

THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC, THEATRE, AND DANCE PRESENTS

Middle School Outreach Ensembles (MSOE) Concert

Mare
PERFECT

DISPOSITIONS OF DEMOCRACY

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024 6-8 P.M.

GRIFFIN CONCERT HALL

1400 REMINGTON STREET, FORT COLLINS, CO. 80524



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UNIVERSITY

SEASON SPONSOR:



The Bank
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MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTREACH ENSEMBLES PRESENTS

More Perfect

PROGRAM:

ORCHESTRA

Resolute / Todd Parrish

Conductor: Laurel Ave

Where the River Shannon Flows / James I. Russell, arr. Brian Balmages

Conductor: Riley Busch

Beyond the Thunder / Deborah Baker Monday

Conductor: Paul Haarala

Golden Grove / Brian Balmages

Conductor: Paul Haarala

BAND

Three Czech Folk Songs / Johnnie Vinson

Conductor: Ethan Dunkerton

A Song of Hope / James Swearingen

Conductor: Ben Landfair

More Perfect / Sarah Miller

Conductor: Leah Dunphrey

Skygazer Fanfare / Randall D. Standridge

Conductor: Lucy McCrossan

CSU Middle School Outreach Ensembles Program Overview

MSOE is a community-based music outreach program that embodies the core values of social justice through comprehensive music education, excellence in pre-service teacher training, recruiting high-quality music teachers, and enlivened musical experiences for local middle school musicians. Founded in 2013, over 2000 middle school band and orchestra students have participated in the MSOE program, receiving instruction from high school students, college students, CSU faculty, practicing teachers and retired sages. Middle school students within 50 miles of CSU who are enrolled in their school music program are invited to participate. With the aim of cultivating an artistic disposition for all students regardless of socio-economic status, students gather for weekly rehearsals at the University Center for the Arts. Over a period of 9 rehearsals from February through April, local middle school students develop musical artistry through small and large group instruction culminating in a concert in Griffin concert hall led by CSU music education majors for parents, friends, and community members.

MSOE is also a wonderful opportunity for both high school and middle school students interested in teaching music to gain hands-on experience at teaching. With the MSOE Trying-on Teaching program, high school music students interested in pursuing music education are given the opportunity to lead instruction with MSOE students and are assigned a college mentor who assists them along the way. This MSOE year also saw the introduction of the new MSOE All-Stars Program, which is nested within the existing Trying-on-Teaching program. In the MSOE All-Stars Program, middle school students were given the opportunity to lead instruction for their peers, mentor other students, and develop leadership skills with the mentorship of the high school and college students involved in the Trying-on-Teaching Program. It has been inspiring to see the middle school All-Stars build their confidence and gain experience teaching and leading their peers, and it will be exciting to see how this program continues to grow in years to follow.

Purpose

1. To foster excellence in community-engaged learning through music education for middle school, high school, pre-service, in-service, and retired individuals in the northern Colorado music community.
2. To provide a safe and supported space for pre-service teachers to practice applying a variety of music teaching methods.
3. To identify and provide outstanding career opportunities for high school students interested in music education.
4. To provide a vehicle for organizing community outreach to local public school music students regardless of their socio-economic status.
5. To develop a global citizen mindset and promote social justice through music education.

Social Justice Statement

The MSOE program aims to embody the core values of social justice to provide students with a meaningful musical experience. For every MSOE year, a new social justice theme is chosen that will allow for students to think and learn about the music beyond just reading the notes on the page. This year, MSOE rehearsals were guided through the theme of “Dispositions of Democracy,” in alignment with Colorado State University’s “Year of Democracy and Civic Engagement.”

With this, MSOE Teaching Artists and students were encouraged to consider their individual contributions to the ensemble, the role of their interactions in the ensemble, and how the different perspectives of all participants can come together. The Social Justice team put together a guided social justice curriculum for all Teaching Artists to incorporate in their sectionals. This curriculum consists of many guided teaching practices and activities that can be used to promote democracy amongst students. Teaching Artists were encouraged to incorporate two of these practices in their teaching every week in sectionals, with the hope of providing students with a voice in the music making process. The MSOE concert today is truly a culmination of students’ contributions, interactions, and perspectives, and we are proud to present all of their hard work!

Middle School Outreach Ensemble Composition Competition

This MSOE season also saw the introduction of the new MSOE Composition Competition, in which Colorado middle and high school students, CSU students, CSU music alumni, and MSOE/Trying-on-Teaching alumni had the opportunity to compose a piece to be performed at the 2024 MSOE concert. The 2024 winner was Sarah Miller, a Junior at Skyline High School, and her composition *More Perfect*.

