



News and Updates

Music is the great uniter. An incredible force. Something that people who differ on everything and anything else can have in common. - Sarah Dessen

Celebrating our Retirees

Our newsletter last February focused on some of our younger members - those who are bringing music to a new generation of students. Early career music educators are so important to future generations. However, it is also important to honor our past. We have been remiss in wishing a fond farewell to the long-time members of our ensemble that have retired in the last several years. So, without further ado, thank you for the years you have contributed your talents to the Sacramento Symphonic Winds:

**Richard Ashby
Richard Bidlake
Jeannie Brown
Les Corbin
Louis (Lou) Fifer
James Henson
Chuck Jenson**

**Alan Johansen
Fred Lange
George Preston
Tom Roehr
Vic Spahn
Irene Warschauer
Paul Wurschmidt**

Sue Geddes and **Nick Sower** were taken from us too soon.
We honor their memory.

We offer our sincere thanks to our founder, **Les Lehr**. After serving as Music and Artistic Director for 15 years, he handed the baton to a new director for the first time in our history. He then played trombone in the ensemble for several years after stepping down from the podium.

Finally, **Timothy Smith**, our second Music and Artistic Director, retired from the position as Covid-19 hit the world. He came in and gracefully picked up where Les left off, moving us onward and upward, taking us to new musical heights.

*We want to express our deepest gratitude to each of you for your contributions over the years.
Thank you for the community, the laughter, and the knowledge shared.*



The enormity of the universe revealed by science cannot readily be grasped by the human brain, but the music of The Planets enables the mind to acquire some comprehension of the vastness of space where rational understanding fails. – Gustav Holst



Dear Patrons,

It's hard to believe that we are already into February of 2026. With the holidays behind us, we can look ahead to the lengthening of days and the warming of temperatures. Two days after the Vernal Equinox, we will be presenting our Gustav Holst tribute concert. Holst was an English composer who was fascinated by astrology and is most famous for his suite, The Planets, written between 1914 and 1917. We will also be performing some of Holst's other well-known pieces alongside music by composers who were inspired by Holst's genius.

The following is attributed to Holst:

Music, being identical with heaven, isn't a thing of momentary thrills, or even hourly ones.

We invite you to spend an hour and a half of heavenly music with us.

With anticipation,

Kari Zimny

Board President

Thank you, Les Corbin

Trumpet player Les Corbin served as our Treasurer for many, many years. He retired from the band and from his position as Treasurer earlier this season. Thank you, Les, for your service to the Sacramento Symphonic Winds.

We welcome Jo Ann Daley to the Board of Directors, as our new Treasurer.



Music is the social act of communication among people, a gesture of friendship, the strongest there is. - Malcolm Arnold.

There's nothing like a sneak peek!

It is rewarding to share music with young musicians in our community, both for the students and for the players in Sac Winds. The experience expands when the director of those students is a member of our ensemble. In 2025, we performed a joint concert with the Rio Americano High School band under the direction of Mitch Evett, a trombone player in our ensemble. We are delighted to continue the practice in 2026 by sharing the stage with the students at C.K. McClatchy High School and their director, Nico Peruzzi. Nico also happens to play trombone in our ensemble. We are excited to share the stage and the experience of performing together.



**March 17, 2026, 7:00pm
C.K. McClatchy Auditorium**

Join us on March 17 for a concert with McClatchy High School's music program for a sneak peek of their Spring Concert: *Enlighten* and our 3rd Season Concert, *Holst: Bringer of Music*. McClatchy's *Enlighten* is the third movement in their year-long concert cycle entitled *Here. Us. Now.* that addresses the social issues of our time. The program will be presented in full on Saturday, March 21st at their annual *Spring Soiree*.

Our portion of the program will feature selections from our upcoming concert, *Holst: Bringer of Music*, that will be presented in full on Sunday, March 22nd at CSUS.

If you know of a high school band that would be interested in collaborating with us in the future, please reach out to us at president@sacwinds.org

Dates to remember:

Collaboration concert

March 17, 2026 – C.K. McClatchy High School

Season Concerts

March 22, 2026 – CSUS, Capistrano Hall

May 10, 2026, with flute soloist Cathie Apple – CSUS, Capistrano Hall

Carmichael Park Community Band Festival

June 6-7, 2026

2025-2026 Board of Directors

Kari Zimny - President
Noah Flores - Vice President
Matthew Morse - Music/Artistic Director

Carrie Moore - Secretary
Jo Ann Daley - Treasurer

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Delores Henson - Member at Large
Susan Sullivan - Member at Large

Music can change the world because it can change people. - Bono

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Christeen Reeg
Financial Advisor

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