



FALL CONCERT

ADMISSION IS FREE

VOLUNTARY
DONATIONS
APPRECIATED

MCAFEE CENTER

SARATOGA HIGH
SCHOOL

20300 HERRIMAN AVENUE
SARATOGA, CA 95070-4950



2025

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 13, 2025
7:30 P.M.

A JOINT
PERFORMANCE
WITH THE CATS
COMMUNITY JAZZ
BAND

SARATOGABAND.COM

CATSJAZZ.WEEBLY.COM



Thank you for your donation!

Venmo: @SaratogaBand

Account: Babette McKay-SaratogaBand

Confirmation Code: 1261

PROGRAM

The Cats Community Jazz Band

Cute: Composed and arranged by Neal Hefti

A New Standard: Composed and arranged by Vince Norman

Mood Indigo: Words and music by Duke Ellington, Irving Mills, and Albany Bigard; arranged by John Clayton

Now What: Composed and arranged by Mike Kamuf

L-O-V-E: Words and music by Bert Kaempfert and Milt Gabler; arranged by Roger Holmes

Intermission (15 minutes)

Saratoga Community Band

Overture to "The Marriage of Figaro" W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)
Arr. Earl Slocum

An American in Paris George Gershwin (1898-1937)
Trans. Jerry Brubaker

In Autumn William Owens (1963-)

The Circus Bee Henry Fillmore (1881-1956)

As a courtesy to the conductors, musicians, and other audience members, please turn off or silence all electronic devices, including cell phones, smart watches, and other noise-making gadgets before the concert begins. Please clap and cheer at the end of each piece! Enjoy the music –

Thank you to our volunteer greeters and ushers!

ABOUT THE MUSIC

OVERTURE TO THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO: W.A. Mozart

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart wrote "The Marriage of Figaro" (Le nozze di Figaro) in 1786 and it is considered one of the greatest operas ever written. It is consistently in the top ten most frequently performed operas in the world and in 2017 BBC News Magazine described it as being "one of the supreme masterpieces of operatic comedy, whose rich sense of humanity shines out of Mozart's miraculous score."

"The Marriage of Figaro" tells the story of how servants Figaro and Susanna succeed in getting married, foiling the efforts of their philandering employer Count Almaviva to seduce Susanna and thus teach him a lesson in fidelity. The opera was originally scored for two flutes, two oboes, two clarinets, two bassoons, two horns, two clarini (high-pitched valveless trumpets), timpani, and strings.

The Overture is very well-known and is often played as a separate concert piece, as you are hearing tonight. With one tempo throughout, this piece is a pure gem of spontaneous melody and skillful design, Mozart at his best. Our arrangement for full band was done by composer/arranger Earl Slocum (1902-1994) in 1958.

Karen Eshoff, Clarinet

AN AMERICAN IN PARIS: George Gershwin

I first heard "An American in Paris" in the 1951 movie with the same name at the Stanford Theatre in Palo Alto during a Vincente Minnelli film marathon. At that time, I assumed that composer George Gershwin had written the music for the 17-minute ballet with Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron that is the climax of the movie. In the wordless ballet, Kelly and Caron dance through the city traffic, parks, and nightclubs of semi-abstract line-drawing sets of Paris, France.

Since then, I found that Gershwin actually composed it in 1928 as a jazz-influenced symphonic poem inspired by his visits to Paris. Gershwin explained in the magazine Musical America, "My purpose here is to portray the impressions of an American visitor in Paris as he strolls about the city, listens to the various street noises, and absorbs the French atmosphere." The music included influences from classical music, jazz, blues, and 4 taxi horns that Gershwin brought back from France.

George Gershwin (1898 - 1937) was an American composer and pianist who wrote Broadway musicals with his brother Ira, orchestral works, the opera "Porgy and Bess," and several film scores. Many of his pop songs have become jazz standards. The arrangement we are playing was arranged for symphonic band by Jerry Brubaker, composer and French horn soloist with United States Navy Band for 30 years.

