

**BRIGHOUSE
TO THRILL AT
NABBA 2022**
guests announced
for gala concert

**STRIVING FOR
EXCELLENCE**
interview with
euphonium star
Grant Jameson

**CONTEST
COMMITTEE
UPDATE**
next stop
Huntsville!



CONTENTS

4

CONTEST COMMITTEE
update

5

CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022
update

6-9

GRANT JAMESON
interview

12-14

AROUND THE BANDS
the view from across the states



A MESSAGE from our president

Greetings from the NABBA Board. It is exciting to release another new issue of the Bridge. In addition to this, there are several new initiatives that we are excited to be rolling out. We are deep in planning for the 2022 contest and are looking forward to a fantastic event. With Brighthouse & Rastrick Band featuring Demondrae Thurman set for a Gala Concert it should be a wonderful way to get back to contesting after a two-year pause. Information regarding the contest will be updated on the Championships page on the website, so bookmark it and check in there.

We are also working towards making NABBA for ALL brass bands, and the first big step in this process is the development of a membership database system. You can now become a member of NABBA via our website and as time passes, we will be implementing special member benefits that everyone can use. While it does take time to build this up, we do hope that brass banders see the greater good in trying to build a community and connection with other banders and that NABBA is working to bring all of this together. This database will greatly assist us in building this community.

Another initiative we are working on is to partner with pre-existing events and to create new events in every region so that every band will have reasonable access to a live event for brass bands. While this is a multi-year project, we hope this helps to encourage bands to connect with bands not just outside their immediate vicinity, but in their region as well.

I am continuously humbled to work with the other volunteer members of this board of directors. We as a board have been working hard to develop an efficient way to work, driven by circumstances surrounding the pandemic, but certainly providing the opportunity to learn and implement new ways to work on projects while being spread out all over North America. Thanks to all of the Board Members for their continued dedication and efforts to help brass bands in the NABBA realm.

Tony Granados, President



NABBA President
Tony Granados

Vice-President
Dr. Patrick Herak

Secretary
Gavin Pritchard

Treasurer
Alex Schnautz

Ex-Officio
Anita Cocker Hunt

Board Members
Term ending July 1, 2022
Dr. John Bell
Aaron Campbell
David Jones
Dr. Bill Waterman

Term ending July 1, 2023
Jason Collier
Andrew Harms
Anita McAlister
Jon Heaver
Douglas Lindsey
Jesse Rackley
Sal Scarpa
Mark A. Taylor
Christopher Ward
Bryen Warfield

Brass Band Bridge Editor
Andrew Wainwright

Typesetting and Artwork
Andrew Wainwright

**Display and classified advertising
and general enquiries**
Email: granados@nabba.org

The opinions contained in the magazine are not necessarily a reflection of those held by the publisher, its editorial advisors or consultants. Neither does the publisher accept responsibility for claims made by those advertising in the magazine.



CONTEST COMMITTEE

next stop huntsville!

Mark Taylor reports

The Contest Committee of the NABBA Board of Directors has remained focused on its mission of planning fantastic events for our members and member bands. The current members of the Contest Committee include **Mark Taylor** (chair, Milwaukee FB), **Tony Granados** (NABBA President, Triangle BB), **John Bell** (St. Louis BB), **Christopher Ward** (Five Lakes SB), **Doug Lindsey** (Fountain City BB, Georgia BB), and **Bryen Warfield** (Old Crown BB).

Since last spring our team has undertaken a thorough review and update of the contest rule book, evaluated and selected competition repertoire for next April, and identified a diverse panel of excellent adjudicators to be engaged for the 2022 Championships. Most recently, we had the opportunity to make a site visit to our new home for NABBA Championships – Huntsville, AL.

The Von Braun Center in Huntsville is an excellent facility with the capacity to run two full band contesting venues simultaneously,

all under one roof. With multiple spaces for warm up, solo & ensemble performance, vendors/partners, and even a fantastic restaurant, the Von Braun Center will make a splendid home for the NABBA Championships. We also want to thank the members of the Huntsville Brass Band for their warm hospitality and for their assistance in making our plans for 2022. We are certain you are going to love the new setting.

