



HICKORY RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE

NCMEA Professional Development Conference

Benton Convention Center

Winston-Salem, NC

November 6, 2022

12:00pm

*The North Carolina Bandmasters Association
presents the*



*Hickory Ridge High School
Wind Ensemble*

Chris White, Director of Bands

David Rivero, Assistant Director of Bands

Bart Tulbert, Guest Conductor

North Carolina Music Educators Association

Professional Development Conference

Benton Convention Center

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Sunday, November 6, 2022 - 12:00pm



4401 Old Airport Road
PO Box 388
Concord NC 28026-0388

704-260-5611
704-262-6175 fax

Sunday, November 6, 2022

Fellow Educators,

On behalf of myself, and the Cabarrus County Schools Board of Education, I would like to extend heart-felt congratulations to Mr. Chris White, Mr. David Rivero, and the Hickory Ridge High School Wind Ensemble for being selected to perform at the 2022 North Carolina Music Educators Association In-Service Conference. Today's performance is the result of countless hours of passionate investment by the music teachers and students who are proud to call Hickory Ridge High School their home. Their musical successes will be celebrated long after the final note today. It is my hope that future generations of musicians will truly appreciate the level of sacrifice endured by the performing arts in the face of adversity during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Cabarrus County Schools will continue to make a daily commitment to our performing arts programs because we know that musical success can only be achieved through building positive and enduring relationships with our students. Through a districtwide culture built on positivity, hope and excellence, we will ensure that each of our students reaches their fullest potential as global citizens in the 21st century. Every student. Every day. Whatever it takes.

Thank you to the North Carolina Bandmasters Association for this fantastic opportunity afforded to the Hickory Ridge High School Wind Ensemble. We are incredibly proud of them. Enjoy the concert.

Stay Well,

Dr. John Kopicki
Superintendent
Cabarrus County Schools



Hickory Ridge High School

7321 Raging Ridge Road
Harrisburg, NC 28075
704.454.7300
704.454.6579 fax

Dr. Shaun Poole
Principal

November 6, 2022

On behalf of the faculty and staff of Hickory Ridge High School, I would like to thank the North Carolina Bandmasters Association for inviting the Hickory Ridge Wind Ensemble to showcase their outstanding talent as a part of the annual North Carolina Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference. We are honored our students can be part of such an important event.

At Hickory Ridge, we believe the arts play an extremely important role in the social, emotional, and academic development of our students. Under the direction of Mr. White and Mr. Rivero, our students continue to exceed expectations and endeavor to become the very best of performers, students, and young men and women. The Hickory Ridge High School students who perform for you today have spent countless hours of rehearsal in preparation for today's concert, and I'm certain you will enjoy their performance.

I am very proud of each of these Hickory Ridge band students, directors, and staff. Their dedication, resilience, and pursuit of excellence embody all that our community wishes to display. The distinguished leadership of Mr. White and Mr. Rivero drives our band program to be held in the highest esteem at local, state, national, and international levels. It has been gratifying to see the many opportunities that have been afforded to these students due to their hard work and dedication. Opportunities such as these provide priceless educational experiences that extend far beyond the classroom.

Let me once again say how appreciative Hickory Ridge High School is to have students and staff participate in this prestigious event. This experience is a validation of the quality leadership of our directors and the musical abilities of our great students.

Best regards,

Shaun Poole, Ed.D
Principal
Hickory Ridge High School





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Sunday, November 6, 2022

Fellow Music Educators:

Good afternoon and welcome to the annual North Carolina Music Educators Association In-Service Conference. It is with great respect and admiration that I offer an elated congratulations to the Hickory Ridge High School Wind Ensemble under the direction of Mr. Chris White and Mr. David Rivero. The pride and positive recognition that your efforts have brought to Cabarrus County Schools is immeasurable, and therefore, on behalf of an entire school district of staff, students, and stakeholders, please allow me to wholeheartedly express how proud of you we all are.

