



School of
Music

Troy University College of Communication and Fine Arts
and John M. Long School of Music present

Troy University Clarinet Day

Saturday, March 28, 2026
John M. Long School of Music
John Maloy Long Hall

Troy University Clarinet Day 2026

Saturday, March 28, 2026

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.	Registration ~
9:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Artist Recital +
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.	Clarinet Choir Rehearsal *
10:30 – 11:15 a.m.	Clinic- Michael Rowlett *
11:15 – 11:45 a.m.	Artist Recital- Eric Mandat +
11:45 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 – 1:30 p.m.	Artist Recital- Cecilia Kang +
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Clarinet Choir Rehearsal *
2:30 – 3:20 p.m.	Master Class- Eric Mandat +
3:20 – 4:00 p.m.	Clarinet Choir Rehearsal (final run through) *
4:00 – 4:50 p.m.	Master Class- Cecilia Kang +
4:50 – 5:30 p.m.	Break
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.	Final Concert *

To include performances by the Troy University Clarinet Choir, the High School/College Clarinet Day Clarinet Choir, Eric Mandat, Cecilia Kang, J. David Harris, Michael Rowlett, Seungho Choi, and Joshua Choi

~ Event to be held in Long Hall Lobby

+ Events to be held in Long Hall Choral Room

* Events to be held in Long Hall Band Room

**Guest Artist and Faculty Recital
Long Hall – Choral Room – 9:00 A.M.**

- Duets for Two Clarinets (and piano), Op. 8, No. 4
I. Allegro
II. Romanza. Andantino
III. Rondo. Allegretto
Timothy Phillips and Michael Thrasher, clarinets
Yuecheng Lu, piano
Ignance Pleyel
(1757-1831)
arr. David Glazer
pno. arr. H. Maylath
- Nocturne
Michael Rowlett, clarinet
Yuecheng Lu, piano
Jeanne Singer
(1924-2000)
- Sonata for Clarinet and Piano
II. Romanza
J. David Harris, clarinet
Benjamin Crook, piano
Francis Poulenc
(1899-1963)
- Introduction et rondo, Op. 72
Joshua Choi, clarinet
Benjamin Crook, piano
Charles Marie Widor
(1844-1937)
- Blues on “An American in Paris” of G. Gershwin
Seungho Choi, clarinet
Yuecheng Lu, piano
Michele Mangani
(b. 1966)

**Guest Artist Recital
Long Hall – Choral Room – 11:15 A.M.
Eric Mandat, clarinet**

- from *Chiral Symmetries* (2013), for solo clarinet
I. Stars Twinkle, Planets Shine
IV. Origins
VI. The Universe Stops Expanding Briefly to Offer Advice
Eric Mandat
(b. 1957)

Sbrounded Angels (2026), for clarinet and interactive technologies

**Guest Artist Recital
Long Hall – Choral Room – 1:00 P.M.
Cecilia Kang, clarinet**

- Five Bagatelles
I. Prelude
II. Romance
III. Carol
Gerald Finzi
(1901-1956)

IV. Forlana
V. Fughetta

Yuecheng Lu, piano

Canonic Sonata No. 1

Georg Philipp Telemann
(1681-1767)

Ballade

Sang Jin Kim
(b. 1972)

Carpathian Rhapsody

Myroslav Skoryk
(1938-1920)

Benjamin Crook, piano

Final Concert

Long Hall – Band Room – 5:30 P.M.

Finding the Words

I. Five-Dollar Diction

Michael Markowski
(b. 1986)

Troy University Clarinet Choir
Timothy Phillips, conductor

Romance, Op. 67, No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn
(1809-1847)

arr. Arr. Nicolas Baldeyrou

Joshua Choi, J. David Harris, Seungho Choi, clarinets
Michael Rowlett, bass clarinet

Hommage à Carl Maria von Weber

Béla Kovács
(1937-2021)

Eric Mandat, clarinet

Andromeda

Mark Mellits
(b. 1966)

Cecilia Kang, clarinet

Program to be selected from

Pas Redoublé, Op. 86

Camille Saint-Saens
arr. Matt Johnston

Westward Engine

Emily Stuart

Irish Suite

Elliot Del Borgo

I. Kerry Dance

II. Lullaby

III. Irish Washerwoman

The Washington Post

John Philip Sousa
arr. K. Abeling

Troy University Clarinet Studio

Gabe Albritton, *Panama City, FL*
Ezra Carnley, *Jack, AL*
Sydney Cook, *Prattville, AL*
Kylie Drinnon, *Niceville, FL*
Erin Espinoza, *Enterprise, AL*
Hannah Guy, *Holtville, AL*
Savanna Lambert, *Enterprise, AL*
Jamarcus Leslie, *Atmore, AL*

