
Upcoming Events

Sensory Friendly Concert (April 26)

Student Composition Concert (April 28)

Orchestra Showcase (May 2)

Chamber Pop (May 4)

Chamber Jazz Ensemble I (May 5)

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SUNY NEW PALTZ DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC PRESENTS



SYMPHONIC BAND

APR 24 7:30 PM
Julien J. Studley Theatre

The Symphonic Band presents a program of contemporary and traditional works for winds and percussion by American composers. The program will include works by William Schuman, Omar Thomas, and Joan Tower.

Tickets & Information



If you have accessibility questions or require accommodations to fully participate in this event, please contact the Box Office at boxoffice@newpaltz.edu at least 2 weeks prior to the event. All events subject to change. Visit newpaltz.edu/music for the most updated information.

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Program

Dr. Adam Fontana, Director of Bands, conductor

Dr. David Blon, Purdue University, guest conductor

Jacob Kenny, student trumpet soloist

Concerto for Trumpet in E-Flat Major, S. 49	Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1778-1837) i. Allegro con Spirito
City Girl Sentimentalism (2011)	Shuheji Tamura (b. 1986)
Blues Theme from An American in Paris (1828/1985)	George Gershwin (1898-1937) arr. Gerry Cappuccio
Persistence (2016)	Brian Blume (b. 1985)
Celebration Fanfare from Stepping Stones (1993/1996)	Joan Tower (b. 1938)
“Chester” from New England Triptych (1778/1956)	William Schuman (1910-1992)
Of Our New Day Begun (2015/2025)	Omar Thomas (b. 1984)
Suite from Hamilton (2015/2017)	Lin-Manuel Miranda (b. 1980) arr. Jerry Brubaker



Conductor (continued)

Nebraska-Omaha, the Woodstock and Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestras, and numerous high school honor bands and orchestras across seven states.

Fontana’s research focuses on conductor training and building community through interdisciplinary performance. He has presented at three CBDNA National Conventions, most recently discussing the benefits of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu for conductors at the 2023 National Conference. He has also presented at the New York State Band Directors Association Symposium and at state music education conferences in Connecticut and Kansas. Fontana participated in the International Conductors Guild Frederick Fennell Memorial Masterclass at the Eastman School of Music and was selected as a Conducting Fellow at the inaugural Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic’s Reynolds Conducting Institute. As a clarinetist, he has performed with ensembles including the Juilliard Orchestra, UMKC Wind Symphony, Hartt Wind Ensemble, and the Mid-Kansas Symphony Orchestra.

Fontana holds a doctorate in conducting from the University of Missouri–Kansas City and degrees in music education and conducting from SUNY Potsdam, Columbia University–Teachers College, and the Hartt School. He studied conducting with Steven Davis, Glen Adsit, Dino Anagnost, and Timothy Topolewski, and clarinet with Alan Woy and Tom Scott. He has nine years of public school teaching experience in New York and Connecticut, spanning band, orchestra, choral, and general music.



Guest Conductor (continued)

In addition to his work making music, Dr. Blon is also active in recording production and arranging. He has served as producer on albums for the Youngstown State University Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Dr. Stephen L. Gage, conductor (released by Naxos Music Library) and the University of Missouri-Kansas City Conservatory Wind Symphony, Steven D. Davis, conductor (released digitally via Soundcloud). Dr. Blon has worked closely with many accomplished composers, most notably Pulitzer-Prize winning composers Zhou Long and Jennifer Higdon. Dr. Blon published a transcription of Jennifer's orchestral work, *Machine* for wind ensemble through the composer's Lawdon Press in 2019.

Dr. Blon received his Bachelor of Music Education (Percussion) at Slippery Rock University, his Master of Music (Conducting) at Youngstown State University, and his Doctor of Musical Arts (Wind Conducting) at the University of Missouri - Kansas City Conservatory. Dr. Blon's primary conducting teachers have been Steven D. Davis, Stephen L. Gage, Joseph Parisi, James Berry, Stephen Hawk, and Jack Stamp.

