

KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Holiday Spectacular



Friday, December 2, 2016 at 8 pm
Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall
Fifty-first Concert of the 2016-17 Concert Season



program

Arr. DAVID MADDUX (b. 1954)

Masters in this Hall (2002)

KSU Combined Choirs

Leslie J. Blackwell, conductor

Sherri N. Barrett, accompanist

KENNY BIERSCHENK (b. 1959)

A Festive Christmas (2003)

KSU Wind Ensemble

Debra Traficante, conductor

HOWARD HELVEY (b. 1968)

Go Tell it on the Mountain (1994)

KSU Chorale

Leslie J. Blackwell, conductor

Sherri N. Barrett, accompanist

PAUL LOHMAN (b. 1951)

What Child (2003)

KSU Women's Chorus

Alison Mann, conductor

Brenda Brent, accompanist

LEROY ANDERSON (1908-1975)

Sleigh Ride (1948)

KSU Wind Ensemble

Cory Meals, conductor

ROBERT SEELEY (1960)

Over the Skies of Israel (2000)

KSU Men's Ensemble

Leslie J. Blackwell, conductor

Sherri N. Barrett, accompanist

Matthew Boatwright, Lucas Grey, Cody O Shea,

Phillip Staples, Forrest Starr, soloists

WILLIAM DAWSON (1899-1990)

Mary Had a Baby (1947)

KSU Chamber Singers

Leslie J. Blackwell, conductor

Leah Partridge, soprano

RANDOL BASS (b. 1961)

The Night Before Christmas (2007)

KSU Wind Ensemble

Debra Traficante, conductor

Harrison Long, narrator

intermission

MARK RIESE (1953-1989)

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen: A Choral Fantasy (1988)

KSU Choirs and KSU Symphony Orchestra

Leslie J. Blackwell, conductor

IRVING BERLIN (1888-1989)

arranged by Roy Ringwald; orchestrated by Hawley Ades

White Christmas (1942; 1971)

KSU Choirs and KSU Symphony Orchestra

Nathaniel F. Parker, conductor

PYOTR IL'YICH TCHAIKOVSKY (1840-1893)

**“Characteristic Dances” from Suite No. 1
from the ballet *The Nutcracker*, Op. 71a**

I. March

II. Dance of the Sugarplum Fairy

III. Arabian Dance

IV. Chinese Dance

V. Dance of the Reed Flutes

VI. Russian Dance: Trepak

KSU Symphony Orchestra

Nathaniel F. Parker, conductor

ERIC WHITACRE (b. 1970)

***Lux Aurumque* (1999)**

KSU Chamber Singers

Leslie J. Blackwell, conductor

Emma Bryant, Emily Herring, and Calloway Powlus, soloists

DAN FORREST (b. 1938)

orchestrated by Paul Thompson

***Festival First Noel* (2014)**

KSU Choirs and KSU Symphony Orchestra

Leslie J. Blackwell, conductor

LEROY ANDERSON (1908-1975)

***A Christmas Festival* (1950)**

KSU Choirs and KSU Symphony Orchestra

Nathaniel F. Parker, conductor

personnel

KSU WIND ENSEMBLE

David T. Kehler, *Music Director and Conductor*

Debra Traficante, *Associate Director of Bands*

Cory Meals, *Assistant Director of Bands*

Listed alphabetically to emphasize the importance of each part.

FLUTE / PICCOLO

Lorin Green, Augusta

Amanda Macon, Winnsboro

Brittany Peitsch, Roswell

Melissa Rolon, Lawrenceville

Corinne Veale, Augusta

Courtney Zhorela, Sharpsburg

OBOE / ENGLISH HORN

Savannah English, Fayetteville

Amelia Lee, Marietta

Rachel Rabenek, Pittsburgh, PA

BASSOON / CONTRA BSN

Briana Curtis, Dallas

Dustin Price, Senoia

Grayson Saylor, Flowery Branch

CLARINET

Brenden Ayestaran, Gainesville

Taylor Carstons, Marietta

Matthew Hodgetts, Marietta

Jonathan Itkin, Urbana, IL

Kristen Jackson, Dallas

Michael Korwek, Powder Springs

Pearce Kramer, Glenn, MI

Sarah Seippel, Roswell

Eddie Sinclair, Leesburg

Ryan Tang, Marietta

SAXOPHONE

Kenneth Pack, Orlando, FL

Jonathan Steltzer, Marietta

Jonathan Swann, Covington

Mason Upshaw, Marietta

HORN

Nate Bedgood, Suwanee

Virginia Hyde, Kennesaw

HORN (cont.)

