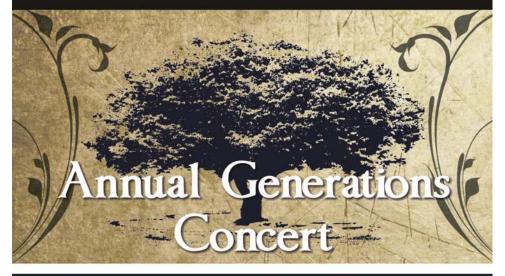
SEASON 34, CONCERT 4 - MARCH 31, 2017











## Friday, May 12, 2017 8:00PM West Side Presbyterian Church Ridgewood, New Jersey

**Prelude Concert** 7:30PM West Milford HS Wind Ensemble

**Tickets** Adults \$20 | Seniors (62+) \$15 Students \$7 | Children 12 and under FREE with paying adult or senior **Featuring** The Winner of the Youth Soloist Competition

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**Program Highlights** Pineapple Poll (Sullivan) Angels in the Architecture (Ticheli) Machu Picchu (Yagisawa)

# Ridgewood Concert Band

A New Jersey Wind Symphony

## Dr. Christian Wilhjelm, Music Director



# Artistry from Within

SHOWCASING SOLOISTS FROM THE RIDGEWOOD CONCERT BAND Mark Donellan, Oboe John Palatucci, Euphonium Kristin Bacchiocchi-Stewart, Flute Jason Stier, Bassoon Robert Gray, Bassoon Richard Summers, Clarinet Lois Hicks-Wozniak, Soprano Saxophone

## PRELUDE CONCERT - 7:30 PM Morristown High School Wind Ensemble Michael D. Russo, Director

Friday, March 31, 2017 - 8:00 PM West Side Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood, NJ



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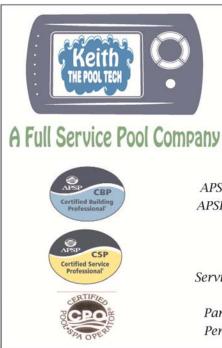


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APSP Certified Service Professional on Staff APSP Certified Building Professional on Staff Certified Pool Operator on Staff New Construction and Renovations Complete Water testing Services Service and Installation of Equipment We Sell Warranty Service on What We Sell Parts and Service on All Major Equipment Personal Contact and Advice at Your Pool *Mark Donellan* is a professional musician, soloist, conductor, and teacher. As a freelance oboist, Mr. Donellan has performed throughout the metropolitan area in various symphonies, bands, and ensembles. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of New Jersey and has been Director of Bands at Paramus High School since 2001, his alma mater. His bands have consistently won high honors at



festivals and competitions for both concert and marching programs throughout the east coast. Mr. Donellan has served on the Executive Boards for both Music Educators of Bergen County and the North Jersey Band Festival. He has conducted the Bergen County High School Band as well as the All North Jersey Region I Woodwind Ensemble. Mr. Donellan was named one of the Top Ten Outstanding Educators in NJ in 2007 and Teacher of the Year for Paramus High School in 2008.

John Palatucci is a professional musician, conductor, educator,



and adjudicator. As an inaugural member of the Ridgewood Concert Band, Mr. Palatucci has performed the roles of principal euphonium, associate conductor and featured soloist. He holds both a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Music Education from Montclair State College. Currently teaching instrumental music in the Livingston Public Schools, he has served New Jersey's public and private students

from elementary through graduate levels for more than thirtyfive years. Among his many achievements, he was principal euphonium, conductor, and business manager for the famous Goldman Memorial Band of NYC from 1986-2005. He also has been music director of the Orpheus Club Men's Chorus of Ridgewood, NJ since 1990. Kristin Bacchiocchi-Stewart is our principal flutist, dedicated



teacher, chamber musician, and an enthusiastic advocate for contemporary music. As the owner and founder of The Flute Academy in Bergen County, NJ, she is teaching aspiring young musicians through private lessons, chamber ensemble coaching and in the classroom. Dr.

