

## UNDER THE BRIDGE



**Betsy Jones**  
Editor

Being a relative newcomer on the competitive brass band scene, I have only ever attended the NABBA Championships in New Albany, IN and Louisville, KY. We've all gotten to know the city of Louisville pretty well: the popular restaurants, bars, hotels, and various attractions, as well as the Brown Theater and Hotel, our gracious sponsors for the gala concerts and Championship Section performances. I understood the traffic patterns and even planned for the weather conditions of early April.

Raleigh is the capital and second-largest city in North Carolina, lying in the Research Triangle region of the state. The population is nearing 400,000. Raleigh's landscape features gentle hills, as it sits between the Great Smoky Mountains and the Atlantic Ocean. Spring temperatures are moderate, reaching 70 during the day and dropping to 50 at night. Considering the oddly cold winter we've had here in the Southeast, I'm still packing warm clothes.

Many of us will spend the better part of the weekend inside the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, home of Meymandi Concert Hall, which

opened in 2001. The Marriott City Center is a short walk from the Progress Energy Center, but you'll want to make the trip there to visit our vendor exhibits and the NABBA information table. The Marriott is also home to Posta Tuscan Grille and a Starbucks coffee shop. Visit [progressenergycenter.com](http://progressenergycenter.com) for a mile-long list of nearby restaurants, cafes, and pubs.

For this NABBA weekend, I need more friends than ever. I need your photos for these pages, and your stories and ideas for future issues. I want to meet people from every competing band. I'm planning a few new features for upcoming Bridge issues, and I need your participation. I'm looking for personal stories, band stories, professional articles, or performance reviews. If you have an idea, or if you've thought about writing online, it's time for us to talk. College students? Publication credits look great on your resume.

Come talk to me next month. I'll be all over the place: at the Information Table, the vendor exhibits, the solo/ensemble competitions, and--of course--Meymandi Concert Hall. Most likely, I will be holding a stuffed hot dog. I might ask you to hold it while I take your picture. I'm weird, but harmless.

See you soon!

[nabbabridge@gmail.com](mailto:nabbabridge@gmail.com)

*Betsy Jones is Instructor of Tuba and Euphonium at Valdosta State University in Valdosta, GA, USA.*

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## ATOP THE BRIDGE

Russell Morris

NABBA President

As I write this column, I am fighting off the effects of jet lag. I have just returned from ten days in England, where I attended the Butlin's Mineworkers Contest in Skegness. "Skeggie," as many locals call it, is not the perfect place to spend

time in January. Located on the eastern coast of Great Britain, on the North Sea, the weather can be quite brutal at times. Howling winds, blowing sand, drizzle, rain and sleet can all make for a pretty uncomfortable time. With Mother Nature working against it, what would make over 6,000 people attend, 87 bands sign up to play, and a resort come

to life? Everyone wants to be a part of the premier brass band contest going on, that's what! With over \$76,000 in prize monies, what band would not want to attend? As an added bonus, the Association of Band Traders put on the Trade Village, organized and run by Jon Handley of TOR Banners. Close to 30 exhibitors participated.

Steve Walker (festival director), Brian Eggleshaw (contest administrator), Stan Lippeatt (contest advisor) and a host of others once again outdid themselves. To run 87 bands through a contest in a single day is simply remarkable. To do so without any observable glitches is nothing short of

miraculous. Steve and his team approach the contest with the good of brass banding in mind. All are heavily involved in brass bands throughout the year and this contest is a labor of love. Talk to any of the three and their passion for the growth of brass banding is immediately evident.

In addition to all of the contesting events going on, there was a greater cause at work this particular weekend. The ladies of Boobs and Brass (yes, that's their name . . . we Americans need to get over it), aided by Jon Handley's creativity and endless work, raised close to \$11,000 in the fight against



Rusty Morris, Jon Handley, pipers Graeme Thompson and Kyle McIntyre, and the women of Boobs and Brass.

breast cancer. This amount, and another check for over \$22,000 (money raised by the band in the last quarter of 2009), was presented to a representative with the UK breast cancer foundation. The founders of Boobs and Brass, Maggie Betts and Jane Nichols, deserve a tremendous amount of credit for their hard work and their willingness to sacrifice for a worthy cause. Thank you, ladies, for your hospitality and warmth during the weekend. It was fabulous!

Friday evening, I had the pleasure and honor of taking the rehearsal for the ladies of Boobs and Brass. What an experience!

This great group of ladies was tolerant and patient with me. First thing Saturday morning was the much anticipated draw. Each section is done separately, the venue filling with bands and audience members curious to see what spot they would draw. There was a bit of tension in the air until the dreaded "1" chip was announced. Later in the afternoon, I accompanied Frank Renton onto the stage to take part in the "Boob Blow 2010." Over 400 participants performed three numbers to raise money for breast cancer. I have never had the attention of so many women at one time, and probably never will again. Awards

presentations were held that evening for all sections except the Championship (that took place on Sunday), and the Boobs and Brass concert capped the evening off. Again, the ladies were gracious enough to allow me to play as I anchored down the assistant 3rd cornet chair with pride. Frank Renton led the band, with soloists

John Lee (flugelhorn), Sheona White (tenor

horn), Katrina Marzella (baritone), Kirsty Abbotts (cornet), Mark Walters (flugelhorn) and Simone Rebello (xylophone). I was thrilled to be a part of such an entertaining and musical performance.

