



LSU DEPARTMENT OF BANDS
ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2024

Alumni Fanfare

MEET THE STAFF

Director of Bands

Damon Talley

Associate Director of Bands

Director of Tiger Band

Simon Holoweiko

Assistant Director of Bands

Weston Lewis

Assistant Director of Bands

Director of Operations

Rob Dowie

Business Manager

Kara Duplantier

Graduate Assistants

Benjamin Adams

Jamie Gambino

Cooper Haywood

Carly McClendon

Cameron Schreiber

Tyler Sellers

Adrian Fonseca-Tellez

Mathew Thompson

Lawrence Williams

Steven Wimberley

Office Assistant

Lauren Bravo

Auxiliary Staff

Blaire Guillaume, *Golden Girls*

Jess Guidry, *Colorguard*

Photographers/Videographers

Steven Miley

Greg Renoud

Jennifer Renoud



The mission of the LSU Department of Bands is to provide students the opportunity to engage in meaningful and inclusive music making through a wide array of performing ensembles. The Department strives to present performances that exhibit quality of the highest level, while also fostering a strong sense of camaraderie and diversity through music. In preparing students for successful careers through dedication to the highest standards, the Department—in close cooperation with the broader School of Music—seeks to support the growth of students, the experience of audience members, the community, and the overall support of the university.

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FROM THE DIRECTORS

Tiger Band Family and Friends,

Welcome to the Alumni Fanfare newsletter of the LSU Department of Bands!

This newsletter is a snapshot of our mission to provide students the opportunity to engage in meaningful music making and friendship through a wide array of ensembles. Caring for and educating students is the primary focus of our department and institution, and is a responsibility that we take very seriously. While the current student body is different from your time on campus, they are (like you were) a reflection of their society. It is our goal that they also be a blueprint for a bright future that is instilled with the values that LSU has always held so dearly. They are discovering their passions, finding their paths, and developing their lifelong love of LSU. They are you!

The support and contributions of our alumni are unmatched. In this newsletter, we aim to highlight current students and alumni who have made an impact throughout their time with LSU. As a student, you upheld the standards and traditions of LSU through your time on the field, in an ensemble, in the classroom, and in your work towards receiving your degree. As an alum, you are the torchbearer on the unique path of an LSU graduate. Regardless of where you may be along that path, the current faculty, staff, and students celebrate your time among the Stately Oaks and Broad Magnolias. We truly hope that you'll enjoy reading about the events of our past year, and the many glimpses into what the 2024-2025 academic year has in store. We hope to see you at a game, a concert, or one of the many other events where you'll find the LSU Department of Bands representing our great university.

Geaux Tigers!

DR. DAMON TALLEY
DIRECTOR OF BANDS
MANSHIP PROFESSOR OF CONDUCTING

DR. SIMON HOLOWEIKO
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF BANDS
DIRECTOR OF TIGER BAND

DR. WESTON LEWIS
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS

MR. ROB DOWIE
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF BANDS
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



FROM THE BAND STAFF

KARA DUPLANTIER, BUSINESS MANAGER

I am the Business Manager for the LSU Department of Bands and am thrilled to be entering my 9th season with Tiger Band. Every day is something new and exciting, and I love the part that I play in making the dreams of Tiger Band members and directors come to life. I sit in awe of the talent we have in Tiger Band, and though as alumni “our time in Tiger Band” was always the best (of course!), there is truly magic happening that creates a special time for Tiger Band and the LSU fans of today.

I do enjoy a little time away from Tiger Band every now and then, and this past July, my husband Andre and I continued our very reasonable quest to visit every wine country in the world with a wine tour of France! We visited Bordeaux, Loire Valley, Normandy, Champagne, Burgundy, then ended in grand Paris. We still have a lot more wine regions to explore in the world, but we will keep plugging away at the list.

We have an exciting year ahead of us with a few new experiences for Tiger Band. I would not miss the kickoff game in Las Vegas, and taking Tigerama on the road to Houston will be epic. Beyond that, I am expecting quite a busy postseason this year with the new CFP playoffs. I hope to see many of you at some of our events or maybe even an away game or two. GEAUX TIGERS!

MATHEW THOMPSON, TUBA

Hello everyone! My name is Mathew Thompson, and I am going into my second year pursuing a Master of Music in Tuba Performance. This summer I have been working in the LSU Instrument Repair Shop, preparing instruments for next year and learning valuable skills to help keep everything in working order through the season! I am very excited to see what this new year holds and for the opportunity to make great music with y'all! Geaux Tigers!

BLAIR GUILLAME, GOLDEN GIRLS INSTRUCTOR

I'm Blair Buras Guillaume and I'm back for my 9th year as Golden Girl coach. I can't wait to get the season going! I was a Golden Girl from 2000–2004 and captain for my final 3 years. At LSU I minored in dance and received a BS in dietetics and a MS in Human Nutrition. After graduating I moved to Houston for a dietetic internship and to dance with the Houston Metropolitan Dance Company. Upon returning to Baton Rouge I taught jazz in the dance department at LSU and was the coach for the New Orleans Saintsations. I currently teach at Tari's School of Dance. I live in Baton Rouge with my husband, our two daughters, and our almost 1 year old son. The 2024–25 Golden Girl line is very talented! We have 4 rookie members who look more like veterans! And with both of our captains back for year 2, the season should run smoothly. Geaux Tigers!!

JESSICA GUIDRY, COLORGUARD INSTRUCTOR

Hi friends! My name is Jess Guidry, and this will be my first year as the LSU Colorguard Instructor. The team is already working hard in summer clinics, and I can tell this year will be a special one under Alex & Leah's leadership. A little about me: I am from Denham Springs, LA, and was a member of the LSU Colorguard from 2000–2004. I served as a captain and choreographer for the 2003 & 2004 seasons and have coached and choreographed around the area for over 17 years since then. I love to sing, go camping, and dabble in photography. I have a husband (Jimmy), 3 kiddos (Joe-15, Noah-13, & Piper-10), and a mini aussie named Romeo. Coming back to LSU is always like coming home for me. I feel honored to be a part of the Tigerband staff, and cannot wait to meet all of you. GEAUX TIGERS!!!



