

SCHOOL OF MUSIC CONCERTS

Re-Unions

Performed by the

Puget Sound Wind Ensemble

Conducted by

Gerard Morris, director of bands

Iraníel González Molina, MAT'26

Stephen Leonard, MAT'26

Thursday, Oct. 23

Schneebeck Concert Hall

7:30 p.m. | Free admission

Or tune in at pugetsound.edu/schneebecklive

Puget Sound Wind Ensemble
“Re-Unions”

Gerard Morris, conductor

Featuring Alumni Tuba Soloist
Dr. Angelo Manzo ‘96

REUNIONS

Commissioned for the inauguration of President Isiaah Crawford
Fireworks.....Kevin Day
(b. 1996)

Iraníel González Molina, graduate conductor

In celebration of the 50th Anniversary of “Leroy Ostransky Day”
Bicentennial March.....Leroy Ostransky
(1918–1993)

Stephen Leonard, graduate conductor

Written for Dr. Angelo Manzo
Concerto for Tuba and Symphonic Band.....John Cheetham
(1939–2024)

- I. Spiritoso
- II. Lento con espressione
- III. Vivo

Angelo Manzo ‘96, tuba

INTERMISSION

UNIONS

Celebrating the marriage of Japan’s Crown Prince Naruhito and Masako Owada
Sound the Bells!.....John Williams
(b. 1932)

VIDEO: “John and Jim: A Love Story” – PBS News Hour, July 16, 2025

Written in celebration of marriage equality
John and Jim.....Viet Cuong
(b. 1990)

PROGRAM NOTES

Fireworks (2017)

Kevin Day

The composer writes: "Fireworks is a short fanfare that portrays the excitement of a firework show that you would see on the Fourth of July. I had received an email from my director about the Dallas Winds Fanfare Composition Contest and I decided to give it a shot. I needed a concept and decided to go with the whole firework show idea. I wanted to capture the excitement and enticement that comes as people gaze into the sky to see these firecrackers go off.

The piece took me three days to finish and I sent it in for the contest. I later found out that the piece won and was to be performed on July 4, 2016, by the Dallas Winds brass and percussion section."

– Kevin Day

Also in 2016, Isiaah Crawford became the University of Puget Sound's first black and openly gay president. To honor President Crawford's historic inauguration, Director of Bands Dr. Gerard Morris commissioned Kevin Day to create wind band transcription of his award winning Fireworks, which was then premiered on Friday, March 24, 2017 as part of the 14th Presidential Installation Ceremony held in the Memorial Fieldhouse at the University of Puget Sound.

Bicentennial March (1975)

Leroy Ostransky

Local newspaper excerpt:

The premiere of an original composition by Leroy Ostransky, the Tacoma "Bicentennial March," will be presented in an 8 p.m. concert Wednesday in Jason Lee Auditorium. Commissioned by the Tacoma School District, Allied Arts, the Ted Brown Music Company, and Sam and Nathalie Brown, the march eventually will be heard in 25 communities throughout Pierce County and Washington. Scores and parts have been provided for 25 area bands –15 high school and 10 junior high school bands. Because it is the oldest school in Tacoma, Stadium High School band, under the direction of Jack Lloyd, has been selected for the performance of the premiere.

The News Tribune, review excerpt by Hames Erickson, printed January 29, 1976:

Give Dr. Leroy Ostransky, composer in residence at the University of Puget Sound, a salute for his Tacoma Bicentennial March, which premiered last night in the Jason Lee Junior High School auditorium.

It was a moving piece, full of spirit, and was played very well by Stadium High School band.

Concerto for Tuba and Symphonic Band (2023) John Cheetham

The Concerto for Tuba and Symphonic Band was written during the summer of 2023 at the request of Dr. Angelo Manzo, professor of tuba and euphonium at the University of Missouri. Because of the high tessitura of the tuba part, the composer suggests it to be played on an F tuba. The concerto exists in two versions: the first for tuba and symphonic band, the composer's original conception; and the second, the version for tuba and piano.

Stylistically, the three-movement work is based on traditional forms. "Tunes" abound in the concerto amidst conservative harmonies and rhythms. With this work, the composer and commissioner hope to expand the repertoire of this increasingly viable solo instrument.

