

Moore County Community Band

presents

Movie Magic with a Holiday Twist



Date: 11/09/2025

Time: 2:00 P.M.



**North Carolina
Arts Council**

This concert made possible in part by a grant from the Arts Council of Moore County and by a grant from the Ernst Ludwig Timmel Endowment, a component fund of the North Carolina Community Foundation



Program

Conducted by
Mollie Wilson, Cheryl Theis and Doug Yopp
Guest Conductor—David Nelson



Strike Up The Band	<i>George and Ira Gershwin</i> <i>Arr Warren Barker</i>
<i>Love is a Many Splendoured Thing (Solo by Doug Yopp)</i>	<i>P.F. Webster and S. Fain</i> <i>Arr Donald Furlano</i>
Colonel Bogey	<i>Kenneth J. Alford</i> <i>Arr Clifford Barnes</i>
Greensleeves	<i>Arr Alfred Reed</i>
Selections from Grease	<i>Warren Casey and Jim Jacobs</i> <i>Arr Ted Ricketts</i>
Moon River (Solos by David Mudd and Tom Holleman)	<i>Johnny Mercei and Henry Mancini</i> <i>Arr Michael Brown</i>
It's Beginning to Look Like Christmas	<i>Merideth Willson</i> <i>Arr Michael Brown</i>
Disney at the Movies	<i>Arr John Higgins</i>
Christmas at the Movies	<i>Arr John Moss</i>



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Program Notes

Written in 1927 by the iconic American duo of George and Ira Gershwin, "**Strike Up The Band**" was originally the title song for a satirical musical comedy of the same name. While the show itself went through several rewrites before finding success, the marching energy and infectious optimism of the song have cemented its place as a perennial American standard. The lyrics—with their call to "Strike up the band, here comes a happy throng, it won't be long now 'til success is here!"—perfectly capture an optimistic, celebratory mood.



Love is a Many Splendoured Thing is the title song from the 1955 movie of the same name, a romantic drama set in Hong Kong. The song, with music by Sammy Fain and lyrics by Paul Francis Webster, became an immediate classic and won the Academy Award for Best Original Song. Its lush, soaring melody and tender lyrics perfectly capture the film's theme of transcendent, yet often difficult, love. Arranger Donald Furlano masterfully adapts the song's emotional depth and harmonic richness for the concert band, preserving the sweeping, romantic quality that made it a timeless standard, particularly for its popular rendition by Andy Williams.

Colonel Bogey is an iconic march, instantly recognizable around the world. It was composed in 1914 by Frederick Joseph Ricketts, a British Army bandmaster who wrote under the pseudonym Kenneth J. Alford. The nickname "Colonel Bogey" comes from an old golfing term used to describe a score a good player should be able to achieve on a hole (the predecessor to the modern par system). The tune itself gained massive, enduring international fame when it was used as the principal musical theme in the 1957 film "The Bridge on the River Kwai". Although the march in the film is whistled and is famously played at a slower tempo than the original, its association with the cinematic classic cemented "Colonel Bogey" as one of the most famous marches in history.



Greensleeves is perhaps the most beloved and recognizable piece of English folk music. Although often incorrectly attributed to King Henry VIII, the tune likely dates to the late 16th century. It is a traditional romance ballad, but it is known today primarily for its association with the Christmas season, where its melody is frequently used for the carol "What Child Is This?".



Grease is one of the most beloved and successful musical stage productions of all time, celebrating high school life, young love, and the rock-and-roll culture of the 1950s. Created by Warren Casey and Jim Jacobs, the original stage musical debuted in 1971 before becoming a Broadway smash and, later, the basis for the iconic 1978 film starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John.

Moon River is one of the most cherished and timeless songs in the American songbook. Composed by Henry Mancini with lyrics by Johnny Mercer, the song was introduced in the 1961 film “Breakfast at Tiffany’s”, where it was sung by Audrey Hepburn. The piece won the Academy Award for Best Original Song and went on to win two Grammy Awards, including Record of the Year.

It’s Beginning to Look Like Christmas is a delightful and enduring holiday classic. It was written in 1951 by the famed American composer Meredith Willson, best known for creating the musical “The Music Man”. While the song suggests familiar holiday scenes in cities across the country—such as the trees in the grand hotel lobby and the toys in the five-and-dime—it beautifully captures the universal, anticipatory feeling of the Christmas season beginning to descend. It appears in the movie “Polar Express” and a Hallmark movie of the same name.

Disney at the Movies showcases the remarkable variety and quality of the songwriting that has been a hallmark of Disney productions. From grand anthems to tender ballads, this selection highlights the enduring power of these scores to evoke wonder and nostalgia for listeners of all ages. Get ready to revisit some of your favorite musical memories from the silver screen with this fun-filled performance!

