



Presents



The Lord of the Rings

McNeese State University Wind Symphony

Jay Sconyers, Conductor

McNeese State University Theatre

Luke Connally, Narrator

Charles McNeely, Theatre Director

Paul Pharris, Technical Director

Featuring

Johan de Meij: Symphony no. 1 "The Lord of the Rings"

The Lord of the Rings

Symphony no. 1 "The Lord of the Rings" Johan de Meij

- I. Gandolf: The Wizard
- II. Lothlorien: The Elvenwood
- III. Gollum: Sméagol
Caden Burgett, Soprano Saxophone
- IV. Journey in the Dark
The Mines of Moria
The Bridge of Khazad-Dûm
- V. Hobbits

A note to the audience

Fantasy, myth, and legend are cornerstones of art and cultural identity, and no work has defined this genre in the twentieth century better than J. R. R. Tolkien's masterwork *The Lord of the Rings*. Written during the interwar and World War II era, the novel series is marked by dark apocalyptic imagery as the fate of Middle-Earth hangs in the balance. However, the novel is not about the darkness that permeates it, but the hope, friendship, and loyalty that is defined by a fellowship of unlikely heroes. It is in this spirit that we as modern humankind can relate to their world and mission and choose how we will handle the trials placed in our lives.

As you watch and listen to tonight's concert, we invite you to immerse yourself in this journey through Middle-Earth. Let our guide transport you to this world of fantasy and let Johan de Meij's Symphony no. 1 paint a picture of the incredible heroes, villains, and scenes of this literary masterpiece. We hope you enjoy this combination artwork of literature, theatre, lights and scenery, and music presented by our fellowship.

*Please feel free to applaud after each musical movement. Please hold your applause after the fifth movement for the guide's closing.

Gandolf

The Wizard

The first movement is a musical portrait of the wizard Gandalf, one of the principal characters of the trilogy. His wise and noble personality is expressed by a stately motif which is used in a different form in movements IV and V. The sudden opening of the Allegro vivace is indicative of the unpredictability of the grey wizard, followed by a wild ride on his beautiful horse, Shadowfax

- Program note by the composer





Lothlorien

The Elvenwood

The second movement is an impression of Lothlórien, the elvenwood with its beautiful trees, plants, exotic birds, expressed through woodwind solos. The meeting of the Hobbit Frodo with the Lady Galadriel is embodied in a charming Allegretto; in the Mirror of Galadriel, a silver basin in the wood, Frodo glimpses three visions, the last of which, a large ominous Eye, greatly upsets him.

- Program note by the composer

Gollum

Sméagol

The third movement describes the monstrous creature Gollum, a slimy, shy being represented by the soprano saxophone. It mumbles and talks to itself, hisses and lisps, whines and snickers, is alternately pitiful and malicious, is continually fleeing and looking for his cherished treasure, the ring.

- Program note by the composer



Journey in the Dark

The Mines of Moria

The Bridge of Khazad-Dûm

The fourth movement describes the laborious journey of the Fellowship of the ring, headed by the wizard Gandalf, through the dark tunnels of the Mines of Moria. The slow walking cadenza and the fear are clearly audible in the monotonous rhythm of the low brass, piano and percussion. After a wild pursuit by hostile creatures, the Orks, Gandalf is engaged in battle with a horrible monster, the Balrog, and crashes from the subterranean bridge of Khazad-Dûm in a fathomless abyss. To the melancholy tones of a Marcia funèbre, the bewildered companions trudge on, looking for the only way out of the mines, the East Gate of Moria.



- Program note by the composer

Hobbits

The fifth movement expresses the carefree and optimistic character of the Hobbits in a happy folk dance; the hymn that follows emanates the determination and noblesse of the hobbit folk. The symphony does not end on an exuberant note, but is concluded peacefully and resigned, in keeping with the symbolic mood of the last chapter, *The Grey Havens*, in which Frodo and Gandalf sail away in a white ship and disappear slowly beyond the horizon.