The unfortunate effects of the Covid-19 pandemic negatively impacted every element of the public-school education experience, but the performing arts were wounded far more than any other educational facet. Pre-dawn outdoor rehearsals in sub-zero weather were frequently the only option as countless music teachers struggled to program in-person student performance opportunities. As I sit in this concert today, it is almost inconceivable to me that those days of fear, frustration, and frozen fingers ended less than one year ago.

Fortitude is defined as: *the strength of mind that enables a person to encounter danger, pain, or adversity with courage.* Fortitude will save our public-school music education programs nationwide because when the only choice is fight or flight, the front line is where you will find the music teachers and music students. The young people sitting on the stage before you represent a much larger excellence-driven community of young musicians who are excited to be back inside the rehearsal and performance halls. The DNA of human history is embedded in the music that has shaped their unyielding spirit. Thanks to their sweat-equity, the super-human investment of their music teachers, and the overwhelming support of the communities that they serve, neither their history, nor their craft, will ever be erased from the blackboard of time.

Once again, congratulations to Mr. White, Mr. Rivero, and the tremendous musicians known as the Hickory Ridge Wind Ensemble. Your performance today means so much to so many in more ways than could ever be counted. Enjoy it, and remember, one is down.

Godspeed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bart Tulbert".

Bart Tulbert
K-12 Fine Arts Coordinator
Cabarrus County Schools

HICKORY RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL BAND



Hickory Ridge High School opened its doors to students and staff in the fall of 2007 as the sixth high school in the Cabarrus County school system and has grown to approximately 1,800 students, with over 170 students currently enrolled in a band class.

The comprehensive instrumental music program consists of wind ensemble, symphonic band, concert band, jazz ensemble, marching band, musical pit orchestra, and several chamber groups.

The concert ensembles have consistently earned superior ratings at North Carolina Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Solo and Ensemble Music Performance Assessment (MPA) events. Students have traveled throughout the eastern part of the United States, playing for festivals in New Orleans, New York City, Washington, D.C., and Orlando.

In 2018 the Wind Ensemble participated in a 10-day performance tour of China, giving performances in Shaoxin, Jiaxin, Shanghai, and Beijing at the invitation of the US-China Cultural and Educational Foundation. The Wind Ensemble will travel to Vienna, Prague, and Salzburg in the spring of 2023 and will present a series of concerts in each city.

The Blue Regiment marching band has won numerous first place awards and grand championships at local and regional events. They received superior ratings in past North Carolina Marching Band MPA events. In addition, they have been frequent finalists at large regional marching events, including the Western Carolina University Tournament of Champions. The ensemble has represented our school, community, and state in the 2009 and 2016 London New Year's Day Parade, as well as the 2020 Rome New Year's Day Parade.

The Hickory Ridge Winter Guard is a consistent medalists in the Carolina Winter Ensembles Association (CWEA), winning the Regional A circuit championships in 2022. They are former finalists at WGI regional events and semi-finalists at the 2013 WGI World Championships in Dayton, Ohio.

Hickory Ridge band students consistently place into the All-County, All-District, All-State, and All-National Honor Bands. They have participated in the Bands of America Honor Band in the Rose Parade, the Music for All Honor Band of America, the NAFME All-National Symphony Orchestra, the NAFME All-National Concert Band, the US Army All-American Marching Band, and the "President's Own" Marine Band Concerto Competition.



HICKORY RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
WIND ENSEMBLE
Chris White, Director of Bands

Hickory Ridge
BANDS
2018 China Performance Tour
Chengde • Chongqing • Guangzhou • Jinan • Beijing
March 28 - April 7, 2018

CHINA PREVIEW CONCERT
Monday - March 26, 2018 - 6:00pm
Hickory Ridge High School Auditorium



