

2025 Fall Concert

~ Celebrating Americana ~

American Folk Rhapsody No. 2 Arranged by Clare Grundman
There is something unique to the sounds that have come to be recognized as unique American sounds. This piece highlights such highlights as *Billy Boy*, *Skip to My Lou* and *Shenandoah*.

American Landscape Soon Hee Newbold
This new work composed by a new composer, is inspired by train rides through the countryside depicting our diverse landscape from vast plains to majesty mountains, forests and streams to large cities. Rich in history and many cultures, the land tells many stories as varied as the backdrop. The style and spirit of this piece has influence from film and other contemporary American composers.

~ Honoring Our Veterans ~

The Star-Spangled Banner*Please join us by standing as we sing Arranged by Sean O’Loughlin

The Battle Hymn of the Republic*Music by William Steffe, Lyrics by Julia Ward Howe, Arr. by Peter Wilhousky
The Battle Hymn of the Republic has become a revered anthem in the American repertoire. The source tune originates from old camp songs transcribed by William Steffe in the early 1800s as the hymn *Oh! Brothers Will you Meet me on Canann’s Happy Shore?* In the Civil War, the tune was later adapted for use as the Union army song *John Brown’s Body*. In 1862, Julie Ward Howe, poet and abolitionist, penned the lyrics for the *Battle Hymn*, pairing them with Steffe’s music. The song was published in 1862 and became extremely popular in the Union. During and after the World Wars, it gained fresh popularity in the 20th century as an American patriotic song for the whole nation. *Sing along when indicated.*

The Defenders of Freedom Arranged for Orchestra by Phillip Allen
Americans love their veterans—those who fought bravely and returned home after doing for each of us what few of us are able or willing to do. This piece celebrates the various forms of our armed forces (well, except for the newly formed *Space Force*). When you hear the theme songs of each of the following if you, or a family member have served in these armed forces, please stand while those tunes are played. The final selection in this arrangement celebrates not just one of our armed forces, but any of our military branches currently serving overseas—and if you have someone in your family serving overseas now, please stand while that final piece is performed. The pieces are in this order: **The US Army; The US Navy; The US Coast Guard; The US Air Force;** and finally, all the armed forces serving overseas in the final selection (*When Johnnie Comes Marching Home*).

Band of Brothers Michael Kamen, Arranged by Roy Philippe
One of the absolute best movies depicting the sacrifice our men and women endured during World War Two was *Band of Brothers*. A fictional story based on true accounts, this movie brought both the horrors of war and D-Day in particular, along with the tense day-to-day challenges of those fighting for our freedom. This piece is a tribute to all those who fought in World War Two and those who waited at home for their loved one-soldiers to return victorious.

~ Expressing our Thankfulness ~

Tribute of Gratitude/Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Arranged by Camp Kirkland
Thanksgiving originated from a 1621 harvest feast shared by Plymouth colonists and the Wampanoag people, but it did not become a national holiday until President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed it in 1863 during the Civil War to promote unity. It was officially established as the fourth Thursday of November by Congress in 1941, after President Franklin D. Roosevelt briefly moved it to a different date in 1939 to lengthen the Christmas shopping season. In this arrangement, you’ll hear some traditional hymns of Thanksgiving including *For the Beauty of the Earth; Come, Ye Thankful People, Come; We Gather Together;* culminating with an opportunity for you to sing along on *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*.

~ The Holidays Are So Fun! ~

Let Heaven and Nature Sing Arranged by Camp Kirkland
This specially commissioned anthem is arranged by Camp Kirkland, arguably the best known and most successful orchestrator of church instrumental music. This exciting piece has an energetic Celtic style that will have you tapping your foot and if we were anywhere else, tempt you to dance an Irish jig! It was commissioned by The Worship Arts Ministry of First Baptist Church Marietta this past Christmas celebrating the special recognition of the retirement of Dr. Paul Hill, Minister of Worship Arts after 45 years of church music ministry.

I’ll Be Home for ChristmasArranged by David Clydesdale
The phrase “I’ll Be Home for Christmas” can refer to the classic 1943 Christmas song written from the perspective of a WWII soldier, a 1998 Disney movie starring Jonathan Taylor Thomas, or the 1988 TV movie starring Hal Holbrook and Eva Marie Saint. The song expresses a soldier’s longing for home, while the movies offer different stories about family and the holidays. Our vocalists, Ryan and Haley Traub will help us by singing of the warm thoughts we all have for Christmas and the holidays.

Holiday Mashup Arranged by Patrick Roszell
Yea, I think the word “mashup” is weird when in truth is just a compilation of two Christmas songs. In this compliation (let’s drop the “mashup” term) the two pieces are: *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas* and *Jingle Bell Rock*.

Christmas Scherzo Arranged by Don Sebesky
Arranged specifically for the Boston Pops, this energetic piece combines a whole slew of Christmas songs and carols: *Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella; O Come, All Ye Faithful; I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In; Here We Come A=Wassailing;* and *The Holly and the Ivy*. The musical term “scherzo” is a musical term for a lively and playful piece or movement, typically in a fast tempo. And yes, this is a pretty lively piece!

