

GALACTIC ADVENTURES

Presented by

VIRGINIA WIND SYMPHONY

Directed by

CAPT Brian O. Walden
and
Dr. Terry Austin

with the

BAY YOUTH
ORCHESTRAS OF VIRGINIA
CONCERT BAND

Directed by

Mr. Michael Oare

Sunday, November 6, 2022 ~ 3:00pm
at the Virginia Performing Arts Academy
Salem High School
1993 Sundevil Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA



CAPT. Brian O. Walden

Captain Brian O. Walden, U.S. Navy (Ret.) is currently Visiting Assistant Professor/Interim Director of Bands at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. He returns to the Hampton Roads area after serving as Associate Professor, Director of Bands & Instrumental Studies and Interim Director of Music Education at Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama from 2018 - 2021. He previously served as the Director of Bands and Director of Music Education at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia from 2015 - 2018 where he was also the Coordinator of the Graduate Conducting Program. He has conducted international recording artists live and for television performances with Jason Mraz, James Taylor, Colbie Caillat, Take 6, Phillip Phillips (American Idol winner), Isaac Slade of the rock band "The Fray," Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds, Branford Marsalis (former Director of The Tonight Show Band with Jay Leno), TV and Broadway star Neil Patrick Harris, and performed with Natalie Cole as well as many other artists. He has conducted ensembles and performed as a trumpet instrumentalist on every continent except Antarctica. Brian holds a BA in Music/Religious Studies (Double Major) from Saint Leo University, Florida, a MM in Wind Ensemble Conducting from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, and studied in the DMA Music Education program at Boston University and PhD program in Music Education at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. In 2012 he was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Award by the Alumni Council of the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston for his career contributions to the field of wind band conducting. He also holds a Graduate Diploma in National Security Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. Upon retirement from active duty serving as the Commanding Officer/Conductor of the United States Navy Band Washington, DC (White House Support Unit) as the senior musician in the Department of Defense, Captain Walden was awarded the distinguished Legion of Merit by President Barack H. Obama for his 35 years of service to the nation. Additionally, in 2019 President Donald J. Trump awarded the National Medal of Arts, "the highest honor given to artists and arts patrons by the United States Government." Brian currently performs on trumpet with the Alabama Winds and maintains active studios in trumpet and conducting at Samford University. Captain Walden is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association, the highest honor for Bandmasters in North America, and is an active member of the College Band Directors National Association, National Association for Music Education, Alabama Music Educators Association, Alabama Bandmasters Association and the National Band Association. Captain Walden is married to Staci Harris Walden, whom he met as a blind date for her high school senior prom. They have been married for 37 years and have two sons. Brian and Staci love sailing at their home on the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland and spending time with their grandson, Maverick Adonis.

Table of Contents

[Conductors](#)

[The Virginia Wind Symphony](#)

[Program](#)

[Musicians](#)

[Program Notes](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Special Thanks](#)



Dr. Terry Austin

Terry Austin was the Director of Bands and Chair of the Department of Music at Virginia Commonwealth University. Under his leadership, the Virginia Commonwealth University Symphonic Wind Ensemble earned a reputation for musical excellence and performed at many professional conferences including the American Bandmasters Association, MENC, the College Band Directors National Association, and the Virginia Music Educators Association.

He remains an active guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator and is published in numerous journals and is the general editor of *The Journal of Band Research, A Repertoire Anthology (1964-1989)* published by GIA. Dr. Austin is a regular guest conductor of the Musashino Academia Musicae Wind Ensemble and is a Guest Professor of the Center of General Education of Guangdong University of Technology in Guangzhou, China.

Austin was the 78th President of the prestigious *American Bandmasters Association*. He served as the chairman of the *National Band Association/William D. Revelli Band Composition Contest* from 1995-2018, is chairman of the Bandworld/John Philip Sousa Foundation Legion of Honor, a member of the Board of Directors of the *John Philip Sousa Foundation*, and a past board member of the *American Bandmasters Association*, the *National Band Association*, the *Southern Division of NAFME: The National Association for Music Education* and past-president of the *Virginia Music Educators Association*. He is a member of the *College Band Directors National Association*, *Pi Kappa Lambda*, *Phi Beta Mu*, and an honorary member of *Kappa Kappa Psi*.

