



CWRU MUSIC

2025/26 CONCERT SEASON

A Century of Sound

CWRU Symphonic Winds

JASON DELFING, PH.D

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF BANDS

ERIN MEISSNER • BOBBY BELLAIRS

GRADUATE CONDUCTING ASSISTANTS

Percussion Ensemble

MATTHEW LARSON

DIRECTOR

7:30 PM

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Silver Hall

Maltz Performing Arts Center

1855 Ansel Road Cleveland, OH



**CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY**

Department of Music

case.edu/artsci/music

WELCOME

CWRU Music 2025–26 Concert Season

The Case Western Reserve University Department of Music presents a wide range of concerts, recitals, and special events that showcase the talents of students, faculty, and guest artists. From classical masterworks to contemporary compositions, these performances highlight the creativity and excellence within CWRU's vibrant music community. Open to the public, the season offers opportunities for audiences of all ages to experience inspiring live music and support the next generation of musicians and scholars.

Thank you for joining us today — enjoy the performance! 🎵

The Maltz Performing Arts Center (est. 1924)

The Maltz Performing Arts Center at Case Western Reserve University stands as a distinguished collaboration between the university and The Temple-Tifereth Israel. Originally constructed in 1924, this architectural landmark was thoughtfully restored through the generosity of Milton and Tamar Maltz and other visionary philanthropists, transforming the historic sanctuary into a world-class center for performance and learning.

Today, the center's magnificent 1,200-seat Silver Hall serves as a premier venue for concerts, lectures, and special events, hosting performances by the Department of Music ensembles and community organizations throughout the year. Renowned for its exceptional acoustics and architectural grandeur, the Maltz Center enriches both the university and the greater Cleveland community. The adjacent Nord Family Greenway provides a seamless and scenic connection linking the Maltz Center to the main campus and the cultural institutions of University Circle.

Accessibility

We are committed to providing accessible facilities for all audience members. Please inform our staff if you require assistance or special accommodations.

 Silence phones & devices

 No flash photos or recording

 Restrooms located on each level

 No food or beverages

 **Emergencies:** follow staff/call 216-368-3333



**Maltz
Performing
Arts Center**

case.edu/maltzcenter

PROGRAM

Percussion Ensemble

Glacier

Benjamin Finley
(1975)

A Ceiling Full of Stars

Blake Tyson
(1969)

Stained Glass

David Gillingham
(1947)

BRIEF INTERMISSION

CWRU Symphonic Winds

First Suite in Eb, Op. 28, No. 1 (1921)

Gustav Holst
(1874-1934)

- I. Chaconne
- II. Intermezzo
- III. March

Shenandoah (1999)

Frank Ticheli
(b. 1958)

Erin Meissner, graduate conductor

On Parade (1914)

Amanda Aldridge
(1866-1956)
ed. Kaitlin Bove

Bobby Bellairs, graduate conductor

unBroken (2021)

Randall Standridge
(b. 1976)

Shortcut Home (2003)

Dana Wilson
(b. 1946)

PROGRAM NOTES

First Suite in Eb, Op. 28, No. 1 (1921)

Gustav Holst
ed. Colin Matthews

The *First Suite in Eb* has become a standard of the wind band repertoire and a model for compositions that would follow. Originally composed in 1909, this three-movement suite was not performed until 1920 and published the following year. The work opens with a Chaconne, which is a set of variations over a repeated harmonic progression. The second movement is a quick Intermezzo in the relative minor. The work concludes with a lively March in ABA featuring two separate themes, presented independently then woven together.

On Parade (1914)

Amanda Aldridge
ed. Kaitlin Bove

Amanda Christina Elizabeth Aldridge, also called Amanda Ira Aldridge, was born in London in 1866. She was the daughter of African American Shakespearian actor, Ira Aldridge, and Swedish opera singer, Amanda Pauline von Brandt; and sister to Luranah Aldridge, also an opera singer. In her youth, Aldridge was an accomplished pianist and singer (a student of Jenny Lind) and studied composition at the Royal College. In later years, she taught private voice and elocution lessons to British and American singers and actors, including Black performers Paul Robeson, Roland Hayes, and Marian Anderson.

Her compositional career spanned from approximately 1906 to 1934 and included instrumental music, seven piano suites, and at least twenty-six art and parlor songs.

On Parade is an English "quick step" march featuring a typical first and second strain, trio, and an unusual secondary trio (a trio-within-a-trio!) that modulates the piece to a third tonal area.

- Program note by Joyce Adams

Shenandoah (1999)

Frank Ticheili

The Shenandoah Valley and the Shenandoah River are located in Virginia. The origin of the name for this river and valley is obscure. The origins of the folk song are equally obscure, but all date to the 19th century. Many variants on the melody and text have been handed down through the years with the most popular telling the story of an early settler's love for a Native American woman.