Bacchiocchi-Stewart holds a Bachelor of Music from Ithaca College, a Master of Music from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and a Doctoral of Musical Arts from the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Bacchiocchi-Stewart has served on the faculties of several prestigious colleges and universities in the U.S. including Union College, Ithaca College, and the Peabody Institute to name a few. She has given concerts, lectures, workshops, and master classes throughout the United States, and has performed in several groups throughout Europe and Japan.

Jason Stier is a concert bassoonist, freelance musician, and music educator. He holds both a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Music Education from Montclair State University. Mr. Stier studied bassoon with Jane Taylor, the founding member of the



Dorian Wind Quintet, as well as freelance bassoonist Harry Searing. He also studied music in Salzburg, Austria and Lucerne, Switzerland. Mr. Stier has been a music teacher with the Pompton Lakes Public School District for the last fifteen years as the Band Director at Lakeside Middle School, where he teaches instrumental lessons, band classes, and general music to grades 6-8. His bands have consistently received both Excellent and Superior ratings for their performances in the High Note Music Festival, held annually in Allentown, PA. Mr. Stier is principal bassoonist with the Ridgewood Concert Band and is an active private teacher and freelance musician in the metropolitan area. **Robert Gray** is a concert bassoonist, freelance musician, and music educator. He attended the Boston Conservatory of Music on a performance scholarship to study with Richard Plaster of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He received his Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the Boston Conservatory of Music and his Master's



degree in Music Education from William Paterson University. He served as the principal bassoonist with the United States Coast Guard Band from 1974-1978 touring throughout the United States. As a freelance musician, Mr. Gray has performed with numerous orchestras, bands, and ensembles throughout the area. Recently retired as a long time adjunct professor at William Paterson University where he was the bassoon and double reeds instructor, Mr. Gray is currently teaching at McNair Academic High School in Jersey City, NJ.

Richard Summers is a music educator, performer, conductor,



arranger, and composer. Originally from Wheeling West Virginia, Mr. Summers arrived in our metropolitan area when he was appointed to the United States Military Academy Band at West Point from 1972-1975. Following his military career, he attended the Juilliard School, where he received both his

Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees in performance. Recently retired as a public school instrumental music teacher for thirty-two years, Mr. Summers served students in both the Kinnelon and Pequannock School Districts. He has also served as an adjunct professor at William Paterson University. Most recently he entered the field of composition and has had several of his works put into publication. A long time member of the Ridgewood Concert Band, Mr. Summers serves as principal clarinet and associate conductor. Lois Hicks-Wozniak is a concert saxophonist, vocal soloist, and teacher in the New York Metropolitan and the Hudson Valley region. She has studied at the Interlochen Arts Academy, The University of North Texas, and the Florida State University. Among her many awards is the



Special Presentation Winners Recital Series. As her prize she performed her New York recital debut at Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall. From 1996-2004 she served active duty in the U.S. Army as a saxophonist with the Unites States Military Academy Band at West Point and with the West Point Saxophone Quartet. Mrs. Hicks-Wozniak has performed with numerous orchestras and wind symphonies, often as a saxophone soloist. She is currently on the faculty at the New England Music Camp and is an adjunct professor at Marist College and the State University of New York. She maintains a private piano and saxophone studio.



**Dr. Christian Wilhjelm**, conductor, professional musician and educator, has been the Ridgewood Concert Band's Musical Director since it was founded in 1983. He was also Music Director of the renowned Goldman Memorial Band in New York City. As a guest conductor, Dr. Wilhjelm has conducted the West Point



Band, the United States Army Field Band, the Virginia Wind Symphony, the Allentown Band, the Hanover Winds, the Raritan Wind Symphony, and the Norwalk Symphony. Dr. Wilhjelm has been the conductor of the annual New York City Tuba Christmas since 2000. He was recently appointed the conductor of the Ramapo College Concert Band. As a French horn player, he has performed under the world's great conductors including Leonard Bernstein, Seiji Ozawa, Sir Colin Davis and Arthur Fiedler. Dr. Wilhjelm has played the French horn with the Boston Symphony, the Boston Pops and, as a principal, with the Boston Ballet Orchestra, the Boston Opera Orchestra and the Richmond Symphony.