Morgan Mitchell, *Huntsville, AL*
Brian Moore, *Lakeland, FL*
Alexandra Scott, *Bainbridge, GA*
Lily Kate Stephens, *Niceville, FL*
Emily Stuart, *Enterprise, AL*
Kayla Towe, *Baker, FL*
Julian Wallace, *Foley, AL*

Biographies

Timothy Phillips is Professor of Clarinet at the John M. Long School of Music at Troy University in Troy, Alabama. Since joining the Troy University faculty in 2006, he founded Troy University Clarinet Day, which brings high school, college, and professional clarinetists together at the John M. Long School of Music for performances and master classes each spring. Timothy is also creator and host of a weekly program on Troy University Public Radio WTSU called “Clarinet Corner,” and a Buffet Crampon, Vandoren, and BG Performing Artist. Timothy has performed at the College Music Society National Conference, National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors National Conference, Percussive Arts Society International Convention, Alabama Music Educators Conferences, and he has appeared as both scholarly presenter and performer at past International ClarinetFests®. He has also performed and given master classes at Clarimania in Wrocław, Poland. Timothy Phillips lives in Montgomery, Alabama with his daughter Violet, son Evan, and two big ol’ dogs.

Michael Thrasher currently serves as Dean of the College of Arts & Humanities and Professor of Music at Troy University, where he leads a diverse college of 178 faculty and staff and approximately 1,100 students across the fine arts, humanities, and communication arts fields. Over his career, Thrasher has also served in faculty and administrative roles at Florida State University, the University of Texas at Tyler, and North Dakota State University.

A recipient of a Fulbright International Education Administrators Award to Germany, Thrasher’s scholarly work appears in the *Journal of Performing Arts Leadership in Higher Education*, *Planning for Higher Education*, *The Department Chair*, *NACWPI Journal*, *The Clarinet*, and *Saxophone Symposium*. He has performed or presented at many conventions of the International Clarinet Association, including festivals in Ohio, Georgia, Sweden, Spain, and Belgium. He currently serves as Editor of *The Clarinet*, the Association’s official journal.

A recognized advocate for artist health and wellness, Thrasher has also published in *Medical Problems of Performing Artists* and the *Journal of Band Research*. He is Associate Editor of the forthcoming *Oxford Handbook of Musician Health Advocacy* (Oxford University Press) and was a contributing organizer of the first Global Summit on Occupational Health in Music at Johns Hopkins University.

Deeply devoted to service and the advancement of higher education, Thrasher received the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award in 2024, honoring individuals who “act as humble servants, placing service to others before self-interest.” He has served on the boards of both the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra and the East Texas Symphony Orchestra, is active in faith-based service as

Minister of Music at Immanuel Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Florida, and serves nationally as a Visiting Evaluator for the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM).

Thrasher holds both the Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees from the University of North Texas, and a Bachelor of Music Education from Northwestern State University. He also earned a Certificate in Fund Development from Rice University's Glasscock School of Continuing Studies and a Certificate in Crisis Leadership in Higher Education from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Michael Rowlett is Associate Professor of Clarinet and Music Literature at The University of Mississippi, where he has taught since 2002. Praised for his "extraordinary richness of tone" (Fanfare 36:5), he has performed widely as a soloist and chamber musician both nationally and internationally, including invited recitals in Nashville, Tennessee; Vancouver, British Columbia; Aberystwyth, Wales; and a performance of William Bolcom's Clarinet Concerto at The University of North Carolina. He has appeared regularly with the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, and his CD *Close to Home*, released on the Albany record label, features the music of a diverse group of contemporary American composers. He holds a D.M. in clarinet performance from The Florida State University and degrees from The University of Iowa and The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His teachers include Frank Kowalsky, Maurita Murphy Mead, Freddy Arteel and Donald Oehler.

J. David Harris has won critical acclaim for his elegant and expressive playing. As the principal clarinetist with Sinfonia da Camera, Illinois Symphony Orchestra, and the Champaign-Urbana Symphony, Harris combines technical mastery, depth of musicality, and a solid ensemble style to his playing. In addition, he has been featured as a soloist, performing many of the standard concerti by Weber, Mozart, Nielsen, and Bernstein among others.