There are too many activities during the Butlin's contest for me to describe here. If you get the chance to attend in the future, do not pass it up. It is well worth the effort—and the weather.

president@nabba.org

**ACROSS THE BRIDGE****APRIL 2 - 3, 2010**

Ohio Brass Arts Festival  
Columbus, Ohio.  
[www.ohiobrassbands.com](http://www.ohiobrassbands.com)

**APRIL 16 -17, 2010**

NABBA XXVIII Championships  
Raleigh, North Carolina.  
[www.nabba.org](http://www.nabba.org)

**MAY 1, 2010**

Deep South Brass Band Festival  
Pine Mountain, Georgia.  
[www.deepsouthbrassband.com](http://www.deepsouthbrassband.com)

**JUNE 11-13, 2010**

Great American Brass Band Festival  
Danville, Kentucky.  
[www.gabbbf.org](http://www.gabbbf.org)

**JUNE 15-16, 2010**

Susan Slaughter International Solo  
Brass Competition  
Humber College, Toronto, Canada.  
[www.iwbctoronto2010.org](http://www.iwbctoronto2010.org)

**JUNE 16-20, 2010**

International Women's Brass  
Conference  
Humber College, Toronto, Canada.  
[www.iwbctoronto2010.org](http://www.iwbctoronto2010.org)

**JULY 31-AUGUST 3, 2010**

NABBA Summer Camp  
International Peace Gardens.  
[www.internationalmusiccamp.com](http://www.internationalmusiccamp.com)

**AUGUST 5-8, 2010**

Vintage Band Music Festival  
Northfield, Minnesota.  
[www.vintagebandfestival.org](http://www.vintagebandfestival.org)

## **BUILDING BRIDGES: NEWS FROM NABBA BANDS**

**BRASS BAND OF CENTRAL FLORIDA**

After nine years of brilliant success in conducting the Brass Band of Central Florida, Michael J. Garasi announced his resignation this month. Michael has been an integral part of BBCF and has a mutual love and respect for the members. As Michael's position with the University of Central Florida demands more of him, and as BBCF evolves to a higher-level organization, they will greatly miss each other. Michael plans to stay in close contact and will guest conduct as his schedule allows. A search for a new conductor will begin at the local level and expand nationally or internationally if needed.

**GEORGIA BRASS BAND**

The Georgia Brass Band is gearing up for its fifth trip to the NABBA Championships. The GBB will perform at Columbus State University's River Performing Arts Center in April, as well as the Embury Hills United Methodist Church in Lawrenceville, GA, and Sanderson High School in Raleigh, NC. Upcoming soloists include GBB solo trombonist Hollie Lawing and Dr. Bradley Palmer of CSU, both on tenor trombone.

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S BRASS CONFERENCE**

The 2010 Susan Slaughter International Solo Brass Competition will be held as part of the sixth International Women's Brass Conference in Toronto, Ontario in June of 2010. The competition is open to everyone, male and female, and the instruments include trumpet, tenor horn, French horn,

trombone, euphonium and tuba. There are over U.S. \$30,000 in prizes.

**TRIANGLE BRASS BAND**

The Triangle Brass organization is very busy in its current season, performing a pops concert with the North Carolina Symphony, a concert with the Sanderson High School Wind Ensemble and a Holiday concert. Preparations are underway for our upcoming concert with Allen Vizzutti on March 13th, and a Civil War-inspired program on May 15th with Stephen Lytle, Director of Bands at Miami University of Ohio. The two youth brass bands are heavy into their schedule, led by Tony Granados and new conductor Jesse Rackley. The youth bands just performed with trombonist Scott Hartman, and will perform in May with James Ketch, Professor of Trumpet and Jazz studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

In addition to the bands' full schedules, the organization has appointed a new board of directors who are working hard on fundraising and promotion. The Board is accepting donations for a special fundraiser to purchase a new set of instruments for the Triangle Youth Brass Band.

**NABBA AT BUTLIN'S**

The winning First Section band of the 2010 NABBA Championships will be afforded an incredible opportunity. Steve Walker, musical director of Butlin's and the contest organizer, has offered to the winning First Section band the opportunity to attend the 2011 Butlin's Mineworkers Contest as special guests. Butlin's will provide lodging, ground transportation, and the opportunity for a Friday evening concert as well as the option to compete in the First Section Contest, where a total of over \$6,700 was distributed this year (first place was worth close to \$3,200). Twenty-four bands competed in the First Section this year. Additional concerts may

## NEWS, CONT.

be arranged before or after the contest. The dates for the 2011 Butlin's Contest are January 21-23. Should the winning band not be able to attend, the second place band will be invited.

### OHIO BRASS ARTS FESTIVAL

#### UK Band to Attend Ohio Brass Arts Festival

The Ohio Brass Arts Festival will take place in Weigel Auditorium on Friday, April 2 and Saturday, April 3, 2010 on the campus of the Ohio State University. The 4th Annual Brass Arts Festival will feature many award-winning Ohio brass bands as well as a band from across the pond. The Central Ohio Brass Band is proud to announce the appearance of the highly acclaimed St. Helen's Youth Brass Band and their Musical Director, Mark Bousie, from St. Helens, England at this year's Ohio Brass Arts Festival.

The St. Helens Youth Band currently has approximately 50 members, ages 12-19. The SHYBB has made recent tours abroad to the French Alps, Austria, Switzerland, Paris, New York and Florence, and has appeared at Liverpool's Philharmonic Hall and at London's Royal Festival Hall and Regents Park. The SHYBB has appeared with a number of renowned soloists, including Roger Webster, Simon Cowen, Nick Hudson, and Mark Bousie. They have also won the National Youth Brass Band Championships of Great Britain on six consecutive occasions between 1997 and 2002, winning the Intermediate Class in 1997, Advanced Class in 1998 and 1999 and achieving a 'hat trick' in the Premier Class in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Other bands that will be featured are the ten-time North American Brass Band Association Champions, Brass Band of Columbus and the 2007 and 2009 Honors Division Champions, The Central Ohio



Register now!