An honors graduate of the New England Conservatory, he received his doctorate from Columbia University in 1998. He has been the band director at Pascack Hills High School since 1984. Dr. Wilhjelm was recently honored by his election to the American Bandmasters Association. He is the 2012 recipient of the Outstanding Conductor Award presented by the Association of Concert Bands. Dr Wilhjelm is the state chair for the National Band Association. In 2013, he was elected to the Board of Directors for the Association of Concert Bands.

# Ridgewoo Concert Band

A New Jersey Wind Sympbony

## DR. CHRISTIAN WILHJELM, MUSIC DIRECTOR

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BASSOONS Robert Gray \* Christy Luberger Jason Stier CONTRA BASSOON

Robert Gray

Eb CLARINET Michelle McGuire **CLARINETS** Jeffrey Bittner Naomi Freshwater Joe Mariany Michelle McGuire Leigh Myers Marcie Phelan Jean Roughgarden Beth Seavers Rachel Schulman Neil Sheehan Karen Summers Richard Summers \* Sabrina Tempesta

BASS CLARINETS Bianca D'Agostaro Joel Kolk \*

CONTRA ALTO/BASS CLARINET Glenn Chernicky

SAXOPHONES Timothy Egan - Alto Lois Hicks-Wozniak \* - Alto/Sop Christopher Mantell - Alto Ryan Mantell - Tenor Michael DePompeo - Baritone

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**TUBA** Michael Gould Bob Sacchi \*

**STRING BASS** David Marks Charlie Nolet

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> > **PIANO** Don Dean

ACCORDION Eric Kerssen

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> STAGE MANAGER Tony Spinuzzi

BOX OFFICE Marilyn Wagner

PARKING DIRECTOR John Hahn

WEB ADMINISTRATOR Deloss Schertz

PROGRAM DESIGN Joseph Stella

## PROGRAM

Prelude by the Morristown High School Wind Ensemble Michael D. Russo, Director

A Longford Legend - Robert Sheldon I. A Longford Legend II. Young Molly Bawn III. Killyburn Brae "Nimrod" from Enigma Variations - Edward Elgar, arr. Alfred Reed Variations on a Korean Folk Song - John Barnes Chance

Autumn Soliloguy for Solo Oboe and Winds Mark Donellan, Oboe

Vignettes for Solo Euphonium and Band Patrick J. Burns I. Waves II. Gymnastics III. A word in private IV. Lullaby V. A brief reflection VI. Toccata Commissioned by the Ridgewood Concert Band Consortium John Palatucci, Euphonium

Night Soliloquy for Flute and Wind Ensemble Kent Kennan Kristin Bacchiocchi-Stewart, Flute

Scherzo for Concert Band and Two Solo Bassoons Jason Stier & Robert Gray, Bassoons Jeffrey Kaufman

Viktor's Tale for Solo Clarinet and Concert Band John Williams Transcribed for band by Paul Lavender Richard Summers, Clarinet

## **INTERMISSION**

## Angel of Mercy

Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Wind Ensemble

4. Wood

5. Finale

Lois Hicks-Wozniak, Soprano Saxophone

William Tell Overture

Gioacchino Antonio Rossini Arranged by Erik W. G. Leidzén

\*Flash photography and audio or video recording of this concert is strictly prohibited.\*

David Maslanka

John Mackey

James Barnes

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

Autumn Soliloquy for Solo Oboe and Winds – James Barnes (b.1949) is a delightful tone poem for oboe and winds that the composer wrote astray from his usual bright and energetic style. The work opens with a melancholy oboe solo and a haunting one line melody played by the horn in the background. The clarinet and bassoon then each have a turn with the musical line. The addition of the ensemble, including the vibraphone and bass clarinet produce an ethereal, shimmering effect. The ensuing oboe cadenza is meant to remind the listener of the swirling chill of autumn winds. The changing colors of leaves are presented by the sounds of the woodwinds and brass before the oboe again sings in a playful cadenza. The initial theme is recalled before a pyramid of ensemble sounds brings the piece to a quiet conclusion.

