

2022 WINTER CONFERENCE

December 1-4, 2022 – Rochester, NY



86th Annual Winter Conference Guest Speaker and Guest Performing Groups



**Thursday Evening,
December 1, 2022 @ 8:15 p.m.
Opening Night Gala**

**Guest Speaker — Scott Sheehan,
2022-24 NAFME National President**

NYSSMA® is pleased and proud to welcome NAFME National President Scott Sheehan as our 2022 86th Annual NYSSMA® Winter Conference guest speaker.

A nationally recognized advocate and leader for the advancement of music education, Scott Sheehan is the Director of Bands and Music Department Chairperson at the Hollidaysburg Area Senior High School in Hollidaysburg, PA, where he directs the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Marching Band and teaches AP Music Theory, Fundamentals of Guitar, and Rock, Rap, and Revolution!

Hollidaysburg has been named one of the Best Communities for Music Education in the United States by the NAMM Foundation for the past eight years under Sheehan's leadership. In addition to his duties at Hollidaysburg, Sheehan was a finalist for the 2019 GRAMMY Music Educator Award and is an Educational Clinician for Conn-Selmer. He is also a consultant for strategic planning and association development.

As the President of the NAFME Eastern Division from 2015-2017, Sheehan served on the National Executive Board and Executive Committee. He is currently the Program Chair for the NAFME All-National Honors Ensembles. As an active member of the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA), Sheehan has served as State President, as well as a District President and Curriculum and Instruction State Representative. He coordinates the PMEALeadership Academy, serves on the PMEAMentoring Program Steering Committee, is chair of the PMEAModel Curriculum Framework project.

Sheehan is a member of Phi Beta Mu, the International Bandmasters Fraternity, and served as a liaison to the NAFME National Band Council. He was recognized at the state level as a Pennsylvania Keystone Technology

Integrator by the Department of Education, was named Teacher of the Year in 2013 by the Hollidaysburg Area School District, and received the Outstanding Music Educator Award from Penn State University's College of Arts and Architecture in 2016. He is an active guest conductor and clinician throughout the country and performs trumpet with the Hollidaysburg Community Band and with the Altoona Brass Collective.

Sheehan holds a B.S. degree in Music Education and a B.M. degree in Music Marketing from Clarion University, as well as a Master's degree in Music Education from the Pennsylvania State University. He and his wife, Amy, are the proud parents of their daughter, Ellie.



**SUNY Geneseo Chamber Singers —
Dr. Gerard Floriano, Director**

Dr. Gerard Floriano is an accomplished conductor whose passions include conducting orchestral, operatic, and choral repertoire. Maestro Floriano maintains a busy schedule as artistic director, music director, music educator, and guest conductor, having led performances and productions throughout Europe and the United States.

At SUNY Geneseo where he serves as the Chair of the Department of Music and Director of Choral Activities, Floriano has achieved SUNY's highest rank of Distinguished Service Professor of Music. Additionally, he is a recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activity. Other conducting posi-

tions have included serving as Music Director of the Rochester Chamber Orchestra, Resident Conductor at the Brevard Music Center, Co-Artistic Director of Mercury Opera Rochester, as well as conducting fellowships at the Aspen Summer Music Festival and the Oregon Bach Festival.

Maestro Floriano is the visionary force and Artistic Director of Finger Lakes Opera (FLO), founded in 2013 at SUNY Geneseo. Now in its 11th season, FLO has become the premier summer opera experience for audiences in western New York and the Finger Lakes region of New York State. Floriano has been described by the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* as "nothing less than a virtuosic conductor" who leads his orchestra "with color, precision and a welcome degree of sweep."

FLO's production of *L'Elisir d'Amore* garnered this acclaim from, "...Musical director and Finger Lakes Opera artistic director Gerard Floriano paced the whole show to per *Rochester City Newspaper* fection, and the orchestra had every Donizettian detail in place."

