

FRANKLIN ACADEMY BAND  
PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR

# Winter Concert

DEC 14  
2023



# PROGRAM

Ukrainian Bell Carol.....Traditional  
*Advanced Band* Arr. R. Saucedo

Silver Bells.....J. Livingston, R. Evans  
*Advanced Band: Woodwind Choir* Arr. J. Vinson  
*Jorge Sosa, Student Conductor*

Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy.....Peter I. Tchaikovsky  
*Haitham Afaneh, Flute Solo*

Pepsi, Stadium Cadence, Jig #2.....Drum Cadences  
*A-Team Drumline*

Angels We Have Heard on High.....Trad. French Carol  
*Middle School Beginning Band* Arr. M. Story

Festivo de Noel.....M. Hannickel  
*Middle School Beginning Band*

Band on the Housetop.....B. Hanby  
*Middle School Beginning Band* Arr. T. Loest

Mi Burrito Sabanero.....H. Blanco  
*Esteban Evangelista, Clarinet Solo*

A Christmas Sleigh Ride.....S. Feldstein, J. O'Reilly  
*High School Beginning Band*

First Holiday Concert.....Arr. J. O'Reilly  
*High School Beginning Band*  
*Kyle Adolphe, Student Conductor*

March of the Magical Toys.....R. Smith  
*High School Beginning Band*

Fortnite Festive Lobby Music.....P. Toprak, B. Coble  
*Small Group: C. Gonzalez-Flute, E. Evangelista-Clarinet, D. Romero-Percussion*

All I Want for Christmas is You.....Mariah Carey  
*Christopher Gonzalez-Naranjo, Flute Solo*

Cargo, Bumper.....Drum Cadences  
*B-Team Drumline*

Minka's Sleigh Ride.....P. La Plante  
*Intermediate Band*

The Christmas Song.....M. Torme, R. Wells  
*Intermediate Band*

Jazzy Holidays.....J. Vinson  
*Intermediate Band* Arr. M. Sweeney

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas.....H. Martin, R. Blane  
*Sterline Dor, Tuba Solo*

Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!.....S. Cahn, J. Styne  
*Advanced Band: Brass Choir* Arr. J. Vinson  
*Emma Rodriguez, Student Conductor*

Santa's Parade.....T. Wallace  
*Advanced Band*

## *Advanced Band*

### FLUTE

\*Sienna Sachdeva  
(piccolo)  
\*Haithem Afaneh (piccolo)  
John Innocent (piccolo)  
\*Genaro Sepulveda  
\*Daniela Medina  
Aldo Suarez

### OBOE

\*Imani Bostic  
Makiyah Williams

### CLARINET

\*Emma Rodriguez  
\*Esteban Evangelista  
James Richardson  
Lucas Piscoya  
Caius Rivera  
\*Soraya Gumbs  
\*Emmanuel George  
\*Sienna Bear  
Camilo Valdes

### BASS CLARINET

\*Julio Velasquez  
Xavier Arcon

*\*Tri-M Music Honor Society*

### ALTO SAXOPHONE

Nathaniel Gonzalez  
Mia Conry  
Paul Schneider  
\*Miguel Jaimes  
\*Milania Cabrera

### TENOR SAXOPHONE

\*Gabriel Gonzalez  
\*Jasmine Chen

### BARITONE SAXOPHONE

\*Seiken Rodriguez

### TRUMPET

\*Alina Gonzalez  
Ethan Casas  
Sophie Arguello  
\*Bryan Fundora  
Perla Diaz  
Yosdany Lorenzo  
\*Daniel Romeus  
Jade Lozier  
Diego Llopart

### HORN

\*Nickolas Echeverri  
\*Imari Dumornay  
\*Makenzy Jordan  
\*Emmanuel Toussaint

### TROMBONE

\*Jorge Sosa  
Benjamin Castaneda  
Jose Paredes  
Andre Gonzalez

### EUPHONIUM

\*D'Johnmar Tavarez

### TUBA

\*Sterline Dor  
Matias Sanchez  
\*Cassidy Eukora  
\*Nicholas Bachmann

### PERCUSSION

\*Daniel Romero  
\*Gerardo Lopez  
Nicholas Segovia  
\*Noah Segovia  
Devin Ferguson  
Kevin Martinez  
Jorge Gomez

