the houston pride band presents

# PRANCERS & June 1

STILL OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

December 11, 2021 8PM • MATCH

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Holidays! The Houston Pride Band is thrilled to be performing for you again, and in this joyous and festive season. We've been through a great deal since we were last together, but tonight we are ready to celebrate the music that makes this the most wonderful time of the year. We want you to relax and take a break from all the holiday hustle and bustle to enjoy an evening of music and merriment that will lift your spirits and remind you of the joy of this season!

It's been a long two years since we last appeared on this stage. In March 2020, we were putting the finishing touches on our spring concert when we temporarily suspended rehearsals. Little did the band know that we wouldn't get together to rehearse again until August 2021. Even though we missed 7 concerts, two Pride parades, and numerous other performances during those 15 months, the Houston Pride Band found ways to connect, share music, and engage with our supporters. Through Zoom calls, virtual rehearsals, socially distant picnics, and a virtual 2020 Holiday Concert, the band managed to stick together – though there is nothing that can replace performing for our audience and supporters like you.

Through all the challenges of the pandemic, in November the Houston Pride Band was able to host the annual conference of the international Pride Bands Alliance, an association of LGBTQ+ band organizations like ours from all over the United States and the world. Musicians from all over traveled to Houston to experience our hospitality while rehearsing and performing new music – and for many, it was their first performance post-COVID. Hosting this conference took over two years of planning and organizing, all while navigating the ever-changing COVID restrictions and recommendations.

As we return to new levels of normalcy, the Houston Pride Band needs your generosity to get back on the stage in 2022. Your support helps 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 **houstonprideband.org/donate** to make additional contributions and check out the other giving and sponsorship opportunities within this program for ways to support our organization.

From all of us to each of you, we wish you a joyous and wonderful holiday and very happy new year!

Jason Svatek, President

# houston pride band

#### PERFORMING MEMBERS

#### FLUTE/PICCOLO

Nicholas Davila\*
Jonathan Ellis
Christi Gell
Ferris Kennington
Alex Martinez-Hoge
Jamee Molander

#### OBOE

Michael Moreau

#### **BASSOON**

David DiCamillo\* Jeremy Hasan Becky Schlembach

#### **CLARINET**

Kayla DuBrow William Fu\* Paul Norris Chelsea Rasing Robyn Rosencutter Felicia Swindell Jeff Taylor Mike Woods

#### **BASS CLARINET**

Nicolas Droger

#### **ALTO SAXOPHONE**

Fernando Arteaga Anna Harkness Kevin Taylor\*

#### **BARITONE SAXOPHONE**

Lisa Mace

#### **TRUMPET**

Mary Beth Alsdorf George Gehring\* Adam Jatho David Lea Jessie Meng

#### FRENCH HORN

Jorge Gutiérrez\* Brice Harkness Christopher Hodge Kevin Molander

#### **TROMBONE**

Trudy Allen\* Colleen Callan Antoine Cater Noel Freeman Danny Rubio Jason Svatek

#### **EUPHONIUM**

Crawford Howell Bryce Swinford

#### **TUBA**

Chris Foster Rudy Ramírez Angel Sanchez Brian Tighe Ioana Vera

#### **PERCUSSION**

Sharon Prince Jen Rodríguez Dave Wallis Brooke Yahney

\* Section Leader





#### **PROGRAM**

Christmas Festival Leroy Anderson

Stille Nacht Franz Gruber

arr. Chip Davis & Robert Longfield

Mary's Boy Child Jester Hairston

arr. Philip Sparke

Bugler's Holiday Leroy Anderson

arr. Michael Edwards

**Houston Pride Band Trumpets** 

The Christmas Song Mel Tormé & Robert Wells

arr. John Higgins

Kevin Taylor, Alto Saxophone

Rudolph in Wonderland arr. Paul Jennings

Winter Wonderland, Let It Snow, Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer

#### INTERMISSION

A Charlie Brown Christmas Vince Guaraldi

arr. Carl Strommen

Linus and Lucy, Skating, Christmas Time Is Here, O Tannenbaum

White Christmas Irving Berlin

arr. Naohiro Iwai

Auld Lang Syne arr. Chip Davis

arr. for band by Robert Longfield

Hark, Those Jingle Bells are Smokin' arr. Julie Giroux

Mariah Carey & Walter Afanasieff

arr. Larry Kerchner

All I Want for Christmas is You

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# **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 LGBT+ students and was honored to support them by serving as the founding faculty advisor for a student organization focused on inclusion, acceptance, and community.