百花园
春天的大舞台

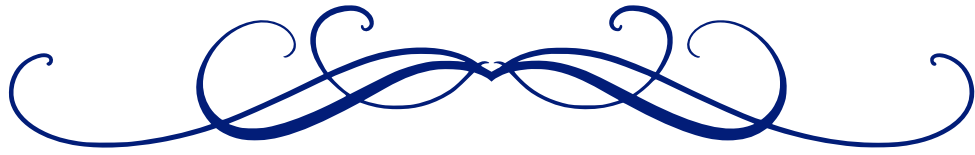
春天的友情

2018美国北卡罗莱纳州青年管乐团中国巡演
2018/3/30/19:00
蓝天大剧场

艺术总监/指挥家
克里斯·怀特/林特 Chris White

票价: 120/90/60元





PROGRAM

Funiculi-Funicula Rhapsody

Luigi Denza / arr. Yo Goto
(1880 / 2001)

Transactions

Andrew Blair
(2022)

Cherished, Op. 242

Robert Sheldon
(2022)

Joyce's 71st New York Regiment March

David Rivero, conductor

Thornton Boyer/arr. Mayhew Lake
(1881 / 1937)

Carnival of Venice

traditional / arr. Del Staigers
(1936)

Caleb Carpenter (HRHS Class of 2013), alto saxophone

Dr. Dylan Ward (HRHS Class of 2011), alto saxophone

Variations on a Celtic Tune (Mo Ghile Mear)

Bart Tulbert, conductor

Michael Oare
(2020)

Morning, Noon, and Night in Vienna

Franz Von Suppé /arr. Henry Fillmore
(1845 / 1922)



Hickory Ridge High School Wind Ensemble

Flute:

Rebekah Fife
Katy Riggs *
Britain Russell
Maya Sanders

Oboe:

Gabriela Andrews
Jasmine Olson

Bassoon:

Timothy Brown
Lauren Haston
Andrew Ives *

Clarinet:

Emma Bolick
Mikhail Grdzlishvili *
Kiana Jacobs
Sabrina Peterson *
Lillian Prentice
Thomas Reid
Dasha Sekulich

Bass Clarinet:

Lela Hahn *
Katherine Rhyne

Contra Clarinet:

Everett Riggs

Alto Sax:

Everest Geist
Jordan Perez
Matthew Stearns *

Tenor Sax:

Nathan Bruzzese *
Andrew Singler
Elliott Stoffer

Baritone Sax:

Maximillian Pesce *

Trumpet:

Ivan Briscoe
Anirudh Dhawan
Benjamin Horn *
Saydee Lautz
Justin Lockard *
Colin Nguyen *

French Horn:

Colin Baker
Adam Cyr
Tanner Horton
Nya Tomlin *

Trombone:

Wesley Connor
Violet Goldberg *
Nihal Kollath
Davis Rhyne *
Caleb White *

Euphonium:

Josh Jubb *
Jacob Legassie *
Zach McKenzie

Tuba:

Ridhu Venigalla *
Dylan White
Carter Whitt *

Percussion:

Cray Barden
Jack Comley *
Justin Gooden
Vedant Pendurkar
Sa'nya Providence *
Mason McNeil
Addison Smith

* = senior

PROGRAM NOTES

Funiculi-Funicula Rhapsody - Luigi Denza, arr. Yo Goto

The famous melody *Funiculi Funicula* was written in 1880 by Luigi Denza, with lyrics by Peppino Turco, to celebrate the opening of Mount Vesuvius' funicular railway in Italy. The Vesuvius funicular was an inclined railway that operated using a series of cables, moving people up and down the mountain's steep slopes in two counterbalanced trolleys.

Mr. Goto's setting commands immediate excitement with unmuffled percussion and bold fanfares that segue into a tarantella. The famous theme initially passes through each section of the ensemble in a series of rhythmic and metric variations. The polyrhythms eventually give way to a simple, slow, romantic rendering before the vibrancy of the original melody returns and builds to an exciting conclusion.

Transactions - Andrew Blair (world premiere)

Transactions was commissioned by the Hickory Ridge High School Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Mr. Chris White, and premiered as a part of their performance at the 2022 North Carolina Music Educators Association Conference.

To me, the cycle of teaching and learning is a long series of transactions between all our minds, hearts, and souls. When great teachers transmit deep ideas, feelings, and their own humanity through their work with students, the results can literally change the lives of everyone involved. I was made keenly aware of this paradigm-shifting potential as a young educator, teaching for several years alongside Chris White as well as my wife Molly at Hickory Ridge Middle and High Schools. When the opportunity came to be able to write a piece for Chris and his group, I knew immediately that it had to deal with ideas changing hands, ideas influencing feelings, and feelings expressing the soul.

