Kennesaw State University School of Music

Philharmonic
Christopher Thibdeau, conductor

University Band
Cory Meals, conductor

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 8 pm
Dr. Bobbie Bailey & Family Performance Center, Morgan Hall
Nintieth of the 2016-17 Concert Season
**PHILHARMONIC**

CHRISTOPHER THIBDEAU, conductor

WOLFGANG AMADEUS MOZART (1756-1791)

_Eine kleine Nachtmusik, K. 525 (1787)_

I. Allegro

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH (1685-1750)

Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 in G Major, BWV 1048 (1721)

I. (Allegro)
II. Adagio
III. Allegro

ANTONIO VIVALDI (1678-1741)

Concerto No. 4 in F minor, Op. 8, RV 297, "Winter" (L'inverno) (1721)

I. Allegro non molto
II. Largo
III. Allegro

John Irrera, violin

**UNIVERSITY BAND**

CORY MEALS, conductor

CHARLES CARTER (b. 1926)

Overture for Winds (1959)

VINCENT PERSICHETTI (1915-1987)

_Pageant, Op. 59 (1953)_

E. E. BAGLEY (1857-1922)

_National Emblem_ (1902)
program notes

Overture for Winds (1959) | Charles Carter

A native of Ponca City, Oklahoma, Charles Carter is a staple of wind band composition throughout the twentieth century. He holds degrees from the Ohio State University, Eastman School of Music, and Florida State University – where he went on to serve as Professor of Theory and Composition, as well as band arranger.

Overture for Winds is composed in classic ABA form, bookending a central, expressive lyric section with contrasting active material. Highlighting the motivic development inherent to the form, this work has received numerous performances throughout the United States. Due in part to this popularity, the work was included in the introductory volume of "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band," a central resource for scholastic wind band literature.

Pageant, Op. 59 (1953) | Vincent Persichetti

Vincent Persichetti was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to a nonmusical family. He later went on to be a central figure in American music in the latter half of the Twentieth Century, both as a composer and mentor. A student of Roy Harris (composition) and Fritz Reiner (conducting), he graduated from The Philadelphia Conservatory and the Curtis Institute, shortly after which he took a position as chair of the composition department at the Juilliard School of Music. While there, his students included Philip Glass, Richard Danielpour, Peter Schickele, and many others. An early advocate of the wind band, he stands as a seminal figure in the development of wind band repertoire.

Pageant, composed in 1953, showcases Persichetti’s distinct musical voice and idiosyncratic orchestration. Opening with a three-note motif presented by a solo horn, the theme is developed through a variety of techniques across two contrasting sections. The first, a harmonically rich chorale, gives way to a quick and lively treatment and development of the opening thematic material over a striking juxtaposition of textures and timbres within the ensemble. Commissioned by Edwin Franko Goldman for the American Bandmasters Association, the premiere performance was presented by the University of Miami Band with the composer conducting.

National Emblem (1902) | E. E. Bagley

Edwin Eugene Bagley grew up an entertainer, touring the United States in the era immediately following the Civil War. After spending time as a comedian, vocalist, and cornetist, Bagley settled in Boston, MA in 1880,
where he performed with a local opera company, the Bostonians, as well as the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Best known as a composer of marches, he is almost singularly noted for the *National Emblem* march - a mainstay of patriotic celebrations and military ceremonies since its inception.

The march known as *National Emblem*, composed in 1902 and published in 1908, incorporates elements of *The Star-Spangled Banner* throughout the work – most notably in the first strain of the piece. Originally sketched and abandoned by Bagley, the work does not follow the conventional form of American marches, omitting the break strain in favor of an elongated, repeating trio section. A favorite of Frederick Fennell, the founder of the Eastman Wind Ensemble, the work was also highly regarded by the father of the American march, John Philip Sousa, who called it one of the most effective street marches ever written.