Eric Henderson, Tenor Saxophone

IN AUTUMN: William Owens

Composed in 2009, *In Autumn* by William Owens is an expressive and beautifully crafted work which captures the quiet elegance of the season. Its memorable melody unfolds with graceful simplicity, supported by lush harmonies and flowing countermelodies. The music reflects the gradual transformation from summer's verdant landscapes to the more muted hues of fall. A powerful harmonic climax leads to a key change before returning to the original key, culminating in a delicate, softly scored conclusion. The closing sound effects, evoking the gentle susurrations of a breeze through dry and falling leaves, are created through the imaginative use of crumpling plastic bags and fluttering sheets of paper.

William Owens (born 1963) is an American composer, conductor, clinician, and educator. A 1985 graduate of VanderCook College of Music in Chicago, Owens dedicated 30 years teaching middle and high school instrumental band in Texas. Since publishing his first work in 1993, he has composed over 300 pieces for concert band and orchestra. He is the winner of the ASCA Plus award and a two-time recipient of the Forrest L. Buchtel Citation for Excellence in Band Composition. Although he retired from teaching in 2014, he remains active as both a composer and clinician. That same year, he was honored as the Featured Composer by the Texas Bandmasters Association.



John Bertschy, Bassoon

THE CIRCUS BEE: Henry Fillmore

Henry Fillmore was surrounded by music at an early age. The family business was the Fillmore Music House, founded by his father James and uncle Frederick, both composers of gospel and church music. Young Henry mastered the piano, guitar, violin, flute, and trombone. He kept his trombone activities a secret at first, as his staunchly religious father believed it an uncouth and sinful instrument. Henry's mother secretly bought him a used trombone and hid the fact from Henry's father.

After graduating from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Fillmore traveled as the bandmaster with a circus and began writing screamers—very fast and frenzied marches used to stir up the audience during the show. Screamers are characteristic for their speed, technical and complex rhythms, strong bass lines, and often intertwining melodies. He would compose many marches in this style and took over the title of “March King” following Sousa's death. One of Fillmore's earliest screamers is “The Circus Bee” written in 1908 and titled for an imaginary circus newspaper. Listen for the woodwind melody in the trio section the first time through, then hear how it weaves together with the brasses who take the lead on the repeat. A challenge for the band in Db Major, too!

Babette McKay, Oboe

SARATOGA COMMUNITY BAND PERSONNEL

Steve Barnhill, Director

Craig D. Northrup, Founding Director

Flute/Piccolo

Trisha McHale
Christina Mendoza
Ann Northrup*
Debbie Regalbuto
Misako Tsuda

Oboe

Babette McKay*
Benjamin Zhang

Clarinet

Eva Chapman
Robert Duebell
Karen Eshoff
Mateo Go
Kevin Hayashi
Rick Janowski
Frank Kibbish*
Craig Northrup
Susan Peterson
Christina Robert
Ginny Snyder

Eb Clarinet

Frank Kibbish
Ginny Snyder

Bass Clarinet

Charlie Robert

Bassoon

John Bertschy*
Ethan Lee

Alto Saxophone

Ryoken Apostol
Rob Espina

Tenor Saxophone

Eric Henderson

Baritone Saxophone

Cindy Fachner

Trumpet

Dino Certa*
Hugo Huey
Steve Kim
Brian Korek*
Daniel Martin
Armand Rundquist
Nick Tripsas
Rick Varney

Horn

Stephanie Janowski
Ed Lacina
Cyndi Leany
Ken Okuno

Trombone

Todd Bevis
Karen Cheong
Dianna Kessler
Thomas Kessler*
Dick King
Dick Robbins
Frank Robertson

Euphonium

Ian Lee
Christopher Okuno
Tadashi Okuno
Davin Tjong

Tuba

Malik Campbell
Joe Matthews
Bill Walker*

Percussion

Tom Beckmann*
Chuck Luce*
David Lung
Richard Stolzman
Raymond Zheng

** = Board of Directors*

THE CATS COMMUNITY JAZZ BAND

Michael Sanchez, Director

Alto Sax

Rob Espina
Frank Giordano

Tenor Sax

Elliott Stage
Larry Wolfson

Baritone Sax

Kimberly Davis

Trombone

Raiden Davis
Andrew Edwards
Dan Lagasse

Bass Trombone

Thai Nguyen

Trumpet

Larry Farnsley
Phil Galata
Larry Lagier
Abigail Nguyen
Mike Schroeder

Guitar

George Alfs

Bass Guitar

Cung Vu

Piano

Lincoln Bourne

Piano/Vocalist

Sydney Lagier

Drums

Todd Hanson

About the Bands

"The Cats" is a community jazz band, open to all who have a desire to play in a structured setting. We welcome all skill levels; applicants must be able to play an instrument and have some experience playing in a band. At present, members range in age from teen to nonagenarian.