## *Intermediate Band*

### FLUTE

\*Christopher Gonzalez  
(piccolo)  
\*Victoria Morales  
Velasquez  
Drae-Michael Ferguson

### OBOE

Max Shackleton

### CLARINET

Luiz Panimboza  
Carolina Arguello  
\*Jenna Ramkhelawan  
Sofia Ortiz  
Leonardo Llopart  
Vladimir Tsionskiy  
\*Shiloh Guthrie

### ALTO SAXOPHONE

Alexander Rivera  
Connor Jessen  
Karel Decoteau-Roland  
Emma Sandor

### TENOR SAXOPHONE

Andrew Barker  
Mekhei Lewis  
\*Anthony Diaz  
Jalil Lowman

### BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Josiah Oranday

### TRUMPET

Alejandro Garcia-Amado  
\*Jovanny Trent  
Miguel Diaz Paulino

### HORN

Julien Gomez  
\*Avianna Cabrera

### EUPHONIUM

Christopher Prat  
\*Sanaa Hastings  
Noah Newbold

### TUBA

Alejandro Rojas  
Felipe Alvarez-Arenas

### PERCUSSION

Paula Prieto  
Lucas Piscoya  
James Dalrymple  
Jeremiah Mohamed

*\*Tri-M Music Honor Society*



## *High School Beginning Band*

### FLUTE

Francys Rosendo  
Cody Pezzella  
Marian Chirinos  
Maria Gouverneur  
Liana Leon  
Brianna Ferailleur  
Andres Infante  
Liam Page  
Laura Mermejo  
Isabella Lara

### OBOE

Abigaile Vincent  
Victoria Yanez  
Araon Guzman

### CLARINET

Rebecka Dilbert  
Stefanos Vernicos  
Aiden Herrington  
Tomas Martinez  
Diego Rangel  
\*Aakash Sharma  
Enzo Luna  
Juan Gonzalez  
Jesus Serna  
Bradley Micelus  
Jalil Parram  
Ryan Herrera  
Erick Carcamo  
Dalen Lake  
Mario Mauriello  
Christhian Dager

### ALTO SAXOPHONE

Mateo Nazario  
Deven Torres  
Giovanni Martinez  
Nathalia Terrero  
Xavier Agosto  
Christopher Largie

### TENOR SAXOPHONE

Lucas Morales  
Maurice Robinson II  
Yahel Taylor

### BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Kyle Adolphe

### TRUMPET

Grayson Taylor  
Khelsie Wright  
Brandon DeBlasis  
\*Alvin Gonzalez  
Sally Garzon  
Jayden Martin  
Andrew Ortiz  
\*Nicholas Cardenas  
Moises Gonzalez  
Elan Malki  
Henry Lovera  
Jorge Racedo

### BASSOON

Seth Prescod  
Mae Tolentino  
Cristina Gunderson

### HORN

Jason Goddette  
Miguel Villacis  
Christopher Restrepo  
Elijah Soto  
Cesar Correia

### TROMBONE

Ian Alvarez  
Jeremy Juarez  
Cedrik Millien  
Stephanie Gilbert  
Brian Ralph

### EUPHONIUM

Marianna Sosa  
Carl Montoya  
Robert Guishard

### TUBA

Aurick Klugman  
Alejandro Gouverneur  
Santiago Perozo

*\*Tri-M Music Honor Society*

## *Middle School Beginning Band*

### FLUTE

Maria Ferra  
Rohi Marshal-Oribhabor  
Daniel De Jesus  
Allana Vargas  
Jazmine Ferguson  
Daniel Flores Corsini  
Joycelyn Ferguson  
Isabella Espinoza

### OBOE

Alexa Cordova  
Jordan Cotty  
Arianna Peck

### CLARINET

Joaquin Matute  
Sonia Quevedo  
Amahri Thorpe  
Ardavian Jones  
Benjamin Jean  
Joehendith Magnant

### ALTO SAXOPHONE

Rian Egilmez  
Frankie Lugo  
Andres Boscan  
Melissa Fundora  
Daniel Melendez

### TENOR SAXOPHONE

Fernando Espinal

### BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Ernesto Oranday

### TRUMPET

Angelina Young-M  
D'Jariel Tavarez  
Gianni Millien  
Lucas Rubiales  
Santiago Hernandez  
Michael Diez

