

**Montclair State University**  
JOHN J. CALI SCHOOL OF MUSIC  
PRESENTS

**THE MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY  
WIND SYMPHONY**

**Dr. Thomas McCauley**, *conductor*  
**Joshua Jenkins**, *assistant conductor*  
**Nicholas Mossa**, *assistant conductor*

**IN CONCERT**  
*with special guests*

**THE CALI ALUMNI CONCERT BAND**  
*and soloist*

**MARIA TAVERAS-GARCIA**

*Winner of the 2025-2026 Wind Symphony Concerto Competition*

**FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026 | 7:30PM**  
**KASSER THEATER**

**Daniel Gurskis**  
Dean, College of the Arts

**Shea Scruggs**  
Director  
John J. Cali School of Music

**John J. Cali**  
**School of Music**  

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**MONTCLAIR**  
STATE UNIVERSITY



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**PROGRAM**

First Suite Fanfare	Erika Svanoë
Amazing Grace	Frank Ticheli
Illumination	David Maslanka
Black Granite (Symphonic March)	James Hosay

**The Cali School Alumni Concert Band**

Dr. Thomas McCauley, *conductor*

**INTERMISSION**

Never Forget, Never Remember	Jennifer Jolly
<i>Nicholas Mossa, conductor</i>	
Blues from "An American in Paris"	George Gershwin
<i>Maria Taveras-Garcia, soloist</i>	
<i>Joshua Jenkins, conductor</i>	
Symphony No. 3	James Barnes
<i>III. For Natalie</i>	
First Symphony for Band	William Bolcom
<i>IV. Marches funeraires et dansantes</i>	

**The Montclair State University Wind Symphony**

Dr. Thomas McCauley, *conductor*

## THE MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY WIND SYMPHONY

The Montclair State University Wind Symphony is one of three concert bands in the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University in New Jersey. The ensemble has premiered pieces by composers Michael Daugherty, Bruce Yurko, David Gillingham, Elizabeth Brown, Armando Bayolo, and O'Neal Douglas among others. The Wind Symphony has appeared in concert with, among others, Dame Evelyn Glennie, Arturo Sandoval, Doreen Ketchens, The Imani Winds, the Monarch Brass, Decoda, Eric Whitacre, Daniel Bernard Roumain, the Manhattan Brass Quintet, and Zzyzx Quartet.

Since 2006, the Wind Symphony has appeared at the New Jersey Music Educators Association Conference on several occasions, the 2012 and 2023 CBDNA Eastern Division Conferences, the National Association for Music Education Eastern Division Conference, and the 2015 and 2012 Northeast Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference. Their appearance at the 2019 CBDNA National Conference in Tempe, Arizona marked the first time that a large ensemble from Montclair State University appeared at a national conference. Most recently, the Montclair State Wind Symphony appeared at the international conference of the prestigious World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) in Prague, Czech Republic, in July of 2022. Former members of the band program are now teaching in public and private schools throughout the northeast, performing as professional musicians throughout the country, and have gone on to attend some of the most prestigious graduate institutions in the world.

### About The Conductors...

**Thomas McCauley** is currently the Director of University Bands in the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University in New Jersey where he conducts the Montclair State University Wind Symphony, the Symphonic Band, and teaches both graduate and undergraduate conducting. He has held similar positions in the states of Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois, in addition to teaching high school instrumental music in Nevada for nine years. Composers including Karel Husa, David Gillingham, Michael Daugherty, Joseph Turrin, Bruce Yurko, Robert Aldridge, Morten Lauridsen, Armando Bayolo, and O'Neal Douglas have praised his work. Dr. McCauley has appeared as a clinician at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago on three different occasions. Each November, he hosts and co-teaches a symposium at Montclair State University called the *Weekend Wind Conducting Symposium* with special guest clinicians and participants from around the world. Dr. Thomas McCauley is in demand as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout North America. Ensembles under McCauley's direction have appeared at national and regional conventions and conferences, and he has collaborated with artists including Dame Evelyn Glennie, Arturo Sandoval, The Imani Winds, The Manhattan Brass Quintet, Warren Vache', Monarch Brass, and Phil Smith among others. In February of

2019, Dr. McCauley led the Montclair Wind Symphony in concert at the 2019 *College Band Directors Association* national conference in Tempe, Arizona. And the appearance of the Montclair State Wind Symphony at the WASBE International Conference in Prague, Czech Republic in July of 2022 was the first in the school's history.

