



UNIVERSITY BANDS



Texas Christian University WIND SYMPHONY

TCU[®]

SCHOOL OF MUSIC



band.tcu.edu





It is my distinct pleasure to welcome the 2025 College Band Directors National Association Conference to Fort Worth. We hope that all of you will take the time to explore Fort Worth and enjoy the unique mix of cultural activities found only in the Modern West.

As Mayor, it is with great pride that we share with you about our city – a city of cowboys, culture, and community. In one visit, you can enjoy an enormous range of experiences – from art to animals, and from fashion to family fun. Enjoy the award-winning Fort Worth Zoo, visit our newest and grandest stadium, Dickies Arena, watch auto racing at Texas Motor Speedway, or enjoy a relaxing night of shopping and dining in the luxurious Shops at Clearfork. The choice is yours!



While you are in Fort Worth, we hope you get a chance to visit:

- Our downtown area, a nationally-noted model of successful urban renaissance filled with restaurants, museums, art galleries, theaters, and an abundance of retail shopping. The Sundance Square area of downtown is a must-see for everyone visiting the city.
- The Cultural District, recognized as the “museum capital of the Southwest,” is home to truly world-class museums. We are proud to be home to the Texas Cowgirl Hall of Fame, an outstanding Equestrian Center, one of the country’s top-ranked zoos, and a multitude of beautiful parks, trails, and gardens.
- Northside’s Historic Stockyards, a delightful journey into the city’s western heritage. You are sure to enjoy the area’s many shops and restaurants while finding a real-life cowboy or two outfitted with horses on the cattle drive of the Fort Worth Herd of longhorns!

One of our most valuable assets is our people. Visitors often cite the Fort Worth-friendly spirit of our residents and businesses as the top reason they plan a return visit. We hope you enjoy your time in Cowtown and make plenty of friends in our unique and memorable take on the Modern West.

Sincerely,

Mattie Parker
Mayor

MATTIE PARKER, MAYOR

Letter from the President

Texas Christian University



It is with great pleasure that we welcome the College Band Directors National Association to Texas Christian University. Without a doubt, the TCU School of Music is among our flagship programs, lending special vibrancy to the cultural life of the University, the city of Fort Worth and the region. We are pleased to highlight the talents of our students and faculty. You will enjoy hearing the TCU Wind Symphony joined by several of our esteemed faculty members and the TCU Concert Chorale.

Among other premieres, tonight will feature a new Symphony commissioned by several generous TCU supporters. Moreover, we extend our hearty thanks to the organizers and hosts for this event - Bobby Francis among other members of our wonderful staff.

Thank you again for choosing Texas Christian University and the city of Fort Worth as the site to host your prestigious organization.

Dr. Daniel Pullin

President

Texas Christian University

Letter from the Dean

TCU College of Fine Arts



On behalf of the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of the TCU College of Fine Arts, welcome to Texas Christian University. We are honored to host the 2025 CBDNA conference, a venerable music organization dedicated to the artists, leaders, and educators within the wind band community.

Congratulations to Professors Bobby Francis and Brian Youngblood, as well as the entire CBDNA team. Your planning, organization, and leadership set the stage for an exhilarating week of concerts, workshops, and presentations. We applaud the TCU Wind Symphony and their commitment to tonight's concert. Please enjoy the performance!

Dr. Amy Hardison Tully

Dean, Professor of Music

TCU College of Fine Arts

2025 WIND SYMPHONY CBDNA

Letter from the Director

TCU School of Music



Thank you for attending this evening's Texas Christian University Wind Symphony performance. It is always an honor when an ensemble is selected to perform at a prestigious event like the College Band Directors National Association Conference, and it is even sweeter when the event occurs in our own venue, the Van Cliburn Concert Hall.

The TCU School of Music has a rich tradition of producing fine musicians. With 'Texas' in our name, band music is part of our DNA and is one of our strongest areas. We are fortunate to have Bobby R. Francis, Director of Bands, and Brian Youngblood, Associate Director of Bands, driving the TCU Band program to incredible heights for the past quarter century.

Today is a monumental day as we present a concert featuring the TCU Wind Symphony and TCU Concert Chorale, conducted by Director of Choral Activities Christopher Aspaas, and faculty soloists Allen Cordingley, Heather Test, Haerim Lee, Juliette Herlin, Corey Mackey, and Brian West.

Our faculty is comprised of some of the finest pedagogues and performers working in their fields today, who tirelessly foster the musical arts. If you or someone you know is searching for an institution of higher learning to broaden their musical horizons, please consider TCU. If music is your passion, then TCU is your school.

I hope you have a wonderful CBNDA Conference and enjoy this evening's concert.

Musically yours,

Dr. Marc Reed

Director of the School of Music

Professor of Music

College of Fine Arts

TCU

2025 WIND SYMPHONY CBDNA

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY AND THE TCU BAND PROGRAM PRESENTS:

Texas Christian University Wind Symphony

The Long Path Before:
Breathe, Love, & Sing the Tune

2025 College Band Directors National Association Conference

Bobby R. Francis, Conductor

Brian Youngblood, Guest Conductor

Allen Cordingley, Soprano Saxophone

Corey Mackey, Clarinet

Heather Test, Horn

Brian West, Marimba

Juliette Herlin, Cello

Haerim (Liz) Lee, Violin

David Mejía, tenor soloist

Featuring the TCU Concert Chorale (Christopher Aspaas, Marla Ringel - directors)

FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2025

Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU

Fort Worth, Texas

6:00 PM

TCU Wind Symphony

Bobby R. Francis, Conductor

PROGRAM

The Pure in Heart

Thomas Singletary (b. 1970)