This season with the Geneseo Chamber Singers, Floriano will lead performances at the NYSSMA® winter conference, as well as a 14-day concert tour and residency in northern Italy featuring a performance of Mozart's *Requiem* in Ravenna.

In the summer of 2023 at Finger Lakes Opera, Maestro Floriano will lead a new production of *Aida* by Giuseppe Verdi, as well as a new opera by composer B.E. Boykin and librettist Jarrod Lee entitled *Two Corners*, for which the company has received a prestigious Opera America Commissioning Grant.

Some pre-pandemic highlights saw Maestro Floriano lead a momentous performance of Beethoven's *9th Symphony*, as well as six sold-out performances throughout Spain with the Geneseo Chamber Singers. During the pandemic Finger Lakes Opera moved to an entirely virtual platform featuring more than 15 virtual performances. During this time, Maestro Floriano also developed an original video podcast series entitled *Great Voices of the 20th Century*, which highlights historic opera recordings from the 20th century, as well as a video series entitled *Behind the Curtain*, in which he brings back FLO's stage directors for in-depth interviews focusing on the creative process.

Recent live performances saw Maestro Floriano leading a new production of Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* with FLO, a LIVE From Hochstein performance by the Geneseo Chamber Singers, and a 2022 performance of Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* with the Geneseo Festival Singers and Geneseo Symphony Orchestra. Floriano lives in Rochester, NY, with his wife, Joan Floriano, who is also an accomplished performer and teacher of voice.



Syracuse University Wind Ensemble –

Dr. Bradley P. Ethington & Dr. Timothy W. Diem, Directors

Dr. Bradley Ethington is Director of Bands and Professor of Music at Syracuse University, where he coordinates the graduate program in wind conducting. Dr. Ethington holds bachelor's degrees in Music Education and Biochemistry from the Honors College at Michigan State University, the Master of Music from Baylor University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting from The University of Texas at Austin. While at the University of Texas, he served as assistant conductor of the University Wind Ensemble and conductor of the University Chamber Orchestra.

Dr. Ethington is an active proponent of new music for wind ensemble, and is regularly involved in commissioning new works. He has published articles in the journals of the College Band Directors National Association and the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles on the wind music of W. A. Mozart and Charles Ives and has been a regular contributor to the highly successful GIA educational series, *Teaching Music Through Performance in Band*. Dr. Ethington is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association, Past President of the Big East Conference Band Directors Association, and currently serves on the editorial board of the *WASBE Journal*. Dr. Ethington has appeared as guest conductor at conferences of the College Band Directors National Association, the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, and the New York State School Music Association, and in the summer of 2019 appeared as guest conductor with the *Orchestre d'Harmonie* at the Conservatoire de Strasbourg, France. He has appeared as guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator throughout the United States, Europe, Southeast Asia, and Australia.

Dr. Timothy Diem is currently in his sixth year serving as the Associate Director of Bands and Director of Athletic Bands at Syracuse University.

At SU, Dr. Diem co-conducts the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band, directs the SU "Pride of the Orange" Marching Band and Sour Citrus Society Pep Band, and teaches courses in music education. Previously, Dr. Diem spent 16 years at the University of Minnesota, 11 as the director of the Pride of Minnesota Marching Band, where he also taught courses in music education, marching band

techniques, conducting, and directed various concert ensembles. He taught band and general music in grades 5-12 for four years in Minnesota. During his time in Colorado and Minnesota, Dr. Diem often served as music director, pianist, and conductor of numerous stage productions for the University of Northern Colorado Musical Theatre Department, the Little Theatre of the Rockies, and the University of Minnesota Theatre.

Dr. Diem received the Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Minnesota-Morris in instrumental music education and piano performance and holds master's degrees in wind conducting and collaborative piano performance from the University of Northern Colorado, where he also completed his doctorate in wind conducting with a secondary concentration in music education. He has served as a guest conductor and clinician throughout the United States and in Singapore. Dr. Diem currently serves as the secretary for the Eastern Division of the College Band Directors National Association.

