

**THE PERCUSSION STUDIO
AT
MESSIAH UNIVERSITY
PRESENTS:**

2026

PERCUSSION

Symposium

FEATURED CLINICIANS

SCOTT BROWN, DIRECTOR OF PERCUSSION, DICKERSON MS

AARON TRUMBORE, OWNER, ARTIFACT PERCUSSION

DAVID LU, ASSOC. PRINCIPAL TIMPANIST/PERCUSSIONIST,
SHANGHAI PHILHARMONIC

MIKE RAMSEY, BROADWAY PERCUSSIONIST



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

MAY 2ND, 2026
10:00AM

HIGH CENTER FOR WORSHIP AND THE
PERFORMING ARTS, PARMER HALL
MESSIAH UNIVERSITY
FREE ADMISSION

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

9:30am

Doors Open

10:00am

East Pennsboro JV Percussion Ensemble

Coleman Lidle, Director

10:30am

Messiah University MS Percussion Institute

Dr. Erik Forst, Director

11:00am

East Pennsboro Varsity Percussion Ensemble

Coleman Lidle, Director

12:00pm

Lunch

1:00pm

FACULTY SHOWCASE RECITAL

Featuring:

David Lu

Aaron Trumbore

Mike Ramsey

Erik Forst

and Messiah University Students

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

2:15pm

Shippensburg Area HS Percussion Ensemble
Morgan Feick, Director

2:45pm

Mechanicsburg HS Percussion Ensemble
Ben Goldsboro, Director

3:15pm

Upper Dublin HS Percussion Ensemble
David Lu, Director

3:45pm

Linganore High School Percussion Ensemble
Matthew Hodge & Lindsey Seiver, Directors

4:25pm

Messiah University Honors Percussion Ensemble
Dr. Erik Forst, Director

5:00pm

Featured Performance

Messiah University Percussion Ensemble
Dr. Erik Forst, Director

CLINIC SCHEDULE

Students attending one of each clinic plus the 1pm featured clinic will receive 5 extra raffle tickets

Session 1

10:00am-10:45am

Session 2

11:00am-11:45am

Session 3

2:15pm-3:00pm

Session 4

3:15pm-4:00pm

The Timpanists Toolbox:

Different Strokes for Different Folks

David Lu

H132

Accessible Accessories

Aaron Trumbore

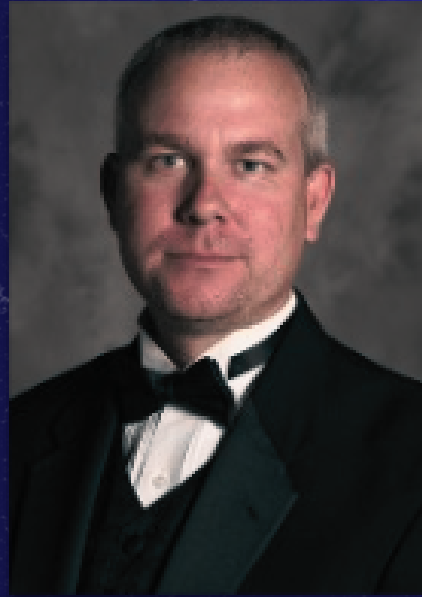
H024

Cross-Training for the Drummer/Percussionist

Mike Ramsey

H046

FEATURED CLINICIAN



Scott Brown is the Assistant Band Director at Dickerson M.S. and Percussion Coordinator for the Bands of America Summer Camp Concert Band Division. He is also co-Director of the North Georgia Percussion Camp and Atlanta Percussion Symposium and serves on the PAS Education Committee.

