

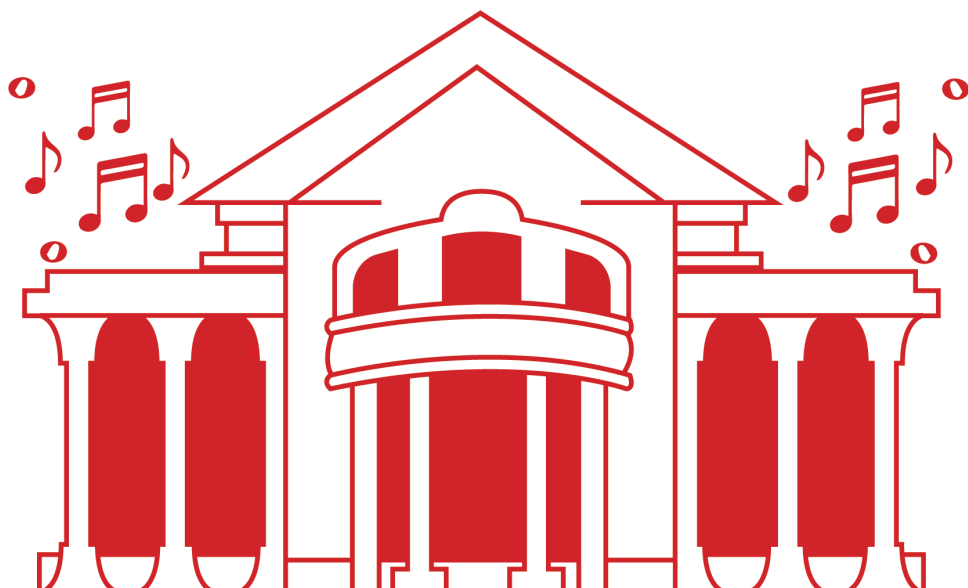
Western Kentucky University

HILLTOPPER

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

END-OF-CAMP CONCERTS

June 12, 2026 | 2:00p



Our Fourth Season!

CAMP MISSION STATEMENT

OUR MISSION IS:

- ✓ to provide a **FUN, HIGH-QUALITY MUSICAL EXPERIENCE**
- ✓ within a **SAFE & WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT**
- ✓ where **LEARNING & GROWTH ARE HIGHLY VALUED**
- ✓ at an **AFFORDABLE COST.**

As part of this mission, we have assembled a diverse group of faculty and staff from throughout the South Central Kentucky region as well as Middle Tennessee, West Texas, Ohio, and Southern Indiana. Each Summer Music Camp staff member - conductor, teacher, dorm counselor, rehearsal assistant, or administrator - is a fine musician and music teacher.

It is our hope to continue to serve a growing group of young musicians in the South Central Kentucky region and beyond. As a valued member of the Music Camp Family, we would love to hear from you. Please contact us and let us know what we did well and what we might improve in future years.

Hilltopper Summer Music Camp
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, KY 42101 • 270/745-4024
smc@wku.edu • www.wku.edu/band

CAMP CONCERT SCHEDULE



2:00p | DSU Auditorium

Big Red Beginning Band

Mrs. Angela Nash, conductor



2:30p | DSU Auditorium

Hilltopper Junior Band

Ms. Anjali Sivaankaran, conductor



3:10p | DSU Auditorium

WKU Senior Band

Mr. A.J. Cook, conductor



2:00p | Fine Arts Center Recital Hall

Piano Camp Recital

Dr. Zachary Lopes, director

Dr. Jessie Welsh, instructor

BIG RED BEGINNING BAND

Mrs. Angela Nash, conductor

Program to be selected from the following

Defender of Time Rob Grice

Colliding VisionsBrian Balmages

Funtango..... Chris Sharp

Turbo Rock..... Michael Sweeney

About the Conductor

Mrs. Angela Nash, conductor of the Big Red Beginning Band, currently serves as a Director of Middle School Bands at Owensboro Middle School, where she co-teaches band, grades 6-8, with Mr. Dylan Glass. She is currently in her 4th year of teaching at OMS, and her 9th year as an educator including previous positions in Simpson County and Grayson County Schools. Mrs. Nash proudly holds a Bachelor degree in Music Education from Western Kentucky University (2015) and a Master of Music in Conducting-Teacher Leader from Western Kentucky University (2017). Over her years of teaching in public schools, Mrs. Nash has led a variety of ensembles including middle and high school concert bands, pep bands, marching bands, and jazz bands. She also spent a larger number of years giving private lessons to young oboists across the western half of Kentucky. In 2021, Mrs. Nash was honored to receive the KMEA Fourth District Middle School Teacher of the year award. Her bands have consistently earned high marks at KMEA performance assessment and her students have placed well in numerous regional honor band events. She feels fulfilled in watching her students grow from beginning musicians to successful independent learners that will make a positive impact in our future society. While she works hard, she gives credit to the love and support her students receive outside of the classroom as a part of their success. The parents, mentors, and the administrators in the Owensboro Independent School District have outstanding and genuine support for the performing arts, which continues to drive Mrs. Nash to be the best music educator she can be. Mrs. Nash holds memberships in the National Association for Music Education and Kentucky Music Educators Association. Within these, she has served as the Middle School Band Chair and Band Chair. A native of Greenville, KY, Mrs. Nash was inspired to teach music by her directors and private lessons teachers during her time at Muhlenberg County Schools. This spirit continued through her college years at WKU and the experiences and connections made at that time have had a lasting impact that continues to shape her philosophy and career. Mrs. Nash still occasionally teaches private oboe lessons and performs with various ensembles in the Bowling Green and Owensboro area. She resides in Bowling Green with her husband, Nathaniel Nash. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with loved ones and visiting theme parks.

Big Red Beginning Band Personnel

OBOE

Cora Tucker

Vine Grove

TROMBONE

Christian Green
Kade Stokes

Bowling Green
Madisonville

CLARINET

Mackenzie Colon
Audra Ellis
Paisley Mitchell
Landon Vo
A'Mare Woodard

Bowling Green
Bowling Green
Scottsville
Bowling Green
Bowling Green

EUPHONIUM

Isaiah Ashley

Bowling Green

TUBA

Ayden Loar

Bowling Green

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Aedan Cullen
Mallory Roberts
Colby Smith
Arlo Vance

Brooks
Campbellsburg
Bowling Green
Bowling Green

PERCUSSION

Alex Petre
Gianny Santos
Jack Wintuska

Bowling Green
Bowling Green
Bowling Green

HORN

Rhys Schondelmayer

Bowling Green

** In recognition of each camper's contribution to their section, names are listed in alphabetical order.*

Music Camp Schools

Allen County Scottsville HS

Apollo HS

Bowling Green Junior HS

Bowling Green HS

Browning Springs MS

Bullitt East HS

Burns MS

Caldwell County HS

Campbell County HS

Carroll County HS

Carroll County MS

Castle HS

Castle North MS

College View MS

Cumberland County MS

Dawson Springs HS

Drakes Creek MS

East Oldham MS

Edmonson County HS

Foundation Christian Acad

Franklin Simpson MS

George Rogers Clark HS

Grayson County MS

Greenwood HS

Hebron MS

Henry F Moss MS

Hopkinsville HS

James E Bazzel MS

James Madison MS

James T. Alton MS

Lincoln County HS

Lone Oak MS

Lyon County HS

Lyon County MS

Mayfield MS

Meade County HS

Monroe County HS

Monroe County MS

Noe MS

North Oldham MS

Ohio County HS

Ohio County MS

Pleasant View Baptist Sch.