**2010 Susan Slaughter International Solo Brass Competition**

Open to women and men, students, amateurs and professionals

Deadline for competition registration: **March 31, 2010**

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*Joan Watson, Host*

For more information and to register, go to [iwbetoronto2010.com](http://iwbetoronto2010.com)  
*(early bird discount before March 31, 2010)*

Brass Band. The TBDBITL Alumni Active Band will perform, as well as the Scioto Valley Brass and Percussion Co., Brass Band of the Western Reserve, The Chapel Brass, The Brass Band of Worthington Woods, The Brass Band of the Tri-State and the Grabill Brass from Otterbein University. More information and tickets are available at [www.ohiobrassbands.com](http://www.ohiobrassbands.com).

### ROCKPORT MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Boston Brass will perform as part of the Rockport Music Festival this summer. Founded in 1981 in the picturesque and historic Cape Ann seaport village of Rockport, Massachusetts, Rockport Music celebrates its 29th season this June 10—July 18, 2010 with the inauguration of its new home, the Shalin Liu Performance Center, and a summer chamber music season.

### WALES WEEK IN NEW YORK

Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY) presents a concert featuring the music of renowned Welsh

composers Karl Jenkins and Arwel Hughes at the Stern Auditorium/Perelman Stage at Carnegie Hall on Saturday, March 6, 2010 at 8:00 pm. The event coincides with Wales Week USA, presented in association with the Welsh Assembly Government. Euphonium soloist David Childs will perform the US Premiere of Jenkins's Euphonium Concerto. Childs was described by The Observer as "a great ambassador for the euphonium, possessing an astonishing technique and an engaging stage presence." DCINY Guest Conductor and Composer Karl Jenkins, of West Glamorgan, Wales,

## Be a Part of The Brass Band Bridge!

Please send your band's news items, along with photos, captions, and concert programs, to [nabbabridge@gmail.com](mailto:nabbabridge@gmail.com).

## NEWS, CONT.

will conduct three of his own works: the Euphonium Concerto, Palladio, and selections from Sacred Songs, a choral suite drawn from Jenkins' most popular works. Specific movements for this performance include Ave Verum from Stabat Mater and Benedictus from The Armed Man.

DCINY Principal Conductor Dr. Jonathan Griffith will also be at the podium conducting Arwel Hughes' Dewi Sant. The oratorio was Hughes' first large-scale work of its kind, commissioned by the Arts Council of Great Britain as part of the Welsh contributions to the Festival of Britain in 1951. Participating choirs include the Pennsbury High School Concert Choir and The Pennsbury Community Chorus.

Wales Week is an annual celebration of Welsh arts and culture in New York that commemorates the holiday of St. David, the patron saint of Wales. Other Wales Week events include a recital of Cesar Franck's organ works by Welsh-Canadian organist David Enlow, and tributes to Dylan Thomas and Alec Templeton.

## NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

### CORNWALL YOUTH BRASS BAND

The bad weather in the North of England did its best to disrupt the Christmas Residential Course of The Cornwall Youth Brass Band, which was held at Truro High School for Girls from December 27-30. Guest conductor Garry Cutt was snowed in and had to postpone his arrival until late on the second day of the four-day course. Despite delays to her flights from Italy, trombonist Lisa Sarasini managed to arrive in time to join Garry and the sixty-two young musicians for the rest of the intensive days of studying and rehearsing. Works included several by Cornish composer Goff Richards, who is the Band's music advisor. As well as full band rehearsals with Garry Cutt, the musicians had sectional rehearsals for their particular instruments, taken by the team of local tutors.

The members of the band are drawn from

twenty-eight local bands. The Course culminated in a public concert at St Michael's Church in Newquay. A packed audience of parents and supporters gave an enthusiastic reception to the young musicians, whose ages range from ten to twenty, as they demonstrated their high level of musical ability and enthusiasm in tackling the challenging program.

Since its foundation in 1955, the CYBB has always sought to bring the best Guest Conductors and Soloists to Cornwall for the benefit the young brass musicians of the County, to enable them to learn from musicians of the highest level of expertise and experience available.

## NABBA BAND

### CONCERT

### PROGRAMS

**BRASS OF THE POTOMAC**, Stephen Bulla, Musical Director.

January 30, 2010, U.S. Army Band Tuba-Euphonium Conference, Ft. Myer, VA. March Bravura (William Himes), Intrada on Monkland (Stephen Bulla), Tuba Concerto (Martin Ellerby – Chris Tiedeman, tuba solo), Victory For Me (Wilfred Heaton), Aura Lee (Traditional, arr. Bruce Broughton), Largo al Factotum from Figaro (Rossini, arr. Roberts – Charles Giannelli, tuba solo), The Invincible Army (Erik Leidzen), Concerto for Euphonium: I. Non troppo allegro, II. Zeibekikos (Philip Wilby – Karl Schultz, euphonium solo), Caprice from Entertainments (Gilbert Vinter), Napoli (Bellstedt, arr. Brand – John Cox, euphonium solo), My Country 'Tis of Thee (Traditional, arr. Bruce Broughton), Fantasy For Brass Band, Opus 114 (Malcolm Arnold).



The members of the Cornwall Youth Brass Band.

