

# Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor  
Eric Brewer, graduate conductor

## Flight!

---

Sunday, December 3, 2023 • 2:00pm

Lyell B. Clay Concert Theatre

College of Creative Arts

School of Music



# PROGRAM

---

## WVU Wind Symphony

Scott C. Tobias, conductor

JACK STAMP  
(b. 1954)

### ***Cloudsplitter Fanfare***

KEITH GATES  
(1948-2007)

### ***Icarus and Daedalus***

ROGER CICHY  
(b. 1956)

### ***First Flights***

I. MORNING'S COLD / A DAY FOR HISTORY

II. THE KITTYHAWK "FLYER"

III. "SUCCESS FOUR FLIGHTS...."

ROBERT JAGER  
(b. 1939)

### ***Lord, Guard and Guide***

*Eric Brewer, graduate conductor*

TIMOTHY MAHR  
(b. 1956)

### ***Into the Air!***

## Cloudsplitter Fanfare / Jack Stamp (b. 1954)

**C**loudsplitter Fanfare was commissioned by the United States Air Force Band, Colonel Lowell E. Graham, Commander and Conductor, and premiered in July of 1999 at the Twelfth International World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles Conference in San Luis Obispo, California. The work is dedicated to American composer Richard Danielpour. I had the opportunity to study briefly with this incredible musician and teacher and more recently attend rehearsals and performances of several of his orchestral premieres. This work explores aspects studied in our lessons, further exploration of dissonance, octatonic scale sets, and new approaches to rhythmic ostinatos.

- Jack Stamp

## Icarus and Daedalus / Keith Gates (1948-2007)

**I**carus and Daedalus was commissioned by the United States Air Force Band of Flight in 1992 and received its world premiere(s) at the Indiana and Ohio Music Educators Association Conferences in Indianapolis, Indiana, and Cincinnati, Ohio, in January 1993.

The Greek mythological character, Daedalus, a descendent of Erechtheus, King of Athens, was the world's first aviator. He was also the most ingenious artist and inventor of the age, responsible for developing the axe, wedge, wimble, level, sails for ships, and many other mechanical instruments. According to Greek legend, Talos, Daedalus' nephew, promised to be as ingenious an inventor as his uncle so Daedalus killed him. Fearing for his own life, Daedalus fled Athens with his son, Icarus, and settled in Crete. There, Daedalus was ordered by King Minos to build the famous labyrinth. Later imprisoned in the labyrinth by the King, Daedalus was able to escape the island by making a set of wings out of wax and feathers for himself and his son. Icarus, however, flew too near the sun, the wax joints on his wings melted, and he fell into the (Icarian) sea, named after him. Daedalus arrived safely, but sorrowfully, in Sicily.

(note by the publisher)

## First Flights / Roger Cichy (b. 1956)

**D**ecember 17, 1903, a most important day in history, is the subject of composer Roger Cichy's *First Flights*. The work is a musical portrait of the events occurring as humankind broke the bonds of the earth and took to the air for the first time in powered flight. On a sandy beach on the North Carolina coastline with Orville Wright piloting the Kittyhawk "Flyer," Wilbur Wright, along with five others, witnessed the extraordinary event that would impact the world from that day on.

The first two movements of *First Flights* can be considered impressionistic in nature, creating images of their titles. "Morning's Cold / A Day for History" represents the conditions of things as daylight broke on December 17, 1903. From the morning's icy cold conditions to the Wright Brothers' state of mind after an unsuccessful attempt a few days earlier, this movement builds in optimism and hope as the two brothers put their years of experimentation on the line. The image of the Kittyhawk "Flyer" is portrayed in the second movement. One can only guess what it would have been like when the hangar door swung open and the first bit of daylight appeared on the fabric wings of a machine that would start humankind on the road to powered flight. This movement also serves as a reflection of the many accomplishments that resulted in the creation of the Kittyhawk "Flyer."

The final movement is highly programmatic and musically portrays the events of the first flights. A summary of these events is as follows: The "Flyer" is pulled out of the hangar and prepared for another attempt. Four men and a teenager arrive to help with the flight. The men help with

# PROGRAM NOTES

---

the last minute preparations and instructions are given to Mr. Daniels by Orville to operate a box camera, which is necessary to prove the flight if it is successful. The propellers are spun, the engine sputters and churns, and Orville climbs into the craft for the attempt. Amongst the noise, smoke, and vibrations, Orville nervously goes through a control check and finally pulls the lever that releases the restraining rope. The “Flyer” rolls down the track and triumphantly becomes airborne. Along with the mood of celebration and jubilation, a moment of reflection occurs. The Wright Brothers made four flights that day. Orville alternated with Wilbur as pilot. After the final flight, the men were standing around conversing among themselves when a strong gust of wind suddenly appeared, took the “Flyer” and destroyed it. Despite the later event, the triumph of success and accomplishment make December 17, 1903, a day to remember. The title of the final movement, “Success four flights...” comes from the first sentence of a telegram that the Wright Brothers sent to inform their father of their success.