### HORN

Athier Ridgeway  
Sydney Bear  
Manuel Fajin

### TROMBONE

Samuel Saint Jean  
Ashton Gunderson  
Luciano Andrade  
Elijah Templier

### EUPHONIUM

Alana Streeter

### PERCUSSION

Elan Harris  
Isaac Bahamon  
Power Lyons  
Sebastian Mederos  
Juan Velasquez  
Christopher Heron

## PROGRAM NOTES

**“Ukrainian Bell Carol”** The Ukrainian Bell Carol, also known as “Carol of the Bells,” is a popular Christmas carol recognized around the world. Its origins trace back to Ukraine, where it was first performed as Mykola Leontovych’s arrangement of the Ukrainian folk song “Shchedryk”. The carol made its American debut in 1922 when the Ukrainian National Chorus performed it at Carnegie Hall. The performance was part of an ambitious 35-piece program that showcased Ukrainian folk songs and contemporary compositions. The carol is known for its repetitive four-note motif that mimics the sound of bells. This motif is passed around different sections of the choir or orchestra, creating a layered, echo-like effect. The melody is simple yet haunting, evoking the chill and mystery of a winter’s night. The Ukrainian Bell Carol holds significant cultural value. It was part of a broader effort to garner recognition for Ukraine as a country with a unique history and cultural traditions. Today, it serves as a reminder of Ukraine’s rich musical heritage and its contribution to the global repertoire of cherished holiday music.

**“Silver Bells”** is a classic Christmas song composed by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans. The song was first performed in the motion picture “The Lemon Drop Kid,” filmed in July and August 1950 and released in March 1951. The first recorded version was sung by Bing Crosby and Carol Richards on September 8, 1950, with John Scott Trotter and His Orchestra and the Lee Gordon Singers. Interestingly, “Silver Bells” started out as “Tinkle Bells.” Songwriter Ray Evans said: “We never thought that tinkle had a double meaning until Jay went home and his first wife said, ‘Are you out of your mind? Do you know what the word tinkle is?’”. This led to the change in the song’s title to the now universally recognized “Silver Bells.”

**“Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy”** is a renowned piece from Tchaikovsky’s ballet, “The Nutcracker”. It is the third movement in The Nutcracker pas de deux, danced by the principal female dancer. The ballet was first performed in Russia in 1892. The piece was choreographed by Lev Ivanov to music written by Tchaikovsky. The Sugar Plum Fairy was first danced by Antonietta Dell’Era. The music is noted for its use of the celesta, an instrument that Tchaikovsky found in Paris in 1891. He described it as “midway between a tiny piano and a Glockenspiel, with a divinely wonderful sound”. Interestingly, the character of the Sugar Plum Fairy does not appear in the original E.T.A. Hoffman story “Nutcracker and Mouse King” or in Alexandre Dumas’s “The Tale of the Nutcracker,” the retelling on which the ballet’s first libretto was based. The character was created to showcase the talents



**Drumline cadences** are musical arrangements specifically designed for percussionists. They are typically used in drum corps or marching bands to maintain the correct rhythm when the ensemble is moving in formation. The tempo of the drumline cadence provides all performers the speed at which they should be stepping in unison. Cadences can vary in difficulty level from simple to hard, and they often feature different rhythms, rudiments, and styles, such as rock, funk, jazz, and marching. They can be fun and challenging for drum lines, and are perfect for parades, football games, and performances.

**“Angels We Have Heard on High”** is a traditional French carol that originated as early as the 18th century. The earliest known printed version was in an 1842 French song book. It was first published in North America in “Nouveau recueil de cantiques” (New Hymnal) for the Diocese of Quebec in 1819. The song was first translated into English in 1860 by James Chadwick, a Roman Catholic bishop. The English version is not an exact translation of the original French, but rather a paraphrase by Chadwick. The carol quickly became popular in the West Country, where it was described as “Cornish” by R. R. Chope, and featured in William Adair Pickard-Cambridge’s Collection of Dorset Carols. The hymn is generally sung to the hymn tune “Gloria”, a traditional French carol as arranged by Edward Shippen Barnes. Its most memorable feature is its chorus, “Gloria in excelsis Deo”, where the “o” of “Gloria” is fluidly sustained through 16 notes of a rising and falling melismatic melodic sequence. The lyrics of “Angels We Have Heard on High” are inspired by Luke 2:6-20, the scene outside Bethlehem in which shepherds encounter a multitude of angels singing and praising the newborn child. The refrain of the song is taken directly from this verse.