FROM THE BAND STAFF

CARLY MCCLENDON, CONDUCTING

My name is Carly McClendon and I am thrilled to be starting the first year of my doctoral degree in Wind Conducting. I am so excited to be joining the band staff at LSU and am honored to help continue its fine legacy. I am originally from Johnson City, Tennessee (yes, like the Wagon Wheel Song by Darius Rucker) where I attended ETSU before teaching middle and high school band both in Tennessee and then in Orlando.. For the past two years, I have been completing a Master's Degree in Wind Conducting at West Chester University, near Philadelphia! This past summer, in addition to moving from Philly to Baton Rouge, I went scuba diving, one of my passions, including trips to the Florida Keys and to a few local shipwrecks in New Jersey. When I'm not in the music sphere, you can find me out on the water, finding a hiking trail or at a Broadway show! I'm so excited to meet everyone and I'm looking forward to the new year at LSU! Geaux Tigers!

JAMIE GAMBINO, TRUMPET

Hello! My name is Jamie Gambino and I am beyond thrilled to start my Master's Degree in Trumpet Performance in the fall! I am a recent graduate in Music Education from the University of Mississippi and before that, I was a Tiger at Northeast Mississippi Community College in Booneville, MS! I am super excited to meet the Tiger Band and work with you as a graduate assistant for this next year. I have such high hopes for this organization and look forward to serving and uplifting this community in any and every way I can. I will be coming out of a gap year to attend LSU and have sorely missed my music community and cannot express the sheer joy I have to be immersed in my community once again! Outside of music, you will find me working on cars, playing tennis, at the gym, or hanging out with my cat Pepper. I am glad to be a tiger once again and promise to keep the "Hotty Toddy's" to a minimum. Here's to a great season and new friends!

LAWRENCE WILLIAMS, CONDUCTING

Hello everyone! My name is Lawrence Williams, and I'm thrilled to be returning for my third year as a staff member here at LSU! I recently graduated with a Master's Degree in Conducting, and I'm excited to continue calling Baton Rouge my home as I pursue a Doctoral degree this Fall. The past two years have been incredible, filled with learning and new friendships. I am looking forward to all the amazing experiences the 2024-2025 year will bring.

This summer has been busy for me. I've been working hard in the band office and Tiger Band Hall, preparing for all our exciting plans for the next school year. On a personal note, I'm getting married at the end of June! I look forward to enjoying the rest of the summer and am very excited to begin my third year here at LSU. Geaux Tigers!

ADRIAN FONSECA-TELLEZ, BASSOON

Greetings, my name is Adrian Fonseca Tellez, and I will be entering my second year as a DMA student at the LSU School of Music. This will also be my second year working with the LSU Bands staff as a graduate assistant. Outside of my duties, I enjoy collaborating with various events here on campus such as performing in the LSU Opera productions as well as coaching for the LSU Bands Summer Music Camp. I look forward to working with all of my talented and hard-working peers and am excited for the many upcoming performances this school year.

BEN ADAMS, CONDUCTING

My name is Ben Adams and I am thrilled to start my first year at LSU working towards a Master's Degree in Wind Conducting! For the past four years, I taught as a band director in Houston, TX. I am excited to work with the amazing staff of the Tiger Band and can't wait to learn and grow alongside my colleagues! Geaux Tigers!



FROM THE BAND STAFF

LAUREN BRAVO, HORN

Hello! My name is Lauren Bravo, and this will be my first year at LSU! I recently earned my Bachelor's Degree in Music Composition at Loyola University New Orleans, and now I'm so excited to be continuing my education here to get my teaching certification. I grew up in New Orleans and have always loved visiting Baton Rouge to see Tiger Band rehearse and play at the football games. Marching band has always been a huge part of my life, from marching in DCI to helping teach young marching band groups here in NOLA. I am a proud horn player and enjoy writing and arranging for various ensembles, with my biggest passion being creating and engaging with music alongside talented, enthusiastic people. It is an honor to be working in the band office for Tiger Band this year and while I'm here, I hope to make new friends, create fun memories, and bond over our shared passion for music!

STEVEN WIMBERLEY, PERCUSSION

Hello! My name is Steven Wimberley, and I am a second-year DMA student here at LSU. I am very excited to be joining the Tiger Band staff as one of the drumline instructors for the 2024 season! The 2024 drumline leadership team has been hard at work to diligently prepare for the upcoming season. Our team is very excited to bring some exciting new elements to our performances, while continuing to uphold the rich traditions that make this organization so great! Our potential drumline members have also been hard at work this summer to prepare for our auditions in August. We have a super talented and hard-working group of auditionees this year and we are very excited to showcase all the great things we have been working on! Lastly, I want to share some rather exciting news. The Golden Band from Tigerland is getting new drums that we will debut this fall! The drumline leadership team is so excited to get this season started and we cannot wait for you to see the new gear! Geaux Tigers!

TYLER SELLERS, BASS TROMBONE

Hi Everyone, I'm Tyler! I'm a (mostly) bass trombonist going into the third year of my DMA, and I'm excited to be working with Tiger Band again this year! About me: I'm a Mississippi native, husband, father of six, and U.S. Navy veteran, and I hold bachelor's and master's degrees from the Schwob School of Music at Columbus State University in Georgia. I have many great memories working with the Band the past two years, and I'm excited to continue my support from the repair shop this fall. I look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting new ones as we approach this new season. Much love, and Geaux Tigers!

CAMERON SCHREIBER, PERCUSSION

Hello. My name is Cameron Schreiber. I am a second-year percussion performance student here at LSU. I will be reprising my role as assistant drum line instructor this season and am excited to get started. This year, along with my friend and colleague Steven Wimberley, we hope to bring the best version of the LSU drum line to the field and set a new precedent for all future members of the section.

COOPER HAYWOOD, CONDUCTING

Hello everyone! My name is Cooper Haywood, and I am thrilled to be returning for my second year as a staff member here at LSU. My first year at LSU was truly unforgettable through learning, music-making, and meeting exciting people along the way. As we prepare to start the 2024-2025 school year, I can't wait for you all to see what the LSU Bands have in store for the students, and the spectators who come to see us - you are really in for a treat! This summer I have stayed busy by attending a conducting symposium, taking a repertoire course, and working in the band office preparing for an exciting year with The Golden Band from Tigerland! I look forward to meeting you all soon. Geaux Tigers!