## PROGRAMS, CONT.

**JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY BRASS BAND**, Kevin Stees, Musical Director.

October 15, 2009. John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D.C. Horizons (Paul Lovatt-Cooper), Overture to The Marriage of Figaro (Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, arr. B. Hazelgrove), Song and Dance (Philip Sparke – Chris Carillo, cornet solo), Rondo-Finale from Concerto for French Horn and Brass Band (Edward Gregson – Ian Zook, horn solo), Brasilia (Robin Dewhurst – Andrew Lankford, trombone solo), Rococo Variations (Edward Gregson), Windows of the World: 1. Amazonia, 2. Rainforest (Rachel Drane, tenor horn solo), 3. The Rising Sun (Rob Specketer, flugel horn solo), 4. Drums of Thunder, 5. Celtic Dream

(Michael Huffman, soprano cornet solo, Leon Pearson, euphonium solo.) 6. Earth Walk (Chris Walton, trumpet solo, Andrew LaPrade, trombone solo, Jamieson Carr, percussion solo) (Peter Graham), Reunion and Finale from Gettysburg (Randy Edelman, arr. Andrew Duncan).

**NEW ENGLAND BRASS BAND**, Stephen Bulla, Musical Director; Al Stickland, Assistant Musical Director.

January 10, 2010. First Parish of Westwood. The Carollers (Richard Holz), O Come All Ye Faithful, The Herald Angels (Erik Leidzen), Trumpet Call (Kenneth Downie – Kelly Watkins, trumpet soloist), I Wonder As I Wander (Arr. Andrew Blythe), Mary's Boy Child (Arr. Philip Sparke), Bells of Christmas

(Stephen Bulla), Celestial Morn (Leslie Condon – Robin Sisk, tuba soloist), Silent Night (Erik Leidzen), Hark the Herald Angels Sing, Sleigh Ride (Leroy Anderson).

**SALT RIVER BRASS**, Patrick Sheridan, Musical Director.

December 13, 2009. Mesa Arts Center. The Holly & The Ivy (arr. Ritz/Kenton), Die Fledermaus (Johann Strauss II, arr. A. Winter), Ave Maria (Biebl, arr. Sheridan), Fugue in g minor (J.S. Bach, arr. Pilafian), Little Drummer Boy (arr. Sparke), You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch (Lance LaDuke, vocals), Wonderful Time of the Year (L. LaDuke – Lance LaDuke, vocals), Wedding Dance (Jacques Press, arr. Sheridan), St. Francis Fanfare (arr. Himes – Sonic Brass & Sonic Winds, special guests), Sleigh Ride (L. Anderson), Let It Snow (arr. Pilafian – Charles Hopkins, trombone solo), Many Happy Returns (L. LaDuke, Lance LaDuke, vocals), Dan, The Unwise Man (L. LaDuke, Lance LaDuke, vocals), A Carol Sing Along (Traditional, arr. Sheridan/Pilafian), Three King Swing (arr. Himes), Must Have Been Ol' Santa Claus (H. Connick, Jr., arr. Sheridan – Lance LaDuke, vocals), Jingle Bells (J. Pierpont, arr. Dorsey).

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# THE NABBA OFFICIAL SUMMER CAMP

## INTERNATIONAL PEACE GARDENS: JULY 25-28, 2009

BY **BILL HARRIS**

The Fourth Annual NABBA Official Summer Camp was held July 25-28, 2009 during the Adult Community session of the International Music Camp (IMC). The IMC, located in the International Peace Garden on the border between the Canadian province of Manitoba and the State of North Dakota, celebrated their 54th season in 2009. Students from 73 nations have attended IMC since 1956. The Adult Community Music session runs for four days and is always the last week of the IMC season. Attendees chose from Advanced or Intermediate Concert Band, Brass Band, Orchestra, Mixed

choir or Men's and Women's barber-shop. The format of the camp allows for multiple activities, such as playing in both the Advanced and Brass Bands. The average attendance for this session is just over 200 campers.

Adults for the 2009 Brass Band came from as far as the east coast of Canada to the western states and provinces. For the fourth year, Anita Cocker-Hunt, past President of NABBA, conducted. Campers checked into the camp on Saturday afternoon with first rehearsals starting after supper. The Brass Band starts with some urgency since it has only two rehearsals before

playing at the camp Worship Service on Sunday morning. The service is held for the campers, by the campers. They provide the music, the minister and the readers. The Brass Band plays the Prelude, Hymns and Postlude. The 2009 program included: What a Mighty God We Serve (arr. Paul Curnow), Praise My Soul (arr. James Curnow), At the Name of Jesus (arr. Dorothy Gates), Break Thou the Bread of Life (arr. Robert Redhead), Are You Washed (arr. William Himes), What the Lord Has Done for Me (Andrew Barrington).

The Brass Band got right into preparation for Tuesday's final concert with



**Brass Band participants at the 2009 NABBA Summer Camp at the International Peace Gardens, with conductor Anita Cocker Hunt.**

## SUMMER CAMP, CONT.

rehearsals starting Sunday afternoon. During the four days of the camp, the Brass Band will normally rehearse eight or nine times, and since most of the members also play in another band they end up with 16 – 17 rehearsals! The 2009 Band had 35 members, many of whom were returning players. In fact, Anita commented that it is nice to have a core group who remember lessons taught in previous years!

The Brass Band has the privilege of playing the National Anthems at the Final Concert on the Tuesday. The final concert hears from each instrumental group. The 2009 Brass Band performed: The Klaxon (Henry Fillmore, arr. Allen Schmidt), Malaguena (Ernesto Lecuono, arr. Allen Schmidt), A Disney Spectacular (arr. Geoff Richards), Los Toreadors (George Bizet, arr. Keith Manners).