Hayden McAfee, Acworth

Will Worthan, Acworth

TRUMPET

Miles Bonaker, Cumming

Jake Gearrin, Dallas

Jacob Greifinger, Marietta

Ra Sheed Lemon, Richmond, VA

Jeremy Perkins, Bainbridge

Will Woods, Marietta

TROMBONE

Sam Boeger, Acworth

Wesley Dale, Marietta

Gage Fisher, Gainesville

EUPHONIUM

Andrew Berry, Johns Creek

Mike Long, Dallas

Connor Sullivan, Adairsville

TUBA

Kyle Loughman, Lilburn

Andrew Pellom, Dalton

PERCUSSION

Michael Berry, Cumming

Josh Bouland, Marietta

Joe Donohue, Cumming

Lane Hunter, Marietta

Mary Madison Jones, Powder Springs

Michael Makrides, Alpharetta

Michael Ollman, Woodstock

Lindsay Roskopf, Roswell

Selena Sanchez, Powder Springs

HARP

Teresa Shepperd, Marietta

KSU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Nathaniel F. Parker, *Music Director and Conductor*

Symphony members are listed alphabetically to emphasize the importance of each musician. Rotational seating is used in all woodwind, brass, and percussion sections.

FLUTE

Lorin Green
Amanda Macon
Melissa Rolón, principal

PICCOLO

Lorin Green

OBOE

Savannah English,
principal
Amelia Lee

ENGLISH HORN

Rachel Rabeneck

CLARINET

Brenden Ayestaran,
principal
Michael Korwek
Ryan Tang

BASS CLARINET

Pearce Kramer

BASSOON

Briana Curtis
Dustin Price, principal

HORN

Nate Bedgood, principal
Virginia Hyde
Hayden McAfee
Will Worthan

TRUMPET

Emily Barbour
Jacob Greifinger,
principal
Jeremy Perkins

TROMBONE

Ethan David
Travis Longenberger,
principal

BASS TROMBONE

Devin Witt

TUBA

Kyle Loughman

TIMPANI

Joshua Bouland
Mary Madison Jones
Lindsay Rohskopf
Selena Sanchez

PERCUSSION

Joshua Bouland
Joe Donohue
Mary Madison Jones
Michael Ollman
Lindsay Rohskopf
Selena Sanchez

HARP

Teresa Sheppard

PIANO/CELESTA

Jordan Sommer

VIOLIN

Kynan Clymore
Jeavanie Desarmes
Nassar Edwards
Nicholas Felder
Ryan Finlayson
Hannah Goodwin
Lauren Greene
Mary Katharine Guthrie
Grace Johnston

VIOLIN (cont.)

Rachel LaRocca,
principal
Huijeong Lee,
concertmaster
Charles Page
Justin Rawlings
Susan Reyes
Nathaniel Roberts
Patrick Roberts
Kayla Scott
Kevin Williams

VIOLA

Audine Crosse
Rachel Fishback,
principal
Natalie Thompson
Julian Stann

CELLO

Josie Campbell
Lacee Link
Esme Mason
Michael Roberts,
principal
Carolina Sifuentes
Dorian Silva
Michael Thomas

BASS

Daniel Kim
David Metrio, principal

SYMPHONY

ASSISTANTS

Rachel LaRocca
Michael Roberts

KSU CHORALE

Leslie J. Blackwell, *Music Director & Conductor* | Sherri N. Barrett, *Accompanist*

SOPRANO

Tori Anderson
Grace Breazeale
Madison Coffey
Lauryn Davis
Rose Fishman
Devon Flack
Jasmine Howell
Lily Ko
Katie Mackeil
Sierra Manson
Lindsay Peterson
Elena Prestwood
Ashley Rutkowski
Elizabeth Shaver
Sarah Shiver
Hannah Smith
Rachel Stein
Mae Thornton
Christina Vehar
Sahaanaa Venkat

ALTO

Daneel Bennett
Allison Chipman
Audine Crosse

ALTO (cont.)

