



KIRKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

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*Wind Ensemble*

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KIRKWOOD, MISSOURI

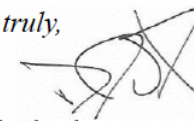
Missouri Music Educators Association  
85th Annual In-Service Workshop/Conference  
January 26, 2023, 10:15am

*Dear Members of the Missouri Music Educators Association:*

*The Kirkwood School District is truly honored by the selection of the Kirkwood High School Wind Ensemble under the direction of Mrs. Rebecca Friesen, to perform at the Missouri Music Educators Association 85th Annual Conference. We are proud of our students and Mrs. Friesen, who provides exemplary instruction and dedication to excellence, which has proven to be the cornerstone of the Wind Ensemble success.*

*Thank you for your work in supporting music educators for over 85 years. The Kirkwood School District community has always shown an appreciation for music education, and this support is enhanced by teachers like Mrs. Friesen who invests in our students to grow as musicians. We are grateful that our 50 Wind Ensemble musicians have earned the opportunity to perform for music educators from across the state.*

*Yours truly,*



*David Ulrich  
Kirkwood School District Superintendent*

*Dear Members of the Missouri Music Educators Association:*

*Kirkwood High School is pleased and honored by your selection of the Kirkwood High School Wind Ensemble to perform at this year's Missouri Music Educators Association Conference under the direction of Rebecca Friesen. Kirkwood High School has built a reputation as a school with an exceptional fine arts program including an award-winning music education department. We are justifiably proud of our music students and teachers, who consistently earn music honors at local, state and national levels. Their willingness to reach for excellence in every performance is a model for the entire KHS student body.*

*To have our students' musical talents acknowledged by the Missouri Music Educators Association is an honor not only for Kirkwood High School, but one we share with the greater school district community. Thank you for providing an opportunity for these exceptional student musicians and their director to share their music with MMEA members. Enjoy!*

*Sincerely,*



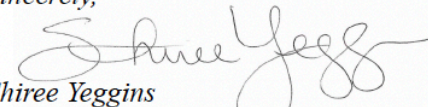
*Michael Havener  
Principal, Kirkwood High School*

*Dear Members of the Missouri Music Educators Association:*

*On behalf of the students and staff of Kirkwood High School, I'd like to offer congratulations to Mrs. Rebecca Friesen and the Kirkwood High School Wind Ensemble on their selection to perform at the Missouri Music Educators 85th Annual Conference. As a new member to the Kirkwood School District and community I am thoroughly impressed with the students and their drive for continued excellence.*

*This again is a wonderful and well deserved honor and recognition for this group.*

*Sincerely,*



*Shiree Yeggins  
Assistant Principal Kirkwood High School*

## *About the Kirkwood School District*

In partnership with its dynamic communities, the Kirkwood School District has built a solid reputation as a district where children and their needs come first. Kirkwood schools and communities share a proud heritage and respect for tradition as well as a progressive attitude toward education for all children. District staff, parents and community members work together to provide innovative educational programs, which focus on what today's youth must know and learn to become tomorrow's leaders.

Chartered in 1865, the district is among the oldest in St. Louis County and one of the oldest west of the Mississippi River. Located in southwest St. Louis County approximately 15 miles from the city of St. Louis, Kirkwood School District covers an area of 15 square miles and serves all, or portions of, eight suburban communities including Des Peres, Frontenac, Glendale, Huntleigh, Kirkwood, Oakland, Town and Country, and Warson Woods.

With sidewalks and tree-lined streets, many Kirkwood School District neighborhoods are within walking or biking distance of the district's five elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school. There is also a Kirkwood Early Childhood Center, which is a licensed and fully accredited early education center serving families with children up to age 10. The programs offered include preschool, early childhood special education and Parents As Teachers. Each day, the district works to achieve its mission to equip students with the skills, knowledge and understanding to be empathetic, successful, and to value all people.



