

2022 WINTER CONFERENCE

December 1-4, 2022 – Rochester, NY



86th Annual Winter Conference All-State Guest Conductors & Composer-In-Residence



2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble

**John Stafford II, Kansas City
Kansas Community College**

NYSSMA® proudly welcomes John Stafford II as the 2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State Vocal Jazz Ensemble guest conductor.

John Stafford II is the Associate Professor of Music, Director of Choral Activities, and Co-Coordinator of the Music Department at Kansas City Kansas Community College (KCKCC).

Professor Stafford was a 2015 recipient of the John and Suanne Roueche Excellence Award for outstanding teaching and leadership at the community college level. Also, Stafford was the recipient of the Henry Louis Award for Teaching Excellence at KCKCC in 2020 (Faculty of the Year award). He has also received two other teaching awards from KCKCC for Recruitment and Teaching Excellence.

Previously, he held appointments at Millikin University, Eastern Illinois University, and Danville Area Community College teaching composition, theory, orchestration, history, and vocal jazz. He holds degrees from Millikin University (music business), Bowling Green State University (composition), and has done additional doctoral studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (choral conducting).

Among his current professional activities, Stafford currently serves as the National Repertoire and Resources Vocal Jazz Chair of the American Choral Directors Association. He previously has served as the Jazz Chair for the Kansas Choral Directors Association and Commercial/Contemporary Music Chair of the Southwestern Division of the American Choral Directors Association. He is also a member of the National Association for Music Education, Jazz Educators Network, and American Choral Directors Association.

Since 2014, Stafford has served as the Choral Director of Community Christian Church (architecture by Frank Lloyd Wright) in Kansas City, MO. Recently, he directed the 2021 Iowa All-State Jazz Choir and will direct the 2022 New York All-State Jazz Choir.

During the 2020-21 academic year, Stafford has given virtual presentations about choral/vocal jazz ensemble voice matching, both regionally and nationally, for the Jazz Education Network National Conference, the Nation-

al Association of Music Education Northwest Divisional Professional Development Conference, the Kansas Music Education Association In-Service Workshop, Elmhurst University, the University of Texas, Austin, and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Stafford has also been selected to be a virtual adjudicator this year for the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival at the University of Idaho, the Frank DeMiero Jazz Festival (in Washington State), and the Jazz/Madrigal Festival at Northern Arizona University. During the 21-22 academic year, he will be an adjudicator at the Sacramento State University Jazz Festival and Southern Nazarene University Jazz Festival. Also, he will be a virtual vocal jazz presenter at the Northwest ACDA Divisional Conference in March and will be a presenter at the Jazz Immersion Day with Taryn Gervais for SWACDA conference next week.

In June 2022, Stafford will give his conducting debut at Carnegie Hall (through MidAmerica Productions), giving the New York Premiere of Justin Binek's *Missa Lucis* for choir and jazz ensemble.

Stafford directs *The Standard*, the award-winning contemporary vocal jazz ensemble from Kansas City Kansas Community College. They have been invited to perform at the national conferences of the Jazz Education Network (2022 and 2019), the American Choral Directors Association (2017), and the National Association for Music Education (2018). *The Standard* has also been selected to perform at the Southwestern Divisional Conference of the American Choral Directors Association, Kansas Music Educators Association In-Service Workshop, the New York Voices Jazz Festival, the Real Group Festival, and the New York City Jazz Festival at Jazz at the Lincoln Center.

The Standard has also received a Number 1 rating at the University of Northern Colorado/Greeley Jazz Festival. Within the last five years, members of *The Standard* have won 13 *DownBeat Magazine* Student Music Awards for Outstanding Performance (for large vocal jazz, blues/pop/rock and Latin ensemble), Live Engineered Recording, Studio Engineered Recording, and Outstanding Soloist in the Community College category. Two of those *DownBeat* awards included being the 2020 Community College Winner for blues/pop/rock ensemble and 2020 Community College co-winner for large vocal jazz ensemble.

