



Autumn Winds

annual fall concert

Dr. Steven Sudduth

LCB Artistic Director and Conductor

Michael Larsen

Director of Bands, Haslett H.S.
Special Guest Conductor

Featured Piano Soloist

Algie Watkins

Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue

Dr. Ken Salzman

Concert Host



Lansing
CONCERT
BAND

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

East Lansing H.S. Auditorium • 3:00 p.m.



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LANSING CONCERT BAND



Our continuing mission is to provide Lansing and surrounding communities with top-quality symphonic band musical entertainment, and to fill the need of adult musicians who wish to continue their musical growth beyond that of high school and college instrumental programs.

THE BAND AND OUR MUSICIANS

- We are the official band of the City of Lansing; 2025 marked our 80th year.
- The band averages 85 members.
- We range in age from teens to 80+!

OUR CONCERTS

- Our concerts are presented free or with discounted admission for students, and often include local guest artists.
- Our December holiday concerts showcase traditional and contemporary festive arrangements.
- Since 2010 we have awarded scholarships to talented high school soloists through our annual Young Artist Competition (Bloomquist Prize).
- We provide spring commencement music for MSU and LCC.
- Our free outdoor summer season concerts are presented around the Lansing area. We perform every 4th of July at Lansing's Riverfront Park, preceding the city's fireworks display.
- Our jazz ensemble, the LCB Big Band, performs at local venues, summer concert series, and festivals, including JazzFest in Lansing's Old Town district.

OUR AUDIENCE

- Our audiences include music lovers of all ages!
- We have reached hundreds of local elementary and middle school students through our "Introduction to the Band" children's concerts.

FINANCIAL FACTS

- Although our musicians are not paid, the average cost of producing a concert is \$1,500–2,500; special guest soloists or groups add additional cost.
- The LCB is a 501(c)(3) organization, and is also a member of the Capital Region Community Foundation.
- We rely on a combination of individual donations, support from businesses and foundations, grants, concert sponsorships, and other earned revenue to cover the balance of our budget. For information on how to make a gift to the LCB, please email info@lansingconcertband.org.

Donations can be mailed to:
Lansing Concert Band
P.O. Box 11152; Lansing, MI 48901



Steven Sudduth

LCB Artistic Director and Conductor

Dr. Steven Sudduth serves as the director of the Lansing Concert Band and also as conductor of the Southern Stars Symphonic Brass (a professional brass band in Crossville, TN). Previously, he was the interim director of bands and music education at the University of West Florida. Dr. Sudduth also taught at the University of the Cumberlands (KY), the University of South Dakota, Dickinson State University (ND), and Pfeiffer University (NC). Dr. Sudduth earned the doctor of musical arts at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and holds master's degrees in trombone performance and composition from Western

Michigan University and the University of Central Arkansas. He is very active as a conductor and clinician and is frequently sought as a guest conductor at state and regional honor bands. He has performed professionally with the South Dakota Brass Quintet, the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra, Roanoke Opera Company, and the West Michigan Symphony. Active as a composer, Dr. Sudduth has written numerous compositions and arrangements for band and chamber music.



LCB WELCOMES

Algie Watkins

Special guest pianist

Algie Watkins has been actively involved performing and teaching in the Lansing area music scene for a very long time. He has a long history of keyboard performances in and music direction of musical productions at venues such as Lansing Catholic Central, Everett, and Eastern High Schools, Lansing Christian School, Riverwalk Theatre, and

with the Capitol Area Performers at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center Performing Arts Theater. In both 2006 and 2012, he was honored as recipient of the Riverwalk Theatre Music Director Award. He has also served as director of music and organist for many local churches over the years. Currently, Algie teaches private piano lessons and serves as director of music for Lansing's North Westminster Presbyterian Church. But you can also find him playing keyboard with the LCB Big Band on stage with us or at venues across the greater Lansing area.

*Performing with the LCB Big Band at
JazzFest in Lansing's Old Town district*



Autumn Winds

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

East Lansing H.S. Auditorium

Concert Host
Dr. Ken Salzman

Armenian Dances (Part I)

Alfred Reed

At Morning's First Light

David R. Gillingham

Guest conductor Michael Larsen

Rhapsody in Blue

George Gershwin; arr. D. Hunsberger

Piano soloist Algie Watkins

INTERMISSION

The Gallant Seventh March

John Philip Sousa

Kalos Eidos (Kaleidoscope)

Carol Brittin Chambers (ASCAP)

October

Eric Whitacre

The Star of Dreams

Robert W. Smith (ASCAP)

Commissioned by bandleader Paul Whiteman, *Rhapsody in Blue* combines elements of classical music with jazz-influenced effects. The work premiered in a concert titled “An Experiment in Modern Music” on February 12, 1924, in New York City. Whiteman’s band performed with composer George Gershwin himself playing the piano.