**about the ensembles**

**PHILHARMONIC**

Kennesaw State University Philharmonic Orchestra is an orchestra for string players from across the university, including players who are non-music majors or music majors wishing to perform on a secondary string instrument. Playing in the Philharmonic is a great way for KSU students to continue enjoying musical experiences throughout their college years. The orchestra performs a wide variety of string orchestra literature from different time periods.

The orchestra is under the direction of Professor Christopher Thibdeau and rehearses on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:00-3:15 p.m. in the Bailey Performance Center. Each semester the orchestra performs approximately two concerts and collaborates with members of the KSU Wind Symphony to form a full symphony orchestra.

**UNIVERSITY BAND**

The Kennesaw State University Band is a newly formed, non-auditioned ensemble open to all KSU students. Representing a wide variety of majors and concentrations, this group rehearses weekly in the home of "The Marching Owls." It joins the KSU Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, The Marching Owls, and the KSU Basketball Band in offering a wide array of band-focused musical experiences to the students of Kennesaw State University.
personnel

PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA  Christopher Thibdeau, conductor

VIOLIN I
Katie Bergs
Alec Fisher
Taylor Gonding
Sara Halverson
Brian Mallet
Kayla Scott

VIOLIN II
Zoe Cesar
Lindsey Coleman
Annalee Eagerton
Matthias Kosse

VIOLA
Monica Davis
Nassar Edwards

VIOLA cont.
Rachel Fishback
Huijeong Lee
Anthony Newman

CELLO
Stephen Barr
Toby Gamache
Hannah Grussing
Adam Harris
Rachel Miller
Pablo Villari

BASS
Kristi Derouen

UNIVERSITY BAND  Cory Meals, conductor

FLUTE
Lindsey Adams, Rome
Lora Asberry, Marietta
Hannah Culp, Cartersville
Mo-Shari Ellefson, Cartersville
Margaret Fordham, Cumming
Edwin Hernandez,* Norcross
Kiedrich Kromp, Woodstock
Caty Mae Loomis, Marietta
Jessica Marques, Cumming
Wynter Olson, Atlanta
Jessie Park, Dacula
Sarah Rehman, Woodstock
Sabrina Silvera, Conyers
Jonathan Swann, Covington
Stella Vera, Arecibo, PR

OBOE
Alyssa Deaton, Canton

CLARINET
Jennifer Blitch, Lilburn
Genevieve Brugger, Atlanta

CLARINET cont.
Taylor Carstens, Marietta
Destiny Clark, Voorhees, NJ
Michelle Ezeh, Edison, NJ
Zoe Gatcombe, Decatur
Callie Healy, Dacula
Sarah Herbst, Alpharetta
Sharlande Nicolas, Boston, MA
Laura Olle, Kennesaw
Kylah Pollard,* Acworth
Tedra Rogers, Warner Robins

BASS CLARINET
Tyler Roberson,* Waynesboro
Andrew Shaw, Nashville

BASSOON
Caleb Buffington, Cartersville
Jasmine Nixon, Kennesaw

ALTO SAXOPHONE
Aldo Cardenas, Marietta
Sean Hargis, Marietta
Sydney Jerez, Hollywood, FL
ALTO SAXOPHONE cont.
Mia Jordan, Kennesaw
Jeremy Kariuki, Cartersville
Jared Ludwig,* Woodstock
Basir McGee, Douglasville
Parth Patel, Cartersville
Shelby Marielle Reed, Ringgold
Tyler Rushing, Canton
Mika Searles, Camden

TENOR SAXOPHONE
Alex Garcia,* Cumming
Deyson Johnson, Gwinnett

BARITONE SAXOPHONE
Timothy Hawkins, Blairsville
Katherine Mitchell,* Canton

TRUMPET
Hostetter Alex, Belgrade, Serbia
Kelly Atkinson, Kennesaw
BellDeVry Dubuche, Atlanta
Charleston Fox, Cartersville
Colby Geil,* Sugar Hill
Conner Hursh, Marietta
Emily Keenan, Cumming
Joshua Klann, Kennesaw
Joshua Mulhern, Kennesaw
Vinh Nguyen, Los Angeles, CA
Ana Ortega, Alpharetta
Amanda Pregibon, Woodstock
Sophia Scher, Roswell
Michael Storck, Gwinnett

