

Casper College Presents

KINSEY JAZZ FESTIVAL 2024

February 5-7, 2024

Wheeler Concert Hall • Casper College



Ben Markley Big Band with Ari Hoenig

John Roberts y Pan Blanco

Wyoming All-State Jazz Choir

Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7 p.m.

John F. Welsh Auditorium, Natrona County High School



Student Performances

Monday-Wednesday,
February 5-7, 2024
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON

Regional Jazz Band Festival
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Jazz at Casper College

Casper College offers a wide range of performance activities. Jazz Ensembles at Casper College include Jazz Ensemble (CCJE), Contemporary Singers (Triple C), and when student interest permits Jazz Combo. Music Activity Scholarships are available to music majors and nonmajors alike.

Jazz studies at Casper College encompass a wide variety of music and experiences. Students study and perform standards, new arrangements, original compositions, new commissions, free jazz, and fusion.

In addition to performance opportunities students are encouraged to enroll in History of American Popular Music either in person or online. This course provides the groundwork for a lifetime of jazz enjoyment and is designed to encourage free thinking, spontaneous music making, and a historical understanding of the only original

American art form. This course is also a 3-credit Humanities General Education course. Triple C and CCJE have enjoyed numerous performing opportunities at Casper College, in the community, and around the world. Triple C has toured throughout the state of Wyoming and the Northwest. CCJE has performed at the All-Northwest Conference, and both the CCJE and Triple C have performed at the Greeley Jazz Festival in Greeley, Colorado.

The CC Jazz Ensembles routinely work and perform with clinicians and guest artists through the academic year and during the Kinser Jazz Festival. Past artists include: Dizzy Gillespie, Ellis Marsalis, The Manhattan Transfer, Bob Mintzer and the Yellowjackets, Arturo Sandoval, John Roberts, Ben Markley, Eric Marienthal, Randy Brecker, Kris Berg, and Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band.

Special Thanks To:

- Casper College Foundation
- CC Office of Public Relations
- CC Grants Office
- CC School of Fine Arts and Humanities Office Staff
- Kinser Jazz Festival Volunteers
- Larry Burger, CC Recording Engineer
- Darren Divine, President, Casper College
- Brandon Kosine, Casper College Vice President of Academic Affairs
- Enroll Wyoming Julia Whyde, Dean, School of Fine Arts and Humanities
- John Dutton, Piano Tuning Services
- Hill Music Company
- Natrona County School District No. 1
- Natrona County BOCES
- Wyoming Jazz Educators
- Hilton Garden Inn
- BOCES
- National Endowment for the Arts
- Shawn Weis
- Natrona County High School
- Zach Schneider
- Wyoming Symphony Orchestra

History

The Casper College Kinser Jazz Festival, now in its 57th year, is named for the late Dr. Thomas Kinser, who founded the festival and promoted jazz as a standard component of music study in Wyoming. In 1967, the festival hosted three ensembles. Today, the festival has grown to accommodate nearly 50 ensembles, including college, high school, and junior high school instrumental and vocal ensembles.

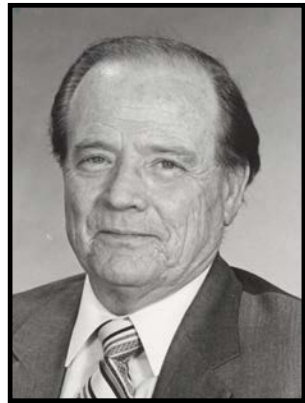
The festival's mission statement is: "The Casper College Kinser Jazz Festival exists to provide world-class jazz and jazz education to the current and future generations of musicians in the Rocky Mountain region. Our focus is to present authentic jazz performances by artists of the highest caliber and to offer a variety of educational experiences for jazz ensembles, their directors, and the public at large." The clinicians provide written comments, a rating, and a custom work session for each ensemble to help improve future performances. Regularly scheduled seminars, workshops, and performances are offered to expose festival attendees to high-quality jazz performance and education.

The highlight of the festival is the evening concert featuring John Roberts y Pan Blanco, the Wyoming All-State Jazz Choir under the direction of John Stafford, and Ari Hoenig with the Ben Markley Big Band. These artists have performed for and worked with students from across Wyoming, Colorado, Nebraska, North Dakota, Utah, and Montana.