Featuring the TCU Symphonic Band & Wind Symphony Brass

WORLD PREMIERE

Symphony No. 6

Quinn Mason (b. 1996)

- I. Moderate with underlying energy
- II. Elegia in memoriam Ron Nelson
- III. Resonant, radiating – Joyous

Commissioned by the Big XII Band Directors Association

Brian Youngblood, Guest Conductor

And Music Echoes Eternal Tones

Joseph Turrin (b. 1947)

In Memory of Glen Adsit (d. 2024)

WORLD PREMIERE

Coping Cadences: for 6 Soloists and Wind Ensemble Shuying Li (b. 1989)

- I. Road Rage (contemporary)
- II. Dual Lives (romantic)
- III. Bottled-Up Blues
- IV. The Pursuit (minimalist)
- V. Uneasy Balance (classical)
- VI. Shared Harmony (fusion)

Allen Cordingley, Soprano Sax

Corey Mackey, Clarinet

Heather Test, Horn

Brian West, Marimba

Juliette Herlin, Cello

Haerim (Liz) Lee, Violin

(program continued)

WORLD PREMIERE

Symphony No. 5

James M. Stephenson (b. 1969)

for solo tenor, SATB Chorus, and Symphonic Wind Ensemble

I. Slow, Mysterious; Tempestuous

II. Andantino: Song of the open road

III. Presto Vivo

IV. Adagio, fugato: Hope is the thing with feathers

“For Bobby R. Francis and Brian Youngblood for over 25 years of dedicated service to TCU, the TCU School of Music, TCU College of Fine Arts, TCU Athletics, and the TCU Band Program”

David Mejía, tenor soloist

Featuring the TCU Concert Chorale (Christopher Aspaas, Marla Ringel – directors)

TCU Symphonic Band Brass Personnel

TRUMPET

Jackson Grimm	Aledo, TX	Sophomore BA-Music
Kennth Ebo	Fort Worth, TX	Sophomore BA-Music
Ethan Vinson	Mansfield, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Alex Cadenhead	Mansfield, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
RJ Andrade	Pasadena, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Robert Lathrop	Bedford, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
Tony Banning	El Paso, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education

F HORN

Sebastian Sohn	North Richland Hills, TX	Sophomore BS-Physics
Ethan Hildebrand	Euless, TX	1st Year BM-Performance
Marina Reyna	Flower Mound, TX	1st Year BA-Music
Elizabeth Bushey	Euless, TX	Sophomore BA-Music
Kate Mitchell	Springtown, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
Garrett Nelson	Southlake, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education

TROMBONE

Dylan Sims*	Duncanville, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
Seth York	Cypress, TX	Sophomore BM-Performance
Theda Leeka	San Antonio, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
Jessica Rowe	Haslet, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Apurva Mamidenna	Duncanville, TX	Junior BME-Music Education

***Denotes Principal**

(Symphonic Band Brass Personnel cont.)

(trombone cont)

Aaron Roden	San Antonio, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Zach Long* (B-trb)	Haslet, TX	Sophomore BM-Performance
Bennett Sibille (B-trb)	Melissa, TX	Senior BME-Music Education

EUPHONIUM

Knox Stroman*	Bedford, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Tyler Pham	Richardson, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Bryan Lopez	Fort Worth, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education

TUBA

Benjamin Lindley*	Brock, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education, BM-Music Composition
Ethan McReynolds	North Richland Hills, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
Monica Sanchez	Fort Worth, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Matt Waller	Fort Worth, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Tyler Fries	Flower Mound, TX	Senior BBA-Marketing
James Winard	Las Vegas, NV	1st Year Undecided

TCU Concert Chorale Personnel

Ethan McGregor	Plano, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Tim McCracken	Fort Worth, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Samantha Irvin	San Marcos, TX	1st Year BM-Performance
Charles Nelson	Grapevine, TX	Senior BM-Composition
Kai Diamond	Roanoke, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Adrian Martinez	Brownsville, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Sarah Squires	Humble, TX	Sophomore BM-Performance
Ahmed Elghazali	Fort Worth, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
David McDaniel	Houston, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Kaylynn Langham	Grand Prairie, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Anna Borges	Denton, TX	Senior BM-Performance
Lydia Taylor	Plano, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Sarah Gould	Alpharetta, GA	Graduate MM-Choral Conducting
Adam Arntson	Plano, TX	Sophomore BM-Performance
Kaylyn Davis	Missouri City, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Sofia Dahm	Eules, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Casey McEvoy	Bellingham, WA	Senior BS-Nursing
Brennan Fisher	Granbury, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Will Moeller	San Antonio, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Elliot Banks	Grand Prairie, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
Alyssa Perrin	Hurst, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Kolby Carpenter	Bedford, TX	Sophomore BA-Music, BA-Poli Sci
Eduardo Guerrero	Fort Worth, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Owen Harvey	Fort Worth, TX	Junior BM-Performance
Lindsay Bastian	Wilmington, NC	Graduate DMA-Piano Pedagogy
Michelle Pearce	Fort Worth, TX	1st Year BM-Performance
Muguel Pesce	Maracaibo, Venezuela	1st Year BM-Performance
Cassie Westlund	San Antonio, TX	Junior Bm-Performance
Sara Lwin	Manila, Philippines	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Karolina Flores	Brownsville, TX	1st Year BME - Music Education
Casey Caldwell	Austin, TX	1st Year BA-Music, BA-Poli Sci
Catherine DiGrazia	Pharr, TX	Senior BM-Performance
Golda Marcello	Grand Prairie, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
Debbie Seitter	San Antonio, TX	Graduate DMA-Choral Conducting
Sophie Gwaldo	Leander, TX	1st Year BM-Performance

(Concert Chorale Personnel cont.)