TROMBONE
Mitch Bramblett, Kennesaw
Austin Coker, Lawrenceville
Justin Culley, Gwinnett
Caleb Garrett, Kennesaw
Nicholas Gianella, Fayetteville
Evan Gravitt,* Gainesville
Nathaniel Herbst, Alpharetta
Jacob Homiller, Ball Ground
Jesse Manders, Flowery Branch
Darien Maxwell, Grayson
Cody McKinlay, Acworth
Jan Rodriguez, Johns Creek
Carson Vaughan, Evans
Rebecca Worsham, Calhoun

EUPHONIUM
Matthew Boullain, Marietta
Isabel-Sofia Carrion, Acworth
Louis Livingston,* Marietta
Anthony Morris, Warner Robins
Holly Phillips, Acworth

TUBA
Austin Curtin,* Flowery Branch
Heather Gunn, Kennesaw
Zachary King, Blairsville

PERCUSSION
Jonathan Bowers, Lilburn
Seth Moore, Acworth
Eleuterio Puga, Euharlee
Amber Tubbs, Auburn
John Irrera, violinist, praised by the *Santa Barbara Daily Sound* for his “moving” and “hypnotic” performances, is quickly becoming known as an accomplished solo, chamber, and orchestral musician. At the age of 23, John made his Carnegie Hall debut as 1st prizewinner of the American Protégé International Violin Competition and has also taken top prizes in numerous international and national competitions. John made his concerto debut with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra performing the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto under the baton of Maestro Jeff Tyzik, and has also appeared as guest soloist with the Penfield Symphony Orchestra and the Rochester Philharmonic Youth Orchestra.

John’s performances can be heard in concert halls such as Carnegie Hall, Spivey Hall, and Lincoln Center - as well as via broadcast by WXXI. Solo concert engagements have taken him to international music festivals including the Music Academy of the West, the Bowdoin International Music Festival, Violin Academy at the Moulin d’Ande, France, and the Niagara on the Lake International Music Festival.

As a chamber musician John has co-founded, with his brother Joseph, the Irrera Brothers Piano & Violin Duo. The duo has performed throughout North America, Latin America, and Europe. In 2013, they made their third appearance at Carnegie Hall which was lauded as a “riveting and dynamic performance” by the *New York Concert Review*. Additionally, the duo has recently secured professional management with New York City management firm, Parker Artists Management. The duo released a professionally mastered album of violin and piano sonatas in the summer of 2012, and are currently in a multi-year recording project of compositions for violin and piano by Robert Morris, Professor of Composition at the Eastman School of Music. To be included on the album is the work, *Drawn Onward-Fantasy for Violin and Piano*, written specifically for the duo and premiered in 2014.
Past chamber music collaborations have involved members of the Dallas Symphony, the Ying Quartet, and the late Eastman Professor Zvi Zeitlin. In the fall of 2010, John performed an all Shostakovich chamber music program at Syracuse University’s *Music of Conflict and Reconciliation Symposium*. In the summer of 2008, John was the recipient of a full fellowship to the Music Academy of the West, where he worked with acclaimed chamber musicians Peter Salaff, Donald Weilerstein, and the Takács String Quartet.

As an active orchestral musician, John has performed with the New World Symphony under conductors Michael Tilson Thomas and Thomas Adès, with the Grammy-nominated Metropolis Ensemble under the baton of composer Tan Dun, and as guest concertmaster of the New River Valley Symphony Orchestra conducted by Steven White. Additional collaborations have included appearances with Peter Oundjian, Larry Rachleff, and Daniel Hege at the Music Academy of the West. In 2012, John was named Concertmaster of the Genesee Symphony Orchestra. Currently he regularly performs with the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra.