Due largely to Kinser's passion, Casper College has a strong tradition of excellence in the area of jazz. The program provides students with an excellent beginning and

continuation to their jazz careers. Because Casper College is a two-year college, students are provided excellent scholarships and financial resources, and enjoy solo opportunities and leadership roles typically available only to upperclassmen and graduate students.

The jazz program at Casper College has provided a solid start for generations of musicians. To date, we can confirm three generations of Wyoming instructors who have brought their students to our festival to perform and we are rapidly anticipating the fourth generation. While on campus for the festival, students who are interested in attending Casper College may arrange to audition for scholarships by speaking with any of our faculty and performing a short, private audition.



Dr. Thomas Kinser

Schedule of Events



For the most up to date schedule visit our website at the QR code above.

caspercollegearts.cc/kinser-jazz-festival

Adjudicators



Brennan Baglio is the former Director of Choirs at Northwest College in Powell, Wyoming, where he directs the Studio Singers, Collegiate Chorale, and teaches second year music theory and aural skills classes. Brennan is a native of the Seattle area and previously taught choir, piano, voice, and music technology courses at Bellevue College. Brennan holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music and a Masters of Music in Choral Conducting, both from Central Washington University.

Brennan is the baritone and tour manager in the professional vocal jazz septet Groove For Thought. With Groove For Thought, he has had the opportunity to perform on NBC's

"The Sing-Off," open for Jay Leno, and perform throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe. Groove For Thought performed at the 2014 Jazz Education Network (JEN) Conference in Dallas, TX, has been asked to perform at the 2016 JEN Conference in Louisville, KY, and has performed at American Choral Directors Association Conferences, the Polyfolia World Choral Symposium, the Europa Cantat Festival, the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, the University of Northern Colorado/ Greeley Jazz Festival, the Gold Company Invitational, and many other Jazz and Choral Festivals throughout the U.S. and abroad. Groove For Thought is a previous winner of the Harmony Sweepstakes Competition and has won numerous Contemporary A Cappella Society awards in recent years.

Adjudicators



Dan Goble currently serves as the director of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colo. Previous to his appointment at Colorado State University (CSU), Dr. Goble served as the dean of the School of Visual and Performing Arts at Western Connecticut State University in Danbury, Conn., where for 21 years his leadership roles also included chair of the Department of Music and coordinator of Jazz Studies. During his tenure at Western Connecticut State University (WCSU), Dr. Goble provided leadership for curricular and programmatic changes that affected positively the School of Visual and Performing Arts (SVPA) and the university, most notably the planning

and construction of an award-winning \$97 million instructional and performance facility, which opened in 2014.

An arts administrator who is also an active performer, Dr. Goble has performed with the New York Philharmonic for over 16 years, and has been featured with the orchestra as the saxophone soloist on Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet*, Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, and Ravel's *Bolero*, among other works. In addition to the New York Philharmonic, Dr. Goble has performed with the New York City Ballet, The American Symphony Orchestra, The Mariinsky Orchestra, the New York Saxophone Quartet, and the Harvey Pittel Saxophone Quartet.

Committed to recording and promoting contemporary works for the saxophone, his critically acclaimed CD *Freeway*, includes significant compositions by Pulitzer Prize winning composers Charles Wuorinen and John Harbison (CRI 876). His recording of *Quartet, Opus 22*, by Anton Webern, conducted by Robert Kraft, is available on the Naxos label, and his most recent project with pianist Russell Hirshfield, *Mad Dances, American Music for Saxophone and Piano (Troy 1251)*, features the music of David Diamond, William Albright, David Del Tredici, Libby Larsen, and Kevin Jay Isaacs.

On the international stage, Dr. Goble has toured extensively with the New York Philharmonic, including the historic visit to North Korea in 2008, as well as recent tours to Europe, Japan, Taiwan, South Korea, and China. He was a featured performer at the 2004 Thailand International Saxophone Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, and has performed recitals in Japan, China, and in Europe. He was the First Prize-winner at the 1993 Louise D. McMahon International Competition, and has won or placed in numerous other prestigious competitions, including, the Concert Artist Guild International Competition, the Ima Hogg International Young Artist Competition, and the Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition.

Dr. Goble received his Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees from the University of Texas at Austin and his Bachelors degrees in Saxophone Performance and Music Education from the University of Northern Colorado. Recently, he was named distinguished alum of Casper College in his hometown of Casper, Wyoming. His saxophone teachers include Roger Greenberg, Thomas Kinser, Harvey Pittel, and Albert Regni. Dan Goble is a D'Addario performing artist.

