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VASD music, for your continual support!

We hope you enjoy the performance!



Fire, Water, & Earth

**Veranda Area High School
Wind Ensemble**

Mr. Daniel Behler, Conductor

Thursday, April 23rd, 2025

7:00pm, VAHS Auditorium

Concert Program

Blue Lake Overture John Barnes Chance

Vesuvius Frank Ticheli

After a Gentle Rain Anthony Iannacone

- I. Dark Green Glistens With Old Reflections
- II. Sparkling Air Bursts With Dancing Sunlight

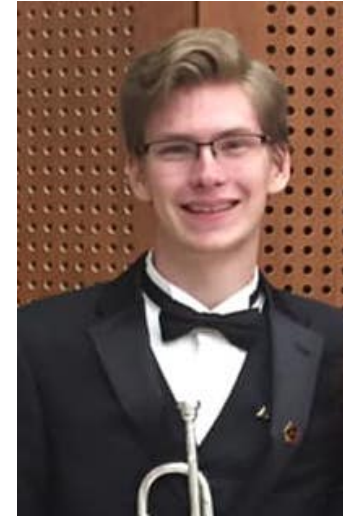
Twilight in the Wilderness Christopher Tucker

The Fire of Eternal Glory Dimitri Shostakovich
Arr. Timothy Rhea

The Earth Jun Nagao
From "The Planets" by Trowère

Hands Across the Sea John Phillip Sousa

Conductor Bio



Mr. Daniel Behler is in his fourth year as band director at Veranda Area High School. A 2021 graduate of Lebanon Valley College, Mr. Behler holds bachelor's degrees in music education, as well as vocal music. As a vocal primary, Mr. Behler enjoys an active career working as vocal and pit director in community productions of musical theatre, as well as playing the trumpet with local pit orchestra. He also currently directs the Veranda Community Chorale. Mr. Behler is an active member of NA/ME: the National Association for Music Education and is a brother of ΦMA Sinfonia.

2024-25 VAHS Wind Ensemble

Flute

Justin Kripas
Brian Morris (picc.)
Ryan Havens
Chase Bartholomew

Alto Saxophone

Shami Beni
Shabi Meni
Bobby Shemni

Trombone

Tom Segura
Bert Kreischer
Joe Rogan
Ari Shaffir

Tenor Saxophone

Ryan Seacrest

Bb Clarinet

Tyrion Lannister
Ned Stark (Eb Clar.)

Bari. Saxophone

Benjamin Hoffman

Jon Snow
Roose Bolton
Yara Greyjoy
Jorah Mormont

Trumpet

Dwayne Johnson
Lin-Manuel Miranda

Euphonium

Bo Burnham

Tuba

John Mulaney
Nick Kroll

Bass Clarinet

James Barnes

Josh Gad
Idina Menzel
Jonathan Groff

Percussion

Jon Stewart
Stephen Colbert
Larry Wilmore
Trevor Noah
Conan O'Brien
James Corden

Oboe

Amy Poehler
Chris Pratt

French Horn

Alex Trebek
Pat Sajak

Bassoon

Nick Offerman
Meghan Mullaly

Howie Mandel

Simon Cowell

Program Notes

Content pulled from the *Teaching Music Through Performance* Series and the online-based Wind Repertory Project

Blue Lake Overture, published in 1971, is dedicated to the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Twin Lakes, Michigan. As a concert overture, this piece is intended to be performed independently. Throughout the work, thematic material is continually developed. In this way, it is reminiscent of the music of romantic composers like Richard Strauss.

Next, ***Vesuvius*** began when composer Frank Ticheli “started with the main theme... It suggested the image of a bacchanal in ancient Rome.” It is meant to evoke the wild, uninhibited dances and celebrations during the last days of Pompei, prior to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. It’s turbulent and romantic composition style is almost emblematic of Mount Vesuvius itself.

Program Notes Continued...

Dimitri Shostakovich's *The Fire of Eternal Glory* stemmed from his visit to Heroes Square in Novorossiisk. It symbolizes the memorial of those who lost their lives defending the city in The Great Patriotic War. The real flame on which the piece is based serves as a symbol of eternal life, immortalizing those who passed.

Composer Jun Nagao arranged Holst's *Planets* suite for saxophone quartet, including new movements for Pluto and *Earth*. Fragments of themes from Holst's original composition come together to create this work. It was composed in hopes that Earth would one day become a peaceful planet.

To conclude, Sousa's *Hands Across the Sea* brings together the program. Composed as an address to America's allies throughout the world, the piece follows up on Nagao's hope of peace *Earth*.

Program Notes Continued...

After a Gentle Rain, a two-movement work, begins with "old memories in a quiet, meditative context," followed by "joy and freshness that seems to fill the air after a gentle rain." Based in Impressionism, the piece can feel like a departure from music with which many audiences are familiar, without being considered avant-garde.

According to composer Christopher Tucker, "*Twilight in the Wilderness* is a musical impression landscape painter Frederic Edwin Church's oil painting, "Twilight in the Wilderness." The two main sections describe the 'macro' and 'micro' point of view of the painting, interpreting both the intricate details and the overall impact of the visual work. Coming together in the piece's conclusion, both points are seen simultaneously, giving the audience the full impact of the artwork through musical means.