



ENSEMBLE CONCERT SERIES

ELEGY FOR IVAN

TCU SYMPHONIC BAND
& WIND SYMPHONY

OCTOBER 6, 2025
7:00 PM

Van Cliburn
Concert Hall at TCU

Tickets: \$15 General Admission/
Free with TCU ID



UNIVERSITY BANDS

Presents

TCU Symphonic Band and TCU Wind Symphony

“Elegy for Ivan”

October 6, 2025

7:00pm

Van Cliburn Concert Hall at TCU

TCU Symphonic Band

Brian Youngblood, Conductor

Nick VandenBush, Graduate Guest Conductor

Ecstatic Fanfare

Steven Bryant (b. 1972)

October

Eric Whitacre (b. 1970)

The Speed of Heat

Julie Giroux (b. 1961)

Nick VandenBush, Graduate Guest Conductor

Danzón No. 2

Arturo Márquez (b. 1950)

Trans. Oliver Nickel (b. 1973)

The use of recording equipment or taking photographs is prohibited. Please silence all electronic devices including watches, pagers and phones.

TCU Wind Symphony

Bobby R. Francis, Conductor

Dr. Drew Dickey, Guest Conductor

Brendan Korak, Graduate Guest Conductor

The Battle of Shiloh March

C.L. Barnhouse (1865-1929)

Arr. John P. Paynter (1928-1996)

English Folk Song Suite

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

I. March-“Seventeen Come Sunday”

II. Intermezzo-“My Bonny Boy”

III. March-“Folk Songs from Somerset”

Dr. Drew Dickey, Guest Conductor

Deciduous

Viet Cuong (b. 1990)

Brendan Korak, Graduate Guest Conductor

It is Well With My Soul

Horatio Spafford (1828-1888), Phillip Bliss (1839-1876)

Arr. Curt Wilson (b. 1941)

Symphony No. 2

Kevin Day (b. 1996)

I. Metro Blues

II. Elegy for Ivan

III. Of Dreams to Come

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Texas Christian University Symphonic Band

Piccolo A

Loida Soriano Fort Worth, TX

Flute A

Milkah Ogega* Arlington, TX
Carissa Dixon Pasadena, TX
Heather Parish Weatherford, TX
Loida Soriano Fort Worth, TX
Lynn Steben Fort Worth, TX
Averi Davis Saginaw, TX
Maddie Purvis Granbury, TX

Piccolo B

Olivia Thomas Frisco, TX

Flute B

Olivia Thomas* Frisco, TX
Ryder Day Lubbock, TX
David Reyna Lewisville, TX
Maddie Purvis Granbury, TX
Avery Caveness Aledo, TX

Oboe

Lincoln Orwosky* Scroggins, TX
Matthew Kotzen Dallas, TX
Tatum Harvey Fort Worth, TX

Bassoon

Landon Peugh* Arlington, TX
Javier Flores Fort Worth, TX

Bb Clarinet

Audrey Hanson* Bullard, TX
Aiden Morris Sachse, TX
Carly Williams Keller, TX
Scott Mason Aledo, TX
Addison Banks Conroe, TX
Kenia Zetino Little Elm, TX

Bass Clarinet

Ana Garcia Arlington, TX

**Denotes Principal*

Soprano Saxophone A

Taylor Hardegree Keller, TX

Alto Saxophone A

Taylor Hardegree* Keller, TX
Pedro Reyes Fort Worth, TX

Tenor Saxophone A

Maya Kamal Frisco, TX

Baritone Saxophone A

Andrew Michael Schaeffer Corinth, TX

Soprano Saxophone B

Pedro Reyes Fort Worth, TX

Alto Saxophone B

Pedro Reyes Fort Worth, TX
Sandro Baccherini Keller, TX
Jorge Munoz Haltom City, TX

