



SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026, 2:00 PM
LESHER CENTER FOR THE ARTS, WALNUT CREEK, CA

SOUTHERN HARMONY

CONTRA COSTA WIND SYMPHONY – DR. LUIS ZÚÑIGA, DIRECTOR

An Outdoor Overture.....Aaron Copland

Three Sketches for Winds.....Clare Grundman
Carousel - Charade - Callithump

Southern Harmony.....Donald Grantham
I. The Midnight Cry - II. Wondrous Love - III. Exhilaration - IV. The Soldier's Return

INTERMISSION

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL, SAN RAMON, CA – BOB GRIGAS, DIRECTOR

Appalachian Morning.....Robert Sheldon

Cajun Folk Songs.....Frank Ticheli
I. La Belle et le Capitaine - II. Belle

COMBINED ENSEMBLES

American Overture.....Joseph Willcox Jenkins

Cover Artist: Jack Easby ■ ◆ ● Program: Kimberly Paternoster

Aaron Copland composed **An Outdoor Overture** for an entirely indoor occasion: a concert by the orchestra of the High School of Music and Art in New York City on December 16, 1938. The school's conductor, Alexander Richter, was in the process of launching a campaign to foster the writing of "American music for American youth," and the composer found the invitation to write such a work "irresistible" (all the more, perhaps, because his music was undergoing a stylistic change). *An Outdoor Overture* was a milestone in confirming this change, since it was written for young people to play, and the vague criteria of accessibility therefore mattered more to Copland than it had before. This change proved crucial as the works of this period, including *Appalachian Spring* and *Rodeo*, and culminating in the *Third Symphony* of 1946, have remained his best-loved, most-performed scores. This arrangement was made by Copland himself - at the publisher's suggestion - several years after its composition. The "outdoor" in the title stems from the style of spacious chordal writing, implying that very high and very low sonorities are present throughout.



Three Sketches for Winds by Clare Grundman (1969) is a three-movement suite that showcases the color, character, and expressive range of the wind ensemble through sharply contrasting musical scenes. Grundman, an important American composer of band literature, was known for clear craftsmanship, vivid imagery, and accessible yet engaging writing for winds. The opening movement, **Carousel**, captures the bright, spinning energy of a festive fairground ride through lively rhythms, swirling melodic figures, and sparkling instrumental color. The second movement, **Charade**, provides contrast with a more playful and mysterious character, unfolding like a musical puzzle as motives pass between sections with wit and subtle humor. The final movement, **Callithump**, takes its name from a boisterous parade band and closes the work with bold fanfares, driving rhythms, and exuberant full-ensemble writing. Together, the three movements form a spirited and imaginative miniature suite that highlights both the technical strengths and expressive possibilities of the wind band.



In 1835, William "Singin' Billy" Walker's songbook **Southern Harmony** was first published. This remarkable collection contains, according to its title page, "a choice collection of tunes, hymns, psalms, odes and anthems; selected from the most eminent authors in the United States." In fact, few of the numbers in the book are identified as the work of a particular composer. Many are folk songs (provided with religious texts), others are traditional sacred tunes, while some are revival songs that were widely known and sung throughout the South. The book was immensely popular, selling an amazing 600,000 copies before the Civil War, and was commonly stocked "along with groceries and tobacco" in general stores across the American frontier. From 1884 until World War II, an annual all-day mass performance of selections from *Southern Harmony*, called the "Benton Big Singing", was held on the Benton,

Kentucky, courthouse lawn. The event drew participants from Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri and Illinois.

The music of *Southern Harmony* has a somewhat exotic sound to modern audiences. The tunes often use modal or pentatonic rather than major or minor scales. The harmony is even more out of the ordinary, employing chord positions, voice leading and progressions that are far removed from the European music that dominated concert halls at the time. These harmonizations were dismissed as crude and primitive when they first appeared. Now they are regarded as inventive, unique, and powerfully representative of the American character.

In his use of several tunes from *Southern Harmony*, the composer has attempted to preserve the flavor of the original vocal works in a setting that fully realizes the potential of the wind ensemble and the individual character of each song.