Dr. Austin is included in *Who's Who In America*, *Who's Who in Fine Arts Higher Education*, and *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. He is a multiple recipient of the National Band Association's *Citation of Excellence* and in 2005 he received the Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts *Distinguished Achievement Award of Excellence*. Upon his retirement in May 2022, he was named Professor Emeritus and a Virginia Commonwealth University Distinguished Professor.

He founded and conducts the *Greater Richmond Youth Wind Ensemble*, an ensemble of the finest high school musicians in the Richmond metropolitan area, and the *Commonwealth Winds*, an ensemble comprised of Richmond area teachers and professional performers.

Austin earned a Bachelor of Music Education from Indiana University, a Master of Arts in Music Education from the University of Hawaii, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He lives in Richmond with his wife, Tracia.



Mr. Michael Oare

Michael Oare earned undergraduate degrees in Music Composition and Music Education from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. A veteran music educator, Mr. Oare remains active as a composer, arranger, performer, conductor and adjudicator. As a published composer, he has written numerous arrangement and compositions, with a special interest in music for the young band. Two of his compositions, *To Dream in Brushstrokes* and *Equilibrium*, are included in the acclaimed *Teaching Music Through Performance* series by GIA Publications. His compositions can be found in the catalogues of several major publishing companies, with all his most recent works being published by Hal Leonard.

Since 1991, he has served as the Director of Bands at Great Bridge Middle School in Chesapeake, Virginia. His Great Bridge Middle School Bands have consistently received superior ratings in the annual Virginia Concert Band Performance Assessment and have performed for the Virginia Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference on four occasions. He maintains State and National professional memberships, is a member of ASCAP, Phi Beta Mu, and performs as a member of *The Virginia Wind Symphony*. He is the 2016 Chesapeake School Middle School Teacher of the Year, a two-time recipient of the National Band Association's *Citation of Excellence*, and is a multiple year honoree in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. Mr. Oare resides in Chesapeake, Virginia and, in his spare time, enjoys off-shore fishing along the coasts of Virginia and North Carolina.

Founded in 2013, the **Bay Youth Concert Band** serves 7th, 8th and 9th grade band students from throughout the Hampton Roads area and is dedicated to enriching the musical development of our members. The Bay Youth Concert Band is one of six ensembles which comprise the Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia, serving over 300 students with weekly rehearsals and presenting several concerts throughout the year. With the appointment of Michael Oare as conductor in 2015, the BYCB was restructured and expanded to include woodwind, brass and percussion specialists. Our instructional staff includes Stephanie Fisher, Band Director at Hickory Middle School, Eric Graybill, Band Director at Great Bridge Middle School, K.J. Stafford, free-lance percussion arranger and clinician and percussion instructor for the Santa Clara Vanguard, Santa Clara, CA, and Barron Maskew, Band Director at Hickory Middle School.



The Virginia Wind Symphony

The **Virginia Wind Symphony**, organized in 1994 by Dennis J. Zeisler, is a wind ensemble made up of professional musicians, military musicians, public and private school teachers, independent music instructors and Old Dominion University students. The group was created to provide a musical outlet for musicians throughout the Hampton Roads area and is dedicated to playing the finest original and transcribed wind literature available. Members benefit from the positive musical experiences brought about by music making in a spirit of camaraderie, and the opportunity to serve the region -- through a life-long love of music -- with concerts throughout the year.

The **VWS** has recorded six commercial compact discs featuring Frank Erickson Band Classics, music of Claude T. Smith, and with soloist Lynn Klock, a collective recording of solo saxophone literature with band accompaniment. These cd's are used nationally and internationally as standard band reference and resource material in the field of music education.

The **Virginia Wind Symphony** was invited three times to perform at the Midwest Clinic -International Band and Orchestra Conference Chicago: December 2004, 2012 and 2017. The **VWS** Performed was also invited twice to perform for the American Bandmasters Conventions: ABA Williamsburg, VA 2004, ABA Norfolk, VA 2011.

The **Virginia Wind Symphony** is honored to be a recipient of the *John Philip Sousa Foundations' Sudler Silver Scroll Award!* The Sudler Silver Scroll award is an international award to identify, recognize and honor those community bands that have demonstrated particularly high standards of excellence in concert activities over a period of time, and which have played a significant and leading role in the cultural and musical environment in their respective communities.

