

the houston pride band presents

# Kringles Kapers



December 7, 2024  
8PM · MATCH



# From the President

It's the holiday season once again, and this year, Santa's up to some musical mischief! **The Houston Pride Band** is excited you've joined us for **Kringle Kapers!** That jolly old elf is at it again, bringing holiday cheer as we celebrate through the magic of music.

Tonight's program reflects Santa's playful side, exploring music that showcases the joy and whimsy of the holidays. We hope this evening's musical escape will take you back to those childhood moments when the holidays were focused on the man in the red suit - being extra good so that Santa would bring you what you wanted for Christmas, all while hearing songs about Santa's many holiday escapades and hoping to catch him somehow! That spirit of excitement and wonder is what tonight is all about.

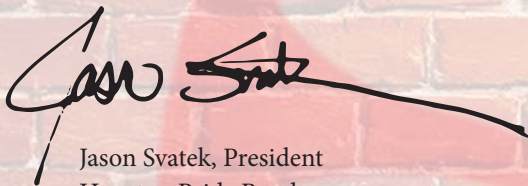
Our MATCH Concert season continues **Saturday, April 5th** when we present "Lotería," a musical twist on a cherished Latin game, with special guests and surprises you won't want to miss – get your tickets now!

You can also look for the Houston Pride Band performing out in the community! Our **Marching Band** will provide festive holiday tunes to the annual **Westbury Holiday Parade** next **Saturday, December 14th**. And our **Pep Band** will perform at the **Walk to End HIV** on **Sunday, March 9th**. Be sure to cheer for our band at these events!

If you don't already, be sure to follow us on **Facebook** and **Instagram** and go to our website to subscribe to email updates to receive information about the band and our upcoming events and performances.

The Houston Pride Band appreciates your generous support. Your contributions help 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](https://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.

Yours in **PRIDE**,



Jason Svatek, President  
Houston Pride Band



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**SUBSCRIBE**

# Kringle Kapets

DEBORAH HIRSCH & DAVID LEA  
CONDUCTORS

## PROGRAM

A Most Wonderful Christmas arr. Robert Sheldon

When Saint Nick Comes Marching In arr. Robert W. Smith  
Jordan Raabe, clarinet Chris Atieno, trombone  
Zachary Alcantara, trumpet Rudy Ramirez, tuba

Santa Baby Joan Javits, Phil Springer & Tony Springer  
arr. Michael Brown

Riu Riu Chiu Mateo Flecha  
arr. Heather Hoefle

Silent Night in Gotham Franz Gruber  
arr. Julie Giroux

Christmas in Spain Kevin Day

Santa Wants a Tuba for Christmas Norlan Bewley  
featuring the HPB tuba section and Brian Tighe, vocalist

- INTERMISSION -

Santa's Journey Roy W. Kaighin

In the Bleak Midwinter Gustav Holst  
arr. Robert W. Smith

El Burrito Sabanero Hugo Blanco

Secret Agent Santa Jeff Simmons  
Kevin Taylor, alto saxophone

Christmas "Pop" Sing-Along arr. James D. Ployhar

Sleigh Ride Leroy Anderson

# houston ★ pride ★ band

## PERFORMING MEMBERS

### FLUTE/PICCOLO

Michaela Butler  
Christi Gell  
Rocky Gonzales  
Jonathan Griffin, Jr.  
Joey Knight  
Jadie Marshall  
Gregory Obregon  
Gabe Rodríguez  
Elworth Wilcox III  
Josh Wunderlich

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Lupe Ybarra-Regan

### BASSOON

Fernando Alvarez  
David DiCamillo  
Becky Schlembach\*

### CLARINET

Stephen Ball  
Steve Brown  
Delvin Coleman  
Kayla DuBrow  
William Fu\*  
Zaikeise Johnson  
Sharon Kilbert  
Melanie Pando  
Chelsea Rasing  
Jordan Raabe  
Cassidy Salentine

### BASS CLARINET

Nicolas Droger  
Dianna Minter  
Charlie Nuttall

### ALTO SAXOPHONE

Sandy Chen  
Cole Duhon  
Brianna Hemeyer-Taylor  
Travis Howell\*  
Nghi Nguyen  
Mike Pieratt  
RaVon Rhone  
Daniel Stover  
Kevin Taylor  
Larry Trout

### TENOR SAXOPHONE

Anthony Fernández

### BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Lisa Mace

### TRUMPET

Zachary Alcantara  
Nia Berry  
George Gehring\*  
Rose Kantorczyk  
Jessie Meng  
Jonathan Morales  
Alex Rangel  
Kyra Stafford

### HORN

Eddie Arredondo  
Kirsten Kurtz  
Eric Weidner\*

### TROMBONE

Chris Atieno  
Rayshaun Bennett  
Noel Freeman  
Alexder León  
Chris Longoria  
Eduardo Ramos  
Jason Svatek\*  
Nathalie Yii

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Brooke Yahney

### TUBA

Sebastián Alexander  
Allan Encinia  
Chris Foster\*  
Jerry Johnson  
Michael Julian  
Rudy Ramírez  
Brian Tighe

### PERCUSSION

Lauren Anderson  
David Booth  
Andrew Christian\*  
Carson Clifton  
George Gehring  
Christian Hopkins  
Sharon Prince

\* Section Leader



# Artistic Directors



## DEBORAH HIRSCH

Now in her 9th 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.