- Program notes by the composer



Robert Sheldon's ***Appalachian Morning*** (2008) is a lyrical and expressive work that captures the quiet beauty of sunrise in the Appalachian Mountains, honoring the heritage of Scottish and Irish settlers who shaped the region. Commissioned by the Psi Chapter of Phi Beta Mu for young musicians in Kentucky, the piece unfolds like a peaceful walk through the woods near the Cumberland Gap. Warm, flowing melodies and gentle dynamic contrasts create an atmosphere that is reflective and serene, gradually expanding into more soaring, full-ensemble moments before returning to stillness. With its expressive phrasing and featured solo lines, *Appalachian Morning* celebrates both the natural landscape and the enduring musical traditions of Appalachia.



Cajun Folk Songs, composed by Frank Ticheli, is a tribute to the enduring spirit and musical heritage of the Cajun people—descendants of French Acadians who were expelled from Nova Scotia in 1755 and resettled in south Louisiana. Drawing from field recordings collected by folklorists Alan and John Lomax in 1934, the work preserves the expressive simplicity and emotional depth of traditional Cajun melodies. Ticheli's setting features two contrasting songs: *La Belle et le Capitaine*, with its fluid Dorian melody and shifting meters, tells of a young girl who feigns death to escape a captain's advances, while *Belle* recounts the sorrowful journey of a man returning from Texas to find his beloved gravely ill. Through varied textures, countermelodies, and sensitive orchestration, Ticheli honors a musical tradition shaped by resilience, storytelling, and cultural identity, ensuring its voice continues to resonate with new generations.



American Overture by Joseph Willcox Jenkins was composed in 1953 when the young composer was serving as an arranger with the United States Army Field Band, and it quickly became his most widely performed work for concert band. Written as a bright, energetic opener, the piece captures an unmistakably American spirit through bold fanfares, driving rhythms, and colorful scoring, even though it does not quote actual folk tunes. The overture is especially known for its prominent and technically demanding horn parts, along with lively interplay among the woodwinds and brass. Originally tailored to the Army Field Band's expanded instrumentation and later revised for broader ensemble use, *American Overture* remains a staple of wind band repertoire, valued for its vitality, clarity of form, and audience-pleasing exuberance.

■◆● ABOUT SHAPE NOTES ■◆●

You will see on the front cover of this program, the border is a set of shapes - squares, diamonds, circles and triangles. These are **shape notes**. Shape notes are a system of musical notation that uses differently shaped noteheads to help singers quickly identify pitches and sing in harmony without extensive formal training. Developed in the early 19th century and widely used in tunebooks like *The Sacred Harp*, shape-note singing became especially rooted in the American South, where community singing conventions preserved a powerful, participatory tradition of rural sacred music that continues today.



Luis Zúñiga is a conductor, saxophonist, and educator. He attended the National Conservatory in his native Panama. After graduating from high school, Zúñiga received degrees in audio engineering, MIDI production, and performance from Shoreline Community College in Seattle. In addition, he completed his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Miami, Florida; a Master of Musical Arts degree in saxophone performance at UCLA; and a master's degree in conducting from California State University, Los Angeles. In 2010, during his graduate research, Zúñiga was a member of the world-renowned saxophone class of Jean-Yves Fourmeau in Paris. In 2011 he received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in saxophone performance and pedagogy from the University of Colorado, Boulder. Besides being a professional musician and educator, Zúñiga holds a college degree in automotive technology and enjoys car restoration and car racing.

CONTRA COSTA WIND SYMPHONY PERSONNEL

Flutes

Sarah Lombardo
 Jocelyne Gardner
 Laura Remington
 Lisa Maher *
 Lynn Tiemeyer
 Martha Rosenberg (Piccolo) *

Oboes

Tim Meals
 Ronald Kerst

Bassoons

Tim Machajewski *
 Lisa Gerbracht *

Saxophones

Eric Lim (Alto)
 Evan Zaitz (Alto)
 Robert Kaplan (Tenor)
 Andy La (Baritone)

Clarinets

Christy Bailes
 Brian Khoo
 Brinley Nearon
 Casey Jones (Contrabass)
 Christina Bowerman
 Dave Bellman
 Elisa Park
 Jude Watson (Alto)
 Karyn Weber (Bass)
 Kay Leong
 Kim Paternoster (Eb) *
 Megan Kravitz
 Rita Zigas-Brown *

Trumpets

Benjamin Loomer
 Krystel Segovia
 Steve Mullins
 Sue Leonardi
 Tony Ligouri

French Horns

Kalyn Jang
 Doug Thomas
 Lisa Bress
 Parker Hampson

Trombones

Hunter Richison
 Dean Leonard
 Larry Grabow (Bass)
 Thomas Judson

Euphoniums

Richard Concepcion

Tuba

Bill Bunyan

String Bass

Karl Hartmann

Percussion

Gordon Gore *
 Ben Bresler
 Brittany Patterson *
 Bob Grigas *
 Hudson Wisecarver
 Roberto Garcia-Leiva

Piano

Roberto Garcia-Leiva

Principal in Italics

* Board of Directors

Each section is listed in alphabetical order by first name except for the principal.