# houston\*pride\*band

# **PROGRAM NOTES**

#### COMPILED BY CHELSEA RASING

#### CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

A Christmas Festival, composed in 1950, is a concert overture built upon traditional Christmas songs. Originally recorded by the Boston Pops, it is the Christmas medley that sets the

standard for all others. Leroy Anderson has encompassed the joy, celebration, and solemnity of Christmas in his arrangements of "Joy to The World," "Deck the Halls," "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen," "Good King Wenceslas," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing," "The First Noel," "Silent Night," "Jingle Bells" and "O Come. All Ye Faithful."



Leroy Anderson

#### MARY'S BOY CHILD

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.



Jester Hairston

#### STILLE NACHT

On Christmas Eve in 1818, the assistant pastor in a small village church in the Austrian Alps wanted a special service to honor his Lord. Church organist Franz X. Gruber (1787-1863) composed a tune to go with a poem the clergyman had written. *Stille Nacht* has been translated into over 200 languages and has become one of the most universal religious songs of Christmas.

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.



Fronz Gruber

#### **BUGLER'S HOLIDAY**

Bugler's Holiday is one of the best-known pieces of band literature written by the band master Leroy Anderson (1908-1975). Anderson was born in Cambridge, Mass., and began studying piano and music at the New England Conservatory of Music when he was 11 years of age. In 1931, Anderson became director of the Harvard Band. In 1954 Anderson composed a piece featuring the trumpet. He wrote Bugler's Holiday as a solo piece for three trumpets accompanied by a band.

The solo trumpet parts in *Bugler's Holiday* are written to imitate the sound of a bugle, a brass instrument without valves that is commonly used for military calls and fanfares. Since the premiere of *Bugler's Holiday* 60 years ago, the piece has remained a favorite among crowds and trumpet enthusiasts.

#### THE CHRISTMAS SONG

The Christmas Song (commonly subtitled Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire or, as it was originally subtitled, Merry Christmas to You) is a classic Christmas song written in 1945 by Bob Wells and Mel Tormé.

John Higgins is best known for his many compositions and arrangements for choirs, bands and orchestras. He is currently a



Mel Tormé

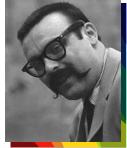
freelance composer and arranger for Hal Leonard Publishing Corporation.

cartoon. Tonight's selections are "Linus and Lucy," "Skating," "Christmas Time Is Here," and "O Tannenbaum."

Composer Vince Guaraldi (1928 – 1976) was a San-Francisco-

based jazz pianist and composer. Already known for his Grammywinning tune "Cast Your Fate to the Wind," he went on to score seventeen animated Peanuts television specials.

Arranger Carl Strommen (b.1940) is a graduate of City College of New York, and Long Island University where he teaches orchestration, arranging and composition.



Vince Guaraldi

#### RUDOLPH IN WONDERLAND

This medley of Christmas songs is a playful romp showing the fun of the Reindeer games. The medley of "Winter Wonderland," "Let it Snow," and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" is arranged by Paul Jennings (b. 1948).



Paul Jennings

#### A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

A Charlie Brown Christmas presents four of Vince Guaraldi's gentle jazz pieces from the prime-time animated TV specials based on Charles Schulz's Peanuts comic strip. The first TV special, which featured Charlie Brown's search for meaning in an over-commercialized Christmas holiday, aired in 1965 and has become a holiday classic. Its success spawned many more animated specials, feature films and a Saturday morning

#### WHITE CHRISTMAS

White Christmas is an Irving Berlin song reminiscing about an old-fashioned Christmas setting. According to the Guinness World Records, the version sung by Bing Crosby is the best-selling physical single of all time, with estimated sales in excess of 100 million copies worldwide. Other versions of the song, along with Bing Crosby's, have sold over 150 million copies.

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



Irving Berlin

#### AULD LANG SYNE

As we look toward a new year in 2022, 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."



Chip Davis

#### HARK, THOSE JINGLE BELLS ARE SMOKIN'

This arrangement is a combination of "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!" and "Jingle Bells" composed by Julie Giroux.

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!" lyrics were written by Charles Wesley in 1739. The music is by Felix Mendelssohn from the second chorus of his cantata "Festgesang" celebrating the invention of the printing press. In 1855 Dr. William Cummings put the words and music together creating the Christmas carol we know today.

