

music that
RESONATES



**A CONCERT FEATURING THE
KINGSLEY JUNIOR HIGH EIGHTH GRADE BAND
PARKSIDE JUNIOR HIGH EIGHTH GRADE BAND
NORMAL WEST HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 | 7:00 PM

PROGRAM

**THE NORMAL WEST WIND ENSEMBLE
SAXOPHONE CHOIR**

**THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER
IN OBSERVANCE OF VETERAN'S DAY**

**THE PARKSIDE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
EIGHTH GRADE SYMPHONIC BAND**

SPIRIT OF LIBERTY BY WILLIAM OWENS

BLESSING WIND BY YUKIKO NISHIMURA

DARKLANDS MARCH BY RANDALL STANDRIDGE

**THE KINGSLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
EIGHTH GRADE SYMPHONIC BAND**

DANCING LIGHTS BY RANDALL STANDRIDGE

A RIVER'S FURY BY JAMES SWEARINGEN

**THE NORMAL WEST HIGH SCHOOL
WIND ENSEMBLE**

FANFARE 250 BY NOAH D. TAYLOR

A SONG FOR LYND SAY BY ANDREW BOYSEN

CLAIRE TAYLOR, HORN | NATALIE BRUTLAG, PIANO | CAITLYN ROUS, FLUTE

RIDE BY SAMUEL R. HAZO

HOYT CARTER, ALTO SAXOPHONE | CARTER MCNICOL, ALTO SAXOPHONE

THE COMBINED ENSEMBLES

MUSIC FROM HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

BY JOHN POWELL, ARRANGED BY SEAN O'LOUGHLIN

THE MUSICIANS

Max Alpas

Jonas Amos

Braelynd Anderson

Mason Barry

Tommy Bierbaum

Grayson Borders

Phil Brandon

Quincy Brown

Anselm Bruce

Natalie Brutlag

Mason Burch

London Caffey

Arya Caquelin

Olivia Carolan

CJ Carter

Hoyt Carter

James Cherry

Jack Cherry

Eddie Cole

Jess Davis

Anna Davitt

Jackson DeJaynes

Chance Eells

Emma Foley

Chris Franklin, Jr.

Wren Franzen

Ravi Gadhiraaju

Colton Garrett

Jacob Gibson

Delance Griffin

Ava Gully

Cori Hardin

Logan Harms

Isaac Haynes

Lena Hemp

Oorja Hindurao

David Indleman

Colton Irvin

Javi Jasso

Andrew Jolley

Aliyah Khokhar

Amy Kieser

Emma Koscielak

Reid Kuethe

Audrina Kull

Felicity Lawton

Matias Lluglla Marin

Kylie Locke

Clay Marshall

Eli Maulding

Leon Mays, Jr.

Carter McNicol

Anya McCormick

Lydia McCulley

Mason Montgomery

Maddy Moore

Joslyn Morrison

Melody Mosher

Mackenzie Nichols

Marian Nkrumah-Boateng

Jordan Nunoo-Ponder

Pierson Odland

Brandon Ott

Gabe Pabst

Seamus Parish-Meyer

Isaiah Perez

Cam Post

Aditi Rangunath

Ava Rackauskas

Angela Rattan

August Reblando

Annabelle Risinger

Annika Risinger

Danny Rhodes

Caitlyn Rous

Ethan Rous

Teagan Russell

Ryder Rutkowski

Evan Schumacher

Tanner Shipley

Annabel Snyder

Thea Stafford

Sam Stout

Jacob Stromberger

Gabe Szczepaniak

Nolan Taylor

Tinleigh Tibbs

Fallon Thomas

Maeve Techmanski

Claire Taylor

Mason Uphoff

Robinson West

Carter Willock

Sam Wilson

Alexis Windhorn

Avery Wodika

Owen Young



WOODWIND & BRASS

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2025
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Unit 5 is proud to be recognized as one of our nation's *Best Communities for Music Education!* This designation is awarded annually by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation, and it acknowledges the outstanding work of our students, staff, and community.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

Welcome to *Music That Resonates*. This evening's concert celebrates the ways music connects us—how melody, rhythm, and harmony can stir emotion, evoke memory, and strengthen community.