## *Kirkwood High School*

Kirkwood High School (KHS) has a long, rich history that dates back to the founding of the Kirkwood School District in 1865. High school and elementary students attended school together in a temporary building, which opened in the fall of 1866, and later in the Jefferson Avenue school, the District's first formal school built in 1869. African-American students attended the Booker T. Washington School, which opened in 1869 on Adams near Geyer Road. In 1888, the district built the Adams Avenue School next to the Jefferson School and offered a two-year high school program for students completing the elementary grades. In 1896, Kirkwood offered the first four-year high school program in St. Louis County; ten students were members of the first graduating class in the spring of 1897. In 1922, a new high school was built on Kirkwood Road, the site of Nipher Middle School today.

The present Kirkwood High School on Essex Ave. was built in 1955 on a 43-acre campus. Both white and African-American students were enrolled to attend high school together for the first time. The present day campus includes the Thomas N. Keating Performance Center, the Earl and Myrtle Walker Science Center, a physical education and sports center, which features two competitive gyms (Denver Miller Gym and the David Holley Assembly Hall), the David Damerall Fitness Center, a dance studio, health classrooms, and a wrestling room. Recent updates have also been made to the Journalism, Band and Innovation classroom spaces including updated technology and additional square footage.

With support from citizens and private donors through the Kirkwood School District Foundation, a new track and synthetic turf were installed in E.L. Lyons Memorial Stadium in 2010. In spring 2012, the new track was dedicated as the Alvin Miller Track in honor of the 1983 KHS graduate, who is regarded as the best athlete in school history. In the fall of 2014, renovations to the stadium bleachers were completed, adding accessibility for physically challenged students and visitors, as well as new restrooms, concession and broadcast center.

The Walker Natatorium, which was funded by a grant from the Earl E. and Myrtle E. Walker Foundation, opened in the fall of 2015 on the KHS campus. For the first time in school history, KHS students have the opportunity to learn swimming and lifeguarding as part of the physical education curriculum, and our aquatic teams have a home where they can practice and compete. The Kirkwood School District Foundation launched a campaign to raise \$3 million to establish a Legacy Fund and use the interest earned from the fund for general operational costs for the pool such as utilities, water testing and balancing and equipment inspections. To date, more than \$1 million has been raised which may be used for future equipment repairs and replacement.

In 2016, the KHS Band Room was renamed The Roberts Rehearsal Hall in honor of Judy (Long) Roberts, KHS class of '53 and her dedication to supporting students in instrumental music. Judy and Tom Roberts, KHS class of '53 met in band at Kirkwood High School.

Work is currently underway at KHS thanks to the support of the community for Prop R. Construction will result in 15 new classrooms, enclosed connection corridors to increase safety and security, and a new main office.

In 2022, Kirkwood High School was one of eight Missouri schools to earn a National Blue Ribbon Award. The recognition is based on a school's overall academic performance and progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

KHS is proud to be an exciting learning community of committed students and staff.

## The Kirkwood High School Band Program

The Kirkwood Band Program provides the opportunity for students to develop the technical performance skills, knowledge and understanding of music necessary to make music part of their lives. Annually, over 500 Kirkwood students participate in band in the Elementary Instrumental Band Program, North Kirkwood Middle School Band, Nipher Middle School Band and Kirkwood High School Band. Students begin band in 5th grade in homogeneous classes that meet at Nipher Middle School before school twice a week.

The band program in the Kirkwood School District provides a comprehensive musical experience for its students with special emphasis placed in the areas of Concert and Solo & Ensemble performance. Performance opportunities at North Kirkwood and Nipher Middle Schools include 6th, 7th and 8th grade bands. North Middle School band classes meet four days a week. Three days are 50 minute class and one day is a 90 minute class. Nipher Middle School band classes meet every day for 50 minutes. Both middle schools have active jazz and percussion ensemble programs meeting after school once per week.