Conductor

Adam V. Fontana is passionate about music education, the art of conducting, and the important role music plays in our society. He currently serves as Chair of the Department of Music, Director of Bands, and Associate Professor of Music at SUNY New Paltz where he currently conducts the Symphonic Band, Scratch Band, and teaches conducting.

As a conductor, Fontana frequently collaborates with living composers, having premiered and commissioned works by Stacey Barellos, Gala Flagello, Shuying Li, Narong Prangcharoen, David Stock, Jess Langston Turner, and Pulitzer Prize-winner Zhou Long. Bands and orchestras under his leadership have performed at the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) Eastern Division Conference, the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Winter Conference, and the Kansas Music Educators Association All-State Conference. He has recently appeared as a guest conductor with wind ensembles at Purdue University, The Hartt School and the University of



Musicians of the SUNY New Paltz Symphonic Band

Piccolo

Elizabeth Distefano

Oboe

Halla Rhode

Clarinet

Emily Andrade

Felix Garcia

Sophia Hart

Ceci Mancia

Richard Johnson

Paige McGowan

Claudia Romero

Sarah Weyrick

Ivy Wray

Bass Clarinet

Rozanna Ortiz

Flute

Chloe Buckton

Elizabeth Distefano

Elizabeth Fan

Liana Gentile

Angel Perez

Zayre Ridgeway

Bassoon

Braden Czerwinski

Bryce Parker

Alto Saxophone

Alex Ardieta

Alana Keneally

Enzi Pascarella

Hailey Schombs

Baritone Saxophone

Alexa Morgan





Musicians of the SUNY New Paltz Symphonic Band (continued)

Tenor Saxophone

Adler Bera

Jessica D'Alessandro

Piano

Alexander Loveday

Euphonium

Alex Amatulli

Lucy Pawluck

Percussion

Andrew Barrese

Sam Colton

Giannamaria Dawe

Justin Gamella

Connor Legrady

Alexander Loveday

Katherine Samedova

Horn

Devin Brooks

Henry Dam

Liz Patrizio

Trumpet

Jacob Kenny

Elvis Meier

Edel Sena

Liam Winter

Trombone

Glenn Bera

Nahyma Badette

Tuba

Trinity Rolon



Student Soloist

Jacob Kenny started his musical journey playing the trumpet in the fifth grade at Cape Coral Elementary School, and continued playing throughout grade school. Jacob previously studied music education at Florida Gulf Coast University, and he is currently studying composition and trumpet at SUNY New Paltz, where he performs in the Symphonic Band, Scratch Band, Orchestra, and Composer New Music Ensemble. Jacob currently performs with the New Paltz Big Band Club, and has previously performed in the Palm City Big Band and with several community orchestras. He studies trumpet at SUNY New Paltz with Joshua Economy.

Guest Conductor

Dr. David M. Blon serves the students of the Purdue Bands and Orchestras as Clinical Assistant Professor of Bands. Prior to this appointment in fall of 2021, Dr. Blon previously spent time with the Boilermakers as Artist in-Residence during the 2019-2020 academic year. He currently serves as conductor of the Fall Collegiate Band, Fall Varsity Band, Fall University Band, Spring Concert Band, and is the assistant conductor of the Wind Ensemble. In spring of 2023, Dr. Blon served as co-director of the Percussion Ensemble and at various times throughout his appointment, has taught courses in Music Appreciation and has served as the faculty coordinator of the PBO Engineering Learning Community.

Prior to pursuing his doctoral degree, Dr. Blon served on the faculty at the University of Hawai'i as Associate Director of Bands. From 2011-2016, Dr. Blon led the "Rainbow Warrior" Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Percussion Ensemble in addition to teaching various courses in conducting and music education. He also previously served as the Director of Athletic and Concert Bands at West Virginia Wesleyan College. For three summers, Dr. Blon was the Ensemble Manager for the World Youth Wind Symphony at Interlochen Center for the Arts.