Dr. McCauley's book titled, *Adventures in Band Building (or How to Turn a Less-Than-It-Could-Be into a More-Than-It-Should-Be)* is published by G.I.A. Publications. He has been published in *The Instrumentalist* magazine, several state music magazines, and in the second edition of *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band, Vol I* published by G.I.A. publications. In 1995, the Nevada Music Educators Association named Dr. McCauley *Music Educator of the Year* and in 2006, the Indiana Music Educators Association honored Dr. McCauley with an *Outstanding University Music Educator Award*. He currently serves on the Executive Board of the New Jersey Band Association, is the New Jersey State Representative of the College Band Directors National Association and is the former New Jersey State Representative of the National Band Association. He is also an active member of the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, and the National Association for Music Education, in addition to serving as a Conn-Selmer Educational Clinician. Dr. McCauley earned undergraduate and graduate degrees in Music Education from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas and holds a D.M. in conducting from Northwestern University.

**Nicholas Mossa** currently serves as a band director at Bridgewater Raritan High School and has enjoyed teaching music in the Bridgewater Raritan community since 2012. He is currently pursuing his graduate degree in Wind Band Conducting at Montclair State University, and serves as the associate conductor of the Wind Symphony. At BRHS, Mr. Mossa is the director of the Marching Band and Symphonic Band, assistant director of the Wind Ensemble, and co-director of the Concert Band. A devoted advocate for music education, Mr. Mossa also oversees the Winter Guard and Indoor Percussion Ensembles as the director of the Marching Arts Programs and directs the Tuesday Jazz Band & Clarinet Choir. Mr. Mossa also has an extensive performance background as a clarinetist, including professional appearances with the Mid-Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, Adelphi Orchestra, and the Central Park Orchestra. Mr. Mossa has also been recognized as a featured soloist with the Montclair State University Symphony Orchestra and at Windhaven in Vermont. Additional performances have included concerts in Providence, Boston, Baltimore, Chicago, Shanghai, and New York City. Mr. Mossa is a member of the Eastern Wind Symphony and enjoys performances throughout the tri-state area each season. Mr. Mossa's professional affiliations include the New Jersey Association for Jazz Education, Central Jersey Music Educators Association, New Jersey Music Educators Association, and the National Association for Music Education, and is also the championships Co-Chair for the New Jersey Marching Band Directors Association.

**Joshua Jenkins** is the Director of Bands at Ramsey High School in Ramsey, New Jersey where he has been since 2020. His responsibilities at Ramsey High School include directing the Ramsey High School Wind Ensemble, the Ramsey “Big Blue” Band and Guard, and teaching instrumental lessons for grades 9-12. Previously, he was the assistant band director in the Vernon Township school district in Vernon, NJ and the band director at Brooklawn Middle School in Parsippany, NJ. Mr. Jenkins has a bachelor’s degree in music education from Ithaca College where he studied French horn with Professor Alexander Shuhan. Currently, Joshua is pursuing a master’s degree at Montclair State University in Wind Conducting where he studies with Dr. Thomas McCauley. Mr. Jenkins attributes much of his musical success to the marching arts. He is the mellophone technician at the Sacramento Mandarins Drum and Bugle Corps from Sacramento, California as well as the Brass Caption Head of the Hawthorne Caballeros Drum and Bugle Corps from Hawthorne, New Jersey. He was a member of the Caballeros from 2008-2012 and then went on to perform with the Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps in 2013 and 2014. Mr. Jenkins’ professional affiliations include the MEBCI (Music Educators of Bergen County Inc.), the New Jersey Music Educators Association, and the National Association for Music Education. He is an active performer and has performed with the New Jersey Wind Symphony and is currently a member of the Sussex County Brass Quintet.

