



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Department of Music and Theatre

ISU Wind Ensemble

Michael Golemo, conductor

Beth Lipman, artist

Mike Giles, alto saxophone soloist

Aiden Griffen, James Garcia, Maddie Bond & Carl Balvanz,
clarinet soloists

Friday, February 13, 2026

7:30 pm

Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall

Program

Bravado (2023)

Gala Flagello (b. 1994)

Bravado was written for the 2023 Tanglewood Music Festival and explores the many connotations of the word “bravado,” a descendent of the Old Italian adjective bravo, meaning “wild” or “courageous.” A person with bravado can be seen as bold or reckless, daring or arrogant, confident or overbearing. This composition for wind band musically embodies this range of traits through the transformation of the piece’s primary melody.

Gala Flagello is a composer whose work is inspired by a passion for lyricism, rhythmic vitality, and fostering meaningful collaboration. Her music, described as “at times endearingly whimsical, at times ominous, but always moving” (*Cleveland Classical*), resonates with audiences through its emotional depth and dynamic expression.

The Musketeers (2016)

Oscar Navarro (b. 1981)

IV. Presto

Aiden Griffen, James Garcia, Maddie Bond & Carl Balvanz, clarinet soloists

According to the composer: “*The Musketeers* is a fantasy for four clarinets and wind band inspired by Alexandre Dumas’ novel *The Three Musketeers*. With this fantasy I’ve attempted to musically translate the essence of Dumas’ work, describing the main characters and leaving a door open to the imagination since it would be impossible to musically narrate the entirety of the exploits of D’Artagnan and the other three musketeers.”

Composer Oscar Navarro was born in the town of Novelda (Spain), where he began his musical studies. He received degrees in composition and clarinet performance from the Conservatorio Superior Oscar Espla in Alicante. Later he studied composition and conducting at the Allegro Internacional Music Academy in Valencia followed by study at the University of Southern California to specialize in Composition for Film and TV.

They Can’t Take That Away from Me (1937)

Music by **George Gershwin** (1898-1937)

Lyrics by **Ira Gershwin** (1896-1983)

Mike Giles, alto saxophone

With today being the day before Valentine’s Day, we thought it appropriate to ask Mike Giles to join us in playing two romantic songs. These arrangements were created by the film composer Warren Barker.

They Can’t Take Away From Me was introduced by Fred Astaire in the 1937 film *Shall We Dance* and gained huge success. The song is performed by Astaire on the lonely foggy deck of a ferry from New Jersey to Manhattan. It is sung to Ginger Rogers, who remains silent listening throughout. The song notes some of the things that Peter (Astaire) will miss about Linda (Rogers). The lyrics include “the way you wear your hat, the way you sip your tea”, and “the way you hold your knife, the way we danced till three.” Each verse is followed by the line “no, no, they can’t take that away from me.” The basic meaning of the song is that even if the lovers part, though physically separated, the nostalgic memories cannot be taken from them.

Stardust (1927)

Hoagy Carmichael (1899-1981)

Lyrics by Mitchell Parish (1900-1993)

Encyclopedia Britannica has defined *Stardust* as “one of the most renowned and recorded standards in all of American music.” It has been recorded over 1500 times by a variety of performers including Glenn Miller, Louis Armstrong, Bob Dylan, Nat King Cole, Ella Fitzgerald, Ringo Starr, and Willie Nelson. It has also been used in several movies, including *Goodfellas*, *Casino*, *The Aviator* and *Sleepless in Seattle*. The lyrics focus on the concept of lost love. It is a classic song that is considered a part of the *Great American Songbook*.

Comments from Beth Lipman, artist

Concerto for Wind Ensemble (2026)

Michael Golemo (b. 1960)

- I. **Bronze**
- II. **Glass**
- III. **Hive Mind**

According to the composer:

When Iowa State University Madden Endowed Director and Chief Curator of University Museums, Lynette Pohlman, contacted me about having a musical event to celebrate a major sculpture, *Hive Mind*, on our campus, I was immediately intrigued. I met Lynette and artist Beth Lipman at the Christian Petersen Art Museum where Beth's art is on exhibit. I was shown a small-scale version of her sculpture *Hive Mind*, and then asked to look out the window, where a 15-foot version stood just outside Beardshear Hall. Wow!