Tenor Saxophone B

Maya Kamal Frisco, TX
Max Bovee Arlington, TX

Baritone Saxophone B

Holt Lee Azle, TX

Trumpet

Jay Davis* Wylie, TX
Robert Lathrop Bedford, TX
RJ Andrade Pasadena, TX
Christopher Elmore Prosper, TX
Nicholas Stewart Arlington, TX

F Horn A

Ashley Boyington* Madison, MS
Travis Beard Arlington, TX
Ethan Hildebrand Euless, TX
Garrett Nelson Southlake, TX
Chris Lopez Bedford, TX
Aiden Henderson Hurst, TX
Kate Mitchell Springtown, TX
Christina Diggs Glendale, AZ

Texas Christian University Symphonic Band

F Horn B

Sebastian Sohn*	North Richland Hills, TX
Elizabeth Maupin	Huntsville, TX
Nick Spires	Burleson, TX
Liz Bushley	Eules, TX
Marco Wilcox	Frisco, TX
Garrett Nelson	Eules, TX
Chris Lopez	Bedford, TX
Christina Diggs	Glendale, AZ

Trombone

Theda Leeka*	San Antonio, TX
Paul Duhon	Hurst, TX
Aaron Roden	Lindale, TX
Jorge Contreras	Mineral Wells, TX
Gabriel Hargis	Fort Worth, TX

Bass Trombone

Zach Long*	San Antonio, TX
Bennett Sibille	San Antonio, TX

Euphonium

Knox Stroman*	Bedford, TX
Juan Najera	Springtown, TX
Bryan Lopez	Fort Worth, TX

**Denotes Principal*

Tuba A

Benne Lindley*	Brock, TX
Matthew Waller	Fort Worth, TX
Zoie Pilate	Fort Worth, TX
Cameron Clark	Whitehouse, TX
James Winward	Las Vegas, NV

Tuba B

Ethan McReynolds*	North Richland Hills, TX
Monica Sanchez	Fort Worth, TX
Matthew Waller	Fort Worth, TX
Landon Mathis	North Richland Hills, TX
Elias Young	Dallas, TX

Piano

Maddie Purvis	Granbury, TX
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String Bass

Jordan Simmons	Cibolo, TX
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Percussion

Logan Grubbs*	Bowie, TX
Elijah Art	Fort Worth, TX
Robert Allen	Pantego, TX
Nicola Baccherini	Fort Worth, TX
Logan Matamoros	Frisco, TX
Israel Ledezma	Palestine, TX
Noah Bailey	Fort Worth, TX
Amy Herring	Aledo, TX
Connor Self	Fort Worth, TX

Texas Christian University Wind Symphony

Piccolo

Lucinda Gatesman Allen, TX

Flute

Autumn Bell* Melissa, TX
 Lucinda Gatesman* Allen, TX
 Layla Escatel Granbury, TX
 David Diaz Richmond, TX
 David Zachariah Roanoke, TX
 Junhwi Goo Corinth, TX

Oboe

Edgar Vazquez* Fort Worth, TX
 Ella Schupp* Grapevine, TX
 Bella Evans Richardson, TX
 Chloe Caudill Fort Worth, TX
 Katie Lilley Fort Worth, TX

English Horn

Chloe Caudill Fort Worth, TX
 Katie Lilley Fort Worth, TX

Bassoon

Ethan Ifert* Frisco, TX
 Ethan Peel North Richland Hills, TX
 Diego Llamas Crowley, TX

E♭ Clarinet

Alyssa Dickens McKinney, TX

B♭ Clarinet

Pablo Albert* Keller, TX
 Samuel Brown Schwenksville, PA
 Dawson Bauman-Herl Hurst, TX
 Diego Tapia Keller, TX
 Matthew Bailey Highland Village, TX
 Emily Overdirth Midlothian, TX
 Alyssa Dickens McKinney, TX
 Joshua Roberts Roanoke, TX
 Carlos Quintanilla Fort Worth, TX
 Liam Maybury Mansfield, TX