Friday, December 2, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.



**Wayne Central High School Select Chorus –
Kathy Perconti, Director**

Kathy Perconti is the Choral Director and Music Department Chair for Wayne Central High School. She also serves as adjunct faculty for Finger Lakes Community College. Perconti is a graduate of the Crane School of Music and the University of Buffalo. She has taught all grade levels over the years and continues to perform in the Rochester area.

Perconti's ensemble recently earned a Gold with Distinction at the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) major organization festival this past May. Her ensembles have received many superior ratings from Music in the Parks and Heritage Music festivals over the years. In December, her Select Chorus will perform at NYSSMA's winter conference.

Currently the 3rd Vice President of NYSSMA®, Perconti has been very active in the organization as the Zone 2 Representative, Council of Music Educators Association (COME) Chairperson, solo festival host and an adjudicator for solo and major organization festivals.

Kathy Perconti has guest conducted several all-coun-

ty choral festivals throughout the state. In 2019, she won the Music Educator Award for Distinguished Choral Directors from the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.



**Churchville-Chili High School Concert Choir –
Erik Reinhart, Director**

Erik Reinhart received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from SUNY Fredonia in Music Education with a concentration in voice. He has been teaching at Churchville-Chili High School just outside of Rochester, NY, since 2003. In 2011, he took over all choral activities at the senior high school.

Under his leadership, the choirs from Churchville-Chili have been asked to perform at the NYSSMA® winter conferences in 2007 and 2019, and have received Level 6 Gold and Gold with Distinction ratings at NYSSMA® major organization festivals. Nationally, Reinhart's choirs have received outstanding awards in New York City, Virginia Beach, and Baltimore. In addition to the choirs, he teaches piano and guitar classes at Churchville.

Reinhart has a strong background in a cappella ensembles. In 2000 he founded the performing ensemble Much More Chill at SUNY Fredonia, as well as a post-collegiate group, The Smoking Hot Pipes, in Rochester, NY. He has been asked to workshop with local area a cappella groups in their efforts to prepare for the ICCA competition.

He enjoys guest conducting and has been asked to direct senior high mixed ensembles at the county and NYSSMA® area-all state levels. In addition to guest conducting, he shared his experiences teaching sight singing at an interest session during the 2019 NYSSMA® Winter Conference.

As an arranger, he has prepared several choral pieces for the groups he conducts, as well as for other choral ensembles in New York. He is certified as a NYSSMA® solo voice judge, as well as a NYSSMA® majors choral judge and is asked to adjudicate throughout western New York. In addition to adjudicating, Reinhart has taught guitar camps in various districts in Rochester, as well as guest conducted at Eastern U.S. Music Camp held at Colgate University.

Friday, December 2, 2022 @ 12:00 p.m.



**Fox Lane High School Cello Choir –
Janine Bergamini, Director**

The Fox Lane High School is a part of the Bedford Central School District located in northern Westchester County, NY. The Bedford music department offers numerous opportunities to its students. The high school presents courses in Band, Chorus, Orchestra, Music Technology, Music Theory and Rock Ensemble. The music program is strongly supported by our community and our parent organization, FAME. Many of our student musicians belong to Tri-M, the music honors society. Within this honors society, these students volunteer throughout the Bedford community.

The Fox Lane High School Orchestra program is under the direction of Janine Bergamini. The high school has three orchestra ensembles: Concert, Chamber and Symphony Orchestra. The Fox Lane High School Chamber Orchestra earned a Gold with Distinction rating on a Level 6 program this past May at the NYSSMA® majors festival in Zone 11.

The orchestra program provides winter, spring and Pops concerts that encompass a variety of different genres of musical literature. The orchestra also has a vigorous small ensemble program. Several of the Fox Lane High School small ensembles have been featured in the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center's Young Musicians program in the Westchester region. The students in the orchestra program enjoy performing in the community and being of service to its residents.