John received his Bachelor’s degree with High Distinction from the Eastman School of Music in 2007, where he was awarded the Howard Hanson Scholarship, as well as the coveted Performer’s Certificate. He continued at Eastman where he completed his Master’s degree in 2009 as the recipient of the Christakis S. and Agnes C. Modinos Graduate Merit Scholarship, as well as his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in 2014. John’s long time teacher and mentor during all three of his Eastman degrees was the late Zvi Zeitlin and Federico Agostini. Additionally John has had supplementary studies with violinists Ilya Kaler, Lewis Kaplan, Sergiu Schwartz, Juliana Athayde, Lynn Blakeslee, and Almita Vamos.

Dedicated to performing and teaching, John has previously taught at the University of Rochester and the Eastman School of Music, after being selectively chosen as the Teaching Assistant for Professor Zeitlin, a position he continued to hold with Federico Agostini. Additionally, John has served as a guest teaching artist presenting performances, masterclasses, presentations, and lectures at Virginia Tech, Kennesaw State University, Lee University, Bridgewater College, the Society of Composers Conference held at Christopher Newport University, and the Atlanta Music Project, as well as presenting at the 2015 MTNA National Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Former students have been accepted to continue their studies at major institutions, including The Eastman School of Music.

Currently, John resides in Blacksburg, VA, is on faculty at Clayton State University and Virginia Tech, and is on the artist roster of Parker Artists Management Group.
Christopher Thibdeau, recently named Limited-Term Assistant Professor of Music Education (Strings) at Kennesaw State University (KSU), is also the Music Director of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestras of Atlanta, the Assistant Conductor of the Georgia Tech Symphony Orchestra and the Conductor of the Atlanta Chamber Music Festival. Christopher has previously served as the Interim Music Director of the Georgia Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, the Conductor & Artistic Manager of Orchestras for the Atlanta Music Project, Associate Conductor of the Brighton Symphony Orchestra, and Cover Conductor of the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra and Firelands Symphony Orchestra. At KSU, Mr. Thibdeau teaches courses in strings pedagogy and education, leads the KSU String Project, and serves as the conductor of the KSU Philharmonic.

As an educator, Christopher has presented workshops and educational concerts in New York, Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, Texas, California, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky and other areas across the US. He was a panel speaker at the 2007 Connecticut State Music Teachers Association State Convention and has been featured as a guest speaker and moderator for the Eastman School of Music “Polyphonic.org” webinar series. Most recently, Mr. Thibdeau spent ten days as a guest artist at the Afghanistan National Institute of Music in Kabul where he taught cello and conducting lessons and also had the opportunity to instruct the first ever female Afghan conductor, Negin Khpolwak.

Christopher has participated in many conducting workshops and seminars, including the Conductors Retreat at Medomak under the direction of Kenneth Kiesler, the New England Conservatory Summer Institute where he studied under Frank Battisti and Charles Peltz, and the International Conducting Institute with the Round Rock Symphony under Maestro Peter Bay.

Christopher Thibdeau began studying the cello at the age of 8 and conducting at the age of 13. As an undergraduate student at the Eastman
School of Music, Christopher was accepted into the conducting studio of Neil Varon and twice conducted the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra in the prestigious Eastman Theater. Mr. Thibdeau holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Cello Performance from the Eastman School of Music where he studied cello with Alan Harris and orchestral conducting with Neil Varon, and a Master of Music degree in Orchestral Conducting from the Cleveland Institute of Music where he studied with Carl Topilow.

**Assistant Professor of Music Education and 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 at state, national, and international venues. Recent presentations include the International Conference on 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.
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- KSU Faculty Jazz Parliament
- Georgia Youth Symphony Orchestra and Chorus
- KSU Faculty Chamber Players
- KSU Faculty String Trio
- KSU Community and Alumni Choir
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!

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

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