Bass Clarinet

Nolan Golden* Aledo, TX
 Ryan Rodarte Wylie, TX

Soprano Saxophone A

Ashley Tyson Platteville, WI

Alto Saxophone A

Ashley Tyson* Platteville, WI
 Nathan Pippin Dallas, TX

Tenor Saxophone A

Jett Schnackenberg Mansfield, TX

Baritone Saxophone A

Jerry Olazaran Aledo, TX

Soprano Saxophone B

Luke McCartney Keller, TX

Alto Saxophone B

Luke McCartney* Keller, TX
 Riley Feltch Trophy Club, TX

Tenor Saxophone B

Wyland Diehl Dripping Springs, TX

Baritone Saxophone B

Andrew Bui Keller, TX

Trumpet

Dhruv Patel* Roanoke, TX
 Andria Christian Plano, TX
 Emanuel Arellano Fort Worth, TX
 Blake Crosslin Mansfield, TX
 Jackson Schneider Aledo, TX
 Ethan Vinson Mansfield, TX
 Alex Cadenhead Mansfield, TX

**Denotes Principal*

Texas Christian University Wind Symphony

F Horn

Maya Huffman*	Union Grove, TX
Logan Bingham	Fort Worth, TX
Cole Reed	Flower Mound, TX
Nicholas Hernandez	Keller, TX
Roger Gonzalez	Palestine, TX
Claire Nelson	Frisco, TX
Marina Reyna	Flower Mound, TX
Sonya Tobias	Robstown, TX

Trombone

Nick Shea*	Mansfield, TX
Seth York	Cypress, TX
Anthony Tinsley	Keller, TX
Nicholas Richa	McKinney, TX
Dylan Sims	Dallas, TX
Nick Meyer	Bedford, TX
Hannah Luna	Fort Worth, TX

Bass Trombone

Zarrhias Sanders*	Mansfield, TX
Trey Mulkey	Mansfield, TX

Euphonium

Maritza Gonzalez*	Rio Grande City, TX
Tyler Pham	Richardson, TX
Marshall Turner	Bedford, TX

Tuba

Rufino Medado*	Aransas Pass, TX
Brian Clark	Fort Worth, TX
Luke Hardegree	Keller, TX
Tate Newman	Midlothian, TX

Piano

Syuzanna Kaszo	Fort Worth, TX
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String Bass

David Gutierrez	Rowlett, TX
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Percussion

Jackson Perez*	Timnath, CO
Adam Mackey	Cypress, TX
Ashlyn Bailey	Aledo, TX
Hezan Daroona	Frisco, TX
Josiah Fuentes	Mansfield, TX
Alex Price	Fort Worth, TX
Jonathan Cotten	Cedar Park, TX
Davis Carr	Stafford, TX
Evan Wasson	Fort Worth, TX
Savanna Westwick	Prosper, TX

**Denotes Principal*

Program Notes

Ecstatic Fanfare (2012)-Steven Bryant

Ecstatic Fanfare is based on music from movement I of my *Ecstatic Waters*. One day in May 2012, I mentioned to my wife that it might be fun to take the soaring, heroic tutti music from the earlier work and turn it into a short fanfare someday. She goaded me into doing it “immediately,” and so in a panicked three-day composing frenzy, I created this new work, which was premiered by Johann Mösenbichler with the Polizeiorchester Bayern just three short weeks later, followed immediately by my wife, Verena, conducting it with the World Youth Wind Orchestra Project in July 2012. This has to be a record time for conception-to-premiere for a large ensemble work.

The work unfolds with a flurry that can best be described as aggressive jubilation that winds down into a quiet, pure, pastoral melody marked by descending fourths in the clarinets. The use of open harmonies and descending fourths provide a sense of innocence and simplicity to this music, giving the listener something familiar to connect with, reminiscent of the music of Aaron Copland. This quiet music is eventually transformed into a powerful statement by the horns, marked “aggressive and celebratory.” This moment of celebration explodes into elation and the work rallies toward an energetic, powerful conclusion.