Gael Ivan Pizana	Everman, TX	Sophomore BME–Music Education
Carson Scott	Memphis, TN	Senior BA–Film, TV, and Digital Media
Kimy Coe	Amarillo, TX	1st Year BM–Performance
Cade Harrison	Austin, TX	Sophomore BBA–Accounting/Finance, BS–Economics
Dory McDonald	Lexington, KY	Junior BA–Music
Emma Lewis	Houston, TX	1st Year BM–Performance
Elijah Sones	Fort Worth, TX	1st Year BM–Performance
Louise Martin	Greenville, SC	1st Year BM–Performance
Sophia Giffin	Flower Mound, TX	1st Year BME–Music Education
Emma Kibuchi	Nairobi, Kenya	1st Year BA–Music
Trinity Stevens	Arlington, TX	1st Year BA–Music

TCU Wind Symphony Personnel

FLUTE/PICCOLO

David Zachariah*	Roanoke, TX	1st Year BA–Music, BS–Computer Sci
Lucinda Gatesman (Picc.)	Allen, TX	Transfer BM–Performance
David Diaz	Richmond, TX	Junior BM–Performance
Autumn Bell	Melissa, TX	Sophomore BME–Music Education
Junhwi Goo	Corinth, TX	Sophomore BME–Music Education
Loida Soriano (Picc.)	Fort Worth, TX	Sophomore BME–Music Education

OBOE/ENGLISH HORN

Ella Schupp*	Grapevine, TX	1st Year BS–Speech Language Pathology
Edgar Vazquez	Fort Worth, TX	Junior BME–Music Education
Katie Lilley (E.H)	Fort Worth, TX	Junior BFA–Graphic Design
Chloe Caudill	Fort Worth, TX	Sophomore BME–Music Education

BASSOON

Ethan Peel*	North Richland Hills, TX	Junior BME–Music Education
Diego Llamas	Fort Worth, TX	Junior BME–Music Education

CLARINET

Lucas Lynn*	Houston, TX	Senior BA–Music/Italian
Yotham Eshak (Eb)	Arlington, TX	Senior BM–Performance
Pablo Albert	Keller, TX	1st Year BME–Music Education
Dawson Bauman–Herl	Hurst, TX	1st Year BME–Music Education
Matthew Bailey	Flower Mound, TX	Sophomore BME–Music Education
Sam Brown	Schwenksville, PA	Sophomore BM–Performance
Alyssa Dickens	McKinney, TX	Sophomore BM–Performance, BS–Physics
Gizelle Guerrero	Adkins, TX	Graduate MM–Performance
Aiden Morris	Sachse, TX	1st Year BM–Performance, BS–Philosophy

BASS CLARINET

Alyssa Boortz*	Mansfield, TX	Senior BME–Music Education
Nolan Golden	Aledo, TX	1st Year BME–Music Education

SAXOPHONE

Ashley Tyson*	Platteville, WI	Junior BME–Music Education
Nathan Pippin	Dallas, TX	Senior BME–Music Education
Riley Fletch	Trophy Club, TX	Senior BME–Music Education
Jett Schnackenberg	Mansfield, TX	1st Year BME–Music Education
Luke McCartney	Fort Worth, TX	1st Year BME–Music Education

(Wind Symphony Personnel cont.)

TRUMPET

Eric Liu*	Suzhou, China	Graduate Artist Diploma
Emanuel Arellano	Fort Worth, TX	Graduate MM-Performance
Dhruv Patel	Roanoke, TX	1st Year BA-Music, BS-Int. Economics
Cole Follett	Richardson, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Andria Christian	Fort Worth, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Blake Crosslin	Palestine, TX	Senior BM-Performance
Jackson Schneider	Keller, TX	1st Year BM-Performance

F HORN

Maya Huffman*	Union Grove, TX	Transfer BM-Performance
Cole Reed	Flower Mound, TX	1st Year BM-Performance
James Brandt	League City, TX	Senior BM-Performance
Nick Spires	Burleson, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Travis Beard	Arlington, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Logan Bingham	Fort Worth, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Roger Gonzalez	Palestine, TX	Senior BM-Performance
Nicholas Hernandez	Keller, TX	1st Year BM-Performance

TROMBONE

Anthony Tinsley*	Keller, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Nicholas Shea	Mansfield, TX	Sophomore BM-Performance
Nick Meyer	Bedford, TX	Junior BA-Music
Hannah Luna	Fort Worth, TX	1st Year BM-Performance
Nicholas Rhea	McKinney, TX	Sophomore BM-Performance
Trey Mulkey* (B-trb)	Mansfield, TX	Senior BM-Performance
Jack Ballard (B-trb)	Prosper, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education

EUPHONIUM

Maritza Gonzalez*	Rio Grande City, TX	Graduate MM-Performance
Drew Pesina	Carrollton, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Marshall Turner	Bedford, TX	Junior BME-Music Education

TUBA

Brian Clark*	Fort Worth, TX	Junior BME-Music Education
Luke Hardegree	Keller, TX	1st Year BME-Music Education
Zoie Pilate	Fort Worth, TX	Sophomore BM-Performance

PERCUSSION

Logan Scott*	Georgetown, TX	Graduate MM-Performance
Joshua Santana	Spring, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Jackson Perez	Timnath, CO	1st Year BME-Music Education
Pauline Napier	Dallas, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Jaden Guinto	Cypress, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Nick Travis	Plano, TX	Senior BME-Music Education
Leighann Crockett	Forney, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Ahmad Elijah	Spring, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education
Brandon Davidson	Flower Mound, TX	Sophomore BME-Music Education