Sound the Bells! (1993/2003) John Williams

With resplendent sound, this invigorating and jubilant work for advanced concert bands will take your breath away! This fabulous transcription for band instrumentation is enhanced with parts for harp, piano and trumpets in C. This is simply stunning fanfare, filled with an exuberance that will elevate the energy level in your concert hall.

The premiere performance of Sound the Bells! for concert band was conducted by John Williams as part of the 205th anniversary concert of the United States Marine Band, July 12, 2003, at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

"John and Jim: A Love Story" (July 16, 2025) PBS News Hour

From the PSB News Hour website:

Headline:

"John and Jim" symphony honors marriage equality with its future increasingly in doubt –

Ten years ago, marriage equality became the law of the land when the Supreme Court ruled in the landmark Obergefell v. Hodges case that state bans on same-sex marriage were unconstitutional. A symphony piece now honors the love story of Jim Obergefell and husband John, and how the fight to prevent an overturn of the case

continues. Jeffrey Brown reports for our arts and culture series, CANVAS.

John and Jim(2024)

Viet Cuong

The composer writes: I first heard the name Obergefell in 2015 when the case that bears it, Obergefell v. Hodges, was decided by the Supreme Court. Among the most important in history for queer Americans, this landmark ruling granted marriage rights to all same-sex couples. At that moment, Obergefell was etched in history. For those writing about the law, the name would thereafter be written in italics, and today it's as much a shorthand for the case law of marriage equality as it is the name of a man. But at its core, the case begins with two people.

John Arthur and Jim Obergefell were married in July of 2013. They had been together in a loving relationship for 22 years, and Jim was caring for John as he faced the end stages of ALS. In the last year of John's life, they traveled on a medical plane to Maryland -- one of just a handful of states where same-sex marriage was legal at the time -- to be married. The marriage ceremony was conducted on board the plane before they returned home to Ohio for their last months together. John passed away that October, and, because Ohio did not recognize their marriage as legal, Jim had to challenge the state in court to be listed as John's surviving spouse on his death certificate. The state appealed, and the court battle worked its way through the legal system until 2015, when Jim and his team were victorious before the Supreme Court. Their efforts ensured that the relationships of same-sex couples, including my marriage to my husband, would be seen as equal under the law. For that, I am deeply and personally grateful.

John and Jim is my effort to pay tribute to the men whose love and devotion gave rise to great change, and I do so by interpolating source material from an iconic piece of traditional wedding music: Pachelbel's Canon in D. In my youth, I adored Pachelbel's Canon, and I learned a piano arrangement of it when I was 11 years old. For months, I would play the piece every morning before school, endlessly repeating its bass line while improvising melodies when the treble clef's music ran out. Through these explorations, I discovered some basic principles of music composition, and it was through the Pachelbel that I began composing in earnest. It was also around that time that I first learned of its use in weddings, as it was the frequent

soundtrack to reality TV shows chronicling the weddings of straight couples. At the time, it saddened me that music I found so beautiful was emblematic of something that, according to the law, I could never have. It feels fitting then, that in the year of my own wedding to my partner of 11 years, reframing (and perhaps reclaiming) the Pachelbel should provide the inspiration for a celebration of marriage equality.

My piece is a conversation between two alternating phrases, one of which uses melodic fragments and harmonic progressions from the Canon in D as source material. In the Canon, Pachelbel establishes a single bass line and layers it with several melodies, two of which are quite iconic but never performed simultaneously in the original. I disassembled and rewrote these to work harmoniously with one another upon the arrival of the piece's climax, which appears after several minutes of what I think of as the music finding and piecing itself together. Ultimately, I believe John and Jim sounds like both a departure and nod to the piece that first inspired me to compose. All of this takes place in a reverberant atmosphere, where notes linger and continually echo around one another, symbolic of both the persistence and impact of people like John and Jim.

John and Jim was commissioned by The Columbus Pride Bands and the Queen City Freedom Band of Cincinnati for the 2024 Pride Bands Alliance Annual Conference, where it was premiered on July 20, 2024, by Dr. Jon Norwoyt and the combined concert bands. Heartfelt thanks to the Pride Bands Alliance for this opportunity to tell my story and celebrate John Arthur, Jim Obergefell, and the progress that has been made in the name of love.

