



## University High School Band Program Spring Concert

### Percussion Ensemble

**Disguised** .....Cliff Walker

### Jazz Ensemble 2

**First Ride** .....Dean Sorenson

**New Rhumba** ..... Ahmad Jamal

**Honk** ..... Jeff Jarvis

### Jazz Ensemble 1

**Queen Bee** ..... Sammy Nestico  
(1924-2021)

**Satin Doll** .....Duke Ellington  
(1899-1974)

**Spain** .....Chick Corea  
(1941-2021)



- Intermission -

Symphonic Band

**The Avengers** ..... Alan Silvestri

**A Distant Light**..... James Swearingen

**An Overture for band** ..... Charles Carter

Wind Ensemble

**Easter Monday on the White House Lawn** ..... John Philip Sousa  
(1854-1932)

**UHS Alma Mater** ..... Wayne Hugoboom

Dusk..... Steven Byrant

**Star Wars- The Force Awakens (Symphonic Suite)** ..... John Williams

## Program Notes

### Symphonic Band

**A Distant Light-** The composer, following the birth of his granddaughters Abby in 1996, and Hannah in 1999, created two musical settings for band that were titled "A Child's Lullaby" and "Hymn For a Child." On May 10, 2008, Cameron James Swearingen was introduced to a happy group of grandparents, and the two girls were delighted to hear the news about their new cousin. This expressive ballad is simply an outpouring of emotion for an indescribable experience.

**Overture for Band-** Particularly familiar amongst young musicians and band performers, Charles Carter is the embodiment of a classic composer of modern concert band music. After earning his Bachelor's Degree from Ohio State University and a Master's Degree from the Eastman School of Music within the University of Rochester, Carter went on to arrange music for Ohio State's Marching Band before arranging for the Florida State University Bands in 1953. Carter's musical arrangements have since become predominantly recognized as vibrant and fresh for his ability to incorporate a mix of harmonic and melodic techniques in such a way that even the most youthful musicians can perform his art with ease. Despite his passing in 1999, Carter's compositions continue to be played and have been seen as sort of a standard by many concert and high school bands alike. Overture for Winds, written in 1959, is a model example of Carter's inevitable expertise in marrying quick, intricate melodies with poetic, lyrical phrases spread throughout the piece. Originally split into three different parts, Carter opens the scene with an almost rhythmic atmosphere followed by a significantly slower second part, and concluding with a similar style to the first part. This classic arrangement makes it appealing to one's ears as it explores the depth in which Carter truly demonstrates his musical ability and influence. Overture for Winds easily makes it Carter's most renowned pieces for bands all over.

### Wind Ensemble

**Easter Monday on the White House Lawn-** Sousa's 1911 suite [\*Tales of a Traveler\*](#) was a commemoration work designed to celebrate The Sousa Band's world tour of that year, with each of the movements featuring a picturesque scene from a different memorable world location. The original last movement of the suite was designated for the coronation of King George V in Britain, but when the music was not used for that event, he changed the title to reflect a scene at the White House. Seventeen years later, the March King became dissatisfied with this finale, so he composed a new movement that remains the most familiar part of the suite: the delightfully charming *Easter Monday on the White House Lawn*.



The scene of children rolling eggs outside the White House dates to the Madison administration in 1816 and is continued today. Sousa, with the Marine Band, performed the work at the 1929 Egg Roll, recalling: "With the children rolling eggs, dancing, and romping, a scene of animation persists itself; the elders, from the President to the merest passerby, look on the scene with joy and pleasure." The march itself is bubbly and vibrant, with the characteristic tunefulness of any Sousa march combined with a particularly demanding virtuosity, leaving nearly any audience member tapping their toe or humming its catchy melodies long after its conclusion.

**Dusk** This simple, chorale-like work captures the reflective calm of dusk, paradoxically illuminated by the fiery hues of sunset. The composer notes the dual nature of this experience, as if witnessing an event of epic proportions occurring silently in slow motion. It is intended to be a short, passionate evocation of this moment of dramatic stillness.

Steven Bryant (b. 1972) was born in Little Rock, Arkansas. He studied composition at Juilliard School of Music, the University of North Texas and Ouachita University. He is an active composer and conductor with a varied catalog, including numerous works for wind ensemble, orchestra, electronic and electro-acoustic creations, music for chamber ensembles, and music for the web.

**Star Wars: The Force Awakens** (also known as *Star Wars: Episode VII – The Force Awakens*) is a 2015 American epic space opera film directed, co-produced, and co-written by J. J. Abrams. The seventh installment in the main Star Wars film series, it stars Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher, Adam Driver, Anthony Daniels, Peter Mayhew, and Max von Sydow. *The Force Awakens* is set 30 years after *Return of the Jedi*; it follows Rey, Finn, and Poe Dameron's search for Luke Skywalker and their fight alongside the Resistance, led by veterans of the Rebel Alliance, against Kylo Ren and the First Order, successor to the Galactic Empire. John Williams, composer for the previous six films, returned to compose its score.