Transactions opens with a 3-note motive (F, G, E) currently ubiquitous in the United States, as played by debit/credit card readers in many stores to signify that a transaction has been approved. This opening gesture becomes the catalyst from which the entire piece is sprung, with the motive changing hands numerous times, all while being transformed and presented against a variety of emotional backdrops. Each of these scenes exist in reference to the feelings brought out through the music and composers who deeply richened my educational and personal development while teaching with Chris and Molly at Hickory Ridge, including stylistic and/or emotional nods to music of Brian Balmages, Leonard Bernstein, David Gillingham, Julie Giroux, John Mackey, and Frank Ticheli, all intersecting and exchanging information with my own compositional voice throughout the work.

At the end of the day, *Transactions* exists as a testament to the power of the connections we make in life, and it is my hope that the piece acts as a springboard for the life-affirming experiences we all strive for as musicians, teachers, and learners.

- Andrew Blair



Cherished, Op. 242 - Robert Sheldon

I have known Jim Hill for many years, having met him during one of several trips to North Carolina to conduct regional honor bands in that state. Jim had previously commissioned me to write a piece for his band at Monroe High School in 2008 (Commemoration Overture, Po. 136, published with Alfred Music). Upon his retirement after many years of being a band director, he asked me to accept another commission, this time to honor friends and colleagues, including one who he credits with saving his life after suffering a terrible accident at home. Steve Stevens had invited Jim to his concert, and upon realizing Jim was not in attendance, knew that something was wrong, drove to Jim's house and called for medical assistance in order to rescue his friend. Jim refers to that performance as "A Concert that Saved a Life!"

In addition to commissioning this piece as a musical message of gratitude to Steve, Jim also wished to include his friends and colleagues Stephanie Tomberlin and Tracy Humphries, who along with Steve Stevens he considers his "loving friends in music and life." Jim obviously cherishes his friendships, his life in music and life itself. And it is also certain that many others feel the same way about him, hence the title.

Jim's instructions to me were simple, "Make me cry." I hope I have been able to accomplish that for him in this piece.

-Robert Sheldon

Joyce's 71st New York Regiment March - Thornton Boyer / arr. Mayhew Lake

Joyce's 71st N.Y. Regiment March is an American march composed by band director, arranger, and composer Thornton Barnes Boyer (1856-1936) in 1881. Boyer's "most famous" composition, it is a classic of the American parade and concert band march repertoire and is regularly performed by U.S. military bands today.

Dedicated to the regimental band of the 71st New York Infantry Regiment, "one of the most well-known military bands of the 19th century," Boyer composed the march while living in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and employed by the J. W. Pepper Music Company, which "quickly published" the march after receiving it. The "Joyce" referenced in the march's title is Thomas Joyce, who founded the 71st Regiment's wind band after the unit became part of the New York National Guard in the aftermath of the Civil War.

In 1937, Mayhew Lake created a well-known arrangement of the march, adding a euphonium countermelody and some additional rhythmic patterns. Lake's arrangement also altered the repeats, added many woodwind fills, and changed the trio key from G-flat major (relative to E-flat minor) to the parallel E-flat major.

When Hickory Ridge High School opened in the fall of 2007, Ed Powell composed the school's fight song using the melody of the trio section as the melodic inspiration.



Carnival of Venice - traditional / arr. Del Staigers

Carinval of Venice is most famously known as a cornet showpiece in theme and variation form. Theme and variation form typically employs the use of a lyrical theme or folk tune as an introduction, followed by a series of increasingly complex variations which demonstrated the technical skill and virtuosity of the performer. Often multiple tonguing and range extremes were used as "showoff devices."

Today's performance will showcase three Hickory Ridge High School alumni, Caleb Carpenter (HRHS Class of 2013) and Dr. Dylan Ward (HRHS Class of 2011) on alto saxophone, and HRHS Assistant Director David Rivero (Class of 2014) conducting.

