

The Department of Performing Arts Presents...

Jazz Orchestra Fall Concert

Under the direction of Brent White

Featuring Duke Ellington's
Nutcracker Suite

Thursday, December 7th, 2023
7:30 PM

Mandell Theater
3220 Chestnut St, Philadelphia, PA



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Letter from the Department

Welcome to this concert presentation by the Music Program in the Department of Performing Arts. We are delighted to have the wonderful support of great families and friends. A very special welcome goes out to our visitors from the community who may not have any affiliation to our students, and simply come to hear spectacular musical performances by these talented student musicians. We hope everyone in our audience is pleased with the musical selections; and proud of the achievement of the students involved.

The students you will hear at this performance are not music majors. They do this for their love of music and dedicate their time and energy to cultivating their passion for this art form. They are as dedicated to their studies and career pursuits as they are to this intrinsic passion they have within them. The program is fortunate to have a bounty of students with this yearning. We would not exist without them!

The Music Program and Department of Performing Arts is dedicated to providing robust opportunities in

Letter from the Department

the performing arts while students are at Drexel. Our goal is to provide a positive and supportive environment for our students. It is our hope that students and audiences alike feel they are represented in the selections being performed. The human connection is most important to us all.

Thank you for attending this performance. Being here is the greatest show of support for the students, the Music Program, and the Department of Performing Arts. Thanks to the dedicated leadership of the faculty ensemble directors and staff, we are pleased to present you with the following program.

Sincerely,

Luke Abruzzo, Music Program Director

Miriam Giguere, PhD, Department Head, Performing Arts



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Upcoming Performing Arts Events

GOSPEL CHOIR

December 8, 2023 | 7:00 PM | Mandell Theater

DREXEL UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

December 8, 2023 | 7:30 PM | Main Auditorium

ALL COLLEGE CHOIR AND CHAMBER BRASS AND WINDS

December 9, 2023 | 7:00 PM | Main Auditorium

MEDITERRANEAN ENSEMBLE

December 9, 2023 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

UNIVERSITY CHORUS AND CHAMBER SINGERS

December 10, 2023 | 3:00 PM | Great Court

CONCERT BAND

December 10, 2023 | 7:00 PM | Mandell Theater

FRESHDANCE

February 8, 2024 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

February 10, 2024 | 2:00 PM | Mandell Theater

DREXEL DANCE ENSEMBLE

February 9-10, 2024 | 7:30 PM | Mandell Theater

DREXEL THEATRE: NO WAY, JOSE!

February 17, 2024 | 3:30 PM & 7:00 PM | URBN Annex Black Box

[Learn more about our upcoming events:](#)

drexel.edu/performingarts

Acknowledgements

Mr. White would like to thank:

Dr. Miriam Giguere, Department Head

Luke Abruzzo, Music Program Director

LaShanetta Harris, Department Administrator

Galen Blanzaco, Administrative Assistant

Esteban Reina Soto, Graduate Assistant

Caroline Leipf, Mandell Theater Managing Director

Chris Totoro, Production Manager and Technical
Director, Mandell Theater



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Mike Moss Memorial Fund



The Myron "Mike" Moss Memorial Fund supports Drexel University students pursuing projects in music or collaborative projects in the performing arts, including further study and support

for performances. Dr. Moss, the Music Program Director and Drexel Concert Band Conductor, passed away suddenly in 2012. The fund in his name seeks to assist students in the tradition of his passionate support for student involvement in the Performing Arts.

Student applications are due January 20, 2024. If you are interested in donating towards this fund or want more information, please click the link below.

drexel.edu/performingarts/scholarships/moss-memorial-fund/



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Program

The Drexel University Jazztet

Brent White, Director

Desert Moonlight ----- Lee Morgan
Sandu ----- Clifford Brown
Moody Mood for Love ----- George Benson
Tight ----- Betty Carter



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Program

The Drexel University Jazz Orchestra

Brent White, Director

The Birth of the Blues ----- Words by B.G. DeSylva and
Lew Brown,
music by Ray Henderson,
arranged by Louise Plowright

Dauphin Dance ----- Composed by Herbie Hancock,
arranged by Bob Mintzer

Santa Clause is Coming ----- Composed by Fred Coots,
arranged by Greg Scott

Nutcracker Suite ----- Composed by Pyotr Tchaikovsky,
arranged Billy Strayhorn



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Program

The Drexel University Jazz Orchestra

Brent White, Director

Winter Wonderland ----- Words by Dick Smith,
music by Felix Bernard,
arranged by Frank De Vol

Frosty the Snowman ----- Composed by Steve Nelson,
arranged by Frank De Vol



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Ensemble Members

Brent White
Ensemble Director

Vocalists

Daniella Guigliano	Junior, Interior Design
Jay Park	*Graduate Student, Music Therapy and Counseling

Saxophones

Ryan Aguilar	Alto Sax, Junior, Chemical Eng.
Kevin Frank	Bari Sax, Pre-Junior, Electrical Eng.
Justin Stiles	Alto Sax, Junior, Civil Eng.
Bryan Wagner	Tenor Sax, Pre-Junior, Electrical Eng.