The Kirkwood Band Program also supports Play it Forward. This program is a mentoring opportunity for our high school and middle school students. It meets weekly at each middle school. High school musicians volunteer their time to give private and small group lessons to middle school band students.

Performing ensembles at Kirkwood High School include the Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Woodwind Chamber Ensemble, Brass Choir, Jazz Combo, Jazz Band and Pit Orchestra. First semester, all of these groups combine to form the Pioneer Pride Marching Band. High School Classes meet four days a week, three days are 50 minute classes and one day is a 90 minute class. Special emphasis is placed on auditioning for the St. Louis Suburban Music Educators Association District Honor Band in the fall and participating in the Solo and Small Ensemble Festival in the spring. Because we encourage active musical experiences of both an individual and a shared nature, all 7th through 12th grade students are required to prepare and perform a solo or choose a small ensemble with appropriate instrumentation for performance. Students are strongly encouraged to perform their solo or small ensemble at St. Louis Suburban district solo and ensemble festival.

We believe that musical experiences enrich the lives of students and the life of the community. The program is structured in such a way that students can be involved in every area of the school culture without having to choose one activity over another. The goal of the music program is to foster, encourage, and support students to be scholars, athletes and musicians throughout their lives. This is the Portrait of a Pioneer.

The band teaching staff is made up of five full time band directors and two part-time band teachers. Each instructor teaches two sections of homogenous beginning 5th grade band classes that meet twice per week. The four full-time instructors also teach in a lead or assistant role at grade 6-12 band levels, offering unparalleled continuity of instruction. By the time they graduate from Kirkwood High School, students have been guided through the goals put forth in the band curriculum for eight consecutive years by the instructors who taught them their first notes. This approach allows for a unique and comprehensive band experience.

The training students receive in the Kirkwood Band Program prepares them to: recognize through aesthetic awareness that music is a part of the human experience, acquire skills necessary for life-long music learning and application, prepare and present musically proficient performances, alone or in an ensemble, and enjoy and appreciate musical performances within their historical and cultural context.

## Concert Program

- “Chasing Sunlight” .....Cait Nishimura
- Themes from “Green Bushes” .....Percy Aldridge Grainger, arr. Larry D. Daehn
- “Grace Before Sleep” .....Susan LaBarr, arr. J. Eric Wilson
- “And Then The Ocean Glows” .....Satoshi Yagisawa
- “Galop” .....Albert Lavignac, arr. Gary Gackstatter



KHS Band program previous appearances at the Missouri Music Educators Association Conference:  
Wind Ensemble, 2010  
Woodwind Chamber Ensemble, 2118

# Program Notes

## “Chasing Sunlight” .....Cait Nishimura

Chasing Sunlight was inspired by the experience of driving west into the setting sun, as if trying to keep up with the earth’s rotation to catch the last few rays of light before dusk. The steady eighth note motif throughout the piece represents this sense of urgency, while the soaring, lyrical themes depict the warmth and radiance of the sun low in the sky.

Just as the sun will always set, humans must accept the impermanence of all things in life, and make the most of every opportunity before it has passed. Chasing Sunlight also represents the ongoing pursuit of these opportunities.

Chasing Sunlight was the winner of the 2017 Canadian Band Association Composition Competition, which supports the creation of new works for concert band by emerging Canadian composers.



Kyle Rieger, 1996-2022

*We Dedicate “Chasing Sunlight” to 2014 Kirkwood High School Graduate Kyle Rieger who died in a tragic car accident in the prime of his life. Kyle was a dedicated and gifted musician, composer, conductor and teacher. Kyle played tenor saxophone and contra bass clarinet in the KHS wind ensemble, pit orchestra, jazz band, marching band and clarinet choir. He was a drum major for the Pioneer Pride Marching Band and a cadet teacher with Mrs. Friesen his senior year of high school. After Kirkwood High School he studied at Truman State University where he co-founded and directed the Truman clarinet choir and went on to receive his Bachelor of Music in Composition in 2018, his Master of Arts in Instrumental Conducting in May 2020 and his Master of Arts in Music Education in December 2020. Kyle was selected to have an original work played at the Society of Composers, Inc. Division VI conference in Commerce, Texas in 2019. In 2020, he was a winner of the Percussive Arts Society’s composition contest and a runner-up in the Santa Quartet composition competition. His original works have been performed in North America, Europe and Australia and can be found at [riegermusic.com](http://riegermusic.com).*