As the winner of this competition, Sarah also received three composition lessons with CSU composition professor and internationally-recognized composer Dr. James David. Sarah also visited one MSOE Band full ensemble rehearsal, in which she was able to discuss her piece and meet the students. The students have enjoyed learning *More Perfect* and we are excited to give Sarah the opportunity to have one of her compositions performed as a high school student.

ORCHESTRA PROGRAM NOTES

Resolute / Todd Parrish

Resolute was composed to celebrate the enduring spirit of those who persevere and overcome difficult challenges with fearless determination. Set in G Major, the melodies intertwine and build upon each other as you move through the piece. A shift in key to E minor represents struggle and resolve as the piece modulates back into G Major. There are varying articulation styles and majestic nuances that performers encounter throughout the piece.

The title of this piece works very well with the 2024 MSOE theme of Democracy. This piece also gives equal opportunity to each instrument's voice to be heard within the piece and they work together in melody and harmony. When I first saw this piece I was drawn to the title, and as I listened and read the author's notes and bio for the piece I saw that it was written to characterize endurance and courage. It builds the themes in pairs of instrumentation and uses voice pairings to demonstrate working together. Overall this piece has many ways to see, hear, and deconstruct what it means to collaborate and strive for a shared goal.

— Program notes by Laurel Ave

Where the River Shannon Flows / James I. Russell, arr. Brian Balmages

Where the River Shannon Flows is a beautiful Irish folk song about a man dreaming of the day he can return home to his country to be with the girl he loves. Based on the melodies and original lyrics of the traditional Irish folk song of the same name, this piece highlights the lush and expressive capabilities of the orchestra. The MSOE 2024 Orchestra has been working diligently in rehearsals to explore different musical elements—including dynamics, bow patterns, and ensemble communication—to make this piece as musical as possible!

In support of our concert theme, "Dispositions of Democracy," this piece functions as a wonderful soundtrack for listeners to imagine their ideal world. For our MSOE Orchestra students, this piece has provided opportunities for discussion of their ideal home, what they would like to see in the world, and how they can work together to realize their vision in their communities

— Program notes by Riley Busch

Beyond the Thunder / Deborah Baker Monday

Opening with a pulsing rhythmic pattern in the lower strings, the piece opens with a mood of suspense. Violas and violins enter softly and build in intensity, after which the melodic theme is stated by the violins and moves like a duet with the cello/bass line. The melody is played legato and soars over the pulsing eighth notes of the 2nd violin and viola. A brief contrasting section begins where the tempo slows and the cello and bass pizzicato, providing the pulse for the upper strings. The piece ends by returning to the original tempo and restating the theme from the beginning.

By themselves, none of the parts to *Beyond the Thunder* are particularly interesting. Celli and bass play long sustained notes or repeated quarter notes. 2nd violins and violas play repetitive ostinatos. The melody in the 1st violins has no technical challenges that spark interest. However, the beauty of *Beyond the Thunder* is the excitement that occurs when all of those parts come together. When each individual part understands their respective role, the music takes over a new form, perhaps making you want to tap your toe or even dance along with the music.

— Program notes by Paul Haarala

Golden Grove / Brian Balmages

This spirited work was written in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Spring Grove Area School District String Program in Pennsylvania (Susan Gross, Director). As part of their annual festival, students from elementary to high school come together to perform, and they felt the 50th anniversary was the perfect occasion to commission a new work for multi-level string orchestra.

MSOE is the perfect opportunity to perform a piece intended for the celebration of people coming together. The concert you are witnessing is a combined effort of the collaboration between middle school, high school, undergraduate, and graduate students. This piece is intended to celebrate the democratic dispositions we have discussed through MSOE – bringing people of diverse walks of life and perspectives together to create an artistic performance for all of you this evening.

— Program notes by Paul Haarala

ORCHESTRA ENSEMBLE MEMBERS

Violin

Ciya Aaljo*
Drystan Hoskinson
Riley West Odell
William Yates

Viola

Ryan Ray

Cello

Gladys Apawu*
Abigail Blakely
Amelia Busse
Alex Kim
Tiare Patricelli
Joel Strnad
Grant Swilling

Double Bass

Lily Atrash
Patrick Fulks

*Earned a black belt in Scale Karate

BAND PROGRAM NOTES

Three Czech Folk Songs / Johnnie Vinson

Three Czech Folk Songs by Johnnie Vinson is a rich walk through one-hundred years of Czech music, stories, and traditions. The first movement, “Walking at Night,” is an arrangement of a Czech camp song from the 1950’s. The second movement, “Meadows Green,” is a celebration of spring that draws from the musical style of Czech composer Dvořák. The third movement, “The Madcap”, is Vinson’s own song that portrays the Spring frenzy of mushroom hunting that is deeply rooted in Czech tradition.

