



# The Minnesota State Band

under the direction of

**Keith Liuzzi, Conductor**

Evan Varns, Associate Conductor

Presents:

# Never Forget

Monday, May 27, 2024, 7:00 PM

Como Park Lakeside Pavilion  
1360 N. Lexington Pkwy.  
St. Paul, MN 55103

Honoring Those Who  
Made the Ultimate Sacrifice

## PROGRAM

- Proud Heritage (1956)..... William Latham (1917 – 2004)
- Elegy for a Young American (1967) .....Ronald Lo Presti (1933 – 1985)
- March of the Belgian Paratroopers (1946) ..... Pierre Leemans (1897 - 1980)  
Arr. by Charles A Wiley
- Shenandoah (1999) ..... Frank Ticheli (b. 1958)
- A Mozart Celebration (1991) ..... W. A. Mozart (1756 – 1791)  
Arr. By Frank Erickson  
I. Eine Kleine Nachtmusik      II. Chorus of the Priests  
III. Exsultate, Jubilate
- Just a Closer Walk with Thee (1980) .....Arr. By Don Gillis  
Adapted for Band by Calvin Custer
- To Reap the Blessings of Freedom (2005)..... Arr. Douglas Wagner (b. 1952)
- Armed Forces Salute (1980) ..... Arr. Bob Lowden (1920 – 1998)
- Hymn to the Fallen (1998) ..... John Williams (b. 1932)  
Transcribed for Concert Band by Paul Lavender
- Colonel Bogey (1914) .....Kenneth J. Alford (1881 - 1945)  
Edited by Frederick Fennell



## Minnesota State Band Personnel 2024

<b>Flute/Piccolo</b>	<b>Alto Saxophone</b>	<b>Trombone</b>
Suzanne Benson ('21)	Melanie Day ('21)	Nick Jensen ('23)
Gail Bullard ('09)	Nikki Katzke ('24)	Jack Kennedy ('18)
Teresa Cerling ('19)	Linda Lundstrom ('23)	Isaac Smithee ('23)
Nita Cunningham ('22)		Michael Sweet ('16)
Carrie Halden ('04)	<b>Tenor Saxophone</b>	
Laura Millberg ('09)	Peter Wickert ('22)	<b>Bass Trombone</b>
		Jim ten Bensel ('22)
<b>Oboe</b>	<b>Baritone Saxophone</b>	
Eric Laska ('18)	Devin Naumann ('21)	<b>Euphonium</b>
Rosemary O'Connell ('16)		Dennis Opland ('08)
	<b>Trumpet</b>	Jonathan Wharton ('23)
<b>English Horn</b>	Luke Baker ('24)	Jason Wiley ('22)
Rosemary O'Connell ('16)	Brian Black ('22)	
	Gordy Flam ('24)	<b>Tuba</b>
<b>Clarinet</b>	Carol Jensen ('18)	W Rayford Johnson ('16)
Anthony Afful ('17)	Stuart Lane ('23)	John Moore ('00)
Kat Almquist ('24)	Andy Mobley ('02)	Thomas Wells ('18)
Greg Baker ('23)	Dan Newland ('97)	Lloyd Winfield ('19)
Donna Hogenson ('06)	Brittany Zastrow ('23)	
Sara Kysylczyn ('23)		<b>Percussion</b>
Frederick Larson ('03)	<b>French Horn</b>	Craig Allen ('02)
Carmen Nickish ('98)	Gerald Abraham ('19)	Alison Cameron ('24)
	Lucy Davis ('21)	Chuck Campana ('20)
<b>Bass Clarinet</b>	Jim McCreary ('10)	Julie Henry ('19)
Evan Varns ('00)	Alison Penner Rahn ('23)	Allison Wyatt ('23)
	Lori Pfeifer ('21)	
<b>Bassoon</b>		
Gayle McClellan ('23)		
Clancy Theade ('19)		

## Join Us for our 2024 Concerts!

North Branch HS – Tuesday, June 18, 2024; 7:00 PM  
 Viking Plaza 38175 Grand Ave. North Branch MN

Vintage Band Festival – Saturday, July 27, 2024; 1:00 PM  
 Bridge Square, Northfield, MN 55057

Shakopee Concert – Thursday, August 1, 2024; 7:00 PM  
 Huber Park, 150 Fillmore St. N., Shakopee, MN 55379

Como Park Concert Series – Wed. August 7 & 14; 7:00 PM  
 Como Lakeside Pavilion, 1360 N. Lexington Pkwy. St. Paul

## PROGRAM NOTES

**Proud Heritage (1956)** is a processional or concert march, not one a band would march to. It makes use of the reeds and baritones in their low range, and builds to a brilliant, powerful climax using a brass choir. Dr. Latham composed 118 works; 62 have been published, while 56 remain in manuscript. All have been performed, many throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, and Japan.

**Elegy for a Young American (1967)** is a testament to John F. Kennedy, as well as a deeply emotional meditation on his tragic passing. The work is often described as moving through the various stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance. There is no doubt that the piece expresses many of the emotional states felt by so many in November 1963. Gentle choruses give way to discordant outbursts and massive climaxes as we struggle to make sense of Kennedy's death. Finally, the anguish settles into a peaceful resolution, suggesting that even in the face of tragedy there is some room for acceptance.