The composer writes:

In my setting of *Shenandoah* I was inspired by the freedom and beauty of the folk melody and by the natural images evoked by the words, especially the image of a river. I was less concerned with the sound of a rolling river than with its life-affirming energy -- its timelessness. Sometimes the accompaniment flows quietly under the melody; other times it breathes alongside it. The work's mood ranges from quiet reflection, through growing optimism, to profound exaltation.

- Program Note from the score

Shortcut Home (2003)

Dana Wilson

Shortcut Home is a rousing, rather elaborate fanfare that features each section of the ensemble. Drawing upon various jazz styles, the music proclaims and cascades, always driving towards the "home" of the final, C Major chord.

Shortcut Home was commissioned by the Hillsborough (New Jersey) High School Band, Mindy Scheierman, director.

- Program Note by Dana Wilson

PROGRAM NOTES

UnBroken (2023)

Randall Stanbridge

During my childhood, my mother suffered a complete nervous breakdown and psychotic break with reality.

Before this happened, there were many warning signs that she was experiencing mental health issues. There were moments when she would cry for no discernable reason, when her mood and character would change in an instant, and moments when she would seem withdrawn from everyone. However, these were infrequent and, as so, we all assumed that she was fine. She was not fine.

Unknown to us, and even to herself, our mother was battling depression. Growing up in the time period when they did, both of our parents had been conditioned to see mental health problems as sources of shame, signs of weakness, and a failing of character. Due to this, they did not seek help even though they both knew something was wrong. The pressure built, the problems multiplied, and finally, one day, it all became too much for her to bear. My mother's breakdown was so severe that she was hospitalized for over a year. It was a terrifying ordeal as my two brothers, my father, and I watched her battle this crippling illness. However, there are two things that I will never forget from that time. First, I remember my mother's strength in fighting her way back to us. And second, I remember my father's unwavering faith and fidelity to her as he stood by her side, kept the household together, and cared for both her and us as best he could.

Their bond did not break.

Our family did not break.

After this experience, the taboo of discussing mental health was removed from our household. My mother was diagnosed with severe depression and, upon returning home, started proper treatment for her condition. Any time she would begin to experience the onset of a particularly bad episode, she sought the help she needed and managed to prevent another such breakdown. As with anyone who lives with depression, she has good days and bad days, but the fear of identifying as a person with a mental health issue and the stigma surrounding it has been lifted. My father is still by her side, supporting her in any way she needs, just as he always has during their 50+ years of marriage.

The title of this work, *unBroken*, is in reference to three things. First, is a description of my mother, who has learned to manage her illness and thrive in spite of it. Second, it is a reference to our family, and how both my father and mother worked to ensure that it remained whole. My parents are my heroes, and I am not shy about saying it. Their strength and this experience has also made me completely unafraid to utter the following statement: My name is Randall Standridge, and I live with depression.

Third, many people throughout the world experience mental illness. Too many are afraid of what others will think and what may happen to their relationships, their jobs, and their families if they seek help. They are afraid that they will be seen as "weak", "defective", or "broken." It is my hope that this work may provide a starting place for productive discussions and be another tool that will help knock down the social barriers that prevent those that need help from seeking it. This piece of music is dedicated to my parents, Ron and Shirley Standridge, and to all of the people and families who live with the challenges of mental illness.

Lastly, to those who may be experiencing similar problems, please know this:

You are not weak. You are not defective. You are not broken.

CWRU BANDS PERSONNEL

Piccolo

Alexis Kwon, *nursing*
Minju Kim, *biochemistry*
Gianna Wong, *mechanical engineering*
Anji Zheng, *neuroscience*

Flute

Colin Fields, *music & physics*
Olivia Fietkiewicz, *music & mechanical engineering*
Minju Kim, *biochemistry*
Samuel Kim, *biochemistry*
Alexis Kwon, *nursing*
Noah Nguyen, *music & neuroscience*
Ella Quan, *mechanical engineering*
Manasa Venkataramana, *biochemistry*
Gianna Wong, *mechanical engineering*
Joanne Yoon, *biomedical engineering*
Anji Zheng, *neuroscience*

Oboe

Gabby Olivares, *biochemistry & world literature*
Kiran Sah, *mechanical engineering*
Wren Penkala, *Japanese & civil engineering*
Owen Biscoe, *chemical engineering*

Bassoon

Kwaku Swabia, *computer engineering*
Erin Meissner, *graduate assistant*

Clarinet

Sana Adi, *biomedical engineering*
Saul Arellano, *biology*
Connor Elison, *music & aerospace engineering*
Max Kim, *biochemistry*
Maya Lang, *chemical engineering*
Caleb Park, *mechanical engineering*
Charithma Peiris, *biology*
Daniel Shen, *mechanical engineering*

Bass Clarinet

Meredith Janssen, *civil engineering*
Anders White, *chemical engineering*

Contrabass Clarinet

Cameron Toscano, *music & biomedical engineering*

Alto Saxophone

Charlotte Brew, *music & biology*
Samantha Kotz, *data science*
Kamil Malinowski, *electrical engineering*
Lydia O'Dell, *music & mechanical engineering*
Abby Ostrander, *mechanical engineering*
Kurt Rehm, *music & material science*
Owen Wallace, *data science*
Hannah Wong, *nursing*

