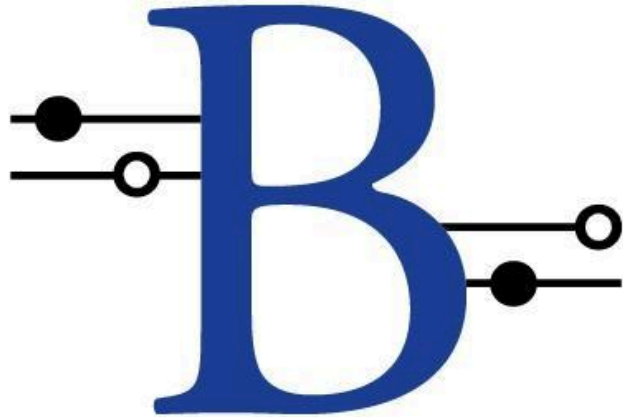


Brainerd Music Department Presents:
A Winter Band Concert



BRAINERD BAND
H I G H S C H O O L

Featuring: Varsity Band, Concert Band,
Symphonic Band, and Wind Symphony

Christopher Fogderud and Michael Sommerness, *conductors*

7:00 pm Monday, March 2, 2026

Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts
702 S 5th St. · Brainerd, MN

PROGRAM

Varsity Band

Michael Sommerness, *conductor*

Kentucky 1800 (1954) 3'

Clare Grundman

Clare Grundman's *Kentucky 1800* is a lively blend of early American folk melodies. This work is a three-part fantasy in which Grundman masterfully weaves contrasting themes together, creating a vibrant musical portrait that evokes the pioneer spirit and rich musical heritage of 19th-century America.

Solemn Melody (1908/2009) 3'

H. Walford Davies arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

H. Walford Davies' *Solemn Melody* is a beautifully restrained and devotional piece that has become a staple of sacred and ceremonial music. Its simple, poignant melodic line is supported by rich, sustained harmonies. This arrangement for concert band captures the work's inherent dignity and quiet emotion, where the music maintains a slow, deliberate tempo, creating a contemplative atmosphere that is both moving and profound, offering a moment of quiet reflection.

Affirmation (2021) 4'

Randall Standridge

The composer writes, "This is the single happiest thing I have ever written in my career. So this one goes out to the band geeks, the nerdy kids, the art kids, the drama kids, the punk rockers, the LGBTQA+ kids, the kids of color, and all the people who have ever been made to feel "less than" because of who they are. You are beautiful. You are JUST FINE the way you are. And you are WORTH celebrating. Be 100% you. Peace. Love. Music."

Concert Band

Christopher Fogderud, *conductor*

Across the Northern Sky (2022) 5½'

Michael Sweeney

Inspired by the celestial beauty of the aurora borealis, Michael Sweeney's *Across the Northern Sky* aims to capture the awe and wonder of this natural phenomenon. Sweeney uses soaring melodic lines and dynamic contrasts to evoke the grandeur and ever-shifting spectacle of the Northern Lights, culminating in a powerful, luminous climax before fading back into the quiet majesty of the night. This piece was commissioned by Eckroth Music in celebration of their 50th anniversary and gifted to the BHS Band Program.

A Quiet Music (2007) 4½'

Douglas E. Wagner

Douglas Wagner's *A Quiet Music* is subtitled, "for the fallen." The music takes its place in the long history of compositions that are written to comfort those dealing with grief and loss. We have worked very hard to combine our sounds into something beautiful. This, of course, takes study and understanding of tone, intonation, balance, blend, dynamic control and melodic phrasing, just to name a few. However, our hope is that none of these words come to mind for the listener. The great hope is that we do our job well and the listener enjoys a moment of peace and healing.

Fable (2017) 6'

Erik Morales

Fable is a dynamic and descriptive work that invites the listener into a world of storytelling and imagination. It begins with a mysterious and somewhat somber introduction, setting the stage for the tale. This soon gives way to lively, rhythmic passages that propel the action forward with a sense of energy and urgency, perhaps representing a chase or a moment of dramatic discovery. *Fable* culminates in a powerful and satisfying resolution, leaving the audience with the feeling of having completed an epic journey.

