



### **All-State Middle School Band**

### **Matthew R. Arau - Conductor**

Dr. Matthew Arau is an Assistant Professor of Music, Chair of the Music Education Department and Associate Director of Bands at the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music. He conducts the Lawrence Symphonic Band and student and faculty chamber groups, guest conducts the Lawrence Wind Ensemble, supervises student teachers, and teaches Conducting and Instrumental Methods and Rehearsal Techniques I & II.

Arau has presented clinics on student leadership, rehearsal techniques, and unlocking potential at the following: The Midwest Clinic: An International Band and Orchestra Conference, the Western International Band Clinic, the American Band College of Sam Houston State University, the Conn-Selmer Institute, the Pan-Hellenic Wind Band Conference in Cyprus, the Colorado, Oregon, and Wisconsin Music Educators Association, He conducts honor bands and honor jazz bands of all levels, is an active concert band, jazz band and marching band clinician, and has continued to be an active jazz and classical saxophonist throughout his teaching and academic career.

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### **All-State High School Band**

### **Frank Troyka - Conductor**

Frank Troyka began his career in 1984 as an assistant band director in Richardson, Texas' Forest Meadow Junior High School and Lake Highlands High School. In 1991, Frank moved to Houston where he taught in the Spring ISD serving as assistant director to Philip Geiger at Westfield High School. In 1999 Frank joined the faculty of Cypress Falls High School in the Cypress-Fairbanks ISD as its Director of Bands. During his year-seven tenure, the Cypress Falls Band was a featured ensemble at The Midwest Clinic, the Music For All National Festival, and was the recipient of the Sudler Flag of Honor. Frank moved back to Richardson in the summer of 2006 when he assumed the role of Director of Bands and Coordinator of Fine Arts at L.V. Berkner High School.

A teacher for over 30 years, Frank Troyka has been a part of and served Bands of America in almost every capacity possible. Since retiring in 2014, Mr. Troyka has been a clinician for the Wind Bands Association of Singapore, The Midwest Clinic and an active lecturer and clinician, presenting annual student leadership workshops in Texas and across the nation.



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### **All-State Jazz Ensemble**

### **Reginald "Reggie" Thomas - Director**

Reggie Thomas is Professor and Head of Jazz Studies at Northern Illinois University. Prior to arriving at NIU Reggie came from the Michigan State University College of Music, where he has served as Professor of Jazz Piano. Prior to his position at MSU, he was Professor of Jazz Studies at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville and was SIUE's Director of Black Studies.

Thomas has directed All State Jazz Bands, Combos and Jazz Choirs in Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, South Dakota and Tennessee and directed the first ever Missouri All-College Jazz Band. He has served on summer jazz faculties across the country and abroad including the IAJE Teacher Training Institute, the Birch Creek Music Center, the Eastman School of Music Summer Jazz Camp, the Summer Jazz Academy in Chodziez, Poland, the Barbican Center in London, and the University of Trinidad and Tobago.



### **All-State Middle School String Orchestra**

**Laura Joss - Conductor**

Laura Joss is assistant professor of music education. She teaches instrumental music education methods, foundational classes, supervises student teachers and conducts the Baldwin Wallace University Concert Wind Ensemble.

Joss's teaching experience includes working with instrumentalists of all ages and levels of experience in both orchestras and bands. She is deeply committed to community outreach and is the founding director of the Baldwin Wallace University New Horizons Music Program which provides beginning instrumental music instruction for adults of all ages. In 2002, she co-founded the Baldwin Wallace University Summer Band and String Camps which now provide more than 500 students a quality music education experience every summer.

Joss continues to enjoy being active both nationally and internationally as an adjudicator, guest conductor, music education consultant and clinician for both bands and orchestras.

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### **All-State High School Orchestra**

**Robin P. Fountain - Conductor**

Robin Fountain was educated at Oxford University, The Royal College of Music in London, and Carnegie Mellon University. He won a conducting fellowship to Aspen, participated in master classes with Lorin Maazel and Gennadi Rodhestvensky, and studied at Tanglewood with Leonard Bernstein, Kurt Sanderling and Leonard Slatkin. He is now Music Director of the Southwest Michigan Symphony, following a 15-year tenure as Music Director of the Williamsport (PA) Symphony.

Fountain has guest conducted in Russia, Poland, France and Germany as well as the U.S. In 2003, he led the Tomsk (Russia) Philharmonic on a five-city Christmas tour of China and returned there in 2006 with Vanderbilt Orchestra. A Vanderbilt faculty member since 1994, he became Professor of Conducting in 2003. He has been awarded both the Madison Sarratt Prize for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and the Blair School's Faculty Excellence Award.