Trumpets

Monica Buzzanca	First-Year, Engineering
*Elias Garagic	Sophomore, Music Industry
Jake Karwoski	Senior, Biomedical Eng.
*Aleko Nicolacakis	Sophomore, Mechanical Eng.

***Jazztet**

Ensemble Members

Trumpets (Cont'd)

Noah Taylor

First-Year, Architecture

Kaylee Wilson

Junior, Sociology

Trombone

Brooke Hartley

First-Year, Exploratory Studies

Leandro Lucas

First-Year, Entrepreneurship &
Innovation

Maxwell Warin-Joo

First-Year, Environmental Sci.

Bass

Jesse Beato

Sophomore, Finance

*Daniel Dowlin

Sophomore, Computer Science

Kasta Marigna

First-Year, Exploratory Studies

Piano

*Kenneth Blake

Junior, Computer Science

Dylan Vasquez

First-Year, Civil Eng.

***Jazztet**

Ensemble Members

Guitar

Charlie Rohland

First-Year, Music Industry

Drums

Terelle Dorceus

Sophomore, Finance

*Myles Fort

First-Year, Music Industry

*Jazztet



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Brent White

Jazz Orchestra Director



Brent White is a lifelong Philadelphian, trombonist, composer, and Assistant Teaching Professor of Music at Drexel University. He has toured nationally and internationally and taught in many capacities throughout Philadelphia, creating outreach

programming for Philadelphia students through the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts and teaching jazz in the Philadelphia Prison System and with the Philadelphia Clef Club of Jazz and Performing Arts.

Mr. White's research creative interests center around the intersections of Arts and community and the power of art to facilitate change. In particular, how jazz music and improvisation invite community participants to critique structures of power and oppression. Mr. White composed and recorded his album *Broken Toy* dedicated to children who suffer trauma caused by losing a parent to incarceration.

Brent White

Jazz Orchestra Director

Most Recently, Mr. White was awarded the 2022 Innovation Fellowship by the Library Company of Philadelphia for composing Afro-Latin jazz arrangements of works by the noted 19th-century African American composer and bandleader Francis (Frank) Johnson (1792–1844)—one of the leading American musicians of the pre-Civil War era. White explored how Johnson and his band engaged in musical “code-switching” (performing the same compositions differently before Black and white audiences).



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Music

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

Drexel University Department of Performing Arts Staff

Department Head

Dr. Miriam Giguere

Program Directors

Luke Abruzzo

Music

Nick Anselmo

Theatre

Blanca Huertas-Agnew

Dance

Administrative Staff

Galen Blanzaco

Department Assistant

LaShanetta Harris

Department Administrator

Caroline Leipf

Mandell Theater Managing Director

Esteban Reina Soto

Performing Arts Graduate Assistant

Liv Shoup

Audience Services Coordinator

Lauren Tracy

Ensemble Production Associate

Production Staff

Paul Jerue

Theatre Production Manager/Black Box Theater Technical Director

Asaki Kuruma

Costume Shop Manager

Chris Totoro

Mandell Theater Technical Director

Interested in a Music Minor?

Drexel offers four different music minors:

Music: requires 26 credits, including work in Music Theory, History, private lessons, ensemble performance, and 9 credits of music electives.

Music Theory and Composition: aimed at people who are writing their own music or who would like to begin doing so. You will take courses in Music Theory, Arranging, Composition, and Digital Composition, and end with a portfolio of several completed pieces.

Music Performance: requires two years of private lesson studies with our artist faculty culminating in a recital. The Music Program will provide support for the recital venue and accompanist.

Jazz & African-American Music: includes course work in Jazz History, African-American Music, Jazz Theory, private study in Jazz performance, and ensemble work in several ensembles devoted to jazz.

Support Great Performance

Performing arts are a vital part of the Drexel academia and student life. Donations support the operation of our performing arts venues, including the Mandell Theater and URBN Annex Black Box Theater, as well as performing arts ensembles and programs.

Celebrate 50 years of Mandell Theater with a gift to Drexel Performing Arts today!

[Giving.drexel.edu/PerformingArts](https://giving.drexel.edu/PerformingArts)



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Performing Arts

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design

To learn more, visit drexel.edu/performingarts

Connect with us!



Facebook: [@drexelperformingarts](https://www.facebook.com/drexelperformingarts)



Instagram: [@drexelperformingarts](https://www.instagram.com/drexelperformingarts)

Visit us at drexel.edu/performingarts

Get tickets to upcoming concerts at drexelperformingarts.com



DREXEL UNIVERSITY

Performing Arts

Antoinette Westphal College of Media Arts & Design