- Program note by the composer



McNeese State University Wind Symphony Personnel

Jay Sconyers, Conductor

Bass Clarinet

Brent Miller

Alto Saxophone

Caden Burgett*
Tiana Gonzalez
Ethan Honeycutt
Mark Portier*

Tenor Saxophone

David Smothers

Baritone Saxophone

Braden Hebert

Horn

Alejandro Chapa*
Grace Holt
Alejandro Leal
Sara Pietrowski
Bryant Simmons

Trumpet

Brock Bult
Colt Dement
Cody Gonzalez
Dax Johns
Jonathan Leveque*
Devin Porras

Trombone

Alex Cormier
Damien Gillard
Keyon Jolivet
Jacob Voisin*

Bass Trombone

Matthew Fast*

Euphonium

Blake Kidner*
Traevin Nelms

Tuba

Evan Tassin
Collin Thomas*

Piano

Katelyn Pappion

Timpani

Marie Azor*

Percussion

Dustin Boulet
Kylie Chandler
Solasse Kennison
Luke Pacetti
Thomas Post

* Denotes Principle

† Denotes Guest Performer

All performers listed
alphabetically by last name

Flute

Madeline Bruno
Haley Doyle
Jaylen Jones*
Madison Pousson

Oboe

Sydney Clark*
Beverly Jones †

Bassoon

Claire McMillian*
Susan Lauderdale

Clarinet

William Christian †
Morgan Clark
Thomas Logan †
Sarah Medwick*
Sonia Penado
Bethany Worthington
Jan Scott †
Kassandra Strout



Dr. Jay Sconyers is the Director of Bands at McNeese State University where he conducts the Wind Symphony, the Pride of McNeese Marching Band, and teaches courses in the Department of Performing Arts. Previously, Jay served as the Assistant Director of Bands at McNeese. Prior to his appointment at McNeese, Jay received his doctorate in musical arts in conducting from the University of South Carolina, where he studied with Dr. Scott Weiss, and his Master of Music Education and bachelors of music education from the University of Georgia, where he studied trumpet with Professor Fred Mills. While at UGA, he performed in a wide variety of instrumental and choral ensembles, performing throughout the United States, Germany, Austria, Italy, the Vatican, and China. At the University of South Carolina, Jay was a frequent guest conductor all USC ensembles and performed in the Palmetto Concert Band. Additionally, Jay served as an associate producer with the USC Wind Ensemble's album "Dynasty" on the Summit Label and as a producer and conductor on the McNeese State University Marching Band's recent CD on the Mark Label. Prior to his time in higher education, Jay served as the Director of Bands at Elbert County Comprehensive High School in Elberton, GA.

Jay has been heavily involved in the marching band and drum and bugle corps activities. Jay has served on the instructional staff of the University of Georgia Redcoat Band, University of South Carolina Marching Band, as a brass instructor with several open and world class drum and bugle corps, and is an alumnus of Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle Corps. Currently, he serves as a brass instructor with the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps. In addition to his instructional responsibilities in marching band and drum and bugle corps, Jay is an active music arranger, drill designer, adjudicator, and clinician throughout the United States, and his work has been featured by various collegiate and high school marching bands, in features on at the 2017 College Band Directors National Association National Conference, at the 2017 Bands of America Grand National Finals, several regional Bands of America events, and as the opening act of the 2018 London New Year's Day Parade.

His past and present professional affiliations include the College Band Directors National Association, National Band Association, Georgia Music Educators Association, Professional Association of Georgia Educators, College Music Educators National Conference, Phi Kappa Phi National Honors Society, Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.



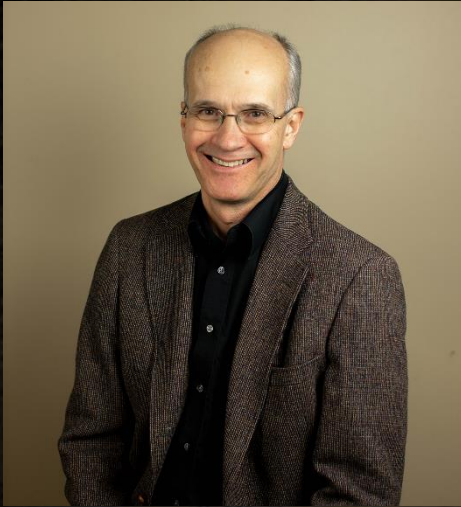
Luke Connally is a dynamic actor who was most recently seen in McNeese Theatre's productions of *The Miss Firecracker Contest* as Mac Sam and a writer/performer of the 2022 Teenager Project. Among many other credits, he has also worked with McNeese in *The Secret Garden* as Captain Albert Lennox, and Harrison Howell in *Kiss Me Kate*. As a founding member of Black Market Theatre Company, he amused audiences as Jake in *Evil Dead: The Musical*. When not on stage, Luke is just as comfortable behind the curtain, and has worked in the McNeese scene shop as a technical apprentice.

To support his passion for theatre, Luke is a Business Development Manager with Coca-Cola Bottling Company, United and hosts the award-winning trivia night at Rikenjaks Brewing Company as a quizmaster with Geeks Who Drink. Luke enjoys staying active with daily yoga and running practices, keeping up his status as a movie buff, and trying out new recipes in the kitchen. Additionally, he is proud to say has been sober since 2016.