On the piece’s inspiration, Gershwin recounted, “It was on the train, with its steely rhythms, its rattle-ty bang, that is so often so stimulating to a composer... And there I suddenly heard—and even saw on paper—the complete construction of the rhapsody, from beginning to end. I heard it as a sort of musical kaleidoscope of America, of our vast melting pot, of our unduplicated national pep, of our metropolitan madness...”

Rhapsody in Blue is one of Gershwin’s most recognizable creations and a key composition that defined the Jazz Age. In *American Heritage* magazine, Frederic D. Schwarz stated that the famous opening clarinet glissando has become as instantly recognizable to concert audiences as the opening of Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony.



LCB WELCOMES

Michael Larsen

Special guest conductor

Mike Larsen is in his 28th year of teaching and is the Director of Bands for Haslett Public Schools teaching both middle school and high school bands. Prior to his current teaching assignment, Mike taught for the Kaleva Norman Dickson School District, Manistee Catholic Central School, and Mio AuSable Schools. He earned his Bachelor of Music Education and Masters of Music Education Degrees from Central Michigan University. He is an active member of

the MSBOA, serving the association as District Solo and Ensemble VP, Adjudicator VP, President, Music Education committee and Member Emeritus committee chair. He has also served as the State Secretary/Treasurer. In 2007 he was elected into the membership of the American School Band Director's Association (ASBDA) and currently serves as the State Chair for the Michigan Chapter. Mike is happily married to his wife Meaghan, and they have three children, Madelyn, Caleb, and Kerstin.

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Become a patron of the arts in mid-Michigan by sponsoring one of our season concerts. Ticket sales cover only a small portion of our concert expenses. Advertisements in the regular season printed programs are a very important source of support, however some concerts have higher costs associated with them due to guest artists or rental fees of special venues.

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Composers



CAROL BRITTIN CHAMBERS
(b. 1970), currently the composer and owner of Aspenwood Music, is also a highly sought-after conductor and clinician. Chambers is commissioned

each year to compose and arrange works for concert band, marching band, orchestra, and various other ensembles. She was named the winner of the 2019 Women Band Directors International Composition Competition and has arranged and orchestrated marching shows for multitudes of high school bands nationwide, as well as the Crossmen Drum and Bugle Corps. She is also on the music faculty at Texas Lutheran University, teaching composition and serving as composer in residence. Chambers travels coast-to-coast conducting music ensembles of all ability levels and ages, and she has now joined the Conn Selmer Educational Team as an Educational Clinician.



GEORGE GERSHWIN
(1898-1937) began working as a Tin Pan Alley song plugger in his teens, demonstrating other people's songs, before his

older brother Ira began putting lyrics to Gershwin's own melodies. Within 10 years, they became the dominant Broadway songwriters! When Gershwin died at the age of 39, he was considered one of the most significant and popular American composers of all time, ranking with Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, and Richard Rodgers as one of the four greatest composers for the American musical theatre. He also wrote orchestral and piano

compositions in which he blended, in varying degrees, the techniques and forms of classical music with the stylistic nuances and techniques of popular music and jazz. He was largely considered to be the only popular composer of the twentieth century to have had a significant and lasting effect on the classical music world.



DAVID R. GILLINGHAM
(b. 1947) holds a doctorate in music theory and composition from Michigan State University and served on the Central

Michigan University faculty for many years. He is an American contemporary composer renowned for his significant contributions to the wind band and percussion ensemble repertoire. His work is characterized by its dramatic intensity, innovative orchestration, and profound emotional narrative, often exploring themes of conflict, spirituality, and human triumph. His body of work forms a central pillar of the modern wind band repertoire. Gillingham believes music must speak directly both to the performer and the listener, and often weaves narrative or programmatic elements into his works to provide an emotional and intellectual anchor. He has an equal commitment to accessibility and musical integrity, and his works are meticulously crafted and rich in complexity. Many of his works for winds are now considered standards in the repertoire.



