

# The Minnesota State Band

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



**Presents:**

## A Little Something for Everyone

**Wednesday, August 9, 2023; 7:00 PM**

**Como Lakeside Pavilion**

1360 Lexington Pkwy N  
Saint Paul, MN 55103

# Program

Mars & Venus March (2023)..... John Philip Sousa (1854 - 1932)  
Adapted by Brian Black

Earth Song (2012) .....Frank Ticheli (b. 1958)

Canticle of the Creatures (1984) .....Jim Curnow (b. 1943)  
*I. Prologue III. Sister Moon and Stars VI. Epilogue*

Porgy and Bess (1935).....George Gershwin (1897 - 1937)  
Arranged by James Barnes

Bayou Breakdown (2004) .....Brant Karrick (b. 1960)

## INTERMISSION

50 Miniatures Suite ..... Michael Mikulka (b. 1985)  
*10. Minimarch 13. Bittersweet Rag 12. Neoclassical Scherzo*  
*16. Grand Marches 18. Needle's Eye*

Beguine for Band (1954)..... Glenn Osser (1914 - 2014)

Carmen Suite from the Opera (2000).....Georges Bizet (1838 - 1875)  
Transcribed by Clark McAlister; Edited by Alfred Reed  
*1 Prelude to Act I 2. Aragonaise 3. Habañera 4 Toreador's Song*

Old and New (2003) ..... Alfred Reed (1921 - 2005)

Highlights from Mary Poppins (1963) ..... Arranged by Alfred Reed  
*A Spoonful of Sugar Chim Chim Cheree Feed the Birds*  
*Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious*

## Minnesota State Band Personnel 2023

<b>Flute/Piccolo</b>	<b>Alto Saxophone</b>	<b>Trombone</b>
Suzanne Benson ('21)	Melanie Day ('21)	Nick Jensen ('23)
Gail Bullard ('09)	Linda Lundstrom ('23)	Jack Kennedy ('18)
Teresa Cerling ('19)		Isaac Smithee ('23)
Nita Cunningham ('22)	<b>Tenor Saxophone</b>	Michael Sweet ('16)
Carrie Halden ('04)	Peter Wickert ('22)	
Cindi Johnson ('23)		<b>Bass Trombone</b>
Laura Millberg ('09)	<b>Baritone Saxophone</b>	Jim ten Bensel ('22)
	Devin Naumann ('21)	
<b>Oboe</b>		<b>Euphonium</b>
Eric Laska ('18)	<b>Trumpet</b>	Dennis Opland ('08)
Rosemary O'Connell ('16)	Brian Black ('22)	Jonathan Wharton ('23)
	Shirley Christenson ('17)	Jason Wiley ('22)
<b>English Horn</b>	Carol Jensen ('18)	
Rosemary O'Connell ('16)	Andy Mobley ('02)	<b>Tuba</b>
	Dan Newland ('97)	W Rayford Johnson ('16)
<b>Clarinet</b>	Donna Novey-Clark ('22)	John Moore ('00)
Anthony Afful ('17)	Charlie Ryan ('22)	Thomas Wells ('18)
Al Hecker ('23)	Carson Sehr ('23)	
Donna Hogenson ('06)	Walt Skidmore ('11)	<b>Percussion</b>
Sara Kysylczyn ('23)	Brittany Zastrow ('23)	Craig Allen ('02)
Frederick Larson ('03)		Chuck Campana ('20)
Carmen Nickish ('98)	<b>French Horn</b>	Julie Henry ('19)
Jackie Sczepanski ('23)	Gerald Abraham ('19)	Allison Wyatt ('23)
Elizabeth Zehnpfennig ('22)	Lucy Davis ('21)	
	Ishpreet Singh Kohli ('22)	
<b>Bass Clarinet</b>	Jim McCreary ('10)	
Evan Varns ('00)	Alison Penner Rahn ('23)	
	Lori Pfeifer ('21)	
<b>Bassoon</b>		
Gayle McClellan ('23)		
Clancy Theade ('19)		

Follow us online: [www.minnesotastateband.org](http://www.minnesotastateband.org)

