



# University of North Texas College of Music

Prelude at ISMI 2024 | Friday, July 12, 2024 | 4:30 PM |  
Paul Voertman Concert Hall

## Overture Orchestra

Concert Tunes for Beginning Strings.....Dale Brubaker (1937 – 2013)

1. The Spanish Dancer
2. Rocket March
3. Russian Dance
4. Serenata

## Symphonic Orchestra

Finnish Folk Song Suite..... arr. Francis J. Caravella  
I. Manikka

Can Can from "Orpheus in the Underworld"...Jacques Offenbach (1819 -1880)  
arr. Robert Frost (1874 - 1963)

## Improv Group 1

Twinkle Twinkle.....arr. Eugen Kim

Baby Shark.....arr. Eugen Kim

## Improv Group 2

Bingo.....arr. Eugen Kim

Take Me Home Country Roads.....arr. Eugen Kim

## Philharmonic Orchestra

Gallop of the Mist (2020).....Kirt Mosier

Western Dawn.....Alan Silva

Deep Sea Fandango.....Deborah Baker Monday

## Cello Choir

- Chorale from Jupiter "the Planets" (1918) .....Gustav Holst (1874-1934)  
Arr. Matthew Putnam
- The Imperial March..... John Williams (b. 1932)  
Arr. Nick Halsey

## Chamber Orchestra

- Themes from "The Moldau"..... Bedrich Smetana (1824 - 1884)  
arr. Robert Frost (1874 - 1963)
- Fire in the Forge..... Ted Allen

## Conductors

Bethany Hardwick

Bethany Hardwick is the Director of Orchestras at Scott Johnson Middle School in McKinney, TX. She was previously in Lewisville ISD for 12 years where she served as Director of Orchestras and Electives Department Head at Downing Middle School. She holds degrees from the University of North Texas and Boston University. Ms. Hardwick's orchestras have earned consistent Sweepstakes awards in UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest, as well as Best in Class and Overall Outstanding in numerous music contests. In 2017, Ms. Hardwick teamed up with her Special Education partner, Jennifer Rodgers, to form Downing Gives Bach, a service-oriented orchestra program based on Richard Meyer's Giving Bach model that has evolved into the district's first full-time orchestra inclusion class. Special Education students in this inclusion class learn to play string instruments alongside their general education peers with a modified curriculum, and participate in each concert and social event.

Ms. Hardwick has received numerous accolades including Quarterfinalist for the GRAMMY Music Educator Award (2015, 2019), Campus Teacher of the Year (2016), Winston Churchill Distinguished Alumni in the Arts (2018), and the Cain Szczepanski Foundation in Special Education Award of Excellence (2019). Ms. Hardwick performs regularly in the DFW area with string quartets, rock bands, and for community musicals. In her free time, Ms. Hardwick loves to travel, hike with her dogs Zooley and Penny Lane, and camp with her partner, Kevin.

## Nicole Brown

Nicole Brown grew up playing cello in her school orchestra in Storm Lake, Iowa. She studied music education and earned her BA in Music from the University of Central Florida. Ms. Brown has taught in the DFW area for over 23 years. In 2023 she became the founding director for the Cheek Middle School Orchestra program in Denton ISD.

Ms. Brown is an active member of TMEA, TODA, TexASTA and TMAA. She was the winner of the 2005 TexASTA Young String Teacher of the Year' award and was named TODA's 2022 Director of Distinction. Ms. Brown has written and presented for TODA and TMEA conferences, and she is a frequent UIL Orchestra adjudicator and Region Orchestra clinician. Though her musical roots run deep in Texas, Ms. Brown's musical adventures have taken her around the globe as she was a founding director of the Salmon School of Arts summer music camp in Wuhan, China.

When Ms. Brown is not playing or teaching music, she can be found on her bike. In addition to being an avid road cyclist, she loves books, art, lazy Netflix binges with her partner (and fellow orchestra director) Paul, and spoiling their senior rescue pit bulls Maggie and Louie.

## Sandy Cubero

Sandy Cubero holds a BM in music education from Georgia State University and a MS in Educational Leadership from Indiana University. She taught for five years in Indiana and is in her 8th year in Texas. She enjoyed leading programs both at the middle school level at Myers Middle School for four years before moving to her current position as head orchestra director at Denton High School. She loves continuing the 100-year legacy of the DHS orchestra program by creating a high-level program that welcomes all students at all levels.

