

**Saturday, February 17, 2024**

The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual  
**Southern Colorado  
Handbell Festival**



**Matthew Compton, conductor**

**5:30 PM – Handbell and Brass Concert**  
*featuring the Nexus Brass*

Colorado Springs Christian Schools Gymnasium  
4855 Mallow Road | Colorado Springs, CO

## PRE-CONCERT MUSIC

*Nexus Brass* –

America the Beautiful ..... arr. Jari Villanueva  
Armed Forces Medley ..... arr. Jari Villanueva  
The Star-Spangled Banner ..... arr. D.M. Johnson

## CONCERT

Ode to Joy ..... arr. Jason W. Krug  
Be Thou My Vision ..... arr. Matthew Compton  
Rondo Passacaglia ..... Cynthia Dobrinski

*Nexus Brass* –

Stars and Stripes Forever ..... arr. Henry Howey  
Quintet ..... Michael Kamen  
It Don't Mean a Thing ..... arr. David Kosmyna

Once in Royal David's City ..... arr. Dillon Ekle  
Bound for South Australia ..... arr. Alex Guebert

### *Introduction of Choirs and Donation Collection*

Toccata on King's Weston ..... arr. Matthew Compton  
Simplicity ..... Matthew Compton  
Crown Him With Many Crowns ..... arr. Matthew Compton

## SUPPORT THE FESTIVAL!

The Southern Colorado Handbell Alliance is a 501(c)(3) organization. Your contribution, either in the offering basket at the festival concert or online, helps us keep the annual Southern Colorado Handbell Festival running. This includes occasionally commissioning new music, bringing in nationally-known conductors, coordinating the logistics of the festival day, and still keeping costs affordable for participating ringers. The festival committee is comprised entirely of volunteers – all donations go directly to festival operations.

If you would prefer to use a credit/debit card to donate, you can do so online, here:

[socohandbells.org/donate](http://socohandbells.org/donate)



## CONDUCTOR



### **Matthew Compton**

Matthew Compton, a native of Colorado Springs, has been composing, arranging, and conducting music for handbells since 2007 when he was in the eighth grade. He had his first composition published at the age of fifteen, making him one of the youngest published handbell composers. Matthew graduated from Concordia University Wisconsin with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music with an emphasis in Composition and Conducting.

Based out of Vancouver, Washington now, he is the music director of the Bells of the Cascades in Portland, Oregon, Director of Music Ministries at Salmon Creek Church in Vancouver, and recently has become the new Artistic Director of Pikes Peak Ringers in Colorado Springs, CO. In addition to being a guest clinician at handbell festivals across the country, his music is frequently used at local and national handbell festivals, like the Bay View Week of Handbells and Distinctly Bronze East and West. He has been the recipient of the Donald E. Allured Composition Award.

In his limited spare time, Matthew can occasionally be found streaming a variety of games and music performances on Twitch, going hiking, or enjoying any number of movies, anime, or TV shows!

# PARTICIPATING HANDBELL CHOIRS

## **Bells of Faith**

Carol Bisanz, director  
Faith Presbyterian Church – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Bells of Village Seven**

Jeannine Holt, director  
Village Seven Presbyterian Church – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Bells of Vista Grande**

Jay Hill, director  
Vista Grande Baptist Church – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Carillon and Joy Ringers**

Erik Hjelmstad, director  
First Lutheran Church – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Chancel Bell Choir**

David Dunbar, director  
First Presbyterian Church – Fort Collins, CO

## **Chancel Ringers**

Jonathan Faires, director  
First United Methodist – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Concordia Ringers**

Dillon Ekle, director  
Holy Trinity Anglican Church – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Forté Handbell Quartet**

Luke Nabeta, director  
Colorado Springs, CO

## **Heritage Christian Academy Handbells**

Amanda Silvestri, director  
Heritage Christian Academy – Fort Collins, CO

## **Heritage Ringers Bronze**

Bonnie Linder, director  
Heritage Ringers Community Choir – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Heritage Ringers Silver**

