



*University of Maryland School of Music Presents*

**HOLIDAY BIG BAND SHOWCASE**  
**UMD Jazz Lab Band, University Jazz Band**  
**and UMD Jazz Ensemble**

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 • 7:30PM

KAY THEATRE

AT THE CLARICE SMITH PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



**SCHOOL OF  
MUSIC**

University of Maryland School of Music  
Presents

## HOLIDAY BIG BAND CONCERT

**UMD Jazz Lab Band, University Jazz Band and UMD Jazz Ensemble**

### **UMD Jazz Ensemble**

Mark Williams, *Director*

*Narita* ..... Mark Williams

*Sugar Rum Cherry (Dance of the Sugar-Plum Fairy)* ..... Duke Ellington

*Let It Snow* ..... Jule Styne  
arr. Kris Johnson

*The Christmas Song* ..... Robert Wells and Mel Torme  
arr. The UMD Jazz Fellowship Ensemble

*White Christmas* ..... Irving Berlin and Bing Crosby  
arr. Leigh Pilzer

*Terrapin Blues* ..... Mark Williams

### **UMD Jazz Lab Band**

Tim Powell, *Director*

*Stockholm Sweetnin'* ..... Quincy Jones

*In the Still of the Night* ..... Cole Porter  
arr. Mike Kamuf

*Silent Night* ..... Franz Gruber  
arr. Rick Hirsch

*Right on Red* ..... Grace Fox

*Bodysnatchers* ..... Radiohead  
arr. Fred Sturm

**University Jazz Band**  
Hart Guonjian-Pettit, *Director*

<i>There Will Never Be Another You</i> .....	Harry Warren arr. Mark Taylor
<i>Stompin' At The Savoy</i> .....	Edgar Sampson arr. Greg Yasinitsky
<i>Winter Wonderland</i> .....	Felix Bernard arr. Jack Cooper
<i>The Queen Bee</i> .....	Sammy Nestico
<i>Road Song</i> .....	Wes Montgomery arr. Alan Baylock



Grammy Award Winner **MARK “NOTESMITH” WILLIAMS** creates his own lane as a musician, producer and educator. He shreds his trombone through all music boundaries with a distinctive, soaring sound. The Mark Williams sound. His vision as a producer is uniquely his own, fusing hard bop jazz with hip hop hooks to create the Notesmith beat. Mark’s invaluable work as a teacher and professor to a younger generation of musicians spurs creativity and knowledge to all he mentors.

“A consummate trombonist... Little brother reminds me a lot of myself when I was his age.” Curtis Fuller, NEA recipient and Jazz Trombone legend.

The Brooklyn native attended both Juilliard MAP’s Program and the famed LaGuardia High School of the Performing Arts, earning him a full scholarship to prestigious Howard University. While an undergrad, he caught the ear of Chuck Brown, the Godfather of the Washington, D.C. sound known as “Go-Go.” At age 20, Williams was hired after a one-show audition. He balanced studies with playing on the road with Brown for six years, an education that wasn’t taught in the classroom. Williams completed both his bachelor of arts degree in music education and his master of arts degree in jazz studies at Howard while concurrently playing in one of the most iconic bands in music history.

“One of the most talented musicians I have ever had in my band.” - Chuck Brown

After leaving Brown, Williams was recruited by the legendary Count Basie Orchestra. He’s been their trombonist for the past decade, earning his third Grammy nomination for his playing on CBO’s “Live at Birdland”(2022). Williams was also a trombonist on the highly praised The Baylor Project, (2022 Grammy nominated album) as his innovative sound helped create an intersection of jazz, blues and gospel.

The “Notesmith” has also performed or recorded with Gladys Knight, Smokey Robinson, Brad Paisley, Abdullah Ibrahim, Natalie Cole, Kool and the Gang, Demi Lovato, The Skatalites, Talib Kweli, Music Soulchild, David Murray, The Roots, Macy Gray, Orrin Evans, Twyla Tharp, Harry Connick, Chris Martin (Coldplay), Common, CeeLo Green, Ben Williams, Marc Cary and Lauren Hill.

