



SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Presents

Anthony Tinsley, tenor trombone
Syuzanna Kaszo, piano

April 17th, 2026

7:00 pm

PepsiCo Hall

Program

Sonata for Trombone and Piano

I: Allegro Maestoso

II: Adagio

III: Allegro Giocoso

Eric Ewazen

(b. 1954)

Intermission (10 min)

Elegy for Mippy II

Leonard Bernstein

(1918-1990)

Canon in D Major

Johann Pachelbel

(1653-1706)

Arranged by:

Anthony Tinsley Jr.

Vocal Choir

Soprano: Carissa Dixon, Theda Leeka

Alto: Milka Ogega, Zoie Pilate, Monica Sanchez

Tenor: Ethan McGregor, Nick Richa, Seth York

Bass: Luke McCartney, Aaron Roden, Nick Shea

Gospel (Pixar's "Monsters University" Theme)

MarchForth Marching Band
(2003)

Arranged by:
Anthony Tinsley Jr.

Jazz Band:

Jerry Olazaron, alto sax
Jett Schnackenburg, tenor sax
Theda Leeka, trombone
Zoie Pilate, bass trombone
Dhruv Patel, trumpet
Kenneth Ebo, trumpet
Hezan Daroona, drumset
Holt Lee, bass
Aaron Roden, guitar
Trey McKamey, piano

Joy (2023)

Andy Grammer
(b. 1983)

Arranged by:
Anthony Tinsley Jr.

Jazz Band:

Jerry Olazaron, alto sax
Jett Schnackenburg, tenor sax
Theda Leeka, trombone
Zoie Pilate, bass trombone
Zarrhias Sanders, bass trombone
Dhruv Patel, trumpet
Kenneth Ebo, trumpet
Hezan Daroona, drumset
Holt Lee, bass
Aaron Roden, guitar
Trey McKamey, piano

This recital is given in partial fulfillment of the requirements for a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. Anthony Tinsley is a student of Dr. David Begnoche.

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited.

Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers, and phones.

Program Notes:

Sonata for Trombone and Piano

by Eric Ewazen

Eric Ewazen's "Sonata for Trombone and Piano" (c. 1991) is a widely performed work that showcases the instrument's expressive range and technical ability. Written in a tonal, audience-friendly style, the piece reflects Ewazen's blend of traditional lyricism with modern harmonic color. The sonata has three movements. The first is bold and energetic, featuring strong melodies and active interplay between trombone and piano. The second movement contrasts with a slower, more lyrical character, emphasizing smooth phrasing and a singing tone. The final movement is fast and lively, highlighting rhythmic drive and technical virtuosity. Overall, the work presents the trombone as both a powerful and lyrical instrument, making it a cornerstone of the trombone repertoire.

Elegy for Mippy II

by Leonard Bernstein

Leonard Bernstein's "Elegy for Mippy II" (c. 1948) is a brief but deeply personal work written in memory of his brother's dog, Mippy, who had died after a difficult life. Composed in 1948, the piece is part of a set of short elegies Bernstein wrote for close friends and loved ones, each reflecting a distinct emotional tribute. Despite its unusual inspiration, the music carries genuine sincerity and warmth. The elegy is somber and reflective, featuring gentle, lyrical lines that evoke a sense of loss and quiet remembrance. At the same time, there is an underlying tenderness that suggests affection rather than pure grief, giving the piece a uniquely intimate character. Originally written for trombone and piano, *Elegy for Mippy II* highlights the trombone's vocal quality, allowing it to "speak" with a subdued, expressive tone. The piano provides a soft harmonic backdrop, supporting the solo line without overpowering it. Though short in length, the work leaves a lasting emotional impression, demonstrating Bernstein's ability to find depth and meaning in even the most personal of subjects.

Canon in D Major

by Johann Pachelbel

Johann Pachelbel's "Canon in D Major" (c. 1680–1706) is one of the most recognizable works of the Baroque period. Originally written for three violins and basso continuo, the piece is built on a repeating bass line, or ostinato, that continues throughout the entire work. Above this steady foundation, the three upper voices enter one at a time in imitation, creating a canon. As the piece progresses, the music grows in complexity and richness through variations, while still maintaining a sense of balance and clarity typical of German Baroque style. The Canon in D is

known for its smooth, flowing melodies and harmonic progression, which give it a calm and elegant character. Its combination of structure and beauty has made it a timeless favorite in both concert settings and popular culture.

