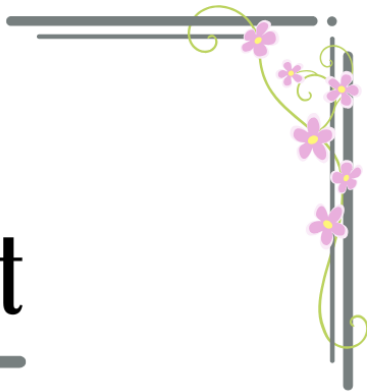
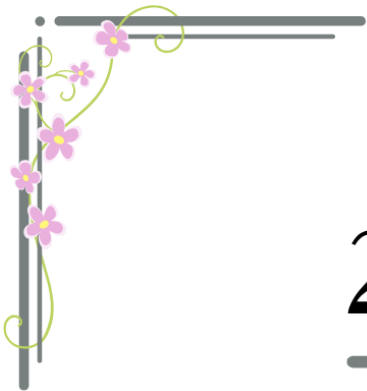




MORTON BANDS

2025 Spring Concert



May 7, 2025

Caterpillar Performing Arts Center, Five Points
Washington, IL



Andrew Empey, Co-Director of Bands
Katrina Fitzpatrick, Co-Director of Bands
Luke Shaffer, Assistant Director of Bands

Morton High School Concert Band

Autobahn (2008)..... Ryan George (b. 1978)
The Parting Glass (2023)..... Robert Sheldon (b. 1954)
Sunchaser (2017).....Carol Brittin Chambers (b. 1970)

Morton High School Symphonic Winds

Carnegie Anthem (2022)..... William Owens (b. 1963)
A Mother's Hymn (2020)..... Robert W. Smith (1958-2023)
Water Spirits (2019)..... Nathan Daughtrey (b. 1975)
Halcyon Hearts (2021)..... Katahj Copley (b. 1998)

Morton High School Wind Ensemble

Mosaics (1999)..... Timothy Kramer (b. 1959)
Second Prelude (1928/1964)..... George Gershwin (1898-1937)
arr. John Krance
Ballet Parisien (arr. 1953)..... Jacques Offenbach (1819-1880)
arr. Merle Isaac
Fantasia in G (1983).....Timothy Mahr (b. 1956)

Morton High School Wind Ensemble

Flute

Ella Hornsby*
Carley Osterman
Mary Geyer
Hannah Strubhar*
Nishi Patel

Oboe

Sarah McQuitty

Bassoon

Gabby Grabowski
Ethan Boecker*

Soprano Clarinet

Charlotte Potts*
Lillian Morgan
Abigail Foster*
Ben Hartig
Taylor Rice
Lydia Milby
Finn Tewksbury*

Bass Clarinet

Gwen Eckart*

Contrabass Clarinet

Clare Specketer

Alto Saxophone

Ewan MacRitchie*
Henrique Brasil

Tenor Saxophone

Easton Roecker

Baritone Saxophone

Helen Luker*

Trumpet

Sean Stenger*
Isaak Rosenthal
Max Bennett
Elijah Roseboom
Christian Johnson*
Conner Frank*

Horn

Lindsey Bradford
Evalina Young*
Nate Sturhahn
Alaina Hornsby

Trombone

Louis Nowlan
Nick Orzel*
Ellie Beckler
Sam Swearengen

Euphonium

Sam Geyer*
Ethan Herrman*

Tuba

Will Seaman*
Ben Rocheford
Ian Sipes

Percussion

Caleb Manthey
Titus Yoder*
Zach Weber
Colt Sauder
Bryant Empey
Katy Barnhill
Henry Potts
Adrian Hoots

* denotes graduating Senior

Mosaics was commissioned in 1999 by the board of directors of the Midwest Clinic, with a request for a work which would be challenging, but still playable, by performers at the high school level. The composer's initial ideas were to design a piece in which simple figures would build larger, more complex musical objects. As a result, this work is based on a small four-note figure which forms harmonic, melodic and motivic patterns throughout the piece. These small blocks of material, made from relatively simple rhythms, are used to create larger gestures and motion. In many cases, the patterns are broken between pairs of instruments, registers or choirs within the ensemble.

Second Prelude is "a sort of blues lullaby," according to Gershwin. Beginning with a contemplative bass line, other voices join with a slinking, bluesy melody, continuing with the melancholy mood in a higher register. The piece is punctuated by a short middle section that uses brighter musical material before falling back into the wandering bass ostinato leading to a rather unassuming ending.

