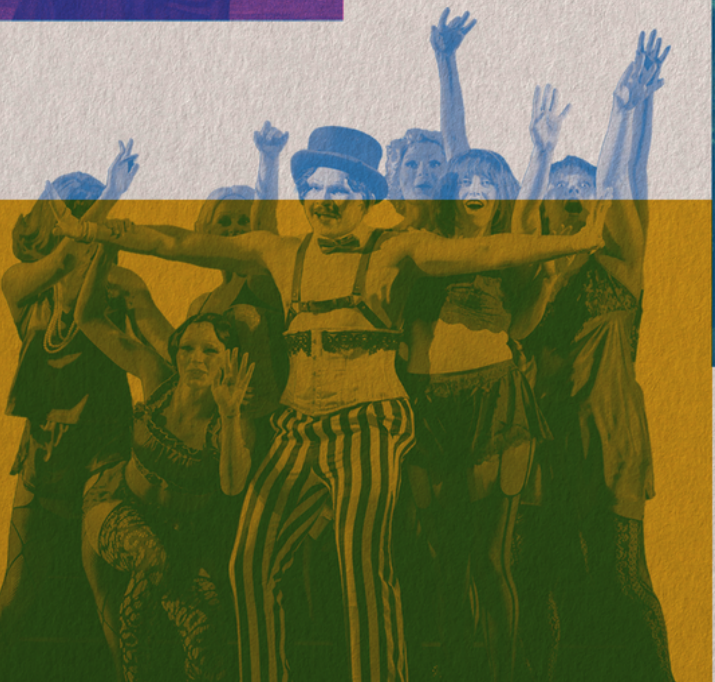
# ON STAGE







CHARLOTTE
COLLEGE OF ARTS + ARCHITECTURE

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**About the College of Arts + Architecture**

Grounded in a commitment to excellent teaching, the College of Arts + Architecture sparks curiosity, fosters innovative research and anchors collaborative projects that empower and sustain communities.

The College of Arts + Architecture will infuse the university's urban mission with arts and design, creative research and collaborative projects that inspire cultural vibrancy throughout Charlotte, the region and beyond.

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE
COLLEGE OF ARTS + ARCHITECTURE

The Department of Music presents

# UNC Charlotte Concert Band

Hunter Kopczynski and Brian Taylor,
conductors

Ashley Bazzardi, Rebecca Cotrone,
Aileen Enriquez, and Lillian Lutz,
student conductors

Anne R. Belk Theater
Robinson Hall for the Performing Arts
Friday, November 20, 2026 | 7:30 pm
coaa.charlotte.edu

# Program

**Ragamuffins** (2019) Danielle Fisher (b. 1986)

**Canto** (1977) W. Francis McBeth (1933-2012)

Aileen Enriquez, student conductor

**The Haunted Carousel** (2015) Erika Svanoe (b. 1976)

Lillian Lutz, student conductor

**Loch Lomond** (2002) Frank Ticheli (b. 1958)

Ashley Bazzardi, student conductor

**Autobahn** (2008) Ryan George (b. 1978)

**Rocketship!** (2017) Kevin Day (b. 1996)

Rebecca Cotrone, student conductor

# Program Notes

**RAGAMUFFINS: SHENANIGANS AND TOMFOOLERY FOR BAND** | Danielle Fisher

This concert march is based off of a 12-tone row given to me by my colleague and friend, Patrick Dietz. This 12-tone pattern is a theme throughout the piece. This is a quirky and entertaining march that is truly full of shenanigans and tomfoolery!

- Program note by the composer

**CANTO** | W. Francis McBeth

*Canto* was commissioned by and dedicated to the All-Japan Band Association on the occasion of their 40th anniversary. It was commissioned for the national contest as a required work for the Japanese junior high school bands.

The composition is loosely based on the melody *Sakura*, which is well known to all Japanese children. The hand-clapping part by different sections is vital to the rhythmic movement of the piece and also much fun for the participants.

- Program note from *Program Notes for Band*

**THE HAUNTED CAROUSEL** | Erika Svanoe

*The Haunted Carousel* was conceived as a piece for band utilizing the sound of the theremin, an electronic instrument often used in old science fiction and horror movies.