(note by the publisher)

## **Lord, Guard and Guide** / *Robert Jager (b. 1939)*

**L**ord, Guard and Guide (*The Men Who Fly*) was commissioned by the Military Airlift Command Band, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. Lt. Colonel Bruce Gilkes was the Commander/Conductor of the MAC Band at the time of commissioning.

The hymn “Quebec” forms the basis for this composition. This melody is the source of the music for the United States Air Force hymn, “Lord, Guard and Guide.” Using fragments of the hymn-tune, the composition begins with gradually rising lines as the music begins to take flight. This is followed by soaring lines and harmonies that attempt to describe the feelings of wonder associated with being free from the earth. A quiet interlude, primarily for solo woodwinds and percussion, portrays the serenity of life among the clouds. Culminating the work are two settings of the hymn-tune, first for the woodwinds alone, and then for the low woodwinds and brass in combination. A short coda brings back fragments from the “soaring theme” and acts as an amen to the composition.

(note by the publisher)

## **Into the Air!** / *Timothy Mahr (b. 1956)*

**T**he overture *Into the Air!* was commissioned by the United States Air Force Band, Colonel Lowell Graham, conductor. The composition was completed in September 1998 and premiered by the United States Air Force Band on July 11, 1999. The premiere took place during the finale concert of the 9th International World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles Conference.

As I began working on this composition, I found myself often thinking about the unselfish courage exhibited by the members of the United States Air Force, as well as the absolute thrill it is to be able to fly. Hopefully the music embodies these noble qualities of character and experience.

- Timothy Mahr

# PERSONNEL

---

## Flute

**Abigail DeKam**

*Platte, SD - Music Performance (BM)*

**Shaylee Groves**

*Weirton, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Juniper Parker**

*Georgetown, KY - Music Performance (MM)*

**José Fernando Ramírez-Macías\***

*Medellin, Colombia - Music Performance (DMA)*

## Oboe

**Geoffrey Madge\***

*Pittsburgh, PA - Music Performance (BM)*

**Malik Nowlin**

*Rustburg, VA - Music Performance (MM)*

## Bassoon

**Adam Ferguson**

*Charleston, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Eli Hall\***

*Left Hand, WV - Music Performance (BM)*

## Clarinet

**Natalie Alfera**

*New Castle, PA - Music Education (BM)*

**Magaret Benison**

*Morgantown, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Syndi Miller\***

*Warren, PA - Music Performance (MM)*

**Tiara Simon**

*Dallas, TX - Music (BA)*

**Lauren Sperry**

*Uniontown, PA - Music Education (BM)*

**Morgan Stratton**

*Dover, DE - Music Education (BM)*

## Bass Clarinet

**Kaylee Coleman**

*Buffalo, WV - Music Education (BM)*

## Alto Saxophone

**Nicky Keefover**

*Fairmont, WV - Music Performance (BM)*

**Alexis Mason\***

*Waynesburg, PA - Music Performance (BM)*

## Tenor Saxophone

**David Gutmann**

*Morgantown, WV - Music Education (BM)*

## Baritone Saxophone

**Dillon Johnson**

*Winfield, WV - Music Education (BM)*

## Horn

**Collin Briggs**

*Martins Ferry, OH - Multidisciplinary Studies (BA)*

**Adam Hatcher**

*Williamstown, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Katrina Mullen**

*San Antonio, TX - Music Education (BM) &  
Music Composition (BM)*

**Jacob Schear\***

*Leesburg, VA - Music Performance (BM)*

## Trumpet

**Lukas Bojt**

*Topton, PA - Economics (BS)*

**Samara Chamberlain**

*Charleston, WV - Music (BA)*

**Simon Cheuvront**

*Clarksburg, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Mark Humbert\***

*Pittsburgh, PA - Music Education (BM)*

**Garrett Materne**

*Buckhannon, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Philip Wilfong**

*Red House, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Joshua Lugo Zambrano**