Rich Pond Elementary

Riverdale HS

Russellville MS

South Warren HS

South Warren MS

Springfield HS

Stuart Pepper MS

Taylor County HS

Trigg County MS

Union County MS

Warren East HS

Warren East MS

Webster County HS

Webster County MS

Western MS for the Arts

Westmoreland HS

Westmoreland MS

HILLTOPPER JUNIOR BAND

Ms. Anjali Sivaankaran, conductor

Program to be selected from the following

Dorchester Concert March..... Eric Osterling

Blue Ridge ReelBrian Balmages

From the StartLaufey / arr. Kamuf

Chips and SalsaEd Kiefer

How To Train Your Dragon..... Powell / arr. Vinson

About the Conductor

Ms. Anjali Sivaankaran, conductor of the Hilltopper Junior Band, is currently a band director at Bowling Green Independent Schools where she team teaches with Mrs. Christi Shores and Mr. Lucas Allen. At BGISD, the band directors team teach at both Bowling Green Junior High and Bowling Green High School grades 6-12. Ms. Sivaankaran is in her eighth year of teaching and joined BGISD in 2020 after teaching in Metro Nashville Public Schools at Antioch High School. She is currently on staff for the Louisville Youth Wind Symphony and the Bowling Green Youth Orchestra. Ms. Sivaankaran holds a Bachelor Degree in Music Education from Tennessee Technological University and a Masters Degree in Clarinet Performance and Literature from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Hilltopper Junior Band Personnel

FLUTE

Grayson Allen	Bowling Green
Hannah Faulkner	Bowling Green
Angela Gunter	Bowling Green
Scarlett Hamilton	Clarkson
Annabelle Kunkel	Bowling Green
Mario Moncayo-Santamaria	Bowling Green
Mckenzie Myrick	Fort Knox

OBOE

Kara Farley	Owensboro
Aaron Parkest	Slaughters

BASSOON

Dylan Fuller	Goshen
Sev Layman	Bowling Green
Elliott Owens	Crestwood

CLARINET

Sloane Apple	Bowling Green
Angelise Best	Bowling Green
De Cavanaugh	Hopkinsville
Nikolas Cline	Bowling Green
Lukas Dolbeare	Alvaton
Bryce Gollither	Alvaton
Piper Hussey	Bowling Green
Charlotte Martin	Bowling Green
Tatu Matendo	Bowling Green
Milo McAnally	Bowling Green
Tristan Platter	Bowling Green
Dulce Ramirez Pérez	Bowling Green
Sophia Scott	Kuttawa
Finley Smith	Bowling Green
Brogan Wininger	Newburgh, IN
Andrew Xing	Bowling Green

BASS CLARINET

Felix Blackerby	Bowling Green
Colt Coin	Vine Grove
Kaitlyn Graham	Bowling Green
Aspen Kaufkins	Bowling Green

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Blake Carroll	Brandenburg
Maia Del Rio	Scottsville
River Estes	Franklin
Brandt Layne	Bowling Green
Andre Martinez Cruz	Bowling Green
Carmen O'Rourke	Bowling Green
Connor Ooms	Bowling Green
Zariah Spencer	Bowling Green
Grayson Vinson	Bowling Green
Michael Willen	Bowling Green
Liam Winiecki	Bowling Green
Chloe Woolbright	Bowling Green

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Declan Cullen	Brooks
Mackenzie DeVore-Eades	Bowling Green
Wesley Miller	Bowling Green

BARI SAXOPHONE

Ethan Allison	Bowling Green
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HORN

Jace Daffron	Bowling Green
Olivia Harper	Bowling Green
Zoe Heckman	Bowling Green
Bella Himmelbrand	Bowling Green
LuLu Jones	Bowling Green
Maddie Lee	Bowling Green
Noah Miller	Bowling Green
Anna Rice	Alvaton

TRUMPET

McKenzie Basil	Bowling Green
Daniel Bauman	Cerulean
Ramon Garcia	Burkesville
Rhys Hammers	Owensboro
Vaeda Hopkin	Burkesville
Alexander Ledbetter	Bowling Green
Luke Stiff	Owensboro

TROMBONE

Luci Bull Di Gaetano	Bowling Green
Elliott Donoghue	Bowling Green
Garrett Hendrick	Oakland
Camp Martin	Bowling Green
Rohan Olson	Bowling Green
Jackson Sandlin	Bowling Green
Parker Shores	Bowling Green
Christopher Siebert	Bowling Green

EUPHONIUM

Parker Boone	Owensboro
Aubrey Coomes	Owensboro
Ben Herman	Bowling Green
Nik Isbell	Bowling Green
Lily Johnson	Westmoreland, TN
Colby Miller	Madisonville
Liam Payne	Bowling Green
Reuben Somerville	Bowling Green
Marek Stinson	Bowling Green

TUBA

Zandar Forsythe	Bowling Green
Ryan Huynh	Bowling Green
Caroline Wolfe	Sturgis

PERCUSSION

Lucy Addington	Bowling Green
Zoey Barnes	Eddyville
Zayn Boyer	Bowling Green
Lucy Burchett	Mayfield
Hollyn Dale	Bowling Green
Gabriel Kinzel	Hestand
MacLane Larson	Shepherdsville
Hadley Lynch	Paducah
Aubree Nelson	Bowling Green
Max Oliver	Bowling Green
Madelyn Padin	Bowling Green
Maddie Ragan	Bowling Green
Calvin Reed	Bowling Green
Jax Rucker	Bowling Green
Alaina Sheffield	Bowling Green
Eli Strong	Tompkinsville
Max VanSchenkoff	Bowling Green

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WKU SENIOR BAND

Mr. A.J. Cook, conductor

Rephrygeration.....Todd Stalter

English Folk Song Suite Ralph Vaughn Williams

I. Seventeen Come Sunday

II. My Bonny Boy

III. Folk Songs from Somerset

✦ Please hold applause until all movements have concluded. ✦

RocketshipKevin Day

His Honor MarchFilmore / arr. Foster

About the Conductor

Mr. A.J. Cook, conductor of the Hilltopper Senior Band, is the Director of Bands at George Rogers Clark High School in Winchester, Kentucky, where he has served for the past six years. Prior to his appointment at GRC, he spent three years as Director of Bands in Cumberland County. During his time in Cumberland County, the marching band earned the highest state finals placement in school history, the concert program consistently received Distinguished ratings, and recruitment efforts resulted in approximately 90% of incoming sixth-grade students participating in the band program. At George Rogers Clark High School, Cook oversees the Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Marching Band, Pep Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Jazz Band. Under his leadership, the band program has been named a KMEA State Finalist each of the past five seasons. In 2025, the George Rogers Clark Wind Ensemble was selected to perform at the Kentucky Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference and received an NBA Citation of Excellence. The concert bands consistently earn Distinguished ratings at KMEA Performance Assessment, and the marching band has been recognized as a BOA Regional Finalist at multiple events. Cook's contributions to music education have been recognized through several honors, including the 2024 Kentucky Psi Chapter of Phi Beta Mu Outstanding Young Director Award and the 2024–25 KMEA District 7 High School Teacher of the Year Award. A graduate of Caldwell County High School, Cook earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Western Kentucky University. He is an active member of the Kentucky Music Educators Association, National Association for Music Education, American School Band Directors Association, and the National Band Association. He lives in Winchester with his wife, Emily, and their son, Owen.