**“Festivo de Noel”** is a light and festive tune composed by Mike Hannickel and published by Curnow Music. The piece is designed for a Grade 0.5 band, making it accessible for young or beginner bands. The piece features very easy rhythms and ranges, and the allegretto tempo is flexible enough to fit the needs of any beginning group. Very little “independence of parts” is required and there is enough rhythmic repetition to give even the most tentative of players a strong foothold. “Festivo de Noel” is a wonderful addition to any holiday concert, bringing a touch of festive spirit with its delightful melody and uplifting message. Enjoy the festive spirit of “Festivo de Noel”.

**“Band on the Housetop”** is an arrangement by Timothy Loest of the classic Christmas song “Up on the Housetop” by Benjamin Hanby. The original song, composed by Hanby, is considered one of the oldest secular Christmas songs. It was first published in the magazine “Our Song Birds” by Root & Cady. Benjamin Hanby was an American composer, educator, pastor, and abolitionist who wrote approximately 80 songs and

hymns. His most famous works include “Darling Nelly Gray” and the Christmas songs “Up on the HouseTop”, “Jolly Old St. Nicholas”, and “Who Is He In Yonder Stall?”.

**“Mi Burrito Sabanero”** (My Little Donkey from Bethlehem) is a beloved Christmas song from Venezuela. It was composed by Hugo Blanco in 1975. Contrary to what one might think, “Mi burrito sabanero” is not an old song. The song is about a little donkey making its way to Bethlehem on the night Jesus was born. It has simple and repetitive lyrics, like in most children’s songs. Venezuelan singer Simón Díaz first sang the song, but Blanco believed it would sound better sung by children. So he got in touch with the Coro Infantil of Venezuela and his director Raúl Cabrera, who arranged the song for a children’s chorus. Thus, La Rondallita was born. The song started gaining traction first in Caracas and then internationally. And the rest, as they say, is history. There is a sad part to this story. The main singer of La Rondallita, Ricardo Cuenci, said that when they first recorded it (he was eight years old), he sang ‘el Burrito Tabanero’ because he couldn’t pronounce the “s”. Cuenci never saw any money for giving a voice to the burrito. Nevertheless, it is now a classic in most Latino households and sung by all generations. None other than Billboard magazine has included Mi Burrito Sabanero in its list of the 100 best Christmas songs of all time.

**“A Christmas Sleigh Ride”** is a delightful arrangement by Sandy Feldstein and John O’Reilly. This piece is a medley of popular Christmas tunes, designed for young or beginner bands. The arrangement includes a variety of well-known Christmas songs, providing a festive journey through the holiday season. The piece is designed to be accessible for young musicians, with easy rhythms and ranges.

**“First Holiday Concert”** is a charming and effective piece, perfect for a band’s very first holiday concert. It combines three songs that students encounter in most every band method available: Jingle Bells, The Dreydl Song, and Jolly Old St. Nicholas. These songs are combined in a simple but very effective manner to demonstrate a high quality of technique and musicianship in a beginning band.

**“March of the Magical Toys”** is a delightful piece that brings the magic of Christmas to life. The composition depicts toy elements from the popular Christmas narration: “’Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. Santa had dropped through the chimney with care, hoping the children would be up the stairs. He placed all the toys round the tree with delight, and wiggled his nose at the stroke of midnight. The toys came alive and marched round and round, singing and dancing to holiday sounds.” This enchanting narrative sets the stage for the music, which captures the whimsical march of the toys as they come alive. The piece is



a testament to Smith's creativity and is sure to captivate both the performers and the audience.

**"Fortnite Festive Lobby Music"** by Pinar Toprak is a delightful piece that brings the festive spirit to the popular game, Fortnite. The composition is available in various arrangements for different ensembles, including Symphony Orchestra, Mixed Ensemble, and Jazz Band. The music captures the joyous and lively atmosphere of the holiday season, making it a favorite among Fortnite players. This trio features a flute, clarinet, and percussionist with a backing track.

