



# OCEAN SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL WIND SYMPHONY

Thursday, January 25, 2024 - 6 p.m.  
Mississippi State Honor Band Clinic  
Bettersworth Auditorium in Lee Hall  
Starkville, Mississippi





The Ocean Springs School District is located in a suburban community of approximately 18,000 people on the beautiful Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Life on the coast slows down in Ocean Springs where there is time to stroll oak-draped streets and discover secluded beaches. Ocean Springs is a community that embraces the arts and is the home of many local, state, and nationally recognized artists. The city offers a wealth of history, southern cuisine, galleries, shops, beautiful bayous, and excellent schools.

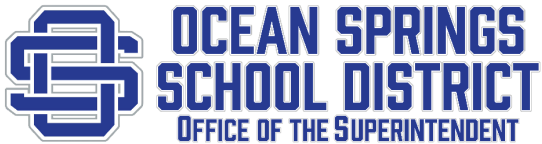
The district has kept pace with the residential and commercial growth of the Gulf Coast by the leadership of its five board of trustees who work to ensure that every student attends exceptional schools with nurturing atmospheres and receives instruction from outstanding educators.

Serving over 1,800 students, Ocean Springs High School is a high-performing school and recently won a silver medal from U.S. News and World Report as being one of the best high schools in the United States. Over 600 dedicated personnel foster excellence in academics, the arts, and athletics. Students who attend Ocean Springs High have the opportunity to take advanced placement course work and enroll in the International Baccalaureate Program, and AP Capstone. Ocean Springs School District is made up of Ocean Springs High School, Oceans Springs Middle School, Ocean Springs Upper Elementary, and Magnolia, Oak, and Pecan Park Elementary Schools.

It is the vision of Ocean Springs School District to educate and inspire all students to their highest levels of achievement.

It is the mission of the Ocean Springs School District to teach our students essential content and strategies, which will enable them to apply knowledge beyond their school experience and to have a positive impact on society.

Excellence in Academics, Arts, and Athletics is what we do.



2300 Government Street  
Ocean Springs, MS 39564  
Phone: (228) 875-7706  
**Michael Lindsey**  
*Superintendent*

It is my distinct pleasure to extend a heartfelt welcome to the 2024 Mississippi State Honor Band Clinic on behalf of the Ocean Springs School District. At the core of our high school music program, the Winds Symphony holds a pivotal role in embodying the musical and academic excellence for which Ocean Springs is renowned.

Our students continually fill us with pride, showcasing their achievements, dedicated work ethic, and extraordinary talent within our esteemed music program. The Ocean Springs School District recognizes excellence in the Arts, Academics, and Athletics, and our Winds Symphony is a stellar example of that commitment to excellence.

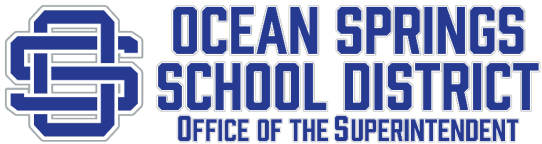
I wish to express gratitude for the tireless efforts and collaborative spirit of our band members, directors, conductors, parents, and the community whose unwavering support underpins the success of our music program. This is a testament to our extraordinary fine arts programs in the Ocean Springs School District, and we remain deeply thankful for the support extended to our students.

We are deeply honored that the Ocean Springs Wind Symphony has been selected to be a guest performer at this year's clinic. We trust that their performance will enrich your experience at this clinic, and we sincerely hope you thoroughly enjoy your time at this event.

**Sincerely,**

**Michael Lindsey**  
*Superintendent*





**2300 Government Street**  
**Ocean Springs, MS 39564**  
Phone: (228) 875-7706  
**Michael Lindsey**  
*Superintendent*

Dear Mississippi State Honor Band Clinic,

Ocean Springs High School continually strives for excellence within all our academic, arts, and athletics programs. We are extremely proud of the commitment to excellence within our band program provided by the leadership of Mr. Kevin Shira and our assistant directors. It is a true honor for Ocean Springs High School to be selected to perform in the 2024 Mississippi State Honor Band Clinic. As principal, I have witnessed the hard work and further commitment to excellence of our extremely talented students.

Our students' commitment to excellence has been the catalyst that helps them earn this outstanding achievement to perform. I also applaud our band parents for their continued support of our band program. Ocean Springs High School is committed to the fine arts and recognizes the importance that exemplary programs have in education.

On behalf of the staff, students, parents, and community of Ocean Springs High School we thank you for the opportunity for the Ocean Springs High School to perform at this prestigious festival. We hope you enjoy the performance.

Go Greyhounds!