Adjudicators



Paul Falk completed his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education at the University of Northern Colorado, and Master's Degree in Jazz Piano/Voice Performance at Chicago College of the Performing Arts at Roosevelt University, both Downbeat Award Winning Vocal Jazz Ensemble Award winners.

As a pianist/music director, he is active in Recital Accompanying, All State Choir/Jazz Choir Performances, Honor Choir Performances, Jazz Ensembles, Jazz duos with Marion Powers, Music Worship, Reading Sessions, Symphony Performances, Recording projects and Music Theatre pit orchestras (including RENT, Sister Act, Motones vs. Jerseys, Ragtime, Fun Home and Next to Normal).

Paul served as Assistant Director of Purdue Musical Organizations from 2004-2006 and starting in 2022 Director of the CU Boulder Vocal Jazz Ensemble. He was also Vocal Percussionist for CO Acappella Group Groove Society. Paul has had the opportunity to work with artists such as: Patricia Barber, Laurence Hobgood, Anton Armstrong, Roger Treece, Stephanie J. Block, Kate McGarry, Judy Niemack, Jackie Allen, Kate McGarry, The New York Voices, Game of Thrones Concert Experience Choir and Ben Folds. He has served as Vocal Music Director Rocky Mountain High School (GRAMMY Signature High School), Windsor High School and the past 6 years at Ponderosa High School. His groups have performed at ACDA/JEN/CMEA Conferences, CHSAA Large Group Vocal, UNC Jazz and CHSAA Vocal Jazz Festivals. At CHSAA Vocal Jazz, his group Spotlight was awarded Outstanding Vocal Jazz Group.

Paul has served as judge/adjudicator for Harmony Sweepstakes, UNC/Greeley Jazz Festival, CHSAA, CHSAA Vocal Jazz Festival, UWYO Jazz Festival, St. Vrain Honor Choir, Jazz Aspen Snowmass Honor Jazz Choir, ICCA Competition, Tashco Young Artists Festival and ProMusic Festival. He can be heard on piano most recently on EP recordings by vocalist Mandy Harvey and vocally on many recordings including Patricia Barber's Mythologies.

Adjudicators



Francisco Torres is a well-respected trombonist, bass trombonist, educator, composer and arranger who hails from the town of Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico. Born in 1974, Francisco didn't start his musical training until 15 years old, playing alto saxophone then switching to tuba and euphonium. By accident, he discovered jazz while watching the jazz band practice before school. He was hooked.

After graduating from high school, he went on to study with Dr. Tony Mazzaferro and Dr. Greg Woll at Fullerton College, where he played in the jazz band, symphonic band and the symphony orchestra. Transferring to Cal State Long Beach, he went on to study with Roy Main and Alex Iles. In a happy

coincidence, he is currently the jazz trombone teacher at his alma mater, Cal State Long Beach, while holding down the same position at Cal State Fullerton.

Francisco has emerged as a first class arranger and composer, particularly in the field of latin jazz. He has served as musical director, producer and arranger for the Grammy winning percussionist Poncho Sanchez for 18 years. He is also a member of Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band, John Beasley's Monkestra, Bill Cunliffe's Bacchanalia, and has recorded with Bob Dylan, Michael Bublé, Dr. Dre, Busta Rhymes, Chaka Khan, Pitbull, Jennifer Lopez, Spoon, St. Motel, Frank Ocean, Ricky Martin, Brian Setzer, Los Lobos, All American Rejects, Arturo Sandoval, Sammy Nestico, Joey DeFrancesco, Terence Blanchard, Robbie Williams, Angelique Kidjo, Juan Gabriel, Jenny Rivera and many others. He has backed up, among others, Santana, Aretha Franklin, Johnny Mathis, Chance The Rapper, Jennifer Lopez, Natalie Cole, Celia Cruz, Cachao, Joan Sebastian, and Rocio Durcal.

For 8 seasons he was first call sub with the Dancing With the Stars Orchestra, and has appeared with different artists on the Tonight Show, Saturday Night Live, The Late Late Show, Jimmy Kimmel, American Music Awards, The Grammys and Latin Grammys. Being known primarily as a studio and jazz trombonist, he has also excelled in the field of classical music. He can be heard as soloist and principal trombonist in the Pixar film "Encanto" and can also be heard as trombonist, bass trombonist and valve trombonist on the Pixar films "Coco" and "Incredibles 2". Some of his most recent film credits are "Spider Man: No Way Home", "Little", "Tagged", "Secret Life of Pets", "Ice Age 4", "Penguins of Madagascar", and "Straight Out of Compton". On TV he can be heard on "The Simpsons", "Family Guy", "American Dad", "Penny Dreadful", "Elena of Avalor", "Tangled", "Sofia The First", and "The Get Down".