Variations on a Celtic Tune (Mo Ghile Mear) - Michael Oare

Variations on a Celtic Tune is based on the old Irish song "Mo Ghile Mear." "Mo Ghile Mear" (My Gallant Hero) was written in the Irish language by Seán Clárach Mac Domhnail. It is a lament authored after the defeat of the Scots and their Celtic Irish allies at the Battle of Culloden in 1746, ending Scottish dreams of independence from English rule. Like all Gaelic poems of the period, it would likely have been sung rather than recited.

Variations on a Celtic Tune was commissioned by the Cabarrus County Band Directors Association and premiered by the 2020 Cabarrus All-County High School Symphonic Band with Mr. Oare conducting the premiere. The work is dedicated to Mr. Bart Tulbert, Fine Arts Coordinator for Cabarrus County Schools. Prior to his appointment as Fine Arts Coordinator, Mr. Tulbert served for sixteen years as the Director of Bands at Mount Pleasant High School.

Today's performance is dedicated to Mr. Tulbert in sincere appreciation for his friendship to Mr. White and Mr. Rivero, and his unending support of the arts programs and teachers in Cabarrus County.

Morning, Noon, and Night in Vienna - Franz von Suppé / arr. Henry Fillmore

Franz von Suppé (shortened from Francesco Ezechiele Ermenegildo Cavaliere Suppé-Demelli) composed the overture *Morning, Noon, and Night in Vienna* in 1845 at the age of 26, while serving as Kappelmeister (music director and conductor) of a theater in Vienna. It is one of over twenty overtures written between 1843 and 1845, and one of over one hundred and thirty other works written for Vienna stages and theaters.

Though the piece serves as the introduction to his famous operetta of the same name, it was unrelated to the storyline. The purpose of the overture was solely to call the audience to attention and set the mood for entertainment. Fillmore created this transcription for concert band in 1922, and it has since become one of the very popular and enduring traditional overtures in the concert band's repertoire. The arrangement was further edited by Robert Foster in 2002.



Chris White

Director of Bands

Chris White is a native of Bristol, Tennessee. He attended Bridgewater College in Bridgewater, VA, where he received the Bachelor of Arts in Music degree, with honors, in 1997. He began his graduate studies as a Graduate Teaching Assistant to University Bands at Radford University, where he studied trumpet and conducting with Mark Camphouse. After moving to Charlotte, NC to begin his teaching career, he completed his graduate studies at Winthrop University as a student of Dr. Bill Malambri, where he earned the Master of Music in Instrumental Conducting degree. He became a National Board Certified teacher in 2006, and re-certified in 2016.

Mr. White has been the Director of Bands at Hickory Ridge High School in Harrisburg, NC since the school opened in the fall of 2007. Mr. White's duties at Hickory Ridge include overseeing a comprehensive band program which consists of over 170 students who participate in Concert Band, Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Marching Band, Musical Pit Orchestra, Winterguard, Winter Percussion, and several small ensembles.

Ensembles at Hickory Ridge consistently receive superior ratings at marching, concert, jazz, and solo festivals. The Hickory Ridge Blue Regiment has twice performed in the prestigious London New Year's Day Parade, in 2009 and 2016, and was an invited guest to the 2020 Rome New Year's Day Parade and Frascati (Italy) Street Festival. In 2018, the Hickory Ridge Wind Ensemble participated in a 10-day performance tour of China at the invitation of the US-China Cultural and Educational Foundation, where they presented a series of public concerts in Shanghai, Shaoxin, Hangzhou, Jiaxin, and Beijing. In addition, over the past fifteen years at Hickory Ridge, Mr. White's concert ensembles have performed in Washington, D.C., New York, Orlando, and New Orleans. Mr. White's students consistently participate in county, district, state, collegiate, and national honor band and orchestra clinics. Hickory Ridge received the NAMM Merit Award in 2020 and 2021, recognizing excellence in music education.