The Golden Band from Tigerland enters its 131st year entertaining audiences in Death Valley and across the nation.

THE GOLDEN BAND FROM TIGERLAND



Tiger Band Clarinets performing in the stands



FROM THE DIRECTOR OF TIGER BAND



Tiger Band “Heisman Pose”

Hello Tiger Band family, alumni, and friends!

We’re excited for what is bound to be another terrific year with the 131st edition of your Golden Band from Tigerland as we celebrate 100 years of Tiger Stadium!

We once again start our season out-of-state with the 2024 Vegas Kickoff Classic versus the Trojans of USC at Allegiant Stadium in Las Vegas, NV. We’re excited to travel and support our team out West while spreading the good word of Tiger Band to a new audience.

Our season at home is filled with a variety of shows with a little bit of something for everyone. We’ll begin the year with “Saturday Morning Cartoons” featuring music from many of the classics including The Flintstones and The Jetsons, as well as music from newer shows like Phineas and Ferb.

We’ll put our toes in the sand with a show for UCLA that features music for the beach we’re calling “Sun, Sand, and Surf” that is sure to make you sing along. Other shows include music from “The King of Pop”, Michael Jackson, a collaboration with LSU athletics to commemorate 100 years of Tiger Stadium, our iconic patriotic LSU Salutes show on November 9th, and what is sure to be a remarkable collaboration with the world-famous American jazz clarinetist Doreen Ketchens for the alumni band game on November 23rd. We’ll also be taking our show on the road again with Tigerama performances in both Baton Rouge and Houston, TX.

We’re so excited for what is in store for the season and we hope you will be able to join us in Tiger Stadium or via our livestreams on social media. We’ll see you soon and, as always, Geaux Tigers!

SIMON HOLOWEIKO
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF BANDS
DIRECTOR OF TIGER BAND



FROM THE DRUM MAJOR



Trent McKinney, Tiger Band Drum Major

Dear LSU Alumni and Supporters,

From Orlando to Baton Rouge, New Orleans, and a thrilling finale in Tampa, we've had a blast celebrating 130 years of the LSU Tiger Band with everyone! And while I wish we could keep on celebrating, we're too busy gearing up for an even more exciting season this year!

It's an honor to return for a second season as drum major for The Golden Band From Tigerland! We're very excited about the season ahead and cannot wait to show you what's in store. As we recognize the 100th anniversary of Tiger Stadium, come see one of the extraordinary halftime shows we have planned, our march down Victory Hill, or one of our exciting PMAC performances before the game!

For the past 131 years, Tiger Band has stood as a symbol of excellence and the LSU spirit, but more than that—it's a family. Last year, after the passing of Eli Thomas, a beloved member of our saxophone section, the Tiger Band Family demonstrated its strength and its dedication and love for every one of its members. I am confident that this unwavering commitment to each other will continue to build lasting relationships and elevate the excellence of our program's history. We are truly "One Tiger Band Family".

On behalf of the Tiger Band, thank you for your incredible support and dedication to our family. I look forward to seeing many of you this season. Let's make it one to remember, and as always...
Geaux Tigers!

TRENT MCKINNEY
DRUM MAJOR, 2023 - 2025
GOLDEN BAND FROM TIGERLAND



FROM THE STUDENT STAFF



PICCOLO
CATHERINE MANSFIELD

My name is Catherine Mansfield and I am thrilled to be returning for another year as piccolo section leader! I feel incredibly privileged to be able to work alongside some of my closest friends this season, and I can't wait to see what my talented section will do. Geaux Tigers!



CLARINETS
AH'MAD PORTER & AVERY BARBER

Hey everybody! The LSU Clarinets are thrilled to be back in Death Valley and are ready to make some new memories with our Tiger Band family. This season is going to be amazing, and we are so excited to share it with everyone! Geaux Tigers & Geaux Clarinets!



SAXOPHONES
GEORGE WILSON & DANIEL DE LORIER

Hey everyone! We're this year's saxophone section leaders, and we're super pumped for the 2024 season. We're looking forward to putting in the work and energy that The Golden Band From Tigerland is known for, and we'll see y'all in Death Valley. Geaux Tigers!



MELLOPHONES
BRYCE EDWARDS & KIM NGUYEN

Hey everyone! We're the LSU Mellophones! We're so excited to be back in Death Valley celebrating its 100 year anniversary, and we're all eager to give you the best Tiger Band experience this coming year. Visit us at the "mello tree" by the MDA on gamedays for some fun warm-ups. And we'll see you in the stands with the rest of TGBFTL! Geaux Tigers!



FROM THE STUDENT STAFF



TRUMPETS
ABIGAIL MILLIMAN, IAN ARCHANGEL,
& HARRISON MELANCON

Hello everyone, we are the LSU trumpet section. We're so excited to get back together with all of the new and returning faces and march into Tiger Stadium once again. Make sure you come out every Saturday to see what we have in store! Oh yeah, and we have a boom box now.



BARITONES
ALEXIS COWEN & JOEY JENKINS III

Hi Tiger Band fans! We are extremely excited to take Death Valley again this season, and we cannot wait to show off the work we have been doing this off-season. Geaux Tigers, and Geaux DUHPUFF!



TROMBONES
WILL MANCUSO & SIERRA PRICE

Hey y'all, it's the LSU Trombones, also known as the brothers of Tau Beta Nu. We can't wait for football season to start, especially since we are celebrating 100 years of our historic Tiger Stadium. There's so much to be proud of as members of Tiger Band, and we cannot wait for another incredible year together. All of TBN misses the amazing atmosphere of a Saturday Night in Death Valley and we are so thrilled to be back with our fans cheering on the Tigers!



TUBAS
BRANDON WALTON & PARRISH GEINGER

What's up Tiger Fans! We're the LSU tuba section, and we're very excited to bring our energy to Tiger Stadium this upcoming season. We have the biggest horns for a reason, and we can't wait for you guys to hear us! See you guys soon in the one and only Death Valley! Geaux Tigers, and Geaux Tubas!



FROM THE STUDENT STAFF



DRUMLINE
ETHAN ELLENDER & BRAYDEN IBERT

Hey Tiger fans! We are super excited for this upcoming season and can't wait to be back in Tiger Stadium to celebrate the 100 Year anniversary! We are eager to get back to work and show y'all what we have in store. Geaux Tigers!



