

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE, AND DANCE PRESENTS

CONCERT BAND CONCERT

BETWEEN EARTH AND SKY

CONDUCTED BY **CHRISTINA HERMAN**

FEATURING MUSIC BY **JAROD HALL, KATAHJ COPLEY, AND KEVIN POELKING**

MARCH 6, 2026, 7:30 P.M. GRIFFIN CONCERT HALL



COLORADO STATE
UNIVERSITY

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THE COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY CONCERT BAND PRESENTS:
BETWEEN EARTH AND SKY

DR. CHRISTINA HERMAN, CONDUCTOR
DAVID DAVIS, GRADUATE STUDENT CONDUCTOR
AMANDA MANNING, GRADUATE STUDENT CONDUCTOR

MARCH 6, 2026 | 7:30 P.M. | GRIFFIN CONCERT HALL

Kevin Poelking
Refractions (2023)

Adrian Sims
Rising from the Earth (2025)

David Davis, graduate student conductor

James M. David
Lookfar: Chorale for Ursula (2021)

Karl King arr. Swearingen
Aces of the Air (1942/2011)

Amanda Manning, graduate student conductor

JaRod Hall
Red River Railroad (2025)

John Powell arr. O'Loughlin
How to Train Your Dragon (2010)

The Concert Band welcomes you to our opening concert of the season! Tonight, we hope you enjoy our presentation of music that celebrates the forces, patterns, and places that shape our world.

We also invite you to join us for our final concert of the season, *Of the People*, celebrating music and composers whose voices, stories, and experiences unite us. This concert features works by Pierre LaPlante, Michael Markowski, and Michele Fernández. Please join us at the UCA alongside graduate conductor Cameron Honnen and the students of the CSU Concert Band, on Monday, May 4 at 7:30 P.M.

NOTES ON THE PROGRAM

Refractions (2023)
KEVIN POELKING (b. 1988)
Duration: 3 minutes

Refraction | rɪˈfrakʃ(ə)n | noun [mass noun]

Physics - the fact or phenomenon of light, radio waves, etc. being deflected in passing obliquely through the interface between one medium and another or through a medium of varying density.

Change in direction of propagation of any wave as a result of its travelling at different speeds at different points along the wave front.

— from Oxford Languages

— program note by the composer

Rising from the Earth (2025)
ADRIAN SIMS (b. 2000)
Duration: 4 minutes

Rising from the Earth is inspired by natural landscapes and “superstructures”, in particular the massive rock formations that form the tallest mountains on Earth. Sims likens the shifting, colliding motion of tectonic plates to the opening notes of the piece. The sustains in low

brass are similarly set in motion, progressing slowly, but unrelentingly. The early French horn solo introduces the primary theme laced throughout the work; this theme is built with ascending fragments, climbing higher and higher with each iteration. The contour of the piece follows the natural rise and fall of a mountain range in the horizon. Moments of calm build into volcanic eruptions as the tempo and concurrent layers reach impressive heights, concluding with a destructive, grooving finale.

Lookfar: Chorale for Ursula (2021)

JAMES M. DAVID (b. 1978)

Duration: 6 minutes

Lookfar: Chorale for Ursula is inspired by the imaginative works of Ursula K. LeGuin, one of America's greatest authors of science fiction, fantasy, and young adult fiction who passed away in 2018. "Lookfar" is the name of a small boat used by the protagonist of *A Wizard of Earthsea* who sails to the many islands and exotic ports of LeGuin's novels. Her works, the *Earthsea* books in particular, are remarkable to me for their depth of feeling and humanity as well as an undying sense of hope and optimism. My short chorale is a loving tribute to little Lookfar and its lonely passenger, struggling to find his way in a sprawling sea filled with terrors, wonders, and joys.

— program note by the composer

Aces of the Air (1942/2011)

KARL KING (b. 1891/d. 1971)

arr. **JAMES SWEARINGEN (b. 1947)**

Duration: 3 minutes

In 1910, at the age of nineteen, Aaron Karl Lawrence King became a circus musician (as a baritone player) in the bands for Robinson's Famous Circus, the Yankee Robinson Circus, the Sells Floto Circus, and Barnum and Bailey's "Greatest Show On Earth." Throughout his career, King composed over 291 works, including 185 marches, 22 overtures, 12 galops, and 29 waltzes. Additionally, he wrote fight songs for various American universities and published 11 volumes of music. *Aces of the Air* was originally composed in 1942, during the time that Karl L. King was bandleader of the Fort Dodge band (later renamed the Karl L. King Municipal Band in his honor). This piece is a standard band march that highlights the woodwinds, the brass, and the percussion at various times. As is common with marches, alterations have been made to add excitement to this arrangement. We hope you enjoy this unique take on *Aces of the Air*.