Professor Harris joined the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign music faculty in 1990. Prior to that, he served on the faculties of Louisiana State University, Kent State University, and Interlochen Arts Academy. Celebrating his thirtieth year as a university Professor, Harris' success as a teacher is found in his students who hold positions in universities and orchestras across the country.

During the summers, he has performed and taught at many music festivals including Sewanee Summer Music Center in Tennessee, Peninsula Music Festival in Wisconsin, Great Music West in Wyoming and Ohio Light Opera in Wooster, Ohio. From 1973 to 1983 Harris performed over 100 concerts with the Cleveland Orchestra under such notable conductors as Lorin Maazel, Pierre Boulez, James Levine and Eric Leinsdorf in some of the world's greatest venues such as Carnegie Hall in New York, Severance Hall in Cleveland, Symphony Hall in Boston, and the grand opening ceremonies at the Sydney Opera House in Australia. Harris can be heard as the bass clarinetist in the Telarc recording of Stravinsky's Rite of Spring with the Cleveland Orchestra, conducted by Lorin Maazel. Under the baton of Frederick Fennell, Mr. Harris is the featured first clarinetist on the highly acclaimed recordings of the Cleveland Symphonic Winds.

In the summer of 2001, Harris served as the president of the Clarinet Jury for the Juenesse Musicales International Clarinet Competition in Bucharest, Romania and performed a solo recital at the American Cultural Center. Harris is an active member in several clarinet societies and has been a featured performer in national and international venues for the International Clarinet Society Congress, Clarinetwerk International, and the International Double Reed Society. In the summer of 2006 Harris was a featured soloist at the International Clarinet Association's ClarFest in Atlanta, Ga. As a member of the Illinois Quartet, along with colleagues, bassoonist Timothy McGovern, flutist

Jonathan Keeble, and oboist John Dee, Mr. Harris toured the southeastern United States, South Korea, and Spain during the 2006 season, giving a series of master classes and concerts.

Clarinetist **Joshua Choi**, recently appointed 2nd/Eb Clarinetist of the San Francisco Opera, has emerged as a compelling presence on international stages, earning top prizes in the International Clarinet Association and Camerata Artists International, also performing in the Ghent International and ARD International competitions.

He served as Principal Clarinetist of the New York Youth Symphony from 2021-2023, during which time the ensemble won a Grammy Award for Best Orchestral Performance in 2022, including the world premiere of Jessie Montgomery's *Soul Force*. In demand as an orchestral musician, he has substituted with orchestras including The Metropolitan Opera and New World Symphony. Praised for artistry that combines refinement and creativity, Joshua continues to build a career marked by both musical versatility and a passion for sharing music at the highest level.

Recent highlights include a performance of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto at the Aspen Music Festival with the Aspen Conducting Academy Orchestra and his Carnegie Hall recital debut as an artist of the Korea Music Foundation in November 2024. Now a fourth-year undergraduate at The Juilliard School, he continues his studies under the mentorship of renowned clarinetist Charles Neidich. Joshua is a proud recipient of the Kovner Fellowship.

Seungho Choi is a clarinetist and music educator based in the Tri-State area. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Performance from Hanyang University in South Korea and completed a postgraduate specialization as a concert soloist at the Royal Conservatorium in Belgium. He later received his Master of Music degree from SUNY Purchase.

Choi was awarded First Prize in the 1988 Korean National Young Artist Competition. He also won First Prize in the Hanyang University Concerto Competition in 1996 and the SUNY Purchase Concerto Competition in 2002. Throughout his career, he has performed with ensembles including the Seoul Wind Ensemble, the Royal Conservatorium Wind Orchestra, and the Hanyang University Orchestra. He has also been an active chamber musician, performing with clarinet ensembles such as the Kansai Clarinet Quartet in Japan, the Boeykens Clarinet Choir in Belgium, and the Artemis Ensemble in New York. Choi has given numerous performances across Korea, the United States, Japan, and Europe.

Currently, as a member of Quartet Piri and concertmaster of the New York Wind Orchestra, he serves as Music Director of the Träumerei Clarinet Ensemble, and is an ensemble coach for the New York Youth Symphony Chamber Music Program.

Benjamin Crook currently teaches at Troy University, where he serves as Assistant Professor of Collaborative Piano. He previously taught as faculty at Wallace Community College and Bluffton University. As an active music teacher and judge, Benjamin has taught masterclasses in China and the United States. Additionally, he frequently serves as an adjudicator for various piano-related events in the southeastern United States.

