

# **University Wind Ensemble**

Sunday, October 11, 2026 at 3pm  
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University  
The College of Professional Studies and School of Music, Theatre & Dance present

## University Wind Ensemble

Ron Gerhardstein, *conductor*

Sunday, October 11, 2026 at 3pm  
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.  
Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.  
Use of cameras, recording equipment, and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

### PROGRAM

|                                             |                                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Four Scottish Dances (1978)</b> .....    | <b>Malcom Arnold</b><br>arr. John Paynter |
| <i>I. Pesante</i>                           |                                           |
| <i>II. Vivace</i>                           |                                           |
| <i>III. Allegretto</i>                      |                                           |
| <i>IV. Con Brio</i>                         |                                           |
| <b>Pacem: A Hymn for Peace (2005)</b> ..... | <b>Robert Spittal</b>                     |
| <b>The Crusader March</b> .....             | <b>John Philip Sousa (1854-1932)</b>      |
| <b>Love &amp; Nature (2024)</b> .....       | <b>Gala Flagello</b>                      |
| <i>I. Flower Power</i>                      |                                           |
| <i>II. Star-Crossed</i>                     |                                           |
| <i>III. Slow Burn</i>                       |                                           |
| <b>Net Luck Soaring (2011)</b> .....        | <b>Joni Greene</b>                        |
| <b>Cajon's Reverb (2024)</b> .....          | <b>Dennis Llinás</b>                      |

## Program Notes

*Four Scottish Dances* was composed early in 1957 and are dedicated to the BBC Light Music Festival. They are all based on original melodies but one, the melody of which is composed by Robert Burns. The first dance is in the style of a slow strathspey -- a slow Scottish dance in 4/4 meter – with many dotted notes, frequently in the inverted arrangement of the “Scottish snap.” The name was derived from the strath valley of Spey. The second, a lively reel, begins in the key of E-flat and rises a semi-tone each time it is played until the bassoon plays it, at a greatly reduced speed, in the key of G. The final statement of the dance is at the original speed in the home key of E-flat. The third dance is in the style of a Hebridean song and attempts to give an impression of the sea and mountain scenery on a calm summer’s day in the Hebrides. The last dance is a lively fling, which makes a great deal of use of the open string pitches of the violin (saxophones in the band edition).

– program notes by the composer

Robert Spittal is Professor of Music at Gonzaga University, where he led the Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds from 1992-2018 before stepping aside to pursue more composition opportunities. Robert studied conducting with Craig Kirchhoff, Michael Haithcock, and Eugene Corporon, and maintains an active schedule as a conductor, frequently serving as guest conductor of his own works. Recent appearances include New England Conservatory, where he conducted the premiere of his *Concerto for Wind Ensemble* and Canada’s Cantando Festival where he conducted the premiere of *Partita for Oboe* with soloist Jung Choi. *Pacem: A Hymn for Peace* was written as a tribute to the composer’s personal friend Patrick Brooks, who at the time of the composition was the conductor of the Idaho State University Wind Ensemble. The work is inspired loosely by the second movement of Spittal’s *Consort for Ten Winds* which is itself a tribute to the imitative motet style of Renaissance composers Josquin Des Prez and Palestrina. *Pacem* is introspective, tender, and at moments epic. Throughout it is a hopeful reminder of the journey, and sometimes struggle, for personal and universal peace.

John Philip Sousa is credited with composing nearly 135 marches during his lifetime. While only a small handful of a dozen or so are performed regularly, many of Sousa’s lesser-known marches offer audiences and performing musicians a glimpse into this important genre in the history of wind band repertoire. *The Crusader March* (1888) is one such lesser-known Sousa march which stands in the shadow of one of his most popular and well-known marches of the same year, *Semper Fidelis*. Long referred to as “The March King,” Sousa was hardly a composer of marches exclusively. During his lifetime, Sousa used marches much like we are today as a brief musical change of pace. A Sousa concert had lots of variety in style and character including operetta, symphonic transcriptions, arrangements of popular songs, and the featuring of virtuosic soloists. While his concerts would nearly always include one of his newest marches, he would insert several marches unannounced as encore selections to keep his audiences on their feet applauding and begging for more. The United States Marine Band “The President’s Own” has updated scores and parts free for download of every Sousa march on their website as a tribute to their seventeenth commander, John Philip Sousa, who led the band from 1880-1892. There you can find parts and scores to Sousa’s greatest hits and more obscure marches like this one.