Mr. White was selected as Hickory Ridge High School Teacher of the Year in 2015 and was a top five finalist for Cabarrus County Schools Teacher of the Year. He has previously received recognition as Charlotte-Mecklenburg New Band Director of the Year in 1999, the 2001 E.E. Waddell High School Teacher of the Year, and received the Horace Mann Crystal Apple Award for outstanding teaching. He has served as clinician, adjudicator, and guest conductor for many marching band and concert events. He served as Chair of the South Central District Bandmasters Association and board member of the North Carolina Bandmasters Association from 2018-2020, and received the South Central District Bandmasters Association Award of Excellence in 2021.

His professional memberships include the American School Band Directors Association, North Carolina Music Educators Association, National Association for Music Education, and the National Band Association. He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha, Pi Kappa Lambda, and Omicron Delta Kappa fraternities.



David Rivero

Assistant Director of Bands

David Rivero was born in Hackensack, NJ before moving to Harrisburg, NC where he attended and graduated from Hickory Ridge High School. He attended the University of North Carolina, and studied under Evan Feldman for conducting and Matthew McClure for saxophone. He received his Bachelor of Music degree with Distinction in 2018.

After graduating, David moved back to Harrisburg, NC where he served as one of the band directors at Hickory Ridge Middle School for 4 years. He taught 6th-8th grade band and 7th-8th grade chorus, as well as the “Sound of the Ridge” pep band and the “Blue Notes” jazz band. David is currently in his first year as the Assistant Director of Bands at Hickory Ridge High School.

Under his direction, the Hickory Ridge Middle School Bands consistently received superior ratings in grades 2, 3, and 4 music at MPA, performed at Solo and Ensemble MPA, and have been represented at the All-County, All-District, and All-State levels. The band was also invited to perform at the 2020 Rome New Year's Day Parade and Frascati, Italy Street Festival along with the Hickory Ridge High School Band.

In 2022, David received the South Central District Young Director Award of Excellence, as well as the ASBDA Encore Award. He is also a proud member of Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity.



Bart Tulbert

Guest Conductor

Bart Tulbert is currently in his fifth year as the K-12 Fine Arts Education Coordinator for Cabarrus County Schools. Prior to this position, Mr. Tulbert served as the Director of Bands at Mount Pleasant High School from 2002 until 2018. Under his baton, the Mount Pleasant Band enjoyed success on the marching band field and in the concert hall. His ensembles earned numerous awards at regional marching competitions and received consistent superior ratings at the annual North Carolina Music Performance Assessment.

In 2020, Mr. Tulbert received the NCBA Award of Excellence from the South Central District Bandmasters Association. He was named Teacher of the Year at Mount Pleasant High School in 2013 and again in 2018. Mr. Tulbert is a 2001 graduate of Appalachian State University (BME), and a 2010 graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi (MME). He is a member of NAFME, NCMEA, NCBA, ASBDA, NAEA, NCTC, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Mr. Tulbert lives in Mooresville, NC with his wife Sarah (also a music educator), their five children (Liam, Eli, Kate, Noah & Luke), and their two pups (Winston and Kelly).



Caleb Carpenter

Caleb Carpenter is currently pursuing a DMA in saxophone performance at the University of South Carolina, studying with Clifford Leaman. Previously, Caleb completed his MM at Northwestern University and BM at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, studying with Taimur Sullivan and Robert Young.

Caleb has seen success in many competitions across the country. In 2019 he was named the winner of Northwestern University's Concerto Competition, and in 2018 he was selected as a finalist in both the North American Saxophone Alliance College Solo Competition and the Boulder International Chamber Music Competition. He was the national winner of the 2017 MTNA

Young Artist Woodwind competition.

At UofSC, Caleb holds a graduate assistantship and teaches undergraduate music theory and aural skills. In the Fall of 2021 Caleb began teaching saxophone and music appreciation at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC. He also holds adjunct teaching positions at Clafin University, Allen University, and Columbia College. Caleb is originally from Harrisburg, NC.