Senior Band Personnel

FLUTE

Samantha Beach
Stella Kim
Gracey Parker
Claire Shrewsbury
Lucy Sowards

Brownsville
Bowling Green
Slaughters
Princeton
Alexandria

HORN

Lexi Galloway
Jodi Johnson
Alexander Lebedinsky
Matthew Morrow
Rhett Reynolds

Alvaton
Murfreesboro, TN
Bowling Green
Bowling Green
Bowling Green

OBOE

Meredith Edwards
Silas Schwartz

Alvaton
Scottsville

BASSOON

Ramsey Butler

Alvaton

CLARINET

Hanna Bowden
Alyssa Fannon
Gigi Garchar
Preston Gaskin
Ashlyn McDaniel
Katie Miller
Wyatt Parish
Jacob Peterson
Adelynn Port
Brooklynn Upchurch

Bowling Green
Eddyville
Bowling Green
Bowling Green
Winchester
Bowling Green
Louisville
Mount Washington
Campbellsville
Rockfield

BASS CLARINET

Abby Kate Garcia
Rin Williams

Bowling Green
Newburgh, IN

ALTO SAXOPHONE

Danny Alas
Paul Cordova
De'Onna Faulkner
JC Gray
Logan Lovelace
Hadley Murray
Sidney Murray
Colton Snider
Joanna Zhang

Bowling Green
Bowling Green
Hopkinsville
Alvaton
Providence
Alvaton
Alvaton
Bethpage, TN
Bowling Green

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Jack Humphrey
Locke Snowden

Dixon
Bowling Green

BARI SAXOPHONE

Mason Jones

Bowling Green

TRUMPET

Jefer Cardona
Kaydence Clark
Aidan Del Rio
Keaton Grissam
Bodhi Helton-Weick
Elizabeth McGill
Jon Parkest

Bowling Green
Princeton
Scottsville
Winchester
Brandenburg
Bowling Green
Slaughters

TROMBONE

Erik Berry
Simon Causey
Alex Hatter
Will Holdsworth
Mackynzie Hunt
Karston Miller
Oli Mills

Bowling Green
Bowling Green
Stanford
Bowling Green
Scottsville
Smiths Grove
Bowling Green

EUPHONIUM

Caleb Dawson
Lizzie Ewing
John Owsley
Kayden Shope
Sam Wilson
Kayden Woolbright

Dawson Springs
Bowling Green
Cold Spring
Bowling Green
Louisville
Bowling Green

TUBA

Heath Catron
Jesse Cayce
Aiden Ellis-Griffith
Parker Mackey
Cooper Perry
Ian Schondelmayer

Bowling Green
Eddyville
Bowling Green
Bowling Green
Murfreesboro, TN
Bowling Green

PERCUSSION

Kenzie Blake
Jaelynn Boyer
Eva Harper
Lawson Hudson
Tristan Jordan
Ahna-Leigh Minton
Nadilyn Osborne
Mason Roberts
Phoebe Shepherd
Parker Smith
Caiden Trowbridge

Dixon
Bowling Green
Bowling Green
Owensboro
Bowling Green
Horse Branch
Springfield, TN
Campbellsburg
Bowling Green
Fountain Run
Bowling Green

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PIANO CAMP

Dr. Zachary Lopes, Director of Piano Camp | Dr. Jessie Welsh, Piano Camp Instructor

Tango	Karp
Raleigh McQueen and Kenzie Voyles	
Prelude in C Major, BWV 846	J.S. Bach
Iredante Anx.....	C. Jackson
Cranley Jackson	
Minuetto Sentimentale	Galluzi
Julian Barefoot and Cranley Jackson	
Have You Any Room for Jesus?.....	C.C. Willaims, arr. Lopez
Prelude in G Minor, Op. 23 no. 5.....	Rachmaninoff
Raleigh McQueen	
Village Festival	Mason
Raleigh McQueen and Kenzie Voyles	
Rustles of Spring, Op. 32 No 3.....	Sinding
My Tribute	Andrae Crouch (arr. Kartsonakis)
Kenzie Voyles	
Waltzes, Op. 39, Nos. 15 and 16.....	Brahms
Dalton Childress and Julian Barefoot	
Partita in B-Flat Major, BWV 825.....	J.S. Bach
Prelude	
Gigue	
Nocturne in C Minor, Op. 48 No. 1	Frédéric Chopin
Julian Barefoot	
Spanish Waltz.....	Parker
Cranley Jackson, Raleigh McQueen, and Kenzie Voyles	
Merry-Go-Round of Life	Hisaishi, arr. Goto
Dalton Childress and Anna Donovan	
Album Leaves	Greig
II. Allegretto espressivo	
Julian Barefoot, Piano	
Zach Sears, Violin	
Sonata for Four Hands	Poulenc
Prelude	
Rustique	
Final	
Dr. Lopes and Dr. Welsh	

PIANO CAMPERS

Julian Barefoot	Bowling Green
Cranley Jackson	Bowling Green
Raleigh McQueen	Hardinsburg
Kenzie Voyles	Hudson

CAMP DIRECTOR

Dr. Matthew McCurry, Camp Director, currently serves as a Pedagogical Assistant Professor of Music as well as the Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at Western Kentucky University where his responsibilities include teaching courses in music education, conducting the Spring Symphonic Band and overseeing the athletic band program, including the Big Red Marching Band - *The Pride of the Hilltoppers* and the *Spirit!* Pep Bands. Under his direction, the WKU Athletic Bands continue to make appearances on the national and international stage, most recently as the featured marching band in the 2025 London New Year's Day Parade. Dr. McCurry is the founding director of the Hilltopper Summer Music Camp after working and administrating summer music camps in Tennessee for over 20 years, as well as appearing as a guest clinician for local and regional honor bands and summer clinics. Dr. McCurry was recently awarded the 2024 Third District (KY) Band Directors Association and the Kentucky Music Educators Association (KMEA) University Teacher-of-the-Year.