HARP

Isabella Grace Ebo	Fort Worth, TX	1st Year BM-Performance
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DOUBLE BASS

Peng Wang	Fort Worth, TX	TCU Alumni
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PIANO

Syuzanna Kaszo	Fort Worth, TX	TCU Staff Accompanist
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PROGRAM NOTES

The Pure in Heart (2017)

by Thomas Singletary (b. 1970)



Thomas Singletary

The Pure in Heart (2017) features majestic ascending lines, playful dissonances, and varying rhythmic patterns of 2 against 3. The title of the piece was inspired by Psalm 24:

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;
for he founded it on the seas
and established it on the waters.

Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord?
Who may stand in his holy place?
The one who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not trust in an idol
or swear by a false god.

Scored for brass and percussion, *The Pure in Heart* was selected as a winning entry in the Dallas Winds Fanfare Competition and received its premier by the Dallas Winds in 2017.

Dr. Thomas Singletary (b. 1970) is an active conductor, composer, clinician, and music educator. A composer and transcriber for winds, he is highly regarded for his custom music arrangements for high school and collegiate marching bands around the nation. A Georgia native, Singletary holds degrees in Music Education from Florida State University and the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana. He earned a Ph.D. in Music Education and Wind Conducting from Florida State University, where he served as a teaching assistant for the university bands. Dr. Singletary currently serves as Chair of the Visual & Performing Arts Department at North Central Texas College where he conducts the North Central Texas Winds.

Learn more about Dr. Singletary at <https://www.tsingletary.net/>

Symphony No. 6 (2024)

by Quinn Mason (b. 1996)



Quinn Mason

Photo by Maddy Ullman

Similar to Vittorio Giannini, who in 1958 composed his Symphony No. 3 'because he felt like it', I wrote this piece simply because a symphony is what I wanted to write. When this piece was generously commissioned by the Big Twelve Band Directors Association in early 2024, I didn't hesitate for a minute before deciding that my contribution would be my *sixth symphony*. There is no program note or deep meaning to this composition. It is simply meant to be an exploration of the many timbral and textural possibilities for the fantastic and always fascinating wind ensemble medium (a medium I don't work in often). The work is set in three movements, the second of which is an elegy in the memory of the distinguished American composer Ron Nelson, who passed away around the time I began work on this piece.

2025 WIND SYMPHONY CBDNA

(Program Notes cont.)

(Mason - Symphony No. 6)

This music came from the heart and I hope it speaks to the heart, somehow.

Composer and conductor **Quinn Mason** (b. 1996) has distinguished himself as an artist of national and international renown. His orchestral music has been commissioned and performed by over 170 professional, regional, community and youth orchestras in the US and Europe, and he has guest conducting engagements include the San Francisco Symphony, National Symphony Orchestra, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, New World Symphony, and countless more organizations. Mr. Mason served as KMFA 89.5's inaugural composer in residence and has had his music broadcast on NPR in the US, CBC in Canada, BBC in London, ORF in Vienna, RAI in Italy, and across many more countries.

Learn more about Mr. Mason at <https://www.masonianmusic.com/>

And music echoes eternal tones (2024)

by Joseph Turrin (b. 1947)



Joseph Turrin

Photo by Meghan Crotty

*Let us not look for you only in memory,
Where we would grow lonely without you.
You would want us to find you in presence,
Beside us when beauty brightens,
When kindness glows
And music echoes eternal tones.*

From a poem by John O'Donohue

And music echoes eternal tones (2024) is a line taken from a poem by John O'Donohue. The piece was written in memory of Glen Adsit, Director of Bands at The Hartt School. Glen and I knew each other since his days as Assistant Director of Bands at the University of New Mexico and besides being a good friend he was also a highly respected educator and conductor in the wind ensemble community. I wanted to write a piece that was gentle and heart felt in nature very much like Glen.

I would not consider the work to be solemn but rather a tender homage to a man I admired and respected as a friend and musician.

Joseph Turrin (b. 1947) is a greatly valued contributor to contemporary American musical life thanks to his wide-ranging activities as a composer, orchestrator, conductor, pianist, and teacher. Mr. Turrin's music has been written for and performed by esteemed artists & organizations including the New York Philharmonic, Yo Yo Ma, Canadian Brass, Wynton Marsalis, several of the U.S. military bands, and many more. Active as a composer and conductor for film & theatre, Mr. Turrin lists among his many credits the scores for *A New Life*, *Little Darlings*, *Verna-USO Girl*, *Nightmare on Elm Street 3*, and the restoration of the silent film classic *Sadie Thompson*.

Learn more about Mr. Turrin at <https://www.josephturrin.com/>

2025 WIND SYMPHONY CBDNA

(Program Notes cont.)

Coping Cadences (2025)

by Shuying Li (b. 1989)



Shuying Li

*Photo by Lauren "Elle
Jaye" Jenkins*

Coping Cadences (2025) is a concerto grosso that merges traditional and contemporary elements, offering a fresh perspective on the concerto form. With a length of over 20 minutes and composed of multiple movements, this piece will feature a flexible group of 6 soloists, providing flexibility to highlight talents from within the performing ensemble or showcase principal players or faculty members.

Drawing inspiration from the universal themes of conflict and resolution as presented in the dark comedy series “Beef,” *Coping Cadences* aims to explore these narratives through a musical lens. Each movement will address different aspects of these themes, creating a journey that resonates with both musicians and audiences.

