

The American Band College
at the Crate

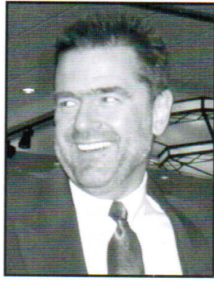
The Wright Night



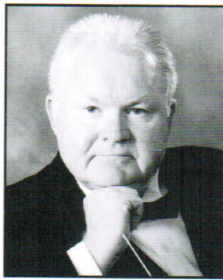
Gladys and Al Wright

Bruce Dinkins • Ralph Hultgren
Mike Bankhead • Allen Vizzutti

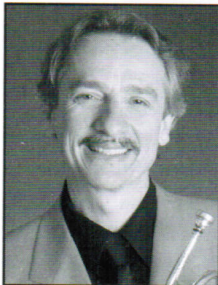
Thursday, June 26, 2008
Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater
Medford, Oregon



Ralph Hultgren is Director of Pre-Tertiary Studies at the Griffith University Queensland Conservatorium. A well-known composer of band music, he is a two-time winner of Yamaha's Most Outstanding Composition Award at the Australian Band and Orchestra Clinic. In 2005, he was presented with the prestigious International Award at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago. He travels throughout the world as a guest conductor and clinician. He has been a featured composer/conductor at our Western International Band Clinic on three occasions. This is his fourth appearance as a faculty member of the American Band College.



Bruce Dinkins is in his eighth year at James Bowie High School in Austin, Texas. Bruce previously taught in Irmo, South Carolina and North Gwinnett High School, Georgia State University and Emory University. His bands have appeared at Bands of America, numerous divisional MENC conferences and the Midwest Band Clinic in Chicago. His bands have been grand champions of the Smokey Mountain Music Festival and placed first at the National Adjudicators Invitational on four separate occasions. He is an elected member of the prestigious American Bandmasters Association and has appeared at both WIBC and ABC several times in recent years.



Allen Vizzutti Equally at home in a multitude of musical idioms, Allen Vizzutti has visited 30 countries and every state in the union to perform with artists including Chick Corea, Doc Severinsen, The NBC Tonight Show Band, the Airmen of Note, the Army Blues, Chuck Mangione, Woody Herman, Japan's NHK Symphony Orchestra and the Kosei Wind Orchestra. He has appeared as a guest soloist with symphony orchestras in Japan, Germany, and throughout the United States. He has given solo performances at the Hollywood Bowl, Carnegie Hall, Newport Jazz Festival, Banff Center for the Performing Arts, Montreaux Jazz Festival, the Charles Ives Center and the Lincoln Center in New York. As Artist in Residence, Allen has taught at the Eastman School of Music, the Banff Center for the Performing Arts, the University of Washington, Kansas State University and West Texas State University. The Allen Vizzutti Trumpet Method, published by Alfred Music, has become a standard work for trumpet study worldwide.



Mike Bankhead Retired Commander and Conductor of the United States Air Force Band, Col. Bankhead is now Chairman of the Department of Music at Sam Houston State University in Texas. Prior to this appointment he served as conductor of the Green Bay (Wisconsin) Symphony Orchestra. He has also been active in extensive development of international music events in South America and appears frequently as a guest conductor and clinician. He is an elected member of the

American Bandmasters Association. In addition to appearances at Western International Band Clinic, he serves as a member of the graduate faculty of the American Band College at Southern Oregon University.



Gladys Stone Wright grew up in Oregon and received bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Oregon. She began teaching in Elmira and after her marriage to Al Wright moved to Indiana. There her Otterbein High School Band was selected for and performed at the Midwest Band Clinic in 1960. Later her Harrison High School received the Gold Medal at the World Music Contest. She was the first woman elected to the prestigious American Bandmasters Association

and is the founding president of the Women Band Directors International. She and Al were on the faculty of the American Band College in 1989, its first year and returned again in 2005. On this evening's concert she will conduct "The Klaxon March" by famous composer and close friend, Henry Fillmore.



Al Wright began his teaching career at Miami High School in Florida where his band was selected to perform at the famous Midwest Band Clinic in 1951. He then moved to Purdue University where his marching band, Golden Girl and the World's Largest Bass Drum became famous. The Purdue bands performed at Radio City Music Hall and in the Rose Bowl. He was founder or co-founder of important band organizations such as the National Band Association, the American School Band Directors Association, the McDonald's Band

and the John Philip Sousa Foundation. He is past president of the American Bandmasters Association and for over 30 years operated the United State Collegiate Wind Band European Concert Tours with wife Gladys. This evening Al will conduct Henry Fillmore's "Rolling Thunder March" with ABC, which has been proud to help him celebrate his 92nd birthday.