Dr. McCurry was most recently Assistant Director of Bands at West Virginia University, where he spent four years working with the concert and athletic bands. Before moving to WVU in 2016, he was a music educator in the public schools of East Tennessee for fifteen years, where he enjoyed twelve years as the Director of Bands at Knoxville's Carter High School. During his time there, the band grew to become the largest comprehensive band program in the county with over 200 students in two marching bands, three concert ensembles, and competitive jazz and indoor programs. The concert bands earned consistent Superior ratings in Concert Assessment Performances while the marching band was named a Top 10 Finalist Band in the State Marching Band Championships on a regular basis. Dr. McCurry also served for eleven years on the Board of Directors for the East Tennessee Band and Orchestra Association as Band Chair, Clinic Coordinator, and Audition Chair. He was named the Knoxville Rotary Club's Teacher-of-the-Year in 2013 as well as the Holston Middle School Teacher-of-the-Year (2003) and Carter High School Teacher-of-the-Year (2009/2013).

Dr. McCurry holds a Bachelor's degree in Instrumental and Vocal Music Education from Carson-Newman University, where he also earned a Master's degree in Education. He received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting from West Virginia University. In his spare time, Dr. McCurry is the organist and collaborative pianist at First Christian Church in Bowling Green.

DIRECTOR OF PIANO CAMP

Dr. Zachary Lopes, Director of Piano Camp, is an active soloist and collaborative artist and has given performances and master-classes across the United States, South America, and Europe. He was the winner of the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) Piano Concerto Competition and has been featured with his trio on CBS Sunday Morning's "A Grand Plan for Pianos" and on WUOL Louisville Classical Radio as a soloist. Recording projects include the Bartok Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion on Soundset Recordings, American Violin and Piano Sonatas on MSR Classics, and a 2019 release on Albany Records of Robert Muczynski's three piano sonatas.

He has given numerous performances at colleges and universities across the US, including residencies at Louisiana State University and the University of Idaho where he gave concerts, master-classes, and lectures on the music of Muczynski. Zach also gave a lecture and performance on the music of Muczynski at the 2017 Jazzit Festival in Feltre, Italy. He has presented several times at the MTNA National Conference, as well as the MTNA Collegiate Chapter Piano Pedagogy Symposium, the National Group Piano and Piano Pedagogy Forum, and the Kentucky State Music Teachers Association Conference. He has been published in Clavier Companion and the MTNA E-Journal.

Zach has held teachings positions at Wittenberg University and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and served as Assistant Administrative Director of the CCM Prague International Piano Institute for the summers of 2011 and 2012. Zach is an active member of Music Teachers National Association at both the national and state level and was the Directing Coordinator and Planner of the 2nd MTNA Collegiate Chapter Piano Pedagogy Symposium in 2012. He subsequently served on the MTNA Collegiate Chapter Piano Pedagogy Symposium Steering Committee for two years. In addition, he served as President of Kentucky Music Teachers Association from 2018 to 2020. Zach received his master's and doctoral degrees in Piano Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and his bachelor's degree from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Former teachers include Eugene and Elisabeth Pridonoff, Doris Lehnert, and Robert Spillman. He is currently Professor of Piano and Chair of the Music Department at Western Kentucky University. He resides in Bowling Green, Kentucky with his lovely wife, Jenny, and 6-year-old twins, Asher and Cecilia.

MUSIC CAMP FACULTY & STAFF

Dr. Heidi Álvarez, Flute Instructor, is Professor of Music at Western Kentucky University, where she teaches flute, flute chamber music, and music theory. Additionally, she plays second flute in the Orchestra Kentucky Bowling Green and is a mother of three. She has performed as a flute soloist and has taught masterclasses across the United States as well as in Europe, Central America, and Canada. Dr. Álvarez released compact disc recordings that feature commissioned flute chamber music: Flute Chamber Music by Michael Kallstrom; Volume One (CRC 2911) released in 2007 and Volume Two released in 2012, both on the Centaur Records Label; The Light Wraps You on the MSR Classics Label (MS 1217). She served as Treasurer and a board member for the Flute Society of Kentucky from 2005 to 2018, and served as the Site Host and Program Chair for five of these festivals. As an avid supporter of up-and-coming flutists, Dr. Álvarez is a member of the Flute Society of Kentucky, the MidSouth Flute Society, and the National Flute Association. Dr. Álvarez holds degrees in flute performance from The Oberlin Conservatory of Music (B.M.) and from The Florida State University (M.M. and D.M.). Her former flute teachers include Michel Debost, Kathleen Chastain, and Charles DeLaney. Prior to her appointment in Bowling Green, Dr. Álvarez was the Principal Flutist in the North State Symphony and taught flute and numerous courses in music theory and musicology at California State University, Chico.

Dr. Mark Berry, Percussion Instructor and Elective Instructor, is Professor of Percussion at Western Kentucky University. He is Principal Timpanist with Orchestra Kentucky, a position he has held since 2002. As timpanist and percussionist, he has performed with the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, the Cleveland Baroque Ensemble, the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, the Owensboro Symphony, the Cantari Singers of Columbus, the Great Lakes Symphony Orchestra, the Westerville Symphony, the Jackson Symphony Orchestra, and the Adrian Symphony Orchestra. Dr. Berry's three solo CD recordings can be heard on the Soundset record label. An avid composer, Berry's compositions are published by Bachovich Music Publishing, C-Alan Publications, HoneyRock Publishing, Living Sound Publications, and Tapspace Publications. He has also published several articles in Percussive Notes and is a recognized authority on the triangle—its history, repertoire, and instrument design. Through a grant award from the Kentucky Council on Post-Secondary Education, Dr. Berry founded the WKU Steelband in 2004. Also, Dr. Berry has served as percussion writer, arranger, instructor, adjudicator, and consultant with many high school marching band programs throughout the Midwest. Prior to coming to Western Kentucky University, Dr. Berry taught percussion at West Virginia University and the University of Michigan, Flint. Dr. Berry has earned degrees from the University of Michigan and The Ohio State University. His principal teachers include Michael Udow, Salvatore Rabbio, and James L. Moore, with additional studies with Michael Bump and Fernando Meza.

Ms. Emily Boyle, Oboe Instructor, is a graduate of Western Kentucky University where she earned a Bachelor of Music Degree in Instrumental Music Education with numerous oboe performances. Emily performs on the oboe as her primary instrument, as well as the English Horn and a variety of other wind instruments. Emily is from Evansville, Indiana, and graduated from William Henry Harrison High School.

