

2025 MSBOA All-State Guest Conductors



2025 MSBOA All-State Middle School Band, directed by Jamal Duncan

Jamal Duncan joined the faculty of Arizona State University in the Fall of 2020 as associate director of bands and assistant professor of instrumental conducting. His primary responsibilities are conducting the Wind Symphony and teaching classes in conducting. Duncan also serves as assistant director of undergraduate music studies. Prior to his appointment at ASU, Duncan served as the assistant director of bands at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

Duncan's research interests include conducting pedagogy, wind literature, and re-defining the traditional concert experience. He has presented on these topics at various state and international conferences including the Midwest Clinic.

An ardent supporter of growing the repertoire of wind bands and chamber ensembles, Duncan is actively involved in the commissioning of new works from established and emerging composers, including Steven Bryant, Andrea Clearfield, Viet Cuong, Kevin Day, Giovanni Santos, Alex Shapiro, Jim Territo, and Dana Wilson.

Duncan is also committed to programming music that tells the stories of different cultures with an intentional focus on the diverse composers who tell these stories.

A winner of the 2022 American Prize in Band/Wind Ensemble conducting, Duncan has conducted and adjudicated middle school, high school, and collegiate ensembles in Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Michigan, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and internationally in Canada, England and France. In 2021, he was a fellow at the Reynolds Conducting Institute held in conjunction with the Midwest Clinic.

Duncan taught in the public schools of Lansing, Michigan for seven years where he was director of bands at C.W. Otto Middle School then director of bands at Dwight Rich Middle School. For eleven seasons, Duncan was also the music director and conductor of the Flint Youth Wind Ensemble, one of several youth ensembles in the Flint School of Performing Arts.

A native of Flint, Michigan, Duncan received the doctor of musical arts in wind conducting and a master of music in wind conducting degrees from Michigan State University where he studied with Dr. Kevin L. Sedatole. Duncan received a bachelor of music degree from the University of Michigan with a dual emphasis in clarinet performance and music education.

He is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, The National Association for Music Education, and the College Band Directors National Association. He holds honorary memberships in Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma.

Recently, Duncan and the Arizona State University Wind Symphony gave a featured performance at the 2024 College Band Directors National Association Western/Northwestern Divisions Conference. Duncan was also a presenter at the 2024 conference of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles Conference in Gwangju-Gyeonggi, South Korea.



2025 MSBOA All-State High School Band, directed by Randall Standridge

Randall Standridge (b.1976) received his Bachelor's of Music Education from Arkansas State University. During this time, he studied composition with Dr. Tom O'Connor, before returning to Arkansas State University to earn his Master's in Music Composition, studying with Dr. Tom O'Connor and Dr. Tim Crist. In 2001, he began his tenure as Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas. He left this post in 2013 to pursue a career as a full-time composer and marching arts designer.

Mr. Standridge's music is performed internationally. He has had numerous works selected for the J.W. Pepper's editor's choice. His compositions *Snake Charmer*, *Gently Blows the Summer Wind*, and *Angelic Celebrations* have been included in the "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band" series. He has had numerous works performed at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. The Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble premiered his work *Art(isms)* at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and his work *Stonewall: 1969* was premiered at the National LGBA conference in 2019. His *Symphony no.1: A Ghost Story* was premiered in 2023. In addition, Mr. Standridge's "unBroken Project," a musical initiative about mental health, has received widespread acclaim for its musical content

and for providing opportunities to normalize discussions about mental health for music students and audiences.

In addition to his career as a composer, Mr. Standridge is the owner and editor of Randall Standridge Music, LLC and Grand Mesa Marching. He is in demand as an arranger/designer for the marching arts. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas, with his husband, Steven, and their very, very spoiled pets.



2025 MSBOA All-State Middle School String Orchestra, directed by Michael Hopkins

Michael Hopkins is Professor and Chair of Music Education at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, where he teaches courses in string techniques, instrumental methods, research methods, and the psychology of music teaching and learning. Prior to joining the U-M faculty, Hopkins was the conductor of the University of Vermont Symphony Orchestra, the founding director of the Burlington Chamber Orchestra, and director of middle and high school orchestras in Colorado, Michigan, and Vermont. He has been a guest conductor at orchestra festivals throughout the United States, and has presented at many conferences in the United States and Canada on various topics in string education.

