

Jazz Band Concert

Chris Becker, director

Program

WashU Jazz Band

Hickory & Twine (2008)

Alan Baylock (b. 1967)

Recorda Me (1963)

Joe Henderson (1937 - 2001)
arr. by Kris Berg (b. 1961)

WashU Jazz Band with Kaitie McGary

I'll Take Romance (1937)

Music by Ben Oakland (1907 - 1979)
Words by Oscar Hammerstein II (1895 - 1960)
arr. by Jerry Nowak (1936 - 2015)
(This arrangement 1989)

Skylark (1941)

Music by Hoagy Carmichael (1899 - 1981)
Words by Johnny Mercer (1909 - 1976)
arr. by Jerry Nowak (1936 - 2015)
(This arrangement 1985)

I'm Beginning to See the Light (1941)

Music by Duke Ellington (1899 - 1974)
Johnny Hodges (1907 - 1970)
and Harry James (1916 - 1983)
Words by Don George (1909 - 1987)
arr. by Mark Taylor (b. 1950)
(This arrangement 1994)

WashU Jazz Band

La Suerte de los Tontos (1956)

Johnny Richards (1911 - 1968)
arr. by Victor Lopez (b. 1950)
(This arrangement 2008)

Strasbourg St. Denis (2008)

Roy Hargrove (1969 - 2018)
arr. By Thorsten Wollmann (b. 1966)
(This arrangement 2012)

This Space for Rent (2001)

Jeff Bunnell

Sunny Ray (1958)

Ray Santos (1928 - 2019)

Director



Chris Becker is the Director of the Wind Ensemble and the Jazz Bands at Washington University in St. Louis, and serves as the director of winds and percussion. Mr. Becker graduated from the University of Missouri - Kansas City Conservatory of Music "With Distinction" in 1977, receiving the Bachelor of Music Education Degree, and earned a Master of Arts in Education from Lindenwood University.

Mr. Becker has taught instrumental music in Missouri for 47 years from the elementary to the university level. In June 2017, he retired as Director of Bands at Parkway South High School, after serving for 36 years in the Parkway School District (St. Louis County, Missouri). During his tenure there, he directed Marching Bands, Symphonic Bands, Jazz Bands, and all other related band activities.

In addition, he is the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Manchester Community Band, a highly successful ensemble founded ten years ago and enthusiastically received by the residents of Manchester. Mr. Becker has also been a frequent guest conductor for both concert bands and jazz bands in Missouri and Illinois.

Mr. Becker has served as the Jazz Vice President for the Missouri Music Educators Association, the first educator to hold that position after it was established as a part of the MMEA Board. Mr. Becker is a Past President of the Missouri unit of the International Association of Jazz Educators. During his term he helped clarify the mission and goals of the unit, and endeavored to reach out to music educators, those in the music industry, and professional players to create a broader base of support for jazz education. Becker has also served as Jazz Vice President for the St. Louis Suburban Music Educators Association. Becker plays the trumpet professionally with a variety of ensembles in the St. Louis area, and has taught trumpet privately in both the Kansas City and St. Louis areas.

Mr. Becker is a member of the College Band Directors National Association, the National Association for Music Education, the Missouri Music Educators Association, the Missouri Association for Jazz Education, the Missouri Band Masters Association, and Phi Beta Mu Band Directors Fraternity. He was named "Charles Emmons Outstanding Band Director of the Year" by Phi Beta Mu in January 1999. He was nominated numerous times for the Pillar of Parkway Award, which recognizes commitment and dedication for work in the Parkway School District, and was awarded a Pillar of Parkway in April 2016. Mr. Becker was honored for his distinguished career by the St. Louis Suburban Music Educators Association in January 2018, and named to their Hall of Fame.

WashU Jazz Band

Saxophones

Noah Clayton, alto (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Ph.D., Boston, MA)
Aaron Chen, alto (Math and Computer Science, Beijing, China)
Grant McIntyre, tenor (Physics and Math, Darien, CT)
Owen Ross, tenor (Chemistry, Atlanta, GA)
Will Leidig, baritone (Neuroscience, St. Charles, IL)

Trumpets

Drew Davis (Community Member, St. Louis, MO)
Nathan Pravda (Physics, Natick, MA)
Auriel Prepejchal (Computational Biology, Carbondale, IL)
Jake Tillman (Economics and Finance, Strafford, MO)

Trombones

Matthew Viola (Philosophy, Manhasset, NY)
Riley Silfies (Biomedical Engineering, Southlake, TX)
Elijah Darden (Psychological and Brain Sciences, Naperville, IL)
Gage Fowlkes (Chemistry, Fort Worth, TX)
Peter Ochalek (Neuroscience, Jericho, NY)
Jonah Edelman-Gold, bass trombone (History, New York, NY)

Vocalist

Kaitie McGary (Psychology, Crete, IL)

Rhythm Section

Ethan Saake, piano (Community Member, St. Louis)
Haihao Guo, guitar (Marketing Science, China)
Matthew Schwartz, bass guitar (Computer Science, Papillion, NE)
Zachary Lieske, bass guitar (Biomedical Engineering, El Cerrito, CA)
Cameron Kalik, drums (Computer Science, Bridgewater, NJ)
Collin Lloyd, drums (Political Science, Newburgh, IN)

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