Special Thanks To:

Jessica Moats, Chuck Carlson, Nathan Herfindahl, Marcus Aulie, Leslie Zander and the entire ISD181 Music Staff

Jack Freeman, Robbi Berry and Michelle Hilborn for help with ticketing and administrative support

Nick Benskin for Gichi-ziiibi Center for the Arts facility support

Parents for your continued support of your student's music making

School District Administration and School Board for their continued dedication to providing a strong foundation for music education in the Brainerd Public Schools

B PROGRAM B

Symphonic Band

Michael Sommerness, *conductor*

Precious Lord, Lead Me Home (1996) 3'

Robert W. Smith

Robert W. Smith's 1996 arrangement of the classic gospel hymn *Precious Lord, Lead Me Home* is a setting that captures the deep reverence and spiritual comfort of the original. The hymn, originally titled "Precious Lord, Take My Hand," was written in 1932 by Thomas A. Dorsey, widely considered the "Father of Gospel Music," following the tragic death of his wife and unborn child. Dorsey, drawing on the melody of an earlier hymn, "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone," penned the words as an intensely personal expression of grief and a plea for divine guidance. It has since become one of the most widely performed and recorded gospel songs in history, a source of solace and strength for millions.

Intermezzo from An Original Suite (1928) 3½'

Gordon Jacob

The title of Gordon Jacob's *An Original Suite* is a subtle jab at the common practice of the time for composers to arrange existing orchestral works for military band. By calling it an "original suite," Jacob emphasized that the work was conceived specifically for the wind band medium. The *Intermezzo* is the second of the suite's three movements and stands as a charming, lyrical centerpiece for the suite. The movement features expressive melodic lines and warm harmonies, providing a lovely contrast to the suite's more stately opening movement and lively finale.

Liquid (2019) 5½'

Jay Bocook

The composer writes, "The title *Liquid* speaks to the flowing, undulating, and sometimes unpredictable nature of water. From a gentle trickle to a churning wave, water exhibits a powerful range of motion and mood. This work attempts to capture that versatility, beginning with serene, spacious harmonies that evoke a still, reflective surface. The music gradually introduces rhythmic vitality and dynamic swells, suggesting the increasing energy and force of moving water. There are moments of driving intensity, much like a rapid current, contrasting with periods of calm and lyricism that mirror a peaceful river flow or the slow, rhythmic lapping of waves against the shore. The piece is a continuous exploration of texture and color, constantly shifting and evolving, much like its namesake."

Wind Symphony

Christopher Fogderud, *conductor*

Grandmother Song (2002) 3'

Brent Michael Davids

Grandmother Song is an introduction to the Mohican tradition of "sung syllables" or what Native Americans call "vocables." Combining them with traditional wood flute songs, composer Brent Michael Davids offers a fresh look at the sound of Native American songs. Band instruments are performed less as musical instruments and more as talking sticks, singing reeds, rustling winds and shooting thunder. Through this ballad, performers are given the materials to understand how Native Americans celebrate the world around them through the blending of words and song. The intent of *Grandmother Song* is to acknowledge that everyone -- animals, the earth, elements of nature -- deserves to be understood on their own terms, and respected, and treated as cherished relatives. The world -- filled with all kinds of people -- is old and must be respected as an elder, like a grandmother.

Forward/Still (2023) 6'

Omar Thomas

The composer writes, "There is an inherent dichotomy built into the title of this work. The first word, "forward," implying motion while the second word, "still," implies non-motion. Equally dichotomous is the notion that while we move forward in time, there are conflicts, prejudices, tribalist tendencies, and antiquated, non-inclusive ideas that prevent us from truly moving forward — that hold us still.

The first half of this work presents a hymn -- or a requiem? -- that is saturated with weight and burden, reflecting a level of soul weariness that sleep simply cannot fix. Realizing that the only option we have is hope-made-action, the hymn gives way to a soaring effort, seeking to resume the fight towards progress, safety, and collective humanity. The piece eases into an ending with unsettling echoes of the original hymn and a return to the very first chord which should bring comfort and resolution yet leaves us with a feeling of uncertainty. This uncertainty is analogous to our current moment in time --one that humanity has faced at many inflection points throughout our story. If there is any lesson to be gleaned from our cyclical history of struggle and progress, however, it is that regardless how heavy, burdened, and hopeless we feel, we must move forward, still."