I. Road Rage: Set in a contemporary style, this movement portrays the explosive release of pent-up anger through dissonant chords and irregular rhythms, capturing the chaotic essence of modern conflict.

II. Dual Lives: Reflecting the complexity of human emotions, this movement juxtaposes contrasting themes. Infused with the depth and expressiveness of the Romantic Era, this movement uses lyrical melodies and dramatic dynamics to explore the complex emotions and intersecting lives of individuals.

III. Bottled-Up Blues: Blending Blues and Jazz, this movement’s escalating motif symbolizes suppressed emotions. The mix of bluesy inflections and jazz harmonies adds depth and expressiveness to the narrative.

IV. The Pursuit: Featuring Minimalist elements, this movement captures a relentless quest for satisfaction with an unresolved melody, embodying ongoing yearning through repetitive structures and gradual developments.

V. Uneasy Balance: This movement combines Classical elements with modernistic deconstructions. The unpredictable shifts in tempo and meter serve to challenge and reinterpret traditional Classical forms, creating a sense of tension and instability.

VI. Shared Harmony: The final movement synthesizes elements of the preceding styles—contemporary, Romantic, jazz/blues, minimalist, and classical—into a virtuosic showcase. It celebrates unity and resolution, highlighting the ensemble’s versatility and delivering a transformative finale.

Coping Cadences was commissioned by a consortium of orchestras led by Francesco Lecce-Chong (Santa Rosa Symphony) and a consortium of bands led by Bobby R. Francis (Texas Christian University).

Dr. Shuying Li (b. 1989) is on the faculty as assistant professor of music at California State University, Sacramento and the founder & artistic director of the contemporary ensemble and non-profit organization Four Corners Ensemble and its annual festival, Operation Opera. Some of the numerous ensembles that have performed Dr. Li’s works include the Seattle Symphony, Boston Modern Orchestra Project, “The President’s Own” United States Marine Band, American Lyric Theater, Donald Sinta Quartet, amongst countless others.

Learn more about Dr. Li at <https://www.shuyingli.com/>

2025 WIND SYMPHONY CBDNA

(Program Notes cont.)

Symphony No. 5 (2024)

by James Stephenson (b. 1969)



James Stephenson

Symphony No. 5 (2024) is a journey of exploration, inward: a journey starting at one's unsure beginnings, optimistically progressing toward adolescence and early adult years ("the long path before me"), and advancing toward one's life of maturation, when experience and wisdom act as an ever-present guide. Though I by no means claim that the maturing process is over, I endeavored in this symphony to mark the place in life where I stand now, where (for me) the greatest of all things is love.

I most sincerely thank director Bobby R. Francis and TCU for granting me the opportunity to go on this journey of exploration, encouraging me to "not hold back"; and for the efforts undertaken by all involved so that we might share it.

This symphony is funded by a consortium of donors at Texas Christian University, including:

TCU College of Fine Arts, Dr. Amy Hardison Tully, Dean
TCU School of Music, Dr. Marc Reed, Director
TCU Band Alumni Association, Michael Ryan and Tyler Ferguson, Presidents
The Jim "Prof" Jacobsen Fund (TCU Band Alumni Association Initiative)
Michael Sinquefield and the TCU Athletics Department
TCU University Bands

For Bobby R. Francis and Brian Youngblood for over 25 years of dedicated service to TCU, the TCU School of Music, TCU Athletics, and the TCU Band Program.

Jim Stephenson's (b. 1969) music has been described as "astonishingly inventive" (*Musical America*). Foremost in his style is the ability to create music that resonates with musicians and audiences alike. Since becoming a full-time composer in 2007, he has enjoyed premieres in all walks of the musical landscape, including *The Chicago Symphony (Muti)*, *San Francisco Ballet*, *Boston Pops*, and "The President's Own" US Marine Band. Mr. Stephenson's music has been premiered by the *Minnesota Orchestra*, *St. Louis Symphony*, *Houston Symphony*, and at the *Inauguration of President Joe Biden*.

Learn more about Mr. Stephenson at <https://composerjim.com/>

2025 WIND SYMPHONY CBDNA

About the Conductor

Bobby R. Francis



Bobby R. Francis

Bobby R. Francis is a **Professor** and **Director of Bands** at Texas Christian University. Prof. Francis serves as **Conductor of the TCU Wind Symphony**, teaches graduate and undergraduate conducting, and is responsible for the **supervision of all aspects of the TCU Band and Wind Conducting programs**. Prof. Francis is an elected member of the **American Bandmasters Association (ABA)** and is **Past President and Chairman of the Board**. Previously, Prof. Francis served on the Sousa-ABA-Ostwald Award Selection Committee that selects the outstanding new composition for Wind Band each year – the most significant award a composer for the wind band medium can receive. He also served as a member of the ABA Board of Directors for many years. He is a **Past-President** of the **CBDNA Southwest Region** and the **Big 12 Band Directors Association**. His former directors include Norman White (Junior High), Tom Neugent (High School) and James Keene (College). Guest conducting appearances include the U.S. Marine Band “President’s Own”, U.S. Army Band “The Pershing’s Own,” Frost School of Music – University of Miami Wind Symphony, The U.S. Coast Guard Band, the Lone Star Youth Wind Orchestra among others.

The TCU Wind Symphony has performed with guest artists including the Jens Lindemann, American Brass Quintet, Sam Palafian, Patrick Sheridan, Brian Bowman, Allen Vizzutti, Jon Lewis, Joe Eckert, Corey Mackey, Clay Garrett, Gary Whitman, Jesus Castro- Balbi, Brian West, Shauna Thompson, Markus Theinert and Boston Brass.