Xandy Edwards
Lauren Faulkner
Brittany Griffith
Alejandra Hillier
Sara Jaeger
Deanna Johnson
Kirah Martin
Ai Nguyen
Lulu Pearce
Marielle Reed
Elizabeth Reeves
Riley Schatz
Abigail Snyder
Sarah Stevens
Graciela Vera

TENOR

Matthew Boatwright
Sarah Buelow
Aldo Cardenas
Kristopher Davis
Connor Finton
Gregor Haas
Dennis Korwek
Jimmy White

BASS

Marcel Benoit III
Mouad Boughamza
Nick Carlton
Will Cathey
Miles Clayton
Dean Emert
Jonathan Flores
Griffin Hargrove
Roger Ibrahim
Kenan Mitchell
Ian Prost
Joey Purser
Jimmy Roberts
Phillip Staples
Sam Thompson

KSU WOMEN'S CHOIR

Alison Mann, *Music Director and Conductor*

SOPRANO 1

Emma Bryant
Karen Couvillon
Nikki D'Heureux
Sarah Grossman
Kaitlyn Maginnis
Crystal
Maldonado
Claire Pappas
Lindsey Sanders
Sarah Shiver
Hannah Smith
Tyler Storey

SOPRANO 2

Annsley Bryan
Madison Coffey
Rose Fishman
Elizabeth Godwin
Ziara Green
Caty Mae Loomis
Kayla Marks
Kenya McGee
Lindsey Peterson
Maria Phillips
Alison Raez
Marielle Reed
Ashley Rutowski
Ayana Thomas

SOPRANO 2 (cont.)

Christina Vehar
Lauren White
Natalie Williamson
Niccole Winney

ALTO 1

Bethany Burgess
LaAnna Christensen
Chandler Clenney
Alexa Cortes
Lindee Crawford
Sara Edwards
Lauren Falkner
Deanna Johnson

ALTO 1 (cont.)

Ericka Palmer
 Marissa Scott
 Danielle Smith
 Abigail Snyder
 Katherine Thomas
 Ashley Tracy
 Heather Towhey
 Melissa Walcott

ALTO 1 (cont.)

Tessa Walker
 DeeDee West
 Kelsey Woods

ALTO 2

Savana Chapman
 Ashley Doyal
 Ashley Hamilton

ALTO 2 (cont.)

Denise Hernandez
 Alejandra Hilliez
 Deborah Matthew
 Shereen Shah
 Sarah Stevens
 Macy Swanson

KSU MEN'S ENSEMBLE

Leslie J. Blackwell, *Music Director & Conductor* / Sherri N. Barrett, *Accompanist*

TENOR I

Nathanel Johns
 Chase Law
 Anthony Morris
 Jeremiah Robinson
 Forrest Starr
 Travis St. Dic
 Caleb Stack
 Bradley Weaver

TENOR II (cont.)

Michael Korwek
 Dylan Peltonen
 Joss Stark
 Michael Stewart

BARITONE (cont.)

Michael Risacher
 Phillip Staples
 Jeremy Valore
 Brandon Ward

BARITONE

Benjamin Cubbit
 Jacob Michael Patrick
 Chapman
 Ryan Cox
 Terrell Flemming
 Lucas Gray
 Dalton Hancock
 Kevin Loggins
 Cody O' Shea

BASS

Marcel Benoit III
 Matthew Dollar
 Sean Eliason
 Kenan Mitchell
 James Roberts
 Jose Rodriguez
 Matt Welsh
 Kenneth Williams

TENOR II

Matthew Boatwright
 Riley Carson
 Connor Finton
 Taylor Hall
 Dennis Korwek

KSU CHAMBER SINGERS

Leslie J. Blackwell, *Music Director & Conductor* / Sherri N. Barrett, *Accompanist*

SOPRANO

Emma Bryant
 Victoria Caracci
 Mary Allison Hamby
 Emily Hering
 Claire Pappas
 Callaway Powluis
 Nasia Shearod
 Hallie Skelton
 Jennell Smith

ALTO (cont.)