Bob Grigas has been immersed in music since 1997 and has worked as a music educator and freelance percussionist for over two decades. He has performed and recorded with numerous ensembles nationwide, including the Pacific Crest Drum and Bugle Corps, LA Jewish Symphony, Santa Monica Symphony, Bakersfield Symphony, Martha Graham Music Foundation, and Contra Costa Wind Symphony. His performance career has taken him to major venues such as Walt Disney Concert Hall, the John F. Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Capitol Records, and the Ford Amphitheater. Grigas has studied with many distinguished musicians, including John Magnussen, Alex Acuña, Swapan Chaudari, John Daversa, and Barry Harris. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree from California State University, Northridge, and a Master of World Percussion Performance from the California Institute of the Arts. He currently serves as Director of Bands at California High School in San Ramon.

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL PERSONNEL

Flutes

Rhema Wilson

Naomi Khoo

Cindy Li

Xiaolei Zhang

Saanvi Rathee

Oboe

Noor Gowra

Bassoon

Aishani Chhabra

Clarinets

Kate Shu

Allison Selleck

Sachit Guanthilake

Saxophones

Trevan Rosete (Alto)

Aditya Patra (Alto)

Izzie Tuy (Alto)

JD Cardinalli (Tenor)

Principal in Italics

Trumpets

Josh Mann

Ashwath Athreya

Eli Van Randwyk

French Horn

Aiko Yao

Trombone

Yasasri Chintapalli

Miriam Town

Tuba

Zailey Fogelman

Percussion

Kaleo Abadam

Luke Schulman

Shreya Sharma

Chitra Kuma Parvataraju

Akshay Mahendran

Lucas Chan

Ella Du

Amiia Lyons

Each section is listed in seating order.

THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful to our audience and patrons (you!) who support us through your attendance at our concerts. We particularly wish to thank those listed below who helped make tonight's concert possible.

CELESTIAL (\$2,000+)

In Memory of John Pangia,
Anonymous
Dean & Margaret Leshar
Foundation
Susan & Gordon Gore Living
Trust

TYPHOON (\$500-\$999)

Ben Turner
Kim Paternoster & David
Parker
Kalyn Jang & Ben Bresler
Loren Lewis & Elisa Park
Marilyn Raia
Rita Zigas-Brown
Tim Machajewski

CYCLONE (\$300-\$499)

Amanda Smith & Paul
Schneider
David J. Alltop
David & Ingrid Bellman
Michael Basta

TORNADO (\$100-\$249)

Allison Thomason
Andrea Pendrey
Eleanor Menegus
Judy Locker
Lisa Johnson

GALE (\$50-\$99)

Mary Catherine Kelly
Paula Ridley
Russell & Muriel Bowes
Viola Pena

BREEZE (\$25-\$49)

Patrick Doherty

GIFTS IN KIND

Back Forty Texas BBQ
Il Fornaio Italian Cuisine,
Walnut Creek
Lamorinda Music
Pizzalina Pizzeria & Taproom,
Walnut Creek
Sauced BBQ & Spirits
Steven's Printing, Inc.
Waters Moving & Storage
Wicked Code, Inc.



JOIN US AT OUR UPCOMING CONCERT



POSTCARDS FROM BROADWAY VOL. 2

Sunday, May 3, 2026

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm • Leshar Center for the Arts, Walnut Creek, CA

Experience the energy and drama of Broadway through iconic melodies, vibrant rhythms, and heartfelt ballads performed by a full wind ensemble. Celebrate the season's finale in style at the glorious Leshar Center for the Arts.

Buy tickets, join our newsletter, donate & learn more about the Contra Costa Wind Symphony at <https://ccwindsymphony.org>.





With heartfelt thanks

to the talented members of the
CCWS for your passion,
commitment and beautiful music.

Special gratitude to our MD and
conductor Luis Zúñiga whose
dedication and leadership
continue to inspire excellence and
elevate our ensemble.