While we hope you enjoy the sounds of this piece, there’s something special about folk music beyond its melodies. It’s a symbol of democracy, bringing people together and giving voice to the voiceless. Just as folk music helped shape important moments in Czech history like the Prague Spring and the Velvet Revolution, folk music also creates an accessible space for us to band together and share our stories. As we listen to folk music, we’re not just enjoying music – we’re actively participating in an ancient democratic art form that has historically helped promote cultural identity, solidarity, create a platform for advocacy, and a means to preserve languages that are threatened with extinction. As we leave this concert, I encourage you to dig into the music that is unique and important to your family, and make a time and space to share this together

— Program notes by Ethan Dunkerton

A Song of Hope / James Swearingen

A Song of Hope was commissioned for Sights, Sounds and Sensations “A Celebration of the Arts and Academics” and composed by James Swearingen in 2002. This piece is a beautiful sensitive reflection on our world, reminding us of the hope that can be found in the small things. Throughout the piece you can hear a recurring melody in the clarinets that flow through the ensemble into a rush of sound. As the piece continues, you can hear different sections adding their own interpretations creating a color emphasized in the brass before winding back down into a peaceful ending.

A Song of Hope serves to help students understand their own contributions to a work and to the ensemble as each instrument adds a unique color to the piece. The students must then broaden their perspectives to ensure that every part is highlighted when it needs to be. When these two aspects work harmoniously, the piece is able to flourish into the gorgeous reminder of the beauty in this world.

— Program notes by Ben Landfair

More Perfect / Sarah Miller

More Perfect is a piece written by high school student Sarah Miller to represent how she views the progression of civic engagement and democracy in social justice issues. She notes that people generally tend to notice the existence of a problem, but do not rise to action until something rather dire happens. This event is a catalyst that inspires people to take an active role in their community to work towards positive change. It inspires people to vote and talk about the problems rather than leaving them unsaid and ignored.

The title *More Perfect* comes from the first line of the preamble of the United States Constitution:

“We the people of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union...” This line emphasizes the value of democracy in our country and the ability to make something that is already “perfect” even better through the efforts of the people. Different sections of the piece show turbulent unrest towards an issue, a catalytic event that moves people into engagement, then small victories on a more personal and local level, ending with a grand victory portraying the good that can come from people working together to spark change.

— Original program notes by Sarah Miller, edited by Leah Dunphey

Skygazer Fanfare / Randall D. Standridge

This energetic piece depicts the act of gazing into the sky, where one may be overcome with the infinite possibilities of our worlds and, thus, ourselves. This piece makes use of syncopated rhythms, layered percussion, and a sense of forward motion that helps create an exciting and lively feel. Combining these elements, *Skygazer Fanfare* aims to capture the sense of wonder and hope that one may feel from gazing into the sky.

The meaning behind *Skygazer Fanfare* ties in well with our 2024 MSOE theme:

“Dispositions of Democracy.” It is our sense of wonder and hope for an improved future that drives us to advocate for change. A democracy is based on the voice of the people, and we have the freedom to express our thoughts and can advocate for how we want the future to look. There are an infinite amount of possibilities for what the future holds, and it is up to us to determine this. MSOE band students have had the opportunity to work together both in full ensemble and in sectionals to determine how they would like to perform our pieces and express their musicality, truly making this performance their own.

— Program notes by Lucy McCrossan

BAND ENSEMBLE MEMBERS

Flute

Gabriel Castellon-Juancorena
Grace Hildman
Lark Mosiman
Hadley Andryauskas
Ailey Chong
Hayden Mosley
Brianna Plocek

Oboe

Juniper Lensink

Bassoon

Bryce Westermann
Noah Wright

Clarinet

Isla Casey
Asher Hamilton
Harshit Kandimalla
Konnor Unrein
Kiera Daniell*
Taylor Hutson*
Micah Joseph*
Sophia Railsback*
Cade Sellers*
Kaavya Senthilkumar*
Langston Ziegler*

Saxophone

Daelyn Carlock
Maddox Clem
Kaylee Edd
Sawyer Fisher
Ashton Limbach
Cecilia Olms

Trumpet

Elouise Bussmann
Jack Cain
Emily da Silva
Finnian Fulks
August Warner
Jacob Wheatley

Horn

Sara Corey
Autumn Cowgill
Amelie Delgadillo
Lydia McReynolds
Acacia White

Trombone

Jude Caskey
Evan Chang*
Reese O'Hare
Caleb McKinney

Tuba

Zoe Smith
Damien Westerman

Percussion

Adam Fogstad
Levi Freitag
Clint Kunkel
Tomas Offenbacher
Maya Sparks
Alex Vasquez
Kaylee Walker

*Earned a black belt in Scale Karate

MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTREACH ENSEMBLES 2024 STAFF