*Kyle took his first teaching job in 2021 in Seaside, Oregon, at Seaside High School where he was the band director for the Seaside high school, middle school and jazz band. With his younger sister Kara at his side, Kyle drove from St. Louis to Oregon to begin his long-anticipated teaching career. One can only imagine that as he made the drive to Oregon chasing his dream of becoming a music educator he must have felt excitement and trepidation all at once. He was a light in the Seaside community and the best example of a caring teacher, brother, son, friend and student. Initiated by a gift from his childhood neighbors, the Kirkwood School District has established a scholarship in Kyle’s honor to support young musicians in the beginning band program. Donations may be made via the QR code here.*



## Themes from “Green Bushes” .....Percy Aldridge Grainger, arr. Larry D. Daehn

*Green Bushes* was first performed at the Philharmonic Concert at the Kurhaus an der Comphausbadstrasse, Auchen, Germany on May 10, 1912, with Grainger conducting. In his program notes, Grainger writes: "Among country-side folksongs in England, *Green Bushes* was one of the best known of folksongs -- and well it deserved to be, with its raciness, its fresh grace, its manly clear-cut lines.. . *Green Bushes* strikes me as being a typical dance-folksong -- a type of song come down to us from the time when sung melodies, rather than instrumental music, held countryside dancers together. It seems to breathe that lovely passion for the dance that swept like a fire over Europe in the middle ages -- seems brimful of all the youthful joy and tender romance that so naturally seek an outlet in dancing."

Daehn writes, "In making this setting, I have faithfully preserved the voicing and harmonies of the original; and have done my best to recreate Grainger’s scoring for wind choirs and his blending of sonorities, believing that he might welcome future generations’ interest and involvement with his music."

## “Grace Before Sleep” .....Susan LaBarr, arr. J. Eric Wilson

*Grace Before Sleep*, composed in 2011 by Susan LaBarr, was inspired by a poem of thanks written by Sara Teasdale. A quiet opening builds into a gorgeous, resounding climax before coming to a more reflective, thankful close. This wind setting, arranged in 2013 by J. Eric Wilson, draws upon the warm sonorities of the concert band to reflect LaBarr’s musical intent and Teasdale’s poetic sentiments.

### Grace Before Sleep Sara Teasdale

How can our minds and bodies be  
Grateful enough that we have spent  
Here in this generous room, we three,  
This evening of content?  
Each one of us has walked through storm  
And fled the wolves along the road;  
But here the hearth is wide and warm,  
And for this shelter and this light  
Accept, O Lord, our thanks tonight.

**Susan LaBarr** (b. 1981) is a graduate of Missouri State University where she received a bachelor of arts in music and a master of music in music theory. Her arrangements are performed by university, high school and church choirs across the United States and Europe. Many of LaBarr’s works are published through Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc. and she currently serves as Choral Editor and Permissions and Licensing Administrator for Choristers Guild, a non-profit music publication company in Dallas, Texas. LaBarr and her husband, Camron, and their son Elliott reside in Springfield, Missouri where Cameron is the Director of Choral Studies at Missouri State University and Susan works as Editor of Walton Music.

**J. Eric Wilson** (b. 1965) serves as Director of Bands at Baylor University, where he administrates the band program, conducts the Wind Ensemble and oversees the undergraduate and graduate conducting curriculum. Before joining the Baylor faculty, he served twelve years on the faculty of Abilene Christian University, and prior to that, taught in the Texas public school system. In demand as conducting clinician, adjudicator, and performing artist, Dr. Wilson has directed numerous regional and state honor bands and conducted his own groups at state and national conventions to critical acclaim.

# KIRKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL



Photo credit: Zetti Photography ZETTLphoto.com

# WIND ENSEMBLE

**Flute**  
 Katie Whittaker\*  
 Emery Bowman♦  
 Amelia Christopher♦  
 Sarah Duncan

**Clarinet**  
 Sharon Wirth+\*♦  
 Sim Khanuja  
 Claire Butzlaff  
 Haley Brown  
 Vas Djuranovic  
 Ali Nielsen ♦  
 Clara Banks\*  
 Jonah Bond  
 Noah Keplinger

**Bass Clarinet**  
 Beckett Whitworth\*+♦  
 Theo Puryear\*

**Contra Alto Clarinet**  
 Selma Dahms

**Contra Bass Clarinet**  
 Beckett Whitworth\*

**Bassoon**  
 Liz Myers^\*♦✓  
 Emily Royalty

**Alto Saxophone**  
 Isaac Bednarski+\*  
 Kylie Madden  
 Ethan Parker

**Tenor Saxophone**  
 Tim Schiller\*

**Baritone Saxophone**  
 Keegan Greenwood

**Trumpet**  
 Charlotte Spohr\*  
 Rudy Waterson\*  
 Bennett Griggs\*  
 Connor Eilerts  
 Margaret McPheeters  
 Jude Bedenbaugh

**French Horn**  
 Abigail Konopik❖\*  
 Timmy Markee  
 Ali McClure  
 Max Welge

**Trombone**  
 Evan Pazero  
 Althea Althausen♦  
 Jack Gibson  
 Robbie Winter

**Euphonium**  
 Hannah Pierce+ ❖\*  
 Jed Holliday+

**Tuba**  
 Jacob Buchek ❖#\*  
 Ethan Pokress

**String Bass**  
 Ayla Burba

**Percussion**  
 Lily Mitchell  
 Henry Blaine  
 Jack Cannon  
 Wyatt Byers  
 Zach Thomson  
 Trevor Morgan  
 Kai Sanford ❖  
 Lawrence Ringwald

\*2022-'23 All Suburban  
 #2023 All-State Band  
 ^2023 All-State Orchestra  
 +2023 All-State Honorable Mention  
 ✓2022-'23 St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra  
 ❖ 2022 All-State Band  
 ❖ 2022 All-State Jazz Band Alt.  
 ❖ 2022 All-State Band Alternate  
 ♦ Bi-State Festival Band  
 ♦ Young People's Symphonic Orchestra

**“And Then The Ocean Glows” .....Satoshi Yagisawa**

And Then the Ocean Glows was commissioned by Niihama School and its director, Mr. Shinichi Tagawa and completed in April of 2002. Mr. Tagawa and Mr. Yagisawa titled the piece together, drawing from sectional themes of “Shining Morning Ocean,” “Wind Stormy Ocean” and “Large Mother Ocean.” Before he began composing the piece, Yagisawa visited Niihama’s rehearsal and met the band’s inspired young students. Niihama School Band performed this work for the All Japan Band Contest in 2002 and advanced to the divisional level to receive a gold prize. The band also appeared in the TBS Children’s Music Contest and received first prize.

**Satoshi Yagisawa** was born in 1975 and graduated from the Department of Composition at Musashino Academia Musicae in Tokyo. After completing his master’s degree he continued research studies for two additional years. His compositions for wind orchestra are popular in Japan and many other countries. Yagisawa is one of the most energetic composers in Japan today. He is a member of “Kyo-En,” an organization that premieres outstanding original works by Japanese composers.