On this Veterans Day, we open with The Star-Spangled Banner, performed by the Normal West Wind Ensemble Saxophone Choir, as we honor those who have served and reflect on the shared values that unite us.

Tonight's performance brings together students from Kingsley and Parkside Junior High Schools with the musicians of the Normal West Wind Ensemble. Each group contributes its own voice to a program designed to move, inspire, and—above all—resonate.

SPIRIT OF LIBERTY BY WILLIAM OWENS

Written as a tribute to the ideals of courage, pride, and unity, *Spirit of Liberty* opens with bold fanfares and vibrant rhythmic energy. Owens balances bright brass and crisp percussion writing with lyrical melodies that suggest reflection and gratitude—fitting for a Veterans Day performance. The piece captures both the strength of a nation and the youthful enthusiasm of those who will carry that spirit forward.

BLESSING WIND BY YUKIKO NISHIMURA

In *Blessing Wind*, Nishimura's distinctive lyricism shines through. The piece unfolds gently, with flowing lines and delicate harmonies that evoke the feeling of a warm breeze bringing comfort and renewal. Its serene character invites the listener to breathe, listen, and appreciate the beauty in stillness—a lovely contrast to the program's more energetic works.

DARKLANDS MARCH BY RANDALL STANDRIDGE

Darklands March offers a fresh twist on the traditional march form. With driving rhythms, minor tonalities, and dramatic contrasts, Standridge crafts a cinematic journey through an imaginary world both menacing and heroic. Beneath its intensity lies a sense of playfulness, making it a student and audience favorite. The piece showcases the ensemble's precision, control, and flair for musical storytelling.

DANCING LIGHTS BY RANDALL STANDRIDGE

Inspired by the natural wonder of the aurora borealis, *Dancing Lights* captures the mystery and brilliance of shifting colors in the night sky. Standridge's use of shimmering textures and flowing motion creates a vivid soundscape that mirrors the movement of the lights themselves.

ABOUT THE MUSIC

A RIVER'S FURY BY JAMES SWEARINGEN

In contrast, *A River's Fury* paints a dramatic picture of rushing water and nature's untamed power. Swearingen's music surges with energy and drive, depicting both the beauty and the danger of a river in full force. The piece showcases rhythmic precision and dynamic contrast, highlighting the ensemble's demonstration of musicianship.

FANFARE 250 BY NOAH D. TAYLOR

Fanfare 250 bursts with vitality and optimism. On this Veterans Day, its triumphant spirit offers a fitting salute to perseverance, courage, and community service. The composer dedicated this piece to the men and women of the United States Army in recognition of their 250 years of steadfast service.

A SONG FOR LYND SAY BY ANDREW BOYSEN, JR.

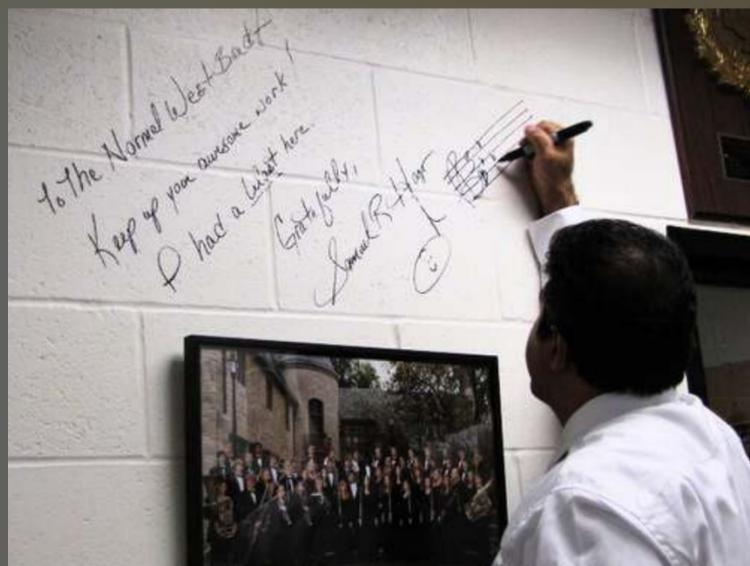
Dedicated to the composer's wife, this tender and heartfelt work reminds us of the deeply personal side of music-making. Through lyrical lines and warm harmonies, Boyesen expresses love, loss, and gratitude in a way that resonates universally—proof that music can speak where words fall short.