He regularly records trombone for orchestra shows and parades for Shanghai Disney, Tokyo Disney, Walt Disney World and Disneyland.

Adjudicators



Dr. John Reynolds is a highly sought educator, clinician, and trumpeter. He earned his D.M.A. in Jazz Studies from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, an M.M. from San Diego State University (SDSU) and a B.A. in Music Education from Point Loma Nazarene University. He performs frequently with his own Jazz quintet in numerous venues throughout Southern California. He has performed with Jazz legends including John Clayton, Jeff Hamilton, Gerald Clayton, Rickey Woodard, Graham Dechter, Bob Mintzer, Peter Erskine, Bobby Shew, Wayne

Bergeron, Gordon Goodwin, Francisco Torres, Frank Mantooth, Gilbert Castellanos, Marshall Hawkins, and many others. Dr. Reynolds also performs as a freelance artist with the San Diego Symphony.

Dr. Reynolds is the Director of the Garn Family Jazz Studies Program and the Frederick Fennell Wind Studies Program at the Orange County School of the Arts (OCSA), California's top ranked charter school. Prior to OCSA, he created the Jazz Studies program at San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts (SDSCPA). He has led both the OCSA and SDSCPA programs to national prominence at various Jazz festivals, including the Essentially Ellington Jazz Competition in NYC. In 2016, the SoCal Jazz Society recognized Dr. Reynolds as the "Jazz Educator of the Year," and San Diego State University awarded him "Outstanding Alumnus of the Year."

Dr. Reynolds is a consultant for Jazz at Lincoln Center, where he serves as a guest artist, clinician, and adjudicator for regional Essentially Ellington festivals across the country. Additionally, he is a Lotus Trumpets Artist.



BEN WINCKLER PHOTOGRAPHY

SENIORS

MORE INFO



KINSER JAZZ FESTIVAL 2024

JOHN ROBERTS Y PAN BLANCO



John Roberts began playing the piano at the age of 5 while living on an isolated ranch in Southeastern Montana. There was no TV, but there was a piano. From age 11-18, in Malta, MT, he was in band (trombone) and choir in the Malta, MT schools. After graduating in 1996 from Montana State University-Billings with a BA in Music Performance, John moved to Los Angeles to earn his Master of Fine Arts in Western Orchestral Performance from California Institute of the Arts.

Feeling equally comfortable in orchestral and commercial music realms, he has performed in all 50 of the United States and around the world, including: Mexico, South America, Israel, Cuba, India, Asia, Europe, the Caribbean, Australia and Africa. Notable venues include the Lincoln Center in New York, Pantages Theatre, Kodak Theatre, Roskilde, House of Blues, Blue Note, Apollo and Apollo London. Tours include his own band, John Roberts y Pan Blanco (Afro-Latin Soul), Ricardo Lemvo and Makina Loca (Congolese/Cuban), Bobby Womack (Soul), Los Pinguos (Argentina), The Temptations, Chaka Khan, The New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, and more. Other performances and recordings include multiple Grammy and Emmy Award Shows, Chris Botti, LA Philharmonic, Feist, Sting, Dr. Dre, Mariah Carey, Lady Gaga, Fallout Boy, Burt Bacharach, Bill Holman, The Ojays, Jill Scott, Christina Aguilera, The Today Show, NPR, PBS, Disney, and more.

Roberts is a Professor of Low Brass at MSU Billings, teaching Music Theory, Aural Perception, Jazz Ensemble, Commercial Ensemble, World Music courses and more. He is active in the Montana and Los Angeles performing and studio scenes as a bandleader, studio musician and composer/arranger. John is currently recording and composing for his next album, part of which was recorded in Santiago de Cuba and Los Angeles. This record will be a collaboration between Cuban, Congolese, Los Angeles and Montana artists.