**Braxton Stowe, Ph.D.**  
Principal





## THE OCEAN SPRINGS BAND PROGRAM

The Ocean Springs High School Band Program is recognized as one of the finest high school band programs in Mississippi. The program is made up of the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds, Concert Band, Blue-Grey Pride Marching Band, Pep Band, Jazz Band, as well as a variety of student chamber ensembles. Ocean Springs High School operates on a 4x4 block schedule. As a result, students enrolled in the band program receive approximately 90 minutes of daily band instruction.

The Ocean Springs Blue-Grey Pride Marching Band is composed of all student members of the three concert ensembles with additional membership from the Varsity Dance Team and Color Guard. Annual participation in this group typically ranges from 250-300 students, making it one of the largest high school marching bands in the state of Mississippi. The Blue Grey Pride provides rousing entertainment at all home and away football games and serves as our marching ambassadors for all City of Ocean Springs parade events. The Ocean Springs Blue-Grey Pride Marching Band consistently scores superior ratings in every category of marching band performance. While this has been the standard for quite some time, significant improvement in marching band performance quality has taken place in recent years. This was especially evident during the 2019 fall semester as the marching band attained two Grand Championship titles as well as additional class and over-all caption awards. In the spring of 2020, Ocean Springs High School Band Program received the Program of Excellence award from the American School Band Directors Association. This year the Blue-Grey Pride earned straight Superiors at State Marching Festival as well as took another Grand Championship title at the 2023 South Alabama Marching Band Championships.

The strength of the Blue-Grey Pride Marching Band has a direct relation to the quality of the concert bands at Ocean Springs High School, for they are the cornerstone of the program. Students audition for placement into one of three concert ensembles including the Wind Symphony, Symphonic Winds, Concert Band 1, and Concert Band 2. The Wind Symphony is the premier performing organization of the Ocean Springs Band Program and has a rich history of being identified as one of the truly outstanding high school concert bands in the state. The Wind Symphony consistently receives superior ratings in concert and sight-reading performance and has been honored, through invitation, to perform at many significant events. Past performance appearances include the All South Honor Band Conference at The University of Southern Mississippi, the 44th Annual Southeastern United States Honor Band Clinic at Troy University, the 80th Annual Mississippi Bandmasters Association State Convention, the 6th Annual William Carey University Honor Band Clinic, 2021 CBDNA/NBA Southern Division Conference, the 2020 American Bandmasters Convention in Biloxi, MS, the 2022 Tri- State Honor Band Festival, held on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, and the 2023 Western International Band Clinic held in Seattle Washington.

Individual musical development and achievement are critical to the success of the Ocean Springs Band Program. Numerous students are selected every year for various clinics and honor bands throughout the region. The Ocean Springs High School Band continues to have the highest number of students selected for membership in both the Mississippi All-State Concert Band and the Mississippi Lions State Band.

While great attention is dedicated to developing musical excellence, additional efforts are provided to foster a true sense of band family. Through embodying respect, caring, compassion, understanding, acceptance, teamwork, and leadership; a higher level of musical artistry may be achieved by all members of the Ocean Springs band program.

# PROGRAM

*Fanfare Hayabusa*

Satoshi Yagisawa  
b. 1975

*Halcyon Hearts*

Katahj Copley  
b. 1998

Randall Coleman, Guest Conductor

*The Parting Glass*

Setting by Matt Conaway  
b. 1979

John C. Taylor, Guest Conductor

*British Eighth*

Alonzo "Zo" Elliott  
1891 - 1964

Elva Kaye Lance, Guest Conductor

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

Gustav Holst  
arr. Robert W. Smith  
1958 - 2023

*Minimalist Dances*

Matt Conaway

# PERSONNEL

## FLUTE

Olivia Villines\*  
Catie Rushing  
Curtysha Roberts  
Lily Lindsay  
Azia Smith

## OBOE

Madeline Roberts\*

## BASSOON

Karli Albaral\*

## B<sup>b</sup> CLARINET

Andrew Covelli\*  
Francisco Valentin  
Caleb Morrison  
Laura Rios  
Alex Abbott  
Julia Philippoff  
MacKenzie Butler  
Marielle Wedgeworth  
Ethan Morrison

## BASS CLARINET

Jackson Smirthwaite\*

## CONTRABASS CLARINET

Evan Parsley\*

## ALTO SAXOPHONE

Carter Monforton\*  
John Holley

## TENOR SAXOPHONE

Charlie Smith\*  
Avery Lyndall

## BARI SAXOPHONE

Melodee Johnson\*

## TRUMPET

Matthew Merrill\*  
Seth Reid\*  
Jazz Rodrigues  
Amie Daniel  
Tyler Gatlin  
Jackson McArdle