**“Galop” .....Albert Lavignac, arr. Gary Gackstatter**

Albert Lavignac (1846–1916) was a French composer, music scholar, and teacher whose students included Claude Debussy. *Galop-Marche* was originally composed for eight hands on one piano (!!!). This arrangement for concert band captures the rollicking fun and clever humor of the original, amplifying its dramatic dynamic changes with winds and percussion. *Galop-Marche* was commissioned by the Kirkwood High School Wind Ensemble, Rebecca Friesen, conductor for their 2023 Missouri Music Educators Association state convention performance.

**Gary Gackstatter** is an active music educator, composer, clinician, and artist currently conducting the St. Louis Community College - Meramec Orchestra and Symphonic Band a position he has held since 2007. Gackstatter’s compositions are performed internationally and have been featured at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago as well as many MMEA conventions. His works for band, orchestra and percussion are published through C Alan Publications. For more information: [garygackstatter.com](http://garygackstatter.com).



## Kirkwood School District Band Staff



**Rebecca C. Friesen**, Director of Bands, is in her 30th year of teaching and has been with the Kirkwood School District since 2005. Her role within the band program includes teaching beginning clarinet, collaboration within the middle school programs, direction of the Kirkwood High School Pioneer Pride Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Concert Band as well as the Kirkwood High School Woodwind Chamber Ensemble, which she founded in 2005. Woodwind Chamber Ensemble performed at MMEA in 2018. Mrs. Friesen began her career in the Washington School District followed by the Fort Zumwalt School District and was a member of adjunct faculty at St. Louis Community College - Meramec before joining the Kirkwood band staff. She earned a Bachelors of Music Education from Missouri State University in 1992 and a Master's degree in Music Education from Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville in 1998. Professional associations include Kappa Delta Pi, Phi Kappa Phi, Pi Kappa Lambda, Missouri Music Educators Association, Missouri Bandmasters, Women Band Directors International and Phi Beta Mu. She has guest conducted bands at Webster University and St Louis Community College - Meramec and is currently serving as Band Vice President for St. Louis Suburban Music Educators Association. Mrs. Friesen lives in Kirkwood with her husband Scott and daughter Audrey. Her son Andrew currently lives in Charleston, Missouri where he is the Director of Bands in the Charleston School District.

**Matthew Banks** graduated from Illinois State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. After graduating from Illinois State University, Mr. Banks performed with the Broadway musical show *Blast!* on Broadway in New York City and was also a part of the touring cast. During his time with the show, *Blast!* received a Tony Award for best special theatrical event and an Emmy Award for best choreography for a television musical. Mr. Banks is an associate band director in the Kirkwood School District. At Kirkwood he directs Symphonic Band, Beginning Low Brass and Brass Choir. Mr. Banks has completed his Master of Arts in Educational Leadership Administration at McKendree University and is working towards getting his Doctorate. He has had the opportunity to work with a few drum corps and is currently with The Cadets as the Low Brass Coordinator. Mr. Banks has judged marching band competitions throughout the Midwest and southwest region and continues to gig on his horn periodically. Mr. Banks resides in the St. Louis area with his amazing wife and his two beautiful daughters.

**Chris Bartz** is a band director in the Kirkwood School District. He is the lead band teacher at Nipher Middle School, teaches the beginning flute class, assists with Kirkwood High School band classes, and leads the KHS Jazz Band and Pit Orchestra. Dr. Bartz is an alumnus of Kirkwood High School and made his orchestra debut with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra as a high school student. Prior to teaching in Kirkwood, Chris was on the faculty at the University of Southern California and California State University, Fullerton, where he taught saxophone, jazz, and chamber music courses. He earned degrees from Bowling Green State University, the University of Michigan, and the University of Southern California. As a teacher in the Kirkwood School District, Dr. Bartz is devoted to motivating, developing and elevating others through music education.