KANSAS JAZZ FESTIVAL 2024

John Stafford II



John Stafford II is the Associate Professor of Music, Director of Choral Activities, and Co-Coordinator of the Music Department at Kansas City Kansas Community College. Professor Stafford was recently selected as the 2020 Henry Louis Excellence in Teaching Award Winner (KCKCC's Faculty of the Year Award) and in 2015, was a recipient of the John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Award for outstanding teaching and leadership at the community college level. He has also received two other teaching awards from KCKCC for Recruitment and Teaching Excellence. Stafford was appointed at Millikin University, Eastern Illinois University, and Danville Area Community College teaching composition, theory, orchestration, history, and vocal jazz. He holds degrees from Millikin University (music business), Bowling Green State University (composition), and has done additional doctoral studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (choral conducting).

Among his professional activities, Professor Stafford serves as the Jazz R&R Chair of the Kansas Choral Directors Association and Commercial/Contemporary Music R&R Chair of the Southwestern Division of the American Choral Directors Association. He is also a member of the National Association for Music Educators, Jazz Educators Network, and American Choral Directors Association. Since 2014, Professor Stafford has served as the Choral Director of Community Christian Church (architecture by Frank Lloyd Wright) in Kansas City, MO. He also currently serves as the Artistic Director of the m-pact Vocal Festival at KCKCC.

Professor Stafford directs, The Standard, the award-winning contemporary vocal jazz ensemble from Kansas City Kansas Community College.

WYOMING ALL-STATE JAZZ CHOIR



DIRECTOR JOHN STAFFORD

SOPRANOS:

Anna Kobulnicky, Laramie	Jillian Norberg, Cody
Addyson Brekhus, East	Noelle Graham, Cody
Lily Ruby, Buffalo	Laurel Kurth, Green River

ALTOS:

Taylor Howell, Laramie	Alivia Hatch, Cody
Sienna Lulias, Buffalo	Halle Morris, Kelly Walsh
Grace Bartholomew, Laramie	Sophie Berglund, Buffalo

TENORS:

Catcher Pannell, Laramie	Finley Kastens, East
Giovanni Monterastelli, Buffalo	Cameron Killpack, Laramie
Kalli Stucki, Riverton	Teddy Hart, Laramie

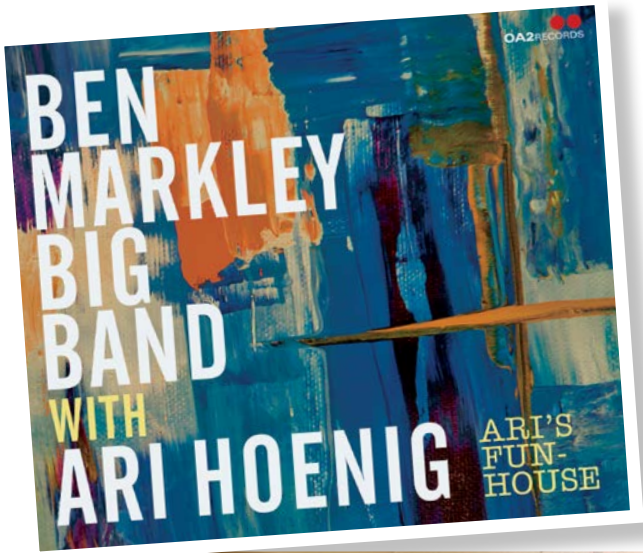
BASSES:

Ethan Corinescu	Jacob Sullivan, Sheridan
Declan O'Conner, Laramie	Jayson Whipple, Buffalo

COMBO:

Rylie Johnson, Green River	Mason Tollefson, Green River
Haylie Johnson, Green River	

KINSER JAZZ 2024 FESTIVAL



Ben Markley Big Band with Ari Hoenig



Ben Markley is a pianist, composer, arranger, author, educator, and leader of the Ben Markley Big Band, a daring ensemble known for their creative takes on beloved modern and contemporary jazz classics. Fresh off the heels of *Clockwise: The Music of Cedar Walton*, Markley tackles his most ambitious project yet: *Ari's Funhouse*, a big band album featuring the music of drummer Ari Hoenig, with Hoenig himself in the drum chair. The album received great critical acclaim and was selected as one of the best 4 star rated albums of 2022 by *DownBeat* magazine.



