

Kansas State University
Concert Ensemble

Dr. Zack Deininger, Conductor

University Band

Chloe Crooks, Student Conductor
Brett Wyckoff, Student Conductor
Jessie Whelan, Student Conductor
Karson Griffin, Student Conductor
Allison Reid, Student Conductor

March 10, 2026
7:30 PM
McCain Auditorium



Concert Band

Dr. Zack Deininger, Conductor

- To Create A Voice* (2018)Carol Brittin Chambers (b. 1970)
- Jinx* (2017).....Ryan George (b. 1978)
- Toccata (Frescobaldi)* (1925/1942/1956).....Gaspar Cassadó (1897 – 1966)
trans. Earl Slocum (1902 – 1994)
- Alvamar Overture* (1981)James Barnes (b. 1949)

University Band

- Praeludium and Dance* (2008).....Robert Sheldon (b. 1954)
Chloe Crooks, Student Conductor
- Three Ayers from Gloucester* (1969).....Hugh M. Stuart (1917 – 2006)
Brett Wyckoff, Student Conductor
- Deep River* (1998).....James Swearingen (b. 1947)
Jessie Whelan, Student Conductor
- The Big Circus March* (1998)Robert Foster (b. 1939)
Karson Griffin, Student Conductor
- The Tempest* (1995).....Robert W. Smith (1958 – 2023)
Allison Reid, Student Conductor

To Create A Voice (2018)Carol Brittin Chambers (b. 1970)

To Create A Voice was commissioned by the Valley Concert Band in Stockton, CA. The piece premiered in October 2017, in memory and celebration of Chris Anderson, a local musician and educator. When writing this piece, I tried to convey certain moods and emotions throughout; soulful at the beginning with calm woodwind chords and solo trombone; increased energy throughout the various sections of the piece; exploration of different grooves and colors; an uplifting, emotional ending that leaves the listener with a sense of how positive and loving Chris was. The piece is largely inspired by a specific quote from Chris:

“Most people would consider the sounds students first make on their instruments to be cringe-worthy, but to me that’s music to my ears, because that’s the first time students put a voice to their instrument. Over time, those voices become stronger; they become clear, more confident, and get to a point where they use those voices to communicate with each other, and to their audiences.”

To relate to the “first notes on the instrument” idea, I used motifs based on the first notes most beginners ever play, Do Re Mi, which are introduced at the beginning of the piece with the trombone solo, Chris’ instrument. Later in the piece, I used these notes again, but in reverse, which becomes a reference to the first song most beginners learn, *Hot Cross Buns*. Toward the end, Do Re Mi is heard again, but this time in harmony with Mi Fa So. This represents the ultimate satisfaction we all feel as musicians when we have finally progressed enough to play in harmony with others.

Jinx (2017).....Ryan George (b. 1978)

Jinx is a short mischievous work for concert band inspired by the superstitious notion that if one’s good luck has run out then they must have been cursed, or jinxed. *Jinx* was commissioned by the Fillmore Wind Band for their performance at the 2017 Midwest Clinic in Chicago.

Toccata (Frescobaldi) (1925/1942/1956).....Gaspar Cassadó (1897 – 1966)
trans. Earl Slocum (1902 – 1994)

This work first appeared as [Girolamo Frescobaldi](#)’s *Toccata* in a collection of six pieces for cello and piano by Gaspar Cassadó. Hans Kinsler, the conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra at the time, recognized the potential of the *Toccata* and had it transcribed for orchestra. It was published by Mills Music in 1942 with the note “Freely transcribed for orchestra by Hans Kindler.” It was later transcribed for band by Earl Slocum for his University of North Carolina band in 1956. In a letter dated 3 April 1989, Slocum admitted “I have known for years that Frescobaldi was not the composer. I kept this to myself, only telling a few friends. I give Dr. William Newman, my colleague at UNC, credit for uncovering the real fact.” For many years, countless conductors, musicologists, and arrangers had doubted the authenticity of the Frescobaldi *Toccata*. In December 1968, the Duke University band opened a concert with *Toccata*; the program notes attributing the score to Cassadó.