Red River Railroad (2025)

JARROD HALL (b. 1991)

Duration: 5 minutes

The Red River is a major body of water in the United States that runs along the Texas-Oklahoma border. This piece celebrates the sesquicentennial of Denison, Texas, a city with deep ties to both the Red River and the Missouri-Kansas-Texas (MKT) Railroad Depot. This work honors these defining landmarks, weaving them into a musical narrative that reflects Denison's unique heritage and its role as a hub of trade and travel in the region. Drawing inspiration from both water and steel, *Red River Railroad* contains two major sections. It opens with a horn solo that depicts the peaceful, yet powerful flow of the Red River. The music then progresses into a lively, rhythmic section that captures the bustling sounds of the railroad that supplies the pulse of a growing town. The contrast between the tranquil river theme and the vigorous train section underscores Denison's transformation from a riverside settlement to a thriving railroad town, marking the historical and cultural importance of both the Red River and the MKT Railroad to the city's identity.

— program note by the composer

How to Train Your Dragon (2010)

JOHN POWELL (b. 1963)

arr. SEAN O'LOUGHLIN (b. 1972)

Duration: 5 minutes

Featuring soaring melodies, driving rhythms, and rich orchestral color, *How to Train Your Dragon* captures the epic spirit and heartfelt emotion of the beloved animated film. John Powell's Academy Award nominated score blends Celtic-inspired themes with bold cinematic writing to depict the journey of Hiccup and his dragon, Toothless. This arrangement weaves together several of the film's central themes, contrasting expansive, lyrical passages with energetic rhythmic sections and highlighting shifting textures and dynamics that mirror the story's sense of flight, tension, and discovery.

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY CONCERT BAND

(Names are listed alphabetically by section)

Flutes

Kayla Arthur
Annika Becker
Christine Castillo-Rivera
Sammie Graves
Cerys Hembury
Lucy Kich
Stephanie King
Eleanor Long
Camilynn Marsh
Irena Podger
Meg Riley
Autumn Ryann
Jalyn Schmid
Lyle Schumacher
Kaydence States
Alexa Szumny
Lauren Ward
Lauren Wong
Grace Yang

Oboe

AJ Atkinson
Brielle Browning

Bassoon

Zachary Cramton
Jamie Hoel
Olivia Hoo

Clarinet

Ethan Agena
Claire Ardoin
Kaitlyn Beavers
Marina Covard
Harper Davis
Brodie Halvorson
Aidan Hurlburt
Micah Joiner

Clarinet (cont.)

Spencer Lomax
Vinessa Marsh
Abbey Norton
Paige Palmer
Rylan Rivers
Ava Stampa
Hunter Wells
Jessica Witten
Alex Zega

Bass Clarinet

Nathan Karsten
Brooklyn Rodriguez
Noah Sexton
Evan Wilmouth

Alto Saxophone

James Appel
Ethan Barker
Elyse Curtin
Brett Deas
Madison Fulcher
Matthew Grace
Hunter Luedtke
Cory Simpson
Kayleigh Van Ingen

Tenor Saxophone

Logan Kocer
Samantha Lesh
Addison Maher
Abby Mendus
Trevor Woodcock

Trumpet

Noelle Baker
Bella Bontempo
Dylan Burdette

Trumpet (cont.)

Braeden Cooper
Ella Crump-Bertram
Owen Dolezal
Emma Edwards
Tommy Grande
Joey Hultgren
Ella Martin
Priya Saha
Alex Semple
Alejandra Valentin Marti
Ryan Wright-Anderson

Horn

Alicia Francisca Avitia
Kevin Bay
Allie Caldwell
Elise Humes
Norah Larson
Eleanor Legg
Kai Morales
Alison Murray
Ben Redding
Evan Roehrich
Claire Sousley
Vivian Tran
Kelsie Wayt
Jenna Yonce

Trombone

Nicolas Barton
Danny Blevins
Noah Burgtorf
Blake Cherkauer
Elliana Del Negro
Paul Feist
Aaron Gadeken
Andrew Gormley
Sienna Jack
Kyri Jewell
Maci Kanzler
Scarlett Montgomery-Anderson

Trombone (cont.)