Rita Zigas-Brown
President, CCWS / Clarinet



Wicked Code is proud to serve as the web development agency
for the Contra Costa Wind Symphony.

It's a true privilege to support this remarkable organization
both professionally and as the ensemble's Eb clarinetist.

With sincere gratitude to the musicians - and especially Luis -
for creating such a beautiful and soul-fulfilling
musical experience.

For more information, go to <https://wickedcode.com> or call 415.517.7183



*In Memory of
John W. Pangia*

Congratulations, Kaleo!

We are incredibly proud to celebrate your performance with the Contra Costa Wind Symphony. May this performance be one of many milestones in your growing musical journey, we can't wait to see where your talent and hard work take you next.

Love, Mom, Dad, Makoa & Hali'a



**Way to go Cal High Wind Ensemble!
Congratulations on your special performance!**

Amplitude IP[®]

TRADEMARK & COPYRIGHT LEGAL SERVICES

*Proud to have been registering and protecting
your company names, product and service names, logos
and other brands and marks for more than 25 years!*

**www.amplitudeip.com
(925) 230-8814**



The Chocolate Dozen proudly applauds CCWS and California High School for coming together as one powerful MEGABand! Your talent, dedication, and unity showcase the true spirit of American wind ensemble music. Bravo to every musician who made this collaboration unforgettable!

Lucas Chan...

The steps you are taking in your journey of music have been a marvel to witness!

We admire your hard work and dedication. Congratulations Son! We love you so much are more proud of you than you can ever imagine!



BACK FORTY TEXAS BBQ

Contra Costa Wind Symphony sends a hearty thank you to Back Forty Texas BBQ for their sponsorship of our March 2026 concert.

Back Forty Texas BBQ
100 Coggins Drive
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

<https://backforty.us>

Thank you to Sauced BBQ & Spirits for generously sponsoring the Contra Costa Wind Symphony's March concert and supporting live music in our community.



SAUCED

BBQ & Spirits

<https://saucedbbqandspirits.com>



mtdiablovillage.org

Aging • Better • Together



Mt. Diablo Village is a nonprofit organization that brings vitality and vibrancy to the aging population. Our programs focus on strengthening the health span as we age so that we may stay independent and age in place for as long as possible. Services and resources are also available for members in need.

Stay connected. Be supported. Join us.

Contact us at info@mtdiablovillage.org for more information.

To reach Ellen Osmundson, Founder, call 925-890-4276

Join us on our **Facebook Group Mt. Diablo Village Group** to learn more about us.

Mt. Diablo Village is an affiliate village of Diablo Valley Villages.

Our mailing address is P.O. Box 75, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.



Ellen Osmundson, Broker Associate

Senior Real Estate Specialist

DRE #: 01075397

Ellen Osmundson is a well loved realtor serving Walnut Creek and Central Contra County for over thirty years. As she and her clients continue to age, she saw a need to connect the aging population to instill joy and fun in their aging journey. She started Mt. Diablo Village to bring her vision to reality.

Plan—Plan your housing needs so that you will have a manageable living situation.

Action—Take appropriate action and meet good new friends.

Results—A joyful life with social connections and support.

Ellen believes that our health and strength are up to us to maintain. She also believes that “if you don’t use it, you’ll lose it”. Her biggest believe is that **Aging is Better Together**. She devoted her time and energy to bring Mt. Diablo Village to a reality for seniors to connect and continue to live life joyfully. Check out the ad above for more information.



