

# WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

Thursday, October 16, 2014 | 7:00 p.m.  
Winter Park High School | Ann Derflinger Auditorium

## WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL FRESHMAN JAZZ BAND Christopher Blackmer, conductor

<i>The Opener II</i> (2014).....	Carl
Strommen	(b. 1940)
<i>Los Changos Volando</i> (2014).....	Mike
Dana	(b. 1954)

## WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ ENSEMBLE Michael Clemente, conductor

<i>Beyond The Sea</i> (1945/1996).....	Charles
Trenet	(1931 - 2001) arr. Frank Mantooth
<i>Cute</i> (1958).....	Neal Hefti
	(1922 - 2008)
<i>The Chicken</i> (1969/2001).....	Alfred James
Ellis	(b. 1941) arr. Kris Berg

## WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND Christopher Blackmer, conductor

<i>Early English Suite</i> (1963).....	W. Duncombe
	(1736 - 1819) arr. Walter Finlayson
1. Trumpet Menuet	
2. Sonatina	
4. Hunting Jig	
<i>Blue Ridge Overture</i> (1976/2004).....	Frank
Erickson	(1923 - 1996)

## WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND Michael Clemente, conductor

<i>Lindbergh Variations</i> (1991).....	Robert Sheldon
<i>Grant Us Peace "Dona Nobis Pacem" from Mass in B Minor</i> (1749/1997).....	J. S.
Bach	(1685 - 1750) arr. Jimmie Howard Reynolds
<i>American Riversongs</i> (1991).....	Pierre La
Plante	

**WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE**  
**Christopher Blackmer, conductor**

*Century Variants* (2009).....David R. Gillingham  
(b. 1947)

*Be Thou My Vision* (2000/2007)..... David R. Gillingham

*Bushdance* (1991).....Ralph  
Hultgren  
(b. 1953)

*Please join us in the Auditorium Lobby following tonight’s performance for refreshments!*

**OUR SPECIAL GUESTS**

Two of Winter Park’s past directors are special guests at this evening’s concert. Below are their biographies, as well as the biography of the legendary Mr. Edgar “Jack” Williams, whose son Joel Williams is in attendance tonight.

**EDGAR “JACK” WILLIAMS** was the Director of Bands at Winter Park High School for 34 years, serving from 1948 until his retirement in 1982. Before his career at Winter Park, Mr. Williams served as a commander in the United States Navy during World War II. He was born in Tampa and held his first music education job as an assistant conductor at the University of Tampa. In addition to the tremendous impact he had on the lives of Winter Park High School band students, Mr. Williams was a key player in developing the larger musical community in Central Florida. He conducted the Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra, played trumpet in the Florida Symphony Orchestra, taught music at Rollins College, and conducted the brass ensemble for the Bach Festival Orchestra. He also helped establish the symphonic band program at the University of Central Florida in 1970. The 1983 Kaleidoscope Music Festival at UCF honored Mr. Williams by theming the festival “A Tribute to Edgar Williams” and creating a scholarship fund for students in his name. He was also a member of the Florida Bandmasters Association and the American Bandmasters Association. Mr. Williams was crucial in the creation of Winter Park High School’s robust music program and many credit him with setting a very high standard for bands around the state. Mr. Williams was a dedicated and passionate teacher throughout his life, and his effort and success are the foundations of Winter Park’s tradition of excellence.

**DR. JOSEPH WISE** worked at Winter Park High School from 1977 to 1985, first as a student teacher, then as an assistant to Jack Williams, and finally as Director of Bands. During his tenure, he expanded the marching band to include auxiliary units; he helped form the booster club; integrated the orchestra and band as a comprehensive program; initiated the Advanced Placement music programs; and, launched a second concert band and jazz program. WPHS also began a more active and rigorous performance schedule for the symphonic and concert bands. He left Winter Park to expand teacher recruitment in the Orange County Public Schools, and he also served as Music Director for the Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra for 13 seasons. Dr. Wise later served as Superintendent of Schools in Duval County, Florida and the Christina School District in Delaware. Currently, Dr. Wise is co-founder and Chief Education Officer of Distinctive Schools. He has held leadership roles in many organizations across the United States in the educational and commercial sectors, including Edison Learning Inc., and Disney. Dr. Wise has earned many honors, including the 2006 Champion for Children Award, and he is a lifetime member of the NAACP and the Florida Association of PTAs. Additionally, Dr. Wise is the author of three textbooks. He holds a doctorate from the University of Florida, a master’s degree from the University of Central Florida, and a bachelor’s degree from Florida State University.