Markley is active as a composer and arranger with many big band and vocal jazz charts published through UNC Jazz Press as well as his own website. Recent arranging commissions include the Kansas City Jazz Orchestra, Jazz Orchestra of Philadelphia, and Wyoming Jazz Educators All-State Jazz Band. In 2023 Markley published *Cedar. The Life and Music of Cedar Walton* (University of North Texas Press). Markley conducted more than seventy-five interviews with friends and family members, musicians who played with or were otherwise influenced by Walton, and industry figures such as club owners. Musicians interviewed include such stars as Jimmy Heath, Benny Golson, and Ron Carter. Walton's wife Martha shared her extensive archives of photos, ephemera such as fliers and tour itineraries, and letters to inform Markley's writing which is the definite biography on Walton.



Markley's book *A Practical Approach to Improvisation - The David Hazeltine Method* was published by Jamey Aebersold Jazz in December of 2014. It documents David Hazeltine's process of creating etudes from transcriptions. Markley is an active performer in the Denver-metropolitan area and along the front range. He currently teaches jazz piano and serves as department chair of the music department for the University of Wyoming.

Ari Hoenig



Ari Hoenig (born on November 13, 1973 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), is a jazz drummer, composer and educator known for his unusual and intense approach to drumming emphasizing complex rhythms in direct harmony with other group members. Ari is widely noted particularly for his drumming not being relegated to just keeping tempo, or being a side issue to the music he plays in, but rather for elevating drumming as an indispensable part of the performance. Hoenig is also known for his unique ability to modify the pitch of a drum by using drum sticks, mallets, and even parts of his body (such as his hands and elbows). Using this technique, he can play any note in the chromatic scale, virtually any melody, and even improvise on a chord structure in the same way as any other instrumentalist would.



Hoenig was born into a family of classically trained musicians. His father being a choral conductor and mother a violinist, he was exposed to classical and folk music at an early age. He played both piano and violin as a child, then rock and metal drums as a teen before settling into jazz and improvised music. Ari has recorded, written, and produced 14 cd's as a leader. He has written and published 3 educational books, 4 educational DVD's and a songbook. Currently, his group tours worldwide and performs regularly at the legendary New York jazz club Smalls.

Ari is currently touring and performing with his trio of Gadi Lehavi on piano and Ben Tiberio on bass as well as his quartet adding Tivon Pennicott on Tenor sax with whom he won the BMW Welt competition in 2013. Other artists Hoenig has performed or recorded with include Shirley Scott, Jean Michel Pilc, Mike Stern, Kenny Werner, Joshua Redman, Wayne Krantz, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Robert Glasper, Richard Bona, Chris Potter, Toots Thielemans, Pat Martino, and Billy Childs.

essentially ELLINGTON

The Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Program (EE) is unique among educational resources for high school jazz bands. Each year, Jazz at Lincoln Center (JALC) transcribes, publishes, and distributes charts by Duke Ellington and other seminal big band composers and arrangers, along with additional educational materials to bands in the U.S., Canada and American schools abroad. Beyond providing these charts, EE also supports its members throughout the school year with a variety of initiatives including teaching guides, the Essentially Ellington website, newsletters, a student composition contest, and professional feedback of student performances of the charts. Schools that join the program are eligible for participation in noncompetitive regional festivals and also have the option to submit recordings for the national Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival held annually in New York City at Frederick P. Rose Hall, the home of Jazz at Lincoln Center. Fifteen bands are selected as finalists and, to prepare, each finalist band receives an in-school workshop in their community led by a JALC clinician. The Competition & Festival culminates in a three-day festival in May for the finalist bands, including workshops, rehearsals, jam sessions, and performances. The three top-placing bands perform an evening concert with Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra.

Since 1995, over 846,000 students have participated in Essentially Ellington. To date, more than 280,000 copies of 150 previously unavailable scores have been distributed to more than 5,300 schools internationally. In 2006, Essentially Ellington piloted noncompetitive, education-focused Regional festivals in an effort to reach more bands and provide the opportunity to perform Ellington's music and receive professional feedback from JALC clinicians and other jazz professionals in their own backyard.

Founding leadership support for Essentially Ellington is provided by The Jack and Susan Rudin Educational and Scholarship Fund. Major support is provided by Jessica and Natan Bibliowicz, Alfred and Gail Engelberg, Casey Lipscomb, Dr. J. Douglas White and the King-White Family Foundation, Augustine Foundation, Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Foundation, Charles Evans Hughes Memorial Foundation, and the Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, Bloomberg, Con Edison, Entergy, and United Airlines.