The band formed in January 2014, when a small group of musicians gathered in a member's home with the idea of playing "swing" music (typically dance music of the 1930's to the 1950's). The group was eventually able to get the Los Gatos Recreation Department to include a Jazz/ Swing Band to its list of available classes for adults. The Recreation Department provided a professional director, a venue for rehearsal and music arrangements.

Now, the band functions as a completely self-managed, self-funded group without any sponsorship. Thanks to the gracious offering of the Foxworthy Baptist Church, we can use space at the church for rehearsals. Although we started small, we have now reached "Big Band" size. At present we have 19 members, plus a director.



Mike Sanchez is a local and touring trumpet player born and raised in San Jose, CA. Mike has studied and worked with greats such as Ingrid Jensen, Ralph Alessi, Tony Glausi, and other modern trumpet heroes, and continues to be a fixture in the Bay Area as a first call performer. As a private teacher, Mike specializes in the development of young talent, and the rehabilitation of trumpet players who might be struggling. Mike is also owner and operator of Authentic Custom Events, www.authenticcustomevents.com, a boutique event company and booking agency.

We meet at the Foxworthy Baptist Church every Thursday, from 6:30-8:00 pm, year-round. Our current goal is to do one public performance per quarter. While we do not charge for our performances, we graciously accept donations. Visit our website, www.catsjazz.weebly.com, for more information.

Founded in 1989 by Craig D. Northrup, the **Saratoga Community Band** is made up of wind musicians and percussionists of all ages from Saratoga, Los Gatos and the greater Silicon Valley. Becky Dugan served as Director from 2014-2020. Michael Boitz became the SCB's third Director and served from 2021-2024. Steve Barnhill took up the leadership of SCB in Fall 2024. The SCB incorporated as an independent 501(c)3 non-profit in 2025.



Steve Barnhill retired in 2019 after 35 years of teaching at Overfelt and Evergreen Valley High Schools. Both programs were recognized for their excellence receiving numerous awards and accolades. While at Evergreen Valley he was honored to take his Wind Ensemble

and String Orchestra to Carnegie Hall four different times. He also conducted the Ohlone College Community Band for ten years helping to lead that ensemble through many



rewarding performances. In addition to the school programs Steve served as the brass caption lead and then director of the Santa Clara Vanguard Cadets Drum & Bugle Corps from 2007-2019 helping to guide the group to five Open Class National Championships. He still serves as a clinician in the area and works with the Lynbrook High School band program and their outstanding director Michael Pakaluk.

A wonderful bonus of retirement has been the opportunity to once again focus on his own bass trombone playing. Starting in college he began an extensive freelance professional career which included numerous performances and recording sessions with many of the finest musicians in the Bay Area. A member of the San Jose Wind Symphony and Chabot College Wind Symphony, Steve also performs with many other local ensembles.

Steve is honored to be the conductor for such an outstanding ensemble and looks forward to leading the group and our audiences through many wonderful performances exploring the finest of the wind band literature.

If you are interested in joining the band, visit www.saratogaband.com, send a note to saratogacommunityband@gmail.com, or come sit in on a rehearsal with us. No audition is necessary, just the ability to read music and play your instrument with general proficiency (High School level). Rehearsals are Mondays from 7:00-9:00 pm at Saratoga High School, September-May and we present 3-4 free public concerts throughout the year.



Join Us (Concert List or Musician)

To hear about upcoming concerts and band news, join the email list at www.saratogaband.com or like us on Facebook @saratogacommunityband. Voluntary donations are welcome!