

# Oakland University Brass Band

Kenneth Kroesche, conductor  
James Long, guest conductor

featuring the

fOURce Brass Quartet

Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.  
Wildwood Ampitheatre  
Lake Orion, Michigan

*Oakland University resides on the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary lands of the Anishinaabe, known as the Three Fires Confederacy, comprised of the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi. The land was ceded in the 1807 Treaty of Detroit and makes up southeast Michigan.*

*In recognizing the history and respecting the sovereignty of Michigan's Indian Nations, Oakland University honors the heritage of Indigenous communities and their significant role in shaping the course of this region. Further, we recognize the wrongs done to those forcibly removed from their Homelands and commit to fostering an environment of inclusion that is responsive to the needs of First Peoples through our words, policies, and actions.*

*The preservation and perpetuation of customs and traditions of Indigenous nations are essential to our shared cultural heritage. A deep understanding of Native peoples' past and present informs the teaching, research, and community engagement of the university in its ongoing effort to elevate the dignity of all people and serve as shared stewards of the land.*

## Program

Phoenix Peter Graham

Praise Wilfred Heaton

Embers Tom Davoren

James Long, guest conductor

War of the Worlds Peter Graham

I. Wrath

II. Battle

III. Reflection

IV. Phoenix

Nicole Tremonti, flugelhorn

Derek Kolp, tenor horn

## Intermission

Concerto Grosso Philip Sparke

fOURce Brass Quartet

Alexis Dill & Anna Greyerbiehl, cornets

Jonathon Esbri, tenor horn

Chris Warren, euphonium

Los Hermanos de Bop Mark Taylor  
arranged by Sandy Smith

Blue Rondo a la Turk Dave Brubeck  
arranged by Kevin Edwards

Selections from *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* John Williams  
arranged by Steve Sykes

## **The Oakland University Brass Band**

The Oakland University Brass Band, formed in September of 2009, enjoys the distinction of being one of the few collegiate brass bands in the country. The members of the group come from across the state of Michigan, as well as the United States and Canada. In October, the band was featured in an article for *Brass Band World* which is an internationally distributed magazine about brass bands. This past March, the band was named the University Section winners of the 2021 Kapitol Cory Online Brass Band Championships. In addition, they were the winners of the Best Cornet Section Award.

They are the 2019 and 2018 Dublin (OH) Festival of Brass Champions where they consistently swept all three categories of Best March, Best Slow Melody and Best Major Work. In 2018, adjudicator Steven Mead commented that “it was wonderful to hear such an authentic ‘English’ sound to the ensemble - rich, textured and homogeneous and the performance of ‘Essence of Time’ in particular was a joy.” In 2015 they accepted an invitation to travel to England to perform in the Butlin’s National Mineworkers Open Brass Band Festival & Competition. While there, the band was awarded 2nd place in their division and now holds the distinction of being the highest placing American band in the history of the competition. This invitation was extended as a result of having won the First Section of the North American Brass Band Association Championships in 2014 in Grand Rapids, MI. In June of 2015, the band performed at the Great American Brass Band Festival in Danville, Kentucky where they gave three featured concerts. The festival is known for being the largest brass band event of its kind in North America, with audiences in the tens of thousands in attendance each summer. In May of that same year, they were the featured band at Mid-West Tuba Euphonium Conference at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, where they accompanied the conference’s headline soloists.

The band is comprised primarily of undergraduate and graduate music majors and non-majors. Graduates of the school’s brass and percussion programs have gone on to receive scholarships to attend the country’s leading graduate music programs, as well as perform in major professional ensembles.

[Oakland University Brass Band - YouTube](#)

[Oakland University Brass Band | Facebook](#)

## **James Long**

James Long is the Lecturer of Tuba and Golden Grizzlies Band at Oakland University. He holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree in Tuba Performance from the University of Michigan, a masters degree in Euphonium Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and a bachelor’s degree in Euphonium Performance from Oakland University. He is an active soloist having performed at the Butlins Mineworkers Brass Band Championships, Great American Brass Band Festival, and the Dublin Irish Festival (Ohio). As an active orchestral tuba player he has performed with the Oakland Symphony, the Akron Symphony, Dayton Philharmonic, and the Erie Philharmonic. His primary teachers include Fritz Kaenzig, Kenneth Kroesche, and David Zerkel. In James’ spare time he likes to play disc golf and vintage video games.

## **Kenneth Kroesche**

Kenneth Kroesche is the Professor of Trombone, Euphonium and Tuba at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. He holds a master’s and doctorate of musical arts degree in performance from the University of Michigan, in addition to a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Texas State University.

He has appeared as a euphonium soloist with a number of notable ensembles, ranging from the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to the U.S. Army Band at the West Point Military Academy. The Washington Post described him as "an expert on the instrument." As an orchestral musician, he is the principal trombonist of the Oakland Symphony Orchestra and the Saginaw Bay Symphony Orchestra. He is a frequent guest musician with the area's leading ensembles which include the Detroit Symphony, Grand Rapids Symphony, Flint Symphony and Detroit Chamber Winds. In addition, each summer he performs as an euphoniumist with the Toledo Symphony Concert Band.

In 2009, he formed the Oakland University Brass Band which since its inception has gone on to receive national and international recognition. From 2008-2011, he served as the conductor of the award winning Capital City Brass Band of Lansing, Michigan. In addition, he has served as the music director of the Smoky Mountain Brass Band, and as a regular guest conductor of the Michigan Chamber Brass, the Round Top Music Festival Institute, among others.

### **Oakland University Brass Band Personnel**

#### **Soprano Cornet**

David Koch

#### **Solo Cornet**

Shannon Sheldrick \*  
Anna Greyerbiehl  
Alexis Dill  
Mike Hart

#### **Repiano Cornet**

Zach Musienko

#### **Second Cornet**

Chris Rother  
Zachary Merkle

#### **Third Cornet**

Carlos Perez-Hijar  
Jacob Miazek

#### **Flugelhorn**

Nicole Tremonti

#### **Solo Horn**

Derek Kolp

#### **First Horn**

Jonathon Esbri

#### **Second Horn**

Jessie Pruehs

#### **First Baritone**

Chris Warren

#### **Second Baritone**

Andrew Pettit  
Benjamin Do

#### **Trombone**

Mabelynn Dill - 1st  
Grant Martinez - 2nd  
Makenzie Barber - 2nd

#### **Bass Trombone**

Dustin Freeman

#### **Euphonium**

James Long \*  
Iyla Miller

#### **E-flat Tuba**

Brandon Thibault \*  
Jacob Ciotti

#### **B-flat Tuba**

Noah McDonald \*  
Brian Wiik  
Van Bellomo

#### **Percussion**

Mattheas Boelter \*  
Kevin Corwell II  
Dallas Long  
Stephanie Perlaki

\* denotes principal player



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