MISSION

- To offer a world-class jazz experience to Casper, Wyoming, and the Rocky Mountain Region
- Presenting concerts by high-quality headliner artists
- Advancing performance opportunities to college, high school, and middle school students
- Supporting music education in Wyoming
- Showcasing the Casper College Music Department
- Furthering the development of jazz in Wyoming

PROCESS

- The Kinser Jazz Festival is the signature event for the Casper College Music Department
- The Kinser Jazz Festival is an annual event with the goal of reaching as many jazz aficionados as possible and emphasizing young musician and student programs
- Students and audience members come from throughout Wyoming, Montana, South Dakota, Colorado, Utah, and Nebraska

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- The Kinser Jazz Festival attracts participants from throughout Wyoming and the Rocky Mountain region. Festival participants spend money on:
 - Lodging
 - Dining
 - Shopping
 - Winter activities around Casper, including skiing
- This event benefits the Casper College Music Department, Casper College, and the entire Casper community

EVENT MARKETING

- Casper College website/event webpage
- Event T-shirts and banners
- Email
- Social media
- Print media
- Radio and TV
- Posters
- Postcards



Sponsorship Opportunities

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

SPONSOR OR DONATE

SPREAD THE WORD

Like us on Facebook: Kinser Jazz Festival
Share caspercollegearts.cc/kinser-jazz-festival with your friends and family.

VOLUNTEER

Receive one complimentary ticket to the headliner performance when you volunteer for two shifts.

CONTACT US

Dr. Joshua R. Mietz, Executive Director
joshua.mietz@caspercollege.edu
307-268-2246
caspercollege.edu/foundation



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

TITLE SPONSOR - \$15,000

- Event name will include sponsor's name – "The Kinser Jazz Festival sponsored by XYZ Company"
- Introduction from stage
- Corporate logo with top billing on projections during all student performances
- Corporate logo with top billing in publicity materials and mention in press release(s)
- Corporate logo on website and link to business website
- Top billing for corporate logo placement on festival T-shirt
- Reserved seating at headliner concert
- Assigned parking at headliner concert
- Sponsor booth space during festival
- Space for banners to hang in the Jean D. and H.A. (Dave) True Jr. Atrium throughout festival
- Twelve complimentary tickets
- Private reception at president's house
- CD autographed by headliner artist(s)
- Poster autographed by headliner artist(s)

Sponsorship Opportunities

FOUNDERS CIRCLE SPONSOR - \$5,000

- Corporate logo on rotation with other Founders Circle donors on projections during all student performances
- Corporate logo with prominent billing in publicity materials and mention in press release(s)
- Corporate logo on website and link to business website
- Prominent billing for corporate logo placement on festival T-shirt
- Reserved seating at headliner concert
- Sponsor booth space during festival
- Space for banners to hang in the Jean D. and H.A. (Dave) True Jr. Atrium throughout festival
- Ten complimentary tickets
- Private reception at president's house
- CD autographed by headliner artist(s)
- Poster autographed by headliner artist(s)

GOLD CIRCLE SPONSOR - \$2,500

- Corporate logo in publicity materials and mention in press release(s)
- Corporate logo on website and link to business website
- Corporate logo placement on festival T-shirt
- Reserved seating at headliner concert
- Sponsor booth space during festival
- Space for banners to hang in the Jean D. and H.A. (Dave) True Jr. Atrium throughout festival
- Eight complimentary tickets
- Private reception at president's house
- CD autographed by headliner artist(s)
- Poster autographed by headliner artist(s)

SILVER CIRCLE SPONSOR - \$1,250

- Corporate logo in publicity materials and mention in press release(s)
- Corporate logo on website and link to business website
- Corporate logo placement on festival T-shirt
- Sponsor booth space during festival
- Space for banners to hang in the Jean D. and H.A. (Dave) True Jr. Atrium throughout festival
- Six complimentary tickets
- CD autographed by headliner artist(s)
- Poster autographed by headliner artist(s)

BRONZE CIRCLE SPONSOR - \$1,000

Corporate logo in publicity materials and mention in press release(s)

- Corporate logo on website and link to business website
- Corporate logo placement on festival T-shirt
- Sponsor booth space during festival
- Space for banners to hang in the Jean D. and H.A. (Dave) True Jr. Atrium throughout festival
- Four complimentary tickets
- Poster autographed by headliner artist(s)

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE SPONSOR - \$800

- Corporate logo in publicity materials and mention in press release(s)
- Corporate logo on website and link to business website
- Corporate logo placement on festival T-shirt
- Two complimentary tickets
- Poster autographed by headliner artist(s)

