

**THE**

# *East Hall*

**WIND SYMPHONY**



*The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern United States  
High School Band Clinic – Troy University*

(Will Schofield Letter)

(Will Schofield Photo)

(Jeff Cooper Letter)

(Jeff Cooper Photo)

**EAST HALL HIGH SCHOOL WIND SYMPHONY**

*39<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern United States  
High School Concert Band Clinic  
Troy University – Troy, Alabama  
February 4, 2012, 11:00AM*

J. Craig Cantrell, Conductor  
Geoffrey Lonberger, Conductor  
Nicolás Ayala, Composer & Conductor  
Mercer E. Crook, Guest Conductor  
Dr. Michael Huff, Trumpet

Ignition.....Todd Stalter

Irish Tune from County Derry &  
Shepherd's Hey.....Percy Grainger

“Valhalla” - Short Symphony for Band.....Nicolás Ayala  
Commissioned for the East Hall H.S. Wind Symphony  
\*World Premier  
Nicolás Ayala, Conductor

Concertpiece.....James Curnow  
Dr. Michael Huff, Trumpet

El Aguila de Oro.....Jack Bullock  
Geoffrey Lonberger, Conductor

L'Inglesina (“The Little English Girl”).....Davide Delle Cese  
Mercer E. Crook, Guest Conductor

Kitchen Can Can.....David Shaffer

Scootin' On Hardrock.....David R. Holsinger

# **THE EAST HALL VIKING BAND PROGRAM**



East Hall High School is located just outside Gainesville, Georgia, in northeastern Hall County, about 60 miles just northeast of Atlanta. East Hall High School is the smallest of seven high schools in Hall County with approximately 910 students in grades 9-12. However, being the smallest of the high schools has not been a disadvantage as the East Hall High School Band has been the standard bearer for high school bands of Hall County. Averaging nearly 15% participation of the student body in the band program, the East Hall High School Band has won innumerable superior ratings and has performed in some of the nation's most prestigious events.

The East Hall High Viking Marching Band has routinely received superior ratings in marching festivals and competitions. On two different occasions the band has won 1st place in the National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade. In 2007, the Viking Band won "Best In Class" in the Cotton Bowl Parade in Dallas, Texas. Most recently, the Viking Band placed 1<sup>st</sup> in AAAA competition and Sweepstakes Trophy at the 2010 Armuchee Marching Invitational and the 2011 Lake Lanier Tournament of Bands. In addition to winning placements and ratings at all marching contests, the Viking Marching Band has performed in the Tournament of Roses Parade, the Cotton Bowl Parade, the Orange Bowl Halftime and Parade Performances, the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade, the Nations Day Parade in New York City, the Macy's Holiday Parade in Orlando, Florida, the Outback Bowl Halftime Performance and Parade, the Macy's Eggleston Christmas Parade, and the King Orange Jamboree Parade. The Viking Band has also performed halftime shows for the Atlanta Falcons and the Atlanta Braves and performed several times at Walt Disney World. In addition, the East Hall High School Band was proclaimed "Ambassadors of Good Will" from the state of Georgia by Governor Joe Frank Harris.

The marching band is divided into three concert organizations and all are entered in concert festival (LGPE) each year sponsored by the Georgia Music Educators Association. Since 1971, the East Hall Concert Bands have made 68 superior ratings and 9 excellent ratings in concert festival. Additionally, the East Hall Bands performed at such prestigious events as the Georgia Music Educators In-Service Conference, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Annual Conference, and the University of Georgia's January Music Festival. Most recently, the East Hall Wind Symphony performed as a featured performing ensemble at the 61<sup>st</sup> annual University of Georgia January Music Festival in Athens, GA. In 2012, the East Hall Wind Symphony will perform at the Southeastern United States Band Clinic (SEUS) at Troy University.