**DR. KEN WILLIAMS** was the Director of Bands at Winter Park High School from 1985 to 1993. His music education career began in Sarasota, Florida, and he became conductor of the Winter Park High School Bands and Orchestras in 1985. During his eight-year tenure at WPHS, he helped establish the Wind Ensemble, started a second orchestra, and sent more than 300 young students to the Florida All State Bands and Orchestras. Dr. Williams is also responsible for coining the now well known “Tradition of Excellence” and “Sound of the Wildcats” taglines for the WPHS Bands. After Winter Park, Dr. Williams joined the faculty of the College of Education at The Florida State University, and later became Chair of Music Education at The University of Texas at San Antonio. Since then, Dr.

Williams has worked as the Director of Fine Arts for the Christina School District in Delaware, the Director of Fine Arts for Duval County Public Schools, the Director of Bands at the LaVilla School of the Arts, and is presently the DCPS Specialist for Instrumental Music in Jacksonville, Florida. Dr. Williams is the President of the Florida School Music Association and has recently been named as a nominee for the office of President Elect by the Board of Directors of the Florida Music Educators Association. He is looking forward to conducting the Florida All-State Middle School Band in January 2015. This year marks Dr. Williams' 41st year as a music educator and he treasures his great fortune at having had the honor of being a very small part of the extraordinary tradition of the Winter Park High School Band. Dr. Williams holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education, a Master in Conducting from the University of South Florida, and a PhD in Music Education from The Florida State University.

## **PROGRAM NOTES**

### **Early English Suite – William Duncombe/arr. Walter Finlayson**

William Duncombe was an English composer from the Classical Period who mainly composed for keyboard instruments, including the piano, harpsichord, and organ. Among these were two very popular collections of pedagogical keyboard pieces – all written for the pianoforte, an early relative of the modern piano. The instrument was called the “pianoforte” because it could play both soft and loud, depending on the touch of the player – a revolution in musical instruments at the time.

The “menuet” has a lengthy history having developed from an ancient dance found in France. To many, with the little steps that gave the dance its name, the English version of the menuet (minuet) demonstrated the snobbery and arrogance of 18<sup>th</sup> Century England.

The “sonatina” is usually a simplified sonata associated with the piano as a technique-teaching device. During the Classical Period, the sonata became defined as a work for solo piano, or for piano and one other instrument. This particular sonatina is taken from a piano work.

The “jig” is known as an English dance form with German roots (gigue).

### **Blue Ridge Overture – Frank Erickson**

*Blue Ridge Overture* has been a widely performed piece since its publication in 1976. The piece is in ABA form with a quick, minor motive introducing the first and last major sections. The moderately paced middle “B” section is based on a theme that is also heard in small segments throughout the work.

Frank William Erickson began studying piano at the age of eight, trumpet at ten, and wrote his first band composition when he was in high school. Erickson was a composer, conductor, arranger, and author of books on band methods. He also lectured at the University of California at Los Angeles (1958) and was professor of music at San Jose State University. For a number of years he worked for a music publishing company, and later began his own company. He served with the United States Army Air Force from 1942-1946, and wrote arrangements for army bands during that time. After the war ended, he worked in Los Angeles as a trumpet player and jazz arranger. He was a life member of the National Band Association, elected to the Academy of Wind and Percussion Arts in 1986, and a member of ASCAP, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Pi Kappa Lambda, Phi Beta Mu, and the American Bandmasters Association.

### **Lindberg Variations – Robert Sheldon**

*Lindbergh Variations* was commissioned by and written for the Fletcher Junior High School Band in Jacksonville Beach, Florida. Among the community's historical treasures exists a monument to Charles Lindbergh's child. Although Lindbergh paid a fifty thousand dollar ransom, his son was never recovered alive. This monument seems to have been the only permanent exposition of the worldwide sympathy in this national tragedy. It was unveiled on September 17, 1932.