Williams has played trombone and keyboards for legendary DJ Premier (Gang Starr) and his ongoing Badder Band project since 2015, evolving his signature “Notesmith” sound into the hip-hop/rap universe. One of their collaborations was theme music commissioned by the NBA for playoffs games.

Williams performs occasionally for the prestigious Smithsonian Jazz Masters Orchestra, an educational “moving artifact” that plays shows and does masterclass teaching sessions for youngsters worldwide. While teaching third through fifth grade at the Manhattan Charter School, he established the first New Orleans style jazz band for students in NYC.

In addition to performing as a sideman, Williams continues to compose, arrange and headline with his own group. He received a \$10,000 prize from Bertelsman for his composition “It’s Yours” and was selected to participate in the prestigious Betty Carter Jazz Ahead program based on his imaginative compositions. Recently, he was invited to play with “Jazz House Kids” by star bassist Christian McBride. Jazz House Kids is an arts organization dedicated to educating children through jazz. He’s also on faculty teaching a music improvisation course at NYC’s famous New School University.

Williams’ ongoing “Brass in the Class” workshops continue to be a cultural touchstone for him and the community. He is committed to bringing the arts to inner city schools, creating a hands-on approach to enriching grade school youngsters with artistic skills and cultural knowledge to gift them with life lessons.

An in-demand A-list player, emerging producer, and selfless educator, Mark “Notesmith” Williams is a rare gem of a musician.

## UMD JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Mark Williams, *Director*

### **Saxophones**

Colin Eng, alto  
Graham Gleockler, alto  
Liam Hurlbut, tenor  
Bryan Mills, tenor  
Joshua Griffin, bari

### **Trumpets**

Hart Guonjian-Pettit  
Evan Hancock  
Gerardo Granados  
Landon Stone

### **Trombones**

Connor McCracken  
Anthony Ronldan  
Ufondo Obianuka

### **Rhythm**

Minh Vo, piano  
Jeremiah Awoseye, piano  
Deante Haggerty-Willis, guitar  
Andy Lingenfelter, guitar  
Rohan Gabay, bass  
Henry Sheppard, bass  
Katriyon McKie, drums  
Will Valdes, drums

### **Graduate Assistants**

Hart Guonjian-Pettit  
Rohah Gabay  
Bryan Mills  
Liam Hurlbut

**UMD JAZZ LAB BAND**

Tim Powell, *Director*

**Saxophones**

Andrew Hong, alto 1  
Katrina Webbert, alto 2  
Taira Nonami, alto 2  
Isaac Canel, tenor 1  
Will Hammon, tenor 2  
Tycho Stephenson, bari  
Rebecca Williams, bari

**Trumpets**

Landon Stone, lead  
Alex Wu  
Colin Eng  
Elijah Doyle

**Trombones**

Can Tanali  
Sumit Kularni  
Nicholas González  
Ryan Vest

**Rhythm**

Hobbs Miller Pincus, piano  
Will Morgan, guitar  
Owen McWilliams, guitar  
Evan Nowaskey, bass  
Kelly Perez, bass  
Etienne Melendez-Santiago, drums

**Graduate Assistants**

Deante Haggerty-Willis  
Katriyon Lejybran-Jevante McKie

# UNIVERSITY JAZZ BAND

Hart Guonjian-Pettit, *Director*

## **Saxophones**

Don Wengard, alto 1  
Ian Seigler, alto 2  
Aarev Desai, alto 2  
Ritvik Sawhney, tenor 1  
Rayn Carrillo, tenor 1  
Dimitrius Angelakos, tenor 2  
Evan Keen, tenor 2  
Joseph Bayote, bari

## **Trumpets**

Colin Eng, lead  
Shravan Suresh  
Dan Guonjian-Pettit  
Ella Kessler

## **Trombones**

Brian McFerrin  
Rahat Sharif  
Anthony Roldan  
Connor McCracken

## **Rhythm**

Ezra Silver-Isenstadt, piano  
Zachary Bader, piano  
Aadhitya Ashok, piano  
Joel Zinkievich, guitar  
Jae Ahn, guitar  
Carter Falkenstein, bass  
Olu Adeka, drums  
Viraj Singh, drums

## **Graduate Assistants**

Bryan Mills

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND



24  
25  
SEASON

*at The Clarice Smith  
Performing Arts Center*