Dr. Emily Britton, Horn Instructor, is Professor of Horn and Music Theory at WKU and is a passionate instructor and performer. She is on the faculty of the Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts and has previously taught at the University of Louisville and the University of Evansville. Dr. Britton maintains a busy freelance schedule, including serving as Principal Horn of the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra, Principal Horn for the Indianapolis Chamber, Third Horn in the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra, frequent appearances in the Louisville Orchestra, and studio work in Nashville. Dr. Britton was a member of the USAF Heritage of America Band from 2010 to 2015, stationed at Joint Base Langley-Eustis in Hampton, Virginia. During her tenure with the Air Force, she performed with the Heritage Brass, the Langley Winds, and the concert band. In five years of service, she presented over 400 performances of various kinds throughout the East Coast, giving master classes at various universities and high schools and enjoying several particularly unique opportunities, such as playing the National Anthem for millions of NASCAR and Major League Baseball fans and performing the music of Glenn Miller in the streets of Poland. While living in Virginia, Dr. Britton also became a frequent substitute horn player with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra. Before entering the military, Britton appeared regularly with the Tallahassee Symphony, the Albany Symphony, the Mobile Symphony, the Pensacola Symphony and Opera, and Sinfonia Gulf Coast, and served as Principal Horn of the Northwest Florida Symphony and the Gainesville Chamber Orchestra. She was awarded second place in the collegiate division of the International Horn Competition of America in 2009. Dr. Britton holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Roberts Wesleyan College, a Master of Music Performance and Literature degree from Eastman School of Music, and a Doctor of Music degree in Brass Performance from Florida State University. Dr. Britton's past teachers include Michelle Stebleton, W. Peter Kurau, and Jennifer Burch.

Mrs. Melissa Bull, Elective Class Instructor, grew up in Pennsylvania, where she started playing piano at the age of three and the violin at the age of five. At age eleven, she won her first professional orchestra position and her love for orchestra has only grown since then. She was an active free-lancer in the Boston area for two decades, where she appeared as concerto soloist six times with three Massachusetts orchestras and once in Buenos Aires, Argentina in a televised performance. Melissa appeared regularly as concertmaster or principal violist for a dozen regional orchestras across New England and held contracts with seven different orchestras. She was the Assistant Orchestra Conductor at Gordon College, where she taught private violin lessons and group scales class to music majors, conducted orchestra sectionals, and coached chamber music. Since moving to Kentucky in 2017, she has performed with the Nashville Symphony, Nashville Opera, Gateway Chamber Orchestra, Evansville Philharmonic, and Paducah Symphony Orchestra. She has appeared as concertmaster of Orchestra Kentucky and assistant concertmaster of Owensboro Symphony. She has recorded frequently with Nashville Music Scoring, working on major film scores, tv episodes, and video game soundtracks. Melissa studied with James Buswell at New England Conservatory and Gordon College, receiving a BM in Violin Performance and a BA in Spanish with Departmental Honors. She completed her Master of Music *summa cum laude* in violin performance at Boston Conservatory as a student of Lynn Chang and Joseph Silverstein, the former concertmaster of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Melissa now lives in Bowling Green with her husband, two tween daughters, and their two perfect cats. She enjoys collaborating as accompanist for Western Kentucky University music students and is currently studying at Wesley Biblical Seminary. She adores the Owensboro community and loves playing with the Symphony!

Prof. Courtney Calvert, Clarinet Instructor, is a clarinetist and private studio teacher in the Bowling Green area. She graduated *summa cum laude* and Scholar of the Potter College from Western Kentucky University in 2010 with a Bachelor's in Music Education degree. In 2015, she completed her Master's of Music degree from WKU also graduating *summa cum laude*. She has performed as principal clarinetist of the Kentucky Intercollegiate Orchestra and the Kentucky Intercollegiate Band as well as served as principal clarinetist of the various ensembles and orchestra of Western Kentucky University. She is a Governor's School for the Arts alumni, an all-state (Symphonic Band and Orchestra) musician and a principal clarinetist of various honors bands and clinics. Her primary teachers were Dr. John Cipolla and Dr. John C. Carmichael. For over 15 years, Courtney has led a thriving and successful clarinet studio in the area. Residing in Bowling Green with her husband, Grant, and two children, Courtney enjoys practicing and teaching clarinet, gardening, homeschooling her children, reading and spending time with her family.

Mr. Matthew Davich, Saxophone Instructor, has been a free-lance woodwind specialist in Nashville since 1978. He has played many performances with the Nashville Symphony, over 100 touring Broadway and local professional theater productions, Nashville Jazz Machine, Nashville Jazz Orch, toured with Amy Grant/NSO Christmas tours. He has also played in backup orchestras for many name artists ranging from the Temptations/Four Tops/Motown acts, Bernadette Peters and 40 others, to Luciano Pavarotti. He also regularly performs many local and regional miscellaneous gigs. Mr. Davich has served as adjunct instructor at Tennessee State University, Austin Peay State University, and Middle Tennessee State University. Additionally, he has taught numerous private students from 5th-12th grade, with several being selected for MidState and All State bands.

Prof. Keegan Finkbine, Bassoon Instructor, received a Bachelor's in Music Education from Northern Kentucky University in 2010 where he studied bassoon with Mr. Russell Hinkle and conducting with Dr. Brant Karrick. Mr. Finkbine earned a Master's in Bassoon Performance from the University of Georgia at Athens in 2014 where he studied with Dr. Amy Pollard. He is currently the Director of Bands at Drakes Creek Middle School in Bowling Green and assists at Greenwood High School. Previously, he was the Director of Bands at Lanier County Middle School in Lakeland, Georgia and Director of Bands at Frontier School Corporation in Chalmers, Indiana. He has taught private lessons throughout his career and his students have earned recognition in various honor bands.

Dr. Sarah Herbert, Trumpet Instructor, joined the faculty at Western Kentucky University as the Assistant Professor of Trumpet and Jazz in 2020. Dr. Herbert teaches applied trumpet, trumpet ensemble, and directs the WKU Jazz Band. She has previously held faculty positions at the University of Wyoming, the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and Miami University Regionals in Hamilton, Ohio. Dr. Herbert's recent performing career has been diverse and includes performances with jazz and commercial ensembles, as well as orchestras and chamber groups including Orchestra Kentucky, Western Kentucky University Faculty Brass Quintet, Evansville Philharmonic, Wyoming Symphony Orchestra, and the University of Wyoming Faculty Brass Quintet. In the Cincinnati area she has performed with the Fillmore Brass Band and Wind Ensemble, Washington Ave Brass Quintet, The Belairs 1950's Show Band, The Casino Players Ensemble, Bach Chorale Singers, and the Richmond Symphony Orchestra (Indiana). Additionally, she has played in numerous musical theater orchestras and performed as a cruise ship musician for Norwegian Cruise Lines based out of Miami, Florida. As a K-12

music educator, Dr. Herbert spent four years as the Director of Instrumental Music for The Menaul School, an Independent School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. In this position she taught band and guitar for grades 6-12 and served as the Fine Arts Chair for the school. Dr. Herbert continues to be actively engaged in secondary education as a guest clinician, adjudicator, and committee member for the International Trumpet Guild Youth Awards. In addition to teaching and performing, Dr. Herbert has created an innovative commissioning project made possible with initial funding from the Presser Foundation's Graduate Research Award. Three new works for the unique instrumental combination of trumpet and guitar quartet have been commissioned and performed at both the 2017 International Trumpet Guild Conference in Hershey, Pennsylvania with the Texas Guitar Quartet and at the 2019 International Women's Brass Conference in Tempe, Arizona with the Albuquerque, New Mexico based Rio Grande Guitar Quartet. A native of Portland, Oregon, Herbert completed her Doctor of Music in Trumpet Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music in 2017. She also holds a Master of Music and Certification in Music Education from the University of New Mexico and a Bachelor of Music in Trumpet Performance from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.