The camp isn't just about practicing; there is plenty of socializing at meals, breaks and after the evening rehearsals and concerts. Many of the campers take a short journey out of the camp in the evening to enjoy a beverage and play some music in the 'pickup band' at a pub named Kelvin's Klinik.

The Adult Community Band Session for 2010 is July 31 - August 3, 2010. The cost for tuition, room and meals is only \$195 if you register on or before May 1, 2010 (\$205 after that date), and private lessons are available for \$15/lesson. Check out <http://www.internationalmusiccamp.com> for additional information. It's a great way to make and keep new friends, play music for excellent conductors and enjoy the beauty of the Turtle Mountain Region and the International Peace Garden!

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 (Vernon Briggs, Brass Band World)

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 (Anthony Parsons, The Trombonist)  
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 (Ronald W. Holz, The Brass Band Bridge)

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# 2010 NABBA XXVIII CHAMPIONSHIPS PREVIEW

## PROGRESS ENERGY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

### RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA: APRIL 16-17, 2010

#### TEST PIECES

At the meeting of the NABBA Board of Directors, held in Chicago, Illinois on September 11-12, the Board approved the following test pieces for all sections for the 2010 NABBA XXVIII Championships, to be held at the Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts in Raleigh, North Carolina, on April 16-17, 2010.

#### CHAMPIONSHIP SECTION:

**Philip Sparke: *Variations on an Enigma*** (Studio Music).

#### FIRST SECTION:

**Gilbert Vinter: *Triumphant Rhapsody*** (Studio Music).

#### SECOND SECTION:

**Kenneth Hesketh: *Danceries*** (Faber Music).

#### THIRD SECTION:

**Philip Wilby: *Postcards From Home*** (Winwood Music).

#### OPEN SECTION:

**No Required Test Piece.**

#### YOUTH SECTION:

**Peter Graham: *Dimensions*** (Studio Music).

Solid Brass Music (San Rafael, CA), Dick Wupio, owner, is NABBA's official music supplier. All test pieces are available to order from Solid Brass Music by calling (415) 479-1337 or Toll-Free in the United States (800) 873-9798, by email at [dick@sldbass.com](mailto:dick@sldbass.com), or online at <http://www.sldbass.com>.

For more information on the new section names and reasons for the changes, please visit [www.nabba.org](http://www.nabba.org).

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## CONTEST FORMAT

The solo/small ensemble contest will take place on Friday, April 16 in the Progress Energy Center. The band contest for all sections will occur in the Meymandi Concert Hall on Saturday, April 17.

## CONTROLLER

Dr. James Buckner will return as contest controller.

## VENDORS

Near the main contest venue, the Marriott will contain the NABBA information table and the vendor display area.

The vendor display area will occupy the State Ballroom of the Hotel with over 6,800 feet of floor space. Public hours for the vendor area will be from Noon – 5:00 pm on Friday, and 9:00 am – 5:00 pm on Saturday.

## VOLUNTEERS

In light of the successful volunteer format utilized in previous years, each competing band has been asked to provide five volunteers who will each give two hours of time to help ensure the contest weekend works smoothly. Volunteers have been contacted via email with their assignment

and time; all volunteers should report to the NABBA information table 10-15 minutes before their assigned time.

## BAND REPRESENTATIVES

Each band should designate ONE representative to visit the NABBA information table upon arrival to reconcile their account, pick up their membership cards and pick up complimentary programs for their band. At the conclusion of the award ceremony for each section, each band's representative can pick up their band's scores, solo/ensemble music and scores, judge's score sheets and judge's compact discs at the NABBA information table.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional details about the XXVIII NABBA Championships may be found at [nabba.org](http://nabba.org) and in the official contest program.

*find it at*  
**NABBA.ORG**

- MEETING MINUTES OF THE NABBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
- INFORMATION ABOUT NABBA XXVIII, RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA APRIL 16-17, 2010.
- CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NABBA OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS.
- APPLICATION FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP TO THE NABBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
- FORM TO APPLY FOR NABBA'S FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR BRASS BAND FESTIVALS AND EVENTS.
- LINKS TO ALL NABBA MEMBER BANDS.

# NABBA XXVIII CHAMPIONSHIPS

## COMPETING BANDS

The following 19 NABBA member bands have registered to participate in the XXVIII NABBA Championships. Registration for the Championships does not necessarily mean a band will attend and perform; bands reserve the right to withdraw at any time. Bands are listed below in alphabetical order with their order of finish in the last five NABBA Championships. The order of performance for bands will be announced in the XXVIII NABBA Championships Official Program, which will be distributed beginning Friday, April 16, at the NABBA information table.

### Atlantic Brass Band

2009: 4th Championship  
2008: 5th Championship  
2007: 5th Championship  
2006: 5rd Championship  
2005: 3rd Championship

### Brass Band of Columbus

2008: 3rd Championship  
2006: 1st Championship

### Brass Band of the Tri-State

2009: 1st Explorer  
2008: 1st Explorer  
2007: 1st Explorer  
2006: 1st Explorer

### Brass of the Potomac

No previous contests.

### Central Ohio Brass Band

2009: 1st Honors  
2008: 2nd Honors  
2007: 1st Honors  
2006: 3rd Honors  
2005: 2nd Honors

### Chesapeake Silver Cornet Brass Band

2007: 6th Challenge

### Chicago Brass Band

2009: 2nd Championship  
2008: 2nd Championship  
2007: 6th Championship  
2006: 6th Championship  
2005: 2nd Championship

### Dinnington Colliery Band

No previous contests.