**"All I Want for Christmas Is You"** is a holiday classic by Mariah Carey, released in 1994. This song has become a staple of the holiday season, with its catchy melody and heartfelt lyrics resonating with listeners around the world. The song works as both a love song and a holiday song. Carey sets it up: She doesn't care about all the holiday trappings, she has one thing — one person — on her mind. She sprinkles in specific holiday references, from Santa Claus to mistletoe. The lyrics express a simple wish for companionship during the holidays, emphasizing that the presence of loved ones is more important than material gifts. The song's upbeat tempo and joyful melody contrast with the longing expressed in the lyrics, creating a unique and memorable holiday tune.

**"Minka's Sleigh Ride"** is a delightful piece that takes listeners on a snowy Russian sleigh ride. The composition combines two Ukrainian folk tunes, "Minka" and "The Birch Tree," with the sounds of sleigh bells, tambourines, and wood blocks. The piece is designed to transport the audience to a wintry landscape, with the music capturing the rhythm and excitement of a sleigh ride. Everyone gets the melody in this delightful young band piece.

**"The Christmas Song,"** commonly subtitled "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire" or, as it was originally subtitled, "Merry Christmas to You," is a classic Christmas song written in 1945 by Robert Wells and Mel Tormé. The song was first recorded by the Nat King Cole Trio in June 1946. At Cole's behest – and over the objections of his label, Capitol Records – a second recording was made in August utilizing a small string section. This version became a massive hit on both the pop and R&B charts<sup>1</sup>. Cole again recorded the song in 1953, using the same arrangement with a full orchestra arranged and conducted by Nelson Riddle, and once more in 1961, in a stereophonic version with another full orchestra arranged and conducted by Ralph Carmichael. Cole's 1961 version is generally regarded as definitive. The song was written during a blistering hot summer. According to Tormé, the song was born in an effort to "stay cool by thinking cool". The lyrics start with 'Chestnuts roasting..., Jack Frost nipping..., Yuletide carols..., Folks dressed up like Eskimos.' In 2022, the 1961 Nat King Cole

recording was selected by the Library of Congress for preservation in the United States National Recording Registry as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant"

**“Jazzy Holidays”** is a delightful arrangement by Johnnie Vinson. This piece features clever swing versions of familiar Christmas songs, creating an entertaining and well-crafted medley for the holidays. The medley includes the following songs: “Deck the Hall”, “The Holly and the Ivy”, and “Jingle Bells.” The lively swing renditions of these classic holiday tunes are sure to get everyone ready for the festive season.

**“Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas”** is a classic Christmas song written in 1943 by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane. It was first introduced by Judy Garland in the 1944 MGM musical "Meet Me in St. Louis". The song was written for a scene in which a family is distraught by the father’s plans to move to New York City for a job promotion, leaving behind their beloved home in St. Louis, Missouri, just before the long-anticipated 1904 World’s Fair begins. In a scene set on Christmas Eve, Judy Garland’s character, Esther, sings the song to cheer up her despondent five-year-old sister, Tootie.

The original lyrics penned by Martin were rejected before filming began. When presented with the original draft lyric, Garland, her co-star Tom Drake, and director Vincente Minnelli criticized the song as depressing, and asked Martin to change the lyrics. Though he initially resisted, Martin made several changes to make the song more upbeat.

**“Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!”** is a classic holiday song that has been covered by numerous artists over the years. The song was written by lyricist Sammy Cahn and composer Jule Styne. This piece is not your typical arrangement of the well-known classic. It has been transformed with a 60’s groove to appeal to singers of all ages, adding a bit of novel flair. The easy vocals and harmonies in a straight eighth feel with a grooving bass line make this Jule Styne and Sammy Cahn favorite stand out during the holiday season. Mark Hayes has created an orchestrated arrangement that is sparkling, bright, happy, and simply gorgeous. The introduction would surely thrill writers Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne. Mark leads into a jazz waltz that dances into an ending any Hollywood movie would dream of using and performing.

**“Santa’s Parade”** is a powerful Christmas march arranged by Tom Wallace. This piece includes three well-known Christmas songs: Joy to the World, Jingle Bells, and We Wish You a Merry Christmas. These songs are separated by percussion breaks, creating an engaging and dynamic musical experience. The arrangement is perfect for a parade or a festive concert, capturing the joy and excitement of the holiday season.



## SPECIAL THANKS

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