

MISSOURI MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
86TH ANNUAL IN-SERVICE WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE



KIRKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
Symphonic Orchestra



FRIDAY JANUARY 26, 2024
1:15PM
PARADISE/SALON A

Kirkwood High School
Symphonic Orchestra

Mrs. Fariga Etoza Drayton-Conway, Director
Ms. Sarah Klevorn, Substitute Conductor

Missouri Music Educators Association
86th In-Service Annual Conference

Tan-Tar-A Resort
Osage Beach, MO

Friday, January 26, 2024
1:15pm
Salon A

About the Kirkwood School District

Our Vision: *Every student - engaged, empowered, and ready for success.*

Our Mission: *To equip students with the skills, knowledge, and understanding to be empathetic, successful, and to value all people.*

In partnership with its dynamic communities, the Kirkwood School District has built a solid reputation as a place where children and their needs come first. Kirkwood schools and communities share a proud heritage and respect for tradition as well as a progressive attitude toward education for all children. District staff, parents and community members work together to provide innovative educational programs which focus on what today's youth must know and learn to become tomorrow's leaders. Chartered in 1865, the district is among the oldest in St. Louis County and one of the oldest west of the Mississippi River. Located in southwest St. Louis County approximately 15 miles from the city of St. Louis, Kirkwood School District covers an area of 15 square miles and serves all, or portions of, eight suburban communities including Des Peres, Frontenac, Glendale, Huntleigh, Kirkwood, Oakland, Town and Country, and Warson Woods. With sidewalks and tree-lined streets, many Kirkwood School District neighborhoods are within walking or biking distance of the district's five elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school. There is also a Kirkwood Early Childhood Center, which is a licensed and fully accredited early education center serving families with children up to age 10. The programs offered include preschool, early childhood special education and Parents As Teachers. The Kirkwood School District and its surrounding communities reflect a blend of old town charm with new suburban vitality. Residents enjoy beautiful parks and recreation facilities, thriving municipal business districts, large shopping malls, an open-air produce market, and a nationally acclaimed children's science museum. Several parochial schools and a community college are located within the district's boundaries.

Kirkwood School District Board of Education

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K I R K W O O D
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Kirkwood School District Orchestra Program

Kirkwood's orchestra program has a proud tradition of excellence. With an enrollment of over 450 students, the program is continuing to grow and evolve. String instruction begins at the elementary level. Fourth and fifth grade students attend two 40-minute group lessons per week in homogenous instrument classes. In the last two years, the Kirkwood string staff has created an online curriculum and resource bank for beginners which includes teacher-made instructional videos for all student playing assignments. Students at Nipher and North Kirkwood Middle Schools receive instruction by grade level but perform as combined, multi-level ensembles for concerts. Kirkwood High School is home to two orchestras, each with an enrollment of greater than 50 students who receive instruction four days per week. Middle and high school students participate in solo/ensemble festivals and local youth orchestras. Students study a variety of orchestral periods and styles with an emphasis on 20th century music.

Kirkwood School District has earned state and national recognition for excellence in string education. Nipher Middle School has performed at the MMEA conference (2014), the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic (2014), and Carnegie Hall by invitation (2016). The Kirkwood High School Symphonic Orchestra has previously performed at the MMEA conference (1996, 2000, 2006, 2012, 2017, 2024) and was selected by the Field Studies of New York as one of three orchestras invited to perform at Carnegie Hall (2010). Each year, Kirkwood students participate in Missouri All-State Orchestra, the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Young People's Symphonic Orchestra at Webster University, and others. Graduates have attended top music schools nationwide, including the Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, Cleveland Institute of Music, Oberlin Conservatory, the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, and the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University.