*East Hall High School Wind Symphony*

**Flute**

Cinthia Apolinar  
 Kaitlin Buffington  
 Angela Cruz  
 Angelica Cuevas  
 Blake Edwards  
 Angelica Gonzalez  
 Ana Rodriguez  
 Grayzielle Sepe  
 Tiffany Salazar

**Oboe**

Hannah Niles

**Clarinet**

Tanya Argueta  
 Lacey Campbell  
 Jessica Castaneda  
 Annah Coker  
 Mayra Deras  
 Cassie Fagin  
 Kaitlin Hussey  
 Kayla Garbutt  
 Kelly Orr  
 Cabrielle Rutherford

**Bass Clarinet**

Jorge Rodriguez  
 Avery Winters  
 Aliah Burrows (Contra)

**Alto Saxophone**

Alec Martin  
 Chase Reed  
 Eliezer Rodriguez  
 Cody Wright

**Tenor Saxophone**

Aaron Jimenez  
 Chris Marquez

**Baritone Saxophone**

Javier Arevalo

**Trumpet**

Jonathan Bonilla  
 Geremy Crane  
 Seth Fowler  
 Avien Gober  
 Austin Greenway  
 Caleb Kinsey  
 Jhonny Lorenzo  
 Cesar Zamayoa

**French Horn**

Kacie Armour  
 Chase Cooper  
 Janine DeVera  
 Austin Hyde  
 Mallory Puckett

**Trombone**

Jonathan Casas  
 Austin Chandler  
 Dylan Duke  
 Allen Shockley  
 David Torres

**Bass Trombone**

Bradley Wine

**Euphonium**

Steve Andrade  
 Rafael Rojas  
 Tania Pulido

**Tuba**

Anthony Pacheco  
 Jon Smith

**Percussion**

Emmanuel Andrade  
 Jonathan Arevalo  
 Cinthia Argueta  
 Ulises Deras  
 Timothy Kinsey  
 Austin Knight  
 Isaac Salazar  
 Michael Smith  
 Enrique Valencia  
 Jacob Yonce

# PROGRAM NOTES

## ***Ignition***

**Todd Stalter**

"Ignition" is a blindingly fast, raucously energetic concert opener that derives its title from the consecutive rising three-note cells that are the building blocks for almost the entire work. However, the energy unleashed in the music and the imagery of the title serves both as a metaphor for the "spark" of creativity, and as a "celebration in sound" for those who find and follow their own true life's passion and pass it along to others, "igniting" the flame for another generation. It was written for the Atlanta Youth Wind Symphony and their conductor, Scott Stewart, who have been steadfast supporters of Todd Stalter's compositions, as a musical "Thank you!" from a grateful composer.

## ***Irish Tune from County Derry & Shepherd's Hey***

**Percy Grainger**

Percy Aldridge Grainger first studied the piano with his mother in Melbourne, Australia. His early success took him to Europe, and by the time he was twenty-four years old he so seriously impressed composer Edvard Grieg that Grainger was invited to spend the summer of 1907 at Grieg's home in Norway, to prepare the premiere of the Grieg Concerto. Grieg died before the piece was performed, but Grainger's rendition established him as one of the concerto's great interpreters. In 1909, Grainger dedicated this setting of a tune from County Derry, Ireland, to the memory of Edvard Grieg. His rich arrangement of a perfect melody has kept the Irish tune a favorite for decades. The "Shepherd's Hey", by contrast, is an extraordinary inventive setting of a traditional Morris dance. It typifies Grainger's love of folk music and tendency toward unusual rhythmic experimentation.

## ***Valhalla***

**Nicolás Ayala**

Nicolás Ayala, young composer and graduate of Flowery Branch High School (Flowery Branch, GA), has composed a new piece for the performance today. He affectionately entitled the new piece "Valhalla," as a tribute to the school's mascot and spirit. Valhalla, or "Viking Heaven" in Norse Mythology, is a Hall built by Odin, where Vikings who have fallen in battle are received. Each day would be spent fighting and each night would be spent celebrating victory. The piece begins solemnly and reflectively, depicting the onset of a great Viking battle. The conflict ensues and pushes onward to a resolute and victorious finale.

Valhalla is dedicated to the members of the East Hall High School Wind Symphony for their great efforts, as well as their conductor, Craig Cantrell, for his continued commitment to creating a wonderful band program at East Hall High School.

## ***Concertpiece***

**James Curnow**

From the dynamic, driving introduction to the expressively lyric Andante cantabile, Concertpiece for Trumpet was created to showcase both the technical and lyrical qualities of the trumpet. Whether cascading down difficult runs, negotiating its way through exciting double-tonguing passages, or soaring above the ensemble during the most expressive moments, the trumpet soloist is challenged to perform at an extremely high standard of excellence. After the expressive middle section, the recapitulation of the opening Allegro once again re-establishes the brilliant, energetic qualities of the trumpet, while the following Coda focuses on the interplay between the soloist and the ensemble. A dramatic flourish of ascending runs brings this work to a fitting conclusion.