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## Fountain City Brass Band

2009: 1st Championship  
2008: 1st Championship  
2007: 1st Championship  
2006: 3rd Championship  
2005: 4th Championship

## Georgia Brass Band

2009: 2nd Honors  
2008: 1st Honors  
2007: 2nd Honors  
2006: 1st Challenge

## James Madison University Brass Band

2009: 3rd Championship  
2008: 4th Championship  
2007: 2nd Championship  
2006: 2nd Championship  
2005: 1st Honors

## Massanutten Brass Band

2009: 3rd Honors  
2007: 1st Challenge  
2006: 3rd Challenge

## New England Brass Band

2009: 5th Honors  
2008: 4th Honors  
2007: 5th Honors  
2006: 1st Honors

## Princeton Brass Band

2009: 4th Honors  
2008: 3rd Honors  
2007: 6th Honors  
2006: 4th Honors

## Oakland University Brass Band

No previous contests.

## Spires Brass Band

2008: 1st Challenge  
2007: 3rd Challenge  
2006: 2nd Challenge  
2005: 1st Challenge

## Triangle Brass Band

2007: 7th Honors

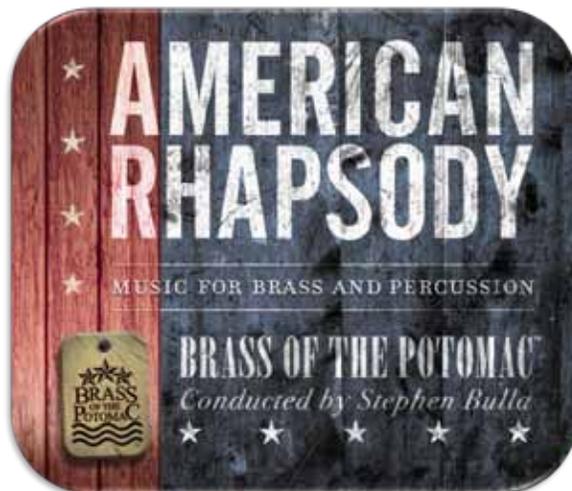
## Triangle Youth Brass Band

2009: 1st Youth  
2007: 1st Youth  
2006: 1st Youth

## Triangle Youth Brass Ensemble

2009: 1st Youth Open  
2008: 1st Youth Open  
2007: 1st Youth Open

New CD recording available soon!



Program includes music by Broughton, Bulla, Himes, Leidzen, and Soderstrom.  
This enhanced CD includes over an hour of music, plus  
behind-the-scenes bonus video from the recording sessions.  
[www.BrassOfThePotomac.com](http://www.BrassOfThePotomac.com)

# NABBA XXVIII CHAMPIONSHIPS

## COMPETING BAND CHOICE PIECES

Audience members at the XXVIII NABBA Championships will hear a wide variety of music that represents the “own choice” portion of each band’s program. Here, the pieces are listed alphabetically. Each band’s full program, along with photos and biographies of band and conductor, will appear in the official XXVIII NABBA Championships program.

**All the Flowers of the Mountain**  
(Michael Ball)

**Aspects of Praise**  
(William Himes)

**Cambridge Variations**  
(Philip Sparke)

**Canticles**  
(James Curnow)

**Cloudcatcher Fells**  
(John McCabe)

**The Conquest of Paradise**  
(Vangelis)

**Crusade**  
(Rieks van der Velde)

**Death Or Glory**  
(R.B. Hall)

**Extreme Make-Over**  
(Johan de Meij)

**Gaelforce**  
(Peter Graham)

**Haydock Variations**  
(Stuart Pullin)

**I Will Follow Him**  
(arr. Goff Richards)

**Journey To the Centre of the Earth** (Peter Graham)

**Minnie the Moocher**  
(arr. Bernie Casey)

**Partita**  
(Philip Sparke)

**Prelude on Tallis**  
(Peter Graham)

**Rococo Variations**  
(Edward Gregson)

**Salome**  
(Gareth Wood)

**Suite From “West Side Story”**  
(Bernstein, arr. Crees)

**Symphony of Marches**  
(Gilbert Vinter)

**The Torchbearer**  
(Peter Graham)

**Variations for Brass Band**  
(Ralph Vaughan Williams)

**Variations on Laudate Dominum** (Edward Gregson)

## ADJUDICATORS

NABBA is pleased to announce the following adjudicators have been secured to judge the band and solo/ensemble contests at our Championships:

**William Himes**

**Jamie Hood**

**Frank Renton**

**Philip Sparke**

**Demondrae Thurman**

**Matthew Tropman**

# NABBA XXVIII CHAMPIONSHIPS

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Details and program choices will be published in the official 2010 NABBA XXVIII Program, available at the NABBA Information Desk. Details of stage set-up and solo/ensemble performances are currently available at [nabba.org](http://nabba.org).

### THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2010

7:00 pm NABBA Board Meeting

Raleigh Marriot City Center

Chancellor Room

### FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010

#### UNIVERSITY BALLROOM

9:30 am - 12:50 pm

Ensemble Competition

12:50 pm - 3:10 pm

High Brass Technical

3:10 pm - 5:20 pm

Low Brass Technical

### FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010

#### STATE BALLROOM

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Vendor Displays

10:00 am - 10:40 am

Youth Brass Solo

10:40 am - 1:40 pm

High Brass Slow Melody

1:40 pm - 2:20 pm

Percussion Solo

2:20 pm - 5:20 pm

Low Brass Slow Melody

### SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010

#### MEYMANDI CONCERT HALL

9:00 am - 10:20 am

Third Section (2 Bands)

10:20 am - 12:20 pm

Second Section (3 Bands)

12:20 pm - 4:20 pm

First Section (6 Bands)

## VENDOR DISPLAYS

FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010

12 pm - 5 pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010

9 am - 5 pm

Raleigh Marriot City Center

State Ballroom

### SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010

#### MEYMANDI CONCERT HALL

(cont.)