-program note by the composer

October (2000)-Eric Whitacre

October is my favorite month. Something about the crisp autumn air and the subtle change in light always make me a little sentimental, and as I started to sketch I felt that same quiet beauty in the writing. The simple, pastoral melodies and subsequent harmonies are inspired by the great English romantics (Vaughan Williams and Elgar) as I felt that this style was also perfectly suited to capture the natural and pastoral soul of the season. I'm quite happy with the end result, especially because I feel there just isn't enough lush, beautiful music written for winds.

October was commissioned by the Nebraska Wind Consortium, Brian Anderson, Consortium Chairman. *October* was premiered on May 14th, 2000, and is dedicated to Brian Anderson, the man who brought it all together.

- Program Note by composer

Program Notes

The Speed of Heat (2010)-Julie Giroux

The Speed of Heat premiered in 2010 and was commissioned by Col. Larry H. Lang during his tenure as commander of the United States Air Force Academy Band in Colorado. Ms. Giroux writes, *The Speed of Heat* is a musical depiction of the adventures of a fighter pilot, specifically an F-22 Raptor pilot. Rambunctious and daredevilish in nature, this work takes the listener through a series of events which are all based on fighter pilot "slang". Even the title is pilot slang for Warp One, or very, very fast. The opening is "The F-22 Raptor" itself and from there we go on an adventure in musical sections as follows:

- Meas. 39 - "Fangs Out" - When a pilot is hot for a dogfight.
- Meas. 52 - "Let's Dance" - Targets are sighted and we are in active pursuit.
- Meas. 115 - "Padlocked" & "Beaded Up" - "Padlocked" - To have a Bogey firmly in your sights. "Beaded Up" - Worried or excited
- Meas. 148 - "Heater Shpanked" & "Flashbacks" - "Heater" is a heat-seeking missile. "Shpanked" is soundly getting defeated in a dogfight. "Flashbacks" is the musical description of the pilot seeing his life flash in front of him in slow motion.
- Meas. 168 - "NFOD" & "Punch Out" - "NFOD" - No Fear Of Death. "Punch Out" - eject.
- Meas. 211 - Back in a "Zoombag" - After a near death experience, the pilot gets back into his "flight suit."
- Meas. 229 - "The Speed of Heat" - Let's just see how fast we can go.
- Meas. 294 - "Breaking the Sound Barrier" - in this section the brass represent the sound barrier and the woodwinds depict the Raptor.
- Meas. 304 to the end - "GAP" - Gauges all pinged (at max).

- Program notes by Technical Sgts. David Balandrin and Ricky Parrell.

Danzón No. 2 (1988/2009)-Arturo Márquez, trans. Oliver Nickel

The idea of writing *Danzón No. 2* originated in 1993 during a trip to Malinalco with the painter André Fonseca and the dancer Irene Martinez, both of whom are experts in salon dances with a special passion for the *danzón*, which they were able to transmit to me from the beginning, and also during later trips to Veracruz and visits to the Colonia Salon in Mexico City. From these experiences onward, I started to learn the *danzón's* rhythms, its form, its melodic outline, and to listen to the old recordings by Acerina and his Danzonera Orchestra. I was fascinated and I started to understand that the apparent lightness of the *danzón* is only like a visiting card for a type of music full of sensuality and qualitative seriousness, a genre which old Mexican people continue to dance with a touch of nostalgia and a jubilant escape towards their own emotional world; we can fortunately still see this in the embrace between music and dance that occurs in the state of Veracruz and in the dance parlors of Mexico City.

The *Danzón No. 2* is a tribute to the environment that nourishes the genre. It endeavors to get as close as possible to the dance, to its nostalgic melodies, to its wild rhythms, and although it violates its intimacy, its form and its harmonic language, it is a very personal way of paying my respects and expressing my emotions towards truly popular music. *Danzón No. 2* was written on a commission by the Department of Musical Activities at Mexico's National Autonomous University and is dedicated to my daughter Lily.