- Program note by the composer

**LOCH LOMOND** | Frank Ticheli

Ticheli's setting of the famous folksong is simple yet charming, preserving faithfully the melody and adding interesting harmonic vocabulary. *Loch Lomond* tells the tale of two Scottish soldiers who were imprisoned at Carlisle Castle in England, following the Battle of Culloden Moor. One

of the soldiers was to be executed, while the other was to be set free. According to Celtic legend, those who died in foreign lands had their spirits travel to their homelands through the “low road,” the route for the souls of the departed. The song is from the point of view of the soldier to be executed, who tells his friend “ye’ll tak’ the high road and I’ll tak’ the low road,” in effect saying that the freed soldier will return alive, while he himself would return in spirit. He remembers his past and the “bonnie lass” (pretty girl) he will never see again, and sadly accepts death.

*Loch Lomond* was commissioned by the Stewarton Academy Senior Wind Ensemble of East Ayrshire, Scotland, Nigel Durno, conductor. It received its premiere on 18 June 2002 by the commissioning ensemble at Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow, Scotland.

- Program note by Nikk Pilato

**AUTOBAHN** | Ryan George

Snaking through central Europe is a unique highway system called the Autobahn. What makes this highway special is the absence of speed limits. Your only hindrance is the performance ability of the vehicle you are driving.

In writing this piece, I wanted to focus less on the idea of speed and more on the freedom and exhilaration that one feels while driving on a road with no limitations. In the beginning of the work, fast cars whiz by (as imitated by the slide-gliss in the trombones) as the “driver” begins to accelerate onto the highway. Driving fast is a real thrill until they run into traffic. Honking horns and police sirens add to the frustration. The traffic eventually clears, though, and the driver puts the pedal to the metal and cruises off into the European countryside.

The work is dedicated to the students of the Glenn C. Jones Middle School Honor Band and their director, Dr. Tonya Millsap, whose ideas were the driving force behind this piece. A special thanks also goes to Jake Marbury who gave us the title for the work.

- Program note by the composer

**ROCKETSHIP!** | Kevin Day

*Rocketship!* is an energetic concert piece formed by two sections which express energy in different ways. The first is composed of short rhythmic patterns that start quietly before building to the end of each phrase. The second section introduces a marching snare drum solo accompanied by open fifths, known as power chords, in the winds. Brief motives accompany the sustained power chords, but quickly dissipate as a new motive begins. The different sections shrink as the composition develops until they are played one after the other at the very end.

- Program note by Cole Hairston

# About the Conductors



**Brian Taylor** joined the faculty of UNC Charlotte as Director of Athletic Bands in 2023 and directs the Pride of Niner Nation Marching Band, the 49er Basketball Band, and the Symphonic Band in addition to teaching courses in music education. He maintains an active clinic and judging schedule around North Carolina, and has presented on motivational rehearsal strategies, chamber music, and leadership development at TMEA, NCMEA, and KMEA.

Dr. Taylor earned his DMA and MM in Wind Conducting at Michigan State University under the supervision of Dr. Kevin Sedatole. Before beginning his graduate studies, he taught high school and middle school band in the Dallas/Fort Worth area for four years. He earned his BM and BA from the University of Texas where he studied under Jerry Junkin, Bob Duke, and Ray Sasaki. His professional memberships include the College Band Directors National Association, NAfME, and NCMEA.



**Hunter Kopczynski** serves as Director of Bands and Assistant Professor of Music at UNC Charlotte, where he conducts the UNC Charlotte Wind Ensemble, teaches courses in conducting and music education, and conducts and administers the Charlotte Youth Wind Ensembles.

An active adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor, Kopczynski has led ensembles and presented at numerous state, regional, and national music education conferences, including presenting at the Midwest Clinic. He frequently serves as a clinician and guest conducts ensembles across the country. Passionate about teaching conducting and music education at all levels, he developed and leads the annual Charlotte Band Directors Workshop and Conducting Symposium at UNC Charlotte. He is an advocate for the expansion and development of the wind repertoire through

frequent commissions, collaborations, and premieres. In his research and teaching, Kopczynski is especially interested in the intersection of experience, repertoire, and curriculum to influence ensemble culture.

