

SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 73.5

**McCRACKEN**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
*Symphonic Band*  
SKOKIE, IL

**KATE DONEGAN**, *superintendent*

**DONNA TOOPS**, *principal*

**BECKY DANIELS**, *assistant principal*

**BANDDIRECTOR.COM LIVE WEBCAST**

**MCCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND**

**CHIP DE STEFANO**, *conductor*

**MICHAEL PRESSLER**, *guest conductor*

Monday, December 17, 2007

7:00 PM

**MCCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

8000 East Prairie  
Skokie, Illinois

## CONCERT PROGRAM

Tricycle..... Andrew Boysen, Jr.

A Renaissance Revel..... Tielman Susato, arr. by Kenneth Singleton

I. La Morisque

II. Pavane: Si par souffrir

III. Ronde & Salterelle

IV. Ronde & Aliud

Lydian Lullaby.....Robert Sheldon

Overture for Winds.....Charles Carter

*MICHAEL PRESSLER, GUEST CONDUCTOR*

Simple Gifts.....Frank Ticheli

I. In Yonder Valley

II. Dance

III. Here take this Lovely Flower

IV. Simple Gifts

The King Across the Water..... Bruce Fraser

I. Battle

II. Lament

III. Dancing

**THANK YOU TO DAVE KNOX, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BAND DIRECTOR  
MEDIA GROUP, FOR INVITING US TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS  
BANDDIRECTOR.COM WEBCAST.**

# MCCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND

## **PICCOLO**

Samantha Acance  
Phoebe Yeo

## **FLUTE**

Emily Abram  
Samantha Acance  
Oksana Chernykhivska  
Georgia Christus  
Dylan Connelley  
Cindy Hou  
Jaclyn Russell  
Phoebe Yeo

## **OBOE**

Jessica Loy  
Tamara Winston  
Lillian Wong

## **CLARINET**

Isabel Berkson  
Jacob Cohn  
Emma Decker  
Alexa Jasenof  
Linda Jung  
Rebecca Lau  
Jeremy Moy  
Shannon Rourke  
Karen Savella

## **BASS CLARINET**

Sara Guzina  
Marissa Matesi

## **BASSOON**

Will Boersma

## **ALTO SAXOPHONE**

Julia Bentkowska  
Joseph Galante  
Lucas Rosario  
Billy Voitik

## **TENOR SAXOPHONE**

Franco Benjamin  
Vasco Grouev

## **BARITONE SAXOPHONE**

Cryzlyn Domingo

## **CORNET**

Ian S. Crane  
Charles Landsman  
Matt Pietz  
Tina Tillmann  
Sebastijan Torgus

## **FRENCH HORN**

Michelle Abraham  
Morgan Dasovich  
Molly Hampton  
Jordan Weiss

## **TROMBONE**

Erik Altmayer  
Dexter Codell  
Matthew Groner  
Talha Khan  
Connor Thummel  
Ethan Velazquez

## **EUPHONIUM**

Michael Cox

## **TUBA**

Earl Kim  
Eric Wolff-Klammer

## **PERCUSSION**

Nik Erickson  
Kelly Groves  
Megan Pietz  
Julia Thummel

# **MCCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM**

## **SKOKIE, ILLINOIS**

The Village of Skokie is located just 16 miles northwest of downtown Chicago. Home to approximately 60,000 residents, Skokie covers 10.2 square miles of land. Superior municipal services, together with the nationally acclaimed Skokie Park District, the superb Skokie Public Library, the pre-eminent Northshore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, the Skokie Northshore Sculpture Park and outstanding school districts make Skokie an excellent place to live. The Village is a recipient of the Governor's Hometown Award and has received "All America City" finalist distinction from the National Civic League.

## **SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 73.5**

Skokie School District 73.5 is home to approximately 1100 kindergarten through 8th grade students. We have three schools: Elizabeth Meyer School (pre-kindergarten and kindergarten), John Middleton School (grades 1 through 5) and Oliver McCracken Middle School (grades 6 through 8). Our students have ancestral origins from all over the world. Nearly half of our students are bilingual, speaking nearly 40 languages. Our students are more diverse, economically, racially, religiously, linguistically and socially, than most schools in the surrounding suburbs. Our community embraces and celebrates this diversity and appreciates the opportunity children and families have to interact and form friendships with such a wide spectrum of people.