**Eric Chrostoski** is an Associate Director of Bands at Kirkwood High School, Director of Bands of North Kirkwood Middle School, and beginning horn teacher. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Mr. Chrostoski is the staff arranger of the KHS Pioneer Pride Marching Band. Prior to joining the Kirkwood band staff, Eric served as the Director of Music at Central Community High School in Breese, Illinois, for seven years. Mr. Chrostoski completed his musical studies at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and earned a Bachelor of Music in Music Education, in 2011 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he earned a Master of Music in Wind Band Conducting, 2013. He has studied conducting with Carolyn Barber, Therees Hibbard, and Rubén Darío Gómez; composition and arranging with Kim Archer and Eric Richards; and low brass with Craig Fuller and James A. Martin. Mr. Chrostoski is also an active instructor in the marching arts, low brass performer, and liturgical musician. Eric and his wife Emily, also a music educator, live in Maplewood, MO with their three week old son, Jonah Matthew.

**Kaela Gardner** is in her fourth year teaching at the Kirkwood School District. She is an Assistant Band Director and High Brass Specialist for Nipher Middle School, North Kirkwood Middle School, and Kirkwood High School as well as the Jazz Band Director for North Kirkwood Middle School. Mrs. Gardner teaches beginning trumpet and has also taught beginning French horn. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Instrumental Music Education from Lindenwood University and remains an active performer, clinician, and marching band technician within St. Louis.

**Jeff Panhorst** is in his eighth year of teaching in the Kirkwood School District. He is an Assistant Band Director and Woodwinds Instructor at North Kirkwood Middle School and Kirkwood High School. Mr. Panhorst majored in Instrumental Music Education and Bassoon Performance at the University of Missouri. While at MU, he was fortunate to serve three years as a Marching Mizzou drum major. He is active as a private instructor for bassoon in the St. Louis area. He is proud to have helped multiple students successfully audition into the Missouri All-State Band and St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra. He is a member of the St. Louis Wind Symphony, Missouri Music Educators Association, Missouri Bandmasters Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and the International Double Reed Society. Mr. Panhorst is immensely grateful for all his past teachers, his colleagues, and his musical family.

**Alison Smith** is the Percussion Specialist and Associate Director of Bands for the Kirkwood School District. Prior to joining the Kirkwood Band Program, Ms. Smith served as the Director of Bands at Jefferson Intermediate School and the Assistant Director and Percussion Instructor at St. Charles High School. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Michigan State University and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Management and Leadership from Webster University in St. Louis. Ms. Smith is an active performer, judge and clinician in the greater St. Louis area and sits on the board of directors for the St. Louis Wind Symphony. She is a member of the National Association for Music Educators, Missouri Music Educators Association, and the Percussive Arts Society.





### Kirkwood School District Board of Education

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Dr. Howard Fields, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Dr. Jeremy Mapp, Executive Director, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
Dr. Bryan Painter, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction  
Mr. Michael Romay, Chief Financial Officer

### Kirkwood High School Administration

Dr. Michael Havener, Principal  
Dr. Courtney Ford, Assistant Principal, Grade 9  
Stephanie Owens, Assistant Principal, Grade 10  
Dr. Joshua Flores, Assistant Principal, Grade 11  
Dr. Mike Gavin, Assistant Principal, Grade 12  
Dr. Shiree Yeggins, Assistant Principal, Pioneer Pathways

### Kirkwood School District Music Staff

Mrs. Rebecca Friesen, KHS Bands	Mr. Erik Hansen, Westchester Music
Mr. Matthew Banks, KHS Bands	Mrs. MaryBeth Kesler, Robinson Music
Ms. Alison Smith, KHS Bands	Mr. Greg Mueller, North Glendale Music
Dr. Chris Bartz, KHS, Nipher Bands	Mrs. Carmen Rose, Tillman Music
Mr. Eric Chrostoski, KHS, NKMS Bands	Mrs. Tracy St. Clair, Keysor Music
Ms. Kayla Gardner, KHS, NKMS, Nipher Bands	Ms. Cynthia Brown, Beginning Orchestra
Mr. Jeff Panhorst, KHS, NKMS, Nipher Bands	Ms. Hannah Frey, Beginning Orchestra
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Ms. Sarah Klevorn, KHS, NKMS Orchestras	Mr. Joseph Kaminsky, Beginning Orchestra
Mr. Andrew Gibb-Clark, KHS Choirs	Mr. Louis Privitera, Beginning Orchestra
Mr. Jeff Kindle, Nipher Choirs	Mrs. Elizabeth Wright, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Leah Luciano, NKMS Choirs	