Over the next few months, the Contest Committee will be hosting some live stream open forum events to share more information about our plans and to answer questions that members may have about contest entry, procedures, logistics, and more. Please stay tuned as we announce the details for these important events. In the meantime, we invite you to check out the Huntsville Convention and Visitors Bureau at www.huntsville.org to learn more about our new host city.

We hope you are as excited as we are to be together once again in April, 2022!



BRIGHOUSE AND THURMAN

to thrill at nabba 2022!

NABBA is thrilled to announce that the world-famous Brighthouse and Rastrick Band will be in Huntsville for next year's North American Brass Band Championships, to be held April 29-30, 2022 at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama.

The band will perform for the Gala concert on April 30, 2022 and will be joined by internationally-renowned euphonium soloist Demondrae Thurman. Brighthouse and Rastrick will also premiere a newly commissioned work by Kenneth Amis.

Registration for the Championships will be open November 15, 2021 through January 15, 2022.

Test Pieces

The set test pieces for the Championships are as follows:

Championship Section

And From the Darkness (Paul Lovatt-Cooper)

First Section

Facets of the Heart (Tom Davoren)

Published by Studio Music

Second Section

Hope (Dorothy Gates)

Self-published by Atiq Music

Third Section

Epainos (Joel Collier)

Published by Joel Collier Music

Youth Championship Section

Shine As the Light (Peter Graham)

Published by Salvation Army Eastern Territory

Youth First Section

Saint-Saëns Variations (Philip Sparke)

Published by Anglo Music



Brighthouse and Rastrick Band





Striving for excellence

In this interview, Brass Band Bridge talks to euphonium star **Grant Jameson**. Now principal euphonium of the Dallas Brass Band and in the midst of studies for his DMA at the University of North Texas, Grant studied euphonium at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, where he played with many of the UK's premier bands.

You come from a family of musicians, but can you tell us what it was like growing up in the Jameson household?

For me, growing up around a musical family has not only been a huge aid to my development, but also has broadened my horizons as a musician in trying to explore and learn from as many different genres as I can. There was always music going on in my household between myself practicing, my brother composing, and my dad listening for score study. Although I always love going back to Ohio and visiting my family, it is strange and almost sad to go back and not have the music of the entire family in one house.

Your father is a well known brass band conductor and currently conducts Dublin Silver Band. Can you tell us what influence he has had on you?

Anyone who knows me would be able to tell you that my father has always been a massive inspiration for me as a musician. When I was younger, he would often help me to improve on my instrument and the way I think about performing in general. His exposure to the brass band world when I was younger was a massive influence on how I have grown myself as a student of the genre, and sparked my interest to eventually take the step to live and study in the UK for six years.

You're a fine exponent of the euphonium but was that always your instrument? What is it about the instrument that appeals to you?

I started out on euphonium, yes! I have always loved the way that the euphonium can really sing both in solo settings and in an ensemble. In my mind, it is the cello of the brass family and is also one of, if not the most versatile brass instruments. I just love the flexibility it gives me as a musician to be able to try new things.

You studied at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama for six years with David Childs and played with some of the UK's finest bands. What was it like as a young American making the move to the UK? Can you sum up the impact the experience had on you?

It was honestly a huge cultural adjustment going from growing up in the states to moving

on my own to a totally foreign place. It took a long time for me to really get adjusted to the culture there, but it really taught me how to be a tough minded individual through that process. There is a completely different mindset to learning music there and I really love that about teachers in the UK. I had an amazing time living there for so long and learned so many invaluable tools while I was playing in so many great bands. Although I do miss it a lot, I am glad to be back in the states so I can do my best to share what I have learned (and continue to learn) with others about our fantastic genre.

What were some of your banding highlights while in the UK?

I was fortunate enough to play in many of the most prestigious contests in Europe while I was living in the UK. But it was always an absolute treat for me to have the opportunity to play at the British Open and at the Nationals in the Royal Albert Hall. To play in such prestigious venues was always high pressure, but I just loved that feeling of going on stage to perform on those huge contests.