Growing up in Atlanta, she was involved with multiple youth orchestras including the Atlanta Symphony Youth Orchestra, Georgia's All-State Orchestra, and the Georgia Governor's Honors Orchestra. She studied cello most notably with Daniel Laufer and Martha Gerschefski. She enjoys sharing her love of music with students in the Denton community. Sandy resides in Corinth with her husband, Diego, and four sons.

## Gina Segapeli

Gina Segapeli is originally from El Paso, Texas. She graduated from the University of North Texas with a degree in music education. At UNT, she studied violin with Felix Olschofka and Rossitza Jekova-Goza while performing in the symphony orchestra and opera. Mrs. Segapeli taught as part of the UNT Strings Project for three years. She has also taught private violin lessons for 15 years.

After graduating from the University of North Texas she began her teaching career in Richardson ISD. She is currently the head director at McMath Middle School in the Denton Independent School District. McMath Orchestra is an award-winning program. They have been awarded "Sweepstakes" at UIL since she has taught at McMath, Best Group Overall at Peak Music Festival and Best Group Overall at North Richland Hills Water Park Competition for 12 years in a row. She also directed the Mariachi Los Tigres group at McMath Middle School. Mrs. Segapeli also directs orchestras at several summer camps including the University of North Texas. She enjoys getting to know new people and connecting with the community. In her free time, Mrs. Segapeli enjoys traveling with her husband and family and painting in her home studio.

## Michael Burris

Michael Burris is an accomplished music educator and passionate advocate for the arts, bringing over a decade of experience in shaping young musicians' lives. Michael has consistently demonstrated excellence in teaching and leadership throughout his career. Mr. Burris serves Texas Woman's University as Director of Orchestras and Assistant Professor of Music Education. Michael leads with a vision that intertwines excellence in performance with a profound commitment to nurturing the next generation of musicians and educators. Prior to joining the faculty of TWU in 2024, Mr. Burris served as Head Director of Denton ISD's Braswell High School Orchestras. While there, Michael demonstrated exceptional leadership in elevating the musical standards of the program.

Michael has expertly guided students through auditions, contests, and college admissions, preparing them for success in the competitive world of music. Under his leadership, his programs enrollments have increased by substantial percentages. Michael founded the Mariachi Ensemble, Mariachi Los Vikingos and Mariachi Los Bengales, actively promoting Hispanic culture and securing resources to support the groups.

His contributions extend to the broader music community, where he serves as a judge for festivals and contests, guest clinician for various Texas orchestras and bands, and a cooperating teacher for over a dozen aspiring educators. Michael enjoys exploring his culinary talents, nurturing his garden, and creating music in various styles, including folk, jazz, and rock. He shares his life with his wife, Rebecca, and their three children, alongside their beloved dog, Penny, and cat, Isla.

## **Personnel**

### Overture Orchestra

Kate Stephens, Charley Carr, Amelia Ioannides Rowell, Olivia Elizabeth Verboonen, Alyssa Hartfield, Ian Kim, Jacob Cerdeira, Travic Xie, Trinity Henderson, Liliana Contreras

### Symphonic Orchestra

Nora Gerth, Lorelei Williams, Karina Puentes, Avery Rowe, Julia Stamatakos, Jayden Kim, Clara Gerth, Henry Gottleber, Colin Ham, Finn Parson, Walker Brown

### Philharmonic Orchestra

Harsita Vigneshwaran, Lena Park, Joshua Miles, Liberty Huffer, Zoey Handman, Cindy Kha, Rylee Chatwin, Titus Hurt, Ashlyn Smith, Henry Story, Avery Hartfield, Mason Bell, Adelaide Critton, Jude Smith, Maysen Ebeid, Eli Seigler, Vedant Ganpule, Sydney Lee, Brooklyn Bluem, Noah Smith, Owen Higginbotham, Reagan Custer

### Chamber Orchestra

Christopher Dickens, Erica Gupta, Julie Caballero, Georgia Bell, Victoria Verboonen, Charity Draper, Sara Mahapatra, Leah Brown, Maya Riegelman, Madeleine Littwin, Ritoja Sengupta, Malik Ebeid, J. Cormac Bonahoe-Rankin, Paola Rivera, Samuel Brown, Lyla Compton, Adam Ham, Brian Johnson, Jeremiah Wells, Nora Stephens, Erin Jeong, Caleigh Burgess, Obed Garcia, Hailee Rowley, Maesen Glassburner, Adam Fredrickson

**PRELUDE**

AT



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