Ellen’s Phone: (925) 890-4276

Ellen’s Email: Ellen.Osmundson@gmail.com

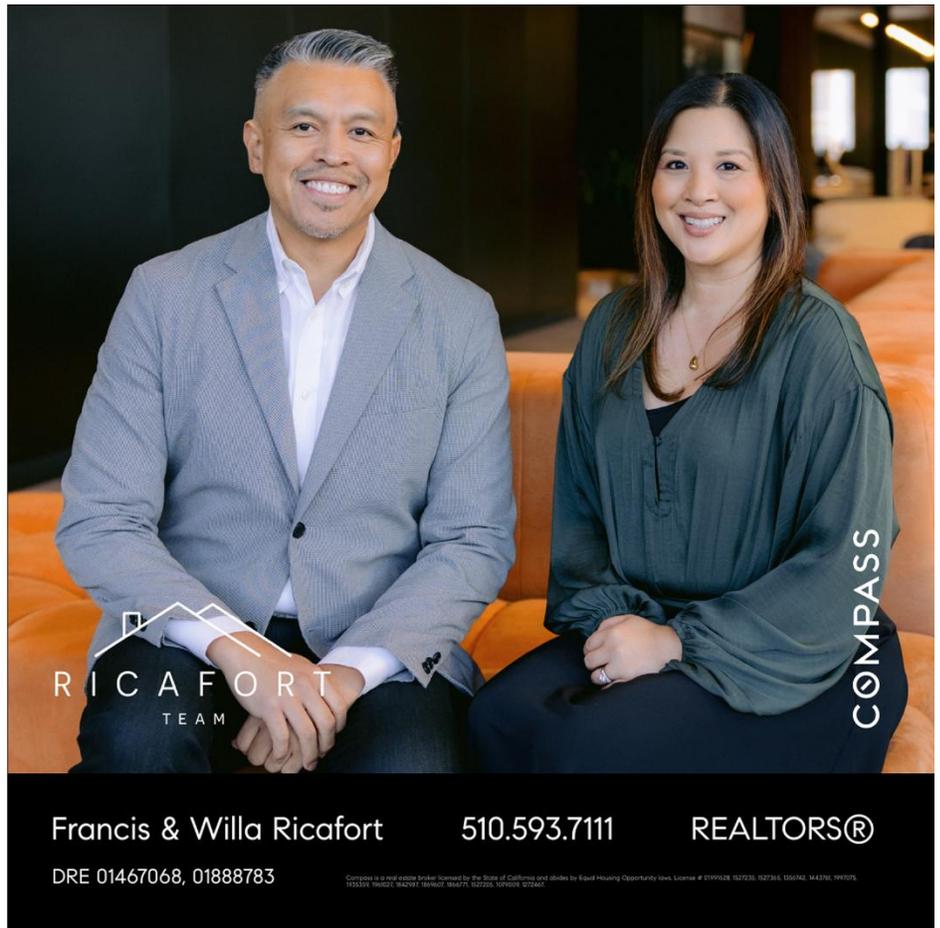
Ellen’s Website: www.EllenOsmundson.com

The Ricafort Team

proudly supports

Cal High Wind Ensemble

and your real estate dreams!



Francis & Willa Ricafort 510.593.7111 REALTORS®
DRE 01467068, 01888783

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, marital status, age, sex, sexual orientation, or disability. License # 01991028, 027230, 027363, 155162, 144376, 149705, 153376, 149322, 142491, 151667, 154275, 127226, 151908, 072667.



thank you!

A sincere thank you to Dr. Luis Zuñiga and the Contra Costa Wind Symphony for inviting our students to perform alongside you.



We are so grateful for the mentorship and support you have provided our young musicians.

We know they will carry this invaluable experience with them for years to come.

California High School Music

SAVE THE DATE

A Night of Jazz at the Lesher Center

May 20, 2026 • 7:00pm



Mt. Diablo Village (MDV) is hosting their first ever Fundraising Concert, presented by the Rossmoor Big Band, the best inter-generational jazz big band in the entire country.

**We hope you can join us!
Spread the word to your family, friends, and neighbors.**

You will be in for a treat and support Mt. Diablo Village at the same time.

Mt. Diablo Village offers fun programs and caring support, creating a vibrant, connected community where adults 55+ in Walnut Creek can thrive while aging in place.



www.mtdiablovillage.org • thebigbandofrossmoor.org





MEALS on WHEELS DIABLO REGION



DONATE



VOLUNTEER



ADVOCATE

Become part of the solution to end senior food insecurity and social isolation.

mowdiabloregion.org



More than a meal.

ADVERTISE IN OUR NEXT PROGRAM!

Reach an Engaged, Supportive Audience

Advertise in the Contra Costa Wind Symphony's concert program and connect your business or message with concertgoers who value community, culture, and excellence in the arts. Our programs are treasured keepsakes – read closely at concerts and taken home afterward – giving your ad extended visibility with an audience that includes local patrons, families, educators, and arts supporters. Join other sponsors in supporting live music in the Bay Area while enhancing your brand's presence in the community.

\$15 - quarter page ad

\$25 - half page ad

\$45 - full-page ad

Visit <https://ccwindsymphony.org/placead> to secure your space in the next program and be part of an unforgettable musical experience.

