KSU Jazz Ensembles II & III
Wes Funderburk, director - Jazz II
Rob Opitz, director - Jazz III

Thursday, March 12, 2020 | 8:00 PM
Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center
Audrey B. and Jack E. Morgan, Sr. Concert Hall
Program

KSU Jazz Ensemble III
Rob Opitz, Conductor

Big Band From Old to New

Program to be chosen from the following:

Pennsylvania 6-5000
GRAY / SIGMAN, arr. Heist

It Don’t Mean a Thing
ELLINGTON, arr. Lewis

Things Ain’t What They Used to Be
ELLINGTON / PERSONS, arr. Lalama

‘Deed I Do
ROSE / HIRSCH, arr. Holman

I Just Called
WONDER, arr. Mossman

After You’ve Gone
CREAMER & LAYTON, arr. Holman

Personnel

Saxophones
Bailey Carter
Isaiah Manning
Megan McCabe
Eli Ethridge
  Alto
Kevin Douglas
Sierra Wyble
  Tenor
Ethan Fournier
  Baritone

Trombones
Grady Housworth
Zachary Opitz
Noah Minch
Patrick Reyman

Trumpets
Candice Simmons
Nate Patterson
Alex Jaeger

Rhythm Section
Mark Hite
  Piano
Jimmy Durkin
  Bass
Piper Johnson
  Bass
Louis Reyes III
  Guitar
Alex Sotka
  Drum Set

Vocals
Piper Johnson

Audio/video recording and flash photography is prohibited at School of Music concerts. The following services are available to accommodate needs: easy access, companion seating locations, accessible restrooms, and assisted listening devices. Please contact a patron services representative at 470-578-6650 to request services.
Program

KSU Jazz Ensemble II
Wes Funderburk, Conductor

Program to be announced from the stage.

Personnel

Saxophones
Brandon Printup
  Alto 1
Alex Barasoain
  Alto 2
Michael Siler
  Tenor 1
Eric Lopes
  Tenor 2
Tom Smith
  Baritone

Trombones
Austin Coker
  Bass
Wes McDonald
Raymond Durr
Samuel Missner
  Bass

Trumpets
Kameron Clarke
Cierra Weldin
Billy Sands
Nicolas Matherne

Rhythm Section
Emmanuel Brown
  Piano
Asuria Austin
  Bass
Rod Suarez
  Guitar
Diego Fonseca
  Guitar
Max Toomey
  Drum Set
Carlos Diaz
  Drum Set

Vocals
Piper Johnson

Biographies

Rob Opitz

Mr. Rob Opitz holds the title of Artist In Residence in Jazz Trumpet at Kennesaw State University. Originally from Illinois, Mr. Opitz's career has ranged from elementary music, to middle school, high school, and now at the collegiate level. Mr. Opitz has been the Director of Bands at Marietta High School, Creekview High School, Barber Middle School, and Reinhardt University. Rob has been a four-time clinician for the Georgia Association of Jazz Educators Clinic Band Festival. He has been an adjudicator for both the District 7 and District 12 GMEA Jazz Festivals. Rob currently serves as the Director of Jazz at Milton High School, Jazz trumpet instructor for the Lovett School, in addition to his duties at Kennesaw State University.
(Rob Opitz cont.) - Rob is a very active performer. Rob completed a 4 week tour with international superstar Noel Gallagher’s High Flying Birds. The tour featured multiple US Cities, Austin City Limits, and the Jimmy Kimmel show. Rob is the founder and director of his own group, the Atlanta Latin Jazz Orchestra – an 18 piece big band featuring the music of some of the greats in Latin Jazz. This group employs the top call players in the southeast.
He has also appeared as a sideman with Tito Puente, Louis Bellson, Marian McPartland, Rufus Reid, Hal Crook, Marshal Royal, Jon Faddis, Diane Schuur, Paquito D’Rivera, Cladio Roditi, Bob Mintzer, and many more.
Rob has performed in local groups in the metro Atlanta Area, including Orquesta MaCuba, the Georgia Symphony Orchestra Jazz Ensemble, Yacht Rock Revue, Bumpin’ the Mango, Bogey and the Viceroy, the Joe Gransden Big Band, Macon Pops Orchestra, and numerous others.
Rob is a proud Schilke Trumpet artist, and is proud to have an affiliation with a company that has such dedication to excellence in brass!