**March of the Belgian Paratroopers (1946)** is a study in procrastination. While serving at the end of World War I, Leemans's regimental commander asked him to compose a march; it was begun but never finished. Near the end of World War II, he was having dinner with a group of paratroopers and was again asked to compose a march. Later that night, the march theme came to mind, and allegedly he wrote out all the parts in one night. It made its way to the United States thanks to Charles Wiley, who created an arrangement of it in 1975 for American bands. In the form of a patrol, the march gives the impression of a passing parade band by beginning and ending softly.

**Shenandoah (1999)** Both the valley and the river named Shenandoah are in Virginia. The origins of the name and the folk song are obscure, but all date to the 19th century. Many variants on the melody and text have been handed down through the years with the most popular telling the story of an early settler's love for a Native American woman. The composer writes: "In my setting of *Shenandoah* I was inspired by the freedom and beauty of the folk melody and by the natural images evoked by the words, especially the image of a river. I was less concerned with the sound of a rolling river than with its life-affirming energy - its timelessness. Sometimes the accompaniment flows quietly under the melody; other times it breathes alongside it. The work's mood ranges from quiet reflection, through growing optimism, to profound exaltation."

**A Mozart Celebration (1991)** presents three masterpieces transcribed for symphonic band. *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*, one of Mozart's most popular compositions, was written in Vienna in 1787. The opening movement is presented here. *Chorus of the Priests*, from the opera *The Magic Flute*, which was the first of two operas written in the last year of Mozart's life. Mozart's best known sacred piece, *Exsultate, Jubilate*, concludes this set with the brilliant *Alleluia Finale*.

**Just a Closer Walk with Thee (1980)** is a traditional gospel song and jazz standard that has been performed and recorded by many artists. Performed as either an instrumental or vocal, it is perhaps the most frequently played number in the hymn and dirge section of traditional New Orleans jazz funerals. The title and lyrics of the song allude to the Biblical passage from 2 Corinthians 5:7 which states, "We walk by faith, not by sight." This arrangement was originally written for the Canadian Brass and has been adapted for concert band.

**To Reap the Blessings of Freedom (2005)** is a reverent medley composed of the hymns of the Armed Forces. It includes *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* (Navy/Coast Guard); *Lord, Guard and Guide the Men who Fly* (Air Force); *From the Halls of Monetzuma* (Marines); and *God of our Fathers* (Army). The title is taken from Thomas Paine's tract, *The American Crisis*, written on September 12, 1777, the day after the bloodiest conflict of the Revolutionary War at Brandywine. The text begins as follows: "*THOSE who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it.*"

**Armed Forces Salute (1980)** is an impressive tribute honoring our men and women of the Armed Forces. The medley includes: *The Caisson Song*; *Semper Paratus*; *The Marines' Hymn*; *The U.S. Air Force* and *anchors Aweigh*. Please stand and be recognized when your service song is played.

**Hymn to the Fallen (1998)** was written for the film *Saving Private Ryan*. It is a memorial for all the soldiers who sacrificed themselves on the altar of freedom in the Normandy Invasion on June 6, 1944. Steven Spielberg comments on Williams' film score:

"It's a piece of music and a testament to John Williams' sensitivity and brilliance that, in my opinion, will stand the test of time and honor forever the fallen of this war and possibly all wars. *Saving Private Ryan* possibly contains the least amount of score. Restraint was John Williams' primary objective. He did not want

to sentimentalize or create emotion from what already existed in raw form. Saving Private Ryan is furious and relentless, as are all wars. But where is music? It is exactly where John Williams intends for us, the chance to breathe and remember.”

**Colonel Bogey (1914)** Kenneth J. Alford was the pen name of Major Frederick Ricketts, Bandmaster in the British Army and the Royal Marines. Major Ricketts often used the golf course at Fort George in Scotland for his daily walks. One day in 1914, he came in the way of a golfer who instead of shouting the customary “fore” whistled the notes B and G. These were immediately answered by Ricketts with the next notes in the phrase. The march got its title from the golf term “bogey” (one stroke over par). Malcolm Arnold used the march in his score for the 1957 film *The Bridge on the River Kwai*.

**The Band would like to extend special appreciation to our Associate Members. Thank you for your support!**

**Gold Associate Members**

Barbara Brauer                      Rupert Strobel

**Silver Associate Members**

Robert English                      Art & Donna Hogenson  
Dan & Jane Lambrides              Art Lemka                      Naurine D. Lennox  
Lori Mobley                              Thomas Ostertag  
Andrew & Carol Whitman              Delores Zbikowski

**Bronze Associate Members**

Teresa Cerling                      Sharon Heaton                      Irma Johnson  
Howard Leathers                      Bonnie McLellan                      Agnes Reek  
Kathleen Vang                      Ray Voelker                      Doug Watnemo



Remember -  
our fallen heros.  
They are the reason  
that we are free.

# Become an Associate Member of the Minnesota State Band

The MSB is proud of the many people who have taken an active interest in supporting the **“Only remaining State Band in the United States.”** We humbly seek your tax-deductible contribution to help keep our music tradition alive for another 126 years.

Associate membership runs from June 1, 2024, through May 31, 2025. Choose the contribution level that is right for you. The Minnesota State Band will list all Bronze, Silver and Gold contributors in our concert programs.

Please mail your contribution to Minnesota State Band, P.O. Box 130033, St. Paul, MN 55113. You can also give online by credit or debit card at <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Minnesota-State-Band>.

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