McCracken Middle School serves a population of about 375 students. Recognized as a National School of Excellence by the Blue Ribbon School Program in 2001, McCracken students achieve not only academic success, but have a tradition of excelling in the fine arts.

## **MCCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND**

Currently, 215 students in grades four through eight participate in the Symphonic Band, Concert Band, 5th grade Band, Beginning Band and various chamber ensembles. The McCracken Middle School Symphonic Band, among the elite of middle school bands in Illinois, has performed at several prestigious events in recent years including two performances at the MENC North-Central Conference (2001 and 2005), several performances at the IMEA All-State Conference, and a performance at the 2006 Midwest Clinic. The Symphonic Band has made nine appearances at the University of Illinois Superstate Concert Band Festival, being selected as the honor band in 2000, 2003, and 2006. The Symphonic Band has also received 46 consecutive superior ratings at the Illinois Grade School Music Association District Organization Contest and has been selected as an "honors" ensemble at all five IGSMA State Festivals.

The Symphonic Band has also performed at the IMEA Music Education Day at the Capitol, Plainfield Concert Band Festival, the Midwest Music Festival, Skokie Festival of Cultures, AYSO Opening Ceremonies, and WBBM News Radio 780 30th anniversary promotion. In the spring of 2001, the band was highlighted in WLS-TV's (Chicago's ABC affiliate) feature "Someone You Should Know." Three times in the last seven years, Skokie Mayor George Van Dusen and the Village Board of Trustees have passed resolutions honoring our students' outstanding achievements in instrumental music.

The success of our band program is due to the hard work of the administration, the parents, the community, the educators, and most importantly, our students.

## CHIP DE STEFANO

Chip De Stefano received both his Bachelor of Music in Trombone Performance and Master of Music Education Degrees from Northwestern University. While at Northwestern, he studied conducting with John P. Paynter, Steve Peterson, and Don Owens, and trombone with Frank Crisafulli and Art Linsner. While earning his graduate degree, Mr. De Stefano served as director of the Northwestern University Basketball Band (1994-1996) and the University Jazz Lab Band (1995-1996).



Mr. De Stefano is currently in his 12th year as Director of Bands at McCracken Middle School in Skokie, Illinois. Under his direction, the McCracken Middle School Symphonic Band has received first division ratings at all district and state organization contests of the Illinois Grade School Music Association (IGSMA) and has made multiple appearances at the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) All-State Conference and the University of Illinois Superstate Concert Band Festival. In 2005, the Symphonic Band traveled to Ann Arbor, Michigan to perform at the MENC North-Central Conference and most recently presented a concert at the 2006 “60th Anniversary” Midwest Clinic: An International Band and Orchestra Conference.

Mr. De Stefano’s professional affiliations include the Music Educators National Conference, the Illinois Music Educators Association, the National Band Association, the International Trombone Association, the Illinois Grade School Music Association, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. Mr. De Stefano is a recipient of nine National Band Association Citations of Excellence. He was awarded the Chicagoland Outstanding Music Educator Award in 2001 and the IGSMA Barbara Buehlmann Young Conductor Award in 2004.

## MICHAEL PRESSLER

Michael Pressler is currently serving in his third year as Assistant Principal for Instruction at Maine East High School in Park Ridge, Illinois. Prior to his appointment as Assistant Principal, Pressler was the Fine Arts Department Chair and Director of Bands at Maine South High School in Park Ridge. A native of southern Illinois, Pressler earned a Bachelor of Music from Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas and a Master of Science in Music Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Additionally he has completed advanced degree course work in public school administration at UIUC and graduate music studies at The Wichita State University, Kansas University and the University of Michigan. Prior to his appointment at Maine South, Pressler was Director of Bands at Lyons Township High School from 1987 through 1992 where he also taught AP Music Theory, class guitar and music appreciation. From 1982 through 1987 he was Supervisor of Instrumental Music at Wichita East High School teaching band, orchestra and music theory and from February of 1981 through June of 1982 served as Director of Music for the Carlinville, Illinois Unit School District teaching band at the elementary level and band and choir at the junior high and high school levels.