## HORN

Jhett Hopper\*  
Dade Watson  
Caleb Sage  
Maddy Mader

## TROMBONE

Vincent Dinehart\*  
Cody Chen  
David Wesley Besancon  
Nadia Landry  
Gabriel Hernandez  
Luke Raybon

## BARITONE

Jaxson Salter\*  
Nathaniel Blanchard  
Jaxson Cowan

## TUBA

Ethan Horne\*  
Jacob Manning  
Scott Davis

## PERCUSSION

Jason Quiros\*  
Tristan Lartigue  
Adam Villines  
Hayden Van  
Will Mullins  
Connor Mallory  
Noah Lewis  
Princeton Chesney  
Matthew Church



## CONDUCTOR



**Kevin Shira** is currently in his seventh year on staff at Ocean Springs High School, serving in his third year as the Director of Bands. His teaching responsibilities include directing the Blue-Grey Pride marching band, conducting the Ocean Springs High School Wind Symphony, and instructing the double reeds at Ocean Springs Upper Elementary. Prior to joining Ocean Springs High School, Mr. Shira spent two years as the Assistant Director of Bands for the Pass Christian School District. His concert ensembles earned consistent superior ratings both at local and state evaluations. In the Fall of 2016, he assisted the award winning Pride of the Pass Marching Band as they won the Class 4A silver medal, placing first in music.

Shira attended Colonial Forge High School in his hometown of Stafford, Virginia. His Bachelors in Music Education was earned at The University of Southern Mississippi where he was actively involved in promoting the School of Music. At USM, Shira performed with the Symphonic Winds, Symphony Orchestra and in numerous chamber ensembles under the direction of Dr. Mohamad Schuman, Dr. Jay Dean, and Dr. Kimberly Woolly. Shira was a four-year drum major of The Pride of Mississippi, leading them in performance at the 84th annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the 2011 Conference USA championship Game, and several other bowl game appearances. In 2019, Mr. Shira received his Masters of Music Education degree at William Carey University studying with Dr. Wes Dykes and Dr. Jeremy Morgan. In December 2019, Mr. Shira was awarded the prestigious A.E. McClain Outstanding Young Band Director Award from the Mississippi Bandmasters Association. In his short tenure as Director of Bands, the Wind Symphony has performed at the 2022 Tri-States Honor Band Weekend on the campus of the University Tennessee Chattanooga and The 2022 Western International Band Clinic in Seattle Washington. In 2024, the Wind Symphony will perform at the Mississippi State Honor Band Clinic in Starkville Mississippi and the Music For All National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis Indiana. On January 1, 2025, the Blue Grey Pride will have the honor to march in the London New Year's Day Parade in London England

Mr. Shira is a member of the National Band Association, Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity, the National Association for Music Education, The Mississippi Bandmasters Association, and the Gulf Coast Band Directors Association where he currently serves as 1st Vice President. Mr. Shira resides in Pascagoula Mississippi with his husband Patrick and their dog Benji.

## GUEST CONDUCTORS



**Randall Coleman** is currently the Director of Bands and Professor of Music at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga where he serves as the conductor of the UTC Wind Ensemble and Director of the Marching Mocs. He also teaches undergraduate conducting and wind band organization classes. Prior to his July 2021 appointment at UTC, Professor Coleman served as the Associate Director of Bands and Professor of Music at the University of Alabama. Additionally, Professor Coleman serves as Conductor and Artistic Director of the Alabama Winds, an all-adult community wind band based in Birmingham, Alabama. Prior to his appointment to the faculty at the University of Alabama in 2007, Mr. Coleman enjoyed a successful 25-year career as a high school band director and supervisor in metropolitan Atlanta, Georgia. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education at Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, Alabama, and the Masters of Music Education degree from Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Professor Coleman has been published seven times as a Research Associate to the Teaching Music Through Performance in Band book series published by GIA publications. He has conducted the University of Alabama Million Dollar Band in performances at the Southeastern Conference Football Championships, and in the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans, Louisiana, the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California, the Orange Bowl in Miami, Florida, and the Fiesta Bowl in Glendale, Arizona where the Crimson Tide won the 2009, 2011, 2012, 2015, 2017 and 2020 National Championships. Under his direction, the Alabama Winds has given invitational performances at the 2015 and 2019 Alabama Music Educators' Association Inservice Conference and at the 2016 University of Alabama Honor Band Festival, and the 2020 Samford University Honor Band Festival. Alabama Winds also was a featured performer at the 2017 Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, Illinois.