Ebony Lockwood
 Erika Palmer
 Regan Romuno
 Macy Swanson
 Tessa Walker
 Deondria West

TENOR (cont.)

Michael Stewart
 Reed Williams

BASS

Marcel Benoit III
 Ryan Cox
 Terrell Flemings
 Lucas Gray
 Kevin Loggins
 Blake McNeal
 Cody O'Shea
 Ian Prost
 Matthew Welsh

ALTO

Emily Bateman
 Ziara Greene
 Shelby Levine

TENOR

Taylor Hall
 Anthony Morris
 Jason Raphaël
 Jeremiah Robinson
 Caleb Stack
 Forrest Starr

biographies

DEBRA TRAFICANTE, *Director of Athletic Bands,
Assistant Professor of Music*

Debra Traficante serves as Kennesaw State University's Associate Director of Bands/Director of Athletic Bands. In this position, Dr.

Traficante guides and directs all aspects of the KSU Marching Band, "The



Marching Owls," which premiered in the Fall 2015, as well as the KSU Basketball Pep Band. Professor Traficante also serves as the Conductor of the KSU Wind Symphony, teaches beginning instrumental conducting, wind band literature, advanced arranging and pedagogy and marching band technique courses, while also advising Music Education students.

Dr. Traficante formerly served as Assistant Professor of Music/Assistant Director of University Bands at the University of Oklahoma where she conducted the Symphony Band, directed the "Pride of

Oklahoma" Marching Band, taught conducting lessons to graduate and undergraduate students, taught graduate wind literature courses, served as the lead teacher for the undergraduate conducting and methods course, and oversaw Music Education students. She also served as the School of Music: Music Minor advisor, Honors College Music Coordinator, faculty sponsor for Sigma Alpha Iota, and faculty sponsor for the Delta Chapters of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

Professor Traficante earned her Bachelor of Music in Music Education, cum laude, from the University of Florida (Gainesville, FL), a Master of Music degree in Wind Band Conducting from the University of Florida, and earned a Fellowship to pursue a Doctor of Musical Arts in Wind Band Conducting degree from the University of Oklahoma (Norman, OK). She served as Director of Bands for five years at New Smyrna Beach High School, Florida, and Assistant Director of Bands for two years at Buchholz High School, Florida.

Dr. Traficante frequently judges, guest conducts, and clinics ensembles across the United States, and has conducted at the International World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles Conference in Singapore in 2005.

CORY MEALS, *Assistant Professor of Music Education,
Assistant Director of University Bands*

Cory Meals is Assistant Professor of Music Education and Assistant Director of University Bands at Kennesaw State University where his duties include oversight and instruction of band instrumental music education courses, supervision of student teachers, conducting the University Band, and assistance with all aspects of the Kennesaw State University Athletic Bands - including the newly formed Kennesaw State University Marching Owls.



A graduate of VanderCook College of Music and the University of Houston, he is currently a doctoral candidate in Music Education at the University of Washington. Prior to graduate studies, Cory held positions in Waller ISD (TX), Klein ISD (TX), and Keller ISD (TX). Ensembles under his direction received numerous “Superior” ratings and

University Interscholastic League (UIL) “Sweepstakes” awards throughout his public school career.

Mr. Meals has presented music education research in state, national, and international venues. Recent presentations include the International Conference for Music Perception and Cognition (ICMPC), the International Conference on the Multimodal Experience of Music (ICMEM), the NAFME Music Research and Teacher Education National Conference, the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA) Conference, the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) In-Service Conference, and the Louisiana Music Educators Association (LMEA) Professional Development Conference.

He maintains an active schedule as an adjudicator, clinician, and designer throughout the United States and Canada, and is an active member of NAFME, CBDNA, CMS, AAUP and GMEA.