### ***El Aguila de Oro***

**Jack Bullock**

"El Aguila de Oro" (The Golden Eagle) is a Spanish-style march in the tradition form with the spirit and flair expected in that type of music. A small Mariachi band is heard after the first strain adding to the color of the Spanish-style. To conduct this wonderful piece will be the Director of Bands at East Hall Middle School Mr. Geoffrey Lonberger.

### ***Kitchen Can Can***

**David Shaffer**

Born in Columbus, Ohio, David Shaffer is a freelance composer, arranger, and clinician who has written over 350 compositions and arrangements in print. His works have been performed at clinics and music festivals around the world and have been placed on several state contest lists. He is currently the director of the Miami University Marching Band. Shaffer's Kitchen Can Can, subtitled "A Cooked-Up Concoction of Classics" takes us on a humorous upbeat tour of the classics. With Can-Can as its main theme, it contains quotes from numerous familiar classical themes, including: Dance of the Hours, William Tell, Anvil Chorus, Hallelujah Chorus, Wedding March, and others. This piece also makes use of an assortment of kitchen items that are played by the percussion.

### ***L'Inglesina ("The Little English Girl")***

**Davide Delle Cese**

This symphonic march was composed in 1897 and has been ranked as the 10th most popular march in the world. Delle Cese penned "L'Inglesina (The Little English Girl)" when he was bandmaster at Bitonto. With eight different sections of contrasting material, "L'Inglesina" is a Grand March reminiscent of an operatic overture. True to March style, there are several euphonium countermelodies and woodwind obbligato to enjoy. The march concludes with the "Grandioso" strain typical of the Italian Grand March style.

### ***Scootin' On Hardrock***

**David Holsinger**

Holsinger writes: "About half a mile east of my office on Shady Grove Road, you will cross Hardrock Road, the former main street of Shady Grove Township, Texas. Sitting close to the railroad line between Dallas and Ft. Worth, this little community thrived for its initial 20 years. But when the township was absorbed by Irving and Grand Prairie 30 years ago, Hardrock Road was destined to suffer dearly the abandonment of both a future and "county maintenance." The road runs only about a mile in length, from the entrance to a bankrupted wildlife park on the south, to Rock Island Road, parallel to the old Rock Island Railroad tracks, to the north. There are a number of houses left in the dilapidated neighborhoods. Most are suffering the ravages of too many uncaring renters; however, some still appear neat and cared for, despite their age. Several defunct horse stables and exercise corrals line the road, in addition to a couple of "joints," a small grocery store, a welder's shop, and a number of scrap yards. Located midpoint on Hardrock Road is a cemetery and close by, a vacant lot, where the original Shady Grove Baptist Church stood from 1937 until December, 1974, when disgruntled church members allegedly put a torch to the building and burned it down. (And you thought YOUR church board had heated meetings!...) One doesn't mosey down Hardrock Road anymore. You scoot along because now the only reason to drive through there is to go from somewhere you've been to someplace you haven't... And anyway, only the locals consider the route a shortcut to wherever... But once upon a time, Hardrock Road was the center of town."

# BIOGRAPHIES



## *J. Craig Cantrell*

Mr. Craig Cantrell was appointed Director of Bands at East Hall High School in the Fall of 2003. He administers all aspects of the music department and serves as chair of the department of Fine Arts. In addition to his administrative duties, he also conducts all of the instrumental music ensembles, which include the Viking Marching Band, Wind Symphony, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Indoor Percussion Ensemble, and other wind chamber groups. Additionally, he teaches courses in AP Music Theory and Musicianship. Mr. Cantrell, a recognized member of multiple editions of Who's Who Among American Teachers and Who's Who in America, was named Teacher of the Year at EHHS in 2007 and Star Teacher in 2011. He is a 1997 alumnus of East Hall, where he served as Drum Major and principal euphonium in the Viking Bands.

