

# The St. John's Band

under the direction of  
Ms. Bethany Higgins



# The Minnesota State Band

under the direction of  
Keith Liuzzi, Conductor  
Evan Varns, Associate Conductor



**Present:**

## A Spring Spectacular!

Thursday, May 25, 2023

Saint John's Catholic Church of Little Canada  
Little Canada, MN 55117



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The Minnesota State Band extends  
our sincere thanks and deep  
appreciation to  
**Mr. Rupert Strobel**  
for sponsoring this evening's concert.

Special thanks to Bethany Higgins,  
Dan Hurley, and Anne Jacobs for  
coordinating the logistics, and to St.  
John's Church for hosting this event.



**The Band would like to extend special appreciation to our  
Associate Members. Thank you for your support!**

**Gold Associate Members**

Barbara Brauer                      Rupert Strobel

**Silver Associate Members**

Robert English	Art & Donna Hogenson
Dan & Jane Lambrides	Art Lemka
Naurine D. Lennox	Lori Mobley
Thomas Ostertag	Andrew & Carol Whitman
Delores Zbikowski	

**Bronze Associate Members**

Teresa Cerling	Sharon Heaton
Irma Johnson	Howard Leathers
Bonnie McLellan	Agnes Reek

## **St. John's Band Program**

- Eye of the Tiger (1982) .....Arranged by Michael Story
- Midnight Sky (2006).....Brian Balmages (b. 1975)
- Viking! (2016)..... Michael Sweeney (b. 1952)

## **Combined Ensemble**

- The Last Dragon (2006)..... Rob Grice (b. 1958)

## **Minnesota State Band Program**

- The Minnesota State Band Fanfare (2023) ..... Glen Newton (b. 1947)
- Third Army March (1945) ..... Gregorio A. Diaz (1905 – 1989)  
Ed./arr. Silas N. Huff
- Beguine for Band (1951) ..... Glenn Osser (1914 – 2014)
- Folk Song Suite (1924) .....R. Vaughan Williams (1872 – 1958)  
No.1 March – “Seventeen Come Sunday”
- America the Beautiful (1977) .....Arr. Robert Wetzler
- An Original Suite (1928)..... Gordon Jacob (1895 – 1984)  
Edited by C.P. Heidenreich  
No. 1 March
- Highlights from Mary Poppins (1963) .....Arranged by Alfred Reed
- The Invincible Eagle (1901)..... John Philip Sousa (1854 - 1932)  
Edited and interpreted by Harold R. Gore
- Where Eagles Soar (2003)..... Steven Reineke (b. 1970)
- The Stars and Stripes Forever (1896) ..... John Philip Sousa (1854 – 1932)