Corbin Ridenbaugh
Sorina Scohy
Jack Shoup
Ryan Starr
Logan Wahlers

Euphonium

Shelby Chandler
Tyler Detro
Jack Donovan
Kamiya Dowdell
Abigail Feger
Andrew Hackenmueller
Lee Marcus
Ava Pearson
Adam Remington
Caleb Schmitz

Tuba

Austin Baldini
Caleb Merson
Dominic Nabayan
Aaron Ortega
Jackson Singleton
Matthew Walters

Percussion

James Adair
Tallon Castillo
Ryan Costello
Dylan Dickson
Quinn Durrenberger
Tasha Erpenbeck
Lucy Kelley
Lovie Morrow
Molly Odgren
Emrys Rivera
Dia Rubio
Jessica Smith
Nova Styryna



DR. CHRISTINA HERMAN is an instructor of music at Colorado State University where she teaches music education courses, conducts the CSU Concert Band, and serves as one of the program directors for the CSU Middle School Outreach Ensemble and Trying-on-Teaching programs. Prior to this appointment, she served as an associate instructor of music education at Indiana University where she taught undergraduate music education courses, directed the Young Winds program, and conducted research with the IU Music and Mind Lab.

Dr. Herman currently serves as the editorial assistant for the *Journal of Research in Music Education*, and her research interests include teacher identities, student agency in music classrooms, and collaborative learning and teaching approaches. Her work has most recently been published in *Psychology of Music*, the *Bulletin for the Council of Research in Music Education*, and the *Music Educators Journal*.

Grounded in her belief that research should meaningfully inform teaching practice, Dr. Herman remains actively engaged in all facets of music education. She is an active clinician, conductor, and educator for concert and marching ensembles at the secondary and university levels and participates in the drum and bugle corps activity, continually bridging scholarship and practice in her work with students and teachers.

Prior to her university teaching, Dr. Herman taught middle school and high school band in South Carolina. She holds music degrees from Furman University, Colorado State University, and Indiana University.



DAVID DAVIS, originally from Boise Idaho, currently serves as a graduate teaching assistant at CSU where he assists with all aspects of a comprehensive band program and as guest conductor with the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Tuba-Euphonium ensemble. In addition, he works with the CSU Marching Band, Presidential Pep Band, and Rampage Pep Band. His primary conducting teachers include Dr. Rebecca Phillips and

Professor Marcellus Brown. Mr. Davis has performed internationally in Spain, England, France, Switzerland, Germany, and Austria. During their 2024 tour of Spain, Mr. Davis guest conducted the CSU Wind Symphony at the Conservatorio Superior de Música de Málaga. Mr. Davis has participated in several workshops, receiving instruction from Dr. Michael Votta, Dr. Andrea Brown, retired Col. Jason Fettig, Professor Jerry Junkin, and Dr. Dennis Llinas.

Mr. Davis earned a Bachelor of Music in Music Education, graduating with honors from Boise State University. During his undergraduate years he performed with the Symphonic Winds and All-Campus Band. He was a member of the BSU Blue Thunder Marching Band in their sousaphone section, served in multiple leadership positions, and was selected for the 2019 Living Legacy Award for distinguished service. His final year he was a soloist in the exhibition performance at the District 3 Mel Shelton marching competition. He has traveled and performed with the Seattle Cascades drum and bugle corps during their 2018 season as well as with Boise's first independent WGI winds group, Armada Winds.

After graduating from Boise State in 2019, Mr. Davis was director of bands at Middleton High School in Idaho where he taught the wind ensemble, symphonic band, jazz band, and athletic bands. During his tenure, the bands consistently received high ratings at district festivals. Under his direction, the program collaborated with community and collegiate ensembles and had strong representation in local and regional events. The Middleton High School band was invited to performed in Logan, Utah for the Music in the Parks Festival in 2022.