RIDE BY SAMUEL R. HAZO

Hazo's exhilarating *Ride* brings a sense of momentum and joy to the stage.

Written to capture the thrill of motion in a zippy sports car, it challenges the ensemble with shifting meters and driving rhythms, culminating in an electrifying conclusion. The piece embodies the shared excitement of musical collaboration and the rush of collective achievement. The piece's

opening statement is written on the wall outside the band office, along with the composer's autograph—commemorating his visit to Normal West years ago.



MUSIC FROM HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON BY JOHN POWELL, ARRANGED BY SEAN O'LOUGHLIN

Bringing together all performers for a powerful conclusion, this medley from the blockbuster film *How to Train Your Dragon* celebrates imagination, courage, and connection. In the story, dragons navigate their world through sound—using echolocation to sense and respond to one another. In much the same way, tonight's concert embodies how music "resonates" between performers and audience, linking hearts and minds through shared experience.

NORMAL WEST BANDS

CRAFT



SHOW

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22
9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

OVER 100 BOOTHS!
LIVE MUSIC!
FOOD AND DRINK!
A VISIT FROM SANTA!

BANDS
NORMAL WEST

ABOUT THE FACULTY

RILEY ODEHNAL | PARKSIDE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Mr. Odehnal hails from Lockport, Illinois, where he was an active member of the Lockport Township High School band program. Mr. Odehnal received his Bachelors of Music Education, Magna Cum Laude, from VanderCook College of Music, where he closely studied with Professor Alexander Kaminsky. During his time in college, he developed a large private lesson studio, served as the President of the National Band

Association (NBA) and Vice President of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) chapters at VanderCook, and closely worked with and served as Lockport's Masterclass Instructor and Brass and Visual Technician. Mr. Odehnal is excited to join Unit 5 and continue the success of the program.

TYLER HARR | KINGSLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Harr teaches 5th-8th-grade band at Kingsley Jr. High School and is beginning his fourth year as part of the Unit 5 Music Program. At KJHS, Mr. Harr also directs extracurricular groups in jazz and chamber music programs. Throughout his teaching career, Mr. Harr has taught K-12 band, choir, and general music- but Jr. High band is the best! Mr. Harr grew up in the Bloomington-Normal Area and went through Unit 5 Schools. He has a bachelor's in Music Education from Eastern Illinois University and a masters in Curriculum and Instruction from Western Governors University. He hopes to bring a fast-paced, fun environment perfect for learning and growing- we will all make mistakes, but that is the best way to learn new things.



RYAN BUDZINSKI | NORMAL WEST HIGH SCHOOL



Ryan Budzinski is the Director of Bands at Normal West High School. He earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree at Illinois Wesleyan University and his Master of Music Education degree at Illinois State University. He has also studied at the VanderCook College of Music, the Ohio State University, Carleton College, and The Juilliard School.

Mr. Budzinski joined the Unit 5 band faculty in 2006 and has been the building's music department chair since 2015. He has served as an adjudicator for a number of music education organizations. He recently completed a term as the ILMEA District 3 Senior Band Co-Representative, and he has served on the Illinois High School Association's Music Advisory Committee.

Normal West students selected Mr. Budzinski to be the school's Teacher Honor Roll Award winner in the spring of 2008. He is a recipient of the National Band Association Citation of Excellence and the Illinois State Board of Education's *Those Who Excel* Award of Excellence. Last year, the IHSA Music Advisory Committee selected Mr. Budzinski as the state's *Outstanding Music Educator*.

Outside the band room, Mr. B is an FAA-certified remote pilot, and he enjoys drone flight and photography. Most of all, he looks forward to seeing these eighth grade musicians participate in band at NCHS or Normal West next year!