While there you won the prestigious BBC Radio 2 Young Brass Musician of the Year. Can you tell us about this experience?

The experience of winning the BBC Radio 2 competition was absolutely fabulous. It was amazing to be able to go through



that process twice and play with some of the best bands in the country. Everyone involved in the competition was so easy to work with and they truly made all of the competitors feel welcome. Having the opportunity to be featured on such a renowned radio station is always an honour.

What were some of the differences you encountered between UK and US banding?

There are so many differences that I could tell you in my experience on both sides of the pond. The biggest differences in my experience are just the approaches to playing brass instruments. With the music scene in a lot of the states being heavily influenced by wind band, orchestral, and even jazz music, I think that there are just so many more pools where bands in the states take their players from. In some cases, this just takes some time to get past the initial ‘confusion’ of styles and approaches in bands here. In the UK, most of the community bands tend to be brass bands, whereas here it is wind bands and orchestras. So in the UK bands are sort of born and bred with the brass band sound. In the US, it takes a lot more time and sort of ‘forced’ exposure to the highest levels of the genre before bands really start to understand how to approach it.

You now find yourself on staff at the University of North Texas (UNT) and working again with David Childs. Can you tell us about your role there and what it’s like to be at one of the premier euphonium studios in the country?

Right now, I am working to complete my DMA at University of North Texas. Although I was honestly never expecting to come here and enjoy it after being in the UK for so long, I have been pleasantly surprised with how much I have enjoyed living in Texas the past three years. I am currently a Teaching Fellow at UNT and through that I teach a lot of the undergraduate students here before they end up studying with David. I also do a bit of conducting for the university’s Tuba-Euphonium ensembles and some chamber music coaching. The studio is mostly filled with like-minded individuals and is really a big family. You would think that with so many in one studio that it would be extremely competitive to an almost toxic degree, but in my experience here it is such a friendly atmosphere and everyone is just trying to help their peers improve.



In addition you’re principal euphonium of Dallas Brass Band, a relatively new band. Can you tell us about the band and how it has developed since your time there?

Dallas Brass Band has been around for nearly five years now, and has made tremendous strides from when I first joined the band just over a year ago. There are players from all around the Dallas Fort Worth area in the band, including quite a few current or former music college students and Salvation Army musicians. The band is planning on going to NABBA this year for the first time, which I believe will be a big eye opener to the band and I am extremely excited to be a part of their growing process as an ensemble.

What are your observations of the US banding movement currently, and how have you seen it develop over the past few years?

I believe the US banding movement is growing at the biggest rate it ever has been at the moment. There are more and more bands forming all over the country and the level continues to improve every year. I think it is very important for the movement to keep growing and for people to continue to spread awareness of the genre. The more that brass bands are promoted here the better the ensembles will end up becoming as a result.

Finally, what are your plans for the future?

My short-term plans are to finish my Doctorate at UNT in the next couple of years and to continue playing with the Dallas Brass Band and Dallas Winds. Longer term, I hope to grow my profile as a freelance musician as well as teach at the college level at a university. I am just keeping my options open on where I will end up living long-term, depending on what opportunities arise.

The New York Staff Band Signature & Heritage Series

NEW TITLES!

Great Are You Lord - David Leonard/Leslie Jordan/
Jason Ingram, arr. Joel Collier

This arrangement of the worship song, 'Great Are You Lord', seeks to depict the greatness and grandeur of God, an our passionate response in praise. 1300519 (Print); 1300520 (PDF) \$49.95 USD

Gabriel's Oboe - Ennio Morricone, arr. Dorothy Gates

The main theme from Ennio Morricone's score for the acclaimed film 'The Mission' is arranged here as a duet for Soprano Cornet and Alto Horn by Dr. Dorothy Gates.

1300521 (Print); 1300522 (PDF) \$49.95 USD

King of the Seven Heavens - Philip Harper

This cinematic overture from the pen of Philip Harper is built around the tune 'Slane', which Christians associate with the lyrics 'Be Thou My Vision'. 1300523 (Print); 1300524 (PDF) \$69.95 USD

Rhapsody on St. Francis - Andrew Wainwright

This major work for brass band is based on the tune to which we associate the words 'All Creatures Of Our God and King'.

