

Symphonic WINDS

5:00 p.m. Omaha Symphonic Winds

From these selections....

The Cowboys - John Williams-arr. James Curnow
With Quiet Courage - Larry Daehn
Danzon No. 2 - Arturo Marquez
Pastime - Jack Stamp

An American Symphony - Michael Kamen, arr. Paul Lavender

Director Rex Barker

Omaha Symphonic Winds is a select group of talented adult musicians from the Omaha metropolitan area who perform concerts of outstanding original band compositions and orchestral transcriptions. The ensemble was founded in August 2009 by Bill Hall, former director of bands at Dana College.

The mission of Omaha Symphonic Winds is to enrich the community with the heritage of great band compositions and to promote the future of band literature. We provide an opportunity for the community to hear outstanding musical compositions in a live setting, furnish an outlet for adult musicians to perform quality music, motivate music students through joint concert performances, commission and premiere new works, and serve the community with outreach events.

As of October 2015, the Omaha Symphonic Winds is led by a board of directors. Following Bill Hall as Music Director were Mr. Ron Hardin and Mr. Byron Braasch. The group is now lead by Mr. Rex Barker, current Director of Instrumental Music at Midland University in Fremont and Sales Representative for Fruhauf Uniform. He has 33 years of experience as a band director at Grand Island Northwest and Millard South High Schools. Rex served two terms as President of the Nebraska Music Education Association and one as President of Nebraska State Bandmasters Association. He was also Director of Performing Arts at Midland University and brings years of experience and knowledge to the Omaha Symphonic Winds. The Omaha Symphonic Winds rehearses at Liberty Middle School in Papillion and performs on a regular basis at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Papillion, Nebraska. The musicians of OSW are drawn from area band directors, music teachers, retired military musicians and area professionals.