Wes Funderburk has performed across the United States and Europe and is currently one of the most sought after trombonists and arrangers in the Southeast. He has written, performed and recorded with a wide array of national and internationally-renowned artists including: Arrested Development, John Driskell Hopkins, Jennifer Holliday, Natalie Cole, Jermaine Dupri, Cee Lo, the Boston Brass, Dallas Austin, Joe Gransden, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Atlanta Pops Orchestra, the Macon Pops Orchestra as well as the Cartoon Network and the Weather Channel.

Wes’ arranging credits include music for the Joe Gransden Big Band, Russell Gunn’s Krunk Jazz Orchestra, Jennifer Holliday, John Driskell Hopkins, the Atlanta Pops, Natalie Cole, the Georgia Brass Band, Kennesaw State University Jazz Ensemble, Georgia State University Jazz Ensemble and the Piedmont Trombone Society.

Wes earned his Bachelor’s Degree in trombone performance from the University of North Florida and his Masters’ Degree in trombone performance with a concentration in jazz studies from Georgia State University. He is a former governor for the Atlanta chapter of the Recording Academy and is a performing artist for Rath trombones.
The School of Music is offering the opportunity for friends and patrons to dedicate a seat in Morgan Concert Hall. Each dedicated seat will be permanently affixed with a plaque bearing your name, business name, or the name of someone you wish to honor.

Your contribution of $1000 per seat will immediately impact the programs of the School of Music and help to sustain the exceptional quality of music and live performance at KSU for years to come.

To make a donation or for more info, contact:

**Dr. Leslie J. Blackwell**  
lblackwe@kennesaw.edu  
470-578-6151

musicKSU.com
SCHOOL OF MUSIC FACULTY AND STAFF

Leslie J. Blackwell, Interim Director

Brass and Percussion
Jason Casanova, Tuba/Euphonium
Paul Dickinson, Tuba/Euphonium
Tom Gibson, Trombone
Brian Hecht, Bass Trombone
John Lawless, Percussion, Area Coordinator

Doug Lindsey, Trumpet, Area Coordinator
Ryan Moser, Trumpet
Hollie Pritchard, Trombone
Michael Stubbart, Percussion
Mike Tiscione, Trumpet
Richard Williams, Horn

Strings
James Barket, Double Bass
Elisabeth Remy Johnson, Harp
Helen Kim, Violin, Area Coordinator
Yinzi Kong, Viola
Charae Krueger, Cello

Joseph McFadden, Double Bass
Sean Thrower, Classical Guitar
Kenn Wagner, Violin

Woodwinds
Andrew Brady, Bassoon
Kelly Bryant, Flute
Barbara Cook, Oboe
Robert Cronin, Flute
Anthony Georgeson, Bassoon
Cecilia Price, Flute
Sam Skelton, Saxophone

Todd Skitch, Flute
Christina Smith, Flute
Justin Stanley, Clarinet
Elizabeth Koch Tiscione, Oboe
John Warren, Clarinet, Area Coordinator
Luke Weathington, Saxophone

Jazz
Justin Chesarek,
Jazz Percussion & Combos
Wes Funderburk, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Trombone
Karla Harris, Vocal Jazz & Combo
Tyrone Jackson, Jazz Piano & Combos
Marc Miller, Jazz Bass & Combos

Rob Opitz, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Trumpet
Sam Skelton, Jazz Ensembles and Jazz Saxophone, Area Coordinator
Luke Weathington, Jazz Saxophone & Combos
Trey Wright, Jazz Guitar & Combos, Area Coordinator

Voice
Eileen Moremen
Oral Moses
Nathan Munson
Valerie Walters

Todd Wedge
Heather Witt
Jana Young, Area Coordinator

Piano
Judy Cole, Collaborative Piano
Julie Coucheron
Robert Henry, Area Coordinator
Eric Jenkins, Collaborative Piano Coordinator