Kopczynski comes to Charlotte after holding similar positions at Mars Hill University and in the public schools of Virginia. At MHU, he coordinated the band program, conducted the wind symphony, and taught courses in the department of music. Additionally, he served as conductor of the Asheville Symphony Youth Orchestra. Before his time in Asheville, Kopczynski completed his graduate degrees at Michigan State University, where he held instructional and musical responsibilities with each of the concert and athletic bands and served the Graduate School as a Leadership Fellow. Additionally, he produced and directed the Musique21 New Music Ensemble and assisted with MSU Opera. Prior to graduate study, he successfully led and grew high school and middle school band programs in the school systems of Roanoke County and Williamsburg-James City County, Virginia. Kopczynski earned the Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees in Wind Conducting from Michigan State University. He also completed a Master of Arts in Education and a Bachelor of Arts *summa cum laude* in Music from Virginia Tech. His principal conducting teachers were Kevin L. Sedatole and Travis J. Cross.

# Concert Band Personnel

FLUTE
Emma-Leigh Calloway
John Ebbert
Derek Ortiz
Ava Pomeroy
Molly Roberts
Jay Rodgers
Isabelle Trejos

CLARINET
Aileen Enriquez
Katie Kaylor
Lillian Lutz
Kyra Price
Rashaan Simmons
Charlotte Slaughter
John Thornton

BASSOON
Tyler Horton
Mason Tortorelli

SAXOPHONE
Ashley Bazzardi
Emerson Carpenter
Hannah Gibson
Lucas Harris
Riley Reece
Matthew Sluder

TRUMPET
Ty Benjamin
Mitchell Mai

Josh Slaughter
Jaelyn Roberson
Evan Rochford
Gabe Rodriguez

HORN
Sara Barlowe
Mike Macintyre

TROMBONE
Rebecca Cotrone
Lynn Frausto
Jackson Goddard
Joel McCarroll
K'mari Spikes

EUPHONIUM
Lauren O'Brien
Mac McMurry
Lily Nichols

TUBA
Cameron Gewirtzman
Hans Gildore
Mitchell Hyde
Sean Raffan

PERCUSSION
Bharat Bali
Aidan Bass
Tyler Caldwell
Katie Leedom
Ellis Martin
Ana Pinkerton

# About UNC Charlotte Bands

The UNC Charlotte Bands are widely recognized for innovative performances, unique concert experiences, and exciting collaborations that highlight the wealth of cultural and artistic opportunities of the Charlotte region. The program consists of The Pride of Niner Nation Marching Band and athletic bands, three concert bands, jazz ensemble, jazz combos, and chamber music. The Wind Ensemble is the university's most advanced ensemble for winds and percussion and is composed exclusively of undergraduates, including music majors, minors, and students from other majors across campus. In addition to on campus performances, the ensemble regularly performs at venues throughout Charlotte and frequently tours North Carolina and the Southeast. The ensemble has performed multiple times at NCMEA and College Band Directors National Association Southern Division conferences.

Often working with guest conductors and artists from the United States and abroad, the UNC Charlotte Bands performs a variety of music including traditional, contemporary, and chamber repertoire. An especially important mission of the University Bands program is the advocacy and expansion of the wind repertoire through new music. The Wind Ensemble is active in commissioning and premiering new music for winds and percussion, including recent commissions with John Allemeier, Steven Bryant, Nathan Daughtrey, Henry Dorn, Roshanne Etezady, Keaton Garrett, Amanda Harberg, Ricardo Lorenz, John Mackey, and Alex Shapiro.

The Pride of Niner Nation Marching Band has become well-known throughout North Carolina and the Southeast Region. The band has been invited to perform exhibitions at numerous marching competitions throughout the region and has performed half-time shows for the Carolina Panthers and Charlotte Hornets. In June 2018 they traveled to Normandy, France to represent the United States at official ceremonies of the 74$^{th}$ D-Day Commemoration.