Alvamar Overture (1981)James Barnes (b. 1949)

Alvamar Overture was commissioned for the Wichita Public Schools Honor Band in 1981. The piece is in overture style with energetic outer sections and a beautiful, harmony rich center section. Majestic fanfares are interspersed amongst lyric melodic lines as Barnes’ orchestration highlights each of the instruments within the wind band. The piece receives its name after Alvamar, a neighborhood in Lawrence, Kansas. James Barnes is professor emeritus of composition and university bands at The University of Kansas.

University Band Program Notes

Praeludium and Dance (2008).....Robert Sheldon (b. 1954)

A bold fanfare opens this dynamic work, quickly leading to a rhythmic dance motif that propels the ensemble through a whirlwind of punctuated accompaniments and tuneful melodies.

Commissioned by the East Meadow Schools for the Woodland Middle School 7th Grade Band, East Meadow, NY, Trish Dunn, director.

Three Ayres from Gloucester (1969).....Hugh M. Stuart (1917 – 2006)

Three Ayres from Gloucester (1969) is a collection of compositions written in the style of early English folk songs by Hugh M. Stuart (1917–2006). This multi-movement work features two contrasting dance-like movements and a lyrical ballad that separates the first and third movements. The three movements are titled “The Jolly Earl of Cholmondeley,” “Ayre for Eventide,” and “The Fiefs of Wembley.” Many notable composers, such as Gustav Holst and Percy Grainger, wrote wind band literature based on folk songs; however, what makes this particular piece stand out is its originality. The inspiration for *Three Ayres from Gloucester* stemmed from Stuart’s fascination with a 10th-century couplet:

There’s no one quite so comely
As the Jolly Earl of Cholmondeley

Deep River (1998).....James Swearingen (b. 1947)

Deep River by James Swearingen is a chorale prelude based on an African American spiritual of the same name. The anonymous spiritual, popularized by Henry Burleigh in 1916 collection, *Jubilee Songs of the USA*, sings:

Deep river, my home is over Jordan.
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.
Deep river, my home is over Jordan.
Deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

Oh don’t you want to go
To that gospel feast;
That promised land where all is peace?
Oh deep river, Lord, I want to cross over into campground.

The lyrics refer to escaping slavery in America and reaching religious and spiritual peace. The “campground” referred to throughout represents a return to Africa but can also be interpreted as the idea of entering heaven. James Swearingen's arrangement displays his talents in a lush harmonization of this spiritual.

The Big Circus March (1998)Robert Foster (b. 1939)

The Big Circus March was composed by Robert E. Foster as a way to help introduce students to the style of marches and capture the spirit of the great entertainment tradition of the circus. The excitement, color, and sounds of the circus were absolutely unique, and they are interwoven throughout the cultural heritage of the American experience in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Many of the well-known and popular marches performed by bands throughout the world were written by musicians who were at one time circus band leaders or performers, or who had an intense interest in the circus. Some of the most famous of these were Karl. L. King, J. J. Richards, and Henry Filmore.

This piece gives the students a taste of the circus life that is achievable at a beginner skill level. It brings an energy to the band that is hard to replicate. The idea of clowns, elephants, people walking high above on tight ropes, all

wrapped up into one song. This piece brings a fervent and persistent drive into the band that goes from beginning to end!

The Tempest (1995).....Robert W. Smith (1958 – 2023)

First premiered at the Midwest Clinic in 1995 *The Tempest* is a piece where Robert W. Smith depicts a strong and violent windstorm. This piece is similar to another piece he has written called, “*Into the Storm*” but he wanted to compose a piece for beginner level students. It contains all the fury and rage within the ensemble. The beginning is the “calm before the storm” then it represents the 3 major things that come with a violent storm: rain, hail, and snow throughout the piece.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY – CONCERT BAND
SPRING 2026
Listed Alphabetically

FLUTE

Addy Barnard
Madisen Brecheisen
*Melissa Fierro
Kaylee Hembree
Gabriella Janss (Picc)
Tony Le
Salem Ponnuru
Allison Reid
Armista Yaeger

