

East Stroudsburg Area School District

2016 Music Hall of Fame Inductees



Anthony DeAngelis

Anthony is a graduate of East Stroudsburg Area High School-North, Class of 2002. At High School-North, he participated in both band and choir in a variety of capacities. Perhaps one of the greatest accomplishments of his high school years was the composition of the High School-North Alma Mater. Anthony earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music from Penn State University, where he studied composition and began honing his skills in the world of musical theater. Upon graduation from Penn State, he began a short stint of touring, serving as the musical conductor of "The Producers" for nine months on tour before moving to New York City. Within a short time, he made his Broadway debut playing in "The Little Mermaid." Anthony was then offered a full scholarship to study conducting at The Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music, where he earned a Master of Music degree. He then returned to the road, playing as well as conducting the first national tour of "The Addams Family." He moved to New York City permanently in 2013 and began playing and working on a number of Broadway and Off-Broadway productions. Since then, he has had the pleasure of working with such diverse artists as John Tuto, Justin Guarini, Laura Benanti, Michael Cerveris, Jeremy Jordan, Peter Asher, Santino Fontana, Jonathon Groff, Bobby Lopez, Kristin Lopez, Eddie Brickell and Steve Martin. Martin and Brickell wrote "Bright Star," which made its Broadway premier in the Spring of 2016, with Anthony serving as the associate musical director. In addition, Anthony has orchestrated for The Cincinnati Pops, The New York Pops, and The National Symphony in Washington, D.C. Recently, he has turned his attention toward composing, with a forthcoming musical in the works with his collaborators, in conjunction with their producer, which will likely have the work on stage by 2018.

Robert L. Hickey Jr.

Robert is a graduate of East Stroudsburg Area H.S., Class of 1996. He began playing clarinet at Smithfield Elementary School in 4th grade, later participating in high school Marching Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Choir and Chorale. His ESHS band achievements included: Drum Major (1996); 4 PMEA superior solo ratings; PMEA District 10 Band (1993-96); PMEA Region V Band (1994-96); PMEA All-State Band (1996); Bands of America National Concert Band, Chicago, IL (1994-96); National Band Association Concert Band, Knoxville, TN (1994) and New Orleans, LA (1996); and COTA Cats Jazz Band (1995). Robert earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education (2001) and Master of Music degree in Wind Conducting (2015) from The Pennsylvania State University, and as an undergraduate, participated in The Penn State Blue Band, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Penn State Philharmonic, Chamber Orchestra, Le Grand Cochon Wind Quintet, Concert Choir, University Choir and Essence of Joy. His graduate responsibilities included serving as Graduate Assistant for Concert Band and Athletic Bands, Assistant Conductor for Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band, Concert and Campus Band Conductor, and he designed a halftime show for the Penn State Blue Band (November 1, 2014). Robert studied clarinet with Smith Toulson and Anthony Costa, and his conducting teachers have included Dennis Glocke, Richard Bundy, Lynn Drafall, Anthony Leach, Emily Therinen, and Craig Kirchhoff. He has served as a music teacher in the Stroudsburg Area School District, Williamsport Area School District and Warrior Run School District, and as an adjunct instructor at Bucknell University and Lycoming College, teaching studio clarinet and woodwind methods. He has performed with the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra, Williamsport Chamber Choir Orchestra, Susquehanna Valley Chorale Orchestra, Penn Central Wind Band, Community Theatre League Pit Orchestra, Essence of Joy Alumni Singers, ACTUP Orchestra conductor and Keystone Saxophone Quartet. Currently, Robert is serving as the Director of Bands and Visiting Associate Professor of Music at Fairmont State University in Fairmont, West Virginia, where he teaches courses in music education, music appreciation, and advanced conducting. His professional memberships include: WVMEA, NAFME, CBDNA, WASBE, Pi Kappa Lambda Honorary Music Fraternity, and Kappa Kappa Psi Honorary Membership. Presently, Robert lives in Williamsport, PA with his wife Marisa and daughter Kirsten.



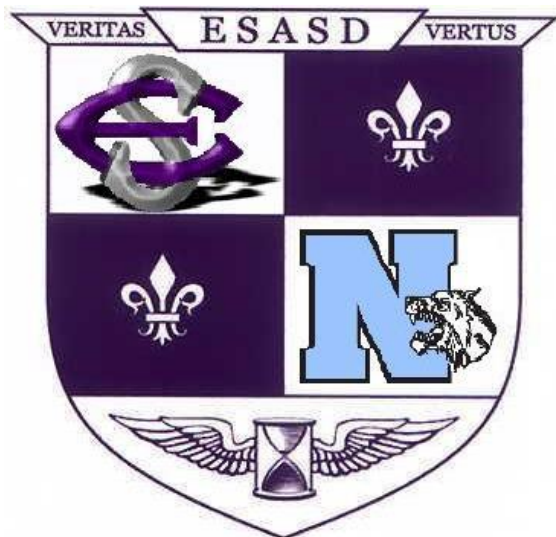


Najwa Parkins

Najwa is a graduate of East Stroudsburg High School-North, Class of 2006. During her time in the ESASD, Najwa excelled academically, athletically and musically. She was a member of the National Honor Society, graduating in the top 5% of her class, while earning varsity letters in marching band, track and field, soccer and field hockey. During her senior year, she was elected field hockey team captain by her teammates, and was voted (2005) Homecoming Queen by her classmates. Music became an