## St. John's Band Personnel

### Flute

Elsa Kimmel

### Clarinet

George Machkhasvili

### Saxophone

Luca Pomerleau

Rohan Wolfe

### French Horn

Ben Morin

## Minnesota State Band Personnel 2023

<b>Flute/Piccolo</b>	<b>Alto Saxophone</b>	<b>Trombone</b>
Suzanne Benson ('21)	Melanie Day ('21)	Jack Kennedy ('18)
Gail Bullard ('09)	Linda Lundstrom ('23)	Isaac Smithee ('23)
Teresa Cerling ('19)	Eric Taylor ('22)	Michael Sweet ('16)
Nita Cunningham ('22)		
Carrie Halden ('04)	<b>Tenor Saxophone</b>	<b>Bass Trombone</b>
Cindi Johnson ('23)	Peter Wickert ('22)	Jim ten Bensel ('22)
Laura Millberg ('09)		
	<b>Baritone Saxophone</b>	<b>Euphonium</b>
<b>Oboe</b>	Devin Naumann ('21)	Dennis Opland ('08)
Eric Laska ('18)		Jonathan Wharton ('23)
Rosemary O'Connell ('16)	<b>Trumpet</b>	Jason Wiley ('22)
	Brian Black ('22)	
<b>English Horn</b>	Shirley Christenson ('17)	<b>Tuba</b>
Rosemary O'Connell ('16)	Carol Jensen ('18)	W Rayford Johnson ('16)
	Andy Mobley ('02)	John Moore ('00)
<b>Clarinet</b>	Dan Newland ('97)	Thomas Wells ('18)
Laura Doebler ('17)	Donna Novey-Clark ('22)	
Al Heckwork ('23)	Charlie Ryan ('22)	<b>Percussion</b>
Donna Hogenson ('06)	Walt Skidmore ('11)	Craig Allen ('02)
Frederick Larson ('03)		Barbara Brauer ('71)
Jackie Sczepanski ('23)	<b>French Horn</b>	Chuck Campana ('20)
Elizabeth Zehnpfennig ('22)	Gerald Abraham ('19)	Julie Henry ('19)
	Lucy Davis ('21)	Allison Wyatt ('23)
<b>Bass Clarinet</b>	Jim McCreary ('10)	
Evan Varns ('00)	Alison Penner Rahn ('23)	
	Lori Pfeifer ('21)	
<b>Bassoon</b>		
Clancy Theade ('19)		

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And on Facebook

## PROGRAM NOTES

**Eye of the Tiger (1982)** was the rock band Survivor's breakthrough hit, arriving when actor Sylvester Stallone asked them to provide the theme song for his movie *Rocky III*. It reached number 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, remaining there for six weeks, and was in the Top 40 for a total of eighteen weeks. It also topped the British charts and was Australia's number 1 single for four weeks. "Eye" went on to win the band a Grammy Award, was voted Best New Song by the People's Choice Awards and received an Academy Award nomination.

**Midnight Sky (2006)** is a beautiful moment of musical solitude in which listeners close their eyes and imagine a quiet moment under the stars, uninterrupted by the hustle and bustle of everyday life. We often forget to embrace those moments of peace and tranquility. This work seeks to bring that calmness back into our lives.

**The Last Dragon (2006)** is a sequel to a previous work titled *Dragon Slayer*. This new piece furthers the adventure, plunging you into an ancient world where the slayer must face his final and deadliest challenge.

**The Minnesota State Band Fanfare (2023)** is the winner of our fanfare composition contest. Written for the brass section of the band, it effectively emphasizes the sonorities of the brass as well as their jubilant brilliance to celebrate our 125th Anniversary.

**Third Army March (1945)** was written to celebrate the achievements of George Patton's famed army during World War II. Chief Warrant Officer Diaz, leader of the Third Army Band wanted to name the march after Patton, but the general declined. After the war when the Third Army Band was deactivated, the march fell into obscurity. In 2012, former Army bandsman Lawrence Devron discovered that the reincarnated Third Army Band used the theme from the movie *Patton* for ceremonies. When he happened upon a manuscript score for the march in a museum case, he realized how much more appropriate it would be for the band to use a march written for it. After some lobbying, the assistant conductor of the Army Band, Silas N. Huff, edited the work from the condensed score and conducted a recording, the first time it had been recorded since written 68 years before.

**Beguine for Band (1951)** is one of Osser's earliest and most popular works, organizing the characteristic beguine rhythm for concert band. The beguine originated as a popular dance of the West Indies that somewhat resembles the rumba. It became popular in the U.S. during the 1930's.

**Folk Song Suite (1923)** was written in 1923 and includes three movements. The first is a march entitled Seventeen Come Sunday and begins with the folksong of the movement's name with the melody in the woodwinds. It is followed by the folksong Pretty Caroline which features a solo clarinet and cornet, and the last melody in the first movement is Dives and Lazarus which features the lower instruments with the upper woodwinds playing against them.

