OCTOBER 24, 2026

KALAMAZOO CONCERT BAND PRESENTS

AMERICA'S STORY *at* 250 *Years*

with

CHRIS BRADLEY

guest conductor & cornet soloist

and the

KALAMAZOO COMMUNITY CHORALE

and

KALAMAZOO MALE CHORUS

7:00 PM

Chenery Auditorium Kalamazoo

Admission is Free.

No Tickets Required.

This concert is proudly sponsored by

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KALAMAZOO CONCERT BAND

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About the Kalamazoo Concert Band



The Kalamazoo Concert Band (KCB) is a non-profit musical organization, providing four, free indoor concerts in Kalamazoo between October and April, and an outdoor summer series, also free to the public, in various locations. KCB consists of musicians, ages 19-86, who use this ensemble to express their love of music, dedicated to musical excellence and musical education for the entire community. We are committed to fostering, cultivating, and preserving a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion.

The Kalamazoo Concert Band under the direction of
Dr. Thomas G. Evans and Assistant Conductor Brian Shetterly,
are excited to announce its 2026-2027 season:

A Season of Celebration

Each concert promises to be musically vibrant, featuring a fusion of band pieces, orchestral works, popular music, and other musical delights.

America's Story at 250 Years - October 24, 2026
with guest conductor & cornet soloist Chris Bradely as well as the Kalamazoo Community Chorale and Kalamazoo Male Chorus

All Spruced Up for a Holiday Celebration - December 4, 2026
with The Terry Lower Trio featuring vocalist Lana Hoffman

Under the Big Top - February 27, 2027
with the Great Lakes Circus

Reflections and Fanfares: Celebrating Our 65th Anniversay - April 18, 2027
with the winner of the annual Youth Solo Competition

2026-2027 Band Members

Piccolo
Christine Griffith*

Flute
Mary Beth Brenneman**
Jolene Cron*
Linda Dickey*
Lena Duer
Jessica Fegen
Nancy Owen*
Wendy Patton Leino**
Laurie VanDenBos*

Oboe/English Horn
Susan Carter*

Bassoon
Bobbi Lukowski*
Brian Rewa

Clarinet
Laura Bandlow
Sandra Brigman*
Lee Coverly
Glen Falk
Anne Gaertner
Becky Grossmann
William Mufarreh
Jaime North
Mike Petkus**
Anne Sluyter*
Laurajane Van Niman
Marcia Working*

Bass Clarinet
Robert Dubb
Krista Grotelueschen
Robert Smith

Alto Sax
Mary Evans*
Barbara Gray*
Jessica Grove
Patricia Rolfe-Stoll
Bryan VanToll
Dale Working*

Tenor Sax
Laurel Hopper*

Baritone Sax
Tori John

Trumpet
Sydney Brown
Michael Duffy
Janice Edgerton*
Katherine Evans*
William Johnson
Mike McMinn
Jerry Nigg
Michael Sundling*

French Horn
Amanda Burdette
Holly Channells
Janet Channells*
Amy Gronda
Jo Ann Heywood**
Frank Jess**
Robin Maiville*
Jan Solberg

Trombone
John Bonnema*
Larry Daugherty*
Mike Grear
Barry Heywood**
Anna Kniffin
Martin Obed**
Cheryl Thomas

Bass Trombone
Brian Shetterly*
Mai Lan Vo

Euphonium
Lawrence Bacon*
Melinda Koelling
Amanda Mansfield
Michele Momotiuk
Don O'Donnell

Tuba
Ken Cron**
Mark Ehle
Larry Ellis
Fritz MacDonald
John Weitzel
AnnMarie Welton*

Percussion
Sara Dawson*
Denise King
Michelle Polishak
Ray Swinsick
Abigail Turner

Timpani
Josiah Solis

Bold Italic – Section Leader *** 60 Years ** 50+ Years * 25+ Years

Kalamazoo Concert Band
P.O. Box 20060, Kalamazoo, MI 49019 · 269-806-6597
www.kalamazooconcertband.org

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Special Guest



Kalamazoo Community Chorale

The Kalamazoo Community Chorale (KCC) began in 1934 as the Mother Singers, comprised primarily of mothers seeking an opportunity to participate in choral music activities without the requirement of an audition or an extensive musical background. Today, the Chorale consists of 60-75 members who come from the greater Kalamazoo area. The Chorale is comprised of women who thoroughly enjoy music as well as the camaraderie and fellowship that comes from belonging to a group. The experience level of our members ranges between professional, formally educated musicians to those who have pleasant singing voices and enjoy performing within a group. The KCC presents two formal concerts per year (December and spring), performing 3 and 4 part music. Their "semesters" coincide with these concerts: One begins every January, the other the first Monday after Labor Day in September. The Kalamazoo Community Chorale is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and is governed by a Board of Directors and supported by generous donations from the community.