He is the author of *The Art of String Teaching*, a pedagogy resource published by GIA. Hopkins' YouTube channel contains 100 videos on all aspects of string technique and has over 10,000 subscribers. He has composed and arranged over 90 published works for orchestra. His music is published by Alfred Music Publishing, Grand Mesa Music, Kendor Music Publishing, Inc and J.W. Pepper's MyScore. His works have been commissioned by many schools and ensembles throughout the United States.

His research and pedagogical articles are published in the *Journal of Research in Music Education*, *International Journal of Music Education*, *CRME Bulletin*, *Music Education Research*, *Journal of Music, Technology and Education*, *American String Teacher*, *String Research Journal*, *the Music Educators'*

Journal and *The Instrumentalist*. He has served on the executive boards of the Vermont and Michigan chapters of ASTA and has served on several national ASTA committees.



2025 MSBOA All-State High School Full Orchestra, directed by Soon Hee Newbold

Soon Hee Newbold is an internationally acclaimed composer and conductor known for incorporating differing cultural and ethnic styles in her writing inspired by her experiences and travel. She started her musical journey at the age of 5 on piano and violin at age 7 and performed as a concert artist in professional ensembles around the world.

Newbold's works are performed by groups ranging in all levels from professional symphonies to beginning elementary ensembles in prominent venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Wolf Trap, Disney Hall, Lincoln Center, Orchestra Hall at Symphony Center, the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, and many more worldwide stages. Notable commissions include the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra's Merian Ensemble, the Brevard Symphony Orchestra, LA Philharmonic's YOLA and youth orchestras for the Columbus Symphony. She was inducted into the Women Songwriter's Hall of Fame in 2024.

Newbold is frequently sought after as a keynote speaker and guest clinician. She has conducted and worked with orchestras and bands throughout the U.S. and overseas such as the Netherlands, Belgium, Australia, Indonesia, Singapore, S. Korea, and China. As a filmmaker and composer in Hollywood, her music can also be heard in film and other recording projects.



2025 MSBOA All-State High School Jazz Ensemble, directed by Mike Kamuf

Mike Kamuf holds Bachelor of Music degrees in both Jazz Performance and Music Education from the Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University (Youngstown, OH) and a Master of Arts degree in Instrumental Conducting from George Mason University (Fairfax, VA). Mike's compositions and arrangements have been performed by numerous jazz artists and ensembles including the Woody Herman and Glenn Miller Orchestras, the USAF Airmen of Note, the US Navy Commodores, James Moody, Eddie Daniels, Sean Jones, Terrell Stafford, Bob Mintzer, Bill Watrous and Nick Brignola to name a few. Mike is an exclusive writer for the Belwin Division of Alfred Music Publishing with titles in their jazz, orchestra and concert band catalogs. He also has compositions for jazz ensemble published by UNC Jazz Press, the Neil A. Kjos Music and the FJH Music Company. Many of Mike's published jazz ensemble arrangements have become standard literature for the young jazz ensemble and he currently has over 100 publications in print.

Mike has performed with the Woody Herman and Tommy Dorsey Orchestras and has recorded as a member of the Alan Baylock Jazz Orchestra. He served as assistant principal trumpet of the Youngstown Symphony Orchestra. Currently, Mike leads his own jazz octet, the Mike Kamuf Little Big Band, comprised of outstanding musicians from the Baltimore and Washington DC areas.

Mike began his teaching career in 1991 in Ohio and taught instrumental music for Montgomery County (Maryland) Public Schools (MCPS) for thirty years. For twenty-seven of those years, Mike served as the Director of Bands and Orchestras and Music Department Chairperson at John T. Baker Middle School (Damascus, MD). Under his direction, the Baker ensembles consistently received high ratings at music festivals and have commissioned several works for young concert bands. Mike has received the MCPS Superintendent's Above and Beyond the Call of Duty (ABCD) Award for his efforts in involving students in the composition commissioning process. He has directed the MCPS Senior Honors Jazz Band, Junior Honors Band, and the All-County Middle School Band. Additionally, Mike has directed the Pennsylvania All State Jazz Band, the Southern California School Band & Orchestra Directors Association (SCSBOA) Jazz All Stars, the New Mexico All State Jazz Band, and many regional honors ensembles in California, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, New Mexico, Ohio, Minnesota and New York. Mike has served as a

jazz faculty member at Youngstown State University and Montgomery College (Rockville, MD). Mike has presented professional development sessions for music educators at the Midwest Clinic, Jazz Education Network Conferences and at numerous regional and state music education conferences. He has become an in-demand arranger, clinician, guest conductor and adjudicator for schools, conferences and music festivals across the country and is a clinician for both MakeMusic and Alfred Music.