

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, offering valuable aspects of a district or All-State band experience in a long-term rehearsal environment.

This program gives Richmond area students the opportunity to work with some of the finest conductors and teachers in the United States. Past guest conductors include composer Timothy Mahr, band clinician and author Ed Lisk, Dennis Zeisler (ODU), Jay Gephart (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 other with similar interests and ideas."
- "I think it is neat that students from so many different backgrounds can come together and communicate with their music."

(cont.)

MENC, the College Band Directors National Association, and the Virginia Music Educators Association. 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 conductors of the Musashino Academia Musicae Wind Ensemble in Tokyo. In 2016 he was appointed as Guest Professor of Guangdong University of Technology in Guangzhou, China. Dr. Austin is a Conn-Selmer Educational Clinician.

He founded and conducts the Greater Richmond Youth Wind Ensemble, an 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.

vcuarts | music RICHMOND'S BANDS

SPRING 2022

GREATER RICHMOND YOUTH WIND ENSEMBLE

Terry Austin, conductor

GREATER RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND

Toby Whitaker, director

go.vcu.edu/rvabands

Virginia Commonwealth University
School of the Arts | Department of Music

922 Park Avenue | P.O. Box 842004
Richmond, VA 23284-2004



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 sightread a short excerpt Percussionists are only required to audition one instrument but strong consideration will be given to those who demonstrate proficiency on the snare, mallets, and timpani. Percussionists must bring their own sticks and mallets; percussion instruments will be provided by VCU.

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

A non-refundable fee of \$225 is due at the first rehearsal. Limited partial scholarships are available.

AUDITIONS:

Jan. 25, 2022 At VCU, 4 - 7 p.m.
Jan. 26, 2022 At VCU, 4 - 7 p.m.
(all percussion should audition on this date)
Jan. 27, 2022 At VCU, 4 - 7 p.m.

REHEARSALS BEGIN: Monday, Feb. 7, 2022, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Concert Hall, Singleton Center

CONCERT: Monday, May 23, 2022 at 6 p.m.
Free to public

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,

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GRHSJB auditions must be scheduled by emailing Prof. Whitaker at: etwhitaker@vcu.edu.

He will provide all details for your audition preparation. **A non-refundable fee of \$225 is due at the first rehearsal.**

AUDITIONS: Jan. 3 - 4 at VCU's James W. Black Music Center, Rm. 1003 (1015 Grove Ave.)

REHEARSALS: Sundays beginning Jan. 16, 2 - 4 p.m.

CONCERTS: Saturday, April 23 at 6:40 p.m. | Trinity HS
Saturday, May 7 at 1 p.m. | Vlahcevic Concert Hall (922 Park Ave.)

ABOUT THE GRHSJB DIRECTOR

TOBY WHITAKER is an Adjunct Professor of Jazz at VCU, where he teaches Improvisation, Jazz Orchestra II, and Small Jazz Ensemble. A trombonist and composer, he earned his Bachelor of Music in Jazz Studies from VCU and his Master of Music in Jazz Performance from Rutgers University, where he studied with Conrad Herwig. Toby toured with the Tommy Dorsey Orchestra under the direction of Buddy Morrow and has performed internationally with the salsa ensemble Bio Ritmo, for which he also composes. With the brass quintet Trombone Paradise, Toby has traveled from San Francisco to Mexico City to London as a part of the Indie Rock group Bon Iver. He has performed at music festivals and venues in New York, Chicago, Puerto Rico, Spain, France, England, Switzerland, Poland, and the Republic of Georgia.

As a composer Toby has written for and led his own big band and orchestrated the compositions of Bio Ritmo for the Richmond Symphony Orchestra. His arrangements have been featured on NPR's Tiny Desk Concert, on WBGO Jazz Public Radio in Newark, New Jersey, and at The Blue Note in New York City. He previously taught at Christopher Newport University.

AUDITION SCHEDULING

Email Prof. Whitaker (etwhitaker@vcu.edu) to schedule a GRHSJB audition and/or schedule a GRYWE audition online at go.vcu.edu/rvabands.

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) _____

I understand that by auditioning, my child is committing to be available for the rehearsal and concert schedule through May 23, 2022, as printed above. I understand that current required protocols include masked personnel and, for aerosol-producing instruments, bell covers. I confirm that she/he understands that students who can not fulfill these commitments 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: taustin@vcu.edu or Prof. Whitaker at: etwhitaker@vcu.edu.