LEAH PARTRIDGE, *Assistant Professor of Voice*

Leah Partridge, soprano, has received consistent praise worldwide for her intelligent and compelling interpretations of opera’s most beloved heroines. *Opera Magazine* praised her for her “clarity, accuracy, and poise,” and the *Detroit Free Press* has hailed her for her “lovely presence and shining voice.” Since making her debut in 2003 as Lucia in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Ms. Partridge has had a career full of remarkable milestones. She has performed over 40 leading roles in her short career. Her

Metropolitan Opera debut came in 2008 as the First Niece in *Peter Grimes* followed by several return engagements. She has performed in some of the world's greatest opera houses such as; Deutsche Oper Berlin, Vlaamse Oper Antwerp Belgium, Teatro Colon Buenos Aires, Palau de les Arts Valencia Spain, Opera Philadelphia, Maggio Musicale Florence Italy, Teatro



Carlo Felice di Genova Italy, Washington National Opera, Seattle Opera, The Atlanta Opera, Florida Grand Opera, Opera Omaha, and Dresden Semper Oper, among many others. She has been seen in concert with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Boston Baroque Orchestra, Cleveland Orchestra, and San Diego Symphony.

In the 2016-17 season, Ms. Partridge will be in performance with the new and contemporary opera company, Onsite Opera in New York City with performances of Dominick Argento's acclaimed one woman tour de force *Miss Havisham's*

Wedding Night. Onsite Opera seeks innovative and intimate performance venues and modern productions to present around Manhattan and is forging the way for a new operatic experience. Ms. Partridge will make her stage debut of Puccini's beloved Mimi in *La Bohème* with Opera Omaha and return for their Opera Outdoors concert series. She will make her company debut as Diana with The Minnesota Opera in the Da Ponte opera *L'arbore di Diana*, a rare Mozart like comedy by composer Martín y Soler in January 2017. Ms. Partridge will also make her debut in Palermo, Sicily in September 2017 reprising the role of Helena in Paul Curran's production of Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Ms. Partridge serves as Assistant Professor of Voice at Kennesaw State University in Atlanta and will be seen in recital at the Bailey Center on the KSU campus February 22, 2017. Ms. Partridge is a 1997 graduate of Mercer University and a 2001 graduate of Indiana University where she received the prestigious Wilfred. C. Bain Opera Fellowship. She won first place in the vocal competitions of Palm Beach and Opera Birmingham and in 2004 was a National Semi-Finalist in the Metropolitan National Opera Competition. More information about Ms. Partridge's schedule, recordings, previous performances, and teaching studio availability can be found at www.leahpartridge.com Detailed commentary on all of these events can be followed on her Facebook Fan page and Twitter@leahoperabird.

HARRISON LONG, *Narrator, Associate Dean College of the Arts,
Professor of Theatre and Performance Studies*

Harrison Long has over twenty-five years experience as a director, actor, writer, administrator and teacher. He began his professional acting career in 1986 and has performed styles ranging from contemporary



drama to musical comedy with a special emphasis on Shakespeare. New York credits include the title role in *Henry V* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival), Athol Fugard's *A Lesson From Aloes* (78th Street Theatre Lab) and *Bloomsday On Broadway* (Symphony Space). In 2013, Long directed the first site-specific production of Lee Blessing's cold war drama, *A Walk in the Woods* at Serenbe Playhouse outside Atlanta, Georgia. In 2015, Long's production of *Parade* for the KSU Department of Theatre and Performance Studies was performed at

the Strand Theatre in Marietta and the Temple in Atlanta. Recent publications include *The International Journal of Arts Education* and the *Journal of Higher Education Outreach & Engagement*. Long is the 2013 recipient of the Kennesaw State University, Foundation Prize for Publication and the 2014 winner of KSU's Distinguished Professor Award. He received a B.F.A. from Florida State University and an M.F.A. from Southern Methodist University. Harrison is a proud member of The Actor's Equity Association.