"Jingle Bells" is the most recognizable of all Christmas music and is one of the top twenty-five most recorded songs in history. Composed by the son of an abolitionist minister and a runaway at the age of 14, James Pierpont composed the song sometime during the late 1840s or early 1850s. Though he grew up in New England, his free spirit travels



Julie Giroux

took him overseas to the Pacific then to the California Gold Rush. Eventually Pierpont made it back to Massachusetts, married and had children and upon the death of his wife, moved to Georgia where he remarried and had more children. He fought on the Confederate side of the Civil War and eventually was buried in Savannah, Georgia. He never made

any money off his copyright of "Jingle Bells" and the original lyrics are housed in The Library of Congress.

#### ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU

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" (#2). The Houston Pride



Mariah Carey

Band wishes you all a wonderful holiday season and hope you enjoy this Larry Kerchner arrangement as our gift to you.







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#### What to Do During Intermission

e 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
- Complete this form and hand it to a band member, or mail it to: P.O. Box 7124, Houston, TX 77248

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FROM THE houston pride band

#### REHEARSAL SPACE DONATED BY

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#### **PRODUCTION**

Pablo Lopez Russell Ben Williams

#### **PROGRAM & GRAPHICS**

Joe Dombrowski George Gehring

#### **MUSIC LIBRARIAN**

Chelsea Rasing

#### **OUR VOLUNTEERS**

Cody Derrick Jay DuBrow Michael Moore

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Jason Svatek, President Kevin Taylor, Vice President Bryce Swinford, Secretary Christopher Hodge, Treasurer Pablo Lopez, At-Large Lisa Mace, At-Large Chelsea Rasing, At-Large Russell Ben Williams, At-Large

#### **Our Christmas Wish-List**

#### Dear Santa,

The Houston Pride Band has been extra good this year, and we'd like our stockings filled with these items:

\$20	Leatherette music folder	\$250	New marching snare drum
\$40	New head for small Timpani	\$300	Symphonic suspended cymbal
\$45	New head for medium timpani	\$550	One pair of Viennese Crash Cymbals
\$50	New head for large timpani	\$2211	Yamaha Bass Clarinet
\$50	One Manhasset music stand	\$3400	Holton French Horn
\$90	Bach Tuba mouthpiece	\$4000	Yamaha Sousaphone
\$145	One marching snare drum harness	\$9200	Mirafone Tuba

To make a tax deductible donation, go to our donation page at 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.

### **Music Sponsorships**

Thank you to the following elves who sponsored pieces on this concert:

Christmas Festival - Thank you Mike Woods For my nephews Brooks & Holden

Stille Nacht - Thank you flute section For Christi Gell in memory of her father

Mary's Boy Child - Thank you Nicolas Droger For the Harmonie de Charlesbourg

Bugler's Holiday

Thank you Antoine & Anthony

The Christmas Song

Thank you Lisa Mace & Nancy Wintle - For Lily

Rudolph in Wonderland

Thank you William Fu

A Charlie Brown Christmas

Thank you Miles McMahon

White Christmas - Thank you Chelsea Rasing In memory of Richard Warneke

Auld Lang Syne - Thank you the Wallis Family *In honor of Janet Harvey* 

Hark, Those Jingle Bells are Smokin'

Thank you Mary Beth Alsdorf & Jan Wesson

All I Want for Christmas is You - Thank you Christi Gell *In memory of her father* 

Become a music sponsor for our next concert:

\$50 Richard Strauss
Also Sprach Zarathustra

\$90 Arr. Warren Barker Blue Moon

\$80 Thomas Doss
Galileo

\$70 David Gorham Starlight

To become a concert music sponsor, please email president@houstonprideband.org with your sponsorship selection.

Thank you to the following sponsors for our next concert:

Jupiter (from The Planets)

Thank you Barry Browning & Fernando Dovalina Imperial March

Thank you Becky Schlembach & Miles McMahon

Star Trek Through The Years

Thank you Andrew Conger

Journey Through Orion

Thank you Jeff Tipps

**Shooting Stars** 

Thank you Pablo Lopez

Lullaby to the Moon

Thank you William Fu

guest performance by the Bering Handbell Choir Thank you Sharon Prince

## 2021-2022 Season Donors & Sponsors

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#### **Gold Tier (\$500)**

Bering Church Hawthorne Capital (Jack Berger) Mary Beth Alsdorf Samuel Carrell Edward and Susan Conger David Cooper Aaron Reines George Wetzel Laura Whitbeck

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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 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:

- 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.
- 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.

#### houstonprideband.org • facebook.com/houstonprideband





#### 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.lgba.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.



houston pride band

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