RICHMOND’S BANDS

RICHMOND’S BANDS began in 1995 with the founding of the Greater Richmond Youth Wind Ensemble (GRYWE) for advanced high school musicians. In response to popular demand, a high school jazz ensemble was added in 1997. The Richmond’s Bands program is a valuable addition to Richmond’s vibrant instrumental community because it offers valuable aspects of a district or All-State band experience within a long-term rehearsal environment.

This program has given Richmond area students the opportunity to work with some of the finest conductors and teachers in the United States. Guest conductors for GRYWE have included composer Timothy Mahr, band clinician and author Ed Lisk, Dennis Zeisler (ODU), Jay Geaphart (Purdue) and internationally renowned conductor Dr. David Whitwell. Students from Richmond’s Bands have gone on to study in some of the finest music schools in the country.

WHAT DO STUDENTS LIKE MOST ABOUT RICHMOND’S BANDS?

- The chance to meet new people and learn more about music.”
- “Being surrounded by music and others with similar interests and ideas.”
- “Getting to work with VCU teachers and meet and hear VCU student performers.”
- “I think it is neat that students from so many different backgrounds can come together and communicate with their music.”

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He is an active guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator and is published in numerous journals, and is the general editor of The Journal of Band Research, A Repertoire Anthology (1964-1989) published by GIA. He is one of the regular guest conductors of the Musashino Academia Musicae Wind Ensemble in Tokyo. In 2016 he was appointed as Guest Professor of the Center of General Education of Guangdong University of Technology in Guangzhou, China. Dr. Austin is a Conn-Selmer Educational Clinician.

Austin was the 78th president of the American Bandmasters Association and is the current chairman of the board of directors. He is chairman of the National Band Association/William D. Revelli Memorial Band Composition Contest, a member of the Board of Directors of the John Philip Sousa Foundation, and a past board member of the National Band Association, and the Southern Division of MENC: The National Association for Music Education. He is a member of the College Band Directors National Association, Pi Kappa Lambda, Phi Beta Mu, and an honorary member of Kappa Kappa Psi. He is a past-president of the Virginia Music Educators Association.

Dr. Austin is included in Who’s Who In America, Who’s Who In Fine Arts Higher Education, and Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. He is a multiple recipient of the National Band Association’s Citation of Excellence. In 2005 he received the Virginia Commonwealth University School of the Arts Distinguished Achievement Award of Excellence.

He founded and conducts the Greater Richmond Youth Wind Ensemble, and ensemble of the finest high school musicians in the area, and the Commonwealth Winds, an ensemble comprised of Richmond-area teachers and professional performers.

Austin earned a Bachelor of Music Education from Indiana University, a Master of Arts in Music Education from the University of Hawaii, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Music Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He lives in Richmond with his wife, Tracia, and twin sons Joshua and Seth.
GRYWE auditions must be scheduled by signing up for an audition time at: go.vcu.edu/rvabands

Students should prepare a piece that demonstrates both their technical and lyrical playing abilities and also be prepared to play scales and sight-read a short excerpt. Percussionists are only required to audition on one instrument but strong consideration will be given to those who demonstrate proficiency on snare, mallets and timpani. Percussionists must bring their own sticks and mallets; percussion instruments will be provided by VCU.

Auditions will be five minutes in length and will be held in the Singleton Center for the Performing Arts (922 Park Ave.) and in the Freeman High School Band room.

A non-refundable fee of $215 is due at the first rehearsal. Limited partial scholarships are available.

AUDITIONS: Jan. 22*, 4-8 p.m., VCU Music (922 Park Ave.)
Jan. 23, 4-7:30 p.m., Freeman HS Band room
*Percussionists must audition on this date.

REHEARSALS: Mondays starting Feb. 4, 4:30-6:30 p.m. | VCU Concert Hall

CONCERT: Monday, May 13 at 7 p.m. | VCU Concert Hall - free admission

ABOUT THE GRYWE CONDUCTOR
TERRY AUSTIN is Director of Bands and Professor of Music at Virginia Commonwealth University where he oversees all aspects of the band program and teaches courses in conducting, and music education. Under his leadership, the VCU Symphonic Wind Ensemble has earned a reputation for musical excellence and has been invited to perform at professional conferences, including the American Bandmasters Association, MENC, the College Band Directors National Association, and the Virginia Music Educators Association.

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GRHSJB auditions must be scheduled by emailing Prof. García at ajgarcia@vcu.edu. He will provide all details for your audition preparation. A non-refundable fee of $215 is due at the first rehearsal.

AUDITIONS: Jan. 8-9 at VCU’s James W. Black Music Center, Rm. 1003 (1015 Grove Ave.)

REHEARSALS: Sundays beginning Jan. 20, 2 - 4 p.m.

CONCERTS:
Saturday, April 13 at 6:40 p.m. | Trinity HS
Saturday, May 4 at 1 p.m. | VCU’s Vlahcevic Concert Hall (922 Park Ave.)

ABOUT THE GRHSJB DIRECTOR
ANTONIO GARCÍA is a performer, composer/arranger, clinician, educator and author in both instrumental and vocal genres. He is Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies at VCU, where he directs the Jazz Orchestra I and instructs various jazz courses. He is a past nominee for CASE U.S. Professor of the Year. García has performed as trombonist, bass trombonist or pianist with 70 major artists including Ella Fitzgerald, Phil Collins and Mel Tormé and at such venues as Carnegie Hall, Royal Festival Hall and the Montreux, Nice, North Sea, Pori (Finland), New Orleans and Chicago Jazz Festivals. He has performed and taught in Canada, Europe, Australia, the Middle East and South Africa.

A Conn-Selmer clinician/soloist and avid scat-singer, he is Associate Jazz Editor of the International Trombone Association Journal, Secretary of The Midwest Clinic, Advisory Board member of the Brubeck Institute, Past Editor of the International Association for Jazz Education Jazz Education Journal, Past-President of IAJE-IL, and is author of Cutting the Changes and Jazz Improvisation: Practical Approaches to Grading. Visit his website at www.garciamusic.com.

AUDITION SCHEDULING
Please email Prof. García (ajgarcia@vcu.edu) to schedule a GRHSJB audition and/or schedule a GRYWE audition online at go.vcu.edu/rvabands. Complete this form and bring it to your audition. Please fill out a separate form for each audition.

Which group are you auditioning for? ☐ GRHSJB ☐ GRYWE

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________

Phone: (______) __________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________________________

Instrument: (if saxophone, specify alto, tenor and/or baritone):

School: __________________________________________________________

Current Grade: ________________________________

Band Director’s Name: ____________________________________________

Signature: ________________________________________________________

Private Music Teacher’s Name: (if any) __________________________________

Phone: (______) __________________________________________

“I understand that by auditioning, my child is committing to be available for the rehearsal and concert schedule through May 13, 2019, as printed above. I confirm that s/he understands that students who cannot fulfill this commitment to the ensemble should not audition. I also understand that images may be taken of my child for publicity and marketing purposes.”

Parent/Guardian Signature: __________________________________________

QUESTIONS? Email Dr. Austin at tlaustin@vcu.edu or Prof. García at ajgarcia@vcu.edu