The Fox Lane High School Cello Choir is a newly created ensemble, with the 2021-2022 school year being the inaugural year. The Fox Lane cellists are very dedicated and talented students, which inspired the establishment of this new ensemble. The group has among its members many student musicians who have been awarded a variety of musical honors.

The Fox Lane High School Cello Choir and Bergamini are excited to represent the Bedford Central School District with this unique ensemble at the winter conference in Rochester!

Friday, December 2, 2022 @ 8:15 p.m.



**Fayetteville-Manlius High School Chorale –
Shawn Hebert, Director**

Fayetteville-Manlius High School Chorale is an auditioned select choir made up of 56 students. It is an accredited curricular choir that meets for 40 minutes every day. Chorale prides itself on singing a musically, emotionally, vocally challenging and varied repertoire. Over the past few years, the F-M Chorale has collaborated in performances with the Syracuse University Singers, the Syracuse University Hendrick's Chapel Choir, the Jamesville-DeWitt High School Chorale, the East Syracuse Minoa High School Chorale, and the Baldwinsville High School Chamber Choir. The choir also has traveled to perform in Orlando, New York City, and Virginia Beach. This year's Fayetteville-Manlius High School Chorale boasts 20 Onondaga County Music Educators Association (OCMEA) all-county singers, 25 area all-state singers, three conference all-state alternates, two conference all-state vocalists, and one All-National Honors Ensemble member. The Fayetteville-Manlius music program has been honored as one of The Best Communities for Music Education (NAMM), as a GRAMMY Signature School, and with the NYSSMA® Presidential Citation Award.

Shawn Hebert, Director

Shawn Hebert has been a music educator for more than 25 years. He is currently on the faculty at Fayetteville-Manlius High School where he conducts the Chorale, Concert Choir, Basses Loaded (men's a cappella), and Swing (jazz choir). The F-M HS Chorale previously performed as a featured ensemble at the 2016 NYSSMA® Winter Conference.

Herbert previously taught at East Syracuse Minoa High School, and his groups there received Gold ratings at NYSSMA® major organization festivals. He also taught at Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School where his select 7th and 8th grade chorus performed as a featured ensemble at the 2003 NYSSMA® Winter Conference.

Among his awards are the Syracuse High School Theater Award for Outstanding Musical Director multiple times and the Greater Manlius Chamber of Commerce

Educator of the Year Award. In 2011 Herbert was honored with the Abel Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Art of Choral Performance by Civic Morning Musicals. He served for four years on the Onondaga County Music Educators' Association (OCMEA) Executive Board, first as vice president, then as president.

For 25 summers, Hebert has been the senior high vocal music director at Bristol Hills Music Camp in Canandaigua, NY. He has also served on the music faculty at Crane Youth Music at Potsdam College for 15 years and is the Choirmaster at Christ Episcopal Church in Manlius, NY. In addition, he is a NYSSMA® adjudicator and has served as guest conductor for area all-state and all-county choirs throughout New York State.

Since graduating with honors from the Crane School of Music with a Bachelor of Music in Music Education degree and a Master of Music in Music Performance from Miami University, Shawn Hebert has directed, music directed, and/or produced more than 40 musicals, including shows for East Syracuse Minoa High School, The Wits End Players, Theater 90, and the Town of Manlius Recreation Department. He is the vocal music director and stage director of the F-M High School musical. He resides in Manlius, NY, with his wonderful wife and children.



Baldwin High School Wind Symphony - Scott Dunn and Deanna Nikirk, Directors

Baldwin is a suburban community located on the south shore of Long Island, 25 miles east of Manhattan. It is a culturally diverse, middle-class community of approximately 33,000 people. The schools are an integral part of our community, used for many activities on an ongoing basis.