- Program Note by composer

Program Notes

The Battle of Shiloh (1928/1984)-C. L. Barnhouse, Ed. John P. Paynter

It was the mid-1800's when C. L. "Charley" Barnhouse (1865-1929), an 18 year old self-taught cornet player, left his West Virginia home and joined the band on one of the many small musical comedy roadshows of the day. His travels ended in Iowa where he worked as a machinist and directed bands in a number of Southern Iowa towns. In addition, he composed music for band with aspirations of publishing his own music; in 1886, the C. L. Barnhouse Co. was founded. He began his catalog by writing most of the music himself. From his prolific pen flowed wonderful marches, waltzes, rags, and concert numbers which were very popular with the "city" bands at the turn of the 19th century. He was also an excellent cornet soloist who wrote and arranged many sacred solos and duets which are still performed today in churches all over the United States and Canada. Now, Mr. Barnhouse is remembered for the publishing business he founded but we are fortunate that through the republication of several of his best-known marches, the genius of this pioneer in the band business is being rediscovered. In the early years, Barnhouse called his publishing business Harmony Heaven, and later wrote a march by the same name.

The Battle of Shiloh march was written and published originally in 1888 and was certainly one of the most unique marches ever written by Barnhouse. Having been born during the last year of the American Civil War, the composer personally knew many of the veterans and surviving family members of that disastrous conflict. Shiloh was the second great battle of the war and the most bitterly fought engagement of the whole struggle. The name came from Shiloh Church, a meetinghouse southwest of the community of Pittsburgh Landing, Tennessee. The battle began on Sunday morning, April 6, 1862, when Confederate soldiers, commanded by Generals A.S. Johnston and P.G.T. Beauregard, made a surprise attack, routing the Union troops under then-unknown General U.S. Grant. The Confederate soldiers were winning the battle until General Johnston was killed and General D.C. Buel arrived that night with 25,000 Union reinforcements from Ohio. The Southerners, having lost 10,000 of their 40,000 soldiers on the second day, were forced to withdraw to Corinth, Mississippi. Nearly 13,000 of the 70,000 Union troops were killed during the two-day battle.

The original edition of the march includes battlefield bugle calls, sounds of rifles firing and cannon shots. Despite its difficulty, it was a very big seller in its day. It was later revised by Mr. Barnhouse in 1928, and this new arrangement by John Paynter, with its modern instrumentation, follows the 1928 edition very closely.

English Folk Song Suite (1928/1984)-C. L. Barnhouse, Ed. John P. Paynter

There is little dispute among concert band musicians that the three most significant British works for military band from the early twentieth century, based on the frequent performances that they enjoy to this day, are the two Gustav Holst suites (1921 and 1922) and the English Folk Song Suite by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1924).

The Holst Second Suite for Military Band and this Vaughan Williams suite both share the common bond of drawing heavily from English folk song material in their construction. The latter work, presented here, includes nine popular turns in its three movements, a majority of them collected in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century by educator, musician, and folk song enthusiast, Cecil Sharp. They include the following (in order of appearance):

I. "Seventeen Come Sunday", "Pretty Caroline", "Dives and Lazarus"

II. "My Bonny Boy", "Green Bushes"

III. "Blow Away the Morning Dew", "High Germany", "The Tres They Do Grow High", "John Barleycorn"

Program Notes

Deciduous (2023)-Viet Cuong

For a long time after my father passed away, I felt like I had “lost my leaves.” In the way that leaves harness light to create energy for trees and plants, I felt like I had so little left to harness creatively. Many days I feared those leaves would never grow back. After struggling for months to write, I finally found some healing while creating *Deciduous*. This involved revisiting chord progressions that brought me solace as a child and activating them in textures that I have enjoyed exploring as an adult. The piece cycles through these chord progressions, building to a moment where it’s stripped of everything and must find a way to renew itself. While I continue to struggle with this loss, I have come to understand that healing is not as much of a linear process as it is a cyclical journey, where, without fail, every leafless winter is following by a spring.