Mr. Davis has been active as a performer on both clarinet and tuba. At BSU he studied clarinet under Dr. Leslie Moreau. His private instructors for tuba include Professor Adam Snider, Dr. Bill Waterman, Dr. Christopher Bloom, and Dr. Brian Sugrue. In Spring 2025, he performed internationally with the CSU Wind Symphony (tuba) on their concert tour of Spain (Madrid, Granada, and Malaga). In 2024, he collaborated with the BSU Tuba-Euphonium ensemble at the International Tuba Euphonium Association regional conference in Eugene, Oregon. He has performed on tuba with the Brass Band of the Treasure Valley under the direction of Dr. Bill Waterman and the Treasure Valley Concert Band under Professor Marcellus Brown. Additionally, Mr. Davis was also invited to guest conduct at the TVCB closing concert during the 2024 Boise Music Week.

Mr. Davis current professional affiliations include the National Band Association and the College Band Directors National Association. From 2021 to 2023, Mr. Davis served as president of the Treasure Valley Honor Meet, a group created in the 1970's to provide smaller programs, outside the immediate Boise area, with the opportunity to play in a large ensemble. As a high school director, he served on marching band committees for the District 3 Idaho Music Educators Association.



AMANDA MANNING, originally from Boise, Idaho, is in her first year as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at Colorado State University, pursuing a Master's degree in Instrumental Conducting. At CSU, she assists with the administration of a comprehensive band program, including teaching, recruiting, and operational activities. She has been a guest conductor with the CSU Symphonic Band and is scheduled to be a guest conductor of the CSU Wind Symphony. In addition, she assists

with the Colorado State University Marching Band, Presidential Pep Band, and the Rampage Basketball Band.

From 2022–2025, she was the director of bands at Springville High School in Springville, Utah, where she led the Jazz Bands, Concert Bands, Percussion Ensemble, Pep Band, and Marching Band. During her time at Springville, she expanded the size of the band program and added a second Jazz Band. In addition, she co-directed the Symphony Orchestra and Pit Orchestra. Under her direction, the Wind Symphony was consistently selected to participate in the State Band Festival, and performed at the BYU Music for All Concert Band Festival in 2024 and 2025. The Marching Band also took 3rd place at the Red Rocks State Marching Band Competition in 2024.

Manning won Teacher of the Year from the American Legion at the district, region, and state levels in 2023. In 2025, she was asked to serve on a leadership discussion panel for the National Association for Music Education Sierra Summit Leadership Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada alongside the current NAFME President, Deborah Confredo. Manning is also a co-founder and former director of the Art City Community Band in Springville, and served as the Utah Music Educators Association Social Media Manager and State Band Manager from 2024–2025.

In 2021, Manning graduated with a Bachelors of Music in Music Education from Brigham Young University, where she was President of the BYU CNAfME chapter. As President of the BYU Wind Symphony, she won the BYU Robert Sauer award for performance, service, and esprit de corps. She also performed on tour with the Wind Symphony across the state of Texas, including performances in Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, and Austin. As a section leader in the marching band, she performed at the Las Vegas Bowl and Idaho Potato Bowl. She also was an on-call saxophonist for the Timpanogos Big Band. While attending BYU she was awarded several school of music scholarships, school of education scholarships, and academic scholarships.

Manning has studied conducting with Dr. Donald Peterson (BYU), Dr. Kirt Saville (BYU), and

Dr. Rebecca Phillips (CSU). She has also worked with retired Colonel Jason Fettig, Alfred Dentino, Damon Talley, Michael Haithcock, Edward Cumming, Adam Lambert, Professor Jerry Junkin, Dr. Richard Floyd, and Dr. Mallory Thompson. She studied piano with Steven Slaughter from 2003 to 2015 and with Dr. Robin Hancock (BYU) in 2020. As a saxophonist, Manning has studied with Rodney Zuroveste (BSU), Dr. Ray Smith (BYU), Daron Bradford (BYU), and Professor Peter Sommer (CSU). She won 3rd place and 1st place at the Idaho State Solo competition in 2014 and 2015, respectively. In addition, she was a member of the Idaho All State Band in 2014 and 2015.

Manning has served as a Music Chair, pianist, and chorister in her church congregation, and served a full time service mission for her church from 2016-2018. In her very rare spare time, she loves playing pickleball, riding rollercoasters, and spending time with her husband, Chad.

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