Dr. Gary Schallert, Elective Class Instructor, is Director of Bands and Professor of Music at Western Kentucky University where he administers the band program, conducts the Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band, and teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in conducting and music education. Additionally, he supervises instrumental student teachers. Dr. Schallert earned his Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music degrees from New Mexico State University, and the Doctor of Arts degree in Wind Conducting from the University of Northern Colorado. Schallert maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States and has conducted touring ensembles in Europe, Australia, and Costa Rica. Under his leadership, the WKU Wind Ensemble performed at the 2012 and 2016 KMEA Conferences and the 2016 CBDNA Southern Division Conference in Charleston, SC. In addition to his work on the concert stage, Dr. Schallert is an active adjudicator for prestigious marching arts events across the county including Drum Corps International. He has contributed Teacher Resources Guides for nine volumes of the popular series Teaching Music Through Performance in Band. Dr. Schallert is a member of the Kentucky Music Educators Association and was recently honored with the 2017 College/University Teacher of the Year Award. Other professional affiliations include the College Band Director's National Association, the National Association for Music Education, the National Band Association, and the KMEA Third District Band Director Association. He is a member of Phi Beta Mu, Phi Mu Alpha, and is an honorary member of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. He and his wife, Amy, reside in Bowling Green and have five children; Ryan, Casey, Evan, Trevor and Julia.

Dr. Chris Schmidt, Euphonium & Tuba Instructor, is an Eastman Performing Artist and is currently the Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at Western Kentucky University and Indiana University Southeast. He has had several of his ensembles perform at major conferences including the IUS Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble at the 2023 and 2024 International Euphonium-Tuba Festival at the ITEA Midwest Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference in 2024, the Youth Performing Arts School Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble at the ITEA Midwest Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference in 2022, and the Oldham County High School Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble at the 2013 and 2021 KMEA Conferences. Several of his private students from various local high schools have earned placements in the Kentucky and Indiana All State Bands as well as National Honor Bands including the John Philip Sousa National High School Honor Band. Dr. Schmidt attended the University of Louisville and earned a Master of Music Performance with an emphasis in Wind Ensemble Conducting in 2010. While at U of L he studied conducting with Dr. Fred Speck and tuba with Mr. John Jones. Dr. Schmidt was also a guest tuba soloist with the University Concert Band when he performed The Fantasia for Tuba and Band by James Curnow under the direction of Dr. Greg Byrne. Prior to his time at Louisville, Dr. Schmidt attended Morehead State University where he held the position of Principal Tuba in the MSU Symphony Band and earned two degrees, a Bachelor of Music Education and a Master of Arts in Secondary Education. He was also awarded placements on the MSU Dean's List, the KY Intercollegiate Band, the CBDNA Southern Division Intercollegiate Band, and the Lexington Brass Band. His primary teachers at MSU included euphonium virtuoso Dr. Earle Louder and tuba professor Dr. Stacy Baker as well as wind band conducting lessons with Dr. Richard Miles.

Prof. Jefferson Tunks, Trombone Instructor, is Adjunct Professor of Trombone at WKU and a professional trombonist in the Bowling Green area. In 2020, he graduated from Western Kentucky University with a Bachelor's in Music Education. In 2022, he graduated from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music with a Master's in trombone performance. Jefferson is a substitute trombonist with the Owensboro Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Kentucky. His primary teachers are Lee Blakeman and Pete Norton.

Dr. Jessie Welsh, Piano Camp Instructor, NCTM, is an active teacher, performer, clinician, author, and presenter. She received her doctorate in Piano Pedagogy from Texas Christian University, where she was awarded the Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award for TCU's College of Fine Arts. Jessie completed her

dissertation—"Student—First Piano Pedagogy"—on the topic of the student—teacher relational connection in the private piano studio. Jessie also holds a Master of Music in Piano Performance and a Master of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Southern Methodist University, where she received the Paul Vellucci Award based on the nomination of the piano faculty. Additionally, Jessie completed undergraduate degrees in both Piano Performance and Music Education from the University of Central Florida, graduating magna cum laude. She has performed in master classes and lessons for well—renowned pianists, including Alessio Bax, Olga Kern, Rebecca Penneys, Veda Kaplinsky, and Adam Golka. Formative teachers include Harold Martina, Carol Leone, Sam Holland, Ann Gipson, and Cathy Lysinger. Jessie has a wide array of group and private teaching experience, including early childhood, K–12, university, and adult education. Currently, she is serving as Pedagogical Assistant Professor of Piano at Western Kentucky University, where she coordinates the group piano program and teaches pedagogy and accompanying classes. Jessie has also served as an instructor at both Texas Christian University and Southern Methodist University; prior to her position at WKU, Jessie operated a thriving studio in Dallas, TX, served as the pianist for Mercy Presbyterian Church, and held a longstanding collaborative position with The Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas. Jessie continues her work with The Frances Clark Center for Keyboard Pedagogy as the Manager of Digital Programs. Committed to advancing the field of piano pedagogy, Jessie has been a featured presenter at the College Music Society National Conference, the MTNA National Conference, the MTNA Collegiate Pedagogy Symposium, and The National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy. She has been published by Piano Magazine, American Music Teacher, and MTNA e-Journal. MTNA named Jessie as the recipient of the 2019 MarySue Harris Studio Teacher Fellowship Award and recently as the 2022 recipient of the American Music Teacher Article of the Year Award. She is the chair of MTNA's Pedagogy Saturday New Professionals Track for the 2023 National Conference, a member of the 2022–2023 MTNA Task Force on Young Professionals, Collegiate Chapters, and Collegiate Members, and a member of the New Professionals Committee for the National Conference on Keyboard Pedagogy in 2023. Upcoming performances and engagements include a residency at Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, FL; a faculty silent film recital at Western Kentucky University; collaborative performances at the inaugural Greater Dallas Choral Society concert at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, TX; and presentations at MTNA's 2023 National Conference. When not at the piano or in the classroom, Jessie enjoys reading, running, and outdoor adventures with her family.

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MUSIC CAMP ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dr. Scott Harris, Dean of Campers & Conduct and Elective Class Instructor, is Professor of Music at Western Kentucky University, where he served as Department Head from 2013-2022 and currently teaches courses in Music Appreciation, Rock and Roll, and Percussion. Prior to his appointment at WKU, Harris taught for fifteen years at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, TX where he was Director of Percussion, Assistant Director for Undergraduate Studies, and Interim Director of the SFA School of Music. Dr. Harris has presented clinics and concerts at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, the Texas Music Educators Association Convention, the Texas Bandmasters Association Convention, the National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy, and the College Music Society National Conference. His writings on creativity, performance, and percussion have been featured in *Percussive Notes*, *Southwestern Musician*, and *Bluegrass Music News*. His performance credits include solo/chamber recitals, regional symphony orchestras, professional steel drum bands, and the 1991 World Champion Star of Indiana Drum and Bugle Corps. Dr. Harris holds degrees from the University of Oklahoma (DMA), East Carolina University (MM), and the University of Massachusetts (BM); and has studied percussion with Dr. Peter Tanner, Thom Hannum, Harold Jones, Mark Ford and Dr. Richard Gipson. He is also the past Associate Editor of Education for *Percussive Notes* magazine. Scott is an active runner and lives in Bowling Green with his wife Courtney and four children - Kelsey, Dylan, Logan, and Sydney.