Thank you to the Florida Bandmasters Association for commissioning *Deciduous* in 2023.

- program Note by composer

It is Well with My Soul (2025)- Horatio Spafford (1828-1888) and Phillip Bliss (1839-1876), Arr. Curt Wilson

This work is written to honor the long term commitment and musical excellence of Professors Bobby Francis and Brian Youngblood as they complete 25 plus years of outstanding leadership of the TCU Band Program. As Director of Bands, Francis oversees every aspect of the band program and Youngblood served as Director of the Horned Frog Marching Band from 1999 until 2024. From basketball pep bands and graduation/commencement bands to leading the great Fort Worth Fat Stock Show and Rodeo Parades, a love for TCU and abiding faith have always guided their efforts.

It is Well With My Soul is an influential and enduring hymn with text by Horatio Spafford and music composed by Philip Bliss in 1873, the year that TCU was founded. It was created after Spafford experienced a series of personal tragedies which caused him to reaffirm his deep and abiding faith in the face of great sorrow.

***When peace like a river, attends my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, You have taught me to say
It is well, it is well, with my soul.***

***It is well,
It is well,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.***

This musical setting begins with a repetitive minor mode pattern that reappears later in the piece, both times displaced by a triumphant major mode tonality. The complete hymn appears three times, utilizing a variety of key changes and orchestrations. Some of the original hymn harmonies have been altered but the beauty and simplicity hopefully remain intact.

-program note by the arranger

Symphony No. 2 (2025)-Kevin Day

Commissioned by Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity and Tau Beta Sigma Honorary Band Sorority for the 2025 National Intercollegiate Band, my second symphony is a three-movement work about events that have transpired in my life the last several years that have shaped my perspective on life and my path as a composer.

Program Notes

The first movement, *Metro Blues*, depicts the persistent travel that I have done over the last several years, going rapidly to different airports and dealing with the chaotic atmosphere in these environments. Though this music has jazz/blues influence throughout the movement, this is juxtaposed with “the blues” or woes of putting stress on myself mentally and physically to withstand everything that is happening around me.

The second movement, *Elegy for Ivan*, is a tribute to my dear friend and fellow KPSI brother Ivan “Roger” Terriquez (Gamma-Sigma Chapter), who passed away unexpectedly at the age of 25 in July 2023. This made me stop everything that I was doing and, upon returning from his funeral, made me rethink how I had been living my life and how precious time really is. I hope this movement provides comfort to those who have lost someone dear to them and cherish their memory.

The third and final movement, *Of Dreams to Come*, reflects my decision in 2024 to pursue and embrace my life fully as a composer, living into what I love to do and spending more time with the people that I care about. It is a movement about joy, hope, and happiness that I hope encourages people to fully live their truth without fear; to imagine and dream of the best future for themselves.

- program Note by composer

About the Conductors

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

About the Conductors

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 (W ASBE) 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.

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.

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

Brian Youngblood is the Associate Director of Bands and Associate 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 as well as a national 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 the Co-Champion National first place American Prize award for their Ensemble performance at Bass Hall the same year.

About the Conductors

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. His percussion training began with Jim McGahey and Warren Dewey and continued with Allen Teal at Abilene Christian University. His percussion professors at East Texas State University were Robert Houston and Jimmy Finney.

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.

Dr. Drew Dickey currently serves as the Director of Athletic Bands and Assistant Director of Bands at Texas Christian University School of Music. He oversees The Pride of TCU Horned Frog Marching Band and the Horned Frog Pep Band, conducts the TCU Concert Band, and teaches academic classes within the TCU School of Music. Dr. Dickey previously taught at the University of Texas at Austin, where he served as Associate Director of the Longhorn Band and as Assistant Director of Bands at the Butler School of Music. In addition to his position at TCU, Dr. Dickey serves as the Brass Arranger and Music Coordinator with the Pacific Crest Drum and Bugle Corps in Diamond Bar, California and as the brass educational lead with The Bluecoats Drum and Bugle Corps in Canton, Ohio.