GOLDEN GIRLS
CATE TALLANT & HAILEY GRIGGS

We are incredibly honored and blessed to serve as the LSU Golden Girl captains for a second year! We will continue to strive for excellence that is rooted in rich tradition that has been paved from those who have come before us. Additionally, we will continue to challenge and push the team as we showcase our team's talents with new choreography and style. We wish to balance tradition and innovation as we pay homage to the past while creating our own unique mark!



COLORGUARD
LEAH STOCKSTILL & ALEX KLING

What's spinning Tigers! Coming to you live from Death Valley... the LSU Colorguard! We are back and better than ever with a roaring spirit and yelling "Geaux Tigers!" Our goal this season is to show up and show out. We hope that at the end of each show, all of our hard work, effort, and determination can be seen on the field. #CG4L! :)





Joey Jenkins III, President, Kappa Kappa Psi

FROM THE KAPPA KAPPA PSI PRESIDENT

Hello Tiger Band fans!

Kappa Kappa Psi honorary band fraternity (est.1919) is an organization dedicated to the advancement of university bands and their leadership. We support our Departments of Bands through service, scholarships, participation in ensembles, and leadership. Since its founding, the fraternity has grown to have over 300 chapters, the 51st of which, Beta Gamma, was founded here, at LSU, in 1948.

I, Joey Jenkins III, have the honor of serving as President of the Beta Gamma Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi. I am going into my third year in Music Composition and my second year as Baritone Section Leader. The chapter and I cannot praise the LSU Department of Bands enough for the phenomenal environment here. The level of excellence on both the ensemble and individual level is truly one of a kind. I speak for the entire brotherhood when I say that having a role in the support and advancement of this program is a true honor.

Information about Kappa Kappa Psi Beta Gamma can be found on our website (lsukkpsi.com), Instagram (@kkpsi_betagama), and our Facebook (Kappa Kappa Psi - Beta Gamma). For any other questions, you can email me at jjenk98@lsu.edu or speak to any of our extremely helpful brothers.

JOEY JENKINS III
PRESIDENT, KAPPA KAPPA PSI,
BETA GAMMA CHAPTER



Introducing Jess Guidry as Colorguard Instructor

The LSU Department of Bands is proud to welcome Jess Guidry as our LSU Colorguard Instructor for 2024!

Jess began her colorguard training at Denham Springs High School in 1996. While at LSU, she performed with the LSU Colorguard for five years, serving as a captain and choreographer for the 2003 & 2004 seasons. Since graduation, Jess has coached junior high and high school programs for over 17 years.

She is a graduate of Louisiana State University where she received a BS in History. She currently serves as the Director of Communication at First Baptist Church in Denham Springs and as the head coach of the Denham Springs High School Colorguard.

Welcome back, Jess!

“I AM HONORED TO BE BACK HOME AT LSU. AND EXCITED TO BUILD ON THE CONTINUED EXCELLENCE THAT THE LSU COLORGUARD HAS ALWAYS BEEN FOUNDED ON.”



Jessica Tillman-Guidry, Colorguard Instructor, LSU



TIGERAMA TRAVELS TO HOUSTON IN 2024



Houston, Texas

Tiger Band's traditional Tigerama Concert will travel to Houston in the fall of 2024!

We are thrilled to announce that Tigerama will travel to Houston, Texas this upcoming year! The evening prior to our football game vs. Texas A&M, join the Bands at LSU for one of our favorite traditional performances. This annual concert brings together the LSU Wind Ensemble, LSU Symphonic Winds, and The Golden Band from Tigerland to provide a night of spectacular music making. The event also includes a VIP reception and silent auction. We're excited to bring the stories, history, and music of the Bayou State to the Bayou City. We hope to see our Texas Tigers there!

This performance will take place on **Friday, October 25, 2024**. Information on location, auction items, and ticket purchases will be available via our website linked in the QR code found here. Interested in sponsoring Tigerama this year? Reach out to Mr. Rob Dowie via his e-mail at rdowie3@lsu.edu for more information.

Geaux Tigers!

Visit our website to stay up to date on Tigerama Information and Tickets!





Tigerama Baton Rouge, 2023



MATT'S DINNER



Matt's Dinner Volunteers, 2023

From Gerald and Alice Bahlinger

On the third installment of Matt's Dinner, the Matthew Bahlinger Memorial Fund looks forward to feeding the entire Tiger Band and support staff during Band Camp on Friday, August 23. Through contributions from Texas Roadhouse and Walk-Ons, where Matthew had worked, and from Raising Cane's, we will cater a delicious meal for the new 2024 Tiger Marching band.

The Matthew Bahlinger Memorial Fund was formed to raise awareness for the need for mental health services for Tiger Band and to aid in providing those services.

Our son, Matthew, loved marching and playing saxophone in the LSU Tiger Marching Band in the 2016 and 2017 football seasons. He was well-liked among his peers and he was admired for his dry wit, unceasing friendships, and strong moral character.

As an aspiring mechanical engineer, he dreamed of building projects that would help others, even if it was just one person. Throughout his short life and despite his own inner struggles, he frequently made sacrifices in order to help his family and friends. However, he was the one who needed more help.

Matthew battled depression from the age of 16. He received counseling throughout high school, but had a difficult time finding services during his time at LSU. He lost his battle with depression in February of 2022 at the age of 24.

Out of this tragedy came the desire to create something that could have a positive impact on those members of Tiger Band. We wanted to be a catalyst in providing the kind of services that could make a difference in people's lives. Hence, Matt's Dinner and the Matthew Bahlinger Memorial Fund were born.





Students at Matt's Dinner, 2023

We are pleased to announce that the part-time counselor hired last year supported by funds from our efforts was an overwhelming success. So much so, that there is now a part-time counselor for the summer semester and two part-time counselors for the fall and spring semesters. These counselors are available to students in all LSU Department of Bands and the College of Music and Dramatic Arts.

We continue to sponsor the Tiger Band section leaders with QPR training, a short seminar on how to recognize those struggling with mental health issues and refer them to the counselors.

All of these accomplishments were made possible by contributions to the Matthew Bahlinger Memorial Fund. Your donation to the fund will enable us to continue to provide these needed services.