The **Virginia Wind Symphony** has a unique partnership with the Visual and Performing Arts Academy at Salem High School and the F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music at Old Dominion University. Through this partnership, the group has played for and accompanied the finest conductors and soloists, both nationally and internationally. Soloists have included: The American Brass Quartet, Oysten Baadsvik, Brian Bowman, Sam Hazo, Earle Louder, Lynn Klock, Anthony McGill, Brandon Ridenour, ODU Percussion Quartet, Patrick Sheridan, Michael Sweeney, Wayne Tice, The West Point Saxophone Quartet, Dale Underwood, David Walker and James Walker. The Virginia Wind Symphony has been conducted by the following members of the American Bandmasters Association (ABA): Terry Austin, Jim Barnes, Marcellus Brown, Harry Begian, Col. John Bougeois, Frederick Fennell, Johan, de Meij, Ed Downing, Frank, Erickson, Col. Andy Esch, Emery Fears, Col. Arnald D. Gabriel, David Gillingham, Julie Giroux, Col. Lowell Graham, Michael Haithcock, David R. Holsinger, Donald Hunsberger James, Keene, Edward List, Dr. Linda Moorhouse, Col. Thomas Palmatier, H. Robert Reynolds, Col. Thomas Rotundi, Loras John Schissel, Capt. Brian Walden, Myron Welch, Frank Wickes, Chris Wilhjelm. Through our partnership, we have been able to share the talents of these conductors/ composers with not only our young musicians at VPAA and ODU, but with students and community members throughout the Hampton Roads area.

The Virginia Wind Symphony
with the
Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia Concert Band

presents

Galactic Adventures

Conducted by

CAPT. Brian O. Walden
Dr. Terry Austin
Mr. Michael Oare

Bay Youth Concert Band

Nebula.....Randall D. Standridge
Mr. Michael Oare, Conductor

Star Bright.....Robert Sheldon

Lost Planet.....Sean O'Loughlin

The Virginia Wind Symphony

Cloudsplitter.....Jack Stamp
CAPT Brian O. Walden, Conductor

Threnody for Challenger.....James Sochinski

When the Stars Began to Fall.....Fred J. Allen
Dr. Terry Austin, Conductor

Galactic Empires.....David Gillingham

- I. Battlestar of the Andromeda Nebula
- II. Eveningstar of the Magellanic Cloud
- III. Earthstar of the Milky Way

One Small Step.....Michael Oare
CAPT Brian O. Walden

Superman.....John Williams arr. Lowden
Dr. Terry Austin, Conductor

Stars & Stripes Forever.....J.P. Sousa

Virginia Wind Symphony Musicians

Piccolo

Traci Bluhm - Instructor, Freelancer, VWS Librarian

Flute

Tara Rooksby - Private Instructor

Traci Bluhm - Instructor, Freelancer, VWS Librarian

Stephanie Fisher - Hickory MS

Heather Smith - Great Neck MS

Emily Wolcott - Greenbrier MS

Cathy Francis - Western Branch Intermediate/Truitt Intermediate

Oboe

Carol Zeisler - ODU Faculty/Private Instructor

Todd Worsham - Freelance Musician

David Boone - Visual & Performing Arts Academy - Salem High School

English Horn

Todd Worsham - Freelance Musician

Bassoon

Suzanne Daniel - GSA Vocal Music faculty

Tyler Austin - Old Dominion University

Kecia Yeates - Private Bassoon/Piano teacher

Laura H. Parker - Salem MS

Contra Bassoon

Laura H. Parker - Salem MS

E flat Clarinet

Mike Oare - Great Bridge MS/BYOV

B flat Clarinet

Jo Marie T. Larkin - Adjunct OCU, TCC

Lee Cooper - Salem HS

Mike Oare - Great Bridge MS/BYOV

Michelle Knipple - W-burg-JC County Schools (Ret.)

Steve Clendenin - Princess Anne MS

Adrien Gaines - Soundscapes/Freelance Musician

Lawrence McDonough - Freelance Musician

Amanda Fleenor - Georgetown Primary, Gen. Music Teacher

Bass Clarinet

Alan Brown - Symphoncity

Saxophone

Charlee Eaves - ODU Faculty

Victor Hugo - Corporate Landing MS - Chorus

Robert Deis - Toano MS

Benjamin Glosser - Oscar Smith HS

Trumpet

LeAnn Splitter - Marine Detachment Little Creek

William Flitter - U.S. Army

Demarr Woods - Chair of Music & Perf. Arts at Hampton University

Christian Van Deven - Freelance Musician

Erica Allen - ODU Student

Andre Paquette - John Yeates MS (ret.)

