

Musical Arts

CONCERT SERIES 2023-2024

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
SAENGER THEATRE MOBILE

USA Symphony Band and USA Wind Ensemble

2024 Spring Concert

William H. Petersen, conductor

Robert D. Abend, conductor

USA Symphony Band

Panoramic Landscapes (2015)	Tyler Grant (b. 1995)
Aquarium (1991) Allegretto grazioso (Neon Tetra, Electric Eel and Angelfish) Andante / Adagio (Sea Horse and Zebrafish) Finale: Allegro giocoso (Guppy & Co.)	Johan de Meij (b. 1953)
Shenandoah (2019)	Omar Thomas (b. 1984)
Symphonic Dance No. 3 "Fiesta" (1964/1967)	Clifton Williams (1923-1976)

Intermission

USA Wind Ensemble

Fanfare from "La Péri" (1911/1912)	Paul Dukas (1865-1935)
Sonoran Desert Holiday (1994)	Ron Nelson (1929-2023)
The Solitary Dancer (1969)	Warren Benson (1924-2005)
Robert D. Abend, conductor	
La Fiesta Mexicana (1949) <i>(A Mexican Folk Symphony for Concert Band)</i> Prelude and Aztec Dance Mass Carnival	H. Owen Reed (1910-2014)

The Sixtieth Concert of Academic Year 2023-2024

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

7:00 p.m.

USA Symphony Band
Robert D. Abend, conductor

The University of South Alabama Symphony Band is one of three concert bands in the Department of Music. A select performing group of woodwind, brass, and percussion instrumentalists, Dr. Robert Abend conducts the Symphony Band with an emphasis on classic wind-band repertoire, marches, new literature, and works with featured soloists. The USA Symphony Band is open by audition to music majors and to non-majors with prior instrumental performance experience in high school or junior college. All students must audition each semester in order to gain acceptance in the ensemble. Auditions consist of standard orchestral, wind band, and solo repertoire for each instrument.

Flute

Mia Jalkh *
Trinity Mays
Mariah Dumpson
Sarah Harlin
Emma Norris
Addi Ward
Rachel Mason

Oboe

Rebecca Guthrie *

Bassoon

Maeve Rodriguez *

Clarinet

Gabe Clark *
Aeilya Walker
Daisha Taylor
Annalise Philen
Victoria Marks

Bass Clarinet

Christopher Hamm

Saxophone

James Summers, alto
Jacob Pryor, alto
Elizabeth Faust, tenor

Trumpet

Jared Freeman *
Matthew Owens
Desmond Foster
Nathan Cobb
Hayden Bobe
Kaitlyn Sykes

Horn

Everette Salter *
Jenny Hosken
Annalise Girouard
Hannah Ingram

Trombone

Joshua Whiting *
Rachel Myers
Bradley Zinck

Euphonium

Malory Stanley *
Wesley Grant

Tuba

Erin Dees *^
Josue Mendoza-Torres
Aidan Bullard

Percussion

Wes Dixon *
Myles Course
Zach Henry
Simeon Tanner
Nathaniel Slater

* principal

^ graduating member

USA Wind Ensemble
William H. Petersen, conductor

The University of South Alabama Wind Ensemble is the premier instrumental ensemble in the Department of Music. A select performing group of woodwind, brass, and percussion instrumentalists, Dr. Will Petersen conducts the Wind Ensemble with an emphasis on new wind ensemble literature, the highest-level original wind band compositions, transcriptions, and live performance. The USA Wind Ensemble is open by audition to music majors and to non-majors with prior instrumental performance experience in high school or junior college. All students must audition each semester in order to gain acceptance in the ensemble. Auditions consist of standard orchestral, wind band, and solo repertoire for each instrument.

Flute

Jaishon Robinson *
Madison Kille ^
Katie Wallace
Katelyn Badtke
Elizabeth Courtney

Oboe

Cameron Swann #

Bassoon

Maeve Rodriguez

Clarinet

Kaylah Orso *
Shannon Kille
Duyen Tran
Elaina Olewnik
Christopher Hamm

Bass Clarinet

Gabriel Clark

Saxophone

Elizabeth Faust, alto *
Wyndal Mosley, alto
Tristen Bodiford, tenor
Samuel Hamner, baritone

Trumpet

Elizabeth Lajnef *
Jaleel Hughes
Ryan Perry
Zach Nelson
Andrew McKinley
Jared Freeman #

Horn

William Stoll *
Mason Ledbetter
Mallori Garner
Joshua Lightner

Trombone

John Grayson Kerr *
Andrew Vo
Marshall Waites
Harrison Howell, bass

Euphonium

Hunter Brown *
Malory Stanley

Tuba

Mark Saylor *
Javier Fernandez
Joey White

Percussion

Simeon Tanner *
Tyler Scott
Nathaniel Slater
Ryan Wright
Jamie Clark

Keyboards

Shalva Vashakashvili

* principal

^ graduating member

guest performer

BIOGRAPHIES

William H. Petersen, conductor Director of Bands

Dr. William Petersen was appointed to the faculty of the University of South Alabama in 2012. Petersen serves as Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music and is in charge of all facets of the university's band program. He conducts the USA Wind Ensemble, the premier instrumental ensemble at USA, teaches applied tuba and euphonium, coaches brass chamber ensembles, and serves as the tubist in the University of South Alabama Faculty Brass Quintet. Dr. Petersen serves as director of the 250-member, nationally recognized Jaguar Marching Band, a position he held from 2013-2019 and resumed in 2021. In addition, he also teaches courses in graduate music education, marching band techniques and conducting.