Prof. Francis has collaborated with many composers including Paul Dooley, John Mackey, Frank Ticheli, David Maslanka, Michael Colgrass, Curt Wilson, Joseph Turrin, James Syler, James Stephenson, Kevin Day, Eric Ewazen, Michael Daugherty, Quinn Mason, Onsby Rose, Blaise Ferrandino, Till Meyn, Haley Woodrow, Shuying Li and John Corigliano. In recent years, the TCU Wind Symphony has accepted invitations to **perform at the 2018 Convention of the American Bandmasters Association (ABA)** annual convention with guest artists the “Boston Brass”, in 2019 at the **College Band Directors National Association Convention (CBDNA)** in Tempe Arizona with guest artist Demondrae Thurman, the **2020 Texas Music Educators Association Convention (TMEA)** in San Antonio with guest artist Jens Lindemann and is hosting and performing at the **2025 convention of the CBDNA** - at the new TCU Music Center in the Van Cliburn Concert Hall. The TCU Wind Symphony was also invited to perform at the recent convention of the World Association of Symphonic Winds and Ensembles (WASBE) in Prague, Czech Republic. The group had to decline due to TCU’s covid restrictions for international travel.

He has conducted concerts in the Sydney Opera House, Carnegie Hall, Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center (Dallas), Bass Performance Hall (Fort Worth), Royal College of Music (London), Lila Cockrell Theater (San Antonio), University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), Tempe Center for the Performing Arts (Tempe, Arizona), Normandy Beach (France), Pearl Harbor (Hawaii) and many locations in Italy, France, Austria, and Germany.

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(Bobby R. Francis)

Professor Francis is active as a guest clinician, adjudicator and guest conductor with recent engagements including Oregon All-State Band, Texas Community College Directors Association All-State Band, Salem-Keizer Public School District Honor Band, TMEA All-Region Band invitations including Regions 5, 31, 30, 4, 20, 3, 29 and the Arlington (TX) All-city Band. He has recently adjudicated marching band and concert festivals in Mesquite, Denton, Corpus Christi, and Allen. He recently presented a clinic at the Oregon Music Educators Association Conference and has presented many times at Arkansas State University, Lamar University, TMEA and TBA. He has also guest conducted at Auburn University and the University of Kentucky and several all-region bands.

About the Conductors

He resides in Colleyville with his wife, Teresa, who is a retired middle school band director, private horn instructor and performance artist. They have two daughters: Tamsyn and Breelyn.

About the Guest Conductor

Brian Youngblood



Brian Youngblood

Brian Youngblood is the **Associate Director of Bands** and **Assistant Professor of Music** at TCU. He received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Abilene Christian University and his Master of Percussion Performance degree from East Texas State University. Before coming to TCU, he taught in the public schools for twelve years. He began teaching in 1987 and spent his **first ten years teaching at L.D. Bell High School** in Hurst Texas and followed with two years as **Director of Bands and Fine Arts Director at Brewer High School** in White Settlement. In 1999 Mr. Youngblood joined the faculty at TCU. During his time at TCU, he was **Director of the TCU Horned Frog Marching Band for two decades**. The Horned Frog Marching Band, under his direction, was **recognized by the CBDNA as a “top five” university marching band**. The impact of his work in the field of marching band design has been recognized for the last 35 years. His drill designs and program coordination work have placed in the top at many regional and state contests nationwide as well as a **first place at the Bands of America National Championship in 2007**.

He co-authored a software program for drill design and co-authored a marching band methods book titled “Marching Band Methods: A Practical Approach to Techniques and Design” that was published through Arranger’s Publishing.

Mr. Youngblood primarily teaches in the area of Wind Band Performance at TCU. He led the TCU Symphonic Band to the group’s first selection and **performance at a regional CBDNA Conference**. His ensemble responsibilities at TCU include the TCU Symphonic Band, and assistance with the TCU Concert Ensembles and TCU Athletic Bands. In addition to his work with the bands, he also teaches music education classes and music technology classes. In 2020 he shifted focus from marching band design and began to pursue more conducting opportunities. He accepted a position with the newly formed Fort Worth Youth Orchestra Wind Ensemble in 2021 and was honored with a **national second place in the American Prize conducting contest** for his work with the group. The FWYO Wind Ensemble was also honored with

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the **Co-Champion National first place American Prize award** for their Ensemble performance at Bass Hall the same year.

Mr. Youngblood is an active member of the Texas Music Educators Association, The Texas Bandmasters Association and the College Band Directors National Association. He is a member of the Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society and the Alpha Chapter of the Phi Beta Mu International School Bandmaster Fraternity.

Mr. Youngblood is a product of public school music education in the state of Texas. Before playing in the L.D. Bell High School Band under the direction of Roger Winslow, he was in the junior high bands of Marion West, Earnest Repass and Danny Prado. His undergraduate studies with John Whitwell and Gary Lewis, then at Abilene Christian University, furthered his training in Music Education. Mr. Youngblood is a frequent clinician and adjudicator in Texas and the Southwest. He enjoys working as a clinician with bands from every age level.

About the Guest Artists

Allen Cordingley



Allen Cordingley is **Assistant Professor of Saxophone** and **Director of Jazz Studies** at TCU. Mr. Cordingley comes to us most recently from the University of Wisconsin–Platteville where he served as a Distinguished Lecturer in Saxophone and directed their Jazz Orchestra, among other duties. Before joining the music faculty at University of Wisconsin–Platteville in the fall of 2006, Allen was on tour with the Glenn Miller Orchestra throughout the United States, Canada, and Japan.