Elly Carlson - ODU Student Teacher

Rob Dedominick - Freelance Musician

Horn

Rob Carroll - CPS (ret.)

Susan Agazzi - Wm. E Waters MS Band Teacher

Jeff Warren - Craddock MS

David Enloe - W-burg-JC County Schools (Ret.)

Kendra Oehlerich - U.S. Marine, Naval School of Music

Rey Ramirez - Soundscapes

Jordan DiCaprio - ODU Student

Nico Craig - First Colonial HS

Trombone

Mike Hall - ODU Faculty

Jay Larkin - Granby HS

Katie McCaffrey - ODU Student

Wayne Walton - Musician/Pastor

Jeff Beckett - East Carolina Univ/Private Instructor

Euphonium

David Terray - Larkspur Middle School

Baxley Roberts - Asst. Hall Dir. At ODU

Tuba

Glenn Hart - Deep Creek MS

Barron Maskew - Hickory MS

Nicholas Hathaway - ODU Student

Joshua Sissel - Freelance Musician

Percussion

Andrew Smith - Salem HS

Ernest Stokes - Butts Road IS

Dalia Berman - U.S. Army School of Music

Zach Rooksby - Norfolk PS Senior Coordinator of Music

Benton Maldonado - Busch Gardens Percussionist

Sarah Williams - Freelance Musician

Kimberly Adams - Ingleside Elementary School

Piano

Julie Summers - Paralegal/Freelance Musician

Harp

David Boone - Visual & Performing Arts Academy - Salem HS

For more information on the ensemble's history and schedule of events, please visit:

www.virginiawindsymphony.org

Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia

Concert Band Musicians

Flute

Hannah Lee – Great Bridge MS
Delaney Bryant – Jolliff MS
Amiyah Gordon-Thompson – Great Bridge MS
Gillian Rogerson – Great Bridge MS
Rachel McCollum – Great Bridge MS
Gracelyn Hadder – Hickory MS
Noelle Clendenin – Hickory MS
Sophia Van Leeuwen – Great Bridge MS

Oboe

Addison Woods – Great Bridge MS
Eugene Dutton – Great Bridge MS
Ava Harley – Greenbrier MS

Bassoon

Skylar Cauntay – Greenbrier MS
Kaiji Lopez – Great Bridge MS
Piper Jones – Great Bridge MS
Abigail Mathews – Hickory MS

B flat Clarinet

Sofie Henandez – Hickory MS
Cara Martin – Great Bridge MS
Jaxson Wise – Great Bridge MS
Adara Mears – Great Bridge MS
Lorenzo Arce – Southampton Academy
BriAnn Skinner – Greenbrier MS
Heidi Gage – Green brier MS
Caleb Rabulan – Home School
Kara Jeter – Greenbrier MS
Charlie Scalf – Green brier MS
Kateri Newman – Great Bridge MS
Mollie Hairfield – Crestwood MS

Bass Clarinet

Taylor Adams – Princess Anne MS
Tiana Mallory – Great Bridge MS
Carley Brickhouse – Hickory MS
Lori Gee – Hickory MS

Alto Saxophone

Aidan Clarkson – Great Bridge MS
Xander Young – Great Bridge MS
Colten Branch – Great Bridge MS
Nora Carlson – Hickory MS

Trumpet

Xulian Canga – St. Patrick Catholic School
Jackson Sprayberry – Greenbrier MS
Alex McRae – Greenbrier MS
Tahir Khwaja – Hickory MS
David Vermilya – Greenbrier MS
Elijah Brown – Greenbrier MS

Horn

Abigail Graham – Great Bridge MS
Nicholas Hanewich – Greenbrier MS
Everett Keith – Princess Anne MS
Jordan Scarbrough – Greenbrier MS
Ethan Travis – Greenbrier MS
Dylan Turner – Greenbpier MS
Emma Clark – Old Donation
Bennett Parkhurst – Great Bridge MS

Trombone

Holly Carlson – Great Bridge MS
Chance Guess – Great Bridge MS
Jonah Kidd – Acad. of Discovery at Lakewood
Jensen Walsh – Great Bridge MS
Nathan Weigle – Great Bridge MS
Aiden Ennis – Greenbrier MS
Liam Merica – Great Bridge MS
Kody Nguyen – Great Bridge MS