## DAVID LEA

David Lea is in his eighth season as a member of the Houston Pride Band, and has served as Co-Artistic Director since 2018. Since joining the artistic team, David has conducted the Houston Pride Band at the Women Band Directors International conference in 2022 as a featured concert and clinic ensemble, and served on the Artistic Team for the Pride Bands Alliance national conference in 2021. He has also represented HPB as a guest conductor for the Houston Chamber Music Society Wind Project. After bringing two world premiere performances to the HPB Audience in 2023, David is excited to be working with composer JaRod Hall to commission a new work to culminate the band's 45th season.

David is also a founding member of BrassTax, the Houston Pride Band Brass Quintet. BrassTax has performed throughout Houston as a musical ambassador for HPB's outreach initiatives, and will be featured as a guest collaborator this season with Pride Chorus Houston. Outside of BrassTax, David also plays trumpet for the NFL Houston Texans' Deep Steel Thunder.

David currently serves as the Head Band Director and fine arts department chair at Null Middle School in Sheldon ISD. 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.

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. His professional memberships include Texas Music Educators and Texas Bandmasters Associations.

# Program Notes

COMPILED BY THEO HARRISON

## A MOST WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS

If you want a Christmas medley of some of the most popular Christmas tunes, this is the one! You'll find *Winter Wonderland*, *I'll Be Home for Christmas*, *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*, and *It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year* in cheery settings that lift the spirits!

## WHEN SAINT NICK COMES MARCHING IN

Beginning with a trumpet solo inspired by Louis Armstrong, *When Saint Nick Comes Marching In* quickly transitions to a Dixieland jazz quintet. Then, in the tradition of the New Orleans brass bands, the full band joins in - with Saint Nick leading the celebration!

## SANTA BABY

*Santa Baby* was written by Joan Javits and Philip Springer, who also used the pseudonym Tony Springer in an attempt to speed up the song's publishing process. Lyrically, the song is a tongue-in-cheek look at a Christmas list addressed to Santa Claus by a woman who wants extravagant gifts such as sables, yachts, and decorations from Tiffany. Originally recorded by Eartha Kitt in the '50s, this holiday favorite has also been recorded by a wide variety of artists including Madonna, Faith Evans and Taylor Swift.

## RÍU RÍU CHÍU

*Ríu Ríu Chíu* is a traditional Spanish Christmas carol, or villancico, that dates back to the Renaissance. The song, with its lively rhythm and joyful melody, tells the story of the Nativity while celebrating the protection of the Virgin Mary. Hoefle's arrangement brings this vibrant piece to life with rich harmonies and rhythmic vitality, capturing the spirit of the original while adding modern flair. The recurring "ríu ríu chíu" refrain mimics the sound of a nightingale, symbolizing the purity of Mary.

## SILENT NIGHT IN GOTHAM

*Silent Night in Gotham* takes the serene and beloved melody of Franz Gruber's *Silent Night* and reimagines it within the shadowy, mysterious atmosphere of Gotham City. Haunting harmonies and eerie chords weave through the familiar tune, blending the peacefulness of the classic carol with a darker, cinematic edge. The result

is a chilling yet beautiful transformation, as the tranquility of Christmas night meets the brooding undercurrents of Gotham's streets. This unique arrangement evokes a sense of wonder and suspense, offering a fresh, dramatic take on a holiday favorite.

## CHRISTMAS IN SPAIN

*Christmas in Spain*, composed by Kevin Day, is a vibrant and festive celebration of the holiday season infused with the rich musical traditions of Spain. The piece features lively Spanish rhythms, colorful harmonies, and energetic dance-like sections that evoke the warmth and spirit of a Spanish Christmas. With its dynamic contrasts and joyful melodies, *Christmas in Spain* transports the listener to the streets of a Spanish village during the holidays, where music, dance, and celebration fill the air. Kevin Day masterfully combines traditional holiday elements with the passion and flair of Spanish music, creating a piece that is both festive and exhilarating.

## SANTA WANTS A TUBA FOR CHRISTMAS

*Santa Wants a Tuba for Christmas* is a lighthearted and whimsical piece that brings the tuba into the spotlight for a fun, festive celebration. Imagine Santa, with his usual jolly spirit, longing for a shiny new tuba to add to his holiday merriment! The piece features playful tuba solos, lively brass lines, and festive rhythms, capturing the charm and humor of Santa's wish. It's a delightful tune that showcases the tuba's warm, rich tone while keeping the mood joyful and entertaining for all ages. Get ready for a holiday treat with a dash of tuba flair!

## SANTA'S JOURNEY

This is one holiday "journey" you won't want to miss! Hop on board this charming offering which includes numerous familiar holiday themes set in a most attractive and innovative collage. Certain to become a perennial holiday favorite!

## IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

With broad, expansive strokes, yet with great sensitivity and taste, this is a truly remarkable setting of the beautiful Holst melody. Beginning with a haunting single voice, it reaches a stunning climax before giving way to a simple restatement.