Christmas at the Movies takes the audience on a sleigh ride through movie history, featuring scores that range from thrilling and grand to cozy and sentimental. It serves as a reminder of the powerful connection between holiday cheer and the magic of the movies, blending the nostalgic sounds of the season with the memorable melodies we associate with beloved on-screen tales.



Directors



Mollie Wilson grew up on a farm in central Pennsylvania. In the summer after fourth grade, she began instrumental lessons and has played ever since. During high school, Mollie became director of the Mapleton Community Band, and soon after, she attended Pennsylvania State University. Most of her teaching career was in the Pocono Mountains in the beautiful town of Milford, PA, where she was a band director for more than thirty years. Along with directing bands, Mollie served as drama director and musical director for decades at Delaware Valley School District. Retiring to the Sandhills to escape the cold, snowy winters, she continues her life of music, participating in many local performance groups, and is the director of New Horizons Band in the Pines. Mollie is also the proprietor of Pine Gables of Aberdeen Bed and Breakfast.

Cheryl Theis, a southwestern Ohio native and salutatorian of Miamisburg High School, launched her 48-year teaching career immediately after earning her Bachelor of Music Education degree from Eastern Kentucky University. Her dedication to music education spanned diverse roles in Dayton and Vandalia Public Schools, encompassing K-8 band, general music, choir, theatre, and handbells. As her family relocated, she continued to inspire students in Virginia and Michigan. Beyond the classroom, Cheryl enriched her community as a music director for churches and co-director of Kettering Children's Choir. Her contributions were recognized with multiple "Staff Member of the Year" awards, "Sam's Club Teacher of the Year," and

the proclamation of “Cheryl Theis Day” in Vandalia, Ohio, honoring her dedication to teaching and leadership in a successful \$500,000 auditorium renovation campaign. Students under her direction were also invited to prestigious performances at state and national music educator conventions. Today, Cheryl remains a committed community volunteer, supporting the West Pine Middle School Band, performing with MCCB and NHB, and mentoring Odyssey of the Mind teams. Above all, she cherishes family time with her husband, 3 children, 6 grandchildren, and 3 spoiled rotten chugs.

From his beginnings in Jonesboro, Arkansas, **Doug Yopp** demonstrated exceptional musical talent, earning a spot as 4th chair in the McDonald’s All American High School Band. This achievement paved the way for a full scholarship to Arkansas State University, followed by a transfer to the University of Florida. At UF, he excelled as principal Euphonium and led the Gator Bands as their President. His passion for music education led to a 38-year career in Florida, primarily in Lake County, where he was recognized as Teacher of the Year five times. The Florida Bandmasters Association honored him with the Oliver Hobbs Award, and he dedicated six years to their executive board. His jazz bands achieved national recognition, performing at the All-Night Soul and Jazz Festival in New York City and the New Orleans Heritage and Jazz Festival. A highlight of his career was leading his middle school band in Governor Jeb Bush’s 1999 inaugural parade. Today, as a respected Florida Bandmasters Association Adjudicator and guest conductor, Doug enjoys life in Vass, NC, with Jill, his wife of 46 years.

Guest Conductor: Dr. David Nelson:
Conductor, Educator, and Music Historian

Dr. David Nelson dedicated 33 years to higher education, serving as a respected professor at both the University of New Orleans and the University of North Carolina Greensboro. Following his retirement in 2020, the University of North Carolina System recognized his contributions by naming him Professor Emeritus of Music. Dr. Nelson's academic foundation includes a Bachelor of Music cum laude from the University of Michigan and two graduate degrees—a Master of Music and a Ph.D.—from Northwestern University.



Moore County Community Band Personnel

Flute/Piccolo	Saxophone, Alto	Trombone
William Hammerschmidt	Jonathan Boyte	Barry Buchele
Carolyn Hatcher	Tom Holleman	Freya Burks
Judith Kelley	Phyllis Jenkins	Tom Garlick
Ashley Matthews	Gavin Pringle	Sarah Keller
Lisa Mitchell	Saxophone, Tenor	David Moss
Jennifer Smith	David Mudd	Angel Soto-Enriquez
David Wall	Lili Williams	Doug Yopp
Clarinet	Mollie Wilson	Euphonium
John Hatcher	Saxophone, Bari	Janet Gustafson
Margaret Katzenberger	Paul Spurgeon	Mike Patterson
Jane Ledford	Trumpet	Shelby Syckes
David Newton	Dave Andres	Tuba
Brooke Robertson	Lionel Bryson	Nate Evers
Ashley Sparks	Ken Dodson	Robert Fewkes
Jamie Stout	Diego Reyes	String Bass
Cheryl Theis	Saul Garcia	Robert Dyer
Tammy Theis	Ron Shepard	Percussion
Judy Yocom	Neal Yocom	Shannon Cagle
Bass Clarinet	Horn	Josh Lewis
David Nelson	Marjory Cecka	Joesph Newman
	Saul Garcia	Wayne Osborne
	Aidan Waters	Tricia Williamson

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