Tenor Saxophone

Bobby Bellairs, *graduate assistant*
Harry Ganz, *music & political science*
Aidan Ghylin, *electrical engineering*
Audrey Mayer, *nursing*

Baritone Saxophone

Veronica Moskal, *music & engineering*
Owen Somers, *music & biology*

Horns

Campbell Burrill, *biochemistry*
Isaiah Mosley-Aviles, *music & psychology*
Russell Zhang, *music education*

Trumpet

Hunter Grace, *political science & sociology*
Nathaniel Hwang, *biomedical engineering & music*
Jonah Kerchner, *aerospace & mechanical engineering*
Steven Landsittel, *civil engineering*
Jennifer Morrison, *electrical engineering*
Jack Overman, *economics*
Alex Summerville, *chemical engineering*
Grace Wang, *biology*

Trombone

Callum Curtis, *computer science*
Jack Joseph, *mechanical engineering*
John McGonegal, *music & engineering*
Madhav Narayan, *systems biology*

Euphonium

Jared May, *physics (PhD)*
Alex Pogharian, *civil engineering*
Nick Shafer, *mechanical & aerospace engineering*
Ling Wu, *chemistry*

Tuba

Andrew Director, *music performance & finance*
Julia Ferrin, *mechanical and aerospace engineering*
Daniel Lin, *electrical engineering*
Daniel Whitworth, *CWRU staff*

Double Bass

Madelyn Updike, *music & civil engineering*

Percussion

Ervin Abbeyquaye, *chemical engineering*
Charlie Apy, *music & physics (BA), supply chain management (MS)*
Owen Benedict, *history & physics*
Darg Boni, *music & biochemistry*
Samuel Dorfman, *mechanical engineering*
Adam Gousie, *math & economics*
Felix McElwaine, *aerospace and mechanical engineering*
Julie Moeller, *animation*
Rose Pluchino, *aerospace engineering*
Vajk Volgyesi, *mechanical engineering*
JW Whisenhunt, *computer engineering*

CWRU Symphonic Winds members are listed alphabetically to reflect the musical contributions of all members.

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE PERSONNEL

Charles Apy, *music, physics*

Mia Avila, *biomedical engineering*

Owen Benedict, *history*

Darg Boni, *music, biochemistry*

Marija Djordjevic, *music, mathematics*

Samuel Dorfman, *aerospace engineering, mechanical engineering*

Adam Gousie, *economics, mathematics*

Tyler Kramer, *biomedical engineering, pre-health*

Ben Kressbach, *integrated biomedical sciences*

Jack Matyas, *mechanical engineering*

Felix McElwaine, *aerospace engineering*

Rose Pluchino, *aerospace engineering*

Vajk Volgyesi, *mechanical engineering*

Owen Wallace, *computer science*

John Whisenhunt, *computer engineering*

ABOUT THE DIRECTORS

Mr. Matthew Larson has been the director of the Case Western Reserve University Percussion Ensemble in 2014 and the Cleveland Institute of Music percussion teacher at CWRU since 2010. Additionally, he teaches at Kent State University. Matthew is the Principal Percussionist of the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra and associate principal percussionist with the Erie Philharmonic. Matt has also performed with the Cleveland Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic, Akron Symphony Orchestra, Canton Symphony Orchestra, Blossom Festival Band, and Blossom Festival Orchestra. As an extra with the Cleveland Orchestra, Matt has performed several concerts at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Matt has a Master's Degree from the Cleveland Institute of Music where his primary teacher was Cleveland Orchestra Principal Percussionist Richard Weiner. He also holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Minnesota where he studied with Fernando Meza. In high school, he studied with Earl Yowell of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and Elliot Fine of the Minnesota Orchestra.

Dr. Jason Delfing (he/him/his) currently serves as Interim Director of Bands and Lecturer of Music Education. Dr. Delfing holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Cleveland State University and a Master of Arts in Education, Administration, and Supervision from the University of Phoenix. He also holds a Master's Degree in Music Education from Arizona State University and a Ph.D. in Music Education from Case Western Reserve University. Dr. Delfing previously served as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Music at Allegheny College, where he taught Music Appreciation, Music History, and conducted the Allegheny Wind Symphony. Prior to completing his Ph.D, Dr. Delfing taught middle school and high school for 15 years in both Arizona and California.

UPCOMING EVENTS

7:30 PM • November 21, 2025

Baroque Chamber and Dance Ensembles
Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel

7:30 PM • December 2, 2025

University Chorale
Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel

7:30 PM • December 3, 2025

Humanity - Requiem for the Living
Case/University Circle Symphony and Case Concert Choir
Silver Hall • Maltz Performing Arts Center

7:30 PM • December 5, 2025

Case University Glee Club
Florence Harkness Memorial Chapel

GIVING

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