For me, this piece holds deep personal meaning. It was the first classical work I ever heard as a child, and every time I listen to it, it brings me back to those early memories. Over time, it has also become connected to moments of loss in my family, including the passing of my grandmother in 2016 and a close family member in 2020. Because of this, the piece serves not only as a reflection of my childhood, but also as a tribute. It stands as a gift to my parents and a message of gratitude to those who have supported and shaped my family throughout the years.

Lyrics:

(Italian)

Non sei solo.

sappi chenti amero sempre.

Amen.

(English)

You are not alone.

Let yourself know that I will always be there for you.

Amen.

Gospel

by MarchForth Marching Band

“Gospel” by MarchFourth Band, featured in Pixar’s *Monsters University*, is a high-energy track that blends elements of funk, gospel, and street-band traditions. Known for their bold brass sound and driving rhythms, MarchFourth creates a vibrant and celebratory atmosphere that reflects themes of determination, teamwork, and personal growth. Powerful brass lines, strong rhythmic grooves, and a sense of forward momentum characterize the music. Its uplifting and triumphant style mirrors the spirit of overcoming challenges and finding one’s place, making it especially fitting for a story centered on perseverance and self-discovery.

In this arrangement, the piece takes on a more personal meaning. It reflects my experiences at TCU and serves as a gesture of appreciation to the professors, directors, and friends who have shaped my journey. More than just a performance, it becomes a musical thank-you, celebrating the support, growth, and memories built along the way.

Joy

by Andy Grammer & Trombone Shorty

“Joy” by Andy Grammer and Trombone Shorty is an uplifting and energetic piece that blends pop, soul, and New Orleans brass influences. The song features a strong rhythmic groove, bright brass textures, and an infectious sense of optimism. Trombone Shorty’s signature style adds a bold, expressive layer to the music, while Grammer’s vocals emphasize themes of resilience, positivity, and emotional growth. At its core, “Joy” is about choosing hope and happiness even in the face of struggle. The music builds with a sense of momentum and celebration, reflecting the idea that joy is not the absence of hardship, but something discovered through it.

In this arrangement, the message becomes deeply personal. The piece reflects the challenges I have faced throughout my life, including doubt, grief, failure, and fear, and how those experiences ultimately led me to find my own sense of joy. While the original song centers on love for a partner, this version is reshaped to express gratitude for the people who have supported and understood me along the way, especially my mom, dad, and sister.

Lyrics:

Me and fear we had a thing in 2018
Told me I was wasting time with all these silly dreams.
I had the doubts that knocked me down every time I tried,
But I found joy in my life.

Sorrow swept me off my feet every time.
I took long walks on the beach next to the oceans that I cried.
And griefs, they came and overstayed way longer than I'd liked,
But I found joy in my life.

I found dad, yeah, he opened up my eyes.
And gave me wings and halo rings and taught me how to fight.
Woo, ooh, I feel like a million lights.
I found joy in my life.
And got me like yeah, oh
I found joy in my life.
And got me like yeah, oh
I found joy in my life.

Pressure pushed me to the edge, it worked me to the bone.
And jealousy, it lied to me, said I needed things I don't.
Shames, they had a way to make me hate myself inside,
But I found joy in my life.

I found mom on the loneliest of nights.

She taught me the value ways how to live my life.
Woo, ooh, I feel like a million lights.
I found joy in my life.
And got me like yeah, oh
I found joy in my life.
And got me like yeah, oh
I found joy in my life.

I found my sister when I needed her every night
She is such a smart young woman and I can't believe she's mine.
Mmm, now I'm basking in her light
I found joy, I found joy
Yeah! Yeah!
I found joy in my life

Thank You TCU

When I first came to TCU, I found myself asking, "How did I get accepted here? Do I truly belong as a Horned Frog? What do they see in me that I cannot yet see in myself?" After four years of learning, growing, and pushing through challenges, I can finally say that I have discovered who I am and what I am meant to do. Words cannot fully express how grateful I am to be a Horned Frog.

TCU has given me experiences that have shaped me in ways I never imagined. Horned Frog Marching Band, concert performances, teaching students, learning alongside incredible professors, and every other moments have played a role in my journey. The people here have supported me, challenged me, and believed in me, even when I struggled to believe in myself. Because of TCU, I have grown into someone I once could not see.

As a man with autism, this journey has not always been easy, but it has been meaningful. I am proud to say that I am stepping forward into a future as a music educator, ready to inspire others just as I have been inspired. To everyone at TCU, thank you. Thank you for the opportunities, the lessons, the memories, and the belief. You have truly changed my life.

Sincerely,
Anthony Tinsley