Use the QR code below to sign up to volunteer for Matt's Dinner on Friday, August 23rd.



Matthew Bahlinger



SECTION SPOTLIGHT: PICCOLOS



Tiger Band Piccolo Section, 2023-2024

“ I think this section really strives for the highest in all areas of performance – music, marching, and leadership.” – Catherine Mansfield, Piccolo Section Leader

Whether it be gathered around the smallest tree at the top of the Greek theater, performing the challenging Obligato of “Hey, Fightin’ Tigers”, or huddling for their own unique chant, the Tiger Band Piccolo Section shines as a representation of the best aspects of The Golden Band from Tigerland.

Piccolo Section Leader Catherine Mansfield shares, “Everyone knows everyone on a personal basis, and I think it shows from how cohesive we are. I think this section really strives for the highest in all areas of performance – music, marching, and leadership.”

Traditionally known as one of the smaller sections of Tiger Band, the piccolo section makes their presence well known through high performance and achievement on and off the marching field. The strong personal bonds formed in this section create a “close-knit” environment that facilitates open communication and honesty. Their consideration for detail is displayed in their marching, playing, and cultivation of relationships with one another. They are truly a special group of student musicians, and are key to the history and success of Tiger Band.

***Keep up with the LSU Piccolo Section on
instagram at @lsupiccolos***



TIGER BAND MERCHANDISE



Kappa Kappa Psi Beta Gamma takes pride in creating merchandise representing The Golden Band from Tigerland. Through merchandise we promote the existence and welfare of the Tiger Band brand, cultivate respect for its achievements and activities, and provide a pleasant social experience for all individuals involved in the program.

We are humbled to be trusted to express the identity and brand of Tiger Band through the creation and distribution of quality and creative apparel. We have a variety of custom tees and long sleeve shirts, as well as other items such as The Golden Band from Tigerland sunglasses and stickers.

Merchandise may be purchased in person at the merchandise cart in Tiger Band Hall on game days or online through the Beta Gamma website (linked below). Accepted payment types include cash, card, and Cashapp.

Purchasing Tiger Band merchandise not only allows for the organization to be represented and recognized as the global brand it is, but it also allows for the organization to continue to be supported for years to come. Our goal is to promote spirit and support for both Tiger Band and LSU, and our priority is to do so to the best of our ability! Feel free to reach out to kkpsi.merchandise@gmail.com with any questions, concerns, suggestions, or orders!

*Use the QR Code found
here to access the
online store!*



2023-2024 BENGAL BRASS



Bengal Brass Tubas vs. Kentucky

Bengal Brass completed another memorable season supporting LSU Volleyball, Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, and our National Champion Gymnastics team! Their travel took them to Nashville, TN, for the SEC Men's Basketball Tournament, Greenville, SC, for the SEC Women's Basketball Tournament, and Albany, NY for the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament. Throughout all their travels, the students of Bengal Brass represented LSU and the State of Louisiana with pride and poise.

If you're tuning in across the country to watch LSU Men's and Women's Basketball, Volleyball, or Gymnastics, listen and watch for Bengal Brass as we support LSU athletics in action and across campus. If you're in Baton Rouge, we hope to see you at an event this upcoming year!

Geaux Tigers!!



DEPARTMENT OF BANDS EVENTS 2023-2024

A snapshot of the events hosted by the
Department of Bands



Summer Music Camp Band Rehearsal



DEPARTMENT OF BANDS EVENTS



Trumpet Sectional at Summer Music Camp

Every year, the LSU Department of Bands is pleased to offer several unique workshops, camps, and events, each geared towards improving the technique and proficiency of middle and high school band students, current band directors, and their ensembles.

Recap the past year's events and check out dates for the 2024–2025 academic year through the following pages.





Students at “Spend a Day With Tiger Band”

“Spend A Day with Tiger Band” continues to be an exciting and growing springtime event with 450 high schoolers joining The Golden Band from Tigerland for an afternoon in Tiger Stadium. Students from eight states and 112 high schools spent the day learning traditional LSU school songs from current Tiger Band members and the incoming leadership team. It was a great day cheering on the tigers as we prepare for another exciting season of LSU football!



Band Performing at Prefest

On March 5, 2024, we had the joy of hosting nine high schools on campus for our annual **Prefest** event. This event, which features a live performance and clinic with an LSU Band Director, offers band programs the opportunity to perform their assessment festival program for a supportive and encouraging audience. Alongside a 30-minute clinic in Tiger Band Hall, performing ensembles receive recorded feedback from faculty and staff in the LSU bands.





Camp Photo from Summer Music Camp

Our annual **Summer Music Camp** was held from June 16-20, 2024. Hosting more than 100 students on campus, this event showcased the LSU music community through performances, masterclasses, social time, and opportunities for individual lessons. Their time on campus included a tour of Tiger Stadium, a faculty recital, a student recital, and a final camp concert showcasing the camp chamber ensembles and camp band.



Drumline Campers at TALC

The **Tigerland Auxiliary and Leadership Camp (TALC)** was held June 23-25, 2024. This camp offered close to 200 students the opportunity to work with Tiger Band Faculty and Staff on tracks designed for their interests. Drum Major, Drumline, and Colorguard tracks were available and presented large group performances at the conclusion on the camp. The goal of this camp is to prepare high school students to return to their band programs and make a positive impact.





Purple Band Rehearsal at Stately Oaks

The **Stately Oaks Music Festival** continued the legacy of this transformative event held every February at LSU. With the inclusion of participant tracks for middle school and high school orchestral musicians, this year's festival welcomed 350+ students to campus to make music with LSU Faculty and Guest Clinicians. The 2025 Stately Oaks Music Festival will be held February 6-8, 2025 and we look forward to welcoming future students to campus!



Conductor's Art Attendees and Clinicians

Our conducting workshop – **The Conductor's Art** – offered participants from across the country the opportunity to make music with our LSU music community and three wonderful guest clinicians. Cliff Evans (University of Texas - Arlington), Paulo Martins (Porto, Portugal), and Emily Threinen (University of Minnesota) joined the LSU conducting faculty to coach and instruct participants in the nuances of conducting and refining their craft and artistry. We look forward to the 2025 edition of The Conductor's Art, which will take place January 24-25, 2025!