Jacqueline Stilger, *Director*



Jackie has served as the KCC Director since 2012. A native of Southern Indiana, she holds a Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance from the University of Louisville, where she studied with Melvin Dickenson, and a Master of Music degree in Organ and Church Music from Indiana University, studying organ with Dr. Marilyn Keiser and choral conducting with Robert Porco and Carmen Telez. Jackie is the Director of Music at First United Methodist Church in Kalamazoo. Jackie has three children, Carsten, Drew, and Avery, and she currently resides in Kalamazoo.



Kalamazoo Male Chorus

The Kalamazoo Male Chorus, *celebrating their 99th season in 2026-27*, is a group of men of all ages, cultures and backgrounds who enjoy singing to present that unique male chorus sound to the people of Kalamazoo and the surrounding areas. They are a nonprofit, non-audition group, (new singers welcome!) under the direction of Erik Jacobson. KMC provides a variety of concerts -December, February and April. Join the chorus for a collaborative concert with Kellogg Community College, Tuesday December 1, 2026 in Chenery Auditorium.
See their website for more information: https://www.kalamazoomalechorus.org

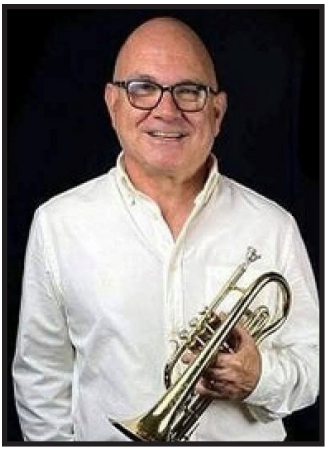
Erik Jacobson, Director



Erik is a dynamic music educator, clinician, arranger, conductor, producer, performer, and administrator focused on engaging singers, musicians, and audiences to advocate for inclusion in music and spread a joy for all music. Erik has had an exciting musical journey through a variety of genres, including classical voice, musical theater, solo and group jazz singing, recording, and popular music.

Erik is the Executive Director of The VOCES8 Foundation USA and the Creative Director of Lyyra, the Foundation's professional women's ensemble. He works closely with Paul Smith, VOCES8, APOLLO5, and a talented team to run robust educational programs around the country and leads the VOCES8 US Scholar program. The educational team develops new programs each season, from workshop activities and methods to teacher training programs.

Special Guest



Chris Bradley, Guest Conductor and Cornet Soloist

Our guest conductor and soloist is Chris Bradley, of Glasgow, Scotland, where he lives with his wife Evelyn. They have two wildly talented and successful musicians as adult children, Lori and Ryan. Chris first came to Kalamazoo through a secondary school music educator-in-residence exchange program, sponsored by KCB in 2015, where he shared his talents with over seven different high schools and WMU.

Chris Bradley started his playing career at Saint Andrew's High School, Clydebank, and then gained a Batchelor of Arts in Music at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. He completed a Post Graduate Diploma at the National Centre for Orchestral Studies in London, where Chris was a winner of the much-coveted Governors Recital Prize for Brass. He was honoured upon graduation as soloist with the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland, performing Arutunian's Trumpet Concerto.

Throughout his career Chris has always had Brass Bands at heart, beginning in high school. He then joined the Whitburn Band, and for more than 20 years has held the position of Principal Cornet. He won the Terris medal 10 times at the Scottish Championships, as well as many other solo prizes: best flugelhorn at the Brass in Concert contest in Gateshead, and the Philip McCann Trophy for best cornet at the Land O' Burns Contest in Troon, Scotland.

On another quite different stage, Chris joined a new ensemble - Tubular Brass and embarked on a UK tour of Tubular Bells by Mike Oldfield, arranged by Sandy Smith for Hannah Peale on keyboards and synthesiser and brass ensemble. Currently, he is a member of a Beatles tribute band called Across the Universe, which performs hits by the Fab Four from 1966 to 1970. The band is ever growing in popularity in the UK and Europe.

Chris has also enjoyed much success as a brass and concert band Conductor working with many bands in Scotland, including resident conductor at Whitburn. He has been Musical Director with the Kirkintilloch Kelvin Band, Johnston Silver Band, Saint Ronan's Silver Band, Jed Forest Instrumental, Unison Kinneil Band, Barrhead Band, Croy Parish Silver Band and Renfrew Burgh Band. Chris currently conducts the Dunaskin Doon Band and The Langholm Town Band. He is a member of the Scottish Concert Band Festival adjudication team and works as a Brass Instructor for South Lanarkshire Council.

In March 2018 Chris released his first solo CD, Fusion. It was nominated for the brass-band magazine 4barsrest coveted CD of the year. In 2020 he won the Best Soloist award in the inaugural Cory Band Virtual Brass Band Contest, playing Ben Hollins' First Light.

During the pandemic lockdown Chris, along with his son Ryan (a music engineer), created a catalogue of multi-screen, multi-instrument recordings. He recently featured these pieces, and others accompanied by Whitburn Band, in a new solo CD entitled Silver Lining.

