Upcoming Events

EDEN PRAIRIE COMMUNITY BAND
June 14–16, 20–23, 7 p.m.: Carnival (pit orchestra), Staring Lake Park, Eden Prairie
Thursday, July 4, 6:45 p.m.: Round Lake Park, Eden Prairie
Tuesday, July 9, 7 p.m.: Normandale Lake Bandshell, Bloomington
Saturday, July 20, 2 p.m.: Hopkins Raspberry Festival, Hopkins Downtown Park
Tuesday, July 30, 7 p.m.: Minnetonka Civic Center (outdoor amphitheater)
Wednesday, July 31, 7 p.m.: Staring Lake Park, Eden Prairie

epcommunityband.org

JAZZ ON THE PRAIRIE BIG BAND
Saturday, May 18, 2 p.m.: Alice Smith Elementary School, Hopkins
Saturday, June 1, 3 p.m.: Schooner Days, Round Lake Park, Eden Prairie
Sunday, June 9, 2–8 p.m.: Festival of Jazz on the Prairie, Staring Lake Park, Eden Prairie
Thursday, June 13, 7:30 p.m.: Lake Harriet, Minneapolis
Wednesday, June 26, 7 p.m.: The Village at Mendota Heights
Thursday, July 4, 5:30 p.m.: Round Lake Park, Eden Prairie
Thursday, July 11, 7 p.m.: Hopkins Downtown Park
Monday, July 15, 7 p.m.: Centennial Lakes Park, Edina
Sunday, July 28, 7 p.m.: Staring Lake Park, Eden Prairie
Sunday, Sept. 8, 1 p.m.: Landscape Arboretum, Chanhassen

jazzontheprairie.com

Thomas Maeck, Community Band Director
651-322-1074, thomas.maeck@district196.org

Don Bates, Jazz Band Director
952-938-5598, dama.bates@comcast.net

Lindsey Danhauser, Arts and Events Coordinator, City of Eden Prairie
952-949-8304, ldanhauser@edenprairie.org
Program

Florentiner March (Grande Marche Italian)  
Julius Fucik  
ed. by Frederick Fennell

Albanian Dance  
Shelley Hanson

The Seal Lullaby  
Eric Whitacre
This loving and dreamlike work captures the undulating rhythm of a mother rocking her child to sleep. The text is a classic by Rudyard Kipling: “Oh! Hush thee, my baby, the night is behind us, And black are the waters that sparkled so green. The moon, o’er the combers, looks downward to find us, At rest in the hollows that rustle between.”

Overture for Woodwinds  
Phillip Sparke

March from “1941”  
John Williams
The March from the movie “1941” is the most memorable part of this Steven Spielberg 1979 production starring John Belushi. The lack of success for the movie may stem from the plot that depicts hysteria in Los Angeles just days after the attack on Pearl Harbor. It is hard to appreciate humor in the actions of manic servicemen, zealous store owners, and bickering Nazis. The March has the bright and patriotic theme that would capture such an event.

Second Suite in F  
Gustav Holst
Holst wrote the Second Suite in 1911, using English folk songs and folk dance tunes throughout. The opening March combines a Morris dance with folk songs, while the second movement features a lyrical tune which tells of lovers separated by their parents. This is followed by the Song of the Blacksmith, complete with a lively rhythm played on the blacksmith’s anvil. The Suite concludes with the Dargason country dance and folk song entwined with the well-known Greensleeves melody.

Harlem Nocturne  
Earl Hagen, arr. Alfred Reed
Tom Muehlbauer, Sax Solo

Irish Tune from County Derry*  
Percy A. Grainger

Just A Closer Walk With Thee*  
adapted for band by Don Gillis  
arr. Calvin Custer

New York: 1927†  
Warren Barker

Galop  
Dmitri Shostakovich  
Transcribed by Donald Hunsberger

Stars and Stripes†  
John Philip Scusa

Eden Prairie Community Band Members (Years of Service)

Flute  
Susan Akins (16)  
Angela Crofoot (3)  
Megan Lambert (4)  
Emily L’Huillier (7)  
Pamela Petroska (7)  
Mary Rehaume (25)  
Cheryl Sykora (20)  
Lynn Walters (20)

Alto Sax  
Sharon Cannon (30)  
Kathy Orner (3)  
Jill Veres (4)  
Jennifer Weixel (9)

Tenor Sax  
Paullette Tollefson (10)

Baritone Sax  
Tom Muehlbauer (24)

Trumpet  
Kathy Canfield (16)  
Steve Cornelius (2)  
Rob Estrine (14)  
Gene Goede (16)  
Barbara Kistle (21)  
Ralph Kumpala (20)  
Barbara Lauer (5)  
Todd Schuldt (1)  
Dianne Weingartz (26)

French Horn  
Dave Allen (13)  
Anne Deuring (1)  
Shannon Elsenpeter (11)  
Jonathan Weyers (14)