Program

“Overture to the Wind”Kirt Mosier

“Sleep”Eric Whitacre

Overture: “Our Creed Is Our Shield”Claude T. Smith



KHS Symphonic Orchestra 2023-2024

FIRST VIOLIN

Sarah Lichtenberg*^

Angelina Casey*^

Carter Chen^

Sienna Staten^

Maddy Dickinson

Sophia Webb

Simone Ayers^

Joci Ferkel^

Nate Bauer^

Sophie Schaeffer

Leyna Davis

Ebba Schroeder

Maddie Stoner

Pavel Hardy

SECOND VIOLIN

Nora Schroeder

Felix Dickinson

Coyle Mosley

Olivia Newsham^

Lily Driscoll

Cristian Galindo-

Knudsen

Piper Schwabe

Isaac Wilhelm~

Agnes Smith+

David Miller

Grace Muchnick~

Sean Finnerty

Holden Hess

Ella Maclellan

VIOLA

Sydney Bedell*

Ashley Moenkhoff

Lucas Chaney^

Sophia Gampp

Sadie Moore^

Avery Taylor^

Noah Mariscal~

Daphne Wassel

Quinn Sells

Maggie McKay

Grace Holland

CELLO

Will Chen

Jake Saldana~

Stevie Potter

Alex Gow~

Rachel Walkenhorst

Weston Marks

Peyton Londe+

Poppy Keplinger

Taija Robison

Genevieve Harris

DOUBLE BASS

Quinn Judge*^

Katie Klein*^

Harry Falk*^

Taeko DeKoter

Noah Dehler*^

Bella Mosley

Isaiah Smith*^

Senior Class of 2024 in bold

* MO All-State
Orchestra

+ St. Louis
Symphony Youth
Orchestra

^ Webster Community
Music School YPSO

~ Webster Community
Music School YPCO

+ SLSMEA All
Suburban Honors
Orchestra



Kirkwood High School 2023-2024 Honors

ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Mallory Mihm, viola

2024 Missouri All-State Orchestra

Angelina Casey, violin
Sarah Lichtenberg, violin
Sydney Bedell, viola
Mallory Mihm, viola alternate
Noah Dehler, bass
Harris Falk, bass
Quinn Judge, bass
Katherine Klein, bass
Isaiah Smith, bass alternate

WEBSTER UNIVERSITY

COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

Young People's Symphonic Orchestra

Sarah Lichtenberg, violin
Angelina Casey, violin
Nate Bauer, violin
Carter Chen, violin
Olivia Newsham, violin
Joci Ferkel, violin
Sienna Staten, violin
Simone Ayers, violin
Lucas Chaney, violin
Avery Taylor, viola
Sadie Moore, viola
Katie Klein, principal bass
Harry Falk, bass
Noah Dehler, bass
Quinn Judge, bass
Isaiah Smith, bass

Young People's Concert Orchestra

Gus Soell, violin
Isaac Wilhelm, violin
Grace Muchnick, violin



About the Director



Mrs. Drayton-Conway started her teaching career in 2004 in the Alton School District located in Illinois. During her tenure, her musical ensembles consistently received First Superior Ratings at both Large Ensemble Contest and Solo/Small Ensemble Festivals for seven consecutive years. Additionally, she founded the Schumann Chamber Orchestra, a 20-piece honors ensemble that won the Six Flags Music in the Parks Festival Orchestral Division and was featured at an Alternative Music Concert during the Illinois Music Educators Association Conference (ILMEA) and Clinic in 2011.

Mrs. Drayton-Conway has also directed several other orchestras, including the Alton Jr. Youth Symphony for 4th-8th graders, the 2006 All-Suburban 7th/8th Grade Honors Orchestra in St. Louis, MO, the 2018 ILMEA District Jr. Honors Orchestra in Edwardsville, IL, the 2019 Southwest Missouri District Jr. Honors Orchestra in Joplin, MO, and the 2022 Alabama Orchestra Association Consort String Orchestra at the University

of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL.

Currently, Mrs. Drayton-Conway is in her 13th year of teaching in the Kirkwood School District. She has achieved many accolades, including the 2014 MMEA performance with Nipher Middle Orchestra, the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in December 2014, and the National Youth Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in March 2016. Her outstanding achievements have been recognized with the 2016 Nipher Middle School Teacher of the Year award and the 2019 Missouri American String Teacher Association Secondary Educator of the Year award.