Prior to his current appointments, Dr. Dickey held positions at The South Carolina School of the Arts at Anderson University and Southwood Academy of the Arts, spending a number of years as an educator and administrator in the public schools. He holds the degrees of Doctor of Musical Arts in Wind Conducting from the University of Texas, Master of Music in Music Education from the Ithaca College School of Music, Master of Music in Wind Conducting from Louisiana State University, and Bachelor of Music in Music Education from the University of South Carolina.

Nick VandenBush is in his second year pursuing a master's degree in Wind Conducting and serving as a Graduate Assistant for TCU Bands. Mr. VandenBush received his bachelor's degree in music education in 2015 from Texas Christian University, Magna Cum Laude. While at TCU, he studied clarinet with Mr. Gary Whitman and performed with the TCU Wind Symphony for four years. Mr. VandenBush was a member of the Horned Frog Marching Band and had the privilege of serving as Drum Major for two years.

Prior to his returning to TCU, Mr. VandenBush taught in Lewisville ISD, serving as Associate Director of Bands at Marcus High School from 2018-2024, Assistant Director of Bands at Hedrick Middle School from 2015-2018, and student teaching at Hebron High School and Creek Valley Middle School in 2015.

About the Conductors

Mr. VandenBush is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, and is an active performer and clinician. He is currently a student of Mr. Bobby Francis in conducting and Dr. Corey Mackey in clarinet.

Mr. VandenBush resides in Fort Worth, Texas, with his wife, Sarah, and son, Frederick (Freddie). Their family is made complete by their Goldendoodle, Phoebe.

Brendan Korak is in his first year pursuing a Master of Music degree in Wind Conducting at Texas Christian University, where he serves as a Graduate Assistant with the TCU Bands. A native of Edwardsville, Illinois, Mr. Korak earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Illinois State University in 2021. While at ISU, he studied trumpet with Dr. Amy Gilreath and Dr. Anne McNamara, performing in the Wind Symphony, Symphony Orchestra, and the Big Red Marching Machine.

Prior to graduate study, Mr. Korak taught and lived in O'Fallon, Illinois, serving as Music Director at Shiloh Village School District #85 from 2022–2025, where he directed Band and Choir and taught K–7 General Music. He also served on the instructional staff at O'Fallon Township High School, where he completed his student teaching in Fall 2021. During his time with the Marching Panthers, the ensemble performed in the 2022 Rose Bowl Parade, 2023 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and earned national recognition through Bands of America.

As a performer, Mr. Korak was a member of the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps from 2016–2021. He later taught with Music City Drum and Bugle Corps as a visual staff member from 2023–2024. In addition, he maintains a private trumpet studio, working with students from beginner through high school.

Beyond music, Mr. Korak resides in Fort Worth, Texas, with his girlfriend, Kaitlin, and their two cats, Milo and Kiwi.

Upcoming TCU Band Events

October 15, 2025: TCU Jazz Ensembles

7:00pm, Van Cliburn Concert Hall at the Boschini Music Center

October 26, 2025: TCU Percussion Ensembles

7:00pm, Van Cliburn Concert Hall at the Boschini Music Center

November 3, 2025: TCU Jazz Ensembles

7:00pm, Van Cliburn Concert Hall at the Boschini Music Center

November 9, 2025: TCU Percussion Ensembles, PASIC Send Off Concert

7:00pm, Van Cliburn Concert Hall at the Boschini Music Center

November 20, 2025: TCU Wind Symphony

7:00pm, Van Cliburn Concert Hall at the Boschini Music Center

December 3, 2025: TCU Symphonic Band

7:00pm, Van Cliburn Concert Hall at the Boschini Music Center

Please visit the [TCU School of Music Events page](#) for more information.