## Special Acknowledgements From Rebecca Friesen

**KHS Wind Ensemble of 2021-2022** for appearing on the accepted MMEA recorded application. Kate Bergman, Carter Bowman, Will Bransford, Noah Bronstein, Ethan Coble, Jack Edwards, Noah Gjelvik, Alanna Hamm, Jack Herwig, Claire Kiburz, Isabella Knopf, Jack Krausz, Hattie Lechner, Patrick McPheeters, Jake Meyer, Hana Noueir, Willy Purvines, Ryan Sanner, Merry Schlarman, Elena Sherwood, Emma Trask, Brandon Vaughn, Helena Verbrugge.

**KHS Wind Ensemble Students** for your hard work and dedication to the MMEA process. I am forever grateful for being on this musical journey with you. *"This Place, These People."*

**Kirkwood School District administrators** for supporting the Wind Ensemble's performance today. Dr. David Ulrich, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Michael Havener, Principal, Kirkwood High School; Dr. Shiree Yeggins, Assistant Principal and Performing Arts Administrator, Kirkwood High School.

**Band Parents** Meredith Byers and Ellen Duncan for chaperoning for our MMEA trip and providing breakfast.

**KB<sup>2</sup> (Kirkwood Band Boosters)** for all of their support with clinician fees, music purchases, alterations fees, programs, etc., etc., etc. Co-Presidents Ryan Morgan and Amy Noland and Treasurer Rachel Myers.

**Ensemble Clinicians** for conducting full ensemble rehearsals and sectionals, and for offering wisdom and guidance: Dr. Iskander Akhmadullin, Gary Brandes, Rebecca Braun, Gary Gackstatter, Tom Poshak, Dr. Brian Silvey and Dr. Courtney Snyder.

**Photographer** Stephanie Zettl for her photography, artistry and composition. ZETTLphoto.com

**The KHS Band staff** for early morning sectionals, daily collaboration, Sunday rehearsals and exceptional teaching day in and day out.

**KHS Theater Manager** Chris Bond for making his stage available for many rehearsals.

**Composer** Gary Gackstatter for immediately buying into the idea of arranging a four hand piano Galop for Wind Ensemble. Thank you for writing an outstanding piece of music for us.

**KHS Performing Arts Administrative Assistant** Elizabeth Wright for her professionalism and positive influence on our department and our students.

**My parents** for not letting me quit playing music in 5th grade and letting me choose my path to switch to band in 6th grade. Thank you for always supporting me and helping me to find my way into the field of music education. My mother in law Ellen Friesen for always being the best example of *"Taking care of the details to create the moment."* Miss you and love you all.

**My Family** Scott, Andrew and Audrey Friesen for your undying support, understanding of rehearsal time away from you, always being a supportive listening ear and for being my rocks. Thanks for being in the bubble with me and always being there for the laughter, the tears and the conjecture. I could not have done any of this over the last 30 years without you. I love you. *WTG.*

### Special Contributions

Donations and support for the printing of the MMEA Program by Nottelmann's Music and Kirkwood Band Boosters.



## *Kirkwood Band Booster Donors*

### **Director**

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The Reliford Family  
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Emily & Ted Waterson  
Martin & Becky Welge  
Laura & Will Winter

### **Eighth Note**

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Cynthia P. Brown  
Shannon DePalma  
Ellen Duncan  
Katie Edwards  
Beth & Steve Huebner  
Jaime & Matt Krob  
Michael & Jennifer Markee  
Lesli & Kyle Moylan

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