B PROGRAM **B**

Wind Symphony (continued)

Life Painting (2020) 4½'

Aaron Perrine

The composer writes, "Life Painting began with a walk through Centennial Park in Nashville, Tennessee, on a pleasant April morning. After a long winter in Minnesota, the many blooming trees and flowers were quite welcome. I soon noticed a variety of people, both young and old, stationed around a pond. As I got closer, I realized they were all painting. The idea of so many people interested in creating art was inspiring. In turn, I was reminded of the sheer joy composing music brings to me. Life Painting was written to help encourage others to never stop adding beauty to this world."

Animation (Episode 1: Wabbit!) (2023) 6½'

Randall D. Standridge

The composer writes, "Animation: Episode 1: Wabbit! operates under the conceit that it is a "lost score" to a forgotten cartoon. The movie starts with the opening credits, paying homage to the jaunty melodies that always preceded the main action before we find our hunter, sneaking through the forest in search of prey. He finds our wascally friend enjoying a nice sunny day, completely unaware (?) that he is being watched. The hunter sneaks up until the rascal spots the hunter, and then...the chase is on! The duo runs through the forest as the hunter falls further and further behind. He rounds a corner, and suddenly, the most gorgeous creature he has ever seen stands before him. The suspiciously furry mademoiselle charms the hunter, who leans in for a kiss...and is slapped for his troubles. Laughter is heard as our hero runs away to the city. A chase in taxis across the busy urban streets takes place before they both arrive at a construction site. The hunter looks up to the top of the building and sees something falling. An anvil slams into the hunter, who, furious, races up the construction site, chasing the wascal until he runs through a fake door and into the sky. He blinks twice, looking down, before falling to the ground below. As his spirit ascends to the heavens, the varmint winks one last time to the audience before the credits roll."

Upcoming BHS Music Events:

**Central Lake Conference
Music Festival (WS ONLY)**
Thursday, April. 2 - ALL DAY
St. Cloud Apollo High School

**8AA Region Large Group
Contest (SB and CB ONLY)**
Wednesday, April 8 - ALL DAY
Bemidji High School

BHS Orchestra Spring Concert
Monday, May 4 - 7pm
Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts
Brainerd High School

BHS Jazz Spring Concert
Thursday, May 7 - 7pm
Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts
Brainerd High School

BHS Band Spring Concert
Monday, May 11 - 7pm
Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts
Brainerd High School

BHS Choir Spring Concert
Monday, May 18 - 7pm
Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts
Brainerd High School

For additional information about the Brainerd Music Department go to our website

www.BrainerdMusic.org

*"This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely,
more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before."*

— Leonard Bernstein

B PERFORMERS **B**

Combined Varsity Band

<u>Flute</u> Elizabeth Czech Nancy Pyawasit Norah Ostrowski Lauren Enge Logan Teal Abigail Mayers Maggie Fabian Mira Wegscheid Mia Ranweiler Calia Niemi Corrin Philippi Jaesa Paine Lydia Porisch Lillia Heilman Lauralyn Krueger	<u>Clarinet</u> Stella Museus Olivia Kubesh Kimber Verkuilen Willow Moddes Alainna Boring Peytan Radke Danielle Rorvig Emmalyn Boesen Adalee Twardy Adair Sawyer Liam Kelm Kaitlyn Beierman Addi Olson Damien Bock Kaitlyn Kohl Taylen Richardson	<u>Alto Saxophone</u> Ethan Lofquist Ashlyn Foy Cam Janssen Isaiah Spindler Landon Hagen Ramsey Hokanson Deegan McClish Riley Becker Nolan Ehalt Andrew Rioux Jacob Vang Beckett Flaten Foster Tepper Michael Smithson Syxten Stark Dominik Simonson Vinnie Buffetta Diego Mendoza Connor Marcussen Dominick Melin Elijah Wahl	<u>Trumpet</u> Ben Hardy Miriam Mohrenweiser Colin Dunphy Grant Larson Bradyn Hale Jacob Hernandez Claire Stueber Sierra Fenstad Aubree Flowers Taiden Meier Rachel Adamson Macy Baloga	<u>Percussion</u> Gravity Adkins Charlie Behr Mac Chandler Gavin Lazorik Kellan O'Shea Thomas Verrips Tucker Hanson Alison Knoepke Carter Menzel Gavin Lazorik Levi Aadland Lucas Blair Emilee Bean Hope Doty Hailey Johnson Elle Richters Madison Blomberg Connor Sibbert Chayton Black Lance Clare Caughey Stella Wallin
<u>Bass Clarinet</u> Andrea Diede Clara Gromer	<u>Tenor Saxophone</u> Sydney Aulie Jairden Fountain	<u>Bari Saxophone</u> Bennett Day	<u>Trombone</u> Kairi Castleberg Eric Fordyce Gavin Morse Olivia Nelson Carter Gosch Branlin Brenny Boden Lundberg	