4:20 pm - 5:40 pm

Open Section (2 Bands)

6:00 pm - 10:30 pm

Championship Sect. (6 Bands)

**Award Announcements** for all sections and solo/ensemble competitions will take place during the Championship Section performances from 6:00-10:30 pm. Championship Section Awards will be announced at the conclusion of the performances.

# THE ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC: FESTIVAL OF BRASS

## MANCHESTER, UNITED KINGDOM: JANUARY 22-24, 2010

BY PATRICK HERAK

The Royal Northern College of Music Festival of Brass took place January 22-24 at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, UK. Aside from extensive concerts performed by the top six brass bands in the world, there were several other events including recitals, lectures, and informal concerts. This year's festival wove several themes throughout the weekend including a tribute to Philip Jones (on the 10th anniversary of his passing) and a salute to international composers, including composer-in-residence Torstein Aagaard-Nilsen and many Salvation Army composers from the States.

RNCM students opened the festivities Friday evening with the first of many fanfares composed in honor of Philip Jones. Black Dyke was the first band to perform, in their regular Friday night spot. The first half of their program featured a new euphonium concerto by Aagaard-Nilsen, commissioned by David Thornton. How this new piece was received is up for debate, but Thornton's fantastic playing was not, as he truly sparkled that evening. Sandy Smith, Dyke tenor horn player, arranged another exciting piece, "Stomp," especially for the festival. The first half closed with "Within Blue Empires," an encore of Black Dyke's winning perfor-

mance of the 2009 English Nationals test-piece. The second half brought the first salute to the other side of the pond, with the American immigrant Erik Leidzen's "Concertino for Trombone" performed by Brett Baker. Black Dyke ended the set with another one of their winning pieces from 2009, this time the British National Finals test-piece, "Torchbearer," by Peter Graham.

Following the concert, BBC2, made up of players from the Brass Band of Columbus, performed foyer music as many of the bandsmen headed to the bar. Columbus were not the only visitors from the States, however. Members of the James Madison University faculty, Chesapeake and Penn View Brass Bands, Saturday's keynote speaker and former NABBA President Dr. Ron Holz, and composer Bruce Broughton were also in attendance.

Euphonium players got quite a treat as Saturday opened with a recital by David Childs and a concert by the Leyland Band. Leyland has had quite a good pairing with two "arrived" composers (up-and-coming would not really give them enough credit), Simon Dobson and Gavin Higgins. The audience enjoyed several of their new works: "Torsion" (Dobson), "Fanfare and Lovesongs" (Higgins), and Lyonesse (Dobson).

Following the Leyland concert, Ron Holz was the first Keynote Speaker in the Festival's 20 years. His lecture focused on the two generations of American brass band composers. The first

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## FESTIVAL OF BRASS, CONT.

generation (immigrant) composers included Erik Leidzen, Emil Soderstrom and William Broughton. The second generation composers featured included William Himes, James Curnow and Bruce Broughton. The lecture included vintage photos and audio clips from works that show the American influence on, or perhaps interplay with, the British brass band style. Many of these works were performed during the course of the weekend. Dr. Holz did a fantastic job and was well-received by the international audience.

The Cory Band opened the Saturday afternoon slot with a new Gareth Wood piece: "Triumphant Brass." David Childs continued his monstrous performance day with the new Karl Jenkins euphonium concerto. Cory followed with a brilliant performance of Aagaard-Nilsen's "Circius." Then the band recreated two of their recent British Open victories: the 2007 test-piece, "Maunsell Forts," and 2009 test-piece, "Titan's Progress."

Leslie Neish began what would be an incredibly busy evening for him by co-conducting (with Juan Ortuno) the Junior RNCM Brass Ensemble in the RNCM foyer. Les was then off with James Gourlay to perform several tuba works as part of their CD release "Double Trouble" before finishing the day as principal bass of the Foden's Band. At roughly the same time as the CD release, festival director Paul Hindmarsh conducted his annual open conversation, this time with featured composer Torstein Aagaard-Nilsen.

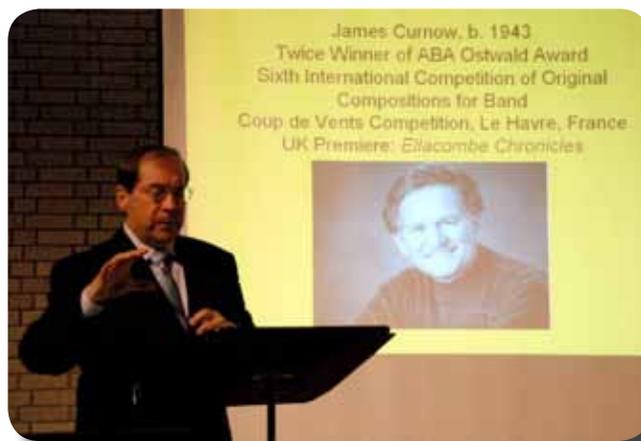
Saturday night has become Foden's time at the RNCM. Peter Meechan's "Purcell Variants" opened the con-

cert. It was great to hear that piece live again, as it seems to have been tucked away for a few years. There were several world/UK premieres on the program for Foden's including Andy Scott's "Battle of Barossa." The band closed the second half with "Journey Into Freedom." Once again, BBC2 provided music, this time in the bar as patrons made their way home after a full day of brass banding.