We decided on having a special night to celebrate this sculpture and a special composition of music to add to the festivities. Hence, *Concerto for Wind Ensemble* was born.

I met with Beth Lipman, learned about her sculptures, which are mainly in glass and bronze. Her work is thoughtful, creative, dazzling, whimsical and truly beautiful. In celebrating her work musically, I settled on a concerto of three movements – bronze, glass and *Hive Mind* – which is a combination of the first two movements as *Hive Mind* is a work of bronze and glass.

This concerto was commissioned in honor of Beverly and Warren Madden. For over 50 years the Maddens served Iowa State both professionally and personally. Warren was the Senior Vice President for Business and Finance, while Beverly served as a faculty member and in administration. Both are alumni and major supporters of Iowa State University.

Bronze – Think power. Think metal. Think percussion instruments that include brake drum, anvil, chimes, bells, tam-tams, and suspended cymbals. When I think of power, I think of strong open fifth intervals with little harmony. The melodies are reminiscent of the 70s band Tower of Power yet return later in an Asian setting – as bronze has an impact in the Chinese culture. The ending was fun to create... listen and watch for the bowed cymbal which roars, then echoed by two saxophones who play harmonics into a bronze tam-tam.

Glass – Lots of translucent glass, like in the *Superman* movie, the “house of ice.” Wind chimes, bell tree (vertical bells), vibes and crotales provide color. Instead of traditional tonal harmonies at the beginning and end, I opted for falling augmented chords which provide a unique color. Warren Madden played the bass clarinet and the contrabass clarinet, so you will hear solo passages for both of those instruments in this movement.

Hive Mind – Combines themes, harmonies, colors and rhythms from the first two movements. Beverly Madden was a clarinetist, so you will hear a clarinet solo in this movement. As I look at *Hive Mind* – it depicts a “rolling” bale of hay. Hence, this work uses lots of 16th-notes and rhythms that lean forward as if it is rolling downhill. I wanted this movement to end with a “heroic” ending to celebrate the work in its glory and majesty – and a fantastic addition to the Iowa State University campus.

Come Sunday (2018)

Omar Thomas (b. 1984)

- I. Testimony
- II. Shout!

According to the composer:

Come Sunday is a two-movement tribute to the Hammond organ's central role in black worship services. The first movement, *Testimony*, follows the Hammond organ as it readies the congregation's hearts, minds, and spirits to receive The Word via a magical union of Bach, blues, jazz and R&B.

The second movement, *Shout!*, is a virtuosic celebration - the frenzied and joyous climactic moments when The Spirit has taken over the service.

Hailed by Herbie Hancock as showing "great promise as a new voice in the further development of jazz in the future," educator, arranger, and award-winning composer Omar Thomas has created music extensively in the contemporary jazz ensemble idiom. While completing his Master of Music Degree Thomas was appointed to the position of Assistant Professor of Harmony at Berklee College of Music at the surprisingly young age of 23. Following his Berklee tenure, he served on faculty of the Music Theory department at The Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Now a Yamaha Master Educator, he is currently an Associate Professor of Composition and Jazz Studies at The University of Texas at Austin.

The ISU Wind Ensemble features sixty of the finest student wind and percussion players on the Iowa State campus. Its repertory includes challenging music from the sixteenth to the twenty-first centuries. The Wind Ensemble regularly commissions new works and often features renowned guest conductors, composers and soloists including Simon Estes, Timothy Reynish, John Corigliano, the Boston Brass, Frank Ticheli, Ray Cramer, the Dallas Brass, Lance LaDuke, John Philip Sousa IV, Johann de Meij, Julie Giroux, Leigh Howard Stevens, Col. Craig Hallatt, and Patrick Sheridan.

Under the direction of Michael Golemo, the Wind Ensemble has performed in Chicago's Orchestra Hall (twice), Minneapolis' Orchestra Hall and Omaha's Holland Center for the Performing Arts. They have performed for the Iowa Bandmasters Association convention six times and toured Europe nine times since 2003. A trip to Taiwan is being planned for May 2027.