*Chantilly, VA - Music Performance (BM)*

## Trombone

**Jakob Baker\***

*Philippi, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Ryan Hogue**

*Dunbar, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Ian McIntyre**

*Shinnston, WV - Music Business & Industry (BA)*

## Bass Trombone

**Olivia Nixon**

*Canonsburg, PA - Music Education (BM)*

## Euphonium

**Cameron Cornwall**

*Leesburg, VA - Music Business & Industry (BA)*

**Isaac Neff**

*Paden City, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Zachary Tunick\***

*Fairfax, VA - Music Education (BM)*

## Tuba

**Isaac Nazelrodt**

*Petersburg, WV - Music Education (BM)*

**Evan Turner\***

*Hagerstown, MD - Music Education (BM)*

# PERSONNEL (cont.)

## Percussion

- Dylan Gore**  
*Salisbury, MD - Music Education (BM)*
- Jonah Henthorne**  
*Wheeling, WV - Music Education (BM)*
- George Kester**  
*Middlebourne, WV - Music Education (BM)*
- Christopher Little\***  
*Bristow, VA - Music Performance (BM)*
- Braden Lloyd**  
*Bethel Park, PA - Music Education (BM)*
- Brody Minnick**  
*Sterling, VA - Music Business & Industry (BA)*
- Brandon Saghy**  
*Uniontown, PA - Music Education (BM)*
- Paige Wallace**  
*Wheeling, WV - Music (BA)*

## Piano

- Ryan McWilliams**  
*Perryopolis, PA - Music Education (BM)*
- Graham Sterling**  
*Masontown, PA - Collaborative Piano (MM)*

## Harp

- Rose Tobery**  
*Hagerstown, MD - Engineering (BS)*

\* - Principal



**Scott C. Tobias** currently holds the position of Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at West Virginia University where his responsibilities include conducting the WVU Wind Symphony, teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting, and providing administrative leadership for the WVU Bands program.

Dr. Tobias presently serves as the Immediate Past President of the Big 12 Band Directors Association and is a Past President of the National Band Association. He currently serves as Executive Secretary of the National Band Association. In 2022, Dr. Tobias was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association. Additional professional affiliations include Phi Beta Mu, College Band Directors National Association, National Association for Music Education, West Virginia Music Educators Association, Pi Kappa Lambda, Kappa Kappa Psi, Tau Beta Sigma, Sigma Alpha Iota, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.



# FACULTY AND STAFF

---



## BANDS FACULTY & STAFF

**Scott C. Tobias**  
*Director of Bands*

**Cheldon R. Williams**  
*Associate Director of Bands*

**Juniper Parker**  
*Graduate Assistant*

**Nate Penven**  
*Graduate Assistant*

**Mallory Williams**  
*Graduate Assistant*

**Brandon Lojewski**  
*Program Assistant*

**Don Wilcox**  
*Director of Bands Emeritus*

## STUDIO FACULTY

**Nina Assimakopoulos**  
*Flute*

**Cynthia Anderson**  
*Oboe*

**Andy Sledge**  
*Bassoon*

**John Weigand**  
*Clarinet*

**Jeffery Siegfried**  
*Saxophone*

**Robert Sears**  
*Trumpet*

**Albert Houde**  
*Horn*

**Hakeem Bilal**  
*Trombone*

**Carson McTeer**  
*Euphonium/Tuba*

**George Willis**  
*Percussion*

**Lucy Mauro**  
*Piano*

**Christine Mazza**  
*Harp*

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

---

## WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

E. Gordon Gee .....President  
Marianne Reed .....Vice-President & Provost  
Keith Jackson.....Dean, College of Creative Arts  
Mikylah Myers.....Associate Dean, College of Creative Arts  
Sandra Schwartz.....Associate Dean, College of Creative Arts  
Kelly Burke .....Director, School of Music

## CREATIVE ARTS CENTER

Jamie Whoolery.....Coordinator of Production Services & Facilities  
Martin Chitum.....Facilities Coordinator  
Peter McCumber .....Academic Lab Manager  
Michael McGinley .....Academic Lab Manager  
Jason Zeh .....Academic Lab Manager

## UPCOMING WVU BANDS EVENTS

WVU Honor Bands Clinic.....February 8-10  
Wind Symphony Concert.....February 9, 7:30 pm  
Symphonic Band Concert .....February 20, 7:30 pm  
Wind Symphony Concert.....February 26, 7:30 pm

## WVU BANDS OFFICE

Canady Creative Arts Center, Suite 2101  
1436 Evansdale Drive  
Morgantown, WV 26506  
304-293-3097

**[bands.wvu.edu](http://bands.wvu.edu)**