Gala Flagello earned her Bachelor of Music in composition from The Hartt School, and her Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in composition from the University of Michigan, where she was awarded the Dorothy Greenwald Graduate Fellowship. *Love & Nature* was commissioned by a consortium of wind bands led by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and explores how love prevails through cosmic lore, social movements, and mercurial mythos. Each of the work's three movements connects a different instrumental sound world to the concepts of earth, air, and fire, depicting a blossoming of kindness and hope for the future of our planet. The first movement,

*Flower Power*, is inspired by the titular social movement of the 1960-1970s and sonically critiques the juxtaposition of fragility and strength, beauty and utility, and nonviolence and force. *Flower Power* reflects the ethos of Marc Riboud’s iconic photograph *The Ultimate Confrontation: The Flower and the Bayonet* (1967) and incorporates a musical Easter egg – a countermelody for counterculture. The second movement, *Star-Crossed*, summons the hope, whimsy, and longing of its ill-fated protagonists through celestial textures and luminous scoring. The third and final movement, *Slow Burn*, explores both versions of the titular literary trope – romantic and anger-fueled – through the arboraceous lens of controlled fire, an originally indigenous practice that mitigates the drought-driven effects of climate change. *Slow Burn* foregrounds bright and wooden sounds to pay homage to our forests and the necessity of ecological restoration.

– program notes by the composer

***Net Luck Soaring*** was commissioned by the Leander High School (Texas) Symphonic Winds and band parents for their beloved friend Noppanut Lucksanawishien (Net Luck). Net was a clarinetist and percussionist in the band whose short life touched many. The composer, Joni Greene, was able to meet Net Luck and to sit next to him at the premiere of the work in 2011. In the score notes, she describes Net as caring, kind, compassionate, and a friend to all. Imagery of a carefree bird dipping and diving in and out of the clouds inspired Greene musically in honoring Net.

Dennis Llinás is a Cuban-Colombian conductor and composer. He currently is the Director of Bands at The University of Oregon where he conducts the wind ensemble, teaches graduate and undergraduate conducting, and oversees the band area. A native of Hialeah, Florida, Dennis studied at Florida International University and The University of Texas. He is an active clinician nationally and internationally – conducting in Colombia, Austria, and throughout the US, including the Dallas Winds and the West Point Band. He has presented sessions at The Midwest Clinic, WASBE, TMEA (Texas), FMEA, and CBDNA. His compositions and arrangements have been widely performed with recordings by Mark Hetzler and the University of Texas at El Paso Wind Ensemble. He has had performances by the Dallas Winds, The United States Air Force Band, The United States Navy Band, USAF Band of the Golden West, Cedar Park Winds, Brooklyn Wind Symphony, and The University of Texas Wind Ensemble to name a few. His works have been performed at prestigious venues such as The Midwest Clinic, Music for All National Concert Band Festival, Texas Music Educators Conference, and the American Bandmasters Association Conference. In the world of the marching arts, Llinás arranges for many high school bands and universities throughout the US including Louisiana State University, The University of Texas, Penn State University, University of South Florida, The University of Arkansas, The University of Tennessee, and the University of Texas at El Paso. ***Cajon's Reverb*** is one of several compositions that include song, dance, rhythm, and groove from the composer's Cuban-Colombian heritage.

### About the Conductor

**Ron Gerhardstein** is the Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at Pacific Lutheran University. Dr. Gerhardstein has enjoyed a long career as a music educator in public school and collegiate settings. At PLU, he directs the Wind Ensemble and he teaches coursework in the music education curriculum, including: Band Repertoire and Rehearsal, Woodwind Labs I/II, Instrumental Conducting, and PLUS 100: Transitions to PLU. Dr. Gerhardstein also serves as the manager and director of the PLU-NW High School Honor Bands and the PLU Band Invitational.