## EL BURRITO SABANERO

*El Burrito Sabanero* is a beloved Venezuelan Christmas song composed by Hugo Blanco in 1972. The song tells the charming story of a young boy joyfully riding his “burrito” (little donkey) to Bethlehem to see the baby Jesus. With its infectious melody, lively rhythms, and cheerful lyrics, *El Burrito Sabanero* has become a holiday favorite across Latin America and beyond. The music’s upbeat, playful energy and distinctive Latin folk elements make it a fun and heartwarming celebration of the Christmas spirit, perfect for evoking the warmth and joy of the season.

## SECRET AGENT SANTA

*Secret Agent Santa* is a delightful fusion of holiday cheer and the thrilling world of espionage. This playful piece combines classic Christmas melodies with the iconic sounds of secret agent film scores. You’ll hear familiar holiday tunes reimagined with suspenseful rhythms, sneaky melodies, and dramatic brass accents, evoking the feel of a high-stakes spy mission. Secret Agent Santa will take you on a festive adventure full of twists and turns, where Santa might just be undercover!

## CHRISTMAS “POP” SING-ALONG

Four of the most popular Christmas holiday melodies are combined in this tasty arrangement to provide an accompaniment for a good, old fashioned sing-a-long. Included in the medley are perennial favorites *Santa Claus Is Comin’ to Town*, *Silver Bells*, *Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, and *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*.

## SLEIGH RIDE

*Sleigh Ride*, composed by Leroy Anderson in 1948, has become a timeless holiday classic, instantly recognizable by its cheerful melodies and infectious energy. Originally written as an instrumental piece, it vividly captures the feeling of a winter sleigh ride through its playful rhythms, bright brass, and iconic percussion effects that mimic horse hooves and sleigh bells. Anderson’s masterful orchestration transports listeners to a wintry scene filled with joy and excitement. Whether it’s the clip-clop of the horses or the famous whip crack, *Sleigh Ride* is a festive favorite that evokes the magic of the holiday season with every note.

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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.

Consider making a tax deductible donation - or better yet, become a **monthly sponsor** of the band by making a recurring donation throughout the year. Just go to <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. Thank you for your support!

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## WHEN SAINT NICK COMES MARCHING IN

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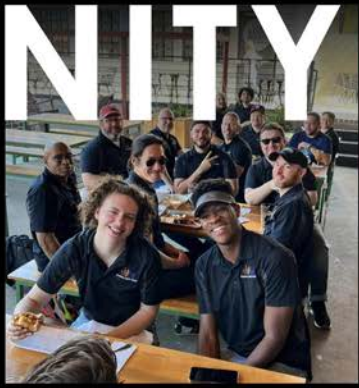
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PRIDE



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# houston★pride★band

## our story

Serving as a community band in Houston's LGBTQ+ community, the Houston Pride Band has several groups that perform at local 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 over four 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:

1. To provide a welcoming, comfortable and safe musical outlet for LGBTQ+ 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](http://houstonprideband.org) or email [info@houstonprideband.org](mailto:info@houstonprideband.org).

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## 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.pridebands.org](http://www.pridebands.org).

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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.

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## CHRISTMAS “POP” SING-ALONG

You better watch out, you better not cry  
Better not pout, I’m telling you why  
Santa Claus is comin’ to town  
He’s making a list, and checking it twice  
Gonna find out who’s naughty and nice  
Santa Claus is comin’ to town  
He sees you when you’re sleeping  
He knows when you’re awake  
He knows if you’ve been bad or good  
So be good for goodness sake  
Oh! You better watch out,  
you better not cry  
Better not pout, I’m telling you why  
Santa Claus is comin’ to town

---

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks  
dressed in holiday style  
In the air there’s a feeling of Christmas  
Children laughing, people passing,  
meeting smile after smile  
And on every street corner you hear  
Silver bells, silver bells  
It’s Christmas time in the city  
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring

Soon it will be Christmas day

---

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer  
Had a very shiny nose  
And if you ever saw it  
You would even say it glows

All of the other reindeer  
Used to laugh and call him names  
They never let poor Rudolph  
Join in any reindeer games

Then one foggy Christmas Eve  
Santa came to say  
“Rudolph with your nose so bright  
Won’t you guide my sleigh tonight?”  
Then all the reindeer loved him  
As they shouted out with glee  
“Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer  
You’ll go down in history!”

---

Have yourself a merry little Christmas  
Let your heart be light  
From now on,  
our troubles will be out of sight



the houston★pride★band presents

# LOTERÍA

A MUSICAL TWIST ON A CHERISHED LATIN GAME

A concert by the Houston Pride Band

MATCH | Midtown Arts & Theater Center Houston  
3400 Main St, Houston, TX  
tickets.houstonprideband.org

SATURDAY  
APRIL 5, 2025  
8PM • \$15



Make  
the  
Yuletide  
Gay!

PRIDE CHORUS HOUSTON  
DECEMBER 14, 2024  
8:00PM | \$20-35  
UNITY OF HOUSTON  
TICKETS AT  
PRIDECHORUS.ORG

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