Michael Golemo has been the Director of Bands at Iowa State University since 1999. From 2005 to 2017, he also served as the Chair for the Department of Music & Theatre. In addition to conducting the Wind Ensemble, he teaches courses in conducting and oversees a program of eleven bands.

He is a past president of the Iowa Bandmasters Association. He is also a past president of the Big Twelve Band Directors Association and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity. In 2007 he was elected to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association and in 2021 was awarded the distinguished title of "University Professor" at Iowa State.

Dr. Golemo has served as the guest conductor, adjudicator, and clinician for numerous bands at the middle school, high school and collegiate levels in the United States, Europe, Taiwan and Japan. He has conducted all-state bands in Iowa, Nebraska, Louisiana, Idaho, New Mexico, Colorado and Texas – and later this year the Wisconsin all-state band.

He has contributed articles to a variety of journals and publications including *The Instrumentalist*, *The Journal of the Association of Concert Bands*, *The Podium*, the *Iowa Bandmasters Association* magazine and *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band* to name a few.

Dr. Golemo is also a well-received composer and arranger. He has over 400 arrangements and transcriptions for wind band and marching band to his credit. He has composed over two dozen works for concert band. His music is primarily published by Timeworks, Ludwig, Barnhouse, and Santa Barbara music publishers.

Dr. Golemo is the conductor of the Ames Municipal Band. A native of Chicago, he received his Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music degrees from Northwestern University and his doctorate in wind conducting from Michigan State University.

E-flat clarinetist Aiden Griffin, clarinetist James Garcia, and bass clarinetist Carl Balvanz are all seniors in music performance. Next year all three plan to attend graduate school. Following that, they aspire to teach clarinet and seek professional performance opportunities.

Clarinetist Maddie Bond is a junior studying music education. She plans to teach middle school and later pursue a master's degree in wind conducting.

All four clarinetists study with Dr. Gregory Oakes, Professor of Clarinet at Iowa State.

A native Iowan, **saxophonist Mike Giles** is a vibrant and accessible musician. He is in constant demand as a performer and clinician and stays active as an improviser and writer. He has fused his varied skill set and diverse musical background into a unique perspective that he shares successfully in the classroom and on the stage.

His dedication to discovering and developing inventive approaches to teaching and performing has established him as a recognizable voice on the creative music scene. He has appeared as a soloist in front of a giant marching band, wedged into assorted orchestras, at community bandshells, at the mainstage of national jazz festivals, standing at home plate with a bunch of bananas, and in concert halls throughout Europe.

At Iowa State, he leads the saxophone studio and jazz program. Learn more at www.creativemusicstuff.com

Artist Beth Lipman has exhibited her work internationally at such institutions as the Ringling Museum of Art (FL), ICA/MECA (ME), RISD Museum (RI), Milwaukee Art Museum (WI), Gustavsbergs Konsthall (Sweden) and the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum (DC). Her work has been acquired by numerous museums including the North Carolina Museum of Art, Brooklyn Museum of Art (NY), Kemper Museum for Contemporary Art (MO), Smithsonian American Art Museum (DC), Jewish Museum (NY), Norton Museum of Art (FL), and the Corning Museum of Glass (NY). *ReGift*, a site-specific installation investigating the life of Florence Scott Libbey, is on view at the Toledo Museum of Art.

Lipman has received numerous awards including a USA Berman Bloch Fellowship, Pollock Krasner Grant, Virginia Groot Foundation Grant, and a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Grant. She has been an Artist in Residence at the Alturas Foundation, the John Michael Kohler Arts Center's Arts/Industry Program, and the Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship. Recent works include *Living History*, a large-scale site-specific commission for the Wichita Art Museum (KS) that investigates the nature of time and place and *Belonging(s)*, a sculptural response to the life of Abigail Levy Franks for the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art (AR).

Her new work ***Hive Mind*** is a large-scale outdoor sculpture fabricated in bronze and glass for Iowa State University's campus.