1300525 (Print); 1300526 (PDF) \$69.95 USD

Take Up Thy Cross Trombone Solo - William Broughton

This solo for Trombone and Brass Band shows off the upper range of the instrument wonderfully. This piece is re-released in honor of the composer and star trombonist, William Broughton, who passed away in 2019. 1300517 (Print); 1300518 (PDF) \$29.95 USD

Heritage Series Previous releases

Heralds of Victory - Richard E Holz \$39.95 USD

Manhattan - Erik Leidzen

\$39.95 USD

Fanfare and The Star Spangled Banner
- arr Erik Leidzen

\$39.95 USD



Signature Series Previous releases

To Ask the Lord's Blessing - Simon Morton \$49.95 USD

Semper Fidelis - Martin Cordner \$49.95 USD

Be Still - arr. Paul Schwartz/Dorothy Gates \$49.95 USD

Tone Poem—Fearless - Andrew Wainwright \$69.95 USD

The Glory of Jehovah - Dorothy Gates \$89.95 USD

Americana - Martin Cordner \$69.95 USD

Star and Stripes Forever - arr Dorothy Gates \$29.95 USD

Shenandoah - Dorothy Gates \$29.95 USD

Living Power - Tom Davoren \$49.95 USD



American Band Journal

2021 Christmas Edition \$69.95 USD SKU 1300529

March - Christmas Presence - William Himes (ASCAP)

Away In a Manger - William James Kirkpatrick,
arr. Dorothy Gates (ASCAP)

Winter - Gustav Holst, arr. Simon Morton

Song Arrangement - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

- Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Norman Bearcroft



TO PURCHASE

call (845) 620-7481 or (845) 620-7443

WEB: music.saconnects.org Email: use.trade@use.salvationarmy.org



#usetrade



@USE_Trade



usetrade



USE Trade



DOING THE MOST GOOD

SOUNDS of the SEASON

12 CHRISTMAS CAROL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOLO INSTRUMENT OR VOICE & PIANO BY
KENNETH DOWNIE, WILLIAM HIMES & ANDREW WAINWRIGHT WITH ORCHESTRAL BACKING TRACKS



Books available for solo instrument in
C, Bb, Eb, F, Bass Clef and Vocal.
All books include Piano Accompaniment.

Full Orchestral Accompaniment tracks
available as MP3 downloads.

Soloist Showcase MP3 Album available
featuring Brett Baker, Iain Culross,
Jamie Hood, Gary Fountain,
Thomas Fountain, Tom Hutchinson,
David Koch, Kana Madaram,
Jonathan Phippen, Helen Williams &
Glenn van Looy.

Available soon at www.brookwrightmusic.com

BROOKWRIGHT
Music

RETIREMENT Sale

SOLID BRASS MUSIC, North America's sole distributor of
brass band music, is for sale. In addition to its 4,000+ brass band titles
(augmented recently by the purchase of Bernel Music), Solid Brass
also publishes 500+ brass band and brass chamber music titles
and retails 5,000+ brass solo and chamber titles.



FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT CASEY THOMAS
casey@solidbrassmusic.com
Serious inquiries only, please.



WWW.SOLIDBRASSMUSIC.COM

AROUND THE BANDS

the view from across the states

Dallas Brass Band

Despite the pandemic, Dallas Brass Band has managed to maintain a relatively active schedule since September 2020. This August saw the return of the band's Principal Conductor David Childs, who was able to return to the US from the UK after the enforced lockdown. With the band planning to attend NABBA in 2022, which will be its first ever contest performance since forming in 2017, it has been spending time working on potential own-choice test pieces, as well as working up new repertoire for the coming season.

The band is delighted to have accepted an invitation to the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA), where it will host a clinic on Thursday, February 10th 2022.

It has also recently moved rehearsal venues and is now rehearsing at The Salvation Army's Corps in Lewisville, just a few miles from the University of North Texas (UNT) where many of its members currently study. A Fall concert is planned for Sunday, October 24th at the new rehearsal venue and will raise money for The Salvation Army's music program.