Dr. Gerhardstein earned a Ph.D. in music education from Temple University where he studied with Edwin Gordon and Beth Bolton. He also attended the University of Idaho, earning a Bachelor of Music Education and a Masters of Music (saxophone performance) studying with Robert Miller.

Dr. Gerhardstein is a frequent workshop clinician, guest conductor, and festival adjudicator. Prior to his appointment at PLU in 2014, he was the band director at West Valley High School in Yakima where his band program had a reputation for excellence in all areas (concert band, jazz band, and marching band). He has proudly served as an honor band conductor on several occasions, most notably the 2019 APAC Honor Band in Kobe, Japan, and the 2017 WMEA Junior All-State "Rainier" Band.

A passionate advocate for music education, Ron is an active member of WMEA, having served a term as the WMEA President from 2022-2024. His scholarly work has been published in the *Voice of WMEA*, *Teaching Music*, *The Instrumentalist*, and the series *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band*. In April of 2026, he presented research on the Pacific Northwest Performance Tours of the Sousa Band (1896-1927) at the Sousa Research Symposium at South Dakota State University.

Dr. Gerhardstein makes his home in Tacoma with his wife, Jerilyn, an elementary teacher librarian in the Bethel School District.

## 2026-2027 Pacific Lutheran University Wind Ensemble

### **Flute**

Heta Honanie\*  
Iris Lee  
Mande Mejia  
Michelle Owen  
Aniella Mutton  
Annalise Sackreiter\*

### **Oboe/English Horn**

Gabrielle Guerrero  
Jayden White\*

### **Bassoon**

Aliah Bragg  
Syd Thayer-O'Brien\*  
Rameses Unat-Almanza

### **Clarinet**

Meaghan Austin\*  
Madeleine Day  
Cayman Huff  
Bethani Juarez  
Alena Kwon  
Angel Rodriguez Gil

### **Bass Clarinet**

Abigail Caprye

### **Alto Sax**

Conor Beach\*  
Lucas Chabaud

### **Tenor Sax**

Lawrence Balajadia

### **Baritone Sax**

Steven Blankenship

### **Horn**

Cameron Holden  
Jaysen Frias Moreno  
Micaiah Tinkler\*  
Ella Wagner

### **Trumpet**

Dani Ballard  
Allison Howes\*\*  
Logan Johnson  
Justin Mendoza\*  
Ellie Norris  
Elizabeth Williams

### **Trombone**

Max Minjares\*  
Xander Pitruzella  
Jaden Pulido-Hughes  
Dylan Ryan

### **Euphonium**

Olivia Ardon  
Josh Green\*

### **Tuba**

Preston Hill  
Casey Westendorf

### **Percussion**

Ben Hegge\*  
Logan Keogh  
Wu-Yin Lu  
Ethan Ocken  
Joey Perez  
Ronin Schoolcraft

### **Piano**

Iris Lee

### **Harp**

Angie Kong©

\* Section Leader

\*\* Wind Ensemble President

© Community Member

## SEPTEMBER

- 13 Sunday, 3pm**  
Faculty Recital: Erik Steighner, Saxophone & Oksana Ejokina,  
Piano, free admission
- 20 Sunday, 12pm**  
Faculty Recital: Vianna & Trindade, Brazilian Jazz Duo. Jennie Lee  
Hansen Recital Hall, free admission
- 20 Sunday, 3pm**  
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Christa Rakich, Organist