2024-2025 EVENT DATES

SPRING 2025

THE CONDUCTOR'S ART

When: January 24-25, 2025

Where: Tiger Band Hall, Old Band Hall

What: LSU's annual conducting workshop

STATELY OAKS MUSIC FESTIVAL

When: February 6-8, 2025

Where: Tiger Band Hall, School of Music, Union Theater

What: LSU's annual middle school and high school music camp

LSU PREFEST

When: March 2025

Where: Tiger Band Hall

What: LSU's concert band invitational

Details: Prefest date is released at the beginning of the spring semester

SPEND A DAY WITH TIGER BAND

When: April 2025

Where: Old Band Hall, Tiger Stadium

What: Perform at the LSU Spring Football Game with The Golden Band From Tigerland

Details: Spend a Day with Tiger Band dates are dependent on the LSU Football Spring Game - Date generally announced mid-spring semester

SUMMER 2025

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

When: June 2025

Where: Louisiana State University

What: LSU's intensive music camp

Details: Dates for Summer Music Camp will be released over the 2024-2025 academic year.

Registration will open in April 2025

TIGERLAND AUXILIARY AND LEADERSHIP CAMP (TALC)

When: June 2025

Where: Louisiana State University

What: LSU's Drum Major, Drumline, and Colorguard intensive camp

Details: Dates for TALC will be released over the 2024-2025 academic year. Registration will open in April 2025



Find more information about camps and workshops by scanning the QR code above.





Alumni Trombones, 2023 Alumni Game



FROM THE FOUR NOTES CLUB



THE FOUR NOTES CLUB

ALUMNI & SUPPORTERS OF TIGER BAND

“Alumni and Supporters of The LSU Tiger Marching Band working to enhance the experience and lives of students in every section and unit by providing financial resources and social opportunities to excel in the classroom, on the marching field, and in life.”

This is the mission statement of The Four Notes Club. This past year, thanks to our members, we were able to provide Jeremiah's Italian Ice during Band Camp for the entire band (a great treat during that oppressive heat wave we experienced), a complimentary membership to TFNC for all current Tiger Band members, three \$1,000 scholarships to deserving band members, and seniors who graduated the year prior were able to participate during Alumni Weekend at no charge to them. Thanks to the generosity of the Golden Girl alumnae, we also provided all of the current Golden Girls a new set of Nike trainers. Finally, we were able to add over \$10,000 to the Tiger Band fund at the LSU Foundation. That is additional money that can be used to support students via scholarships and academic initiatives.

Looking ahead, this year we celebrate Tiger Band 131! In addition to continuing our support of current Tiger Band members, we continue to think about our former Tiger Band members.

For now - SAVE THE DATE! The Alumni Band Game will be on November 23rd against Vanderbilt and I sincerely hope to see you there.

Finally, I want to put out a call to action to all alumni. LSU consistently ranks near or at the bottom in alumni giving. The Four Notes Club was created to give Tiger Band Alumni and our supporters an avenue to directly benefit the organization we all treasure. Help us build an enduring legacy with a tax deductible donation. Starting August 1st, please renew your membership with the Four Notes Club.

GEAUX TIGERS!

DANIEL WENDT
PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE BOARD
THE FOUR NOTES CLUB

*Learn More about The
Four Notes Club, Alumni
Band, and opportunities
for giving using the QR
code found here*



SCHOLARSHIP TAILGATE: FALL 2023



2023 Scholarship Tailgate

On November 18, 2023, LSU alumni supporters and current students of The Golden Band from Tigerland joined together for our annual Alumni Scholarship Tailgate. Scholarship funds, graciously provided by various alumni donors, go directly towards supporting students to continue their journey and growth at LSU.



SCHOLARSHIP TAILGATE



**Kayleigh M. Billings Memorial Scholarship recipients
Alex Ellender and Kayla Ramos**

**King/Demas Wind Instrument Scholarship recipients
Mickey Hogan and Lacy Zeringue**



**Richard and Ilene Sheldon Tiger Band Scholarship recipients
Taylor Pittman and Makaila Gray**



SCHOLARSHIP TAILGATE

**Reverend Thomas B. Shuler
Tuba Scholarship recipients
Kason Hebert and Russell Rogers
(with Rev. Thomas B. Shuler)**



**Williams Family
Tiger Band Scholarship recipients
Amanda Short and Joseph Debello
(with Miles and Martha Williams)**

**Charlene Muffoletto Favre
Tiger Band Scholarship recipients
Ross Giluso and Lilly Gunn
(with Charlene Muffoletto Favre)**



SCHOLARSHIP TAILGATE



**Schwartzberg Family
Tiger Band Award recipients
Hayden Young, Makayla Johnson,
Kameron Hickman, and Elijah
Hickman**

**Terry Bourdier Endowed
Scholarship recipient
Ah'mad Porter**



**J. Walter Helgason
Tiger Band Scholarship recipients
Alexander Weeks, Ethan Ellender,
George Wilson, and Mariah Alexander
with J. Walter Helgason**



SCHOLARSHIP TAILGATE



Four Notes Club Scholarship Recipients (With Daniel Wendt)
(L-R) Lyla Boatman, John Blair IV, Will Mancuso, Kristophe Sauviac, Abby Martin, Julia Degeneres, Brayden Ibert, and Ann Crabtree



Golden Dream Endowment Scholarship Recipients (With Doss and Sally Bourgeois)
Top row (L-R): Cate Tallant, Reiley Macicek, Bella Grier, Laila Pitre, Emily Clark, Riley McClusky, Ella Meyers, Madyson Mitchell, CJ Schrieffer, Emma Kate Gebbia
Bottom Row (L-R): Emily Rice, Kelsey Keiser, Rayanna Boasso, Kamryn DeMarco, Blair Saltzman, Hailey Griggs, Madison Morrison, Julia Haley



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: JOHN BUTLER

“All of my discipline came from the Tiger Band”

Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, **John Sibley Butler** was surrounded by music from a young age. “Growing up in Louisiana, horns are just in your soul”, says Butler on his immersion in Louisiana’s rich musical culture. Through his childhood and high school years, music and performance in band provided a connection to friends, family, and skills that would carry him through life. Following his service in the Vietnam War in the 1960’s, Butler returned to his home state to continue his education.

“Playing in band in high school [structured my time]. When I got to college, it was a whole other level...It gave me all of my structure in life.”

