major orchestras in North America.

An active performer, Epstein has appeared on chamber programs at Jordan Hall, Severance Hall, Tanglewood, Philadelphia's Academy of Music, Kennedy Center, Music Academy of the West, where he was on faculty (2005-2013), and the Aspen Music Festival, where he served as principal horn of the Aspen Chamber Symphony (2000-2012). Epstein has collaborated with the Borromeo and Brentano String Quartets, and has been guest principal horn for the Rhode Island Philharmonic, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and the Saint Louis Symphony. Epstein performs with the Boston Symphony Orchestra from time to time and has played on the BSO Community Chamber Concerts series.

Director of the NEC Youth Brass Ensemble since 2009, Epstein has conducted college ensembles at Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Cleveland Institute of Music, Longy School of Music, Music Academy of the West, NEC, and El Sistema in Venezuela. Advocating the idea that music can be a meaningful and uplifting force in society, in 2009 Epstein won Grand Prize in the Entrepreneur the Arts Contest for his Inside Out Concerts, and appeared on Heartbeat of America with William Shatner. Drawing on years of experience as a performer, educator and entrepreneur, in 2013 Epstein joined the NEC Entrepreneurial Musicianship faculty to teach their survey course "The Entrepreneurial Musician."

Epstein's book, *Horn Playing from the Inside Out* (third edition published in 2016, and eBook published on Apple Books in 2021) includes astonishing images from the MRI Lab at the Max Planck Institute in Göttingen Germany. This book was celebrated in the International Horn Society's journal as "an overwhelmingly stimulating and productive treatise...that will yield positive influence on legions of horn players..." It was also commended in Horn Matters: "Without a doubt the most physiologically correct book ever published on horn playing. Epstein presents a pedagogy that is truly informed by science, with new insights that should not be ignored." *Orchestral Excerpts for Low Horn*, Epstein's album released in 2014, was acclaimed in HornWorld as "a perfect sequel to (Krebiehl's) original horn excerpts CD...you would be hard pressed to find more nuanced, musically substantial performances anywhere." Epstein earned his Bachelor of Music Degree magna cum laude from the Eastman School of Music.

Jared Cassedy

Music Director, Junior Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble

Jared L. Cassedy is the Performing Arts Department Head and High School Band Director for the Masconomet Regional School District, MA. Prior to joining this community, he was the K-12 Performing Arts Coordinator for Lexington Public Schools, Massachusetts (2018-2024) where he oversaw and supported all music and dramatic arts programming and curriculum development in collaboration with the performing arts teachers, and also conducted the LHS Wind Ensemble. He is the recipient of the 2015 GRAMMY Music Educator Award furnished by the GRAMMY Foundation and The Recording Academy having been selected out of a pool of more than 7,200 nominees nationwide and was most recently recognized as a 2022 National Music Teacher of Excellence by the Country Music Association (CMA) Foundation. Jared is President-Elect for the Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA) and is the Past Chairperson for the MMEA Northeastern District. He has served on the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) Equity Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, and the Council of Music Program Leaders. Prior to coming to Massachusetts, he was the President-Elect for the New Hampshire Music Educators Association (NHMEA).

Jared is also the conductor of the New England Conservatory Preparatory School's Jr. Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble, a position he has held since 2016, where he works with students within the Greater Boston area who rehearse and perform actively throughout the school year. Additionally, Jared is on the faculty of The Longy School of Music of Bard College where he teaches conducting classes for the Masters of Music in Music Education program and is the Artistic Director for Longy's Side-by-Side Orchestra Program.

Beginning his career in 2005 as a music teacher at Windham Middle School, in Windham, NH, Jared was appointed as the first Director of Bands for the newly constructed Windham High School directing all instrumental ensembles in 2009. Until 2016, Jared held the position as Director of K-12 Fine and Performing Arts responsible for the supervision and evaluation of teachers as well as the development of curriculum. From 2016 to 2018 Jared spent two years working as the first Director of K-12 Performing Arts for the Salem School District in New Hampshire (his alma mater) where he helped to define, develop, and strengthen the department's capacity through curriculum and assessment development, collaboration, teacher supervision and effectiveness, and district-wide programming.

Jared's continued collaboration with his students and colleagues has enabled his ensembles to be selected to participate in a myriad of national performances and festivals in New York City (National Band and Orchestra Festival at Carnegie Hall and the New York Wind Band Festival at Carnegie Hall - 2022), Chicago (Festival of Gold), and at the Bands of America (BOA) National Band Festival sponsored by Music for All and Yamaha in Indianapolis. His ensembles have also been selected to perform at the NAfME Eastern Division Conference, for the Mayor of Quebec City and Governor of Montreal, the Pacific Basin International Music Festival in Honolulu, Hawaii (2023), and most recently

performed at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts participating in the Washington D.C. International Music Festival (2024).