Concert Band

<u>Flute</u> Lacey Melser Kallie Kramvik	<u>Bass Clarinet</u> Helen Kerbel	<u>Trumpet</u> Samuel Manecke Henry Verrips Nolan Arneson Gavin Kempe Mason Stovall	<u>Trombone</u> Jack Tatge Phoenix Stanek Christopher Henke Blake Rhode Hudson Anderson Ayden VonRuden	<u>Percussion</u> Ronan Fornshell Sage Hoffman Ava Hull April Hyatt Claire Krauss Harley Kuhn Joseph Reed Cora Starns Ethan Tigenoah
<u>Clarinet</u> Abigail Dehne Mackenzie Dosh Jayla Shaw Rhiannon King	<u>Alto Saxophone</u> Mia Ziemer Vanessa Magiore	<u>Horn</u> Graham Rivers	<u>Tuba</u> Dustin Wold	

PERFORMERS

Symphonic Band

Flute

Annelise Baird
Harmony Blomberg
Shelby Gondringer
Mila Harrison
Elise Hood
Gabrielle Kubesh
Mia Ortiz
Isabella Sedlachek
Joslyn Stueber

Bassoon

Evelynn Ball

Clarinet

Grace Enge
Karsyn Frericks
Lilian Mann
Emma Neuwirth
Kaylee Ranweiler
Angelina Thomas

Bass Clarinet

Lyndsey Peterson
Xander Shore

Tenor Sax

Micayla Caughey

Bari Sax

Lucas Cline

Alto Sax

Emma Dewey
Gracie Fredrickson
Grace Langner
Afton Matteson
Tristan Raimann

Trumpet

Jace Anderson
Jacob Beierman
Madeline Klukas
Lee Rasset
Peter Ruether
Landen Stoen

French Horn

Jacob Austin

Trombone

Toby Bassett
Neil Branstner
Caleb Borders
Cedric Capistrant
Wyatt Kuepers
Markus Rustad
Alexander Yeager

Euphonium

Elise Henderson

Tuba

George Hillstrom
Avery Vosika

Percussion

Abigail Blair
Mullen Bratney
Maleah Eigenheer
Rocco Harrison
Avery Pilscott
Ari Sibbert

Wind Symphony

Flute

Inga Auel
Kaitlyn Brenny
Molly Flaten
Amelia Rademacher
Rebekah Soukup

Bassoon

Vincent
Johnson-Ding

French Horn

Jacob Austin
Landen Stoen
Leah Soukup

Clarinet

Louisa Buffetta
Ava Capelle
Donovan Goldie
Danika Ramler
Addison Reyes
Attly Speer

Bass Clarinet

Felicity Flicker

String Bass

Mia Sypnieski

Alto Saxophone

Jaycee Carlson
Fern French
Elijah Hayes
Sylvie Hochhalter
Mordecai Jensen
Owen Olson

Tenor Saxophone

Isaac Boesen
Juvan-Rafay Castle

Baritone Saxophone

Nico Young
Jonas Klicker

Trumpet

Madeline Angland
Avery Auel
Logan Daniels
Jillian McArdell
Odin Sjoberg
Asher Tigenoah

Trombone

Arabelle Boesen
Blake Fenstad
Layla Jensen
Nicholas Moraghan
Ethan Stay

Bass Trombone

Abigail Isaacson

Euphonium

Thomas Rhode

Tuba

Timothy
Rhodes-Simmons
George Hillstrom

Percussion

Brianna Braaten
Gabiella Bratney
Carter Maciej
Hailey Nash
Elsie Predmore
Oliver Schack
George Hillstrom
Will Stadum
Madeline Stene