In December of 2018, *The Standard* released its first studio recording, *Feelin' Good*, and the album has been

played on radio stations throughout the Midwest. In September 2020, The Standard has digitally released its first single recording of Justin Binek's composition, *Reparations*. In October 2021, the ensemble released its second studio album, entitled *Coal and Diamonds*. The group has shared the stage with such highly acclaimed artists as Take 6, The New York Voices, m-pact, Carmen Bradford, Dianne Reeves, and Marilyn Maye.



2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State Instrumental Jazz Ensemble

Julius Tolentino, Newark Academy

NYSSMA® proudly welcomes Julius Tolentino as the 2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State Instrumental Jazz Ensemble

guest conductor.

Saxophonist and educator Julius Tolentino has been on the New York jazz scene for more than 20 years. He has played and recorded with numerous small groups and big bands, including Louis Hayes's Cannonball Adderley Legacy Band and the Louis Hayes Quartet, Eric Reed's Sextet, Jeremy Pelt's Quintet, Natalie Cole, Wycliffe Gordon, Connie Francis, Gloria Gaynor, the Illinois Jacquet Big Band, the Christian McBride Big Band, Cecile McLorin, Michael Feinstein, Dianne Reeves, Jimmy Heath, the Count Basie Orchestra and the Duke Ellington Orchestra.

A graduate of the Hartt School of Music, he was able to study with NEA Jazz Master and alto saxophone legend Jackie McLean, who also introduced him to his other musical father, Illinois Jacquet. Tolentino has played in the top jazz venues and festivals in the US, which includes Avery Fisher Hall, the Newport Jazz Festival, Tanglewood, the Village Vanguard, Birdland, Blue Note, the Jazz Standard, and Dizzy's Coca Cola. As a leader, his debut CD, *Just the Beginning*, on the Sharp Nine label peaked at No.8 on the jazz charts in 2006.

As an educator, Mr. T, as he is known to students, has worked with thousands of students from all across the country. In 2007 he became the jazz director at Newark Academy, where he currently conducts five jazz ensembles, wind ensemble, and the middle school bands. He has served as NJAJE Region I President from 2009-2011 and as a board member of the Jazz Education Network from 2016-2018.

He served as Director of Large Ensembles at Jazz House Kids from 2010-2017 and the NJ Youth Symphony Jazz program from 2018-2021, as well as a Middle School Jazz Academy Director at Jazz at Lincoln Center from 2016-2019. His groups have placed first and have been finalists in several national festivals and competitions: Essentially Ellington (2012-2019, 2022), the Charles Min-

gus Competition (2011-2019), and the Mid Atlantic Jazz Festival. At the state level, Newark Academy has received first place at the NJAJE State Finals 11 years in a row.

Tolentino has presented clinics at the NJMEA Conference and JEN Conference, as well as conducted All-State and All-City Jazz Bands for MMEA and NYSSMA. Julius Tolentino has been awarded Best of NJ, category Jazz Musician Inside Jersey/Star-Ledger, in 2010, the Illinois Jacquet Jazz Educator of the Year award courtesy of the Illinois Jacquet Foundation in 2013, and the NJ Jazz Education Achievement Award by NJAJE in 2018. His platform JTole Music was created to help educators and students from around the globe with festivals, workshops, and video lessons.



2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State Mixed Chorus

Dr. Derrick Fox,

University of Nebraska-Omaha

NYSSMA® proudly welcomes Dr. Derrick Fox as the 2022 NYSSMA®

Conference All-State Mixed Chorus guest conductor.

Dr. Derrick Fox is the Director of Choral Activities and Distinguished Associate Professor of Music at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. He earned a B.M.E. from Arkansas State University, an M.M. in Choral Conducting from the University of Missouri – Columbia and a D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from Michigan State University where he was awarded the prestigious University Enrichment Graduate Fellowship.

Dr. Fox has taught at the middle school, high school and collegiate levels. His conducting experiences have included singers from upper elementary choirs through collegiate and community choirs. In 2021, he was awarded the Bryan R. Johnson Service Award by the Nebraska Music Educators Association.

