

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

**2025**

**PERCUSSION**

*Symposium*

**FEATURING CLINICS BY:**

**KEVIN BOBO**, PROFESSOR OF PERCUSSION, INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
**AARON TRUMBORE**, OWNER, ARTIFACT PERCUSSION  
**DAVID LU**, ASSOC. PRINCIPAL TIMPANIST/PERCUSSIONIST,  
SHANGHAI PHILHARMONIC  
**WILLIAM LABOSSIERE**, STAFF MUSICIAN, TEXAS CHRISTIAN  
UNIVERSITY



DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

MAY 3RD, 2025  
10:00AM  
HIGH CENTER FOR WORSHIP AND THE  
PERFORMING ARTS, PARMER HALL  
MESSIAH UNIVERSITY  
FREE ADMISSION



# PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

9:30am

Doors Open

10:00am

Mechanicsburg Middle School Percussion Ensemble

Ben Goldsboro, Director

10:30am

East Pennsboro JV Percussion Ensemble

Coleman Lidle, Director

11:00am

Messiah University MS Percussion Institute

Dr. Erik Forst, Director

12:00pm

Lunch

1:00pm

**Featured Marimba Clinic**

**"Frequently Asked Questions"**

**Kevin Bobo**

**Professor of Percussion**

**Indiana University**

2:15pm

East Pennsboro Varsity Percussion Ensemble

Coleman Lidle, Director



# PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

2:45pm

Mechanicsburg HS Percussion Ensemble

Ben Goldsboro, Director

3:15pm

Linganore High School Percussion Ensemble

Kevin Lloyd, Director

3:50pm

Chambersburg High School Steel Band

Nicole Albright, Director

4:25pm

Messiah University Honors Percussion Ensemble

Dr. Erik Forst, Director

**5:00pm**

**Featured Performance**

**Messiah University Percussion Ensemble**

**Dr. Erik Forst, Director**

**feat. The Messiah University Wind Ensemble**

**Dr. James Colonna, 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

*Rules are Meant to be Broken:*

*A Technical Deep Dive Into Orchestral Snare Drumming*

David Lu

H132

*Modern Mallet Making*

Aaron Trumbore

H024

*Percussion Improvisation 101*

William Labossiere

H046



# OUR CLINICIANS

**Kevin Bobo** is professor of percussion at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, a position he has held since 2007. Prior to his appointment at IU, he served as Assistant Professor of Percussion at the University of Kansas (2003-07).

He studied percussion with J. C. Combs and Gordon Stout, and composition with Greg Woodward and Dana Wilson.

Internationally respected as a solo marimba artist, Bobo has performed on five continents. His travels have taken him to Taiwan, Singapore, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Australia, Spain, Latvia, Lithuania, France, Italy, the Czech Republic, and nearly 40 states in the U.S.

As a composer, Bobo's compositions are performed all over the world, with his solo works frequently appearing on international competition repertoire lists. He has authored two method books and composed numerous pieces for a variety of instruments and ensembles.

Bobo currently lives in Bloomington, Ind., with his wife, Emily, and their children, Penelope and Eli.



**Aaron Trumbore** is a percussionist, educator, conductor and percussion small-business owner from Carlisle, PA. Through performance and education, Aaron shares his passion for the arts with students and audiences throughout the mid-Atlantic region and the country. He has performed with 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 in Florida and the Percussive Arts Society's International Convention in Austin, TX and Indianapolis, IN. Aaron currently serves as Percussion Faculty at James Madison University.

Aaron earned his Bachelor of Music Performance degree from West Chester University where he studied with Dr. Ralph Sorrentino & Dr. Chris Hanning. Aaron continued his graduate studies at Temple University where he was awarded the Dean's Scholarship and earned his Master of Music Performance degree while studying with Alan Abel and Chris Deviney of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

As the co-owner of Artifact Percussion, Aaron focuses on providing students and professionals with handmade sticks and mallets produced at our small shop in Carlisle, PA. As a clinician, Aaron has made appearances discussing entrepreneurship at universities around the US & the world. Aaron is sponsored by Pearl/Adams Percussion, Sabian Cymbals and Grover Pro Percussion.





# OUR 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.

**William Labossiere** is a diverse performer and energetic teacher who is always looking to take on a challenge. Will has been the instructional staff musician in the Texas Christian University dance department as well as Percussion Faculty for Cseh Summer School of Music since 2023. He accompanies modern dance and ballet with piano and percussion, composes for faculty, and teaches a music for dancers course. His compositions have been received with acclaim and been performed across the US and Canada, most recently being performed by Shakti Moves in Austin, TX. Having studied dance musicianship with Michael Wall, he is an active advocate for interdisciplinary collaboration.

As a performer, Will has played with groups such as the Greensboro Symphony, NC Brass Band, and the Roanoke Symphony, sharing the stage with top shelf artists like Kenny G and Ben Folds. He plays regularly on drum set and piano and was also a fellow at the Adirondack Performing Fellowship (2019) in upstate New York. Will has been performing music from a young age starting on the piano, and he has earned a bachelor's in music performance from Messiah University. He has also received a master's degree in music performance and post baccalaureate certificate in jazz studies at UNC Greensboro.

Will is currently based in Fort Worth, Texas with his dog, Clementine.





# FEATURED PERFORMANCE

## The Messiah University Percussion Ensemble

Dr. Erik Forst, Director

featuring

The Messiah University Wind Ensemble

Dr. James Colonna, Director

*Promise Music (1999)*

Clif Walker (b. 1976)

*Palpitations (2021)*

Cody Holmes (b. 1995)

*Watercolor Sun (2023)*

Ivan Trevino (b. 1983)

*Re(new)al (2019, rev. 2021)*

Viet Cuong (b. 1990)

*Concerto for Percussion Quartet and Wind Ensemble*

I. Hydro

II. Wind

III. Solar

## Members

Lizbeth Stephan

Noah Kitner

Yemliot Tirado

Brian Gambler

Samuel Shaw

Sophia DiPrimeo

Isabella Crognale

Logan Kneller

Phoebe Forst



# 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.





# THE MESSIAH UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE



**The Messiah University Wind Ensemble** presents 4 concerts each semester highlighting artistic music composed from all eras of wind music. The ensemble has recorded numerous albums, been featured at state, regional, and national conference. The ensemble is comprised of primarily music majors and minors, but also includes students from various majors across campus.

**Jim Colonna** (b. 1970) is the Director of Bands and Associate Professor of Music at Messiah University where he teaches graduate wind-conducting and conducts the wind ensemble. His ensembles have performed at all state conferences in New Jersey and Pennsylvania including the 2018 NaFME All East Conference. He has held positions at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Utah Valley University where he lead the UVU Wind Symphony to a performance at The West/Northwest CBDNA conference in 2012.

Jim's compositions have been performed all over the world including Italy, Belgium, Finland, Japan as well as conferences WASBE, CBDNA, NJMEA, PMEA and the Midwest Clinic.

Jim Colonna earned his Doctorate of Musical Arts Degree in Conducting from Michigan State University in 2007, Master of Music Degree in Conducting from the University of North Texas in 2000.

Jim's Conducting teachers include Eugene Corporon, Kevin Sedatole, John T Madden, and Jack Stamp.

Dr. Colonna studied composition with Charles Ruggerio (MSU), Cindy McTee (UNT), and Jack Stamp (IUP).





# OUR SPONSORS

THANKS TO THESE COMPANIES FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF THE 2025 MESSIAH UNIVERSITY  
PERCUSSION SYMPOSIUM!