OBOE

*Sylvia Cunningham
Annika Lindt

CLARINET

Rolland Brengle
Owen Edmondson
*Addison Gardner
Rachel Gillam
Yalena Sanchez

BASS CLARINET

*Zachery Haake-Lopez

ALTO SAX

Lydia Howell
Carter Purcell
*Wyatt Small

TENOR SAX

Riddick Jeffries

TRUMPET

Andrew Dearing
Addison Folse
Jakeb Kobs
*Evelyn Peat
Isabella Powell-Pandiri
Kyndall Sandbo
Landon Snyder

HORN

*Kylee Gardner
Daisy Hoff
Jacob Huyett
Bryson Post

TROMBONE

Jes Boyle
Darika Bunch
*Emma Graf
Jess Hargett
Maddy Resser

EUPHONIUM

*Alexis Hoffman

TUBA

Jacob Cox
*Miguel Diaz
Dom Taormina-Meyer
Isaiah Zinkan

PERCUSSION

*Abby Gantz
Alex Herron
Reece Rossillon
Ava Seemann
Jonas Smith
Ben Wills
Wanlin Wu

***Principal/Section Leader**

Kansas State University Band

Spring 2026

FLUTE

Mariah Hague
Cameron Sadler
Brett Wyckoff#
Ryan Woodruff
Braxton Robertson
Aspen Tallent
Chloe Crooks#
Olivia Franco#

OBOE

Via Miller
Sienna DelBorrell

BASSOON

Onijini Karimu
Sara Chase

CLARINET

Alex Cavanaugh
Caiden Crosthwaite
Gabriella Janss
Elijah Cunningham
Ellyn Campbell
Dayton Hawkins
Jessie Whelan#
Mika Neal

BASS CLARINET

Ryan Katzer
Miguel Diaz

ALTO SAX

Aria Moneypenny
Jaylee Giles
Camden Findlay
Copper Youngers
Brook Litney
Asmodeus Hull

TENOR SAX

Madison Johnson
Jonas Smith

BARITONE SAX

Lindsey Crowell

TRUMPET

Ty Miller
Sydney Lamb
Arthur Adams
Jake York
Addelyn Moore
Chris Gutierrez#
Brady Smotrilla
Allison Reid#
Carter Purcell
Mack Allen

HORN

Carter McCune
Preston Schuetz
Larry Dougan
Jes Boyle
Marshall Jones

TROMBONE

Steven Reimer
Brendan Scaglione
Cody Monhollon
Nathaniel Phillis
Jackie Cook#
Kaylee Hembree
Tristan Lewis

EUPHONIUM

Sophia Glanville
Isaac Chase

TUBA

Corbin Montenegro
Owen Genereux
Jasper Vallad#
Noah Vogel

PERCUSSION

Jacob Daley
Karson Griffin#
Mark Thompson#
Yalena Sanchez
Jae Seefeldt

- Student Conductor

Concert Band Conductor

DR. ZACK DEININGER received a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Wind Conducting from the University of South Carolina where he served as a graduate assistant with the Carolina Bands. At the University of South Carolina, he assisted with all aspects of the concert and athletic bands, including arranging and writing drill for the University of South Carolina Marching Band, and assisted with undergraduate conducting courses. Prior to receiving his doctorate, Dr. Deininger served as the Assistant Director of Bands at Green Valley High School in Henderson, Nevada (a suburb of Las Vegas). In this position, he co-directed the 175-member Green Valley Marching and Athletic Bands, directed the Symphonic Band, Concert Band, and Jazz Band III, served as assistant conductor of the Symphonic Winds, and was instructor of the Advanced Placement Music Theory course and Chamber Class. In addition to his duties at Green Valley High School, he also served on the Nevada All State Band Committee and as Chairperson of the Southern Nevada Band Association's High School Honor Jazz Bands.