He has conducted all-state choirs, led international, national and regional choral concerts/residencies, and presented professional development workshops across the United States and internationally. Dr. Fox's professional workshops focus on assessment in the choral classroom, building classroom community, rehearsal strategies, choral conducting techniques and shape note singing in the African-American community.

Dr. Fox has held teaching residencies at the Latvian Academy of Music and Syracuse University, and has led performance tours through Lithuania and Estonia. His recent engagements include presentations in Idaho, Nebraska, Kansas, New York, South Carolina, North Dakota, Missouri and Florida, as well as conducting the Hawaii All-State Choir, Alabama All-State Choir, New York All-State

MS/JH Choir, the Wisconsin Collegiate All-State Choir and the 2019 National ACDA Middle School/Junior High Mixed Honor Choir. He recently traveled to South Africa as a 2019 ACDA International Conductor Exchange Fellow where he led choral workshops and rehearsals in Johannesburg, Pretoria and Potchefstroom.

As a baritone soloist, Dr. Fox has collaborated with various organizations. Among them are the Arkansas Symphony, Lansing Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, Columbia Chorale, the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Omaha Symphonic Chorus, University of Missouri, Michigan State University, Webster University and the Espaço Cultural (Brasilia, Brazil). He can be heard singing selections from Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* on the compact disc *In This Hidden Clearing*, available on the Naxos Classical Music label.

As an author, Dr. Fox has written articles for many organizations and was a contributing author in the Hal Leonard/McGraw Hill choral textbook *Voices in Concert*. His compositions and arrangements are published by Hal Leonard and Brilee Music. His book, *Yes You Can: A Band Director's Guide to Teaching Choirs*, is published by Carl Fischer.

He launched The Derrick Fox Choral Series with Music Spoke to publish works by and about marginalized and minoritized people. He created the Professional Choral Collective (PCC) to collect and create learning activities and teaching strategies for choral music educators around the world to use during the 2020 Coronavirus pandemic and beyond. He also partnered with the Country Music Association Foundation to create the Unified Voices for Music Education Initiative, which provides learning activities for instrumental and elementary music educators.

Dr. Fox serves on the advisory board for the Sound Spirit, a research lab and publishing initiative promoting collaborative engagement with the songbooks that sound America's musical landscape. He is also a member of the advisory board for the Choral Singing in America documentary series. For more information, visit www.drderrickfox.com



2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State Symphonic Band

Dr. Thomas McCauley, John J. Cali School of Music - Montclair State University, NJ
NYSSMA® proudly welcomes Dr.

Thomas McCauley as the 2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State Symphonic Band guest conductor.

Thomas McCauley is currently the Director of University Bands in the John J. Cali School of Music at Montclair State University (MSU) in New Jersey where he conducts the Montclair State University Wind Symphony, the MSU 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, Joseph Turrin, Bruce Yurko, Robert Aldridge, Morten Lauridsen, Armando Bayolo, and O'Neal Douglas have praised his work. Dr. McCauley has twice appeared as a clinician at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. 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. McCauley is in demand as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout North America. Ensembles under his direction have appeared at national and regional conventions and conferences, and he has collaborated with artists including, The Imani Winds, The Manhattan Brass Quintet, Warren Vache', Demondrae Thurman, Monarch Brass, and Phil Smith.

In February of 2019, Dr. McCauley led the MSU Wind Symphony in concert at the 2019 College Band Directors Association national conference in Tempe, AZ. And the appearance of the MSU Wind Symphony at the WASBE International Conference in Prague, Czech Republic, in July of 2022 will be a first in the school's history.

Dr. McCauley is the Founder and Artistic Director of Windhaven, an intensive, week-long performance opportunity for wind players and percussionists ages 18-28, which takes place each May at the Kinhaven Music School in the beautiful mountains of Weston, VT.

His 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 1* 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.



**2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State
Symphony Orchestra**
Dr. James Allen Anderson,
University of Delaware

NYSSMA® proudly welcomes Dr. James Allen Anderson as the 2022 NYSSMA® Conference All-State Symphony Orchestra guest conductor.

"Destined to make his mark in a highly competitive field in which many are called but few are chosen."