Baritone

Alijah Lawton – Crestwood MS
Sydney Miller – Crestwood MS
Brennan Mize – Greenbrier MS
Bryce Robinson – Great Bridge MS

Tuba

Devin Porter – Great Bridge MS

Percussion

Allie Maxene Bernardo – Greenbrier MS
Katrin Cadle – Western Branch MS
VaShaun Harmon – Greenbrier MS
Brenden Tyree – Greenbrier MS
David Wallace – Great Bridge MS
Nicholas Christiansen – Great Bridge MS
Jackson Eppler – Deep Creek MS
Elle Miller – Greenbrier MS

Program Notes

Nebula by Randall D. Standridge

The expanse of space and all the celestial bodies therein have long provided inspiration for artists bound to earth and their imaginations soar amongst them, skimming along the rings of Saturn and traveling far beyond the Milky Way. *Nebula* attempts to capture and convey the awe one feels when spying these large bodies of gases and energies that can span light years in diameter. The sheer immensity of their size and beauty of their colors provide an everlasting testament to the mysteries of our universe.

Written for young musicians, the composer has taken care to provide an achievable work that maintains a high sense of artistic merit. Limited ranges and simple rhythms are offset by colorful orchestration and expanded harmonic language.

Randall Standridge

Star Bright by Robert Sheldon

*Star light, star bright
The first star I see tonight;
I wish I may, I wish I might,
Have the wish I wish tonight*

This nursery rhyme, first published in the late nineteenth century, speaks to the superstition of hoping for granted wishes upon seeing the first star in the night sky. *Star Bright* is a reflective piece that celebrates this simple, yet uplifting nightly moment to which each of us can relate.

Robert Sheldon

Lost Planet by Sean O'Loughlin

Movie and TV audiences alike have been fascinated with space operas over the years. From *Star Wars* to *Star Trek* and everything in between, the music has been an integral part of its popularity. For *Lost Planet* I wanted to explore some of these musical traditions that include an almost quasi-romantic nod to Richard Strauss, Gustav Holst, Gustav Mahler and more.

There are many musical textures throughout this work. Big augmented chords begin the work in a bold way to announce a departure to outer space. The pace soon quickens, with a full presentation of the melody to follow. A tradeoff between the winds and percussion continues this journey. A further nod to the quasi-romantic sound of modern space movies is heard as a counter to the rhythmic, fast section. This builds to a return of the bold chords and concludes with the return of the fast section to bring the piece to an out of this world ending!

Sean O'Loughlin

Program Notes (cont.)

Cloudsplitter Fanfare by Jack Stamp

Cloudsplitter Fanfare was commissioned by the United States Air Force Band, Col. Lowell E. Graham, Commander and Conductor, and premiered in July of 1999 at the Twelfth International World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) Conference in San Luis Obispo, California. The work is dedicated to American composer Richard Danielpour. I had the opportunity to study briefly with this incredible musician and teacher and more recently attended rehearsals and performances of several of his orchestral premieres. This work explores aspects studied in our lessons, with further exploration of dissonance, octatonic scale sets, and new approaches to rhythmic ostinatos.

- *Program Note by composer*

Threnody for Challenger by James Sochinski

Threnody for Challenger

Commissioned by the Kempsville Jr High School Band, Dwight Leonard, Conductor, for performance at the Mid-West International Band and Orchestra Clinic

Composed in the fifth anniversary year of the Challenger tragedy, THRENODY FOR CHALLENGER is not only a remembrance of a great national loss, but also a salute to the spirit of the astronauts. The musical materials are derived from symbolic, literal, and numerological sources. The opening section, for example, sounds seven pointillistic events, representing the seven fallen astronauts. Likewise, the primary melodic material of the main theme centers on seven pitches. Fleeting motives from the elegiac passages are derived from the lives of each astronaut (a bit of a Chopin prelude for Judith Resnik, an accomplished classical pianist; a fragment of the Navy Hymn for Commander Michael Smith...). The binary representation for the seventy-three seconds of the mission (01001001) dictates a rhythmic motive heard throughout.