ALFRED REED
(1921-2005) began studying trumpet at age ten, and by high school age he was performing professionally at resort hotels in the Catskills. Ultimately,

his interests shifted from performing to arranging and composition, and he became staff composer and arranger first for NBC

and then later for ABC. Later, Reed became conductor of the Baylor University Symphony Orchestra where he completed his academic work, receiving Bachelor and Master of Music degrees. He became interested in the problems of educational music at all levels, especially the development of repertoire for school groups. He also had a long career on faculty at the University of Miami School of Music. Reed was one of America's most prolific and frequently performed composers, with more than 250 published works for concert band, wind ensemble, orchestra, chorus, and chamber ensemble. At the time of his death, he had composition commissions that would have taken him to the age of 115 to complete.



JOHN PHILIP SOUSA (1854-1932)

wanted to run away to join a circus band when he was a boy, but his father enlisted him as an apprentice in the U.S. Marine Corps Band instead.

The rest, as they say, is history! He is credited with raising the U.S. Marine Corps Band to the highest standards of musical performance during his more than 10 years at the helm. He then spent the next 30 years touring the world with Sousa's Band, the most popular band in the world at that time, which included many of the world's finest wind players. "America's March King" also composed 15 operettas, at least 70 songs, and many original works for band, as well as producing several books and articles. He was an outspoken advocate for musicians and composers, helping to found ASCAP to protect the rights of music composers and publishers.



ROBERT W. SMITH (1958-2023) was a popular and prolific American conductor, educator, clinician, composer, and arranger, with over 700 publications in

print. His music has received extensive airplay on network television as well as inclusion in multiple motion pictures and television productions. His original works for winds and percussion have been programmed by countless military, university, high school, and middle school bands throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, South America, and Asia. As a conductor, clinician, and keynote speaker, Smith has performed globally as well. His classical compositions have received worldwide critical acclaim, and his educational compositions have become standards for developing bands throughout the world. His body of work has left an indelible mark on music programs across the world, inspiring both novice students and seasoned professionals alike, and his music speaks to audiences in any concert setting.



ERIC WHITACRE (b. 1970) is an award-winning American composer, conductor, and arranger. His works are programmed worldwide, and his ground-breaking

Virtual Choirs have united more than 100,000 singers from more than 145 countries. A graduate of the Juilliard School of Music, Whitacre is currently visiting composer at Cambridge's Pembroke College, and is an ambassador for the Royal College of Music in London. He is one of today's most popular and most often performed composers. While he might be most famous for his choral music, he also has contributed extensively to wind ensemble repertoire, where he adapts his textural and harmonic sensibilities to instrumental forces. His music is known for its rich harmonies, lush textures, and the use of close intervals and tone clusters to create immersive, meditative soundscapes, all generally set with subtle metric shifts and carefully designed dynamics and pacing.

THE LANSING CONCERT BAND ENDOWMENT



LCB
ENDOWMENT

The Lansing Concert Band Endowment Fund was established in 2009 through the Capital Region Community Foundation to provide long-term support of the band. You can make a contribution to the LCB Endowment Fund by visiting the CRCF website (QR code at left):

<https://godonate.akoyago.com/CRCF/fund/lansing-concert-band-endowment-fund>

Estate Plans to Leave Your Legacy - Please also consider including the LCB Endowment Fund in your estate plan. Naming opportunities are available. For more info, email Jeff Padden at paddenjd@yahoo.com. A simple bequest form is available at lansingconcertband.org/donate.html

Tax Benefits: The CRCF qualifies as a 501(c)(3) public charity under federal law, and contributions receive favorable—and in some cases unique—income, gift, capital gains, and estate tax treatment. The Lansing Concert Band is also a nonprofit public charity recognized as tax-exempt by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3).

Email: info@lansingconcertband.org

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—Bono

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In memory of Robert Scott
In honor of Jeff Padden's birthday

**We have also received \$69,576
in anonymous donations since
our endowment's inception.**

***"The true beauty of music is that it connects people.
It carries a message, and we, the musicians, are the
messengers."*** —Roy Ayers

