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Medina



# Media

# Release

**Medina Community Band** will present a special **Winter Concert**, at the **St. Ambrose Church**, 929 Pearl Road (Medina), on **Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 2p.**

Under the baton of **Marcus Neiman, Carissa Young, and Amy Muhl**, the concert will feature diverse seasonal music as well as the **St. Ambrose Church Adult Choir**.

Included on the play list will be David Lovrien's ***Toccata on 'Carol of the Bells;*** Pola and Wyle's ***Most Wonderful Time of the Year;*** Leontovich and Wilhousky's ***Carol of the Bells*** (with **Amy Muhl** conducting), Stephen Reisterter's ***The Eighth Candle***, Johann Struss, Jr.'s ***In Krapfen's Woods***, David Lovrien's ***Minor Alterations***, and, Leroy Anderson's ***Sleigh Ride***.

Special feature will be **St. Francis Xavier Church Adult Choir** joining the community band in John Rutter's ***A Christmas Lullaby*** and Steven Reineke's ***Merry Christmas, Everyone*** (sing-a-long), all under the baton of **Travis Jürgens**.

END

**The Medina Community Band**  
Marcus L. Neiman, conductor  
Matthew Hastings, & Amy Muhl, assistant conductors

**The St. Ambrose Church Adult Choir**  
Travis Jürgens, Director of Music

**Winter Concert**  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 – 2p

**Program**

Fanfare, <i>Toccata on Carol of the Bells</i> (2010/2019) .....	David Lovrien
Anthem, <i>Star Spangled Banner</i> * (1889/1917) .....	Francis Scott Key Sousa/Damrosch
Rhapsody, <i>Most Wonderful Time of the Year</i> (1939/2008) .....	Pola & Wyle John Moss
Carol, <i>Carol of the Bells</i> (1914/1936) .....	Leontovich & Wilhousky Sean O'Loughlin
<b>Amy Muhl, conductor</b>	
Hannukah, <i>Eighth Candle</i> (1997) .....	Stephen Reisterter
Polka, <i>In Krapfen's Woods, Op. 336</i> (1869/2022) .....	Johann Strauss, Jr. Jos van de Braak
Seasonal, <i>Merry Christmas, Everyone!</i> * (Sing-A-Long) (2007) .....	Steven Reineke
Seasonal, <i>Minor Alterations – Christmas Through the Looking Glass</i> (2007) .....	Lovrien
Seasonal, <i>Sleigh Ride</i> (1946) .....	Leroy Anderson

\* With St. Ambrose Adult Choir

***Program subject to change***

## Medina Community Band Conducting Staff



**Marcus L. Neiman** has been conductor of Medina Community Band since the Fall of 1972 and has served as conductor of the ensemble longer than any previous conductor in the ensemble's history. He attended the Akron Public Schools, received his Bachelor of Science in music education degree from The University of Akron, master of music in music education degree from The University of Michigan, postgraduate hours at The Kent State University, and The University of Akron. Neiman studied conducting with Richard Jackboice, William D. Revelli, and Elizabeth Green.

Neiman retired from posts held with the Medina County Schools Educational Service Center in 2010 (1980 through 2000 as fine arts consultant and 2000 through 2010 as director of fine arts tours and festivals). He was formerly director of bands at Medina High School (1972 through 1980). Neiman was a part-time lecturer for the music department at Case Western Reserve University from April 2004 through May of 2010. From 2010 through July of 2016, Neiman was an assistant professor of music education at the Hugh A. Glauer School of Music at Kent State University.

Neiman was a founding trustee and past president of both the Medina County Arts Council and Medina County Performing Arts Foundation. He served as music director for productions by both Medina County Show Biz Company and Brunswick Entertainment Company and served as a committee member on the City of Medina Uptown Park Committee and Arts Under the Stars committee. He was a member of the class of '94 Leadership Medina County and was awarded the **Leadership Medina County "Excellence in Education Leadership"** in June of 2014, the sixth recipient of the award in Leadership Medina County's history and the only recipient not a superintendent of a school district.

Neiman has served Ohio Music Education Association (OMEA) as a member of the adjudicated events flute solo and ensemble required list selection committee, communications, governmental relations, music in our schools, and public relations committees, district president, vice-president, state chair for **Music In Our Schools** and public relations, state editor of their professional journal **TRIAD**, and state chair for their council of supervisors. He was elected by OMEAs membership to serve as state president from July 1, 1998, through July 1, 2000, and is currently OMEAs state historian. He was awarded OMEAs highest honor, the **"Distinguished Service Award"** on January 29 2010 at the Professional Development Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio. Neiman has been published in Music Educators National Conference journal **MEJ**, **The Instrumentalist**, **The School Musician**, **The Music Educator**, OMEAs **TRIAD**, **FANFARE** magazine, and Bands of America **Newsletter**. His first book, edited for MENC, entitled **Life in the Music Classroom**, was published by MENC in April 1992. He listed in Marquis **"Who's Who in America"** (58 Edition).