— Program —

Joshua Ralph Hultgren
AMERICAN PREMIERE
Ralph Hultgren, Conductor

Ave Maria Franz Biebl
arr. Robert C. Camerson

Tulsa Don Gillis
arr. Maurice Ford
Bruce Dinkins, Conductor

Legend P. I. Tchaikovsky
arr. Ralph Hultgren
Ralph Hultgren, Conductor

American Jazz Suite Allen Vizzutti
Allen Vizzutti, Trumpet Soloist
Mike Bankhead, Conductor

The Klaxon Henry Fillmore
arr. Frederick Fennell
Gladys Wright, Conductor



— **Intermission** —

Dancing at Stonehenge Anthony Suter
Bruce Dinkins, Conductor

Jessie's Well Ralph Hultgren

Listen Ralph Hultgren
Ralph Hultgren, Conductor

Ode for Trumpet Alfred Reed

Carnival of Venice arr. Del Staigers
Allen Vizzutti, Trumpet Soloist
Mike Bankhead, Conductor

Incantation and Dance John Barnes Chance
Bruce Dinkins, Conductor

Rolling Thunder Henry Fillmore
arr. Andrew Glover
Al Wright, Conductor

COMBINED BANDS
William Tell Overture Gioachino Rossini
arr. Cassey/M. McKee
Mike Bankhead, Conductor

The American Band College of Southern Oregon University

Established in 1989 as a summer workshop for school band directors, the American Band College is now in its twentieth year. In 1992, a masters degree program was implemented in which 6 candidates enrolled. Today, there are nearly 250 band directors from more than 40 states and Canada enrolled in this Southern Oregon University masters program. This summer nearly 50 will complete the degree requirements bringing the total number of graduates in the first 15 classes to 458.

The teaching faculty for ABC includes 24 of the world's finest teachers, conductors, and composers. Each summer a new faculty is presented so that attendees are exposed to the expertise of more than 60 teachers during their 3 summers in Ashland. Local faculty include Scott McKee (Managing Director), Paul Kassulke (Director of Operations, 1994 ABC grad) and Max McKee (ABC Executive Director). ABC Graduates on the staff include Cathi Leibinger (Florida 1999), Ted Burton (Oregon 2000), Elizabeth Lonergan (Oregon 2002), Jay Jones (California 1998), Matthew Arau (Colorado 2003), Steve Accatino (California 1995), Marianne Robison (Oregon 1996) and Tracy Wright (Georgia 2004). Nel McKee (Financial Manager). Additional operations staff include Kay Kassulke (Special Services) and Angel McDonald (ABC Center for Research).

When candidates first enter the program (95 new students this year), the American Band College faculty administers an extensive entrance exam measuring 40 areas of teaching (instrument fingerings, embouchure development, percussion instruments and techniques, conducting, band literature and many others). From those results each of the candidates develops a course of study that concentrates only on his or her 7 to 20 areas of weakness. This includes annual computerized exams, video assessments and the completion of 6 special thesis projects.

During their on-campus time each summer, candidates attend more than 70 sessions (covering many facets of band directing) while playing 3 hours a day in the ABC Directors' Bands. In these ensembles, candidates sightread more than 75 new compositions and also prepare 35 compositions for the two major public performances under 8 guest conductors and 2 world-renowned soloists. This year over 100 second and third year masters candidates serve as preparation conductors for the guest composers and directors. This is part of the American Band College evaluation process at Southern Oregon University.

Guest conductors for this year's Ginger Rogers Craterian Theater Concert include Bruce Dinkins (Texas), Ralph Hultgren (Australian composer), Mike Bankhead (U.S. Air Force retired), Al Wright (National Band Association founder) and Gladys Wright (Women Band Directors International founder). Allen Vizzutti (trumpet) will be performing as our guest soloist.

The ABC Directors' Band also participates in the Ashland Fourth of July parade and then presents a two-and-a-half hour Fireworks Concert at Ashland High Football Stadium beginning at 8:00 p.m. (pre-concert music and special activities begin at 7:00 p.m.) Guest conductors for this year's July 4th concert include Robert W. Smith (American composer), Robert Ponto (University of Oregon Director of Bands), Cynthia Hutton (SOU Director of Bands) and Tim Lautzenheiser (ABC grad faculty and Master of Ceremonies). Our Guest soloist is the renowned tuba virtuoso, Patrick Sheridan, from Arizona State University.