*Lindbergh Variations* is based on a theme representing the child depicted in the statue. The initial statement sets a playful mood and leads to the first variation in 3/4 time, a lullaby including a more lyrical treatment of the melody with some canonic imitation. The second variation, Andante Cantabile, features a trumpet solo over warm colors and harmonic support. Surprising contrast is heard at the outset of variation three, a 6/8 section marked Alla Marcia. During this variation the melody is interwoven through all instrumental families and leads to the fourth variation. This final treatment is characterized by a slow cut-time chorale with appearances in the upper brass and woodwinds of more rapidly played motives from the previous variation. As the chorale gains intensity, the hymn “Jesus, Jesus Rest Your Head,” emerges from the harmonic structure drawing a parallel to the sleeping child in the statue. The hymn builds through the variation culminating in a coda which makes majestic reference to the original theme.

Robert Sheldon is one of the most performed composers of wind band music today. A recipient of numerous awards from the

American School Band Directors Association, Phi Beta Mu and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, his compositions embody a level of expression that resonates with ensembles and audiences alike. His music is performed around the world and appears on many international concert and contest lists. Mr. Sheldon regularly accepts commissions for new works, and produces numerous publications for concert band and orchestra each year. He has served as a conductor and clinician throughout the United States, as well as Japan, Canada, Italy, Australia and The Republic of China, and has conducted performances of his works in New York's Carnegie Hall, Chicago's Orchestra Hall, Boston's Symphony Hall, Taipei's National Concert Hall, Matsumoto's Seiji Ozawa Performing Arts Center and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. Mr. Sheldon is currently Concert Band Editor for Alfred Music Publishing.

### **Grant Us Peace “Dona Nobis Pacem” – J.S. Bach/arr. Jimmie Howard Reynolds**

The *Mass in B Minor* is considered by many to be one of Bach's greatest masterpieces and a supreme achievement of classical music. The full work is a setting of the Roman Catholic Mass Ordinary and has also been referred to as the “Great Catholic Mass.” Italian musicologist Alberto Basso states, “The Mass in B minor is the consecration of a whole life: started in 1733 for ‘diplomatic’ reasons, it was finished in the very last years of Bach's life when he had already gone blind. This monumental work is a synthesis of every stylistic and technical contribution the Cantor of Leipzig made to music.”

This setting of the “Dona Nobis Pacem” attempts to recreate the summation of the Mass and the journey a soul goes through to find lasting peace. Driven by a fugue theme throughout, the work is constantly moving forward with phrases eliding one into the next. The final joyous and triumphant iterations of the theme bring about the sense of closure, rest and the celebration of life.

### **American Riversongs – Pierre La Plante**

*American Riversongs* is based on traditional and composed music of an earlier time, when the rivers and waterways were the lifelines of a growing nation.

The work begins with a rousing setting of “Down the River,” followed by an expansive and dramatic treatment of “Shenandoah” or “Across The Wide Missouri,” as it is sometimes called. After a brief transition, a brass band is heard playing a quadrille-like version of Stephen Foster's “The Glendy Burk.” As “The Glendy Burke” travels along, a second theme is introduced by piccolo, flutes, and tambourine. The second theme is based on a Creole bamboula tune the probably originated in the Louisiana delta region. Other composers have used this melody, including Louis Moreau Gottschalk in his *La Bamboula, Op. 2* for piano and his *Symphony No. 1*, subtitled *A Night In The Tropics*. The bamboula theme is marked by an incessant syncopated rhythm and used to good effect in the coda to bring *American Riversongs* to a rowdy, foot-stomping close!

### **Century Variants – David R. Gillingham**

*Century Variants* was commissioned by David Knox of *Banddirector.com*. The project was very unique in that band directors and musicians could have sneak peaks of the composition as it developed via this website. Actual *Finale* files and videos explaining the composition as it developed. The composition is dedicated to Dr. Peter Boonschaft, Director of Bands at Hofstra University. Dr. Boonschaft was the individual who encouraged Gillingham to write a set of variations on the primary melody of his work, *New Century Dawn*, composed in 2000.