Through his career working with the Lassiter and Walton High School Bands, Scott has been fortunate to be part of 2 Bands of America National Championships, numerous BOA Regional Championships, 2 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parades, 2 Tournament of Roses Parades, as well as performances for the Georgia Music Educators Association (5x), The Midwest Clinic (3x), and the Percussive Arts Society International Convention. The Dickerson M.S. Percussion Ensemble has performed and presented clinic/performances for the GMEA Conference (4x), The Midwest Clinic (3x), PASIC (3x), the MFA National Percussion Festival (4x), and was named "National Winner" in the 2023 Mark of Excellence/National Percussion Ensemble Honor's Project. The Dickerson ensemble has presented "World Premier" performances of four pieces commissioned for the group with two more in process for this year. Mr. Brown served as percussion arranger and consultant for Beatrix Drum & Bugle Corps from The Netherlands for four years winning the Drum Corps Netherlands and Drum Corps Europe "High Percussion" Awards in 2010.

Scott has served as an adjudicator for competitions throughout the United States, Europe, Asia, and South America and presented clinics for The Midwest Clinic, PASIC, MEA conferences in Georgia, Texas, and Ontario and at several universities and international events. He is co-author of Field Level and composer of Kumi-Daiko, both published by Row-Loff Productions, and has articles published in Percussive Notes, Halftime, PAS Educators' Companion, and School Band & Orchestra magazines. He is featured on the "Snare Drummer's Toolbox" DVD and in interviews for TV and Radio in The Netherlands, Colombia, and Malaysia.

CLINICIANS



David Lu is the Associate Principal Timpanist & Percussionist with the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra in China as well as the Principal Percussionist of the Bay Atlantic Symphony in New Jersey. He has performed with a myriad of ensembles worldwide, including the Philadelphia Orchestra, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, New Jersey Symphony Orchestra, Reading Symphony Orchestra, Delaware Symphony Orchestra, and the Macao Orchestra, among many others.

David obtained a Bachelor of Music degree from Temple University and holds a Master of Music degree from the University of Maryland. He has studied under the primary tutelage of Jauvon Gilliam, Eric Shin, Christopher Deviney, Phillip O'banion, and William Wozniak.

Aaron Trumbore is a percussionist, educator, conductor, and co-owner of a small percussion business in Carlisle, PA. He brings his love of the arts to students and audiences throughout the mid-Atlantic and beyond. His performance history includes the Harrisburg Symphony, Symphony in C, Opera Philadelphia, Vox Amadeus, the Philadelphia Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra, the Shippensburg Festival Orchestra, the Curtis Institute Symphony Orchestra, the McCormick Marimba Festival, and the Percussive Arts Society's international convention in Austin, TX and Indianapolis, IN. He is a member of the percussion faculty at James Madison University.

Aaron earned his bachelor of music performance degree from West Chester University and his master of music performance degree from Temple University, where he received the Dean's Scholarship. His mentors include Dr. Ralph Sorrentino, Dr. Chris Hanning, Alan Abel, and Chris Deviney.

Through Artifact Percussion, he crafts handmade sticks and mallets for players at all levels. He also presents on entrepreneurship at universities in the US and abroad. He is sponsored by Pearl/Adams Percussion, Sabian Cymbals, and Grover Pro Percussion.



Mike Ramsey is a Brooklyn-based drummer and percussionist known for his versatility. Broadway credits include *MJ*, *Hell's Kitchen*, *Buena Vista Social Club*, *The Lion King*, and many others. Orchestral credits include The Philadelphia Orchestra, The Seoul Philharmonic, and The Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas. Live music for Camille A. Brown and Dancers, Oyu Oro Afro-Cuban Experimental Dance Ensemble, and others. Guest clinician at Northwestern, MSM, NYU, and others. Mike is a BAM teaching artist and a founding member of AZAGUNO, a multi-ethnic African culture group created by his mentor Dr. Paschal Yao Younge. Please check out the group KALUNGA, whose self-titled debut EP can be found on all platforms.