ARTIST CIRCLE SPONSOR - \$500

- Poster autographed by headliner artist(s)
- Logo on festival T-shirt
- Priority ticket sales
- Name in program

PARTNERS - \$250

- Name in program

FRIENDS - \$100

- Name in program



Festival Directors



DR. JOSHUA R. MIETZ — Executive Director

Joshua R. Mietz, D.M.A. serves as the executive director of the Kinser Jazz Festival as well as the instructor of woodwinds at Casper College. He conducts the Casper College Jazz Ensemble, teaches applied clarinet and saxophone as well as jazz improvisation, The History of Blues, Jazz and Rock, and coaches the Casper College Clarinet and Saxophone choirs. Mietz was born in Upstate New York, and went to high school in Alamosa, Colorado. He earned a music degree in clarinet performance from the University of Colorado Boulder, an M.M. degree in clarinet performance from the University of Montana–Missoula, and a D.M.A. degree from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

His graduate degrees both featured emphases in instrumental conducting and his doctoral document analyzed David Maslanka’s “Desert Roads” from the viewpoint of a clarinetist and also a conductor. During the summer of 2015, he taught as a guest lecturer and performer at the University of Ludwigsburg in Baden–Württemberg, Germany. Prior to arriving in Casper in the fall of 2014, Mietz taught applied clarinet and saxophone at Fort Lewis and San Juan Colleges near Durango, Colorado. He is an active member of ICA, NASA, CMS, NaFME, and WJE. In his spare time, Mietz enjoys baking bread, backpacking, and running in the mountains.



DR. ZACHARY VREEMAN — Vocal Director

Zachary Vreeman, D.M.A. is director of choral activities at Casper College, and current president-elect of the Wyoming chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. He holds two degrees from Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa, and completed his D.M.A. in choral conducting at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, where he studied with Peter Eklund and Therees Hibbard. At Casper College, Vreeman conducts the Collegiate Chorale, men’s and women’s choirs, and the Contemporary Singers and teaches music history and education courses. Prior to Casper College, he directed choirs at the University of Wyoming. Vreeman has also sung with several professional chamber choirs. He is currently with the Colorado

Bach Ensemble and the Skyline Singers. In 2016 he founded the Wyoming Choral Arts Ensemble in Casper, and is also choirmaster at Grace Reformed Church in Casper. When not teaching or conducting, Vreeman enjoys woodworking and spending time with his wife and six young children.

Festival Directors



CYNTHIA HARRISON — Graphic Design Instructor

Cynthia Harrison is instructor and creator of the graphic design curriculum at Casper College. She had been an art director in the Twin Cities since 1994, specializing in art directing catalogs, direct mail, point-of-purchase, and promotional material. She received her B.F.A. in communication from the College of Visual Arts and M.F.A. in graphic design from the University of Minnesota. Formerly she has taught at Brown College, St. Catherine University, the

Art Institute International Minnesota, and the University of Minnesota. She served on the board of directors for the Casper Mural Project and also had a single artist gallery exhibition in the Goodstein Art Gallery from February 18-March 5, 2020, titled “A Fools Journey to Ascension, Calling in the Devine” a tarot exhibition featuring decks of her own creation as well as oil painting. She also does freelance Graphic Design to stay current in the industry, allowing her to give the most relevant advise to her students.



Faculty

Name — Specialization

Alex Annan, M.M. — Bass

Nathan Baker, M.A. — Music Theory,
Music Technology, and Trombone

Larry Burger, Dante 2/ProTools Certs.
— Audio Engineering

Eugenie Burkett, Ed.D. — Percussion Ensemble
and Percussion

Jennifer DePaolo, M.M. — Orchestras,
and Upper Strings

Gary DePaolo, M. Ed. — Viola

Cameron Fehring, M.M. — Musical Theater

Paula Flynn, M.M. — Piano

Jane Hamman, B.M. — Harp

Ethan Lorentz, D.M.A. — Guitar

Joshua R. Mietz, D.M.A. — Executive Director
— Kinser Jazz Festival, Director of Bands,
Woodwinds

Delores Thornton, B.A. — Flute

Richard Turner, B.M. — Bassoon

Veronica Turner, M.M. — Voice

Zachary Vreeman, D.M.A. — Director of Choral
Activities, Vocal Director Kinser Jazz Festival—
Department Chair

Julia Whyde, Ph.D. — Dean

Don Williams, M.M. — Trumpet



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