Baldwin Senior High School is the eighth largest high school in Nassau County. We offer a varied curriculum, including AP and honors courses and electives in the arts, business, technology, family/consumer sciences, art and music. We are proud of our strong academic, artistic and athletic tradition. Continued community support for education has been a hallmark of Baldwin for decades.

The Baldwin High School Wind Symphony, currently under the direction of Scott Dunn and Deanna Nikirk, has maintained a reputation as one of the county's best band programs for nearly a century. The Wind Symphony is an honors-level course that performs a fall, winter and spring concert, as well as a Pops concert each year, and regularly attends NYSSMA® majors.

The Wind Symphony also comprises half of our Pep Band. Admittance is based strictly on audition, and it is the top of three bands at Baldwin High School. We are committed to giving highly polished performances of only the finest literature and providing ourselves and our listeners with an emotional and deeply satisfying musical experience.

The Wind Symphony receives consistent Gold with Distinction ratings at NYSSMA® major organization festivals and is deeply dedicated to commissioning new works for winds. Composers who have written for Baldwin include Adam Schoenberg, Anthony Barfield, William C. White, David Heckendorn, Joel Puckett, Kenneth Lampl, Andy Akiho, David Gillingham, Jennifer Jolley, Shiyung Li, William Bolcom, Donald Grantham, GRAMMY-award winner Kenneth Fuchs and Pulitzer Prize winner Paul Moravec.

The Baldwin Wind Symphony has had the honor of welcoming composers Roger Cichy, Carl Strommen, Brant Karrick, Philip Sparke, Julie Giroux, Omar Thomas, Michael Markowski and Andrew Boysen, Jr., for residencies, guest conducting appearances and workshops.

The Baldwin Wind Symphony, Dunn, and Nikirk are excited for the opportunity to celebrate the Baldwin community's diversity and musical heritage in Rochester and to bring both students and composers from underrepresented communities to the forefront of music and music education in New York.

Saturday, December 3, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.



**Liverpool High School Symphonic Band –
Stephen Salem, Director**

Stephen Salem is currently in his 11th year as a music educator at Liverpool High School (LHS), in Liverpool, NY, of which he is also an alumnus. There, he conducts the LHS Symphonic Band, Stage Band, Tuba Euphonium Ensemble, and teaches music theory for college credit through a local community college.

During his time at Liverpool High School, Salem has conducted the Concert Band and served as the Brass Caption Head of the LHS Marching Band, as well as conducting several musical theater productions. Ensembles under his direction have been selected to perform at the NYSSMA® winter conference, as well as the NAFME Eastern Division Conference. Additionally, Salem frequently leads clinics on low brass pedagogy, including a workshop entitled “From the Back Row” at the NYSSMA® winter conference featuring the LHS Tuba Euphonium Ensemble.

As a conductor, Salem has been featured in a variety of venues, including the Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music, the Oregon Summer Conducting Institute, the Nordic Masterclass for Conductors in Denmark with the South Jutland Symphony, the International Conducting Workshop and Festival in Czech Republic with the Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic, and Symphoria, and The Professional Orchestra of Central NY.

In addition to teaching and conducting, Salem frequently performs on tuba with musical groups, including Central Winds, Symphoria, the Utica Symphony, the Auburn Chamber Orchestra, and the Misty Cove Brass Quintet, as well as on bass trombone with the Central Winds Jazz Ensemble.

Salem graduated from the University of Florida with a Master’s degree in Instrumental Conducting and from Syracuse University with a Bachelor’s degree in Music Education. His conducting teachers include David Waybright and John Laverty, as well as supplemental studies with Jorma Panula, Larry Rachleff, and Donald Schleicher. He is an active composer and arranger, with many arrangements for tuba euphonium ensemble, and is a member of several professional organizations, including Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, Pi Kappa Lambda, NYSSMA®, NAFME, and the American Federation of Musicians, Local 78. Salem resides in Liverpool with his wife Anna, daughter Amelia, and a soon-to-be second child.