Bass Clarinet  
Jon Eckersen (16)

Bassoon  
Neal Rogers (2)

Trombone  
Paul Clifford (12)  
David Joyce (11)  
Dave Just (18)  
Dean Peterson (6)  
Kim Williams (7)

Euphonium  
Lowell Berg (11)

Tuba  
Jayne Dakay (7)  
Marissa Dakay (7)

Percussion  
Fred Koppelman (34)  
Pete Liezau (17)  
Charlie Rockler (34)  
Becki Whitaker (15)

*Directed by Em Stark. †Directed by Marilyn Rateike.
History

The Eden Prairie Community Band was founded with 23 players in 1973 by Mr. Emmet (Em) Stark. The objective of the “All Comers Band,” as the group was first called, was to serve as a creative outlet for high school students and adult members of the community. The band was a summer program through August 1981 before becoming a year-round band in 1982.

In 1996, the band was chosen to represent the United States as part of the musical celebration of Austria’s millennium. The trip included performances in several Austrian cities as well as in Budapest, Hungary. In 1998, the band returned to Europe with an extensive tour of Italy and Switzerland.

Marilyn Rateike became the director of the Eden Prairie Community Band upon Mr. Stark’s retirement in 1999. In 2002, the band traveled to China when they were invited by the Chinese American Cultural Bridge Center to participate in a cultural exchange program. The band toured and performed in Ireland and Scotland in 2005.

Thomas Maeck took over for Ms. Rateike in 2006. In 2009, the EPCB toured and performed in Greece under his leadership. During his tenure, the band was proud to be a part of a newly commissioned work for band entitled “Streets of Honor” by Daniel Kallmen.

Band members also have the opportunity to perform in ensemble groups, including Jazz on the Prairie Big Band and The Prairie Schooners. Mr. Stark originally created the Jazz on the Prairie ensemble before Jerry Cerchia became the director upon Mr. Stark’s retirement. Don Bates took over in 2002 and the jazz band now meets weekly and performs several concerts in Eden Prairie and surrounding communities each year. The group hosts several area jazz bands at its annual Minnesota Festival of Jazz on the Prairie each June at the Staring Lake Amphitheatre. The Prairie Schooners is a Dixieland jazz group that performs at a variety of events in the area.

The band also provides community services. Mr. Maeck and members of the community band comprise the pit orchestra for the musicals staged by the Eden Prairie Players Community Theater every summer. Every December, the band performs at its annual Share the Warmth concert, where audience members are encouraged to donate food to the local food shelf. In the summer months, members of the band “adopt-a-highway” and volunteer to clean up a portion of Pioneer trail east of Flying Cloud Airport.

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Eden Prairie Community Band is to entertain the people of Eden Prairie and surrounding communities, while fostering and promoting the community band experience by providing a means for adult musicians to play for their mutual enjoyment and musical growth.

Past and Present Conductors

Emmett (Em) Stark – Founding Director
Mr. Stark directed bands at all levels in the Eden Prairie school system for 35 years. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from St. Cloud State University and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Northern Colorado. Mr. Stark has also chaired the Eden Prairie Performing Arts Committee.

Marilyn Rateike – Former Community Band Director
Ms. Rateike is the band and orchestra director at Central Middle School in Eden Prairie and has taught there since 1991. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and a master’s degree in Middle School Education from Bethel College in St. Paul.

Jerry Cerchia – Past Jazz Band Director
Mr. Cerchia joined the community band in 1998. He was the jazz band director from the fall of 1999 until early 2002 and has a degree in Music Education from SUNY Fredonia. Mr. Cerchia played in the United States Army Band from 1967 to 1969 as well as in jazz and big bands in several cities in the United States.

Don Bates – Current Jazz Band Director
Mr. Bates is the founding and recently retired director of the Hopkins Westwind Concert Band. He retired after 34 years of serving the youth of Minnesota as a music educator and a high school band director, mostly within the Hopkins Public Schools. He is a graduate of MacPhail College of Music and has done postgraduate work at various colleges and universities.

Thomas Maeck – Current Community Band Director
Mr. Maeck is one of three Band Directors at Eagan High School, where he has directed the High School Wind Ensemble, Freshmen Concert Band, Marching Band, Pit Orchestra, Brass Choir and Clarinet Choir for 23 years. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point and a master’s degree in Music Education from Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

Join us!

Any adult musician is welcome to join the Eden Prairie Community Band or Jazz on the Prairie Big Band without an audition, based on need of instrumentation. The community band meets every Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Central Middle School (CMS) band room.

Jazz on the Prairie Big Band also meets every Thursday from 9–10:30 p.m. in the CMS band room. The first rehearsal is either the second or third Thursday after school begins in September with the summer session ending at the end of July.

Currently, the band’s 60 regular members meet on a weekly basis from September through July, performing concerts throughout the Twin Cities.