- John W. Lambert, *The Spectator*

"Ovation after ovation rang from the standing audience, growing louder and louder as the leading ballerinas came forward. But when the conductor was led onto the stage, the roar rivaled that of the music he had led."

- Kate Dobbs Ariail, *Classical Voice of North Carolina*

Hailed for his innovative programming and compelling interpretations, award-winning maestro, pianist, and composer, James Allen Anderson continues to engage audiences worldwide with entertaining and thought-provoking performances. Praised for his conducting versatility, he is equally at home in both concert and stage productions.

Since 2011 he has served as the Director of Orchestral Activities and Music Director of the University of Delaware's Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and Opera Theatre. Previous positions include Music Director of the Butte Symphony Association, cover conductor of the North Carolina Symphony, and Director of Orchestral Activities at Appalachian State University and the University of Montana. He has held posts with Triangle Opera (NC), Theater on the Ridge (NY), and the Pauper Players Theatre Company (NC).

Additional affiliations include three summer seasons as resident conductor of the Master Players Festival Orchestra in Newark, DE, and eight seasons as resident conductor of the Cannon Music Symphony and String Orchestras in Boone, NC.

Maestro Anderson continues to break new ground creating pioneering programs such as the Delaware International Music Exchange (D.I.M.E.), the Cultural Fusion Initiative (C.F.I.), and the University of Delaware's Cinema Symphony Series.

He is in demand as a guest conductor, having worked with ensembles in North and South America, Europe and Asia. Recent guest conducting activities include performances with the Jerusalem Symphony and the Israel Sinfonietta Beer Sheva. In addition to numerous accolades, maestro Anderson was the winner of the American Prize's 2017 Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award for Concert Programming.

With more than 50+ world premieres to his credit, maestro Anderson is a champion of today's leading contemporary composers. Existing recordings featuring compositions by Robert Moran, David Maslanka, and Daniel Bukvich are available under the Neuma Records, Albany Records and BOOKPEOPLE of Moscow, Inc.

Having served 12 years on the board of directors of the Conductors Guild, including a term as president, he is now a member of the Advisory Council of that organization, which is devoted to the advancement of the art of conducting and to serving the artistic and professional needs of conductors worldwide.



2022 NYSSMA® Conference
Composer in Residence
Dr. Vivian Fung,
Santa Clara University, CA

JUNO Award-winning composer Vivian Fung has a unique talent for combining idiosyncratic textures and styles into large-scale works, reflecting her multicultural background. NPR calls her "one of today's most eclectic composers." This is supported by many of her works, including *Clarinet Quintet: Frenetic Memories*, a reflection on her travels to visit minority groups in China's Yunnan province; *Earworms*, commissioned by Canada's National Arts Centre Orchestra, which musically depicts our diverted attention spans and multi-tasking lives, and *The Ice Is Talking* for solo percussion and electronics, commissioned by the Banff Centre, using three ice blocks to illustrate the beauty and fragility of our environment.

Highlights of upcoming performances include the digital world premiere of two operatic scenes based on Fung's oral family history in Cambodia with librettist Royce Vavrek, part of Edmonton Opera's The Wild Rose Opera Project; a United Kingdom tour of a new work with the Tangram Collective; the premiere of Fung's fifth *String Quartet* by Canada's Lafayette String Quartet; the French premiere of *Earworms* by the Orchestre de Paris, and the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's UK premiere of *String Sinfonietta*. Mary Elizabeth Bowden tours her *Trumpet Concerto* and records it with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras for future release on Cedille Records. Fung is currently at work on a new project about identity with soprano Andrea Nunez and Royce Vavrek, an expanded version of her *Flute Concerto*, and upcoming percussion works for Katie Rife and also for Ensemble for These Times.

Recent season highlights include the world premiere of new flute concerto, *Storm Within*, by the Vancouver

Symphony Orchestra and principal flutist Christie Reside; the UK premiere of *Birdsong*, performed by violinist Miodori at Kings Place in London; the world premiere of a new trumpet concerto with trumpeter Mary Elizabeth Bowden and the Erie Philharmonic, and the world premiere of *String Quartet No. 4 "Insects and Machines,"* performed by the American String Quartet.