Vignettes for Solo Euphonium and Band – Patrick J. Burns (b.1969) is exactly what the title implies. It is a series of short musical scenes in which the euphonium reveals certain elements of its character and personality with the active assistance of the band. There are six sections to the piece that connect to each other without pauses. Waves introduce the work with undulating, sweeping figures leading to Gymnastics that provides the soloist with his first technical challenge. A Word in Private is the only section that allows the euphonium to speak alone and leads us into the tender and dramatic Lullaby that is both bittersweet and peaceful. A Brief Reflection functions as a coda to the previous section and moves shortly into the Toccata that brings the piece to a bold and dramatic conclusion.

Night Soliloquy for Flute and Wind Ensemble – Kent Kennan (1913-2003) wrote this work in 1936, the same year the composer earned his Master's degree from the Eastman School of Music and received the prestigious Prix de Rome Award. Night Soliloquy is his best known work and had its popularity defined when Arturo Toscanini chose to perform it with the NBC Symphony Orchestra in 1943, a rare honor for an American composer at that time. The single movement work opens with pulsing quarter notes against a languid, dolorous melody in the flute, gradually growing in intensity before holding forth with brief monologues. The echoing strains at the end fade to nothing into the night.

Scherzo for Concert Band and Two Solo Bassoons – Jeffrey Kaufman (b.1947) has been an active music industry professional for more than fifty years after studying at both the Manhattan School of Music and The Julliard School. As a music producer he has the distinction of being the first music producer for National Public Radio and has produced more than 300 recordings and concerts featuring great well known artists. In describing his musical piece presented on this program, the composer states, "A scherzo is a vigorous, light, or playful composition. I believe you will find that this work conforms to his simple definition. I chose two bassoons as soloists in part due to the bassoon's often jocular quality (perfect for a scherzo) and by the distinctiveness of having two bassoons as soloists."

*Viktor's Tale* – John Williams (b.1932). There is little doubt of the impact of John Williams' music on the entertainment world. His film music, including a more than 20-year collaboration with director Steven Spielberg, has been an integral part of some of the film industry's finest achievements. John William's unique talent and respected artistry have made his film scores a significant and vital part of our American culture. The fictitious character of Viktor Navorsky was the central player in Steven Spielberg's entertaining film, *The Terminal.* In the story, Viktor left his home in an imaginary Eastern European country, arriving at a U.S. airport where his adventures began. To portray Viktor's warmth and friendliness, the composer decided to write a dance-like piece for clarinet and concert band that would capture something of his colorful ethnic background. The result is a delightful jaunty piece for the solo clarinetist and a sweet treat for the audience.

Angel of Mercy – David Maslanka (b.1943) Maslanka's music for winds has become very well known. Among his more than 130 works are forty pieces for wind ensemble: including seven symphonies, fifteen concertos, a Mass, and many concert pieces. The composer was inspired to write this selection by his long association of singing and playing the Bach 371 Four-Part Chorales that are to the composer both glorious and powerful. Three of those Chorale melodies are the foundation for this work. The composer states, "These ancient melodies are the voice of peace, and over the years they have formed a peaceful center in me. Angel of Mercy is a prayer for peace in our troubled times." *Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Wind Ensemble* – John Mackey (b.1973) holds a Master of Music degree from The Julliard School and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studied with John Corigliano and Donald Erb, respectively. Mr. Mackey has focused on writing music for dance and for symphonic winds for the past few years. The concerto heard here was written as a multi-movement work that describes the saxophone as a hybrid instrument taking on elements of both the brass and woodwind families. Our soloist is performing the last two movements of the piece. The *Wood* movement that is reminiscent of the saxophone in a jazz club and is set as a tango. The *Finale* movement offers the soloist the challenge of non-stop virtuosity. The composer asked himself while writing this piece "what can a sax do?" After the work was completed he answered his own question, "well, the sax can play some monster-difficult stuff."