KSD String Staff

Sarah Klevorn, KHS Concert Orchestra, North Kirkwood Middle School Orchestra, Beginning Violin and Beginning Viola,



Sarah Klevorn is in her seventh year of teaching orchestra for grades 4-12 in the Kirkwood School District. She currently teaches beginning violin and viola classes and serves as Director of the Kirkwood High School Concert Orchestra and the North Kirkwood Middle School Orchestra. Ms. Klevorn holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education and a Certificate in Violin Performance from Florida State University, as well as a Master's degree in Music Education from the Eastman School of Music. Influential teachers include Corinne Stillwell (FSU), Juliana Athayde (Eastman) and Dr. Kent Perry (SIUE). As a graduate of Kirkwood School District, she is proud and honored to teach music at her alma mater. Her students have earned the Gold Rating and Adjudicator's Award at the Orlando Heritage Festival (2020),

Superior ratings at local performance festivals, and seats in local and state level honors orchestras.



KIRKWOOD
SCHOOL DISTRICT

In addition to Kirkwood, Ms. Klevorn has conducted the Young People's Concert Orchestra (YPCO) at Webster University Community Music School for three years. Prior to her return to St. Louis, she was the Associate Orchestra Director at Winter Park High School in Orlando, FL, where she was the recipient of the 2016 WildCat Spirit Award. When not teaching, Ms. Klevorn enjoys gardening and performing in local orchestras and churches.

Cynthia Brown, 5th Grade Strings



Violinist Cynthia Brown was born and raised in Southern California. She was a member of the Honolulu Symphony and the Galliard String Quartet before moving to St. Louis.

Currently, she performs with the Salem-St. Louis Chamber Orchestra, the Illinois Symphony, the Bach Society of St. Louis and the Metropolitan Orchestra of St. Louis.

She has been a guest artist at the Kapalua Chamber Music Festival on Maui and with the Strings in the Mountains Festival in Colorado as well as being a member of the Sun Valley Music Festival in Idaho. She earned her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the University of Southern California in Violin Performance where she studied with Eudice Shapiro, Alice Schoenfeld and Glenn Dicterow and was a member of the USC Graduate String Quartet. She has been on the faculty of the Webster Groves Community Music School and currently maintains a private studio.

Hannah Frey, Beginning Violin



Violinist Hannah Frey is a freelance musician and educator in St. Louis. She is first violinist of the Perseid Quartet, a member of Third Millennium World's Fair, and plays regularly with the Metropolitan Orchestra of St. Louis and various shows at the Fox Theater. She has performed with many other area groups including the St. Louis Symphony and the MUNY Orchestra, and she was Concertmaster of Winter Opera St. Louis for over a decade. In addition to her role with the Kirkwood Orchestras, she teaches violin and chamber music at Washington University of St Louis, and maintains a large private studio at her home. Hannah received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music with Linda Cerone and William Preucil.

Carl Hoff, 5th Grade Strings



Carl Hoff is a native St. Louisan. He attended Kirkwood schools for grades K-9, where he began violin studies with Martha Klann. He holds a B.S. in Music Education from Missouri State and a Master of Music in Performance from SIU-E. He also earned Suzuki certification while studying with John Kendall. Mr. Hoff recently retired from a 30-year career as a string specialist in the Rockwood School District, where he taught Beginning/ Intermediate strings and Orchestra. He has been an active orchestral and freelance violinist in the St. Louis area for over 35 years. He currently serves as concertmaster of the University City Symphony and is a member of the Salem Chamber Orchestra, Landolfi String Quartet, and the Gateway



Festival Orchestra, where he performs with a string quartet to promote the orchestra's urban education/ outreach program, "Develop the Active Listener." Through the years, Carl has played shows at The Fox, Stiefel Theater, and Hollywood Amphitheater for such artists as Smokey Robinson, The Moody Blues, Barry Manilow, Dionne Warwick, and Idina Menzel. He teaches privately at the West County School of Music and at his home studio.