### **About the soloist...**

Originally from the Bronx, New York City, **Maria Taveras-Garcia** is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in Clarinet Performance at Montclair State University. While classically trained, she has extensive experience in jazz and folk music. This is reflected in her broad ensemble experience including the Jazz at Lincoln Center Youth Orchestra, the MSU Balkan Ensemble, and the MSU Latin Ensemble. She also has a love for chamber music, inspiring her to be one of the founding members of the Clique Reed Trio, which has been featured in a variety of concerts, including Montclair’s annual Kaleidoscope concert.

Outside of performing, Maria is passionate about providing high-quality music education for future generations. She was part of the inaugural Cali Pathways Project cohort which aims to aid students from varying backgrounds who wish to pursue music at the collegiate level. Since graduating from the program, she has been an active alumna and plans to continue giving back to the community. Maria is proud to be the first Pathways student to win the Wind Symphony Concerto Competition and hopes to inspire current and future Pathways students to cultivate a deeper love for music. She currently studies with David Sapadin and is incredibly grateful for his guidance, patience, and support during her academic career.

# THE 2025 - 2026 MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY WIND SYMPHONY

## Flute

Sofia Scamurra, *Woodwind Doubling, Minneapolis, MN*  
Jules Zea-Joya, *Music Education, Montville, NJ*  
Julianna Taveras-Garcia, *Music Performance, Bronx, NY*  
Anaya Torrence, *Music Performance, Brooklyn, NY*  
Arianna Nguyen-Haberneski, *Woodwind Doubling, Missoula, MT*  
Samantha Price, *Music Education, Bayonne, NJ*

## Oboe

David Reinstein, *Music Education, New Milford, NJ*  
Bailey Coon, *Woodwind Doubling, Macedonia, OH*

## Bassoon

Jonathan Hart, *Woodwind Doubling, Miller Place, NY*  
Darren Butler, *Music Performance, Jackson, NJ*  
JoAnne Murray, *Music Performance, West Harrison, NY*

## E♭ Clarinet

Nicolette DiBari, *Music Performance, Red Bank, NJ*

## Clarinet

Emily O'Brien, *Woodwind Doubling, Prosper, TX*  
Emmett Miller, *Music Performance, New York City, NY*  
Hunter McDonald, *Woodwind Doubling, Germantown, MD*  
Maria Taveras-Garcia, *Music Performance, Bronx, NY*  
Lilly ChablaCortes, *Music Education, West Orange, NJ*  
Basil Blasa, *Music Education, Bayonne, NJ*  
Nicholas Derderian, *Woodwind Doubling, Saratoga Springs, NY*  
Zarina Campos, *Music Education, Morristown, NJ*  
Bianca Avalos, *Music Performance, Brooklyn, NY*  
Xiaofeng Huang, *Music Performance, Guangzhou, China*

## Bass Clarinet

Naji Abdeldayem, *Music Education, Staten Island, NY*  
Cyrus Waugh, *Music Education, Elizabeth, NJ*

## Alto Saxophone

Frank DiBari, *Music Performance, Middletown, NJ*  
Lily Kearney, *Music Performance, Clifton, NJ*

## Tenor Saxophone

Katie Sorrentino, *Music Education, Bayonne, NJ*

## Baritone Saxophone

Ariana Giammanco, *Music Education, Wyckoff, NJ*

## Trumpet

Gabriel Chalick, *Jazz Performance, Naples, FL*  
Mario Correa, *Music Performance, Clifton, NJ*  
Gianna Ciaburri, *Music Performance, Staten Island, NY*  
John Rivas, *Music Education, Clifton, NJ*  
Aiden Carr, *Music Education, Bayonne, NJ*