Neiman's goal has always been to preserve the presence and character of the traditional "town-band." In addition, Neiman has encouraged composers to write for the band. Over the years, the band has commissioned works by Douglas Court, Robert Feldbush, Stuart Ling, Edmund J. Siennicki, Tadd Russo, and David Shaffer. Neiman is a member of numerous professional organizations including the National Association for Music Education and Ohio Music Education Association, National Band Association, Ohio Alliance for Arts Education and Ohio Citizens for the Arts. Neiman is a member of Kappa Kappa Psi (University of Michigan Nu chapter, and honorary Beta Pi at Kent State University). He is also a member of Omicron Delta Kappa (national leadership society – The University of Akron - Theta Circle). He and his wife Mary Ann, who is a professional clarinetist reside in Medina with Ludwig – the cat.



**Matthew Hastings**, assistant conductor, has been employed with the Wadsworth City Schools since 2015. At Wadsworth, Hastings oversees the 5th and 6th grade band programs, assists with the marching band during band camp, and serves as theatre manager for

Wadsworth's OJ Work Auditorium. Prior to his appointment at Wadsworth, he completed his student teaching experience at Donnell Middle School in Findlay, Ohio teaching grades 6-8 band and grades 6-7 general music. Hastings joined the Medina Community Band in 2018 where he plays tuba and percussion, and he is also serving as an assistant conductor for the 2019 summer session.

Hastings graduated from Green High School in Green, Ohio in 2011, and earned a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Ohio Northern University in 2015. He resides in Medina with his wife, Lindsay and their dog, O'Malley.

**Amy Muhl**, assistant conductor, has been a member of Medina Community Band since 1998 and appointed as an assistant conductor in 2022. Originally from Lyme, Connecticut, moved to Ohio to study music education at Oberlin Conservatory in 1991. She graduated in 1995 and taught orchestra for two years in the Willard City Schools. Amy received her Master of Music Education from Kent State University on a scholarship, in 1998. She then taught instrumental music at Buckeye High School, in Medina (OH) and in the fall of 1999, became the elementary band teacher for Buckeye Local Schools. In the fall of 2001, she began teaching elementary instrumental music at Central Intermediate School in the Wadsworth City Schools. After raising Eva and Simon for 5 years, Amy returned to Wadsworth Schools teaching general music at Valley View Elementary and is now back at Central Intermediate School teaching general music and choir. Amy also plays flute/piccolo and piano, in addition to being a member of Medina Community Band and Sounds of Sousa Band. She is also Vice President of the Medina Community Band Association. Amy resides in Wadsworth with her husband Frank



## **Travis Jürgens, conductor.**

Travis Jürgens won 2nd Prize and the President of the Jury Award at the 2019 Bucharest Music Institute International Conducting Competition. He has conducted the Rochester Philharmonic, Colorado Symphony, Alabama Symphony Orchestra, Boulder Philharmonic, and Denver Philharmonic, among others.

Jürgens has performed in the United States, Europe, and Japan. He has been praised as "a superior conductor" and "well on his way to becoming a major conductor in the world of symphony orchestras" (Opus Colorado). Musicians who have played under his baton have commented on his exceptional talent, dynamic musicianship, efficient rehearsals, and strong leadership.

The fully professional Perrysburg Symphony Orchestra appointed Jürgens as their next Music Director and Conductor in July 2018. Previously, he was the Music Director and Conductor of the Ohio Northern Symphony for five seasons, the Lima Area Youth Orchestra for three seasons, the Philharmonia of Kansas City for six seasons, the Associate Conductor of the Boulder Philharmonic Orchestra, and a cover conductor for the Colorado Symphony. He also held the position of Associate Conductor of the Lamont Symphony Orchestra and Opera Theatre in Denver, where he received the Leon Guide Outstanding Conductor Award. Saint Ambrose Parish in Brunswick, Ohio appointed Jürgens as Director of Music Ministry in July 2020, where he currently serves with a grateful heart.

Jürgens earned his Bachelor's in Piano Performance with High Distinction from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, his Master's in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Illinois, and an Artist Diploma in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Denver Lamont School of Music. Additionally, he studied at the Universität für Musik und darstellende Kunst Wien and the Institut für Europäische Studien in Vienna, Austria. He also made his Viennese debut as guest conductor of the IES Vienna Chamber Orchestra. He has served as Graduate Assistant Conductor at the University of Illinois, and Assistant Conductor for the University of Illinois Opera Theater. His primary conducting teachers include Donald Schleicher, Lawrence Golan, and David Effron. Additionally, he has received instruction from Michael Tilson Thomas, Marin Alsop, Gustav Meier, Larry Rachleff, Jorma Panula, Jin Wang, and many others. As an advocate of new music, Jürgens has performed many world premieres by emerging composers, and works to create innovative programs to engage communities.