He received the Associate in Music from Truett-McConnell College in Cleveland, GA, where he studied piano with Dr. David George and euphonium with Brian Lambeth and the Bachelors of Music Education from Kennesaw State University, studying conducting and musicianship with Peter Witte and Alexander Mickelthwate (Conductor of the Winnipeg Symphony) and euphonium with Michael Moore (principal tuba-Atlanta Symphony Orchestra). Other influential musicians with whom he has worked include Mr. Mercer Crook, Dr. Tom Barnett and Paula Peace in performance; Dr. John Shipp, H. Robert Reynolds, Allan McMurry, and John Lynch in conducting; and Marianne Ploger in musicianship.

Mr. Cantrell maintains an active schedule as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor throughout the state. He has conducted performances with the bands and wind ensembles at Kennesaw State University, Truett-McConnell College, and Durham Middle School. He has also guest conducted the Northeast Georgia Wind Symphony, the Army Grounds Force Band (Ft. McPherson). He has participated in many conducting clinics and workshops, including the University of Georgia Conductors Workshop (2005), the Georgia State Conductors Symposium (2007), and the Columbus State University Conductors Workshop (2008). Recently, he was presented the prestigious Citation of Excellence from the National Band Association, while the East Hall Wind Symphony performed by invitation at the 61<sup>st</sup> annual January Music Festival at the University of Georgia.

In addition to his teaching duties at East Hall, he performs with the Northwinds Symphonic Band, serving on the executive board of directors of the group. He also conducts the Gainesville Parks and Recreation Summer Community Theater Orchestra. He is affiliated with professional organizations which include the National Band Association, National Association for Music Education, and the Georgia Music Educators Association. He served as District Chair for The GMEA District Nine. He resides in Gainesville, GA with his wife, Michelle and his wonderful step children Tyler and Julia.





## *Geoffrey Lonberger*

Geoffrey Lonberger was appointed Band Director at East Hall Middle School in the Fall of 2006. In addition to serving as the middle school band director, he also assists with the East Hall High School Marching Band. Prior to teaching at East Hall Middle School, he was the Band Director at Fannin County Middle School in Blue Ridge, GA for two years.

A native of Snellville, GA, Mr. Lonberger is a 2004 graduate of The University of Georgia where he received his BMUS degree in Music Education. During his time at UGA, he studied trumpet with Dr. Edward Sandor and conducting with Dr. John Culvahouse. Mr. Lonberger was a member of the Redcoat Marching Band for four years and served as trumpet section leader during his senior year. He was also a member of the UGA Wind Symphony.

Mr. Lonberger is very active in his community and with professional organizations. He is a member of Air Line Baptist Church in Gainesville where he is involved in the church orchestra and helping with children's choir. He is also a member of the Northwinds Symphonic Band. His professional organizations include The Georgia Music Educators' Association, Music Educators' National Conference, and the Professional Association of Georgia Educators. He resides in Lula, GA with his wife, Erin and their two sons, Landon and Clayton.



## *Nicolás Ayala*

Born in Bogotá, Colombia, Nicolás Mauricio Ayala is quickly making a name for himself as a bright young composer. While "Valhalla" is the first of his concert pieces to be premiered, he has written several compositions for various mediums, including several commissioned works for marching band for numerous schools and marching band organizations. He is currently the Composer-In-Residence at East Hall High School, while serving on the marching band staff.

He is currently a music student at Gainesville State College (GA), studying with Mercer Crook and Don Strand, and plans to seek a Masters in Composition in the future. He has performed as a member of the Alliance Drum Corps, serving as Drum Major in 2011. He has performed with several other ensembles including the Northwinds Symphonic Band, the Gwinnett Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Atlanta Philharmonic Orchestra.



## *Dr. Michael Huff*

Dr. Michael H. Huff serves as Assistant Professor of Music at Troy University where he teaches trumpet and works with the band program. Prior to his appointment at Troy University, he held positions at Mississippi State University and performed as a member of the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. While performing as a member of this organization, Dr. Huff performed for a wide variety of audiences and dignitaries from around the world including Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton. He was invited to perform with the Airmen of Note as a guest on their 2002 tour of Europe and the Middle East.