- *Program Note by composer*

James Sochinski earned a B.M. from the University of Missouri/Columbia, a M.M. in Composition from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, and a Ph.D. in Music Theory from the University of Miami. The C.L. Barnhouse Co., Columbia Pictures Publications, and TRN Music Publisher have published over forty of his compositions and arrangements. During his tenure as Director of Bands (1978-1990) Dr. Sochinski was hired in 1977 to conduct the High-Tighties. Sochinski directed both the High-Tighties and Marching Virginias during the fall of 1978 during a time when a proposal to combine the two bands was being developed by the administration. When that plan failed, he was asked to decide which group he preferred to conduct, and Sochinski chose to lead the MVs beginning in 1979. The focus of the band was changed forever. Dr. Sochinski served as Director of Bands at Virginia Tech for 13 years. He taught Form and Analysis, Microcomputer Applications in Music, Band Arranging, and Colloquial in the University Honors College.

When the Stars Began to Fall by Fred J. Allen

My Lord, What a Mornin' is one of many anonymous spirituals sung in the fields and in worship by African-American slaves in the 19th century. In this setting, sonorities of the band are utilized that express a longing for the end of time, when there will be no sorrow, no pain. The last line of the refrain serves as the title for this setting.

- *Program Note from score*

Program Notes (cont.)

Galactic Empires

by David R Gillingham

I. Battlestar of the Andromeda Nebula

II. Eveningstar of the Magellanic Cloud

III. Earthstar of the Milky Way

My lifelong fascination with the mysteries of the universe has come to fruition in *Galactic Empires*. Our understanding of distances on Earth, which have clear beginnings and endings, makes it inconceivable that the universe is endless. *Galactic Empires* is a musical journey through only three of an infinite number of galaxies, two foreign and one which is our own Milky Way. To gain the inspiration for this work, I let my imagination run wild and envisioned each galaxy as having a particular aura which is reflected in the music.

The work is set in three connected movements, each representing a "star" in a particular universe:

I. Battlestar of the Andromeda Nebula -- Within the *Andromeda Nebula Galaxy* lies a star where hate radiates into its atmosphere creating a smoky, black cloud forming a ring around the angry sphere. Close to the surface, one can hear the incessant drumming rhythms of war, for this is an empire bent on destruction of all other life forms in the galaxy. Across the jagged, dark, cold landscape are thousands of doomed bases housing troops and weapons of annihilation. Multitudes of amphibious-like alien creatures clad in silver and black armor move in and out of the domes while hundreds of disk-shaped airships land and take off from the surface, all this occurring against the backdrop of a sky lit with explosions from other stars of the galaxy as they are one by one destroyed by the empire of the Battlestar.

II. Eveningstar of the Magellanic Cloud -- In stark contrast to the Battlestar is the *Eveningstar* found in the center of the galaxy of the Magellanic Cloud. This is a place of beauty beyond words. Four suns of multiple colors shine upon this star, making the sky appear as a huge domed rainbow. Life on the Eveningstar is one of tranquility and peace. The aliens of this star are thin, stick-like beings with oversized heads and large silver and oval slanted eyes reflecting warmth, understanding, and superior knowledge. The inhabitants of this star are the most advanced of the entire universe and exist in a sort of utopic state.

III. Earthstar of the Milky Way -- The *Earthstar* is the most vibrant and eclectic star to be found in any galaxy of the universe. The humans who inhabit this star have a most interesting history that reflects both the most hideous atrocities and the most marvelous achievements of its people. It has the potential to achieve a status equal to the Eveningstar of the Magellanic Cloud, but must begin to learn from the mistakes of the past. Still, a sense of joy and celebration radiates from the surface of the Earthstar ... an energy field created by unbounded faith and hope for humankind.

- Program Note by composer

Program Notes (cont.)

One Small Step by Michael Oare

In July 1969, Apollo 11 completed its mission to the moon and Neil Armstrong made his famous proclamation "That's one small step for man; one giant leap for mankind" as he stepped out onto the lunar surface. Michael Oare's descriptive work captures the drama of that moment and offers the option of using actual audio clips from the mission for a truly magical effect.

Michael Oare (b. 1960) earned undergraduate degrees in Music Composition and Music Education from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia. A veteran music educator, Mr. Oare remains active as a composer, arranger, performer, conductor and adjudicator. He has written numerous arrangements and compositions, with a special interest in music for the young band. He is a recipient of the National Band Association's Citation of Excellence. Mr. Oare conducts the Bay Youth Concert band and he performs with the Virginia Wind Symphony. Mr. Oare resides in Chesapeake, Virginia, with his wife Chris and daughter Devin.