Pressler served two terms as IMEA District VII President and is currently State President of the Illinois Music Educators Association. He is a recipient of the Chicagoland Outstanding Music Educator Award, the Mr. Holland’s Opus Award and was given an Award of Merit by the Illinois Alliance for Arts Education for his work as an Arts Administrator. Pressler holds memberships in Music Educators National Conference, Illinois Music Educators Association, National Band Association, Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Illinois Art Education Association, Phi Mu Alpha, Phi Beta Mu, and Phi Beta Kappa. Pressler is a member of the Steering Committee of “Illinois Creates” the advocacy project of the Illinois Arts Alliance. He is a past member of the Park Ridge Cultural Arts Council and has held conducting positions with Elgin Community College, the McHenry County Youth Orchestras and the West Suburban Concert Band and served as Director of the Illinois Ambassadors of Music for biannual European concert tours. He remains active in arts-related policy and advocacy efforts at the district, regional and state levels.

# **MCCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS**

## **RECENT PERFORMANCES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **JOHN PHILIP SOUSA FOUNDATION**

2006 Sudler Silver Cup Award

### **MIDWEST BAND AND ORCHESTRA CLINIC**

2006 Symphonic Band Performance

2006 Symphonic Band (demonstration group for Bruce Pearson clinic)

2005 Symphonic Band (demonstration group for Gary Barton rehearsal lab)

2003 Clarinet Choir (demonstration group for Julie DeRoche clinic)

### **MENC NORTH-CENTRAL REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

2005 Symphonic Band Performance (Michigan Music Education In-Service Conference)

2001 Symphonic Band Performance (Illinois Music Educators Association All-State Conference)

### **ILLINOIS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION ALL-STATE CONFERENCE**

2008 Symphonic Band (demonstration group for Chip De Stefano Clinic)

2008 Symphonic Band (demonstration group for Bruce Pearson Clinic)

2005 Symphonic Band (demonstration group for Chip De Stefano and Karen Debauche clinic)

2004 Symphonic Band Performance

2003 5th Grade Band (demonstration group for Chip De Stefano clinic)

2003 Clarinet Choir (demonstration group for Julie DeRoche clinic)

2001 Symphonic Band Performance (MENC North-Central Regional Conference)

### **UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SUPERSTATE CONCERT BAND FESTIVAL**

2007 Symphonic Band Performance (Honor Band Performance)

2006 Symphonic Band Performance

2005 Symphonic Band Performance

2004 Symphonic Band Performance (Honor Band Performance)

2003 Symphonic Band Performance

2001 Symphonic Band Performance (Honor Band Performance)

2000 Symphonic Band Performance

1999 Symphonic Band Performance

### **ILLINOIS GRADE SCHOOL MUSIC ASSOCIATION**

2007 Selection as "honors ensemble" at State Festival

2007 IGSMMA District 7 Contest - Perfect Score

2006 Selection as "honors ensemble" at State Festival

2006 IGSMMA District 7 Contest - Perfect Score

2005 Selection as "honors ensemble" at State Festival

2004 Selection as "honors ensemble" at State Festival

2003 Selection as "honors ensemble" at State Festival

2002 Selection as "honors ensemble" at inaugural State Festival

46 consecutive Division One (superior) ratings at the IGSMMA District Contest

# THE SUDLER CUP

## THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR JUNIOR HIGH AND MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCERT BANDS

The purpose of the Sudler Cup is to identify, recognize and honor junior high and middle school concert band programs that have demonstrated particularly significant high standards of excellence in concert activities over a period of several years. The official description of a deserving band is:

*The band must have achieved and maintained a high standard of literature in the concert area over a period of several years. The concert band will have placed itself in situations where there has been opportunity for evaluation by qualified persons or has been rated "superior" at state, regional, or national levels in concert activities. The band should have performed at regional, state, national, and professional meetings of significance. These can include but are not limited to state music conventions, regional or national MENC meetings, and state or national band association conventions. The director must have been incumbent in his/her position for at least seven years, including the current year. A number of the students in the band should have participated in district and all-state honor bands or similar all-area groups. The total program of music should exemplify what is considered a sound viable, music education program for this level of endeavor.*

The Sudler Cup Award is made possible through the generosity of Louis and Virginia Sudler.