Professor Coleman is an elected member in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association and is currently serving the National Band Association as national President. Professor Coleman also holds membership in the National Association for Music Education, the Tennessee Music Educators' Association, the Georgia Music Educators' Association, and the Tennessee Bandmasters Association. He also holds membership in Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters' Fraternity, and honorary memberships in Phi Mu Alpha and Kappa Kappa Psi.



**John C. Taylor** is in his second year as Assistant Director of Bands at Ocean Springs High School. His teaching responsibilities include assisting with the Blue-Grey Pride Marching Band, conducting the Ocean Springs Symphonic Winds, leading the OSHS Jazz Band, and starting all high brass beginners at Ocean Springs Upper Elementary School. Taylor has twenty-seven years of experience ranging from sixth grade through college band. Among his previous positions, he has served as Coordinator of Instrumental Music and Director of Bands for the Biloxi Public School District, Assistant Director of Bands at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, and as the Director of Bands at Pascagoula High School. After earning his Associate of Arts degree in music from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College in 1993, Taylor went on to earn both his bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from The University of Southern Mississippi. (1996, 2002) While there he was fortunate to study conducting under Dr. Steven Moser, Dr. Gary Adam and Dr. Thomas V.

Fraschillo. In 1993 the band department at USM awarded him Bandsman of the Year, and in 1995 he was named Most Outstanding Musician of the Pride of Mississippi Marching Band.

In 2022, Taylor was awarded a Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association in recognition of his service to bands and band students while the Director of Bands at Pascagoula. During his tenure there he served at the assistant concert director for the Mississippi Lions All State Band (2012) and was twice named High School Band Director of the Year by the Gulf Coast Band Directors Association (2017, 2023).

Taylor holds memberships in the Mississippi Bandmasters Association, the National Band Association, Phi Beta Mu International Bandmasters Fraternity, and the American School Band Directors Association. Taylor has lived in Ocean Springs with his wife Stacey since 1998 and has two children, Wesley and Jacey. Since 2000 he has played lead trumpet with the Mississippi Gulf Coast rock band Dr. Rock and the Interns, and he was a member of the Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra from 2002 until 2014. While teaching Taylor has been active as an arranger for high school and community college bands across the southeast.



**Elva Kaye Lance** is Director of Bands at Mississippi State University. Her current responsibilities include conducting the Wind Ensemble, providing leadership for the Famous Maroon Band, and administering all aspects of the band program. Ms. Lance also teaches Advanced Conducting and Secondary Methods in the Department of Music. A veteran music educator of more than forty years, she previously taught instrumental music in the public schools of Mississippi.

Now in her 32nd year at Mississippi State, Ms. Lance has guided the band program through the completion of a multimillion-dollar rehearsal facility and construction of a new synthetic turf practice field. Under her leadership, the band program has seen the expansion of the band staff and a student enrollment that now includes four concert bands, jazz band, two basketball pep bands, and a marching band with an enrollment of approximately 400 students.

As a conductor, she has led the Wind Ensemble in performances for international concert audiences during a 2008 tour of the British Isles, a 2011 tour in Austria and Germany, and an Italian tour in 2014 which included a performance at the International Music Meeting in Padova, Italy. In addition to an annual regional performance tour in the fall semester, in May of 2019 the Wind Ensemble performed in Germany, Austria, and the Czech Republic, and in early 2020 for the American Bandmasters Association Convention.

Ms. Lance maintains an active schedule as a clinician and adjudicator for both concert and marching band events throughout the country. Additionally, she has been a contributor to the Teaching Music Through Performance in Band series.

In 2011, she received the "State Pride" award from the College of Education for excellence in teaching, research, and service and the Edythe M. McArthur Outstanding Woman Band Director Award for the state of Mississippi. She was named Outstanding Bandmaster for Mississippi in 2015, and in 2017 was named Outstanding Contributor to Bands in Mississippi by the Delta Chapter of Phi Beta Mu. She was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association in 2018.

Ms. Lance has served as the state chair for the College Band Directors National Association and is presently the state chair for the National Band Association. She is Past President of the International Bandmasters Fraternity Phi Beta Mu. Additional professional memberships include the Mississippi Bandmasters Association, Kappa Kappa Psi, Sigma Alpha Iota, and the National Association for Music Education.



# OCEAN SPRINGS BAND STAFF

**Kevin Shira**

Director of Bands Ocean Springs School District

**John Taylor**

Assistant Director of Bands Ocean Springs High School

**Chancey Parker**

Assistant Director of Bands Ocean Springs High School

**Cam Roberts**

Director of Percussion Ocean Springs School District

**Elizabeth Jackson**

Director of Bands Ocean Springs Middle/Ocean Springs Upper Elementary

**Noah Barnett**

Assistant Director of Bands Ocean Springs Middle School

