

# Wind Ensemble and Concert Band



## WHY PLU MUSIC?

- A comprehensive music program where all are welcome and appreciated
- Opportunities to perform, study, and tour regionally and internationally
- Acquire a strong musical foundation that sets you up for future success as a performer, educator, or hobbyist
- Access to music scholarships for ALL regardless of your academic major!

We are fortunate to have two band ensembles at PLU, the PLU Wind Ensemble and the University Concert Band. Both ensembles are open to anyone regardless of major. Placements in the Wind Ensemble are by audition only. The Wind Ensemble has an active concert schedule with on campus performances each semester and for our outreach events – the PLU NW Honor Band and Band Invitational.

**There is a place for everyone in the PLU Bands!**



## CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

- Woodwind and Brass Ensembles
- Percussion Ensemble
- Steel Band
- Mariachi Club

## TOUR AND PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Wind Ensemble also keeps an active tour schedule, including travel and performances abroad. Recent tours include featured performances at the CBDNA convention in Sonoma, CA and international tours to Spain and Portugal (2017) and Ireland (2023). Our next PLU instrumental music international tour is scheduled for 2027.

# Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion



## DEGREES

- Performance
- Music Education
- Composition
- Music Minor



## FACULTY

Jennifer Rhyne, Flute  
Craig Rine, Clarinet  
Shelly Myers, Oboe  
Francine Peterson, Bassoon  
Erik Steighner, Saxophone  
Zachary Lyman, Trumpet  
Edward Castro, Trumpet  
Danielle Lemieux, Horn  
Ryan Wagner, Trombone  
Jason Gilliam, Euphonium  
Andy Abel, Tuba  
Miho Takekawa, Percussion

## WORLD CLASS STUDIO FACULTY

We are fortunate to have world-class instrumental faculty who make PLU their musical home as teachers, performers, and scholars. Our faculty work closely with their students to support and encourage musical growth and to inspire them to achieve their dreams in the musical arts. All of our PLU instrumental faculty participate in the vibrant arts scene of the Pacific Northwest as performers and artists.

### CONDUCTOR, WIND ENSEMBLE

Dr. Ron Gerhardstein, Director of Band Studies

Ron Gerhardstein is the newly appointment Director of Band Studies at PLU. He conducts the PLU Wind Ensemble and teaches select courses in the instrumental music education sequence as well as general courses in the music department. He has extensive experience teaching music in public schools and serving as a workshop clinician, adjudicator, and guest conductor. Dr. Gerhardstein is passionate about the transformative nature of music education and he is a strong advocate for students looking to further their musical careers as performers, future educators, or simply as a vocational activity.

### CONDUCTOR, CONCERT BAND

Matt Vegh, PLU Concert Band, Conductor

Matt Vegh graduated from PLU with a Bachelor's in music education and earned a Master's in wind band conducting from Central Washington University. He currently teaches at Steilacoom High School, directing multiple bands and ensembles, achieving superior ratings at festivals. His primary instrument is saxophone, and he has performed with various groups in the Pacific Northwest, studying with accomplished musicians. In addition to his full-time role, Matt holds a part-time position with PLU Music, where he engages with students as a lecturer and conductor.

**Learn more at [plu.edu/music](https://plu.edu/music)**

Dr. Ron Gerhardstein, Director of Bands  
[gerharrc@plu.edu](mailto:gerharrc@plu.edu) • (253) 535-7609