Louis Sudler was a rare combination of a successful businessman, a performing artist, and a nationally known patron of the arts. He was the founder of the Chicago real estate firm, Sudler and Company. His urge for achievement in the business world was equaled only by his intense desire to assist and inspire talented young musicians. Mr. Sudler had long expressed his interest in the arts, as a successful performing musician and as a patron of the arts, vitally interested in recognizing outstanding student accomplishments. He was internationally known for his leadership of The Orchestral Association of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and served on the boards of many art institutions in this country. Over the years he established scholarships and awards for young talented musicians through the Louis Sudler Foundation and the John Philip Sousa Foundation. His wife, Virginia Brown Sudler, served as Vice President on the Executive Board of the Sousa Foundation until her death in 2002. Their son, Louis Sudler, Jr. currently serves on the Sousa Foundation Board.

The following are the recipients of the Sudler Cup since its inception in 1985:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1985 - Morehead Junior High (El Paso, Texas)              | 1995 - Prairie Middle School (Hutchinson, Kansas)        |
| 1985 - Ashville Junior High (Asheville, North Carolina)   | 1995 - Herndon Middle School (Herndon, Virginia)         |
| 1985 - Gunn Junior High (Arlington, Texas)                | 1997 - Nimitz Jr. High School (Odessa, Texas)            |
| 1985 - Oconomowoc JH School (Oconomowoc, Wisconsin)       | 1997 - Robinson Middle School (Fairfax, Virginia)        |
| 1986 - Adamson Junior High (Rex, Georgia)                 | 1997 - The Colony Middle School (The Colony, Texas)      |
| 1986 - Southwestern Junior High (Lakeland, Florida)       | 1998 - Griffin Middle School (The Colony, Texas)         |
| 1987 - Morrow Junior High (Morrow, Georgia)               | 1999 - Space Center Intermediate School (Houston, Texas) |
| 1988 - Scottsbluff Junior High (Scottsbluff, Nebraska)    | 1999 - Longfellow Middle School (Falls Church, Virginia) |
| 1989 - Richardson North Jr. High (Richardson, Texas)      | 2000 - Irmo Middle School (Irmo South Carolina)          |
| 1989 - David Crockett Junior High (Odessa, Texas)         | 2001 - Bailey Middle School (Austin, Texas)              |
| 1990 - Murchison Middle School (Austin, Texas)            | 2001 - Robert Frost Middle School (Fairfax, Virginia)    |
| 1990 - Thoreau Intermediate School (Vienna, Virginia)     | 2001 - Lake Braddock Secondary School (Burke, Virginia)  |
| 1990 - Westwood Junior High (Dallas, Texas)               | 2002 - First Colony Middle School (Sugarland, Texas)     |
| 1992 - McAdams Middle School (Dickinson, Texas)           | 2003 - Grisham Middle School (Austin, Texas)             |
| 1992 - Wm. Adams Junior High (Alice, Texas)               | 2003 - Coyle Middle School (Rowlett, Texas)              |
| 1993 - Highlands Intermediate School (Pearl City, Hawaii) | 2004 - North Ridge MS (North Richland Hills, Texas)      |
| 1993 - Hodges Bend Middle School (Houston, Texas)         | 2004 - Holub Middle School (Houston, Texas)              |
| 1994 - DeSoto West Middle School (DeSoto, Texas)          | 2005 - L.J. Alleman Middle School (Lafayette, Louisiana) |
| 1994 - Pittman Middle School (Hueytown, Alabama)          | 2006 - Oliver McCracken Middle School (Skokie, Illinois) |

The Sudler Cup is administered by the the John Philip Sousa Foundation, a non-profit foundation dedicated to the international promotion of band music.