Monet Royal, *Beginning Viola and grades 6-12 Teaching Assistant*



Monet Royal is a native of St. Louis, Missouri. She earned her Bachelor of Music degree in Viola Performance from Southeast Missouri State University and her Master of Music in Viola Performance from Oklahoma State University, where she was a Patti Johnson Wilson Fellow with the Tulsa Symphony. Ms. Royal has performed internationally in Guardiagrele, Italy and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. She has also performed in orchestras of color such as the Colour of Music Festival in Sacramento, California and Orchestra Noir for the first Red Bull Symphonic in the United States. Ms. Royal is the Orchestra Teaching Assistant at Kirkwood School District and enjoys working with students who share her passion for music.

Bailey Salinero, *Beginning Violin*



Bailey Salinero began her violin studies at the age of 5 and holds two degrees from Florida State University: a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance and a Masters in Arts Administration. She has played with numerous orchestras and ensembles in Florida and Georgia and attended summer music programs including Brevard Music Institute, Green Mountain Chamber Festival, and Lyricafest. Bailey has been fortunate to play alongside artists such as Renee Fleming, YoYo Ma, Anne Sophie Mutter, Rachel Barton Pine, and Joshua Bell.

In 2017, Bailey moved to St. Louis with her husband and built up a robust studio while serving on the faculty of the Community Music School of Webster University. Her students have gone on to study with members of the St. Louis Symphony, participate in All-State, and attend college on music scholarships. Bailey currently works for a non-profit that provides music lessons and resources to underserved neighborhoods in St. Louis while continuing to teach and perform.

Acknowledgements

Sarah Klevorn for generously agreeing to conduct today's performance and for shouldering leadership of the KSD Orchestra program in my absence, including rehearsals, trip planning, communication with students, parents and staff, and day to day teaching of Symphonic Orchestra class.

Kelly Judge for conducting rehearsals in my absence and for leading KOPA for so many years with creativity, generosity and passion for the Kirkwood orchestra program.

KHS Symphonic Senior Class of 2023: who appeared on the accepted MMEA recorded application: Steven Aguilar, Cecilia Bartin, Gia Borbonus, Nathan Bronstein, Ayla Burba, Anna Chellis, Macy Christensen, Janie Dubberke, Madison Griffin, Andrew Hickman, Morgan Hooker, Luisa Parker, Elizabeth Riti, Micaiah Roth, Greer Schnider, William Stark, Marin Vines and Javier Wise.

Kirkwood School District administrators Dr. David Ulrich, Superintendent, Dr. Seth Harrell, Principal of Kirkwood High School, Dr. Joshua Flores, Stephanie Owens, Dr. Courtney Ford, Dr. Mike Gavin and Dr. Shiree Yeggins (Performing Arts Administrator), Assistant Principals of Kirkwood High School, and Kelly Schnider (Performing Arts Department Chair) for supporting the orchestra's performance today.

Kirkwood School District String Staff: Sarah Klevorn, Hannah Frey, Bailey Salinero, Cynthia Brown, Carl Hoff, Patrick Jackson (retired), and Joe Kaminsky (retired), for their consistent and firm teaching at the beginner level, which has enabled us to have an exceptional high school program; to our amazing TA, Monet Royal, for her encouragement of the students and for providing countless sectionals and individual coaching.

Parent Chaperones for today's trip: Kris Miller, Patrick Driscoll, Kate Lichtenberg, and Katie Schaeffer, deserve a special thanks for their support.

KOPA (Kirkwood Orchestra Parents' Association) Kelly Judge, President; Carla Nemmers, Vice-President; and Carrie Chen, Secretary, for ongoing support of the Orchestra program

Top Notch Violins, especially Chris Clark, for generously providing financial support that funded transportation for today's event.

Elizabeth Wright, KSD Performing Arts Secretary, for supporting the department daily and managing details of today's trip, including programs, transportation, lunch, and communication with parents, students, and staff.

Ensemble Clinician, **Patrick Jackson** for volunteering his time to clinic our students. Your wealth of knowledge has been a blessing to my life for nearly 35 years.

To My Parents, **Freddie and Elizabeth Drayton**, for your love and support in every endeavor in my life. I would not be here without you :)

To My Husband, thank you for your unwavering support, *especially this year*. I appreciate you so much! Love you!

KIRKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