Caden Burgett is a junior at McNeese State University where he is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree in Biology with a Concentration in Pre-Medicine. In addition to his major, he is pursuing minors in both chemistry and saxophone performance. Following the completion of his undergraduate degree, he hopes to matriculate into medical school and eventually become a neurosurgeon.

Caden is one of the principal saxophonists in the McNeese Wind Symphony and is a drum major for the Pride of McNeese Cowboy Marching Band. He is also a member of the McNeese Saxophone Quartet and has previous experience as a member of the McNeese Jazz Ensemble. Additionally, he is the President of Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, where he has previously served as warden and secretary. He is also a member of the McNeese Pre-Medicine Society and is an active student in the McNeese Honors College Program.





Charles McNeely is currently in his 27th year with the McNeese Theatre program. Mr. Mac, as his students call him, received a B.A. in Theatre Arts from McNeese and a Master of Fine Arts in Drama and Communication from the University of New Orleans. Mr. Mac is currently our Coordinator of Theatre and last collaborated with Dr. Jay Sconyers and the McNeese Wind Symphony on the narrated symphony of The Planets by Gustav Holst. During the past twelve years, Mr. Mac, community members and his students have created original, devised live theatre productions on Hurricanes, The Family, Teenagers and Autism/Asperger's in an effort to bring understanding to the misunderstood areas of life. When not working, Mr. Mac treasures his time with his wife and two daughters.

The McNeese Wind Symphony would like to extend a special thank you to **Professor Paul Pharris** for his wonderful lighting design for tonight's performance.

We would also like to thank **Dr. Tim Pardue** for running lights in tonight's performance, helping prepare the McNeese Wind Symphony in rehearsal, and for his continuing support of the McNeese Wind Symphony.

W.A and Dorothy Hannah Department of the Performing Arts Faculty

The McNeese State University Band Program would like to thank the outstanding faculty and staff for the W.A. and Dorothy Hannah Department of the Performing Arts for their tireless work in developing the excellent musicians on stage this evening and for exemplifying the university's motto "excellence with a personal touch."

Dr. Judy Hand, Flute
Dr. Ben Cold, Woodwinds
Dr. Jacquelyn Lankford, Trumpet
Prof. Rod Lauderdale, Horn
Prof. Bill Rose, Low Brass
Dr. Brian Nozny, Percussion
Dr. Lina Morita, Piano
Dr. HeaJu Choi, Piano
Dr. Jay Kecherski, Guitar
Prof. Barbara Belew, Harp
Dr. Carol Lines, Voice

Dr. Michael Buckles, Dean of Liberal Arts, Strings
Dr. Lonny Benoit, Department Head
Dr. Julian "Jay" Sconyers, Director of Bands
Prof. Tim Pardue., Associate Director of Bands
Dr. Darryl Jones, Director of Choirs
Prof. Charles McNeely III, Theatre Director
Prof. Paul Pharris, Technical Director
Dr. Jeff Lemke, Music Education
Ms. Hope Snider, Music Education
Ms. Libby Looney, Administrative Assistant
Ms. Sue Miller, Administrative Assistant



Join our Fellowship in 2022



THE PRIDE OF MCNEESE

We Want You!!!

AUDITIONS ARE OPEN

IN ALL SECTIONS



Learn more about The Pride of McNeese,
Scholarships, Performance Opportunities,
Auditions, and more

Email jsconyers@mcneese.edu

Color Guard and Drumline Auditions

Saturday, May 7, 2022, 1:00pm
McNeese Band Hall

All Winds and Music Majors

Schedule an audition by appointment
Contact jsconyers@mcneese.edu to set up a
date and time.

Find out more about audition requirements

Visit mcneesebands.com or email
jsconyers@mcneese.edu or
tpardue@mcneese.edu

McNeese State University Bands

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, April 27, 2022
McNeese State University Jazz Band
7:00 P.M. Tritico Theatre

Thursday, April 28, 2022
McNeese State University Symphonic Band
7:00 P.M. Tritico Theatre

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on music and theatre performances at McNeese

To ensure an enjoyable concert experience for all, please refrain from talking, entering, or exiting while musicians are performing.

Food and drink are prohibited in all concert halls.

Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices.
Thank you for your cooperation.





*Well, here at last, dear friends, on the shores of the Sea comes
the end of our fellowship in Middle-earth. Go in peace!
I will not say: do not weep; for not all tears are an evil.*