Huu Mai
John Marsh
Erika Tazawa, Collaborative Piano
Ensembles in Residence
Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
KSU Community & Alumni Choir
KSU Faculty Chamber Players
KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament
Summit Piano Trio

Ensembles & Conductors
Leslie J. Blackwell, Director of Choral Activities
Nancy Conley, Philharmonic Orchestra
David T. Kehler, Director of Bands
Alison Mann, Women’s Choir
Reid Masters, Assistant Director of Choral Activities
Eileen Moremen, Opera Theater
Oral Moses, Gospel Choir
Nathaniel F. Parker, Director of Orchestral Studies
Joseph Scheivert, Assistant Director of Bands
Sam Skelton, Director of Jazz Studies
Debra Traficante, Associate Director of Bands

Chamber Music
Julie Coucheron, Piano Ensemble
Charae Krueger, String Chamber Music
Doug Lindsey, Brass Chamber Music
Woodwind Chamber Music
Trey Wright, Jazz Combos

Music Education
Judith Beale
Janet Boner
Nancy Conley
Kathleen D. Creasy
Charles R. Jackson
Alison Mann, Area Coordinator
Angee McKee
Richard McKee
Terri Talley
Paula Thomas-Lee
Charles Tighe
Amber Weldon-Stephens

Musicology & Music Appreciation
Drew Dolan
Edward Eanes, Area Coordinator
Heather Hart
Kayleen Justus
John Marsh
Jennifer Mitchell
Harry E. Price
Sean Thrower

Music Composition, Technology, & Theory
Judy Cole, Music Theory
Steve Dancz, Composition, Technology
Kelly Francis, Music Theory
Chad Hunt, Aural Skills
Tyrone Jackson, Music Theory
Jennifer Mitchell, Composition
Laurence Sherr, Composition, Technology, Bachelor of Arts Area Coordinator
Benjamin Wadsworth, Music Theory Area Coordinator
Jeff Yunek, Music Theory, Aural Skills Area Coordinator

School of Music Staff
Christine Collins, Audition Coordinator and Advising
Mark Fucito, Technical Manager
Symone Grady, Communications & Outreach Manager
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Joseph Greenway, Assistant Director for Production & Technology
Bobbi Harman, Office Manager
Chris Merkle, Associate Director for Programming & Operations
Colleen Radbill, Office Manager
Devin Aaron Witt, Production Assistant
Upcoming Events

Jazz Combos
Monday, 03/16/2020 at 5:30 pm & 8 pm in Scott Hall

2020 Steinway Spectacular
Thursday, 03/19/2020 at 8 pm

Opera Understudy Performance
Friday, 03/20/2020 at 8 pm

KSU Opera Theater presents: The Light in the Piazza
Thursday, 03/26/2020 and Friday, 03/27/2020 at 8 pm

KSU Presents: Afro-Cuban Jazz Artist Brenda Navarrete
Saturday, 03/21/2020 at 8 pm
An emerging flagbearer among the vanguard of female Cuban musicians, Afro-Cuban singer, songwriter, and percussionist Brenda Navarrete combines a foundation of Latin jazz and Afro-Cuban influences with elements of contemporary world music, originality, and relentless energy to form her unique sound. Touring internationally and frequently collaborating with Cuba’s notable music elite, the award-winning jazzista is perhaps best known for her skill on the batá, a drum traditionally used in Yoruban spiritual practices that women were once forbidden to play. Presented as part of Kennesaw State University’s 2019-20 Year of Cuba.

KSU Presents: Atlanta Symphony Orchestra with Nicholas Carter, conductor, and Midori, violin
Friday, 04/17/2020 at 8 pm
Dazzling audiences and critics alike since her celebrated debut at age 11, superstar violinist Midori performs Bartók’s Violin Concerto No. 2. In a concerto peppered by the sounds of a Hungarian folksong, Midori showcases her graceful precision and intimate expression as one of the world’s most acclaimed violinists. Making his Atlanta Symphony debut, Australian rising-star Nicholas Carter leads the orchestra in Haydn’s Symphony No. 44 (“Trauersinfonie”) before concluding the program with Prokofiev’s wartime piece written in 1944 as Russian troops turned the tables on the German army: the massive and exhilarating Symphony No. 5.