Jared is a much sought after conductor and clinician conducted a myriad of regional honor bands across all states in New England, has given a variety of lectures on leadership and best practices in teaching including TEDx talking about his journey and philosophies through education, and co-presented the session, "Fine Tuning Ensemble Culture and Why it Matters: Intentionally Creating a Positive Community through Conversation and Collaboration" at the International Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in 2021. In 2011 the New Hampshire Band Directors Association honored Jared with the "Outstanding Young Band Director of the Year Award." He was also nominated for New Hampshire Teacher of the Year in 2014. Jared graduated Summa cum Laude from the University of New Hampshire – Durham where he received his Bachelors of Music degree in Music Education and has a Masters of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus in Educational Leadership from Southern New Hampshire University. He is a member of NAFME, MMEA, NBA, and ASCD, and the prestigious Pi Lambda Theta Education Honors Society.

Alfred Dentino

Music Director, Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble Concert Band

Alfred Dentino, an alumnus of Concord-Carlisle Regional High School in Concord, Massachusetts, received his Bachelor of Music Education Degree from The Ohio State University in 1976. While at Ohio State, he was principal clarinetist and President of the Ohio State University Concert Band under the direction of Dr. Donald E. McGinnis. He earned his Master's Degree in Fine Arts from Harvard University in 1991 where he won the Crite Prize for his research into the portrayals of musical instruments in ancient Greek Art.

Mr. Dentino has taught in the Columbus, Ohio Public Schools, Wachusett Regional School District in Holden, Massachusetts, the Concord Public Schools, and the Concord-Carlisle Regional School District. From 1993 until he retired from public school teaching in 2012, he served as Director of Bands at Concord-Carlisle Regional High School where his responsibilities included directing the Repertory and Concert Bands, Pep Band, Orchestra, and Jazz Bands as well as conducting the Pit Orchestra for the school's annual musical. Under his direction, the CCHS Concert Band earned nineteen gold medals at the Massachusetts Instrumental and Choral Conductors Association (MICCA) State Concert Festival. The CCHS Concert Band undertook extremely successful tours of Hokkaido, Japan in 1998, 2004, 2007 and 2010 and the CCHS Jazz Band visited Beijing, China in 2000. The CCHS Concert Band has performed at some of the finest concert venues in the world. Among these are Mechanics Hall in Worcester, Massachusetts, Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood, Symphony Hall in Boston, and Kitara Hall in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. The joint Sapporo and Concord-Carlisle concerts at Symphony Hall (Japan Night At Symphony Hall) in 2003 and 2008 were incredible experiences for both performer and audience member alike.

In retirement, Mr. Dentino continues to teach. He is currently an Emeritus Teacher of Music Theory at Concord-Carlisle, maintains an active private teaching schedule, and is Assistant Director of the Lexington Bicentennial Band. He has served as Treasurer, Vice-President, and President of MICCA. Mr. Dentino has conducted the Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA) Western District Festival Band, the All Cape Cod and Islands Band, and the Nashua (New Hampshire) Honors Band. He is the recipient of the MICCA Hall of Fame award for 2001 and continues to serve MMEA and MICCA as a clarinet and ensemble adjudicator and clinician. Mr. Dentino and his wife, Chris, currently reside in Lancaster, Massachusetts where they operate a small equestrian boarding and riding facility.

Allison Lacasse

Assistant Director, Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensembles

Allison Lacasse is the Director of Bands at Belmont High School in Belmont, Massachusetts. At the University of Rhode Island, Allison is the Artistic Director of the Summer Music Academy Chamber Music Intensive program and the Head Volunteer for the URI Music Alumni Network. Allison is a member of the operational staff for the Western International Band Clinic (WIBC) in Seattle, Washington, and the American Band College (ABC) in Ashland, Oregon. At the New England Conservatory Preparatory School, Allison serves as the Assistant Conductor of the Senior Massachusetts Youth Wind Ensemble.

As a professional flutist and chamber musician in Boston, Massachusetts, Allison is a member of the Cambridge Symphony and is a regular substitute within the community music circuit in Boston. Allison maintains a private studio of intermediate and advanced-level flute students in the Greater Boston area and serves as an adjudicator and clinician for local area festivals and band programs.

Allison received a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education and Performance from the University of Rhode Island, where she studied with Susan Thomas. Allison earned a M.Ed. degree from Cambridge College and a Master's Degree in Music Education from the American Band College of Central Washington University. Allison was a semifinalist for the 2017 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year. In 2018, Allison was selected among her peers for the Massachusetts Music Educators Association Advocacy Award.

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