As interim director of the UW–Platteville Jazz Festival from 2013–2018, Allen brought in guest artists like Marvin Stamm, Wycliffe Gordon, and Maria Schneider. He also created the Festival Big Band, which included distinguished alumni and local musicians to back up the guest artists. Mr Cordingley studied saxophone with Steven Jordheim and James Umble and holds degrees from Lawrence University and Youngstown State University.

Corey Mackey



Dr. Corey Mackey enjoys a multi-faceted career as an educator, orchestral musician, soloist, and chamber musician. He is currently the **Assistant Professor of Clarinet** at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas.

Mackey maintains a bustling national presence, while international tours have taken him to Europe and China. He has performed with Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Dallas Opera, Fort Worth Symphony, Cincinnati-based ensemble *concert:nova*, Orchestra Iowa, Quad Cities Symphony, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Flagstaff Symphony, and has performed and recorded an album with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. During his tenure as Principal Clarinet of the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra (2009–2020) he appeared as a featured soloist in concertos by Mozart and Copland. Corey Mackey is a Buffet Group USA Artist – Clinician and D’Addario Performing Artist.

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(Guest Artists cont.)

Heather Test



Heather Test is **Instructor II of Horn** at Texas Christian University. Heather has a Bachelor of Music in Performance from the University of North Texas (2001) and a Master of Music in Performance from Southern Methodist University (2003). Professor Test is 4th horn in the Plano Symphony Orchestra and is currently playing 4th horn in most of the Dallas Opera's 2024-25 season as a substitute musician. She is also one of many members of the Dallas based rock-symphonic-choral-pop group The Polyphonic Spree who recently released its eighth studio album, *Salvage Enterprise* which is the soundtrack to the film *Resolution: A Symphonic Rhapsody of the Soul*. Heather is married to fellow musician/drummer/percussionist and Certified Arborist, Kelly Test, and they reside in East Dallas with their son Benji, two dogs, OB and Rob and their common red-eared slider named Lettuce aka Leti.

Brian West



Dr. Brian A. West is a **Professor of Music** and the **Coordinator of Percussion** at Texas Christian University. Under his direction, the percussion program at TCU has received international recognition. The TCU Percussion Orchestra won the 2015, 2011, 2008 and 2005 Percussive Arts Society International Percussion Ensemble Competitions, and the TCU Drumline won the 2012 and 2006 PAS Marching Percussion Festivals. Dr. West has conducted/performed in Hawaii, Italy, Spain, England, France, Australia, and Taiwan. Within the Percussive Arts Society he currently serves on the Board of Advisors and is the Chair of the Percussion Ensemble Committee. Dr. West is an active performer, clinician, composer/arranger, and adjudicator for a variety of percussive events. Dr. West is the Executive Producer of four CDs, is published by drop6 media, and works as a clinician/endorser for Innovative Percussion, Yamaha, Remo, Marimba One, and Sabian.

Juliette Herlin



Praised for her “impressive artistry” and “wonderful bowing technique” (San Francisco Classical Voice), French cellist **Juliette Herlin** has performed across the U.S., Europe, Asia, and South America. She has appeared at prestigious venues like the Kennedy Center, Alice Tully Hall, and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées. A winner of the prestigious Yamaha Music Foundation of Europe String Competition, Dr. Herlin is also a member of the Aletheia Piano Trio. Her performances are frequently featured on NPR's Performance Today. She studied at USC, Juilliard, and the Paris Conservatoire and became a Bärenreiter Ambassador in 2024.

Dr. Herlin currently teaches at TCU as **Assistant Professor of Cello Music**, and has given masterclasses at the Moores School of Music (University of Houston), Moravian College (PA), and at the Zhuhai and Hangzhou Grand Theaters, among others.

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(Guest Artists cont.)

Haerim (Liz) Lee



Korean violinist, **Haerim Elizabeth Lee** captivates audiences by “leaving them breathless with impeccable phrasing and relevant musicality.” (El Norte, Mexico). Elizabeth has developed a playing style indicative of the very essence of her personality: passionate and deliberate and often witty. In 2015, Ms. Lee performed as the concertmaster with Yo-Yo Ma at the Kennedy Center Honors concert in Washington, D.C. to recognize Maestro Seiji Ozawa, which was attended by former President Barack Obama. Following her solo debut with orchestra at nine years old, she has been a guest soloist with the Winston–Salem Symphony, Symphony of the Mountains, New Amsterdam Symphony, Chelsea Symphony, Orquesta Sinfonica de la Unal, Seoul Virtuosi, Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestra Olimpia and Filharmonie Bohuslava Martinu. As a performing artist and scholar, Ms. Lee has established herself as a visionary and was the first recipient of the Tarisio Young Artist Grant as the Artistic Director of MoKo Musik for promotion and commission of Korean music. She is also the Co-Artistic Director of the Innsbrook Music Festival in Missouri, a co-founder of Texas Chamber Music Institute, and teaches at TCU as Assistant Professor of Violin and Director of Chamber Music.

David Mejía



David Mejía is a Mexican Tenor from Brownsville, Texas. He obtained his BM in Vocal Performance from The University of Texas at Arlington, **MM from Texas Christian University**, and is **pursuing his Artist Diploma at TCU**.

David worked for Dallas Opera’s Education and Outreach Program for 2023–24 seasons. In 2023, David won 1st for Advanced Tenor–Bass Voices at NATS: National Student Auditions in San Diego, CA. He debuted at Lincoln Center for the American Pops Orchestra National Voice Competition placing 2nd for male vocalists. In 2024, he played Prince Ramiro in Giachino Rossini’s *La Cenerentola* with the Bayview Summer Music Festival in Michigan. David also premiered “Schiele in Prison,” in New York City in 2025, as a collaboration with the Neue Galerie composed by Jared Schwartz.