Under his direction, the USA Wind Ensemble has developed a reputation for excellence in performance and served as the featured guest ensemble for the 2015, 2016, and 2022 Alabama All-State Band Festival. Likewise, the Jaguar Marching Band has established itself as a nationally recognized ensemble, both in musical ability and marching technique, during Petersen's tenure. The JMB has entertained thousands at USA football games, marched parades for over 100,000 during the Mardi Gras season, and performed at two nationally televised bowl games. In addition, the Jaguar Marching Band served as the exhibition band for the 2015 Bands of America Atlanta Super Regional. In 2021, he helped to create the South Alabama Marching Band Championships at Hancock Whitney Stadium as a premier marching band competition for high schools across Alabama and the Gulf Coast. He is in demand as a guest conductor and clinician of both concert bands and marching bands throughout the country.

From 2005-2009, Dr. Petersen was Assistant Director of Athletic Bands and Instructor of Music at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA where he served as Assistant Director of the Marching Virginians, Director of the Hokies Pep Band, and conducted concert bands. In 2007, Petersen was honored as Virginia Tech "Music Professor of the Year" by the Gamma Mu chapter of Delta Omicron and a "Favorite Faculty Member" by the Virginia Tech Department of Residence Life.

Petersen received his BME in Instrumental Music (2002), MM in Wind Conducting (2005) and DM in Wind Conducting (2013) from Indiana University. He holds memberships in the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA), National Band Association (NBA), National Association for Music Education (NAfME), Alabama Music Educators Association (AMEA), the Alabama Bandmasters Association, the International Tuba and Euphonium Association (ITEA), Kappa Kappa Psi, and honorary memberships in Tau Beta Sigma and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. He was elected as a member of Phi Beta Mu, International Bandmasters Fraternity in 2024 (Rho Chapter – Alabama).

Robert D. Abend, conductor
Associate Director of Bands

Robert Abend recently completed his studies at Michigan State University, where he earned his DMA in Wind Conducting. At MSU he assisted and guest conducted with all concert bands, assisted with athletic bands, marching band methods, and undergraduate conducting courses. His primary conducting teacher is Dr. Kevin L. Sedatole. Rob earned his Masters degree in wind conducting at Western Michigan University where he studied with Dr. Scott Boerma. Upon graduation from WMU, Abend was recipient of the All-University Graduate Teaching Effectiveness Award, an honor given to only three masters teaching assistants across the entire university.

Prior to his graduate studies, Rob taught instrumental music in Michigan for eight years. Most recently, he served as the Director of Bands at Dakota High School in Macomb, Michigan from 2013-2018. Under his direction the Dakota High School band program was made up of approximately 200 students and included four concert bands, marching band, jazz band, winter drumline, and winterguard. In 2015, the Dakota High School Wind Ensemble was selected to perform at the Michigan Music Conference. Prior to his tenure at Dakota High School, Rob taught at Southgate (MI) Anderson High School and Elizabeth Ann Johnson High School in Mt. Morris, MI.

Rob earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Eastern Michigan University, where he studied percussion with John Dorsey and conducting with John Zastoupil. As a percussionist, Abend has performed with the Macomb Symphony Orchestra, the Motor City Brass Band (timpanist), and was featured as a soloist at the 2009 Michigan Day of Percussion. His professional affiliations include American School Band Directors Association, College Band Directors National Association, Kappa Kappa Psi, and the National Band Association.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC FACULTY

Bands

Dr. Will Petersen, Director of Bands
Dr. Rob Abend, Associate Director of Bands
Dr. Clayton Maddox, Assistant Director of Bands
Dr. Greg Gruner, Director of Bands Emeritus

Woodwinds

Dr. Andra Bohnet, flute
Dr. Amy Selkirk, oboe
Dr. Kristina Nelson, bassoon
Dr. Kip Franklin, clarinet
Dr. Tracy Heavner, saxophone

Brass, Percussion, Strings

Dr. Peter Wood, trumpet
Ms. Jodi Graham Wood, horn
Dr. Arie VandeWaa, trombone
Dr. Clayton Maddox, euphonium and tuba
Dr. Brian Nozny, percussion

Piano, Organ, and Guitar

Dr. Robert Holm, piano
Mr. Randall Sheets, organ and piano

Voice, Opera and Choral Music

Dr. Thomas Rowell, voice and opera
Dr. Laura Moore, Director of Choral Activities
Ms. Linda Zoghby, voice
Ms. Joyce Sylvester, voice

Composition and Music Theory

Dr. David Durant, composition
Dr. Brian Nozny, composition
Dr. Kip Franklin, music theory

Music Education

Dr. Tracy Heavner, instrumental
Dr. Will Petersen, instrumental
Dr. Byron Dawes, instrumental
Dr. Laurie Martin Shearer, vocal/elementary
Dr. Thomas Rowell, vocal/choral
Dr. Laura Moore, vocal/choral

Music Business

Dr. Arie Vandewaa
Dr. Andra Bohnet

Staff

Mrs. Allison Harris, program assistant, bands
Mr. Keith Bohnet, events coordinator
Dr. Laura Moore, Department of Music Chair