BIOGRAPHIES

ANGELO MANZO is currently an Associate Professor of tuba and euphonium at the University of Missouri. Manzo has been a member of the music faculty at MU since 2001 where he teaches applied tuba and euphonium and directs the MU Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble.

A native of Washington, he entered his undergraduate studies at the University of Puget Sound as a vocal performance major, but began serious instrumental study his sophomore year. While focusing on tuba performance, he also continued his vocal training throughout both his undergraduate and graduate studies. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Puget Sound, a Master of Music degree from Baylor University, and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from The University of Texas at Austin.

Manzo has performed on television and radio with professional brass quintets and symphonies, and his playing can be heard on commercials and movie soundtrack credits. Manzo has been very active throughout as a recitalist, clinician, adjudicator, and has given master classes and performances at several American and Russian universities, including the University of Kansas, Kansas State University, Oklahoma University, Texas Tech, the Moscow Conservatory of Music, the Gnessin Institute (Moscow), and the Mussorgsky School of Music (St. Petersburg). As a soloist/artist he has appeared at a variety of state, regional, national, as well as international conferences Midwest Tuba and Euphonium Conference, South East Tuba and Euphonium Conference, Mid-South Tuba and Euphonium Conference, Great Plains Tuba and Euphonium Conference, Music Teachers National Association, as well as the International Tuba and Euphonium Conference.

Manzo has commissioned, arranged, transcribed, and composed several pieces for tuba and euphonium. Currently, more than 50 of his arrangements, transcriptions, as well as original compositions for tuba and/or tuba/euphonium ensemble are published and available for purchase.

GERARD MORRIS joined the University of Puget Sound School of Music in 2009, where he serves as Director of Bands and Chair of Winds and Percussion. In recognition of his exceptional teaching, he received the President's Excellence in Teaching Award in 2016 and was promoted to full professor in 2022. Morris holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Western Michigan University, a Master of Music Education from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and a Doctor of Music in Conducting from Northwestern University.

Now in his eighth season as Conductor and Artistic Director of the Tacoma Concert Band, Morris is an active conductor, clinician, and lecturer across the United States and internationally, which includes a guest artist residency at the American Community School in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

His work as a conductor and educator is shaped by a distinguished performing career, having served as principal euphonium with both The Boulder Brass and the United States Marine Corps Band, Hawai'i. With these ensembles, he toured nationally and internationally, performing in the United States, Australia, and Costa Rica as both ensemble member and soloist.

STEPHEN LEONARD is a native of the Pacific Northwest and studied music at Montana State University, Washington State University, and Saint Martin's University. Following a career in radio broadcasting, he has returned to his love of music and is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from University of Puget Sound School of Education.

Leonard now lives in Olympia with his wife and two young children and is an active clarinetist who performs with the South Sound Symphonic Band, the Puget Sound Wind Ensemble, and other ensembles throughout the region.

IRANIEL GONZÁLEZ MOLINA was born and raised in Puerto Rico, where his passion for music first took root. From 2015 to 2021, he studied at the Escuela Libre de Música Ernesto Ramos Antonini, a formative experience that shaped his growth as a musician. During those years, he was actively involved in the school's band, orchestra, and choir, participating in memorable events such as a choral competition in Spain, a choral festival in Vienna, and a performance at Carnegie Hall with the orchestra. These meaningful opportunities

inspired González Molina to pursue a career in music education, and believes every child deserves access to high-quality, enriching musical experiences – just like the ones that influenced his own path. In the summer of 2025, González Molina earned a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Puget Sound and currently is enrolled in its Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program. While at Puget Sound, he performed in the horn section with both the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band, which further developed his musical and educational skills, and currently serves as a graduate assistant conductor for the Wind Ensemble.

As part of his commitment to growing as an educator, González Molina actively seeks opportunities that broaden his teaching skills. One such experience includes assisting with ukulele classes at the Asian Pacific Cultural Center (APCC), where he applies his knowledge in a diverse and community-centered environment.