Offenbach wrote his music in Paris almost a hundred years ago, yet we find much of it fresh and delightful today. *Ballet Parisien* is a suite in five movements. The melodies have been selected from four of the composer's most popular operas: *Genevieve de Brabant*, *La Perichole*, *La Vie Parisienne*, and the well-known *Orphée aux Enfers*.

Fantasia in G is a joyful celebration for winds and percussion. The piece was inspired by the opening line of Johann Schiller's poem *Ode to Joy*: "*Freude, Schoener Goetterfunken*" (Joy, Bright Spark of Divinity). The same text was used by Ludwig van Beethoven in his famed *Symphony No. 9*.

Morton High School Symphonic Winds

Flute

Alyssa Schumm
Avery Studebaker
Alayna Carey
Ella Estes
Rachel Clauson
Chrissa Berg

Oboe

Gigi Eckart
Jolie Jones

Soprano Clarinet

Skyler Kohlhagen
Hazel Lyons
Riley Oertle
Piper Kellenberger
Addison Donaldson
Ruby Luker
Addie Giosta
Nora Zurski*
Sawyer Carillo*

Bass Clarinet

Finn Tewksbury*

Alto Saxophone

Kylie Bulfer
Gavin Bencher

Tenor Saxophone

Joe Mahle

Baritone Saxophone

Addison McClure

Trumpet

Weston Bieneman
John Hart*
Cheyenne Durbin*
Josie Porubcansky
Gaige Gray
Rylee Borman
Oliver Irion
Cameron Smith*

Horn

Lilia Volkova
Olivia Huff*
Lauren Pickering

Trombone

Bradley Stoehr
Jonathan Koscica
Lenay White
Ryan Clauson

Euphonium

Ben Barrick
Jackson Friend

Tuba

Cooper Middleton
Braeden Kaps
Joe Harper

Percussion

Jackson Soderstrom
Kate Kennay
Zuzu Smith
TJ Hinch
Zoe Keltner
Cooper Campbell
Sophie Speichinger
Carter Jones

* denotes graduating Senior

Commissioned by the Lamar Consolidated High School Band of Rosenberg, Texas, *Carnegie Anthem* pays brilliant musical tribute to Carnegie Hall and the vibrant New York City it calls home, with engaging melodies and a rhythmic thrust symbolizing the non-stop activity of bustling NYC on any given day.

Simple, poignant and beautiful, *A Mother's Hymn* by Robert W. Smith is an artistic experience for both band and audience. The composer writes: "As I was growing up in the deep South of the United States, I was greatly impacted by my mother and grandmother and their love of hymns. This melody was my mother's favorite, and I performed it regularly on trumpet accompanied by my grandmother on the organ or piano. I created this setting in honor of my mother, Grazia W. Smith, and mothers everywhere."

Water Spirits was initially inspired by the tales of mythology surrounding Lake Minnewanka near Calgary in Alberta, Canada. "Minnewanka" translates to "water of the spirits" in the Nakoda language. The inspiration for this piece is the myth of Glaucus and Scylla in Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. In essence, the myth is a love triangle between Glaucus (a mer-man), Scylla (a nymph), and Circe (a witch). The piece follows the outline of the myth, which is filled with darkness, longing, love, denial, and betrayal.

Halcyon Hearts is an ode to love and how it affects us all. Halcyon denotes a time where a person is ideally happy or at peace, so in short *Halcyon Hearts* is about the moment of peace when one finds their love or passion. No matter what race, gender, religion, nationality or love, we all are united with the common thread of passion from the heart. This piece was written in dedication to those who love no matter which negativity is in the world; do not allow hate and prejudice to guide the way we live our lives. Always choose love and the halcyon days will come.

Morton High School Concert Band

Flute

Evelyn Fegley
Grace Mulconrey
Mya Reed
Sam Kaspar
Lilah Strubhar
Ella Bradford
Kayleigh Campbell
Ciera Huff

Soprano Clarinet

Tucker Anderton
Maryana Fegley
Ezra Rabe
Jack Nolte
Max Oggero

Bass Clarinet

Finn Happach

Alto Saxophone

Olivia Hooley
Bryce McMillan
Tyler Anderton

Baritone Saxophone

Jesse Sauder

Trumpet

Luke Weigardt
Elliot Green
James Happach
William Miller
Reagon Bishop

Horn

Renee Fonseca
Campbell White

Trombone

Connor Bingham
Joshua Saunders

Euphonium

Haiden Stevens
Cole Pendl

Tuba

Caleb Babin
Noah Hurst

Percussion

Joelle Hodel
Reagan Copeland
Sophia Wilson
MJ Yoder
Grace Williamson
Alexander Rose
Joshua Sauder*

* denotes graduating Senior

Snaking through central Europe is a unique highway system called the *Autobahn*. What makes this highway special is the absence of speed limits. Your only hindrance is the performance ability of the vehicle you are driving. [Ryan George] wanted to focus less on the idea of speed and more on the freedom and exhilaration that one feels while driving on a road with no limitations. In the beginning of the work, fast cars whiz by as the “driver” begins to accelerate onto the highway. Driving fast is a real thrill until they run into traffic. Honking horns and police sirens add to the frustration. The traffic eventually clears, though, and the driver puts the pedal to the metal and cruises off into the European countryside.