# About Music at Charlotte

The UNC Charlotte Department of Music is a community of nationally recognized artists, scholars, and pedagogues who are committed to preparing students of diverse backgrounds and interests for healthy, productive, and successful lives as musical advocates and professionals. We leverage our location within both a major research university and a vibrant cultural metropolis to provide intellectual and artistic leadership through excellence in teaching, scholarly and creative activity, and service.

Located in a state-of-the-art teaching and performance facility, the Department of Music offers music majors and minors intensive professional programs in brass, woodwinds, strings, voice, percussion, and piano, as well as first-rate studies in opera, musical theatre, and jazz. The Department offers numerous opportunities for UNC Charlotte students from all majors in all colleges to participate in bands, choirs, orchestras, and jazz ensembles.

Our degree offerings include the Bachelor of Music with concentrations in

- Instrumental Music Education
- Choral/General Music Education
- Instrumental Performance
- Vocal Performance
- Composition
- Jazz Studies

Additionally we offer a flexible Bachelor of Arts in Music, which allows students the ability to study music along with an additional major. Beyond our majors, we offer a minor in music and certificates in Jazz Studies and Musical Theatre.

Learn more about **Music at Charlotte**

Information about **Music Admissions**

Complete our **Music Interest Form**

## UNC Charlotte Wind & Percussion Faculty

Jennifer Dior, flute
Elizabeth Sullivan, oboe
Nicholas Ritter, bassoon
Jessica Lindsey, clarinet
Will Campbell, saxophone
Ben Still, saxophone
Eric Millard, trumpet
Byron Johns, horn
Kevin Dugat, trombone/euphonium
Joseph Skillen, tuba/euphonium
Rick Dior, percussion
Dylan Savage, piano

## Support the Department of Music

The Music Department's Chair's Excellence Fund supports student welfare, class supplies, scholarship assistance, recruiting, lecture series, school-wide events, promotion, and related needs.
To make a gift and impact our students, **please visit this link**.
Thank you for your support!

# CoA+A Production Arts and Operations

Dean Adams, Senior Associate Dean for Performing Arts
Hali Hutchison-Houk, Production Manager
Liz Paradis, Director of Audience Services
Beth Rucker, Business Services Coordinator
Liz Wooley, Performing Arts Operations Manager
Christina Beam, Costume Lab Manager
Meena Carr, Assistant Technical Director
Rachel Engstrom, Senior Lecturer, Costume Lab Supervisor / Designer
Matthew B. Fraiser, Senior Lecturer, Technical Director
Rick Moll, Senior Lecturer, Production Electrician
Gordon W. Olson, Senior Lecturer, Lighting Designer
Benjamin G. Stickels, Senior Lecturer, Audio Engineer, Asst. Production Manager
Rachel Swenson Flaherty, Senior Lecturer, Stage Management
Dan Mulder, Technology Engineer
Hazel Doherty, Chloe Shade, & Noah Tepper, Music Stage Managers
Tammy McNamara, House Management Supervisor
Alyssa Barry, House Manager

## Patron Services Representatives

Maggie Britt, Sommiya Brown, Briana Gerena-Rojas, Alex Lozier, Gabriel Tewell

## Robinson Hall Technicians

Olivia Bader, Ethan Barros, Caleb Basham, Jaleel Eddie, Daniel Gaddy, Alex McLellan, Teddy Rayworth, Veronica Salas, Naomi Wilson

# College of Arts + Architecture Upcoming Events

## NOVEMBER

John Proctor Is the Villain
by Kimberly Belflower
Fri Nov 20 & Sat Nov 21 | 7:30 pm
Sun Nov 22 | 2:00 pm
Booth Playhouse, Blumenthal Arts Center

Gospel Choir
Mon Nov 23 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

Percussion Ensemble
Mon Nov 30 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

## DECEMBER

Women's & Men's Choirs
Tue Dec 1 | 7:30 pm (W) & 8:30 pm (M)
Anne R. Belk Theater

University Chorale
Wed Dec 2 | 7:30 pm
Anne R. Belk Theater

### Join our Mailing List

**Please fill out this form** to sign up for our mailing list and receive information about upcoming events in the CoA+A!

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