Dr. David Gillingham has an international reputation for the works he has written for band and percussion. Many of these works are now considered standards in the repertoire. Dr. Gillingham's works have been recorded by Klavier, Sony, Mark, White Pine, Naxos, Summit, and Centaur. His works are regularly performed by nationally recognized ensembles including the Prague Radio Orchestra, Cincinnati Conservatory of Music Wind Ensemble, The University of Georgia Bands, North Texas University Wind Ensemble, Michigan State University Wind Symphony, Oklahoma State Wind Ensemble, University of Oklahoma Wind Ensemble, Florida State Wind Ensemble, University of Florida (Miami) Wind Ensemble, University of Illinois Symphonic Band, Illinois State Wind Symphony, University of Minnesota Wind Ensemble, Indiana University Wind Ensemble and the University of Wisconsin Wind Ensemble. Over sixty of his works for band, choir, percussion, chamber ensembles, and solo instruments are published by C. Alan, Hal Leonard, Southern Music, Music for Percussion, Carl Fischer, MMB, T.U.B.A., I.T.A., and Dorn. Dr. Gillingham is a Professor of Music at Central Michigan University and the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award (1990), a Summer Fellowship (1991), and a Research Professorship (1995). He is a member of ASCAP and has been receiving the ASCAP Standard Award for Composers of Concert Music since 1996.

### **Be Thou My Vision – David R. Gillingham**

*Be Thou My Vision* was composed for Ray and Molly Cramer in honor of their parents, and premiered by the Indiana University Wind

Ensemble under the direction of Ray Cramer. The composer states:

“The work is heartfelt, expressive, and hopefully inspiring. The hymn tune, ‘Slane,’ is one of my favorites and inspired me to compose a counter melody, which is likened to an old Irish ballad. Since ‘Slane’ is, in fact, an Irish ballad, the two tunes share this unique camaraderie. The work is sort of a ‘fantasy’ on the hymn tune and presents it on two levels: one mysterious and the other dramatic.”

### **Bushdance – Ralph Hultgren**

*Bushdance* was written for, and premiered at, the Queensland Department of Education’s 1987 Musically Outstanding Students scholarship camp in Brisbane (Australia). The work was written to feature the songs of the bushdance and to portray the excitement of the trip to, and participation in, the evening’s entertainment. Melodies include “The Darvy Knick Knick,” “The Waves of Tory,” “Big Fairy Mountain and Little Fairy Mountain,” and “Soldier’s Joy.”

Ralph Hultgren was born in Box Hill, Victoria, Australia, and now resides in Newmarket, Queensland. Dr. Hultgren began his professional music career as a trumpet player in 1970. He has performed with the Central Band of the Royal Australian Air Force, the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, the Australian Brass Choir, and as a freelance musician for the theatre, opera, cabaret and recording studio. Dr. Hultgren was, most recently, Head of Open Conservatorium at the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University where, as well as engaging in the academic pursuits noted below, he provided academic and artistic leadership to the Young Conservatorium. Dr. Hultgren’s conducting credits include the direction of musicals, operettas, studio recordings for radio, television and disc, and the concert stage. He has premiered a number of his own works in Australian centres and internationally, and has been proud to conduct many ensembles from around Australia and overseas, including groups from Singapore, USA, Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, New Zealand, UK, Taiwan, and China. In his former position he conducted the Queensland Conservatorium Wind Orchestra, Queensland Conservatorium’s premiere wind group and lectured in conducting and instrumental music education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. He is in constant demand as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the Asian Pacific region.

## **Upcoming Winter Park Band Events**

### **Florida Bandmasters Association Marching Music Performance Assessment**

Saturday, November 1  
University High School

### **University of Central Florida Wind Ensemble w/Guest Composer David Maslanka**

Thursday, November 6  
Winter Park High School Auditorium  
7:00 p.m.

### **“A Night of Jazz”**

Thursday, November 20  
Winter Park Ninth Grade Center Auditorium  
7:00 p.m.

### **FMBC State Finals**

Saturday, November 22  
Tropicana Field (St. Petersburg)

**Winter Band Concert**  
Thursday, December 11  
Winter Park High School Auditorium  
7:00 p.m.