NATHANIEL F. PARKER, *Director of Orchestral Studies*

Nathaniel F. Parker, a talented and dynamic musician, is Director of Orchestral Studies and Assistant Professor of Music at the Kennesaw State University School of Music (Georgia). Dr. Parker is Music Director and Conductor of the Kennesaw State University Symphony Orchestra and Conductor of the Kennesaw State University Opera Program. He was recently appointed Associate Conductor of the Georgia Symphony and also serves as Music Director and Conductor of the Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra Camerata and Music Director and Conductor of the New England Music Camp Concert Orchestra (Maine). Equally at home working with professionals and training future generations of musicians, Dr. Parker has conducted orchestras in the United States, Peru, Russia, Poland, and the Czech Republic. His recent guest conducting engagements include appearances with the Jackson Symphony Orchestra (Michigan), the

Connecticut Music Educators Association All-State Orchestra, the GMEA District 12 Middle School Honors Orchestra, and the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association District 9 String Fest; in November he will be the



Guest Conductor for the 2016 Fulton County High School Honors Orchestra. An active scholar, Dr. Parker's writings have been published by the *Conductors Guild* and the *College Orchestra Directors Association* (CODA). He has presented research at the College Orchestra Directors Association's national and international conferences and currently serves as Editor of the *Journal of the Conductors Guild*. In 2015 he received a Citation of Excellence in Teaching from the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association.

Prior to his appointment at Kennesaw State, Dr. Parker served as Director of Orchestral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music at Marywood University (Pennsylvania) where he was Music Director and Conductor of the Marywood University Orchestra and taught courses in conducting, instrumental methods, musicology and analytical techniques. Other previous positions include Assistant Conductor and Production Manager of the Jackson Symphony Orchestra (Michigan), Music Director and Conductor of the Jackson Youth Symphony Orchestra, Director of the Jackson Symphony Orchestra Community Music School, Graduate Conducting Intern at Michigan State University, Music Director and Conductor of the Mason Orchestral Society's Community Orchestra and Youth Symphony (Michigan), Assistant Director of Music at Xaverian High School (New York), Conductor of the New Music Festival of Sandusky Orchestra (Ohio), and Graduate Assistant Conductor and Teaching Assistant at Bowling Green State University (Ohio).

Parker earned a Doctor of Musical Arts in Orchestral Conducting from Michigan State University, where his primary instructors were Leon Gregorian and Raphael Jiménez. He earned a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting from Bowling Green State University, where he studied with Emily Freeman Brown; his other conducting mentors include Stephen Osmond, Gary W. Hill, and Timothy Russell. In addition to his training in academia, Dr. Parker participated in numerous conducting master classes and workshops, conducting orchestras under the tutelage of nationally and internationally renowned conductors and conducting pedagogues including

Christoph Eschenbach, George Hurst, Arthur Fagen, Markand Thakar, Mark Gibson, David Itkin, Jorge Mester, and Paul Vermeil. Parker began his collegiate education at Arizona State University, where he studied bassoon with Jeffrey G. Lyman and graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Music in Bassoon Performance.

Nat resides in Kennesaw with his wife, Melody, their son, Jacob, and their dog, Sammy.

For more information, please visit www.nathanielparker.com.

ALISON MANN, *Associate Professor of Choral Music Education,
Program Coordinator for Music Education*

Alison Mann is Associate Professor of Choral Music Education and Program Coordinator for Music Education at Kennesaw State University, where she teaches coursework in Choral Methods, Foundations of Music



Education, and Vocal Pedagogy for Ensemble Singing. Mann also supervises student teachers, coordinates edTPA, and serves as Conductor of the KSU Women's Choir.

A native of Florida, Mann taught in the Orlando public schools as director of choral activities at William R. Boone High School and was also the assistant conductor of the Orlando Chorale. While in Orlando, choirs and soloists under her direction received top honors at the district and state levels. Dr. Mann received her Ph.D. in Music Education and Choral Conducting from

the University of Oregon, and a Masters of Choral Music Education and Bachelors of Choral Music Education from Florida State University. Dr. Mann has studied conducting and music education with André Thomas, Kevin Fenton, Sharon J. Paul and Judy Bowers. Dr. Mann is currently the Southern Division ACDA Women's Choir Repertoire and Standards chair, and the Georgia state ACDA Membership Chair. She serves on the executive planning committee for the Southern Division American Choral Directors Association. Additionally, Mann has served as the ACDA Multicultural and Ethics Repertoire and Standards Chair for the states of Georgia and Oregon and the Georgia Women's Choir Repertoire and Standards Chair.