William Tell Overture – Gioacchino Rossini (1792-1868) was the master of both tragedy and comedy and penned close to forty operas for Italian and French stages. His popularity and genius brought him both fame and wealth allowing him to retire before the age of forty. His last opera, William Tell, opened at the Paris Opera in 1829 and was acclaimed as a masterpiece. The opera is hardly ever performed today, in part because of its convoluted libretto and its five hour length. The overture, however, has remained a favorite in the concert hall and its use in the popular media, most famously for being the theme music for the Lone Ranger radio and television shows. Even Dmitri Shostakovich quoted it in his Symphony #15. The overture is written in four parts moving smoothly from one to the other. The final part contains the familiar trumpet fanfare of announcement and the ultra-dynamic "cavalry charge" that brings a blazing conclusion to this splendid overture.

Program Notes compiled by Marcie Phelan

## Conductor's Notes:

We are so fortunate to have world renowned soloists and guest artists appear with the Ridgewood Concert Band/New Jersey Wind Symphony on our series concerts. One of the amazing aspects of having the opportunity to conduct this ensemble is to work with the extremely talented artists who come to rehearsal every week and perform as members of our group. Though we often feature soloists from within the band (on our last concert we featured our terrific French horn section), this evening is unique in our history. Tonight, we are presenting an entire program featuring the outstanding talent that we experience every time we meet. Included on tonight's program is a world premier performance of a new euphonium concerto composed by our good friend and colleague, Patrick Burns. Jeffrey Kaufman's Scherzo for Concert Band and Two Bassoons is a premier of a reworked piece which is very unique in the band world. The solo works by James Barnes, Kent Kennan, and John Williams are all staples in the solo repertoire and I dare say soon to be joined by the other works presented this evening. Lois Hicks-Wozniak was featured in a premier performance of the Concerto for Soprano Saxophone and Wind Ensemble ten years ago on one of our concerts. Her brilliant performance of the full concerto is still available on the Ridgewood Concert Band website.

The two works that are performed this evening that do not have soloists standing in front of the band, feature extensive solo and ensemble playing. David Maslanka's *Angel of Mercy* was premiered last winter at Carnegie Hall by the St. Olaf College Concert Band under the direction of Timothy Mahr. A virtuoso work with profound spiritual impact, I was stunned when the St. Olaf College Band presented this composition last year at their warm-up concert at Pascack Hills High School. Mr. Maslanka, a very generous, thoughtful man, was present and was kind enough to speak to our students (and the St. Olaf students) about the deeply held spiritual beliefs that prompted him to put this piece on paper. It was one of the more remarkable moments in my musical life.

The *William Tell Overture* has inspired generations with its dramatic, vivid, storytelling program. It is essentially a tone poem. Those of us who can remember watching the Lone Ranger on Saturday mornings still sit up when we hear the trumpet call in the final "scene." Once again, the virtuosity of the band and many of our soloists will be on display.

Lastly, thank you for continuing to support us as we transition into become the New Jersey Wind Symphony. It has been an exciting journey and we are looking forward to the future!

## -Dr. Christian Wilhjelm

Maestoso SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR 35<sup>th</sup> Season AS WE CONT OUR MUSICAL JOURNEY AS THE NEW JERSEY WIND SYMPHON Sunday, October 1, 2017 Friday, December 8, 2017 Friday, April 13, 2018 Friday, May 11, 2018 Stay tuned for additional concert dates and details! www.ridgewoodband.org

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**Holiday Musical** 

Friday, December 2, 2016 1:00 p.m. Unitarian Society of Ridgewood (USR)

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Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:45 p.m. Unitarian Society of Ridgewood (USR)

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 Burns - I Loved Well Those Cities

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Patrick Burns, guest conductor; Christopher Creviston, guest soprano saxophone soloist Robert Sherman, guest narrator; Lois Hicks-Wozniak, encore soprano saxophone soloist

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The Ridgewood Concert Band would like to thank all of the many volunteers who have made this concert possible.

The Ridgewood Concert Band would like to give a special "thank you" to David Marks and the Midland Park School District. The Midland Park High School band room is our weekly rehearsal site.

For additional RCB information, please visit our website or scan our QR code: <u>WWW.RIDGEWOODBAND.ORG</u>



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