**Clarence High School Wind Ensemble –
Louis Vitello, Director**

Louis Vitello is presently in his 27th year of teaching at Clarence High School where he serves as the conductor of the Wind Ensemble, co-conductor of the Concert Band, and Chairman of the Clarence Central School District Music Department. His responsibilities also include teaching lessons and AP Music Theory, advising the Drama Club, and directing the fall play and high school musical. Vitello received his Bachelor’s degree in Music Education and his Master’s degree in Instrumental Conducting from the University at Buffalo. While pursuing his master’s degree, he was a teaching assistant to the Director of Bands, which included serving as the Associate Conductor of the UB Wind Ensemble, University Symphonic Band, and co-director of the UB Pep Band.

In addition, he was a staff assistant conductor for the former Greater Buffalo Opera Company, was co-founder and director of the Western New York Youth Wind Ensemble, and has guest conducted the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra along with all-county honor bands in the western New York area and across New York State. His conducting teachers have included Sarah McKoin, Charles Peltz, Gary Burgess, Harold Farberman (Conductor’s Insti-

tute), and William Silvester.

Clarence Ensembles under Vitello's direction, have performed at the American Concert Band Association Annual Conference (2018), the New York State Band Directors Association Annual Symposium (2014 and 2010), presented a clinic on repertoire at the New York State School Music Association Winter Conference (2000), and at the NYSBDA Regional Workshop (2012), and have commissioned and/or premiered new works for wind band. These pieces include Persis Parshall Vehar's *Pan American Overture* (2001), Stephen Mellillo's *21: Won Way* (2011), Michael Vertoske's *Madrid* (2011), David Maslanka's *Hymn For World Peace* (2015), Stephen Mellillo's *Ark of the Covenant* and *In the Darkest Darkness* (2018). Furthermore, in 2019 he was selected as the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra/Erie County Music Educators Association Outstanding Music Educator.

Vitello is a member of the Erie County Music Educators Association, Who's Who Among American Teachers, New York State Band Directors Association, The Conductors Guild, College Band Directors National Association, Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society, and he is an honorary member of the Kappa Kappa Psi National Band Fraternity.

Saturday, December 3, 2022 @ 12:00 p.m.



**Five Towns College Vocal Jazz Ensemble –
Kristi Adams, Director**

The Five Towns College Vocal Jazz Ensemble is the college's premiere vocal group representing the most talented and dedicated singers. Their performance at the NYSSMA® winter conference will incorporate traditional jazz standards, as well as modern jazz hits, and will feature such arrangers as Paris Rutherford and Roger Emerson

with songs performed by The Real Group and Pentatonix.

Under the direction of Kristi Adams, the group has had the privilege of performing at Long Island jazz clubs in addition to performances at the college each semester. They have also performed at the NMEA Conference Day as part of a special presentation on vocal jazz in the public schools. In addition, the ensemble has traveled to central New York to perform and lobby as part of Higher Education Lobby Day.

Ensemble member graduates have become professional singers, composers, and music educators. Five Towns College is a creative learning community that develops in students the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to pursue careers in the performing arts, media and communication, business and industry, and the teaching professions. The college strives for academic excellence through its many undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate degree programs and holds a place of prominence among institutions that offer a quality education to all who attend.

Kristi Adams has been a Professor of Music at Five Towns College for six years and taught music, dance, and theater in the public school systems on Long Island for 20 years. Throughout her career, Adams has taught sight-reading, vocal pedagogy, choral conducting, and professional singing techniques to students ranging from sixth grade through the college level.

Among the numerous acknowledgments of Adams's work are the Jenkins Lifetime Achievement Award and special recognition by the New York State School Music Association as an expert on the male changing voice. This recognition earned her a place on the organization's Music Views DVD.

Adams has presented her work on sight-reading in the choral classroom, as well as on developing jazz singers at several music educator conferences. Currently, she also works as a voice teacher for the prestigious Stony Brook School and is working toward an advanced degree in ethnomusicology through Liberty University.