In addition, the band has again been invited to support The

Salvation Army's DFW area Christmas concert again on Sunday, December 5th, and looks forward to a follow-up concert at the Ventana Retirement Home on Saturday, December 11th, where it played in the summer. It also looks forward to concerts at UNT and Dallas Arboretum in the new year.

Chesapeake Brass Band

Founded in 1996, the Chesapeake Brass Band will celebrate its 25th anniversary at a special anniversary concert on November 21st. The band is comprised of professional-level volunteer musicians from communities along the Chesapeake Bay region including Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. It is headquartered in Hockessin, Delaware.

Since its inception, the band has played hundreds of concerts throughout the Mid-Atlantic area and in New York, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio and Virginia. The band has released eight CDs, won honors in several national and regional competitions, and performed numerous times at NABBA, Dublin (Ohio) Brass Band Festival, and Gettysburg Brass Band Festival, as well as the national convention of the American Association of Concert Bands.

The anniversary concert will feature the world première of a piece commissioned for the band's anniversary entitled *Chesapeake Overture*. This work was composed by Douglas Hedwig from Kentucky. In addition, a new piece written by band member Jay Hildebrand entitled *Crabcake Fantasy* will give recognition to the band's geographic heritage.

For questions or additional information please call **302-530-2915** or email chesapeakebrass@aol.com or visit www.chesapeakebrassband.org

Five Lakes Silver Band

When Christopher Ward became the Musical Director and Conductor of the Michigan-based Five Lakes Silver Band in June of 2019, never could he have imagined that six months later all of his ambitious plans for the band would be interrupted by a global pandemic. Instead of preparing for some upcoming contests, he and the band board were tasked with the challenge of navigating a course through a historic and unprecedented health crisis.

"When I took over we had made a number of changes in the band and things were building nicely for us," Ward recalled. "Then everything shut down." The last indoor concert, prior to the pandemic, took place in the magnificent Old Saint Mary's Church in Detroit.

How FLSB handled the crisis is a testament to their persistence and passion for banding to continue against tremendous odds. The band's ability to nimbly pivot and devise a new strategy enabled it to move forward, albeit in a different manner, and create a model that worked for them, while many other bands were forced to come to a screeching halt or radically limit their ability to make music. The band conducted four virtual performances featuring the Beatles' *When I'm 64*, attracting 24k views.

That wasn't sufficient for MD Ward and the board of directors. A poll was taken and virtually the entire band was on board with trying to reassemble in person during the summer of 2020. A great deal of research was conducted on the virus, protocols were put into place to keep the band as safe as possible. Members of the

band followed them diligently. "It felt so good to be back," Ward said, "that nobody wanted to mess up."

Live concerts soon followed with four performances at the Wildwood Amphitheater in Lake Orion, MI, where several hundred band enthusiasts attended. Then came two Whit Friday contest contributions, a live no-audience Christmas Concert and, more recently, participation at the Great American Band Festival in Danville, Kentucky.

In addition, the band held a weekend of zoom masterclasses with world renowned instrumentalists Brett Baker, Sheona Wade, Les Neish, Tom Hutchinson and Gary Curtin.

Gramercy Brass Band

The 17th Annual Gramercy Brass Band Camp (GBBC) was held at Montclair State University in New Jersey from July 28 - 31. However last year, GBBC went 100% virtual. This was challenging, but very exciting and attended by brass band students and friends from many parts of the globe.

This July, GBBC was held IN PERSON and 90% outdoors, enhancing safety precautions for everyone. A gala finale performance was held with approximately 60 participants at the magnificent amphitheater on the MSU campus. GBBC 2022 will be held from July 25 - 31. Overnight accommodations will be in place





as well for 2022. Please contact Danielle at GBBC@gramercybrass.org for further information about GBBC 2022 or the Cali School of Music at MSU. GBBC also has a Facebook page at [facebook.com/GBBCamp](https://www.facebook.com/GBBCamp)

2022 also marks the 40th anniversary of Gramercy Brass Orchestra of NY. Celebrations are being planned. For further information on Gramercy Brass Orchestra of New York, please visit its website at www.gramercybrass.org or its Facebook page at [facebook.com/gramercybrass](https://www.facebook.com/gramercybrass)

If you have any questions, please email jlambert@gramercybrass.org or call 212 229 7607.

