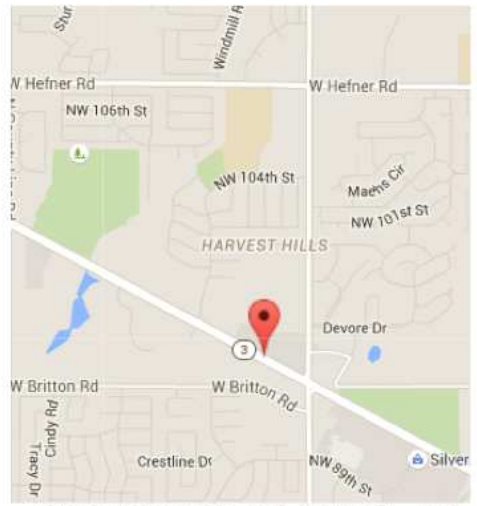




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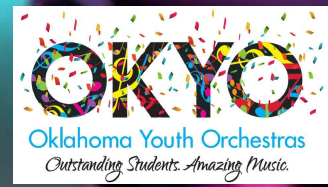
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Oklahoma City Symphonic Band  
 Dr. Mark Belcik, Conductor  
 Oklahoma Youth Winds  
 Dr. Matthew Mailman, Conductor

Partnership Concert  
 featuring  
 Mr. Brian Balmages,  
 guest composer & conductor

Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 7:30pm  
 Oklahoma City University  
 Petree Recital Hall  
[www.okcband.org](http://www.okcband.org)  
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# Upcoming Concerts

## Spring Concert

featuring our two Young Artist Competition Winners for 2019

Sebastian Palmer, euphonium (Elgin HS)

Naomi Wharry, trombone (Idabel HS)

Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 7:30pm

Santa Fe High School Auditorium

1901 W 15th St

Edmond, OK 73013

Oklahoma City Symphonic Band  
& Oklahoma Community Orchestra Combined Concert

Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 6:00pm

Eagle's Nest Gym in the Payne Athletic Center

Oklahoma Christian University

2501 E Memorial Rd

Edmond, OK 73013

## YouTube

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Oklahoma City Symphonic Band?

Please drop by our YouTube channel for concert videos.

Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for  
Oklahoma City Symphonic Band.

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new videos are available.



Dr. Mark G. Belcik is the Associate Dean of the Wanda L. Bass School of Music at Oklahoma City University, a position he has held since 2001. He holds degrees in Music Education from The University of Michigan, a Master's in Horn Performance from The University of Oklahoma and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Instrumental Conducting from The University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Belcik's teaching experiences include appointments at the University of Texas at Austin, where he was the Associate Director of the Longhorn Band, the University of New Mexico, Valdosta State University, Bear Creek High School (CO) and Ardmore High School (OK). His high school bands have earned

national recognition and won sweepstakes awards in Oklahoma and Colorado. Dr. Belcik is an active clinician, judge and guest conductor. He has conducted All State and Honor Bands in several states and has presented clinics at State, Regional and National Conventions. He currently serves as the Principal Conductor and Music Director of the Oklahoma City Symphonic Band, and is past President of the Oklahoma Association of Music Schools. He is on the board of the Oklahoma Youth Orchestra and Oklahoma Concert Band Foundation.



Dr. Matthew Mailman is Professor of Conducting in the Wanda L. Bass School of Music at Oklahoma City University, a position he has held since 1995. Dr. Mailman has had extensive and diverse experience conducting operas, musicals, orchestras, choirs, bands, and chamber music. He serves as a Music Director for the Oklahoma Opera and Music Theater Company and Music Director of OCU's award-winning Wind Philharmonic. Dr. Mailman has been an associate conductor with the Oklahoma Youth Orchestras, Inc. since 1997, and is the Music Director of the Oklahoma Youth Winds,

which was founded by Dr. Mailman in 2004 and which was selected to perform for the first time at the 2013 Oklahoma Music Educators Association Annual In-service and again in 2015 and 2017. With OYW, he founded the Annual Student Conductor Competition, the OYW National Composition Competition, and the OYW/ NAFME Teaching Internship. His work has been published in *The Instrumentalist* and *Teaching Music*, and he is a research associate and writer for 9 volumes in the series *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band*.



Brian Balmages (b. 1975) is an award-winning composer, conductor, producer, and performer. He holds a bachelor's degree in music from James Madison University and a master's degree from the University of Miami in Florida. His compositions have been performed worldwide at the state, national and international level. His active schedule of commissions and premieres has incorporated groups ranging from elementary schools to professional ensembles, including the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Miami Symphony Orchestra, University of Miami Wind Ensemble, Boston Brass, and the Dominion Brass Ensemble. In 2012, Mr. Balmages received the prestigious Albert Austin Harding Award from the American School Band Directors Association. He is also a 2010 winner of the Harvey G. Phillips Award for Compositional Excellence, presented by the International Tuba-Euphonium Association.

As a conductor, Mr. Balmages enjoys engagements with numerous all-state and regional honor bands and orchestras along with university and professional groups. Notable guest conducting appearances have included the Midwest Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, National Association for Music Educators, American School Band Directors Association, CBDNA, the Kennedy Center, and Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. He has also served as an adjunct professor of instrumental conducting and Acting Symphonic Band Director at Towson University in Maryland.

Currently, Mr. Balmages is the Director of Instrumental Publications for The FJH Music Company Inc. in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He resides in Baltimore with his wife Lisa and their two sons.

Visit our website at [www.okcband.org](http://www.okcband.org) for more information about the Oklahoma City Symphonic Band.