Receiving a Master's Degree in Music Education from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama, Dr. Deininger assisted with all aspects of the Auburn Band Program serving as conductor of the Auburn University Campus Band, assistant conductor of the Auburn University Symphonic Winds, instructor of the undergraduate advanced conducting course, and assistant to all aspects of the Athletic Band Program. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio where he studied horn under Grammy award winner Dr. Andrew Pelletier and served as Drum Major for the Falcon Marching Band for three years under Dr. Carol Hayward.

Dr. Deininger is a staff member of various summer camps throughout the country where he instructs drum majors and student leaders in leadership and conducting. He also serves as a music and marching staff member for the Macy's Great American Marching Band held over Thanksgiving each year in New York City. Dr. Deininger is a member of the College Band Directors National Association, the National Association for Music Education, the Kansas Music Educators Association, the Kansas Bandmasters Association, and the Society of Pi Kappa Lambda. He is an honorary member of Tau Beta and Kappa Kappa Psi Sigma.

University Band Conductors

CHLOE CROOKS is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Music Education at Kansas State University. She is from St. Joseph, Missouri, and graduated from Central High School (2023). During her time at Kansas State, she has and is currently performing with the Wind Ensemble, Clarinet Choir, and Cottonwood Tree-0. She also marches with the "Pride of Wildcat Land" Marching Band and currently serves as the Music Instructor for the clarinet section.

BRETT WYCKOFF is a fourth-year student at Kansas State University from Wellington, Kansas, double majoring in Music Education and Music Composition. He serves as principal trumpet in the Wind Ensemble and as an assistant drum major for the Kansas State University Marching Band. He is also a member of Kappa Kappa Psi and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. After graduating in Spring 2027, Brett plans to teach band in the public school system.

JESSIE WHELAN is a Senior in Music Education at K-State. Primarily studying under Dr. Kurt Gartner, her primary instrument is percussion. While at K-State, Whelan has played in the Marching Band, Pub Crawl Band, Concert Band, Wind Symphony, Wind Ensemble, University Band, Percussion Ensembles, Latin Jazz Ensemble, and is an active member of Tau Beta Sigma Delta Kappa. She currently acts as Assistant Bass Drum Section Leader for the KSUMB and Vice President of Service for Tau Beta Sigma Delta Kappa. After graduating in the Spring of 2027, Jessie Whelan plans on teaching music in Kansas.

KARSON GRIFFIN is a senior music education student from Salina, Kansas. During his time at K-State he has been involved with many ensembles, including the Pride of Wildcat Land K-State Marching Band, Concert Jazz Ensemble, the Trumpet Ensemble, Latin Jazz Ensemble, Concert Band, Wind Symphony, Orchestra, and Wind Ensemble. Karson is also the Vice President of Phi Mu Alpha where he has led many small ensembles such as the Phi Mu Alpha Brass Ensemble to play out in the community. After graduation in the fall of 2026, Karson hopes to find a job as a band director and spend time composing music for wind bands.

ALLISON REID is a junior in music education from Valley Center, KS. At K-State, she is involved in Concert Band, University Band, Cat Band, Flute Ensemble, and is also a member of the Pride of Wildcat Land marching band in the piccolo section. She is currently a member of the Delta Kappa chapter of Tau Beta Sigma. Allison will student teach and graduate in the Fall of 2027 and looks forward to finding a job teaching band at the middle or high school level.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 26, 2026
Wind Ensemble Concert
McCain Auditorium
3:00 pm

April 28, 2026
Wind Symphony
Concert Band & University Band Concert
McCain Auditorium
7:30 pm

May 9, 2026
Drumline Mini Camp
Tracz Family Band Hall
8:00 am – 5:00 pm

May 23, 2026
Drumline Auditions
Tracz Family Band Hall
10:00 am – 4:00 pm

June 7 -11, 2026
K-State Music Camp
McCain Auditorium

July 18, 2026
2026 K-State Marching Pride Classic Golf Tournament
Colbert Hills Golf Course
9:00 am

July 12-15, 2026
K-State Leadership & Auxiliary Camp
McCain Auditorium

For more information on all of these events visit the K-State Bands website at <https://www.k-state.edu/band/> or email Courtney Greco at cljensen@ksu.edu