Superman by John Williams/arr. Lowden

When great movie music is the topic, one name comes to the minds of most of us: John Williams. This towering score, as arranged for your concert band by Bob Lowden, contains all of the famous John Williams musical trademarks -- drama, power, and massive sound blocks. The medley contains: "Theme from Superman"; "The Planet Krypton"; "The March of the Villians" and "Finale." Here is John Williams at his finest!

John Williams "Growing up in my generation meant that you avidly followed the exploits of Superman in the syndicated comic strips that regularly appeared in newspapers across the country. It was a time when Superman fired the imaginations of all our youngsters, and I was no exception. Many years later, Richard Donner asked me to compose the score for his film *Superman*; I was thrilled. I truly felt that I was revisiting a formative part of my childhood." *Program Note from North Texas Wind Ensemble concert program 2016*

Stars & Stripes by John Philip Sousa

Stars and Stripes Forever (march) is considered the finest march ever written, and 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." (referring to the concert the Sousa Band gave the previous day at the Academy of Music).[Quote] taken from J.P. Sousa, *Descriptive Catalog of his Works* Paul Bierley, University of Illinois Press

John Philip Sousa Washington, D.C. native and legendary bandmaster John Philip Sousa (1854-1932) wrote a dozen operettas, six full-length operas, and over 100 marches, earning the title "March King". He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps at an early age and went on to become the conductor of the President's Own Marine Band at age 26. In 1892 he formed "Sousa and his Band", which toured the United States and the world under his directorship for the next forty years to great acclaim.

Upcoming Events

Virginia Wind Symphony
in collaboration with KPC
Sunday, November 13, 2022 ~ 3:00pm
Presents

Consider the Heavens

at the Kempsville Presbyterian Church
805 Kempsville Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA

Virginia Wind Symphony
with the
Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia
Wind Ensemble
Sunday, February 12, 2023 ~ 3:00pm
at Old Donation School
4633 Honeygrove Rd.
Virginia Beach, VA

Virginia Wind Symphony
Saturday May 13, 2023 ~ 3:00pm
at Virginia Performing Arts Academy
Featuring Soloist

Demondrae Thurman

Salem High School
1993 Sundevil Dr.
Virginia Beach, VA

Special Thanks



Virginia Wind Symphony Members

Brian Walden, Conductor
Dr. Terry Austin, Conductor
Carol Corcoran Zeisler, VWS Executive Director
Traci Bluhm, Virginia Wind Symphony Librarian & Webmaster
Andrew Smith, VWS Percussion
Ernest Stokes, VWS Percussion/Treasurer
Baxley Roberts, VWS Stage Manager

Old Dominion University F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music

Dr. Nancy Klein, Diehn School of Music Chair
Dr. Emily Ondracek-Peterson, ODU F. Ludwig Diehn School of Music
Dr. Terry Austin, Director of Bands
David Walker, Director of Percussion Studies

Bay Youth Orchestras of Virginia

Dr. Elizabeth A. Meszaros, Executive Director
Helen Martell, Music Director
Mike Oare, Conductor
Stephanie Fisher, Conductor Assistant
Julie Eppler, Ensemble Manager
K.J. Stafford, Eric Graybill and Barron Maskew, Coaches
Great Bridge Middle School

The students and faculty of the Virginia Performing Arts Academy Salem High School

Mrs. Amy Schuiteboer, Visual & Performing Arts Academy Coordinator
Mrs. Sarah Fernheimer, School Activities Coordinator
Ms. Leeanne Turnbull-Palette, Principal
David Boone, Director of Instrumental Strand - VPAA
Mr. Lee Cooper, Instructional Technology Support
Mr. Andrew Smith, Band Director - Salem High School
The administration, faculty and staff of Salem High School

John Brewington, VBCPS Arts Coordinator
Cotley Avenue Copies & Graphics, Inc.

Virginia Wind Symphony



We encourage you to follow and support VWS at www.virginiawindsymphony.org where you will find conductors and musicians bios, musical selections and program notes, links to previous performances, and upcoming events.



We hope you will consider a donation to the [Dennis J. Zeisler Scholarship Fund](#) to provide financial support to instrumental music education majors at Old Dominion University.