Mrs. Megan Benoit, Camp Administrative Assistant, is in her second year as a graduate teaching assistant at Western Kentucky University where she is pursuing a Master of Music Degree in Conducting - Teacher Leader. As part of her assistantship, she serves as a frequent conductor for the WKU Bands. Previously, Megan was the Assistant Director of Bands in Webster County for three years. She graduated from WKU with a Bachelor of Music degree in Integrated Music Education in 2022. Megan is from Bowling Green, Kentucky, and graduated from Greenwood High School.

Ms. Mollie Crawford, Camp Administrative Assistant, is an alum of Western Kentucky University with a degree in Music and Arts Administration. She is currently studying for Masters degrees in Arts Administration and Business Administration at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where she also serves as the Graduate Assistant for the CCM Opera Department. During her time at WKU, Mollie played in the percussion section of the Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and University Symphony Orchestra, as well as drumline and mellophone for the Big Red Marching Band and the *Spirit!* Pep Band. While at WKU, she was given many opportunities for career development, including serving as a band manager, recording technician, and jazz librarian for the WKU Department of Music. Additionally, Mollie was the Assistant Event Director for the 2024 Jazz Honors Band.

Ms. Brenna Derby, Camp Administrative Assistant, is the Band Director at Moss Middle School and Assistant Band Director at Warren Central High School. Brenna is a recent graduate of Western Kentucky University Bands where she obtained a Master of Music Degree in Conducting - Teacher Leader. Brenna performed in Western Kentucky University's Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, and Symphony Orchestra. She has studied flute under the guidance of Dr. Heidi Álvarez and studied instrumental conducting under the direction of Dr. Gary Schallert and Dr. Matthew McCurry. Brenna also holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Instrumental and Choral Music Education from WKU. Brenna held prior teaching positions in the Barren County School District where she taught elementary strings and Todd County School District where she taught General Music at North Todd Elementary. Brenna is the Founding President of the *Mu Iota* chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota at WKU, and served as the chapter's Vice President of Membership. She has received multiple awards for her musicianship, including the John Philip Sousa Award, Jean Blankenship Award, Dr. Samuel W. and Jeane Payne Tinsley Award, and is a member of the Pi Kappa Lambda Music Honors Society. This fall, Brenna will be stepping into the role of Director of Bands at Warren Central High School in Bowling Green.

Mr. David Holt, Camp Administrative Assistant, is a graduate student at Western Kentucky University, pursuing a Master of Music Degree in Wind Band Conducting. Entering his second and final year as a graduate assistant, David works closely with the university's band program while continuing to develop his skills as a conductor, educator, and musician. A graduate of Wayne County High School in Monticello, Kentucky, he has experience across elementary, secondary, and collegiate music settings, with a passion for fostering musical growth, providing meaningful opportunities for students, and creating engaging ensemble experiences. David looks forward to further contributing to the WKU music program and community as he prepares for a career in music education and conducting.

Mr. Noah Woody, Camp Administrative Assistant, is a recent graduate from Western Kentucky University where he earned his Master of Music degree in Instrumental Conducting. During his time at WKU, Noah served as a graduate assistant with the WKU Bands. While working with the bands, he was a concerto competition winner in 2025. He was also able to travel with the bands to London and conduct in the international concert venue, Codogan Hall. Noah is a bass trombone player and, prior to coming to WKU, he received a Bachelor of Music Degree in Instrumental Music Education from Austin Peay State University where he studied with Susan K. Smith.

MUSIC CAMP COUNSELORS

Shaylee Baxter, beginning band counselor, is a recent graduate of Western Kentucky University. She plays all flavors of saxophones in our music education department on the hill. Shaylee is from Leitchfield, KY, where she graduated from Grayson County High School. Shaylee just accepted the position of general music teacher at Plano Elementary School.

Alex Benoit, camp counselor, is a percussionist and music educator from Bowling Green. He graduated from Greenwood High School and earned his degree in Music Education from Western Kentucky University. Alex has spent the past three years as a band director in the Western Kentucky area and has a strong passion for teaching percussion and band. He performed in the front ensemble with *INov8* Winter Percussion in 2017 and 2018 and is also an Eagle Scout. Alex has enjoyed serving as a counselor for all three bands this weekend and is excited to share the experience with his new wife.

Olivia Booher, junior band counselor, is a third-year student at Western Kentucky University, majoring in Music Education. She is a member of the WKU Symphonic Band, Big Red Marching Band, University Singers, Choral Society, Treble Chorus, Opera Theater, and the Mu Iota Chapter of Sigma Alpha Iota, where she is currently archivist. She has been playing the flute since 2017, studying under Paula Humphreys at KWC (2020-2022), Lara Roberts (2023-2024), and Dr Heidi Alvarez at WKU (2024-present).

Simon Bozone, junior band counselor, is a junior at Western Kentucky University. He is majoring in Music Education as a trumpet player, and is planning on teaching after he graduates. He has been in numerous ensembles on campus, including the Big Red Marching Band and WKU Jazz Band, and is proficient in multiple instruments. Simon is from Paducah, KY, and graduated from McCracken County High School.

Jack Calhoun, senior band counselor, is a junior at Western Kentucky University. He is pursuing a degree in Instrumental Music Education and is a percussionist. Jack is from Owensboro, Kentucky and graduated from Owensboro Catholic High School.

Michael Cecil, junior band counselor and bucket drum instructor, is a student at Western Kentucky University majoring in Music Education as a percussionist. He is an active member of several ensembles on campus, including the WKU Big Red Marching Band, WKU Wind Ensemble, and WKU Percussion Ensemble. Michael is passionate about music education and enjoys sharing his love of percussion with students through performance and teaching. Originally from Elizabethtown, Kentucky, he is a graduate of Elizabethtown High School and plans to pursue a career as a music educator after graduation.

Dalton Childress, piano camp counselor, is an Alumnus of WKU and a Graduate Assistant at the University of Louisville, where he is pursuing two Master of Music degrees in Music Performance and Music Theory. He currently resides in Plum Springs, KY. He enjoys studying the works of contemporary composers such as William Bolcom and Nikolai Kapustin. When not practicing, Dalton likes tending to his reef tenants, brewing tea, playing games (currently Skyrim) and reading novels (currently *The Book of Dust*). He is always down for a game of cards if you find him on a break!