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## PROGRAM NOTES

**Infinite Hope (2018)** Commissioned in honor of the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Texas Bandmasters Association and was premiered by the U.S. Coast Guard Band at the TBA Convention in San Antonio. Composer Brian Balmages explains, "Inspired by the juxtaposition of uncertainly and boundless optimism, this powerful piece seeks to forge a path of faith, trust, belief, and assurance amidst a world of chaos. It reminds us that hopes and dreams are all around us." The Adagio opening gives way to the Brass announcement of pure power and glory. The title comes from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s statement in his famous "I Have a Dream" speech 55 years ago in Washington, D.C., "We must accept finite disappointment but never lose infinite hope!" Rightly so, the Chimes represent church bells peeling out a cacophony of bright, glorious sound as a glorious finale.

**Silence Overwhelmed (2010)** Composer Brian Balmages has created this beautiful, lyrical piece that projects complex harmonies and textures for concert wind ensembles. Expression and emotion contrast throughout with tranquil moments and massive power. Silence can be extremely musical and somewhat overwhelming. The stately opening movement featuring a trumpet solo introduces the second movement based on an unpublished choral work. From the softest and darkest of sounds to the most powerful, soaring lines this work provides an emotional journey for the band and audience.

**Three Celtic Dances (2008)** Commissioned by and dedicated to James Fugate and the Berea (OH) High School Symphonic Winds. Composer Brian Balmages has based this work on three different Scottish dance forms. His music explores a wide variety of Celtic folk songs, using authentic and original material. Movement I—"Reel" is based on the traditional fiddle tune "Last Pint of Ale". The piccolo solo introduces the main theme, the oboe repeats the motif, followed by the saxophones. The full band enters to complete the romp. Movement II—"Air" is a slow, lyrical melody based on the lament or listening tune "Well I Behold My Brown-Hair'd Maid" featuring Scottish rhythms. The solo saxophone carries the plaintive motif. The ensemble answers in this short piece. The final movement III—"Jig" is loosely based on the "Highlander Jig" using the most recognized Celtic dance form. The Reel and Jig celebrate the energy, and cheery dance melodies incorporating "thundering percussion." Balmages has created this rollicking piece for concert wind band performance.

**Raging Machines (2008)** Commissioned by Glenbard West High School (IL), for its music director Mark A Hengesh honoring his 30 years of dedication to music education. Composer Brian Balmages's *Notes* say it best: "While written without a specific programmatic intent, "Raging Machines" is an aggressive work with a mechanical element to it (as portrayed in the opening ostinato figures in the woodwinds and percussion). It is a thrilling musical roller coaster that seeks to portray its title. The opening theme recurs throughout the work with various accompanying textures as it modulates through several tonal centers. Eventually, the music comes to rest in a short lyrical section. As this section builds, harmonies become more complex and musical intensity continues to rise. The final section reintroduces several mechanical elements along with new material as aggression takes over one more time in a fury of sound." This piece provides the percussionists a chance to use all of the traditional drums and mallets, plus adds a truck Brake Drum and Water Gong to enhance the mechanical elements." Hold on for the ride of a lifetime with this thrilling musical roller coaster!

*Program Notes by Sonie Liebler*

**Partnership Concert  
featuring**

**Mr. Brian Balmages, guest composer & conductor**

Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 7:30pm

Oklahoma Youth Winds

Dr. Matthew Mailman, Conductor

Ms. Sarah Neely, Associate Conductor

Gravity Wave (2010)

Brian Balmages

Waves (2007)

Brian Balmages

Summer Dances (2009)

Brian Balmages

Primal Dances (2018)

Brian Balmages

Oklahoma City Symphonic Band

Dr. Mark G. Belcik, Conductor

Infinite Hope (2018)

Brian Balmages

Silence Overwhelmed (2010)

Brian Balmages

Three Celtic Dances (2008)

Brian Balmages

I. Reel

II. Air

III. Jig

Raging Machines (2008)

Brian Balmages

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# Oklahoma City Symphonic Band



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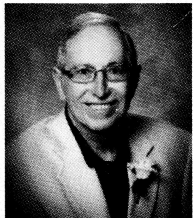
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## About the Band...

The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band's mission is to provide a challenging and enriching musical experience for its members, to offer quality concerts for the community, and to inspire future generations of musicians.

The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band is comprised of approximately one hundred professional and amateur musicians. This historic band has performed in the Oklahoma City area for decades. The members are a cross-section of the community made up of all different professions. They are musicians who find that the band gives them a chance to grow musically.

Rehearsals are held every Tuesday evening throughout the year with the exception of May and August. The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band performs several concerts at a variety of venues including high schools, universities, churches and area parks and has hosted several talented composers as guest clinicians over the years, including Patrick Sheridan in 2014, Dr. Frank Ticheli in 2008, Dr. Jack Stamp in 2006 and Dr. John Zdechlik in 2003. The organization hosts an annual Young Artist Competition for high school students. The students compete by audition for the opportunity to perform with the band and to win a cash prize.

Members volunteer for many positions in the band and on the board of directors for the Foundation to help make the rehearsals and concerts the best experience possible. Oklahoma City Symphonic Band members have found gratification in having the band as an outlet to perform as well as to develop camaraderie with their peers. It is the perfect example of an opportunity for a lifelong continuing education in music.

We welcome new members. Due to the success and growth of our band, we have limits on instrumentation in each section but if a section is full, we will place your name on a waiting list. Our summer season is open to everyone.

The Oklahoma City Symphonic Band is sponsored by the Oklahoma Concert Band Foundation, whose purpose is to engage in the promotion, appreciation and support of concert band music throughout the State of Oklahoma.



*A very special thank you from everyone in the  
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