**America the Beautiful (1977)** is one of the most beloved and popular of American patriotic songs. It has often been proposed as a replacement for the National Anthem. Its lyrics were originally published as a poem in 1875 by English professor Katharine Lee Bates who was inspired by the sights of her country during a summer trip to Pikes Peak. The melody was composed in 1882 by organist Samuel Ward as a tune for the old hymn "Oh Mother Dear Jerusalem"; he received his inspiration during a summertime ferry ride from Coney Island. This arrangement is by Minnesota composer Robert Wetzler.

**An Original Suite (1924)** was composed by Gordon Jacob while he was a student at the Royal Academy of Music. By his description, the title was given to the work by the publisher, Boosey & Hawkes, a decision he later regretted. Throughout the work, Jacob often emulates folk tunes. The March resembles a British march in structure. Listen for the same drum figure at the beginning and ending of the movement.

**Highlights from Mary Poppins (1963)** will have everyone humming. The only question is which of the songs you're going to hum on the way home. This medley from the Walt Disney movie contains: A Spoonful of Sugar, Chim Chim Cheree, Feed the Birds, and Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious.

**The Invincible Eagle (1901)** Sousa wrote this march for his band's performance at the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, New York, in 1901. Soon after its premiere, Sousa described the conviction and spirit which compelled him to compose this march, noting, "It is what I call one of my sunshine marches. Some of my heavy marches are intended to convey the impression of the stir and strife of warfare, but *The Invincible Eagle* shows the military spirit at its lightest and brightest – the parade spirit ... with the bravery of uniform, the sheen of silken stands, and the gleam of polished steel."

**Where Eagles Soar (2003)** is a concert overture portraying the beauty, grandeur, and freedom of the great state of Maine. It is also meant to represent the state of mind that occurs when someone realizes their full potential. As we grow and learn as human beings, we realize what unique and special talents we each possess and that we have a responsibility to use those gifts to enrich each other's lives.

**The Stars and Stripes Forever (1896)** is considered the finest march ever written, and at the same time one of the most patriotic ever conceived. As reported in the Philadelphia Public Ledger (May 15, 1897) "*... It is stirring enough to rouse the American eagle from his crag, and set him to shriek exultantly while he hurls his arrows at the aurora borealis.*" Aside from this flowery review, the march's reception was only slightly above average for a new Sousa march. With the passing years the march has endeared itself to the American people. That the players and audiences never tired of it is surely a measure of its greatness.

**Want to hear more of the Minnesota State Band?  
Join us at our other Summer Concerts!**

**Memorial Day Concert** – Monday, May 29, 2023; Time TBD  
Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 N. Lexington Pkwy. St. Paul

**Roseville Summer Concert** - Tuesday, July 11, 2023;  
7:00 PM; Roseville Central Park, Frank Rog Amphitheater,  
2540 Lexington Ave, Roseville, MN 55113

**Annual Como Park Concert Series**  
Wednesdays, August 9, 16 and 30; 7:00 PM; Como Lakeside  
Pavilion; 1360 Lexington Pkwy N; St Paul, MN 55103

## Become an Associate Member of the Minnesota State Band

The Minnesota State Band is proud of the many people who have taken an active interest in supporting the **“Only remaining State Band in the United States.”** We humbly seek your tax-deductible contribution to help keep our music tradition alive for another 125 years.

Associate membership runs from June 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024. Choose the contribution level that is right for you. The Minnesota State Band will list the names of all contributors in the Bronze, Silver and Gold categories in our concert programs.

Please fill out the form below and mail your contribution to Minnesota State Band, P.O. Box 130033, St. Paul, MN 55113. You can also give online by credit or debit card at <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Minnesota-State-Band>.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to become an Associate Member of the Minnesota State Band at the following level:

\_\_\_ Associate Level (\$30)      \_\_\_ Silver Level (\$100 - \$249)

\_\_\_ Bronze Level (\$50 - \$99)      \_\_\_ Gold Level (\$250 and up)

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to sponsor a concert for \$450.00.