WIND ENSEMBLE PERSONNEL

Gerard Morris, conductor
Precious Wilson '26, librarian

Piccolo/Flute

Levin Kapur '28

Flute/Piccolo

Brianna Babin '28

Lydia Cocciolone '26

Isadora Page '29

Lauren Ruby '27

Katy Wade '28*

Oboe/English horn

Annabelle Chessler '29

Casey Hume '28*

Bassoon

Suza Haskins '29

Alex Kirner '26*

Olivia Schmick '28

Clarinet

Emma Dubowitz '28*

Nat Fernandez '28

Alyx Fezer '27

Josie Hanson-Kaplan '29

Heidi Huckins, guest
artist

Stephen Leonard,
MAT '26

Kellie Meeuwsen, PT
grad student

Kai Odell '27

Mireia Pujol '26

RJ Rosales '27*

Bass Clarinet

Jackson Himesboor '29

Lucy Wheelwright '29

Alto Saxophone

Elizabeth Joque '27

Rae Kertzner '26*

Tenor Saxophone

Griffin Burkhart '29

Bryan Kuo '27

Baritone Saxophone

Precious Wilson '26

Trumpet

Maia Connolly '27*

Jack Lighthipe '28

William Smith '27

Horn

Iraníel González

Molina, MAT '26

Savannah Schaumburg '20

Sonny Wong '26*

Trombone

Evan Gault '28

Sara Ponsioen '26

Erin Schmidlin '26

Euphonium

Pieter Meengs '28

Lila Wright '28*

Tuba

Jayden Garner '29*

Milo Lyman, Stadium
High School

Piano

Jasper Hitchman '27

Percussion

Sarah Beacock '26

Carter Fouts '27

Noah Hornecker '26

Seyum Schaffer '29

Spencer Tefft '29

**Principal*

UPCOMING SCHOOL OF MUSIC EVENTS

All events are free unless noted otherwise. Most performances are broadcast at pugetsound.edu/schneebecklive. Tickets available at tickets.pugetsound.edu, in the Logger Store, or at the door.

FRIDAY, OCT. 24

Jacobsen Series: A Celebration of Puget Sound Composers and 50th Anniversary of Leroy Ostransky Day

Curated by Gwynne Brown '95
Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets required, Free for students

SUNDAY, OCT. 26

Jacobsen Series: Girsky String Quartet with Xiaohui Yang

Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 2 p.m.
Tickets required, Free for students

THURSDAY, OCT. 30

Keyboard Series: Pipes Spooktacular – A Halloween Organ Concert

Wyatt Smith, organ
Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 1

Jacobsen Series: Duo Diorama

Minghuan Xu, violin; Winston Choi, piano
Kilworth Memorial Chapel, 7:30 p.m.
Tickets required, Free for students

FRIDAY, NOV. 7

Popular Music Ensemble

Dawn Padula and Rob Hutchinson, co-directors
Schneebeck Concert Hall, 7:30 p.m.

All listings are subject to change. For the most current information about upcoming arts events and lectures, visit pugetsound.edu/events.

Puget Sound is committed to being accessible to all people. If you have questions about event accessibility, please contact 25Live@pugetsound.edu, or visit pugetsound.edu/accessibility.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that this event takes place on the ancestral territory of the Puyallup Tribe and the Lushootseed-speaking people, whose relationship with the land continues to this day.

We respectfully acknowledge and honor the history and presence of Indigenous students, staff, and faculty here at Puget Sound. We who are guests on this land offer our gratitude for the opportunity to make music together here.

The School of Music strives to recognize, include, and respect all of the peoples and musical traditions that make up our community.

The School of Music at University of Puget Sound, situated within a nationally recognized liberal arts university, prepares students to be broad-minded, creative, arts-aware social leaders. We attract highly engaged student musicians and empower them to create the diverse musical offerings and effective educational programs of the future.

From the classroom to the concert hall, we cultivate students' self-expression, cultural competency, and critical engagement. Through a wide variety of public offerings and a vibrant Community Music program, the School of Music enriches the cultural life of both the Puget Sound campus and surrounding communities.

Community Music, a division of the School of Music, welcomes people of all ages and skill levels to participate in music lessons and classes throughout the year. pugetsound.edu/communitymusic | 253.879.3575