Wind Ensemble

Piccolo

Haley Kelley, Colo

Flute

* Olivia Weil, Waukee
Jenna Scherrman, Cedar Rapids
Faith Leonard, Norwalk
Autumn Familio, Commack, NY
Kadynce Winters, Iowa Falls

Oboe

* Hayley TeKippe, Johnston
Lucas Kral, Stafford, VA

Bassoon

* Ben Heiderscheid, Center Point
Jessica Warner, Plano, TX

Contrabassoon

Joshua Schwarz, Papillion, NE

E-flat Clarinet

Aiden Griffin, Yorkville, IL

Clarinet

* James Garcia, Denison
Maddie Bond, Polk City
Katie Husak, Tama
Abby Taliaferro, Delmar
Amelia Basler, Cedar Rapids
Josephine Mowrer, Ames
Ashley Gilson, Altoona
Sharon Wirth, St. Louis, MO
Marie Hardt, Storm Lake
Claire Lawler, Iowa City
Seera Smadi, Gilbert

Bass Clarinet

* Carl Balvanz, Ames
Jade Roush, Huxley

B-flat Contrabass Clarinet

Brynn Fuller, Altoona

Alto Saxophone

* Nick Celsi, Waukee
Bradyn Anderson, LeMars

Tenor Saxophone

Ben Drzycimski, Cedar Rapids

Baritone Saxophone

Eli Ebeling, Pella

Trumpet

* Jacob Aldrich, Newton
Matthew Wilkinson, Naperville, IL
Arthur Lübberstedt, Ames
Trevor Averhoff, Evansdale
Cora Reed, Polk City
Eli Potter, Jewell
Jessica Stoker, Gilbert
Kaelee Wolf, Bettendorf

Horn

* Kyle Laake, Davenport
Kjersten Ouverson, Clear Lake
Sarah DenHerder, De Soto
Emma Heine, Ankeny
Emily Kibbe, Ames
Chance Studer, Algona
Allison Mersman, Aurora, IL

Trombone

* Elias Vargas, Sioux City
Quinlan Hall, Lenexa, KS
Paige Ford, Ankeny
Hunter Hallengren, Milford

Bass Trombone

* Garrett Atherton, Ocheyedan
Atticus Pottratz, Ankeny

Euphonium

* Daniel Brumm, Ames
Ernesto Cole, Cedar Rapids

Tuba

* Noah Hook, Ankeny
Eli Brockman, Urbandale

Percussion

* Andrew Reil, Platte City, MO
Jersey Bilyeu, Cedar Rapids
Jake Dalmer, Ankeny
Reece Gross, Ankeny
Nathan Markham, Mason City
Abbi Smith, Johnson
Sam Swegle, Mason City

Piano

Jonathan Stoker, Gilbert

* *denotes principal*

Upcoming Events

Monday, February 23

ISU Wind Ensemble

7:30 pm at North Polk High School Auditorium

Wednesday, February 25

Jazz Night – “The Music of Thelonious Monk”

7:30 pm at Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall (\$10)

Friday, February 27

Symphonic Band

7:30 pm at Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall (\$10)

Saturday, February 28

Concert Band and Campus Band

3:00 pm at Ames City Auditorium (\$10)

Wednesday, March 4

Jazz Night – “Jazz Night Rocks!!!”

7:30 pm at Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall (\$10)

Friday, April 24

ISU Wind Ensemble

7:30 pm at Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall (\$10)

Thank you to...

Lynette Pohlman, Larry Curry, Chad Jacobsen, Jonathan Sharp and
Kappa Kappa Psi & Tau Beta Sigma Band Fraternity and Sorority
for the help with tonight's concert

The Wind Ensemble will be traveling to Taiwan in May 2027

If you would like to support our students' travel, please send your gift to the
ISU Foundation at 2505 University Boulevard, Ames, IA 50010, and tell them your gift is for the
Wind Ensemble Tour Fund SG2700593.

Following tonight's concert, a reception will be provided by the University Museums

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Friends of Music and Theatre.**

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- to prepare music and theatre students for professional life,
- to create high impact learning experiences for students across the university,
- to serve as the cultural life force for the university, Iowa, and beyond,
- and to provide a welcoming community for all.

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