The KSU Women's Choir has performed on numerous occasions with the KSU Symphony Orchestra, and performed the world premiere of Nico

Muhly's composition, "How Soon" with Grammy award-winning ensemble, eighth blackbird. Additionally, they have participated in the ACDA Women's Choir Consortium and premiered new works for the past four seasons. In 2014, they were selected to perform at the GMEA In-Service Conference in Savannah. Her professional affiliations include the American Choral Directors Association, National Association for Music Education, Georgia Music Educators Association, National Collegiate Choral Organization, and the International Society for Music Education. Her research has been presented at the state, regional, and international levels. Dr. Mann is an active conductor, clinician, and adjudicator.

LESLIE J. BLACKWELL, *Director of Choral Activities,
Professor of Music and Music Education*

Leslie J. Blackwell is the Director of Choral Activities and Professor of Music and Music Education at Kennesaw State University where she has directed choral activities since 1998. Dr. Blackwell's duties include



conducting the KSU Men's Ensemble, KSU Chorale and KSU Chamber Singers, as well as teaching advanced choral conducting and literature. A native of Georgia, Blackwell received the Associate of Arts degree from Gordon Junior College (1982), the Bachelor of Music in Music Education from West Georgia College (1984), the Master of Music from Georgia State University (1991), and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Kentucky (2002).

Choirs under Dr. Blackwell's direction have performed at National, Regional, and State conferences of the American Choral Directors Association, as well as numerous Georgia Music Educators Association State Conventions. In 2010, Dr. Blackwell presented *Songs of South America* for the American Choral Directors Association with the KSU Chamber Singers, featuring music of South America based upon her choral research and work in Argentina. In October 2013, the KSU Chamber Singers were selected to perform at the National Collegiate Choral Organization 5th National Conference.

Recognized for her work with men's voices, Dr. Blackwell served six seasons as the Artistic Director of the Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus, established the annual KSU Male Chorus Day at Kennesaw State University, bringing

upwards of 200 high school male students to campus, conducted the 2013 Georgia All State Men's Chorus, 2016 Alabama All State Men's Chorus, and 2017 Tennessee All State Men's Chorus. Under Dr. Blackwell's direction the KSU Men's Ensemble, a non-auditioned ensemble, has achieved prestigious accomplishments on a State, Regional, and National stage.

Influential musicians with whom Dr. Blackwell has worked are Robert Shaw, Ann Howard-Jones, Yoel Levi, Norma Raybon, John Haberman, David Maslanka, Ola Gjeilo, Ethan Sperry, Brian Schmidt and Jefferson Johnson. In addition to her commitments at Kennesaw State University, Dr. Blackwell is active as a clinician and adjudicator and holds memberships in MENC, GMEA and ACDA. She also serves as the Repertoire and Standards Chair for Men's Choirs, Georgia ACDA. Currently, Dr. Blackwell is the Artistic Director and Founding Director of the Kennesaw State University Community & Alumni Choir.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY AND STAFF

Stephen W. Plate, *Director*

Music Education

Janet Boner	Cory Meals
Kathleen Creasy	Harry Price
Charles Jackson	Terri Talley
Alison Mann	Chris Thibdeau
Angela McKee	Amber Weldon-
Richard McKee	Stephens

Music History & Appreciation

Drew Dolan	Heather Hart
Edward Eanes	Kayleen Justus

Music Theory, Composition, Technology

Judith Cole	Laurence Sherr
Steve Dancz	Benjamin
Kelly Francis	Wadsworth
Jennifer Mitchell	Jeff Yunek

Woodwinds

Robert Cronin, *Flute*
Todd Skitch, *Flute*
Christina Smith, *Flute*
Cecilia Price, *Flute, Chamber Music*
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, *Oboe*
John Warren, *Clarinet, Chamber Music*
Andrew Brady, *Bassoon*
Sam Skelton, *Saxophone*
Luke Weathington, *Saxophone*

Brass & Percussion

Doug Lindsey, *Trumpet, Chamber Music*
Mike Tiscione, *Trumpet*
Anna Dodd, *Horn*
Jason Eklund, *Horn*
Tom Gibson, *Trombone*
Nathan Zgonc, *Trombone*
Brian Hecht, *Bass Trombone*
Martin Cochran, *Euphonium*
Bernard Flythe, *Tuba / Euphonium*
John Lawless, *Percussion*