More recently, upon retiring from secondary school education, Chris joined the tutoring staff of the National Youth Band of Great Britain and The Brass Band Summer School.

The Kalamazoo Concert Band

Thomas G. Evans, Conductor

Presents

"America's Story at 250 Years"

with Chris Bradley, guest conductor & cornet soloist and
The Kalamazoo Community Chorale and the Kalamazoo Male Chorus
Jacqueline Stilger and Erik Jacobson, directors

~ Program ~

The Star-Spangled Banner — arr. by John Williams

Americans We — Henry Fillmore

Chester — William Schuman
Chris Bradley, guest conductor

Choir Entrance Music: Fife and Drum: Yankee Doodle & When Jonny Comes Marching Home

Dry Your Tears, Afrika — John Williams
arr. by Paul Lavender
The Kalamazoo Community Chorale and the Kalamazoo Male Chorus

Choir Exit Music: Brass Quintet: Wayfaring Stranger — arr. by Nathaniel Hontz

The Battle Cry for Freedom — George Frederick Root
arr. by Noah D. Taylor

The Magnificent Seven — Elmer Bernstein
arr. by Roy Phillippe

~ 15-Minute Intermission ~

Hymn to the Great Spirit — Wendeyaho
arr. by Matthew R. Putnam

Drive! — Patrick Roszell
Brian Shetterly, assistant conductor

A Tribute to Harry James — arr. by Naohiro Iwai
Chris Bradley, cornet

Choir Entrance Music: Clarinet Quartet: Simple Gifts — arr. by Andrew Grenci

Hymn to the Fallen — John Williams
transcribed by Paul Lavender
The Kalamazoo Community Chorale and the Kalamazoo Male Chorus

Choir Exit Music: Brass Quintet: America-My Country Tis of Thee — arr. by Todd Marchand

America, the Beautiful — arr. by Carmen Dragon

The Stars and Stripes Forever — John Philip Sousa

"I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past."
— Thomas Jefferson in a letter to John Adams, 1816

October 24, 2026 • 7:00 pm • Chenery Auditorium

KCB Small Groups

In order to provide music to more members of our community, especially in venues that the entire Kalamazoo Concert Band wouldn't fit, some members have formed smaller ensembles to enjoy more opportunities to play for our community.

Kalamazoo Concert Brass

The Kalamazoo Concert Brass is a brass group that represents the Kalamazoo Concert Band in venues that the entire KCB couldn't possibly squeeze into.



The Four Tones

The Trombone Quartet "The Four Tones" is comprised of members of the Kalamazoo Concert Band trombone section. Formed as a small ensemble representing the KCB, The Four Tones play a wide variety of musical styles, performing for community, school, and church audiences. Members include Martin Obed, Barry Heywood, Larry Daugherty and Brian Shetterly who collectively have over 250 years of playing experience.



"Fab Five" Woodwind Quintet

The KCB Fab 5 is a woodwind quintet with a long history of performing their unique sound to entertain the Kalamazoo regional area. Their playlists include music from classical to pop, folk tunes, and marches. The Fab 5 is available to play at community events, local libraries, adult living facilities, schools, and other venues.



KCB Saxophone Quartet

The KCB Saxophone Ensemble is one of the newest small ensembles formed from members of the full band. Its first performance was in the form of a quartet during a concert in February of 2023. Following that, all 7 saxophones performed in the lobby at Chenery Auditorium prior to the April KCB concert.



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Wiley, Jo
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Zwart, Jerry & Mary

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Look for information on our 2026-27 Season

All Spruced Up for a Holiday Celebration
December 4, 2026
7:00pm
Miller Auditorium

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Flesche, Don
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Heywood, Barry & JoAnn
Hoogerheide, Dianna
Howell, Oliver
Jackson, Fred
Jackson, Mark
Jackson, Sandra
Johnson, Dean
Johnson, Margie
Jolhnson, William
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Josephson, Deborah
Justin, Bruce & Nancy
Kamerman, Dan L.
Kemper, Jane Secor & Mike
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Pyke, Arlene
Raklovits, Amanda
Ridgeway Floral
Rodia, Sue & Steve
Rosema, Carl & Marilyn
Ryder, Janice
Schmidt, Amy
Schmiege, Richard
Shank, Rebecca
Sherrod, Judy & Bill
Sikora, Neil
Smith, Robert J & Carol M
Smith, James & Carole
Smith, Steven W
Smith, Wilma Annette
Snuffer, Dan
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Toma, Jill
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KCB is now honored to be included in the programs available for receiving generous corporate matching funds through Benevity. When employees of client companies of Benevity-such as Stryker, Pfizer, Eaton, or Amazon-make a donation, KCB can receive matching funds. Check your company's policy to see if you can increase donations to KCB through Benevity!

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Please join us in thanking our October Concert Sposnor

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