TCU Concert Chorale



The **TCU Concert Chorale** is the University’s flagship choral ensemble, committed to the exploration and performance of the finest repertoire from the 16th century to the present.

One of six choral ensembles in the TCU School of Music, the Chorale is a highly-select, auditioned group of forty-three singers including music majors as well as students from other academic disciplines. All members of the Chorale recognize the important role of the arts in their personal and professional development.

The Concert Chorale is directed by **Dr. Christopher Aspaas**, who teaches at TCU as **Associate Professor of Voice Music** and **Director of Choral Activities**. Dr. Aspaas additionally directs the FrogCorps—TCU’s premier male vocal ensemble—and teaches coursework in basic conducting, choral literature, advanced choral conducting and oversees the graduate choral conducting program.

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The TCU Band Program

Originally founded in 1904 as the Texas Christian University Military Band, the **TCU Band's history is one of distinction, excellence, and spirit**. Today, the Band program consists of the Horned Frog Marching Band, the athletic pep bands, three concert wind bands, and two large jazz ensembles.



The **Horned Frog Marching Band** is TCU's largest spirit organization, the most visible performing ensemble in the College of Fine Arts, and one of the most traveled groups on campus. Along with its regular season performances on campus and at away games, this decade has had the marching band travel to the Fiesta Bowl, New Mexico Bowl, the NCAA Basketball tournament in Denver and San Diego, and the National Championship in Los Angeles. The Horned Frog Band and pep bands additionally enjoys its yearly participation in the Fort Worth Stock Show Parade, the Fort Worth rodeo, the Big XII Basketball Championship in Kansas City, and has recently celebrated TCU's Sesquicentennial across our astounding campus.

Alongside the Wind Symphony, the **TCU Symphonic Band** is our second auditioned concert ensemble and performs a wide array of wind band staples and premieres. Under the direction of Brian Youngblood, the Symphonic Band has had the privilege of performing at a regional CBDNA convention and attracts supportive patronage at its regular concerts. Outside of athletic and concert bands, the TCU Band program enjoys a renowned Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Allen Cordingley, and a nationally-recognized Percussion program under the direction of Dr. Brian West.

About the Wind Symphony



The **TCU Wind Symphony** is recognized as one of the premiere collegiate wind bands in America. It regularly performs the best in wind band literature and commissions new works—from the Renaissance masters to the most recent prize-winning composers.

The Wind Symphony frequently collaborates with guest artists and composers. Recent guests have included Paul Dooley, John Mackey, Frank Ticheli, David Maslanka, Michael Colgrass, Joseph Turrin, James Syler, James Stephenson, Eric Ewazen, Michael Daugherty, and John Corigliano. The TCU Band program is additionally proud of commissioning and performing works by TCU student composers, faculty, and alumni, recently featuring performances by Curtis Wilson, Kevin Day (BM'19), Harrison Collins (BM '24), Till MacIvor Meyn, John David Cope (BM '20, DMA '25), Mark Adam Sakovich (BM '23), and Haley Woodrow (MM'16), amongst others.

In recent years, the Wind Symphony hosted and performed at the 2018 Convention of The American Bandmasters Association (ABA), the 2019 CBDNA conference in Tempe, and the 2020 TMEA conference in San Antonio. The Wind Symphony was additionally invited to the 2022 WASBE convention in Prague but needed to cancel its appearance due to COVID restrictions. Graduates of the Wind Symphony hold positions in professional symphony orchestras, military bands and recording studios, and serve as highly successful teachers and conductors throughout the country.



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Dr. Paul Cortese, Assistant Director for Operations; Director, Summer Music Institute

Dr. Gina Bombola, Coordinator of Undergraduate Programs

Dr. Shauna Thompson, Coordinator of Graduate Programs

WIND, PERCUSSION, & MUSIC EDUCATION FACULTY/STAFF

BAND

Bobby Francis, Director of Bands

Brian Youngblood, Associate

Director of Bands

Sharie Owens, Administrative Assistant

Heath Bain, Graduate Assistant

Emily Keliher, Graduate Assistant

Nick VandenBush, Graduate Assistant

BRASS

Dr. David Begnoche, Trombone

& Division Chair

Dr. Jon Burgess, Trumpet

Dr. Clay Garrett, Tuba/Euphonium

Heather Test, French Horn

Emanuel Arellano, Graduate Assistant

(Band + Trumpet)

JAZZ STUDIES

Allen Cordingley, Director of Jazz

Studies

Joseph Carter, Piano and Percussion

Thomas Burchill, Jazz Guitar

Kyp Green, Jazz Bass

MUSIC EDUCATION

Dr. Laura Singletary, Division Chair
of Music Education

Dr. Nicholas Barnaby, String Music Ed

Dr. Marla Ringel, Vocal Music Ed

Brian Youngblood

Topy Nguyen, Graduate Assistant

PERCUSSION

Dr. Brian West, Division Chair

Joseph Carter

Dr. Richard Gipson

Jeffrey S. Hodge

Joseph Donohue, Graduate Assistant

Logan Scott, Graduate Assistant

WOODWINDS

Elise Belk, Oboe

Allen Cordingley, Saxophone

Charles Hall, Bassoon

Dr. Corey Mackey, Clarinet

Dr. Shauna Thompson, Flute

& Division Chair

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UNIVERSITY BANDS