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The Compton Heights Concert Band of St. Louis

Dr. Gregory C. Fox, Conductor

Presents

A Holiday Concert



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Band History

Whether it's an antique clock or a stately old house, perhaps you have felt the sense of satisfaction that comes from restoring and breathing life into some relic of a bygone day. That same preservationist philosophy is the driving force behind the Compton Heights Concert Band of St. Louis and our efforts to promote and perform the fine concert band literature of yesteryear.

The band was organized in 1976 by Band President Harry Swanger, and numbered only 18 members at its first performance. Today the band has grown to include some 70 volunteer, student, and professional musicians from the metropolitan St. Louis area.

Musical Mondays, the band's eight-week summer series of old-fashioned band concerts, held annually since 1980, is held in the Henry Shaw Memorial Bandstand in Tower Grove Park, recently designated a national historic landmark. The band's other popular series, Sunday Serenades, held at Francis Park in south St. Louis, began in 1986. They are now two of the city's favorite musical traditions, attracting over 50,000 listeners annually.

In keeping with the Sousa-style program, each concert features a different soloist. Over the years the band has had the honor of performing with such well-known greats as William Warfield, James Christensen (director of music at Disney World in Florida), Dr. Leonard Smith, Debbye Turner (Miss America 1990), and Arturo Sandoval. In 1988 the band hosted the national convention of the Association of Concert Bands, an occasion marked by Missouri Senate and House Resolutions. Most recently the band has been acclaimed by audiences throughout the State of Missouri under the Missouri Arts Council Touring Program and other sponsors.

Dr. Gregory C. Fox was appointed Conductor of the band in September 1992. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from the State University of New York at Fredonia, and a Master's degree and Doctorate in Music Education from the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. He has been involved with bands ever since his elementary school days in Jamestown, NY. Dr. Fox has studied conducting with such notables as Harry Begian and Carl Topilow. He is also an accomplished tubist, having performed with bands and orchestras in New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Missouri. Dr. Fox is a founding member of the Arch Brass, and has organized and conducted the annual Merry Tuba Christmas concert at the St. Louis Galleria since 1989.

To help finance its many expenses, the Compton Heights Concert Band depends upon individual and corporate donations, concert sponsors' fees, a weekly Bingo, sales of souvenirs, and Bandwagon memberships. Support also comes from the Missouri Arts Council, The Regional Arts Commission, The Arts and Education Council, The Monsanto Fund, and the Clifford Willard Gaylord Foundation.

For more information please call the Band office at 776-2227, or write to the Compton Heights Band of St. Louis at 2335 S. Grand, St. Louis, MO 63104.

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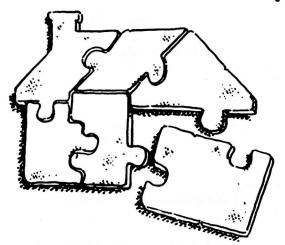
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Backstage Bio

Alexandra Ballet, classically oriented and dedicated to providing a training ground in performing for young talented dancers, strives to bring dancers to a professional performance level. It seeks to cultivate an appreciation of dance as an essential ingredient in the life of the community. This is the second year for its series of school lecture demonstrations, featuring Origami, choreographed by Kevin Milam. Complete with scenic design, costumes and narration, it affords students the opportunity to broaden their horizons by attending a theatre performance. Prior to viewing Origami, the audience is introduced to the Visible Difference, which demonstrates the ballet and modern vocabulary.

Additional pieces choreographed for the 1994 season are by Robert Kelley, as well as Les Sylphides by Marek Kholeva.

Alexandra Ballet was awarded the first ASTRAL Foundation Choreographer's Project Award (1985) granted to the Mid-States Region through the National Association for Regional Ballet and hosted the 1989 Mid-States Regional Ballet Festival in St. Louis.

Alexandra Zaharias, Artistic Director, is founder and director of the Alexandra School of Ballet, which was established in 1949. She is a member of the advisory Board of the National Ballet Achievement Fund and president of the St. Louis chapter of the National Society of Arts and Letters. In 1990 she established a summer dance workshop at the Center for Contemporary Arts. In 1991 she received a Hellenic American Achievement Award.

She has taught ballet at Fontbonne College in Clayton, Missouri. She also directed four seasons of the St. Louis Symphony's holiday concert of The Nutcracker and has choreographed Kinder and Young People's Concerts. For six summers she served as codirector of the Midwestern Music and Art Camp at the University of Kansas, Lawrence. She has served as a dance consultant to the St. Louis Board of Education Shaw Visual and Performing Arts School, on the advisory panel of the St. Louis Regional Arts Commission, and is a dance panelist for the Missouri Arts Council.

Former students have gone on to careers with American Ballet Theatre, Atlanta Ballet, Basel Ballet, Fort Wayne Ballet, Joffrey II, Joffrey Ballet, Milwaukee Ballet, National Ballet of Canada, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Pennsylvania Ballet, Royal Birmingham Ballet, England, Ruth Page International Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, and State Ballet of Missouri, among others.

TubaChristmas set for Saturday, December 11

TubaChristmas is again being presented by the Compton Heights Concert Band at the St. Louis Galleria, Saturday, December 11, 1993, 1:00 PM. Several hundred tuba, baritone and euphonium players will converge at the Galleria's Garden Court, harmoniously playing Christmas carols under the masterful direction of Dr. Gregory C. Fox, conductor of the Compton Heights Concert Band and guest conductor, James Christensen, from Walt Disney Productions.

Everyone who plays tuba, baritone or euphonium is welcome to play. Registration as a player is required. Players should contact Dr. Fox at the band office at 776-2227.

What is TubaChristmas?

Harvey Phillips is the moving force behind TubaChristmas. It began when Phillips assembled tuba players to play carols to honor his teacher, the world famous tuba player, William Bell, who was born on Christmas Day. His efforts were so successful that he formed The Harvey Phillips Foundation to license TubaChristmas nationally, including the December 11, 1993, St. Louis Galleria performance.



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BARITONE SAX John Pierson

TRUMPET
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Charles Duncan
Lars Fox
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Mark Hasenstab
Tom Orear
Joe Poston
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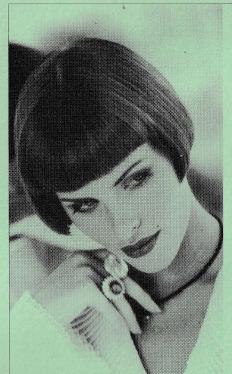
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