ABOUT BAND IN HIGH SCHOOL

We hope the eighth grade musicians performing tonight will continue making music all the way through high school graduation! Normal West and Normal Community High Schools enjoy a rich history and longstanding tradition of excellence. The schools are home to a total of nine concert band classes, five extracurricular jazz bands, and a host of smaller chamber ensembles. The high schools collaborate to produce the Normal Marching Band, a three-time Class 6A Illinois State Marching Band Champion. The NMB will also receive recognition from the Office of the Governor for being named Grand Champion at the University of Illinois Marching Band Championships for the second year in a row. The band performed in the 2025 London New Year's Day Parade and is the Bands of America 4A Iowa Regional Champion. We have lots in store in the years ahead and hope you will consider taking part next year!

Placement in the High School band classes are based on students' skill levels, aiming to provide an exciting, challenging experience for everyone at a level where they achieve success. There are ways for everyone to continue playing—even if you have other academic and athletic interests! We hope that you will join us in the high school band Class of 2030! For additional information, visit nwbands.org, ironmenbands.org, or normalmb.org. Be sure to attend Freshman Orientation at the Unit 5 high schools on the evening of Wednesday, December 3--and stop by the band table! We can't wait to make music with you next year!

ABOUT THE WIND ENSEMBLE

The Wind Ensemble is Normal West's most advanced concert band. The group's performance credits include multiple appearances in Carnegie Hall (New York), Orchestra Hall (home of the Chicago Symphony), the Illinois Music Education Conference, and the elite Illinois SuperState Concert Band Festival. The band has also performed in the Sydney Opera House (Australia) and at the United States Capitol and Lincoln Monument (both in Washington, D.C.)

Later this year, they will make their second appearance in the Walt Disney Concert Hall (home of the Los Angeles Philharmonic), and they will also perform in the Disney Parks in Anaheim, California.

Members of the Wind Ensemble are enrolled in just about every course offering at Normal West, including the Education pathway, ADP/STEM program, and other Advanced Placement/Dual Credit offerings. Many are all-district and all-state musicians through the Illinois Music Education Association, and they represent all levels of Wildcat athletics, E-Sports, and other activities. It is possible to participate in the band program and a wide variety of other school offerings. The Wind Ensemble performers encourage you to make the most of your time in the high school bands, either at NCWHS or at NCHS!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SARAH CROWDER | PRINCIPAL, PARKSIDE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
ERIC HADDEN | ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL, PARKSIDE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
JOE ROSEL | ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, PARKSIDE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
MELISSA JENNINGS AND PEYTON MILES | PJHS MUSIC FACULTY
KELLY FITZGERALD | PRINCIPAL, KINGSLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
SYLVESTER DAVIS | ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL, KINGSLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
DENNIS LARSON | ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL, KINGSLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
KATIE WINCHESTER AND DARIA VAN DE LOO | KJHS MUSIC FACULTY
DR. ANGIE CODRON | PRINCIPAL, NORMAL WEST HIGH SCHOOL
BECKY FRANGELLA | ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL, NORMAL WEST HIGH SCHOOL
DR. FRANCESC BORULL, JILL SCHENK, ISOKE WILSON-PRIDGEN | ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS
KIMBERLEY BOEHM AND SARA WILLIAMS | NCWHS MUSIC FACULTY
LISA PRESTON | DIRECTOR OF BANDS EMERITA
THANK YOU TO THE UNIT 5 MUSIC PARENTS ASSOCIATION
FOR SUPPORTING MUSIC EDUCATION IN OUR SCHOOLS

UPCOMING EVENTS

PARKSIDE SIXTH GRADE BAND AND ORCHESTRA CONCERT
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

NORMAL WEST BANDS CRAFT SHOW
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22 | 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

NORMAL WEST BANDS CONCERT WITH THE KJHS AND PJHS FIFTH GRADE BANDS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9 | PJHS AT 6:00 PM AND KJHS AT 7:15 PM

UNIT 5 JUNIOR HIGH HONOR BAND CONCERT AT THE BCPA
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11 | 7:00 PM

KJHS MUSIC DEPARTMENT WINTERFEST
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

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