A member of Tiger Band from 1965 – 1969, Butler was a member of an ensemble led by William “Bill” Swor (1927 – 2004). Describing Bill Swor’s teaching and approach to leading Tiger Band, Butler recalls that “[Bill Swor] was a no-nonsense guy...he was a genius.” This approach led to groups that were focused, disciplined, and well prepared to perform at the highest levels when necessary.

“All of my discipline came from the Tiger Band”

In a story that he holds dear to his heart, Butler recalls filling in to march a halftime spot at the Cotton Bowl (on a nationally televised game) following the injury of one of his peers. With no previous rehearsal time and only moments between receiving his charts and the performance, Butler found a space secluded enough to learn his new spot using the process taught to the ensemble by Bill Swor. This moment typifies the discipline and trust that Swor, and Tiger Band as a whole, would instill in its members.



Photo of John Butler

Following his time among the Stately Oaks, John went on to Northwestern University as a Fellow of Social Change, receiving his Ph.D. in sociology in 1974. Since then, Dr. Butler has had a storied career in academia, authored several books, received numerous awards and recognitions for his research and service to the profession, and served the President of the United States in various capacities.

Today, Dr. Butler holds a Professor Emeritus chair at the McCombs School of Business and is an active supporter of education and band programs across the country. Though time has passed since Dr. Butler’s days as a member of Tiger Band, a conversation with him showcases that the memories that happen at LSU remain fresh and impactful throughout our lives.

His first words from our conversation serve as a fitting way to end this alumni spotlight and sum up his experience and time in Tiger Band - “I had a great time at LSU.”



SAVE THE DATE - ALUMNI WEEKEND NOVEMBER 23, 2024 VS. VANDERBILT



Tiger Band 131 – Alumni Reunion Weekend November 23–24, 2024

We are excited to host the 2024 Alumni Reunion Weekend over the Vanderbilt football game weekend. With activities on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, this Reunion Weekend will be one for the books.

Once again, we will offer different packages tailored to your choices for the weekend. Alumni who do not wish to participate in on-field activities will have the opportunity to participate via a social only package. Those wanting to do it all will be able to march down Victory Hill, listen to the Tiger Band's PMAC performance, play in the stands next to Tiger Band, and "relive the glory days of yesteryear" during the halftime performance.

Friday evening, we will have an Alumni Only reception at the Tiger Band Hall. This event is an opportunity to reconnect with friends old and new. Saturday will be filled with the usual game-day activities - rehearsal, tailgate, performances, game, etc.

Continuing this year will be a tradition we started in 2023 - a scholarship presentation where current Tiger Band members will be rewarded for their hard work and dedication. These scholarships are made possible by donations from our supporters. Finally, Sunday will be Golden Girl Family Day at the Tiger Band Hall.

Registration for Alumni Weekend will open in October. Tiger Band seniors who graduated between the Fall of 2023 and before the Fall of 2024 will be able to participate free of charge. Sponsorships are available for individuals and businesses who would like to help cover event expenses. Those able to help sponsor a part of the event should email fournotes@lsu.edu for more information.

We look forward to seeing as many alumni as possible parading down Victory Hill, playing in the stands alongside Tiger Band, and taking over the field in Tiger Stadium this November.

For more information on Alumni Weekend, scan the QR code on page 28.



CONCERT ENSEMBLES



Dr. Griffin Campbell performing with the LSU Wind Ensemble





Spring 2024 LSU Symphonic Band trombones

Concert Ensembles at Louisiana State University are fundamental to the history of success in the LSU Department of Bands. Concert bands at LSU perform a vast array of music, catering to all musical skill levels.

As the premier concert organization of the LSU Department of Bands, the Wind Ensemble is comprised of select wind and percussion students. The LSU Symphonic Winds is the Department's second concert ensemble, comprised of undergraduate and graduate music majors, as well as qualified musicians from other academic disciplines. The Symphonic Band is the largest concert organization in the Department and is comprised of music majors as well as musicians from other academic disciplines from across the university.



2024-2025 GUEST ARTISTS



Soprano **Hila Plitman** joins the LSU School of Music in October 2024 as an artist in residence. She will then join the LSU Wind Ensemble in January 2025 as a featured soloist at the Louisiana Music Educators Association Conference.

HILA PLITMANN
SOPRANO



New Orleans Clarinetist **Doreen Ketchens** will join the LSU Department of Bands in November 2024 as a featured soloist with the LSU Wind Ensemble and the Golden Band From Tigerland. She will then join the LSU Wind Ensemble as a featured soloist at the Louisiana Music Educators Association Conference.

DOREEN KETCHENS
CLARINET



Frank Ticheli will join the LSU Wind Ensemble in January 2025 as guest composer for their Louisiana Music Educators Association Featured Performance. The Wind Ensemble will be performing his piece *Playing With Fire* with Doreen Ketchens as guest soloist.

FRANK TICHELI
COMPOSER



Noted composer and LSU Alum **Julie Giroux** will join the LSU Wind Ensemble to present the world premiere of her piece *Still Here*. Along with being a featured composer, Giroux will conduct the performance of this piece as well.

JULIE GIROUX
COMPOSER



2024-2025 GUEST ARTISTS

The **LSU Wind Ensemble** will be joined by the following faculty soloists this upcoming season:

9/27/24 - Ross Alhorn, Trumpet

11/26/24 - Kendra Wheeler, Saxophone

2/25/25 - Brett Dietz, Timpani

2/25/25 - Johanna Yarbrough, Horn

4/29/25 - Willis Delony, Piano



Johanna Yarbrough,
Professor of Horn



Ross Alhorn,
Assistant Professor of
Trumpet



Willis Delony,
Professor of Piano and
Jazz Studies



Kendra Wheeler,
Assistant Professor of
Saxophone



Brett Dietz,
Professor of Percussion

CONDUCTOR'S ART

Michael Haithcock served as Director of Bands and Professor of Music (Conducting) at the University of Michigan. Following his retirement, he was named an Arthur F. Thurneau Professor Emeritus of Music. Haithcock will join the LSU Department of Bands in January 2025 as a guest clinician at The Conductor's Art.