Emily Curtsinger, beginning band counselor, is a flutist currently studying at Western Kentucky University to earn a Bachelor of Music degree in Instrumental Music Education. She is a student of Dr. Heidi Álvarez and a former student of Dr. Kallie Snyder. Emily has performed in numerous regional, collegiate, and KMEA All-State honor bands and is an alumna of the 2022 Governor's School for the Arts. She was the winner of the Flute Society of Kentucky's 2023 High School Soloist competition and a selected winner of 2026 WKU Concerto competition. Emily is a member of the WKU Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Symphony Orchestra, Treble Chorus, Big Red Marching Band, and Flute Choir.

Anna Donovan, piano camp counselor, is a sophomore Instrumental Music Performance major from Hendersonville, Tennessee. As a pianist at Western Kentucky University, Anna enjoys collaborating with other musicians and performing with the WKU Symphonic Band.

Carter Edwards, junior band counselor, is a senior at Western Kentucky University where he is majoring in Instrumental Music Education. Carter plays the bassoon as his primary instrument, however he also plays the piano and percussion instruments. He also composes instrumental and electronic music. Carter is from Muhlenberg County, KY and graduated from Muhlenberg County High School.

Trenton Fears, junior band counselor, is a proud alumnus of Western Kentucky University, class of 2025. He is a percussionist, but also enjoys exploring a variety of other instruments including the trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass, and piano. His passion lies in teaching future generations of musicians as he believes whole-heartedly in the transformative power of music education. He finds great fulfillment in making a positive impact in the lives of his students through years of meaningful instruction.

Evelyn Hansen, junior band counselor, is a junior at Western Kentucky University. She is a Music Education major who plays oboe, english horn, and is actively learning flute. Evelyn is from Pearland, TX, and graduated from Glenda Dawson High School.

Olivia Harris, senior band counselor, is a junior at Western Kentucky University studying Instrumental Music Education where she performs on the trumpet. In her spare time, she enjoys being outdoors and volunteering at local animal shelters. Olivia is from Corbin, KY, and graduated from Corbin High School.

Geoffrey Hash, junior band counselor, is a sophomore at Western Kentucky University. He is majoring in Music Education where he performs on the Euphonium as his primary instrument. However, he also plays a multitude of other instruments including the Tuba, Trombone, and Trumpet. Geoffrey is from Owenton, Kentucky, and graduated from Carroll County High School.

Gabbie Houchens-Granados, senior band counselor and head female dorm counselor, is a graduate of Glasgow High School and a senior Special and Elementary Education major here on the Hill. Gabbie plays the clarinet and is a part of many organizations and ensembles, including the Big Red Marching Band, Basketball Pep Band, Campus Community Band, and Delta Omicron -the professional music fraternity. She is so pumped for year #2 at camp!

Patrick Johnson, senior band counselor and head male dorm counselor, is a graduate of Western Kentucky University where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music and is attending the University of Louisville for a Master of Music degree in Saxophone Performance. For fun, Patrick enjoys practicing, playing piano, playing mellophone, and listening to as much music as possible. Patrick is from Louisville, Kentucky, and graduated from Christian Academy of Louisville.

Sarah McAuliffe, beginning band counselor, is a recent graduate from Western Kentucky University with a Bachelor degree in Vocal Music Education. Sarah is most often found singing soprano, but also plays the clarinet and oboe. Sarah is from Taylorsville, Kentucky, and graduated from Spencer County High School. She was drum major for the WKU Big Red Marching Band for the past two marching seasons and is now the new choir director at Warren East Middle School starting in August.

Connor McDonald, beginning band counselor, is a sophomore at Western Kentucky University, where he is a member of the Big Red Marching Band, *Spirit!* Pep Band, Symphonic Band, and the WKU Trumpet Studio. He is majoring in Instrumental Music Education and his primary instrument is the trumpet. Connor is from Metropolis, Illinois, where he graduated from Massac County High School.

Isaiah McFadden, junior band counselor, is a recent graduate of Western Kentucky University where he earned a Bachelor degree in Instrumental Music Education. While at WKU, Isaiah performed primarily on the saxophone. In his spare time, Isaiah also enjoys reading, improvising, and listening to jazz music. He is from Mount Vernon, Indiana, and graduated from Mount Vernon High School.

Colby Ray Monarch, junior band counselor, recently received a Bachelor of Music degree in Instrumental Music Education at Western Kentucky University. Colby's primary instrument is trombone and he is a graduate of Warren Central High School in Bowling Green. Colby will be pursuing a Master of Music Degree in Trombone Performance at Western Illinois University in the Fall.

Brianna Nolan, senior band counselor, is a sophomore music education major at Western Kentucky University, where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree with a concentration in Instrumental Music Education and a minor in Child Studies, along with a certificate in Family Home and Visiting. Brianna is actively involved in several ensembles at WKU including the Big Red Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Symphony Orchestra, and Community Band. She has also performed internationally in London, England, including appearances in the London New Year's Day Parade and at Cadogan Hall. Additionally, while in high school, she was selected to the KMEA All-State Concert Band. In addition to her performance experience, Brianna is passionate about teaching and leadership. She has worked as a flute

mentor and band intern and has held leadership roles such as drum major, section leader, and head colorguard captain. Through these experiences, she has developed a strong commitment to music education and student mentorship.

Wilbert Osorio-Hernandez, beginning band counselor, is a junior at Western Kentucky University where he is studying Instrumental Music Education as a percussionist. In his spare time, he loves to practice and go on energizing walks. Wilbert is from Guston, Kentucky.

Hera Patrick, junior and senior band counselor, is a junior at Western Kentucky University. She is majoring in Instrumental Music Education. Hera plays the horn as her primary instrument, however, she also plays a multitude of other instruments, including the trumpet, piano, and guitar. Hera is from Breckinridge County, Kentucky, and graduated from Breckinridge County High School.

Willow Strader, beginning band counselor, is a junior at Western Kentucky University. She is majoring in P-12 Instrumental Music Education, and she is also member of the Omicron Omicron chapter of Delta Omicron where she serves as chapter secretary. Willow has served as a Minister of Music at various churches during her life, where she plays the piano and sings soprano. Willow plays the trombone as her primary instrument, but she is also proficient in guitar, ukulele, and many other fun instruments. Willow is from Bremen, Kentucky, and she graduated from Muhlenberg County High School with highest honors in 2024. She cannot wait to help campers learn about music this summer!

Cailee Tucker, junior band counselor, is a senior at Western Kentucky University and is studying Music Education with an instrumental emphasis. Cailee primarily plays the saxophone. In her spare time Cailee enjoys reading, outdoor walks, and spending time with friends. She is from Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and graduated from Central Hardin High School.

Cooper White, senior band counselor, is a sophomore at Western Kentucky University who graduated from Daviess County High School. As an Instrumental Music Education major, Cooper has extensive experience with brass instruments along with some experience with saxophone and percussion. Cooper's most notable achievements are being a two-time KMEA All-State member, as well as most recently being named as an International Falcon Competition semi-finalist alternate.

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