



BRASS BAND
CENTRAL
ILLINOIS

AND DR. SHARON HUFF,
MUSIC DIRECTOR,
PRESENT

RHYTHM & BRASS

*Featuring Dr. Anne McNamara,
cornet soloist*

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2026
7:00PM**

Center for the Performing Arts
Illinois State University
351 S. School St., Normal, IL

PROGRAM

In the Mood.....Joe Garland
arr. Sandy Smith

Zelda.....Percy Code
Featuring Dr. Anne McNamara, Cornet

Rhythm and Blues.....Philip Sparke

Serenade.....Derek Bourgeois

Blessed Assurance.....arr. Stephen Bulla
Featuring Dr. Anne McNamara, Cornet,
Flugelhorn, and Trumpet

Intermission

Let's Face the Music and Dance.....Irving Berlin
arr. Goff Richards

Sugar Blues.....Clarence Williams
arr. John Howarth
Featuring Dr. Anne McNamara, Josh Mobley,
and Lauren Cancio, Cornet

Birdland.....Josef Zawinul
arr. Philip Sparke

Closely Dancing.....Arturo Sandoval
arr. Tom Fatten
Featuring Cassandra Black, Euphonium

Saints on Parade.....arr. Kevin Norbury

Phoenix from *War of the Worlds*.....Peter Graham

BRASS BAND OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS

Dr. Sharon Huff, Music Director

E♭ Cornet

Brandon Czubachowski
Josh Mobley

B♭ Cornet

*Kelly Rackauskas
Sherman Lewis
*Gabe Myers
David Zehr
*Margaret Mills
Lauren Cancio
David Osenga
Tom Fatten
Mark Smith
Laurie Smudzinski
Grace Myers

Repiano Cornet

*Josh Myers

Flugelhorn

Myles Singleton

E♭ Alto Horn

Michele Carnahan
Kristi Lewis
Ann Gore
Barbara Hutchins

Baritone

Laura Ramseyer
*Bob Stadsholt
Maggie Durbin

Euphonium

Cassandra Black
Joe Rhykerd
Jacob Wissmiller

Trombone

Michael Archer
*Laurel Passantino
Stan Cain

Bass Trombone

*Jim Wellwood

E♭ Tuba

*Robby Pratt
Mary Estell

B♭ Tuba

Ryne Dresbach
Travis Atchison
Anne Griffin

Percussion

-*Gordon Warren
Tony Corpus
Genaro Cantu
Mike Shifflet

**Denotes Board Member*

-Denotes Band Librarian

**Sean Breast*

**Mary Jo Douglass*

The Brass Band of Central Illinois would like to acknowledge the Mirza/Arts & Culture Grant from the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation, which made this concert possible. We would also like to thank Michele Carnahan, Bloomington Junior High School, The Music Shoppe, Laura Myers, and Mark Coons. Most importantly, thank YOU for attending our concerts, supporting our music, and giving generously of your time and money to help make our organization successful. While we perform concerts throughout Illinois, we especially love the audience in Bloomington/Normal and graciously appreciate the enthusiastic following and support we have gained.

Thank you again!

ABOUT OUR SOLOISTS



ANNE MCNAMARA is Associate Professor of Trumpet at Illinois State University where her duties include teaching applied trumpet and performing in the ISU faculty brass quintet. She has also served as Associate Director of the School of Music. Dr. McNamara regularly performs with Sinfonia de Camera, the Champaign Urbana Symphony, the Heartland Festival Orchestra, and as solo flugelhorn with the Athena Brass Band. She was also recently elected to the Board of Directors of the International Trumpet Guild.

An avid supporter of new music, Anne actively pursues the commission and performance of new works such as her recent commissions tied to social justice causes such as *Wronged Notes* by Stefania de Kenessey and *Thoughts and Prayers* by Dr. Roy Magnuson. Her 2019 album, *A Winter's Night*, features premiere recordings of several new works and is available on all streaming platforms. Recently, Anne performed as a soloist with the Athena Brass Band at the 2025 International Women's Brass Conference and was a faculty member and soloist at the International Trumpet Festival in Corfu, Greece.



CASSANDRA BLACK

Cassandra is a native of Michigan and first started playing euphonium in 6th grade. She graduated from Interlochen Arts Academy and then went on to the University of North Texas where she studied euphonium performance with Brian Bowman. She also plays with the Bloomington Normal Community Concert Band, Al's Pals Polka Band and has recently joined the 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band. In her free time she enjoys spending time with her dog Lilly and watching movies with her husband Nic.

Photo by Mark Coons

ABOUT THE BBCI



The Brass Band of Central Illinois was formed in 2004 to actively promote the cultural awareness and tradition of brass bands. It also provides a musical outlet for brass players who enjoy the unique sound and instrumentation of brass band music. Based in Bloomington as a non-profit organization, the band is dedicated to providing concerts that are both entertaining and educational. Performing a wide variety of music, the band offers indoor concerts in April/May and December, as well as outdoor concerts every summer. All of our concerts are free and fully accessible to the public, with no admission fee or ticket required.

Our membership is composed of volunteer musicians from all walks of life including current and retired band directors, employees of State Farm Insurance, an attorney, a civil engineer, a Dept. of Homeland Security employee, a wine sommelier, and a former railroad engineer. Many of our members reside in Bloomington/Normal, but others travel from Peoria, LaSalle, Urbana, Monticello, Gridley, Morton, and Pontiac in order to rehearse and perform with the band.

Additional Soloists



Josh Mobley



Myles Singleton



Lauren Cancio

Photography by Mark Coons



**Thank you to all those who have
donated to BBCI (since April 1, 2025):**

Chris Adelman	Gerald & Carolyn Kukuck
Rich & Cindy Archer	Chris Lord
In Memory of Augy Augspurger	Kent & Karen Meister
Gerald Bersche	Gretchen Monti
Steven Brown	Richard & Barbara Nielsen
Harlan Brucker	Claire & Bob Passantino
Anita Carney	Laurel Passantino
Char Fesler	John & Paula Pratt
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Nathan Jennings Family	Char Talkington
Patricia Johnson	Greg & Joyce Topping
Marilyn Kammler	Larry & Lurinda Venezia
Duane & Rhoda Kolbus	Anonymous

If you enjoyed tonight's concert, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the band to help us sustain our performances and keep them fresh, exciting, and free of charge. The Brass Band of Central Illinois is fortunate to be funded entirely by donations and grants.



Donations may be made online
via the QR code or by mail:
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