integral part of her life at a young age, when as an elementary school student, she began playing the trombone in the band and singing in the chorus, also beginning to study playing the guitar when she was nine years old. By the time she left junior high school, Najwa had been a member of Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, JTL Crew, LIS Crew, LIS Chorus and several regional honor choirs. She began studying voice and electric bass at age 13, and performed with jazz groups at various local venues for public and private events at age 14. In high school, she was selected to perform as a member of the COTA Cats Jazz Band as a trombonist and vocalist from 2002 to 2005. Najwa played leading roles in the HS-North musicals from 2002 to 2006. She was a member of the 2005 District Band and, in 2006, performed at Carnegie Hall as a member of the National Honor Choir. Najwa earned a B.M. degree in Jazz Studies and Vocal Performance from Temple University, receiving numerous merit-based scholarships and awards, while performing at prestigious venues and festivals as a trombonist and vocalist with the Temple University Big Band. After graduation from Temple, she released her debut album, "*Not the Next Someone Else*," in 2011. She has shared the stage with a wide array of artists, including Benny Golson, Larry McKenna, Bob Dorough, Nellie McKay, Donn T, Houston Person, Nicholas Payton, Phil Woods and Branford Marsalis. Najwa has performed in various schools, performance venues and festivals in the United States and Europe, including the Levitt Pavilion in Pasadena, New Brunswick Jazz Project performance series, Kimmel Center, ArtsQuest Center at SteelStacks Musikfest, Detroit Jazz Festival, Hague Jazz Festival, COTA Jazz Festival, Rockwood Music Hall, Barnes Foundation, Deer Head Inn, Jazz Bridge Neighborhood Concert Series, African American Museum in Philadelphia, Twin City Opera House, Philadelphia Museum of Art and Historic Hotel Bethlehem. She has performed as both a vocalist and trombonist as a member of Phil Woods and the Festival Orchestra and is the featured vocalist on their 2013 release "*New Celebration*." She can be seen and heard on the Emmy Award-

winning television show, “Alex and the Kaleidoscope,” which premiered in March, 2014. Currently, Najwa is a professional bandleader, vocalist, composer, lyricist, writer, music educator and actor. She toured nationally during the winter of 2016, portraying Rosa Parks in the Mad River Theater Works production of “Walk On: The Rosa Parks Story.” She earned an M.S. degree in professional writing from New York University in May, 2016, then returned to Temple University in the fall of 2016 as an adjunct faculty member in the vocal jazz department. As an artist and performer, Najwa says that she believes in the importance of connecting with the audience by telling stories through music, while she draws upon life experiences in writing her own music and lyrics as well as in her interpretation of the music and lyrics of others.



Past inductees into the East Stroudsburg Area School District Music Hall of Fame have included: (2002) Doreen Derr Bondy, *Marguerite Cramer, John Eaton, *Bernice Nauman, Dr. Kenneth Raessler, *Clement Wiedinmyer, Robert Zellner; (2003) John E. Casagrande, Judith Farmer, Stuart Jones, David Lantz Jr., Melissa Mary Lengua, *Louis Millard; (2004) Suzanne Anderson, Sallie Ferree, Jere Lantz, Stanley R. Schoonover, Michael Silvoy; (2005) Michael L. Ehrlich, Tasitha (“Tassy”) Newcomb Gilbert, Steven R. Mathiesen, *Larry Zaccaro

Jr.; (2006) Jennifer Schoonover, Vincent Yanovitch; (2007) Dr. Katharine (“Katchie”) Cartwright, Patrick C. Dorian and Rebecca DeSanto Taylor; (2008) Robert C. Hartman, Susan Farmer Talley, David Springfield and Ly Wilder Tartell; (2009) Samuel DeRenzis, Zachary Giffel, Cory D. Miller and Robert Posten; (2010) Cynthia (Cindi) Bowman Copeland, Daniel Gelber, James A. Martini and Jenny Wunder Galunic; (2011) Michael Drolet, Brian McNulty, Kristen J. Smith and William Stine; (2012) Susan Moore Jordan, Caryn Kerstetter and Jennifer Kitchen; (2013) Christina Caiazzo-Pritchard, Jeremiah Downes, Kathaleen Joffe, Gordon L. Fung and Daniel Omelio; (2014) Robert E. Fetterman, Jr., Peter F. Maaser and Gail Stettler Napoliello; (2015) Kimberly Sisson Conklin, Debbie Myers, Judy Myers and Linda M. Schaller.

*-deceased