Princeton Brass Band

The last time NABBA saw Princeton Brass Band was five years ago in 2017. Since then, PBB has gone through several major changes and developments. In April 2020, the band's first change in leadership was announced with Aaron VanderWeele joining as Music Director. Mr. VanderWeele is currently engaged by the New York Staff Band, but also played Solo Euphonium with PBB in its title-winning 2013 year. The band has undergone a number of personnel changes as well, with 60% of its seats being filled by new members in the last year. It also changed its venue, moving from Rider University to the Imperial Music Center in South River.

Despite the challenges of the last year, PBB has put on multiple performances in the summer of 2021 and is already hard at work rehearsing for the upcoming season. The band is excited to continue growing its audience base within Central New Jersey.

The band has two new homes: its rehearsal space at the Imperial Music Center, and its online home at its updated website: www.princetonbrassband.org. Readers are invited to follow PBB on Instagram and Facebook [@princetonbrassband](https://www.facebook.com/princetonbrassband) and to subscribe to its newly relaunched Youtube channel, which will feature content from past and future performances.

River City Brass

River City Brass easily could have been a casualty of Covid if it hadn't made significant cutbacks to assure its financial viability. The band has reduced the number of player services, shortened its season, and tightened budgets in all departments. In addition to these cuts, Artistic Director James Gourlay has taken a 30% reduction in salary. It has had to make these sacrifices to ensure its survival.

But one thing we will never sacrifice is the quality of the music. The band is returning with the FULL 28-member ensemble, which gives RCB the sonic power and textural depth that audiences have come to love. This season, its fans will enjoy the same band that won their hearts before anyone had heard of Covid-19. And its return is just in time.

RCB's first concert was in November of 1981, so it will be celebrating 40 years of great music all season long! The band has a remarkable history, but its future looks bright too, which is why it has titled this season *The Roaring 40s!*

It will begin in November with *Birthday Bash*, a collection of swinging classics from the 1940s. Then in December and March, it will present its *Christmas Brasstacular* and *Celtic Connections* concerts. Both have become annual traditions for families across Southwestern Pennsylvania. In April, *Brass to the Future* takes place, a concert featuring music chosen by the band's audience, and in May it finishes the season with *Resilience*, a concert that celebrates its collective triumph over the dark days of the recent pandemic.

Those last two concerts will also feature works by finalists in its first-ever River City Brass New Composition Prize. Aspiring composers from around the world will be invited to compete and the winner will be chosen by the RCB audience.

The band has come together as an organization to assure that it is around for another 40 years - and that in itself is a fantastic success story!

Triangle Brass Band

The Triangle Brass Band is entering its 35th season and is really looking forward to getting back to normal. While concerts are shaping out to be normal, the rehearsal situation is still flexible and ever changing. The first event scheduled is an outdoor concert, and in December it will host trumpet soloist Rex Richardson, a concert which the band had to cancel one week after the lockdown occurred.

Winter 2022 will be contest preparation and it will look to host its brass band festival in June. If there are any bands that would like to perform at the event on June 4th, please contact the band via its website. Triangle Brass Band is very happy to be able to meet and make music each week and looks forward to things getting back to normal.

NABBA WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR PARTNERS:

Sweetwater®

Music Instruments & Pro Audio

NABBA wishes to thank Sweetwater Music for their generous support of the NABBA Championships

VisitFortWayne®

INDIANA

BrassPass.tv

Centre Stage



NABBA
North American Brass Band Association

P R E S E N T S

BRIGHOUSE & RASTRICK IN CONCERT

CHAMPIONSHIP GALA CONCERT
APRIL 30, 2022 - HUNTSVILLE, AL



Also featuring
Demondrae Thurman
Euphonium Soloist

World premiere of a
NABBA-commissioned
work by Kenneth Amis



www.nabba.org