Dr. Dylan Ward

Acclaimed for his “ethereal saxophone playing” and “distinctive experimental approach” (Vital Weekly), Dylan Ward is a saxophonist/musician/improviser/sound artist specializing in experimental electroacoustic music that explores consciousness across natural, human, digital, and historical planes. Ward has released recordings on the Neuma, Mother Brain, and XAS record labels and has been praised for presenting music that is “clear and coherent in its discourse, original in its sounds, and that communicates its intentions directly” (Pan M 360). Ward has performed nationally at the Bang on a Can LOUD Weekend Festival, Eighth Blackbird Creative Lab, Mostly Modern Festival, Oh My Ears Festival, Kansas City Contemporary Music Festival, Kansas City

Open Spaces, and Charlotte Street Foundation Capsule Series. He has also appeared as a soloist with the North Carolina Symphony, Georgia Philharmonic, Raleigh Symphony, and Jackson Heights Orchestra, and as a chamber musician in venues including Lincoln Center, Constellation Chicago, Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, Mesa Arts Center, and Koka Booth Amphitheatre.

Ward holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Missouri–Kansas City. He holds previous degrees from Michigan State University and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

The students and directors of the Hickory Ridge High School Wind Ensemble would like to thank the following individuals for helping make today's performance possible:

Cabarrus County Schools Administration

Dr. John Kopicki, Superintendent
John LeGrand, Interim Deputy Superintendent
Gordon Palmer, Assistant Superintendent of High Schools
Bart Tulbert, Fine Arts Coordinator

Hickory Ridge High School Administration

Dr. Shaun Poole, Principal
Chris Balga, Assistant Principal of Instruction
Tiana Graves, Assistant Principal
Peter Kim, Assistant Principal
Thomas Smith, Assistant Principal

HRHS Band Booster Executive Board

Karen Wright, President
Karen Lockard, Vice President
Debra Diegmann, Secretary
Denise Horton, Treasurer
Paula Hahn, Marketing and Publicity
Bryan and Allison Reece, Major Fundraising Chair
Amiee Hawkins, Minor Fundraising Chair
Camie Comley, Head Chaperone
Bryan Marolf, Head Roadie

HRHS Concert Band Staff

Josh Jones
Steven Foster

Hickory Ridge Middle School Directors

Jennifer Merry
Nick Carl

Mr. White would like to thank the following:

My family who have allowed me to follow my dreams and who have sacrificed so much so I can live the crazy life of a band director. Thank you for running this race with me.

David Rivero, for being the best friend and colleague I could ever have. It's been one of the greatest joys of my life to travel with you on your personal and professional journey. I look forward to many more years of friendship and musical adventures!

Caleb Carpenter and Dylan Ward, I'm so proud of you for the amazing men you have become and for the fantastic performers and educators that you are. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us today and for leaving such a legacy at HRHS. I have very much enjoyed the opportunity to make music with you both one more time!

HRHS feeder programs and directors who have students performing in today's concert:

Nick Carl and Jennifer Merry - Hickory Ridge Middle School

John Brooks - CC Griffin Middle School

Derek Smith, Steve Stevens, and Jason Partridge who each have former students performing in the group today. Thank you for being a part of their musical journey and for being such great friends and colleagues.

Special thanks to **Blair Smith, Bart Tulbert, Ed Powell, Dr. Bill Malambri, Steve Stevens** and the many friends and mentors over the years who have helped shape me as a person and a director. Thank you for always taking those frantic phone calls, for not giving up on me over the years, and always pushing me to be the best possible teacher for my students.

We have incredible **band parents and supporters**. Every time we have big dreams and crazy ideas you step up to make them a reality. We're so fortunate to have such a supportive community and such amazing band families.

HRHS Alumni students and parents who have spent 15 years building a legacy and maintaining the standard of excellence that is associated with our program. Your efforts have allowed us to be here today. We thank you for your continued support of our program.

Ian Sullivan for all his support, always being so gracious in sharing students, letting us use the auditorium even though he really needs it, and for always being a team player in our department. We are so fortunate to have him as our theatre teacher at HRHS!

Jamie Bream, President of the North Carolina Bandmasters Association, and the selection committee for the invitation to perform and be a part of this year's conference.