## Brunswick St. Ambrose Church Adult Choir



### Sopranos:

Clarice Palcisko  
Cookie Clausing  
Denise Daugherty  
Donna Moran  
Donna Szalay  
Dyan Beder  
Esther Stanard  
Linda Cebula  
Norma Sutter  
Patricia Nelson  
Peggy Hibler

### Altos:

Barb Wachs

### Tenors:

Debbie A Bonezzi  
Mary Lou Sull  
Nancy Niemesch  
Patty Lewis  
Tammy Sobek

### Basses:

Dave Ivory  
Karen Becker  
Ted Warholic  
Brian Becker  
Rich Wenmoth  
Timothy Garrity

## Medina Community Band



***Banding together to celebrate a new land.*** The Medina Community Band traces its beginnings back to 1859, when a group of local wind and percussion players got together (some with formal training - others without) to perform music for the community. That first "community band" was called *The Medina Silver Cornet Band*, probably since the instruments the musicians used were primarily "silver lacquer coated" cornets or percussion. Since it's beginning in 1859, that the band has been in existence, there have been 20 directors. **Marcus Neiman** has served as conductor since 1972 with **John Connors** serving as associate conductor (since 2015), and **Matthew Hastings** serving as assistant conductor (since 2019).

Early versions of the band probably existed at the pleasure of the square's business community, who often funded the season and encouraged patrons to attend the concerts. The performance night has changed over the years, in most cases at the urging of the business community, and season concerts have been given on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. Since the 1970s, the band has been supported by donations from the general public and, to this day, is supported through these donations. Band members donate their time and talent to rehearsing and performing for the community as members of the ensemble.

Since the 1970s, Medina Community Band has traveled outside Medina to perform: Ashland Brookside Bandstand (1980, 81, 93); Bay Village (Connections Series 1990, 91, 92); Canton (Kent State Stark Community Band Exchange Concerts 1995, 96, 98, 99); Case Western Reserve University (Cleveland Youth Winds Exchange concerts – Severance Hall – 2002 and 07, Medina, 2005); Cleveland State University (2010, 13); Dalton (Wayne County Schools Honors Bands 1983); Mentor (Lakeland Civic Band Festival 1985 and 1990); Mercer (PA) (with Mercer Community Band, 2009); Milan (EHOVE Career Center, yearly since 1993); and, Wadsworth (Wadsworth Community Band Festival 2007). In February of 2015, Medina Community Band was selected by blind audition to perform at the Ohio Music Education Association Professional Development Conference in Cleveland.

Regional and nationally known conductors have appeared with Medina Community Band.

Since the 1970, the following individuals have appeared as guest conductors: David Adamson; William Bauer (Florida State University); Frank Cosenza (Mentor, OH); Albert Oliver Davis; Paul Droste (Ohio State University), John Boyd (Indiana State University); Wayne Gorder (Kent State University); John Franklin (Kent State University); Patricia Ann Grutzmacher (Kent State University); Richard Jackoboice (University of Akron); Robert Jorgensen (University of Akron); Galen Karriker (University of Akron); Jesse Leyva (Kent State University); Gene Milford (University of Akron); Nathan Muehl (St. Petersburg College, Florida); Bill Park (North Royalton Community Band); David Seiberling (Moore Community Band); Edmund J. Siennicki; and, Nathan Stark (Montana State University).

The following individuals have been commissioned, or have written, or arranged, works for Medina Community Band: Douglas Court; Albert Oliver Davis; Robert Feldbush; Percy Hall; Floyd O. Harris; Stuart Ling; Gene Milford; Bill Park; Tadd Russo; David Schaffer; David Seiberling; Edmund J. Siennicki; Gail Sigmund; and, Jonathan Tietz.

Medina Community Band is sponsored by the **Medina Community Band Association** composed of members of The Medina Community Band proudly supports the community band. Membership in MCB is open and there are no dues or auditions; however, members are expected to maintain a regular attendance. The band rehearses on Wednesday evening from 7p - 9p in the orchestra room of Medina High School (777 East Union Street, Medina) during June and July; and September through the end of May rehearsing in the band room of Highland Middle School (3880 Ridge Road, Medina). The band also presents their popular summer series every Friday, June through July, in Medina's Uptown Park Gazebo. Each year the band presents at a winter concert, and, spring concert. For additional information on the 2019 concert season or Medina Community Band, contact Neiman at 330.725.8198 or [MarcusNeiman@medinacommunityband.org](mailto:MarcusNeiman@medinacommunityband.org).