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—Hector Berlioz

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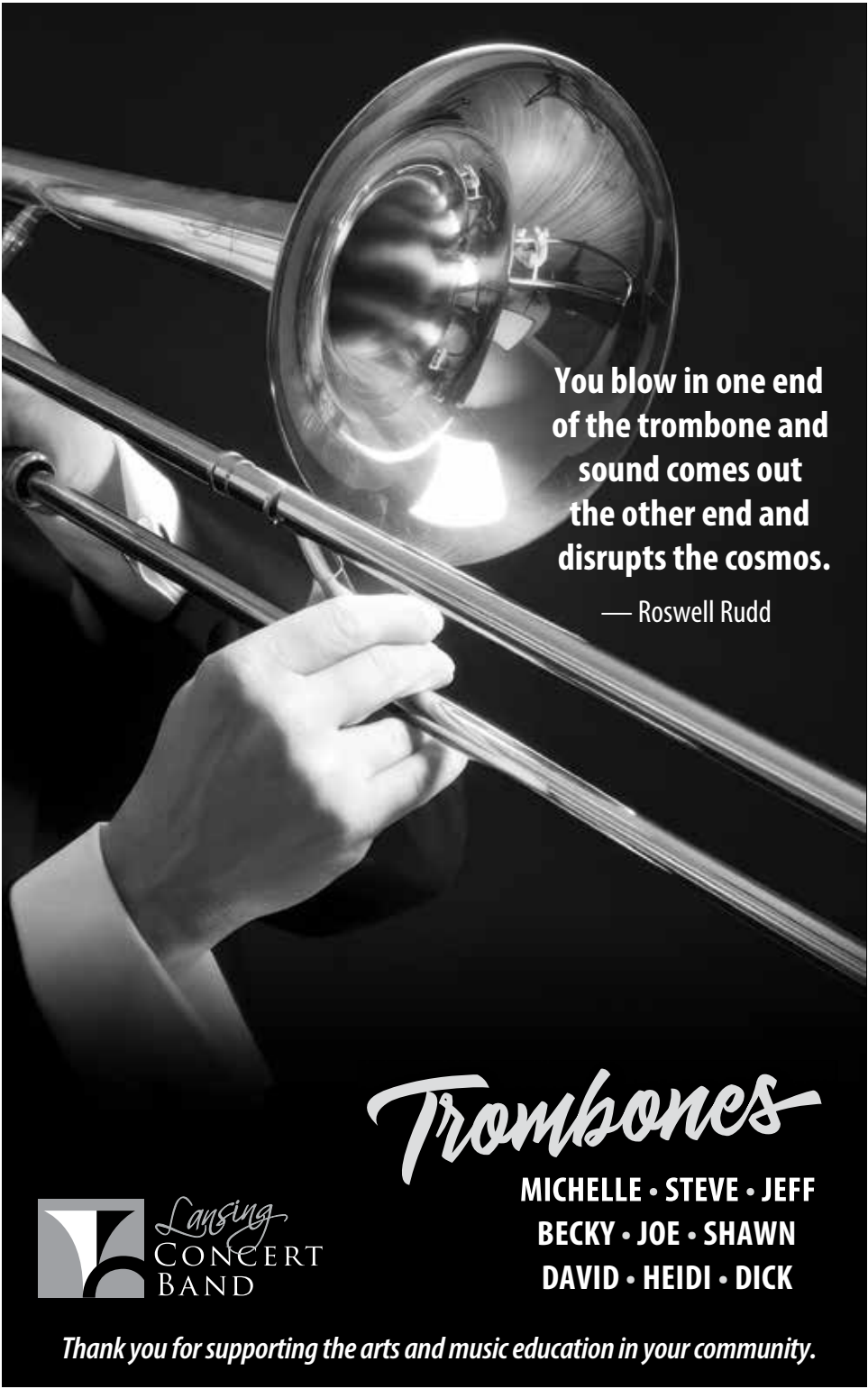
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the other end and
disrupts the cosmos.

— Roswell Rudd

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9:30 a.m. registration and

10:00 a.m. rehearsal at Marshall Music

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Performer registration \$15

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LCB TUBAS

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Up Next

Our jazz ensemble, The LCB Big Band, will present their 2nd annual ***Jazzy Little Christmas*** at the Grand Ledge Opera House on **Saturday, December 5, 6:30 p.m.** Mark your calendars for an evening of holiday swing music! Tickets will be available through the Opera House:
gloperahouse.com

LCB's annual ***Festive Sounds*** concert will be held **Sunday, December 6, 3:00 p.m.** at East Lansing High School. Classic and contemporary holiday music, along with The LCB Big Band opening the show! Santa Claus usually stops in for some fun, too. Celebrate the season at our annual *Festive Sounds!*



lansingconcertband.org

The Lansing Concert Band is a nonprofit,
public charity recognized as tax-exempt by
the IRS under Section 501(c)(3).