FEATURED PERFORMANCE

The Messiah University Percussion Ensemble

Dr. Erik Forst, Director

Omphalo Centric Lecture (1984)

Nigel Westlake (b. 1958)

D.N.R. (2025)

Brett Dietz (b. 1972)

Stardust (2022)

Clark Hubbard (b.1995)

Stubernic (1995)

Mark Ford (b. 1958)

Scarlett Agramonte, soloist

Onsra (2024)

Matthew Gillott (b.1994)

Members

Yemliot Tirado

Brian Gambler

Scarlett Agramonte

Merek Goyette

Rachel DePaula

Sophia DiPrimeo

Micaela McEvers

Quentin Frank

Alisha Wyland

THE MESSIAH UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE



Over the past decade, the **Messiah University Percussion Ensemble** has become one of the finest percussion performing organizations in the Northeast. Under the direction of Dr. Erik Forst, the ensemble has performed both nationally and internationally at some of the most well-respected venues and competitions, including placing in the top 10 at the Chamber Ensemble Competition at the 2023 Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in Indianapolis, Indiana and performing as a featured ensemble at the 2022 Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Conference in the Poconos. The Ensemble continually seeks out new and inspiring collaborative opportunities from both inside and outside the percussion discipline, performing with The National Dance Company of Ghana and the renowned West African drumming ensemble Azaguno in the 2016 performance of Aza! in Accra, Ghana, then again in 2022 for their Nukpopo program both at Ohio University and Messiah University. In addition, the ensemble has been invited to perform at several festivals in the region, performing at the 2024 Percussion @ Penn State Conference and Festival, the 2022 Ohio University World Music and Dance Conference, and five PA Days of Percussion. Members of the ensemble have also performed in clinics and masterclasses for some of the most well-respected members of the percussion community, including Michael Burritt, Kevin Bobo, The Vesna Duo, and Grammy Award-winning Third Coast Percussion. The ensemble looks forward to continued performance and collaborative opportunities as they chart a path into the future.

OUR DIRECTOR



International performing and recording artist Dr. Erik Forst is the Director of Percussion Studies at Messiah University, where he oversees all aspects of the Percussion Area, including teaching Applied Percussion, directing the Messiah University Percussion Ensemble, and teaching both graduate and undergraduate percussion methods. In addition to his duties at Messiah, Dr. Forst maintains a healthy performing schedule as a soloist, clinician, and recording artist both nationally and internationally, having most recently given clinics and solo performances in Hong Kong and Accra, Ghana. His debut solo album, "My Little Island," was released on the Mark Masters label in December of 2021.

Dr. Forst is also in demand as a Percussionist and Timpanist throughout the East Coast, serving as the Principal Timpanist with the Gettysburg Chamber Orchestra, as well as performing regularly with groups such as the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra, Delaware Symphony Orchestra, Allentown Symphony Orchestra, the Pennsylvania Regional Ballet, and the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra, where he served as Principal Percussionist from 2011-2013.

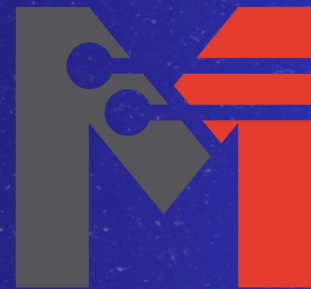
An ardent supporter of new music, Dr. Forst has been involved in the commissioning of several new works by composers such as Kevin Bobo, Sean Connors, Ivan Trevino, James Romig, Steven Snowden, and James Boznos. In November of 2016, Dr. Forst gave the world premiere of Kevin Bobo's new concerto for marimba and Wind Ensemble, entitled "Architecture of a Dream," a piece he commissioned with the assistance of a consortium of schools from across the country, and he gave the Pennsylvania Premiere of Keiko Abe's "Song of Tree" in April of 2017 at the PA Percussive Arts Society Day of Percussion.

An active member of the Percussive Arts Society, Dr. Forst has served both as the President and Vice President of the Pennsylvania Chapter of PAS and held a seat on the PAS Education Committee. His teachers include Timothy K. Adams Jr., Kevin Bobo, and Dr. Thomas McCutchen. He is an active performer and clinician for Marimba One Marimbas, Vic Firth sticks and mallets, Zildjian Cymbals, and Evans drum heads.



OUR SPONSORS

THANKS TO THESE COMPANIES FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE 2026 MESSIAH UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION SYMPOSIUM!



Marimba One