He has performed as a trumpet soloist with the Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra (Jackson, Mississippi), the Starkville (MS) Symphony, the Mississippi State University Wind Ensemble, the University of Massachusetts Symphony Band, the Tidewater Winds (Norfolk, Virginia), the University of Northern Colorado Summer Wind Ensemble, the Bishop Ireton Wind Ensemble (Alexandria, Virginia), and the Franklin-Pierce Festival Orchestra. Dr. Huff has earned degrees from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, the Eastman School of Music, and the Catholic University of America. He has studied trumpet with Charles Daval, Langston Fitzgerald, Barbara Butler, Charles Geyer, and Walter Chesnut. At the University of Massachusetts, Dr. Huff was honored to receive the Chancellor's talent Award and the Howard M. Lebow Award for Artistic Achievement. He has performed additionally with the Mobile Symphony, the Mississippi Symphony, Sinfonia Gulf Coast (FL), the Meridian (MS) Symphony, the Washington Opera, the Annapolis Symphony, the Maryland Symphony, the Virginia Symphony, and the Rochester Philharmonic.

Past performing projects have included collaborations with such artists as Allen Vizzutti, Chuck Mangione, Wycliffe Gordon, Lari White, BeBe Winans, Michael McGuire, and the New York Voices. Recording projects have included performances with various Air Force ensembles, the Golden Triangle Brass Quintet, the Massachusetts Wind Orchestra, the Tidewater Winds, and the University of Massachusetts Wind Ensemble on Albany and Centaur labels.



## *Merger E. Crook*

Merger Crook is a native of Northeast Georgia. He was born and raised in Winder, Georgia, was graduated from Winder-Barrow High School, received his Bachelor of Music and Master of Fine Arts Degrees in Woodwind Performance from the University of Georgia, and taught at Toccoa High School for one year before beginning a distinguished 31 year tenure at East Hall High School.

Under Mr. Crook's leadership, the East Hall High School Bands performed in the Tournament of Roses Parade, two Cotton Bowl Parades, two Orange Bowl Parades, two Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parades, four National Cherry Blossom Festival Parades, four Macy's Atlanta Christmas Parades, two Gatlinburg Christmas Parades, and the Outback Bowl Parade.

Mr. Crook's Symphonic Bands were selected to perform for both the Georgia Music Educators Association In service Conference and the University of Georgia January Music Festival. His bands received superior ratings over 90% of Mr. Crook's 31 years at the school.

Mr. Crook currently serves as principal oboist with the Gainesville Symphony Orchestra, and as principal oboist and associate conductor of the Northwinds Symphonic Band. He performs with several ensembles and chamber groups throughout northeast Georgia and the Atlanta area. He also serves as an adjunct member of the faculty at Gainesville College, where he conducts the Symphonic Band and directs the woodwind studio, and continues to serve as adjudicator and clinician throughout Georgia.

Mr. Crook is a member of Music Educators National Conference, Georgia Music Educators Association, Phi Beta Mu, and has been inducted into the John Philip Sousa Legion of Honor. Mr. Crook was selected teacher of the year at East Hall High School three times, and was named Star Teacher in 1996.

# Acknowledgements

The directors and students of the East Hall High School Wind Symphony wish to thank the following persons and groups for their generous support to their musical endeavors.

**Hall County Board of Education:** For providing support for all of the educational programs in our school system.

**East Hall High School Faculty, Staff, and Administration:** For the never-ending support of our band program.

**East Hall High School Band Association:** Your financial support and parental involvement make the EHHS Band Program possible.

**East Hall High School Fine Arts Faculty:** Whitney Poole Rylee, Director of Choral Activities and Drama Teacher, and Michael Valley, Visual Arts Teacher.

**A special THANKS to all our BAND PARENTS, past and present, who have volunteered countless hours.**

**Mitchell Mintz, EH Band alumnus and photographer,** for all photos and program design.

**A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO THE 2010-2011 EHHS WIND SYMPHONY** for your musicianship and commitment to making today's performance possible for our Wind Symphony students for 2011-2012.

## *PERSONAL THANKS TO*

**My Beautiful and Most Talented wife – Michelle Cantrell – for your love and support of me and our band children.**

**My family and friends for their constant support and encouragement.**

**My band directors: Mercer Crook, Dr. John Shipp, and Peter Witte for their encouragement and high expectations.**

**My colleagues who have offered their congratulations and support.**

**My mentors and friends, Mercer Crook, Johnny Smith, Michelle Rickard, William Owens, Ron Evans for their continual support, encouragement, and advice.**