A graduate from Florida State University's doctoral performance program, Benjamin maintains an active repertoire of both classical and contemporary works, performing regularly in both China and the United States. As an advocate for new music, he has commissioned piano work from Adam O'Dell and has performed music from composers including Samuel Adams, Mikhail Johnson, Matthew Ramage, Traci Mendel, and most recently, Carl Vollrath.

Yuecheng Lu has performed in China, France, and throughout the United States. She holds an extensive repertoire for both instrumental and vocal literature, including a focus primarily on Asian composers, including Yuko Uebayashi, Sang Jin Kim, and Jin Ta. Yuecheng has worked with various guest artists such as Joe Alessi, Anton Nel, Michel Montagues and Yuko Uebayashi.

A sought after guest artist and clinician, she has given performances and masterclasses in China, Germany, France, as well as across the continental United States. Her love for collaborative musical settings and advocate of new music has led her to serve as pianist with several active professional chamber music groups, including LuSidenstricker Duo, which she founded, The Rio Grande Valley Chamber Music Society, and serves as a pianist for the Texas State Solo-Ensemble Contest.

She has presented on topics such as Performance Anxiety, Imposter Syndrome, Works during World War II, and Selected Works by Asian composers. Yuecheng has been invited to perform at various summer workshops and festivals in the United States as well as Europe, including Texas Flute Society, Atlanta Flute Club, La Melodieuse, All South Honor Band, South Flute Festival, Mid South Flute, and USM Trombone Day. Her upcoming events will include: CD release in Early 2024 that will be featuring works by Asian Composer, recitals in various location throughout China and the United States, feature as a guest artist in France and Germany, lecture/performance at various festivals in United States, and a new premiere written exclusively for LuSidenstricker Duo.

In 2023, Yuecheng gave the US premiere of Yuko Uebayashi Deuxieme Sonate, Jin Ta The Girls from Alishan Mountains, and Blaz Pucihar Prima Sonata.

Yuecheng Lu holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Collaborative piano from the University of Southern Mississippi, a Master of Music in Piano Performance from the University of South Florida, and a Bachelor of Music in Music Education from Xi'an Conservatory of Music.

Jerianne Larson serves as Assistant Professor of Music and Assistant Director of Bands at Troy University. Prior to this appointment, she served as Interim Director of Bands at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley where she conducted the Wind Orchestra and Symphonic Winds, taught undergraduate and graduate courses in conducting, undergraduate and graduate wind band literature, and oversaw the bands area in addition to assisting with the inaugural marching band program. An advocate for new music and innovative programming, she commissioned and premiered several new works for band, hosted numerous guest soloists, and led two separate recording projects with the Wind Orchestra.

During her doctoral teaching fellowship, Larson served as the graduate conducting studio coordinator and Wind Studies librarian for the Wind Studies department at the University of North Texas where she conducted the Concert Band, guest conducted the North Texas Wind Symphony, the North Texas Wind Orchestra, and the North Texas Wind Ensemble, was Graduate Director for the Green Brigade Marching Band, and taught courses in conducting. During this time, she was also involved with the Lone Star Wind Orchestra as rehearsal assistant and guest conductor.

Larson is an active guest conductor and clinician and holds professional and honorary memberships in a variety of music organizations at the state, national, and international levels including TMEA, CBDNA, PMEA, NAFME, TBA, NBA, WASBE, WBDI, Pi Kappa Lambda, and Mu Phi Epsilon. Larson has been invited to present at several conferences including the 2022 PMEA Conference, the 2023 Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic, and the 2025 TMEA Conference where her presentation, "Empowering and Mentoring the Next Generation of Female Band Directors," discusses the ever changing music education landscape and the best ways to navigate mentoring the upcoming generation of band directors. Additionally, she presented at the 2025 CBDNA National Conference

where her research regarding original wind band works commissioned from female composers, was well received. She has also been featured on the podcast, Music Ed Insights, discussing similar topic materials. Larson had the distinct honor of being selected into the prestigious U.S. Army Band “Pershing's Own” Conductors Workshop where she had the privilege of leading the U.S. Army Concert Band. In addition to rehearsing the ensemble, Larson conducted the band in concert at the Schlesinger Concert Hall in Alexandria, VA.