And on Facebook

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

**Annual Como Park Concert Series**

Wednesdays, August 16 and 30; 7:00 PM; Como Lakeside Pavilion; 1360 Lexington Pkwy N; St Paul, MN 55103

## PROGRAM NOTES

**Mars & Venus March (2023)** is the third movement of John Philip Sousa's *Looking Upward Suite*. The idea for the march came while Sousa was gazing at the heavens on a clear evening. Sousa's suites were prominently featured in his band concerts, but they do not enjoy great popularity today. One reason for this is because Sousa could interpret his own music far more effectively than any other conductor. This new adaptation by Minnesota State Band member Brian Black was written in celebration of the Band's 125th anniversary.

**Earth Song (2012)** features sweeping melodic lines and intense dynamic contrast, capturing the gamut of emotion in this beautiful transcription for band. Originally composed for unaccompanied voices with Ticheli's own text as inspiration, the work unites the power of words and images with melody, harmony, and dynamics.

**Canticle of the Creatures (1984)** takes its inspiration from the writings of St. Francis of Assisi (1181-1226), founder of the Franciscan religious order. His simple life of poverty inspired many, and he is admired because of his love and respect for all creation. He expressed his religious ideas in poems as well as through ministry. These poems were not written to be read in prayer books, but to be sung by the friars as part of their preaching and devotions. *Canticle of the Creatures* sings praise to many of God's creations, with each movement depicting the stanza of the poem after which it is titled.

**Porgy and Bess (1935)** premiered on Broadway in 1935 and has been controversial ever since. Although the story about an African American community was created by White collaborators, Gershwin insisted that all performances be by Black casts. And while it offered valuable opportunities for Black artists, it was criticized as an inappropriate depiction of Black culture, with dialect that reinforced stereotypes. Yet *Porgy and Bess* has endured, resonating with audiences of all backgrounds. At its core, it's a very human story, about connections and choices made in difficult times, with melodies that move us.

**Bayou Breakdown (2004)** began as an attempt to write a fugue in the style of Johann Sebastian Bach. The main melody is introduced in a four-part fugue scored for woodwinds, followed by a second statement of the fugue by the brass. A brief transition introduces a folk song-like lyrical theme based on a pentatonic scale. Another transition takes the piece to its most dissonant section, evoking a poorly played waltz. The main melody attempts to reappear but is swept away by a progression of descending chromatic chords. After a complete stop, the initial fugue returns featuring solos by the clarinet, bassoon, alto saxophone, oboe, trumpet, and tuba. After a few short trio statements of the main tune, the piece ends with a flurry from the full band.

**50 Miniatures** is a set of 50 short compositions for wind band; each is between 45 seconds and 3 minutes in duration. Five of these miniatures have been selected to comprise this suite, highlighting different styles and musical moods.

**Beguine for Band (1954)** is a classic work for band that has been a staple in the repertoire for decades. It is one of Glenn Osser's earliest and most popular works, organizing the characteristic Latin style of the beguine and beautifully adapting it for wind band. Scored with plenty of variety and texture changes, this is a unique change of pace that offers a bit of band history. The beguine originated as a popular dance of the West Indies that somewhat resembles the rumba and became popular in the U.S. during the 1930's.

**Carmen Suite from the Opera (2000)** Georges Bizet is probably best known today for his opera *Carmen*. At its premiere, critics (and the audience) found the work unsatisfactory in both content and approach. However, the opera soon became a triumphant success and has since been staged regularly in opera houses throughout the world. This adaptation of the musical score for concert band, a suite in four movements, retains the spirit of the original production.

**Old and New (2003)**, subtitled *Altes und Neues*, is a symphonic march for wind orchestra. The *New Groves' Dictionary of American Music* defines the march in plain enough terms: "A basic walking step and the generic

term for a variety of music that could be used to accompany this step in parades and in dance." But of course, precise though this definition may be, it scarcely conveys the special vibrancy of the genre, or for that matter, the function of the form, which is to rouse the spirit. This march is guaranteed to raise your spirit.

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

**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

Kathleen Vang

Ray Voelker

Doug Watnemo

## 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.