STATELY OAKS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Steven D. Davis is a conductor and the Director of Bands at the University of Missouri - Kansas City Conservatory of Music. He will join the LSU Department of Bands as a guest clinician at our Stately Oaks Music Festival in February 2025.

Myra Rhoden served as the Director of Bands and Fine Arts Department Chairperson at Fayette County High School in Fayetteville, Georgia. She will join the LSU Department of Band as a guest clinician at our Stately Oaks Music Festival in February 2025.

Liz Love is a band director at Leander Middle School in Leander, Texas. She will join the LSU Department of Bands as a guest clinician at our Stately Oaks Music Festival in February 2025.



SYMPHONIC WINDS AT CBDNA REGIONAL CONVENTION



The LSU Symphonic Winds perform at the Southern Regional College Band Directors National Association Convention





LSU Symphonic Winds receiving applause at the CBDNA Southern Regional Conference

“Any time we’re able to spend together focused on music and the power it has to move others creates lifelong memories and this performance was certainly no exception.” - Simon Holowieko

This past spring, the LSU Symphonic Winds performed as one of seven collegiate ensembles at the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) Southern Division Conference at the University of Memphis.

Concert bands from across the 11-state division were selected through a competitive blind audition process involving adjudicators from across the United States. The concert featured music by composers Paul Dooley, J.S. Bach, Joel Puckett, J.P. Sousa, Erica Muhl, and Luis Serrano Alarcón.

On receiving an invitation to perform at this conference, and the experience of performing in this setting, conductor Simon Holowieko shares the following:

“The opportunity to perform at such a prestigious conference is a testament to our students who professionally prepare every day to create incredible music together. Any time we’re able to spend together focused on music and the power it has to move others creates lifelong memories and this performance was certainly no exception. We are so proud of the students who helped the group reach this milestone and the ones who continue to push toward what is possible. Symphonic Winds is a special ensemble and I’m excited to see what is in store for the future.”

The LSU Symphonic Winds is an ensemble of approximately 55 undergraduate and graduate music majors in the School of Music, as well as qualified musicians from other academic disciplines. The group performs a wide array of repertoire, including original wind band works, chamber works, transcriptions, and new music.



LSU WIND ENSEMBLE TO PERFORM AT LOUISIANA MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION IN NEW ORLEANS

The Louisiana State University Department of Bands is excited to announce that the LSU Wind Ensemble has been invited to perform at the 2025 Louisiana Music Educators Association Professional Development Conference. The conference, which has relocated to the Hilton New Orleans Riverside, is a gathering of music educators that showcases ensembles, educators, and students from across the state. The LSU Wind Ensemble last performed at this conference in the 2021-2022 year, prior to the conference move to New Orleans.

We're grateful to represent Louisiana State University and our alumni across the nation at this conference, and hope to see you there!



Damon Talley conducting the Louisiana State University Wind Ensemble



AMERICAN BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION INDUCTION

LSU's Paula G. Manship Professor and Director of Bands Damon Talley was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association (ABA), considered one of the highest honors in the nation for a wind band conductor, the LSU School of Music announced Tuesday.

Selection to the Association's membership is by invitation only, following a rigorous nomination and selection process. Talley's election will be recognized at the 2024 ABA National Convention, held in Washington D.C. from March 6 - 10, 2024, where he will conduct the United States Air Force Band in a performance of Floyd Werle's Glider Pilots Reunion March.

"Recognition by the American Bandmasters Association is indeed an honor of the highest order," said James Byo, Director of the LSU School of Music. "Top-notch musicianship, visionary leadership, and generous spirit are all traits Damon Talley has demonstrated during his 10 years at LSU. As the award shows, these traits resonate among his peers in the concert band/wind ensemble culture. He is a difference-maker both at LSU and nationally."

The American Bandmasters Association, founded in 1929 with John Philip Sousa serving as Honorary Life President, recognizes outstanding achievement on the part of concert band conductors and composers. The current membership comprises approximately 300 band conductors and composers across the United States and Canada. The Association recognizes an additional 80 associate members, primarily consisting of music businesses and corporations that provide significant services to bands and to the publication of band music.



Damon Talley, Director of Bands, LSU

Talley serves as Director of Bands and Paula G. Manship Professor of Conducting at the LSU School of Music, where he oversees all aspects of the LSU Department of Bands, conducts the Wind Ensemble and teaches graduate conducting.

An avid supporter of new music for the wind medium, Talley has conducted numerous world premiere performances, and has commissioned composers to write for the wind band.

Under his leadership, the Department of Bands has established an annual conducting symposium, high school and middle school camps which serve hundreds of students annually, and numerous outreach events for public school educators.

*This article was written by **Cullen Sadler** and was originally published to the LSU College of Music and Dramatic Arts website on March 5, 2024. For this article and more, visit us online using the QR code on page 45.*



2024-2025 CONCERT DATES

LSU WIND ENSEMBLE

September 27 - "Reinventions & Dedications"

Julie Giroux, Guest Conductor

October 11 - "Mr. Tambourine Man"

Hila Plitmann, artist in residence

October 22 - Tigerama Baton Rouge

*October 27 - Tigerama Houston

November 26 - "Panoramas"

Doreen Ketchens, guest soloist

**January 17 - LMEA Featured Performance

February 25 - "Allusions"

March 8 - Chamber Ensemble Concert

April 29 - "The Music Around Us"



LSU Wind Ensemble - Damon Talley, Conductor

LSU SYMPHONIC WINDS

October 10 - "Echoes of the Earth"

October 22 - Tigerama Baton Rouge

October 27 - Tigerama Houston

November 21 - "Sacred Sonnets"

March 6 - "Harmonies of Tomorrow"

April 23 - "Rhythmic Reveries"



LSU Symphonic Winds - Simon Holoweiko, Conductor

LSU SYMPHONIC BAND

November 19 - "Wandering home..."

March 11 - "...from a long distance..."

April 22 - "...with a simple love."

All performances are held in the LSU Union Theater at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

**Tigerama Houston time/location TBD*

***LMEA performance will be at the Hilton New Orleans at 7:30pm*

*SCAN THE QR CODE
FOR EVENTS, BOX
OFFICE, TICKET, AND
CONCERT
INFORMATION*



LSU Symphonic Band - Weston Lewis, Conductor



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E-mail: bands@lsu.edu





Department of Bands

292 Band Hall, Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803