This heartfelt rendition of the beautiful Irish folk song *The Parting Glass*, arranged by Robert Sheldon, is as playable as it is expressive. The variety of instrumental colors and unexpected harmonies provide moments of warmth, reverie, sentimentality, angst, and resolve. This arrangement is dedicated to Master Sergeant Matthew J. Carmichael and the United States Army Ceremonial Band. The original text is as follows: “Of all the money that e’er I had, I spent it in good company. And of all the harm that e’er I done, alas it was to none but me. And all I done for want of wit, to mem’ry now I can’t recall. So fill to me the parting glass. Good luck and joy be with you all.”

The term “*Sunchaser*” or “chasing the sun” can have various meanings, depending on the context. For example, in aviation, if a pilot heading west flies fast enough so that the sun does not move on the horizon, he is a sunchaser. The term can also mean chasing after something that’s rather unattainable, or it can refer to someone who is quite idealistic or inspirational. Even though some goals may seem out of reach at times, the journey definitely makes us stronger and is often the best part!

M MORTON BANDS

Co-Director of Bands **Andy Empey** is a native of Canton, Illinois, and holds degrees from Western Illinois University and Eastern Illinois University. He has directed bands for 21 years, including tenures at Limestone Community and Galesburg. Andy is a former trumpet player of The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps of Rosemont, IL and the Star United Mini-Corps of Indianapolis, IN. He and his wife, Danielle, have three children and reside here in Morton.

Co-Director of Bands **Katrina Fitzpatrick** is a graduate of Morton High School, and has taught at Morton CUSD 709 since 1999. She holds degrees from Bradley University and Illinois State University. Katrina has been honored with performances at the Midwest Clinic, Illinois Music Education Conference, and enjoys instructing flutes at the Bands of America Summer Camp of Muncie, IN. She lives in Morton with her husband, Craig, and dog, Padfoot.

Assistant Director of Bands **Luke Shaffer** is from Big Rapids, Michigan, and currently studies at Ohio University, holding a degree from Southern Illinois University. He comes to Morton from 6 years' experience at Du Quoin High School and Carbondale Community High School. Luke also previously taught and performed at the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, near Muskegon, MI. He lives in East Peoria with his fiancée, Maddie, and four cats.

2022-2024 Illinois State Marching Band Championships Grand Champion
2005-2024 Illinois State Marching Band Championships Class AA Champion
2012, 2023-2024 Bands of America St. Louis Super Regional Class AA Champion
2024 University of Illinois SuperState Honor Band
2023 Music for All National Concert Band
2017 John Philip Sousa Foundation Sudler Shield
NAMM Best Community for Music Education

Please plan to join us next year in exhibition or competition for our
2025 Marching Band Program: ***The Flip Side***

Thank you to Morton CUSD 709 for your support of Morton Bands!

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Troy Teater, Assistant Superintendent

Kirk Edwards, Principal

Jamie Adolphson, Associate Principal

Scott Jones, Athletic Director

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Todd Herrman, Dean

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2025 **M** Season

August 29; Home Football vs Mahomet-Seymour

September 6; Washington Invitational (Washington, IL)

September 13; Pumpkin Festival Parade

September 19; Home. Football vs Metamora

September 20; IVC Grey Ghost Classic (Chillicothe, IL)

September 27; Morton Marching Invitational (Morton, IL)

October 2; Morton HS Homecoming Parade

October 3; Home Football vs Limestone Comm. (Homecoming)

October 10; Home Football vs East Peoria Comm.

October 11; Illinois State Marching Band Championship (Normal, IL)

October 17-18; Bands of America Super Regional (St. Louis, MO)

October 24; Home Football vs Washington Comm. (Senior Night)

October 25; U of Illinois Marching Band Championship (Champaign, IL)

November 8; Community Night and Senior Boards

Nov. 13-15; Bands of America Grand National Championship (Indianapolis, IN)