Program Director: Dr. Erik Johnson

Associate Program Director: Brian Tremper

Assistant Program Director: Paul Haarala

Senior Administration Team: Sydney Bouwens, Christina Herman, and Jessica Warner

Undergraduate Program Director for Recruitment: Ben Landfair

Undergraduate Program Director for Curriculum: Riley Busch

Undergraduate Program Director for Personnel and Logistical Management:

Leah Dunphey

Undergraduate Program Director for Concert Planning: Lucy McCrossan

Feedback System Coordinator: Lucy McCrossan

Social Justice Team: Olivia Hulting, Ethan Dunkerton, Ben Landfair, and Arjen Wynja

Carnival Coordinator: Ben Landfair

High School Trying-on-Teaching Mentors: Kathryn Carlos, Ethan Dunkerton, Leah Dunphey, Audrey Farrar, Olivia Hulting, Ben Landfair, Lucy McCrossan, Charlie Wootton, and Arjen Wynja

Conductors

Orchestra: Laurel Ave, Riley Busch, and Paul Haarala

Band: Ethan Dunkerton, Leah Dunphey, Ben Landfair, and Lucy McCrossan

Feedback Leaders

Ethan Dunkerton, Ben Landfair, Lucy McCrossan, Aspen Ulibarri, Charlie Wootton, and Arjen Wynja

Section Coaches

Orchestra

Violin: Kathryn Carlos

Viola: Riley Busch and Charlie Wootton

Cello: Laurel Ave, Matt Fox, and Gemma Petrucci

Bass: Nick Hailey

Orchestra High School Trying-on-Teaching Artists

Violin: Erick Gonzales, Northridge High School

Violin: Kacy Larson, Rocky Mountain High School

Viola: Kaden Cardonne, Fossil Ridge High School

Cello: Julia Eastin, Greeley West High School

Band

Flute: Emma Edwards and Lucy McCrossan

Oboe/Bassoon: Ethan Dunkerton and Zeke Graf

Clarinet: William Edmundson, Audrey Farrar, and Ben Landfair

Saxophone: Olivia Hulting

Trumpet: Alex Gregory, Hunter Luedtke, and Arjen Wynja

Horn: Leah Dunphey and Aspen Ulibarri

Trombone/Tuba: Ethan Barker, Caelan Herk, and Mateo Novoa

Percussion: Stuart Hoskins

Band High School Trying-on-Teaching Artists

Flute: Louise Larsen, Silver Creek High School

Bassoon: Rachael McReynolds, Mountain View High School

Trombone: Ashton Glatfelter, Fossil Ridge High School

Trombone: Ava Giovando, Rocky Mountain High School

Middle School All Stars

Taylor Hutson, Timnath Middle-High School

Micah Joseph, Boltz Middle School

Sophia Railsback, Bill Reed Middle School

Cade Sellers, Timnath Middle-High School

Langston Ziegler, Lincoln Middle School

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Bill Reed Middle School-Mark Kubichek and Kathy Van Wert

Blevins Middle School-Carson Sachtleben

Boltz Middle School-Phuong Nguyen

Cache La Poudre Middle School-Nicole Markle

Coal Ridge Middle School-Desmond Anderson

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Mountain Sage Community School-Myles Roberts

New Vision Charter School-Lauren Steege

Preston Middle School-Joshua Greiner

Riverview PK-8 School-Alex Salek
S. Christa McAuliffe Stem Academy-Miguel Araiza
Severance Middle School-Britt Sawyer
Timnath Middle-High School-Andrea Frost, Andrew Mendizabal, and Corey Peterson
Turner Middle School-Paul Farus and Alex Ward
Walt Clark Middle School-Matt Lowe
Webber Middle School-Jana Webster-Wheeler
Wellington Middle-High School-Bill Cleary

THANK YOU

All the participating students, families, and participating schools
who help make MSOE possible!

Interim Dean Elissa Braunstein
Dr. Dan Goble and the CSU Music Faculty
Peter Muller, Valerie Reed, and the UCA Events Staff
CSU Music Therapy Faculty
CSU Youth Programs in Arts Education Fund Founder Jim Vidakovich
CSU Alicar Art Museum and BRAINY Faculty Lynn Boland and Theresa McLaren
CLA Development Team
Ernan Torrez, Lillian Nugent, Heather Bellotti, Jennifer Clary, Mike Solo,
and the rest of the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance staff
Dr. James David
Guest Teachers: Melissa Claeys, Rose Dunphey, Joshua Greiner, Leanne Griffey, Katrina
Hedrick, Aaron Herman, John Hermanson, Danielle Johnson, Dana Kettlewell, Alex Koster,
Dr. Ingrid Larragoity-Martin, Phuong Nguyen, Liz Richardson, Mackenzie Sutphin, and Kathy
Van Wert

...and you!

Thank you for attending our concert to celebrate the accomplishments
and hard work of our students!

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