# **CONTRIBUTORS 2007-2008**

## **SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 73.5 BAND PROGRAM**

### **MAJOR DONORS**

Barnes & Noble (Old Orchard)

### **MIDWEST PATRONS**

Mark & Patty Erickson  
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Hampton

### **HONORARY CONDUCTORS**

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Alan & Carol Friedlander  
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### **PATRONS**

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Simon Moodie  
Toledo Family





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[www.banddirector.com](http://www.banddirector.com)

# McCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL *Symphonic Band* SKOKIE, IL



## **VISIT [WWW.MCCRACKENBAND.COM](http://WWW.MCCRACKENBAND.COM)!!!!**

Our band website contains not only a wealth of information about the McCracken Middle School Bands, but a tremendous number of resources for music educators:

- Over 40 free arrangements for concert band and chamber ensembles ranging from Grade 1 to Grade 5.
- First lessons sheets and supplemental exercises used by our beginning students.
- Recommended repertoire for young band
- Past programs since 1961.
- Lecture notes, outlines, and handouts from various clinics and lectures Mr. De Stefano has given over the years.
- Articles on various band related topics.
- Masterclass notes
- Recommended band and educational books and recordings
- RSS feeds to stay current with McCracken Middle School Band news and information.

## **SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 73.5 MUSIC FACULTY**

Chip De Stefano, Director of Bands  
Dave Morrison, Associate Director of Bands  
Beth Lehner, Director of Choirs  
Lisa Friedman, General Music

## **SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 73.5 BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Bob Quane, President  
Beth Allen, Vice-President  
Andrea Rosen, Secretary  
Karen Barr  
James McNelis  
Brian Montgomery  
Jennifer Polakoff

## **SKOKIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 73.5 ADMINISTRATION**

Kate Donegan, Superintendent  
Donna Toops, Principal, Oliver McCracken Middle School  
Becky Daniels, Assistant Principal, Oliver McCracken Middle School  
Dana Otto, Principal, John Middleton Elementary School  
Megan Hernandez, Assistant Principal, John Middleton Elementary School  
Jennifer Graham, Principal, Elizabeth Meyer Primary School  
Cyndi Cohen, Business Manager  
Steve Ruelli, Maintenance Supervisor

## **SPECIAL THANKS:**

McCracken Middle School School & Middleton Elementary School Administration, Faculty and Staff

Laurie Kolpas and Barbara Peters (District 73.5 Secretaries)

Barb Yablonsky, Mary Petriko, and Mary Walker (McCracken Middle School Secretaries)

Heather Rubio and Beverly Gothelf (Middleton Elementary School Secretaries)

Laura Brogan and Lorraine Lewandowski (District Business Office Staff)

Mark Rutzen, Marek Chwistek, Chris Cieplinski, Alvin Carter and Claudia Brutt (District Custodians)

and last, but definitely not least: Thank you to my wife Susan, sons Brian & Joseph, and daughters Kristen & Clara for their love, patience, and support.

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### **MCCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS**

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web: [www.mccrackenband.com](http://www.mccrackenband.com)

# McCRACKEN *band*

MIDDLE SCHOOL

SKOKIE, IL

## SUPPORTING THE MCCRACKEN MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS

Skokie School District 73.5 has a long tradition of excellence in music education. For over 45 years, the McCracken Middle School Symphonic Band has been recognized as one of the finest bands in Illinois. Our recent performance at the Midwest Clinic, the largest band and orchestra conference in the world (with nearly 15,000 attendees), gives the McCracken Band a national presence that can be matched by only a few programs in the country. Increased enrollment, strong administrative and parent support, and a commitment to excellence make the future of our band program continue to look bright.

The Skokie School District 73.5 band parents have begun a substantial fundraising effort. Funds raised during this campaign will go directly to our school band program and will be used to purchase new instruments, commission new works for band, bring in guest clinicians, and to fund special projects. Any amount contributed would be greatly appreciated. Please consider making your tax-deductible donation today!

## DONATION

- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| _____ Major Donor (\$1000 +)         | _____ Honorary Conductor (\$100 - \$249) |
| _____ Midwest Donor (\$500 - \$999)  | _____ Donor (\$50 - \$99)                |
| _____ Midwest Patron (\$250 - \$499) | _____ Patron (\$25 - \$49)               |
|                                      | _____ Friend (\$24 or less)              |

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(as you would like it to appear in future concert programs)

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(to subscribe to email newsletter)

Please make checks payable to: **Skokie School District 73.5 Bands**  
**8000 East Prairie**  
**Skokie, Illinois 60076**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!**