## OCTOBER

- 4 Sunday, 5pm**  
Evelina Bozhko, Piano – Forestine Wise Monsen Memorial  
Scholarship Recital, free admission
- 7 Wednesday, 7:30pm**  
Guest Artist Lecture Recital: Alejandro Cremaschi, Piano, free  
admission
- 11 Sunday, 3pm**  
University Wind Ensemble
- 15 Thursday, 1:45pm**  
Jessica Dodge-Overstreet Saxophone Masterclass. Mary Baker  
Russell Music Center Room 334, free admission
- 15 Thursday, 7:30pm**  
Guest Artist Recital: Jessica Dodge-Overstreet, Saxophone, free  
admission
- 18 Sunday, 3pm**  
South Sound Saxophone Ensemble, free admission
- 18 Sunday, 7:30pm**  
Faculty Recital: Craig Rine, Clarinet, free admission
- 19 Monday, 7:30pm**  
University Jazz Ensemble: Miles Davis Centennial. Eastvold  
Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 20 Tuesday, 7:30pm**  
Fall Festival of Choirs
- 25 Sunday, 2pm**  
Choir of the West Centennial Celebration
- 27 Tuesday, 7:30pm**  
University Symphony Orchestra
- 29 Thursday, 1:30pm**  
Emely Phelps Piano Masterclass, free admission
- 29 Thursday, 7:30pm**  
Guest Artist Recital: Emely Phelps, Piano, free admission
- 30 Friday, 12pm**  
Orchestra Festival concert, free admission
- 31 Saturday**  
Athena Music & Leadership Summit, Mary Baker Russell Music  
Center

## NOVEMBER

- 1 Sunday, 3pm**  
Angela Meade Vocal Competition, free admission
- 3 Tuesday, 7:30pm**  
Keyboard Students Recital, free admission
- 8 Sunday, 3pm**  
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Justin J. Murphy-Mancini and  
Friends
- 11 Wednesday, 7:30pm**  
Early Music Concert, free admission
- 14 Saturday, 3pm**  
Woodwind Students Recital, free admission
- 14 Saturday, 4:30pm**  
Brass Students Recital, free admission
- 14 Saturday, 6:30pm**  
Tracy Doyle Flute Masterclass. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free  
admission
- 15 Sunday, 3pm**  
University Wind Ensemble

## NOVEMBER, Cont.

- 17 Tuesday, 7:30pm**  
University Concert Band
- 18 Wednesday, 7:30pm**  
Percussion Ensemble, free admission
- 20-21 Friday-Saturday, 7:30pm**  
Opera Scenes. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 21 Saturday, 3pm**  
Steel Band, free admission
- 22 Sunday, 3pm**  
Choral Union
- 22 Sunday, 7:30pm**  
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission
- 23 Monday, 7:30pm**  
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille  
Phillips Center
- 24 Tuesday, 7:30pm**  
Mariachi del Pacifico. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips  
Center, free admission

## DECEMBER

### *Light Beyond Shadow, A PLU Christmas Concert*

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, November 4

Friday, December 4, at 7:30pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

Saturday, December 5, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

Saturday, December 5, at 7:30pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

Sunday, December 6, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall

Monday, December 7, at 7:30pm - Benaroya Hall, Seattle

- 1 Tuesday, 6pm**  
Saxophone Quartets & Jazz Combos. The Cave, Anderson  
University Center, free admission
- 2 Wednesday, 7:30pm**  
Piano Ensemble, free admission
- 8 Tuesday, 6pm**  
Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 8 Tuesday, 7:30pm**  
String Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 9 Wednesday, 7:30pm**  
Let Your Heart Be Light, featuring University Singers, Knights  
Chorus, and PLU Ringers
- 10 Thursday, 7:30pm**  
Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission
- 13 Sunday, 3pm**  
Composers Forum, free admission

## JANUARY

- 9 Saturday, 4:30 and 6:30pm**  
Northwest High School Honor Band, free admission
- 12 Tuesday, 12:30pm**  
TBDetermined!, free admission
- 17 Sunday, 6pm**  
PLU Honor Orchestra for Strings, free admission
- 28-30 Thursday-Saturday, 7:30pm and 31 Sunday, 2pm**  
*The Magic Flute* by W. A. Mozart. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille  
Phillips Center

To view more detailed event information, please visit:

[www.plu.edu/music/calendar](http://www.plu.edu/music/calendar) (Updated September 17, 2026)