The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting) Composed by Mel Torme; Robert Wells, Arr. by Bob Krogstad
The “chestnuts roasting on an open fire” lyric comes from a childhood memory of co-writer Bob Wells, who recalled seeing vendors sell roasted chestnuts on street corners in Boston during Christmastime. He and co-writer Mel Tormé wrote *The Christmas Song* in July 1945, with Wells providing the lyric after it was jotted down on a pad of paper, inspired by the warm, festive image of roasting chestnuts. The song was first recorded by Nat King Cole in 1946. Our incredible tenor soloist, Ryan Traub will sing this for us but who would blame you if you want to sing quietly to yourself!

FarandoleGeorges Bizet (1838 –1875), Arranged by Merle Isaac
Georges Bizet’s “Farandole” from L’Arlésienne Suite No. 2 is often associated with Christmas because it uses the melody of *March of the Kings*, a traditional French Christmas carol. This medieval French melody is interwoven with a dance tune, creating a lively and celebratory piece that has become a staple at holiday-season concerts.

~ Broadway, Movies, Light Classics and more ~

Typewriter Leroy Anderson
This clever piece is a short composition of light music by American composer Leroy Anderson, featuring an actual typewriter as a percussion instrument. And yes, we know some of our audience may not know what a typewriter is, so here’s an opportunity to see how printed text was produced before computers. Our (real) manual typewriter will be performed by percussionist Matt Huggins.

Underground.....Cody Fry
I’m going to let A.I. describe the meaning of this cool piece for us: *Cody Fry’s song Underground is a metaphor for life, love, and overcoming adversity, where the “underground” symbolizes a dark or difficult place. The literal story is about a man waking up in a subway tunnel after being hit by a train, but it represents the feeling of being struck by life-changing love and a new perspective. The song portrays a journey of self-discovery as the protagonist finds hope and love in a challenging, dark space.* Again, our exceptional tenor soloist, Ryan Traub will sing the vocal on it.

Blue Tango Leroy Anderson
Here’s another classic from Leroy Anderson in a sort of “Gerschwin-like” style. *Blue Tango* is a famous 1951 instrumental piece that became a number-one hit and the first instrumental recording to sell over a million copies. The song, which juxtaposes a catchy melody with a traditional tango beat, captured the spirit of its era and is a prime example of Anderson’s light classical and pops orchestra music. The story of its creation is one of serendipity: former Boston Pops conductor Arthur Fiedler encouraged Anderson to write his own tunes, leading to the creation of *Blue Tango* after a successful arrangement for the Boston Pops Orchestra.

Jazz Suite, No. 2Dimitri Shostakovich (1906-1975), Arranged by Jim Curnow
This charming piece is known for its distinctive jazzy melodies and rhythms, making it one of Shostakovich’s most recognizable and frequently performed works. Composed around 1956, it has an almost hypnotic, lilting feature to it that makes it, well, we’ll just say it: kinda cool!

Cinema Paradiso / Somewhere in Time Ennio Morricone; arr. by Bob Krostad / J. Barry, B.A. Robertson, Arr. Calvin Custer
Cinema Paradiso is from the soundtrack from a sweet 1988 foreign film of the same name that, in the conductor’s opinion, has one of the most beautiful tunes in all movie soundtracks. Tonight it is combined with and equally memorable soundtrack from the 1980 movie of the same title. The first soundtrack is all original music but the second title is unabashadely copied from Rachmaninoff’s “Variations on a Theme of Paganini, Variations No. 18.” In a conference the conductor attended years ago regarding arranging for orchestras, the conference leader said something that pertains to the Rachmaninoff reference this way: “if you’re going to copy from another work, pick from the best!” I think this supports that statement. Both pieces are are beautiful and we hope you’ll just sit back and enjoy these beautiful melodies.

Gravitas..... Soon Hee Newbold
We began tonight’s concert with an origianl, new work from this composer and in an effort to promote new composers, here is another of her compositions. This seelction was composed for the Columbus Chamber Strings for its 40th anniversary. It was in recognition of its conductor who, following the definition of the term gravitas, demonstrated great character and wisdom in his leadership of this organization.

Broadway ShowstoppersArranged by Charles Sayre
This piece immerses the listener into the dazzling world of Broadway with “Broadway Showstoppers” arranged by Charles Sayre. This compilation of popular music captures the essence of theatrical magic, featuring iconic melodies that have captivated audiences worldwide, focusing on the following memorable tunes: *That’s Entertainment; Cabert; Mame;* and *There’s No Business Like Showbusiness*.

A Tribute to John Williams..... John Williams, Arranged by Paul Lavender
The name John Williams is synomous with exciting movies and thrilling soundtracks for those movies. It’s hard to argue with his success the memorable music with with most of us have grown up. At 93 years old, his legacy is secure as America’s movie soundtrack composer. Tonight’s final piece will visit some of his most memorable movie themes: *Star Wars; Jaws; Superman; Harry Potter; Indiana Jones;* and *E.T.*