For those who were up early on Sunday, the Metropolitan Brass Ensemble began the day by performing a selection of Philip Jones's favorite brass quintets. The RNCM Brass Band and Brass Ensemble followed with a concert that included several UK premieres, including Aagaard-Nilsen's "Dampsanger" and Bruce Broughton's "Fanfares, Marches, Hymns and Finale."

David Thornton then performed

**Dr. Ronald Holz, Keynote Speaker at the RNCM Festival of Brass, presented a lecture on first- and second-generation American Brass Band composers.**



**Bruce Broughton, Ronald Holz and Tim Jameson at the Royal Northern College of Music Festival of Brass in Manchester, UK, January of 2010.**



BBC2, made up of members from the Brass Band of Columbus, performed incidental music at the Royal Northern College of Music Festival of Brass in January.

## FESTIVAL OF BRASS, CONT.

a short recital featuring three newly commissioned works for brass quintet and solo euphonium. Pieces included “Tiamat” (Pankhurst), “In Memoriam E.S.” (Dobson) and “Blizzard” (Isfryn). All the selections clearly showed that a fantastic new generation of composers has arrived.

Brighouse and Rastrick played a program almost entirely comprised of American pieces, so the audience was treated to guest narrator Ron Holz’s take on the works. Soderstrom’s “Minneapolis IV,” is a hidden gem of a march. Bruce Broughton’s “California Legend,” William Hime’s “Concertino for Flugelhorn”—brilliantly played by 18-year-old Zoe Hancock—and Leidzen’s “Sinfonietta” concluded the first half. The talents of Brighouse composer-in-residence Leigh Baker were displayed with the “Battle for Bosworth Field,” which included antiphonal herald trumpets and side drums, as well as narration. The UK premiere of James Curnow’s “Ellacombe Chronicles” was featured next. The Brass Band of Columbus commissioned this piece in 2009 as a 25th anniversary tribute to founder and director emeritus Dr. Paul Droste. The BBC representatives in the audience were quite pleased with the performance of this piece that should soon be a staple in the American brass band repertoire. Brighouse concluded with a couple of British pieces including a very lovely arrangement of the choral work, “The Gallant Weaver” by Paul Hindmarsh.

Dinner-time entertainment included a performance by the Chetham School of Music Brass Ensemble and recollections of Philip Jones by his wife Ursula, John Miller and Paul Hindmarsh.

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Grimethorpe Band concluded the festival with a first half that put the focus back on British composers. However, the pieces were not necessarily traditional. One highlight of the first half was Ellerby's wild and engaging "Cabaret Concerto" for piano and brass band. The second half featured performances of William Broughton's march, "The Roll Call," Bruce Broughton's "Covenant" and Aagaard-Nilsen's "Riffs and Interludes." After the finale from Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition," Grimethorpe finished the event with the only "pop" encore of the festival, "MacArthur Park."

Next year's RNCM Festival of Brass is tentatively set for the last weekend in January. All who attend are in for a treat at one of the most innovative and important brass band events in the world.

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**The Black Dyke Band performing in Manchester at the RNCM Festival of Brass.**



## EXIT RAMP

*Betsy Jones, Editor*

[www.nabba.org](http://www.nabba.org)

The views expressed by writers whose work appears in *The Brass Band Bridge* are not necessarily those of the North American Brass Band Association.

*The Brass Band Bridge* welcomes news, materials for review, communications, photographs, advertising, and scholarly articles on all aspects relating to and for the benefit of North American brass bands and their members. *The Brass Band Bridge* will print small ads, gratis, from NABBA member bands on a space available basis. Only one gratis ad per band per year will be printed.

Materials for inclusion in *The Brass Band Bridge* must be submitted as Microsoft Word documents and photos must be submitted as JPEG files (300 ppi [pixels per inch] resolution). Materials may be edited for content. A style sheet for *Bridge* submissions may be found at [nabba.org](http://nabba.org). Address all materials for publication (including queries about advertising rates and sizes) to: Betsy Jones (email: [nabbabridge@gmail.com](mailto:nabbabridge@gmail.com)), 134 Wingate Circle, Warner Robins, Georgia, 31088 USA.

Recordings and books for review should be sent to: Ronald Holz, Music Department, Asbury College, 1 Macklem Drive, Wilmore, KY 40390.

New music for review should be sent to: Colin Holman, 31 Joseph Lane, Glendale Heights, IL 60139.

*The Brass Band Bridge* is published four times a year, with major issues appearing in February/March (Championship preview), May/June (Championship review) and October (announcement of Championship test pieces). Issue 118 will be published on June 1, 2010. The deadline for submission of materials for inclusion in Issue 118 of *The Brass Band Bridge* is May 1, 2010.

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## IN FOCUS

### PULLEN PARK BRIDGE RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Issue 116 of *The Brass Band Bridge* features this charming wooden footbridge in Pullen Park. The 14th oldest amusement park in the world and the first public park in North Carolina, Pullen Park was donated (as a rocky cow pasture) to the city of Raleigh by Richard Stanhope Pullen in 1887.

Pullen Park is home to an historic Dentzel Carousel, as well as a bronze statue of Sheriff Andy Taylor with his son, Opie, from *The Andy Griffith Show*. Other park features include a miniature train ride, an air-conditioned indoor theater, an authentic Norfolk Southern Railway caboose, a swimming pool, tennis courts, ball fields, walking paths, gardens and several sandy play areas. The bridge leads over a central pond to a family picnic area.

With the exception of rides and concessions, attractions in Pullen Park are free and open to the public.