A native of Pennsylvania, Larson received a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in wind conducting from the University of North Texas, where she studied with Eugene Migliaro Corporon and Dr. Andrew Trachsel. She received a Master of Music degree in wind conducting from Messiah University, studying under Dr. Bradley Genevros, and a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Westminster College (PA) where she studied with Dr. R. Tad. Greig. Larson served for nine years as a public high school band director in western Pennsylvania and her ensembles consistently earned Superior ratings at assessment and earned a special invitation to perform at the state capitol.

Cecilia Kang is associate professor of music in clarinet at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.

Praised for her “effortless” and “ethereal” clarinet playing (The Clarinet Journal), Kang is an internationally acclaimed clarinetist, educator, scholar, adjudicator, and curator. Since making her concerto debut at the age of 16, she has earned prestigious prizes from the Canadian Music Competition, Concours Orchestre Symphonique de Montréal, International Clarinet Association, New Music USA, Louisiana Board of Regents, and Canada Council for the Arts.

A passionate advocate for neurodiversity in music education, Kang has presented over 100 master classes and lectures worldwide, including at the Milan Conservatory (Italy), Krzysztof Penderecki Academy (Poland), National Taiwan University of Arts, Yonsei University (South Korea), Central Conservatory of Music (China), and University of Toronto (Canada).

In addition to her regular appearances at ClarinetFest, the Midwest Clinic, and the Texas Music Educators Association Clinic, Kang’s scholarly and educational contributions have been published in Nineteenth-Century Music Review, The Clarinet Journal, and the ToneBase Online Platform. She has also served as an adjudicator for the National Endowment for the Arts, International Clarinet Association, and Vandoren Emerging Artist Competition.

Throughout her career, Kang has initiated numerous innovative community-building projects. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she founded the Silver Linings Initiative, hosting 25 virtual panel discussions with leading clarinetists, educators, and arts leaders. In 2023, she curated the groundbreaking Han and Heung Festival at Louisiana State University, celebrating the cultural resilience of the Korean and African American diasporas through music and dialogue.

Kang holds degrees from the University of Michigan (D.M.A.), University of Southern California (M.M.), and University of Toronto (B.M.). She has taught at Louisiana State University, Furman University, and North Dakota State University. She is a Vandoren and Buffet Crampon Performing Artist Clinician.

Eric Mandat enjoys an extremely diverse performance career as a soloist and chamber musician. He tours regularly as a concert artist, premiering and performing his works throughout the world, and at international festivals in Europe, Asia, South America, and the United States. For 15 seasons he was a member of the Chicago Symphony's MusicNOW ensemble, performing under eminent composer/conductors Pierre Boulez, Esa-Pekka Salonen, and George Benjamin, among others. As

an improviser, Eric was a member of Tone Road Ramblers, an eclectic sextet dedicated to free improvisation exploration, for more than 25 years. He continues to perform regularly in solo and small group improvisation contexts. Eric's ongoing solo improvisation projects with live electronics have received wide acclaim at performances throughout the United States and in Europe. The MIT Computer Music Journal lauded Eric's "ebullient curiosity...infused with decades of thoughtful improvisational practice, resulting in another unforgettable performance" in its review of Eric's improvisation presentation at the 2019 MOXsonic Experimental Arts Festival.

Eric has received numerous honors and awards for his work as a composer/performer, including a 2021 Artist Fellowship Award for Composition from the Illinois Arts Council. Eric has been awarded more than 25 artist residencies at the Ragdale Foundation and at Brush Creek Center for the Arts. His recent work *Parallel Histories: an Excursion* for two clarinetists and wind ensemble was premiered in June, 2016 by The President's Own Marine Band at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., with two of his former students, Jay Niepoetter and Jihoon Chang, soloists. Eric has taught at Southern Illinois University Carbondale since 1981, where he is currently Visiting Professor of Clarinet and Distinguished Scholar. Eric was the recipient of the 1999 Southern Illinois University Outstanding Scholar Award, the university's highest honor for research/creative work. A dedicated and in-demand teacher, Eric has presented recitals, master classes, and lectures on extended performance techniques at more than 130 conservatories and universities around the world, and he regularly appears as guest artist at clarinet-specific events throughout the United States.

Eric received his degrees from the University of North Texas, the Yale School of Music, and the Eastman School of Music.

Eric Mandat is a Buffet Crampon USA Performing Artist and Clinician. He is also very involved with the SIU Clarinet Studio and Clarinet Choirs.



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Troy University Clarinet Day 2026 is dedicated to Katelyn Hawkins