Strings

Helen Kim, *Violin*
Kenn Wagner, *Violin*
Justin Bruns, *Chamber Music*
Catherine Lynn, *Viola*
Paul Murphy, *Viola*
Charae Krueger, *Cello*
James Barket, *Double Bass*
Joseph McFadden, *Double Bass*
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, *Harp*
Mary Akerman, *Classical Guitar*

Voice

Stephanie Adrian	Leah Partridge
Jessica Jones	Valerie Walters
Eileen Moremen	Todd Wedge
Oral Moses	Jana Young

Piano

Judith Cole, *Collaborative Piano*
Julie Coucheron
Robert Henry
John Marsh, *Class Piano*
Soohyun Yun

Jazz

Justin Chesarek, *Jazz Percussion*
Wes Funderburk, *Jazz Trombone, Jazz Ensembles*
Tyrone Jackson, *Jazz Piano*
Marc Miller, *Jazz Bass*
Sam Skelton, *Jazz Ensembles*
Rob Opitz, *Jazz Trumpet*
Trey Wright, *Jazz Guitar, Jazz Combos*

Ensembles & Conductors

Leslie J. Blackwell, *Choral Activities*
Alison Mann, *Choral Activities*
Cory Meals, *University Band, Marching Band*
Oral Moses, *Gospel Choir*
Eileen Moremen, *Opera*
Nathaniel Parker, *Symphony Orchestra*
Christopher Thibdeau, *Philharmonic Orchestra*
Debra Traficante, *Wind Symphony, Marching Band*
David T. Kehler, *Wind Ensemble*

School of Music Staff

Julia Becker, *Administrative Specialist III*
David Daly, *Director of Programming and Facilities*
Susan M. Grant Robinson, *Associate Director for Administration*
Joseph Greenway, *Technical Director*
Erik Kosman, *Technical Coordinator*
Dan Hesketh, *Digital Media Specialist*
June Mauser, *Administrative Associate II*
Richard Peluso, *Coordinator of Band Operations and Outreach*
Shawn Rieschl Johnson, *Facility Operations Manager*

Ensembles in Residence

Atlanta Percussion Trio
KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
KSU Faculty Chamber Players
KSU Faculty String Trio
KSU Community and Alumni Choir

about the school of music



Welcome to the Bailey Performance Center. We are thrilled that you are here!

The School of Music at Kennesaw State University is an exciting place to live, work and learn. Housed in the College of the Arts, the School is infused with masterfully skilled and dedicated performing teachers who care deeply about their profession, our programs, our community, and every student involved in music and the arts. This Performance Center is the jewel in our crown! We are so excited about the musical and artistic events that happen here, and we are excited that you are here with us to enjoy them! The School of Music is busy preparing our students to be productive artists. We want them to be accomplished and creative leaders of the arts world of tomorrow, professionals who are diversely trained and well-practiced. Diverse in their backgrounds, our students hail from many of the leading musical arts and honors organizations from across the southeast, and as a School of Music, we are dedicated to the purpose of furthering the arts and cultural offerings to our region and beyond.

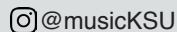
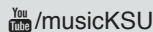
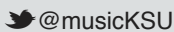
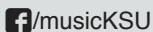
Please take a look through our program book and notice those who advertise with us. They support us financially and help make this performance possible. I know that they will appreciate your patronage and support! Also, please note our *"Name a Seat Campaign"* listed within this program book. In preparation of our tenth anniversary, we have established a goal of naming 100 seats. Perhaps there is someone you would like to see honored in this way!

I look forward to a long and rewarding relationship with you. With your continued support of music and the arts, there is nothing that we cannot accomplish together!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen W. Plate". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Stephen W. Plate, DMA
Director, KSU School of Music

connect with us



musicKSU.com

Visit the Live Streaming page on **musicKSU.com** to watch live broadcasts of many of our concerts and to view the full schedule of upcoming live streamed events.

Please consider a gift to the Kennesaw State University School of Music.

<http://community.kennesaw.edu/GiveToMusic>