



Sunday | March 1, 2025 | 7:00 PM

Florida Atlantic University

Boca Raton, Florida

2024-25 CONCERT SEASON
CATCH THE SPIRIT

2 | ORCHID CITY BRASS BAND

TONIGHT'S PLAYERS

CONDUCTOR

Gary Green

SOPRANO CORNET

Josiah Evans

SOLO CORNETS

David Gobble

Principal

Nick Patsis

Brook Miscocki

Randy Sonntag

Adam Delbridge-Smith

REPIANO CORNET

Bill Castillo

SECOND CORNETS

Bryan Anderson

Tony Aversano

Ben Berman

THIRD CORNETS

James Estes

Larry Malin

Ryan Schaap

FLUGELHORN

Pete Skowronek

TENOR HORNS

Jennifer Girdlestone

Principal

Camille Janawitz

Brandon Ehrlich

Michelle Hoffman

BARITONES

Manny Camacho

Principal

Sarah Shearon

TENOR TROMBONES

Patrick Hengstler

Principal

Richard Powali

BASS TROMBONE

Tyler Hatter

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Michael MacMullen

EUPHONIUMS

Alejandro Guardia, Jr

Principal

Ethan Lenzycki

E♭ BASSES

Franklin Ticas Castellon

Principal

Mitch Hutchinson

B♭ BASSES

Michael Cunnion

Principal

Jorge Acin

PERCUSSION

Alex Korkin

Principal

Lion Alviar

Zachary Benitez

Ticket sales cover less than half the cost of presenting an ORCHID CITY BRASS BAND concert.

ORCHID CITY relies on generous donations and gifts from patrons like you to continue our mission of uplifting, entertaining, and educating the diverse communities of the West Palm Beach area, as well as providing free admission to students.

You can help ensure we can continue our tradition of excellence in providing concerts and musical programs, please visit orchidcitybrass.org and **Support the Band.**

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ORCHID CITY BRASS BAND | 5
TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

Virtuosity Showcase

Saturday March 1, 2025 | 7:00

Gary Green | Musical Director / Conductor
Jennifer Girdlestone | Associate Conductor

SPARKLING BRASS Philip Sparke

A MORRICONE PORTRAIT Roland Kernen
Jennifer Girdlestone Conductor

RHAPSODY FOR TROMBONE Gordon Langford
Joe Alessi - Soloist

IRISH TUNE Percy Grainger
Featuring students from the workshop

THE COSSAK William Rimmer

INTERMISSION

WALKING WITH HEROES Paul Lovatt-Cooper

TANGO FOR JOE Philip Sparke
Joe Alessi - Soloist

A CARMEN FANTASY Gordon Langford

NATIONAL EMBLEM Edwin Eugene Bagley
Featuring students from the workshop

Save the Date!

Our next Concert is on
April 25, at First Presbyterian Church
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**CORNELIA T. BAILY FOUNDATION
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Carol Webster

Nick & Anna Patsis
Mr. & Mrs Harold Girdlestone
Virginia Luongo
Dr. Patrick McPoland
Dr. Bama Lutes Deal

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Guest Artist Spotlight

Trombonist Joseph Alessi is an active soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. Alessi was appointed principal trombonist of the New York Philharmonic in 1985. In 1990, he made his New York Philharmonic solo debut and in 1992 premiered Christopher Rouse's Trombone Concerto with the Philharmonic. Other premieres he has played include Melinda Wagner's Trombone Concerto in 2007 and William Bolcom's Trombone Concerto in 2016.

Alessi began musical studies in his native California with his father, Joseph Alessi Sr., as a high school student. He was a soloist with the San Francisco Symphony before continuing his musical training at the Curtis Institute of Music. Before joining the Philharmonic, Alessi was second trombone with the Philadelphia Orchestra for four seasons and played principal trombone with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra for one season. He has performed as guest principal trombonist with the London Symphony Orchestra in Carnegie Hall, led by Pierre Boulez.

Alessi has been a guest soloist with the Lincoln, Colorado, Syracuse, Virginia, Alabama, Santa Barbara, Puerto Rico, Hartford, and South Dakota symphony orchestras; New Japan, Seoul, Hague, and Helsinki philharmonic orchestras; National Repertory Orchestra; Orchestra of Teatro Massimo Bellini in Catania, Sicily; Mannheim National Theater Orchestra; and National Symphony of Taiwan.

He has participated in numerous festivals, including the Festival Musica di Camera in Protogruaro, Italy; Cabrillo Music Festival; Swiss Brass Week; and Lieksa Brass Week in Finland. He was featured in the 1997 International Trombone Festival in Feldkirch, Austria, and the International Meeting of Brass Instruments in Lille, France. He is a founding member of the Summit Brass ensemble at the Rafael Mendez Brass Institute in Tempe, Ariz. In 2002, Alessi was awarded an International Trombone Association Award for his contributions to the world of trombone music and trombone playing.

Alessi, a faculty member since 1986 and Pre-College faculty since 2007, he has also given master classes throughout the world and has toured Europe extensively as a master teacher and recitalist.



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A note from the chair

Welcome to an unforgettable evening with the Orchid City Brass Band and the legendary Joe Alessi! We're absolutely thrilled to present one of the world's premier trombonists in this showcase of pure virtuosity. A huge thank you to Dr. Kyle Prescott, Director of Bands at FAU, Dr. Jose Leon, Assistant Professor of Trombone at FAU, and the staff of the University Theater for their invaluable support in bringing this concert to life.

If this is your first encounter with a British-style brass band, you're in for a real treat. This ensemble tradition boasts a rich heritage that's captured hearts worldwide. With hundreds of bands across the United States—at least five right here in Florida—the movement is both vibrant and widespread. The Salvation Army sponsors similar groups globally, pushing the number of bands into the thousands. From Norway and Germany to Australia and New Zealand, the brass band phenomenon resonates across continents.

What sets the British-style brass band apart is its distinctive lineup of instruments. Departing from the symphony orchestra's bright trumpets and trombones, we feature cornets, known for their mellow and agile tones. Leading the high melodies is a singular E-flat soprano cornet, adding a shimmering top layer. The soulful flugelhorn often takes the spotlight with its warm solos. Tenor horns replace the traditional French horns, contributing to the band's unique soundscape. Our ensemble also includes English baritones, euphoniums, three trombones—the only cylindrical instruments here—and a mix of two B-flat basses and two E-flat basses. To round it all



off, 3-4 percussionists infuse rhythm and texture into the performance.

So sit back and immerse yourself in the world-class talent of Joe Alessi and the Orchid City Brass Band, conducted by Gary Green, Conductor Emeritus of the Frost School of Music Wind Ensemble at the University of Miami. It's an evening bound to resonate long after the final note.

****Fun Fact:**** The British brass band tradition dates back to the early 19th century, originating in the coal mines of Northern England. These bands were often formed by miners seeking a creative outlet and quickly became pillars of their communities. This rich history adds an extra layer of depth to our performance tonight, connecting us to a legacy of camaraderie and musical excellence.

Enjoy the show, and let the music carry you on a journey through time and culture!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim W. Estes". The signature is stylized with a large, looped 'J' and a long, sweeping underline.