In July 2020, the Canadian Broadcasting Company's brand-new Virtual Orchestra gave the world premiere of Fung's *Prayer*, a unique work recorded in isolation for an online performance led by conductor Yannick Nézet-Séguin during the Covid-19 pandemic. A creative collaboration between CBC Music and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the CBC Virtual Orchestra brought together 36 of Canada's finest classical musicians from 28 different orchestras from every province in Canada to record the piece. Nézet-Séguin led The Philadelphia Orchestra in a performance of *Prayer* in September 2020 as part of the orchestra's revised digital fall season and again for front-line workers in May 2021.

Fung has a deep interest in exploring cultures through travel and research. In early 2019, Fung traveled to Cambodia to connect with her roots and collect research for a new opera. She traveled to Southwest China in 2012 to study minority music and cultures, continuing research that previously inspired *Yunnan Folk Songs* (2011), commissioned by Fulcrum Point New Music in Chicago with support from the MAP Fund.

As a composer whose trips often inspire her music, Fung has also explored diverse cultures in North Vietnam, Spain, and Indonesia. She toured Bali in 2004, 2008, and 2010, and competed in the Bali Arts Festival as an ensemble member and composer in Gamelan Dharma Swara.

Fung has received numerous awards and grants, including the 2015 Jan V. Matejcek New Classical Music Award for achievement in new music from the Society of Composers, Authors, and Music Publishers of Canada (SOCAN), a Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, the New York Foundation for the Arts' Gregory Millard Fellowship, and grants from ASCAP, BMI, American Music Center, MAP Fund, American Symphony Orchestra League, American Composers Forum, and the Canada Council for the Arts. She is an associate composer of the Canadian Music Centre and served on the board of the American Composers Forum.

Many distinguished artists and ensembles around the world have embraced Fung's music as part of their core repertoire, including the Chicago Sinfonietta, Philadelphia Orchestra, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Toronto Symphony, Montreal Symphony, National Arts Centre Orchestra (Canada), Detroit Symphony, Vancouver Symphony,

San José Chamber Orchestra, American String Quartet, Staatskapelle Karlsruhe, Metropolis Ensemble, Civitas Ensemble, and Jasper Quartet, to name a few.

Fung's *Glimpses* for prepared piano has been championed by a diverse group of pianists, including Conor Hanick, Jenny Lin, Margaret Leng Tan, and Bryan Wagorn. Conductors with whom she has collaborated include Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Alexander Shelley, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Peter Oundjian, Cristian Măcelaru, Mei-Ann Chen, James Gaffigan, Long Yu, Andrew Cyr, Rei Hotoda, Barbara Day Turner, Daniel Meyer, Edwin Outwater, Steven Schick, Gerard Schwarz, and Bramwell Tovey.

In 2012, Naxos Canadian Classics released a recording of Fung's *Violin Concerto [No. 1]*, *Piano Concerto "Dreamscapes,"* and *Glimpses*. The *Violin Concerto*, commissioned by the Metropolis Ensemble, earned Fung the 2013 JUNO Award for Classical Composition of the Year. Several of Fung's other works have also been released commercially on the Telarc, Çedille, Innova, and Signpost labels. *Her Pot Roast a la RBG* was featured on Çedille Records' CD *Notorious RBG in Song* about Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Fung's *Birdsong* was released as part of the Civitas Ensemble's Çedille album *Jin Yin*, which was named one of The Chicago Tribune's "most alluring classical recordings of 2020, so far."

Passionate about fostering the talent of the next generation, Vivian Fung has mentored young composers in programs at the London Symphony Orchestra, American Composers Forum, San Francisco Contemporary Chamber Players, and Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music. She recently received an Outstanding Career Influencer Award from Santa Clara University, where she serves on the composition faculty.

Born in Edmonton, Canada, Fung began her composition studies with composer Violet Archer and received her doctorate from The Juilliard School in New York, where her mentors included David Diamond and Robert Beaser. She currently lives in California with her husband, Charles Boudreau, their son Julian, and their shiba inu Mulan.