## French Horn

Jeison Campoverde-Yunganaula, *Music Education, Hackensack, NJ*  
Faith Santana, *Music Education, Rutherford, NJ*  
Sheldon Senek III, *Music Education, West Orange, NJ*  
Jose Zapata, *Music Performance, Caracas*  
Joshua Jenkins, *Conducting, Fair Lawn, NJ*

## Trombone

Dan Harkins, *Music Education, Mount Olive, NJ*  
David Laird, *Music Education, Millville, NJ*  
Hairo Cesar, *Jazz Education, Corona, NY*

## Euphonium

Victoria Ortega, *Music Education, Staten Island, NY*  
James Quinn, *Composition, Staten Island, NY*

## Tuba

Isaac Galang, *Music Education, North Bergen, NJ*  
Van Cole, *Music Performance, Jacksonville, FL*  
John Bergner, *Music Ed/Special Ed, Jackson, NJ*

## Double Bass

Dominic Carnival, *Jazz Performance, Manhattan, NY*

## Percussion

Rolan Bansil, *Music Education, Ridgewood, NJ*  
Hannah D'Elia, *Music Education, Bridgewater, NJ*  
Isabella Cruz, *Music Education, Bayonne, NJ*  
Nikiforos Pothos, *Music Education, Bridgewater, NJ*  
Fenglin Zhang, *Music Therapy, Xiamen, China*  
Alexandros Pothos, *Music Education, Bridgewater, NJ*  
Domingo Hernandez, *Music Education, Toms River NJ*

# THE CALI ALUMNI CONCERT BAND

*(by section in alphabetical order by last name)*

## **Flute / Piccolo**

Gerardo Barroso  
Jacqueline Burkat  
Melissa Callegari  
Jacob Medina-Cintron  
Emily Gaul  
Judit B Garcia Grez  
Alyssa Rodriguez  
Jason Rosenblum  
Amanda Roth  
Cass Sicolo  
Ashlen Udell

## **Oboe**

Matthew Schmidt

## **Bassoon**

Jessica Bergen  
Angelina Hamada

## **Clarinet**

Jennifer Brazinski  
Lauren Delesky  
Megan Faucett  
Megan Frank  
Julia Marra  
Nicholas Mossa  
T.J. Rubin  
Tristan Shafran  
Christina Stockton  
Allison Testa  
Amy Wilcox

## **Bass Clarinet**

Allan Daleus

## **Alto Saxophone**

Nora Boccuti  
Ron Bonilla  
Scott Byers  
Steven Santa  
Stephen Schwarz  
Luciano Zeoli

## **Tenor Saxophone**

Ellis Jasenovic  
Tiffany Lee  
Gary Shur

## **Baritone Saxophone**

Huy Ho  
Raymond Sentina

## **Horn**

Cassandra Imperatore-Dangler  
Gabriela Menjivar  
Lauren Taylor Olivola  
Ryan Ward

## **Trumpet**

Thein Amato  
Peter Bauer  
Clay Beyert  
Valerie Browning  
Lynn Chao  
Luke Finaldi  
Ashley Martin  
Matthew Testa  
Sage Walsh  
Bowen Walsh

## **Trombone**

James Boland  
Richard Cush  
Ryan Haupt  
Harvey S. Mars  
Mike Mulligan  
Ryan Raquet  
Federico Perez Trasante

## **Euphonium**

Erika Sulich

## **Tuba**

David Crosby  
Colin Murray  
Anthony Tutschek

## **Percussion**

Ayden Khan  
Erica Mariani  
Leanne Santos  
Max Tripodi

## **Piano**

Chris Vehmas

The Cali School of Music  
at Montclair State University  
aims to create dynamic and  
comprehensive pathways  
to higher education  
and careers in music

# Cali name a seat project

## goal

An opportunity for  
School of Music  
patrons **to name one  
or more of the 180  
permanent seats** in the  
Leshowitz Recital Hall.



help fund  
scholarships for  
**under-resourced  
backgrounds**



John J. Cali  
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**MONTCLAIR**  
STATE UNIVERSITY