Betty Amon, director  
Heritage Ringers Community Choir – Colorado Springs, CO

## **JuBELLation**

Krista Robinson, director  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Jubilate Ringers**

Emily Leeds, director  
Our Father Lutheran Church – Centennial, CO

## **Jubilee Bells**

Woody Woods, director  
St. Paul's United Methodist Church – Colorado Springs, CO

## **Peals of Joy!**

Merrily DeBusk, director  
United Methodist Church – Alliance, NE

## **Tri-Lakes Community Handbell Choir**

Jonathan Lowry, director  
Monument, CO



# NEXUS BRASS

Nexus Brass is the professional performing and education branch of Restoration Brass non-profit. Here are the players joining us today:

**Glen Whitehead, trumpet.** Glen Whitehead is an internationally-recognized award-winning trumpet artist and composer who stretches the music field exploring improvisational phenomena, interactive communication and environmental collaboration between living cultures, technologies and the natural world. Springing from the world of trumpet virtuosity, his creative work often explores instrumental and vocal music as immersive soundscapes, sonic theatre, installation, environmental exploration and cultural discourse to build compelling new interdisciplinary investigations across the arts and sciences.



**James Liverman, trumpet.** James Liverman is a trumpet player with over 28 years of experience. He has performed with numerous orchestras, wind ensembles and chamber ensembles throughout the United States and Europe. For the past 15 years, he has been serving in the United States Army Bands as principal trumpet for U.S. Army Europe Band & Chorus, the 4th Infantry Division Band, the 101st Airborne Division Band, and the 77th Army Band in Fort Sill, OK. He has also had the opportunity to perform as solo cornet and flugelhorn with the Western Missouri Brass Band, Fountain City Brass Band, and the Colorado Brass.



**Sarah Ford, horn.** Sarah Ford joined the Colorado Springs Philharmonic as Principal Horn in 2016. She has taught at CSU Pueblo since 2016 and at University of Colorado, Colorado Springs since 2017. Sarah earned her Master of Music from the Yale School of Music and her Bachelor of Music from Rutgers University. During her summers, Sarah has participated in the National Repertory Orchestra, Crested Butte Music Festival, the Pierre Montoux School, the National Music Festival, and the Kennedy Center Summer Music Institute. Sarah enjoys playing music of all styles and genres and enjoys teaching students of all ages and abilities!



**Ryan van Gilder, trombone.** Dr. Ryan Van Gilder is a lecturer at CSU Pueblo, teaching applied trombone lessons, directing the jazz studies program, and serving as the Brass Technical Advisor for the marching band. An active trombonist, Ryan performs regularly throughout Colorado as principal trombone of the Pikes Peak Brass Band and Boulder Chamber Orchestra, as well as numerous groups around the state. As an educator, Ryan has worked with schools and honor bands throughout Colorado. Ryan earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa and holds master's and doctorate degrees from the University of Colorado.



**Tim Hoffman, tuba.** Eastman Tuba Artist Tim Hoffman has been heard in venues across the United States, the United Kingdom, Serbia, Slovenia, Belgium, Germany and France. While in Europe he was honored to have played at notable U.S. cemeteries such as Normandy, Meuse-Argonne, and Oise-Aisne. Tim has performed with many talented ensembles and musicians, including the U.S. Army TRADOC Band, the United States Army Band and Chorus Europe, the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Imperial Symphony Orchestra, London Symphony Orchestra, and the Count Basie Orchestra.



**Kathryn Yuill, percussion.** Kathryn Yuill is a percussionist with the United States Air Force Academy Band at Peterson SFB. She currently performs with Stellar Brass, Academy Winds, the Ceremonial Band, and the Concert Band. Originally from Wisconsin, she holds a BM in Music Performance from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities, and an MM in Music Performance from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Kathryn was previously a member of the US Air Force Band of Mid America at Scott AFB, performing with the brass quintet, concert band, jazz ensemble, and top-40 ensemble.



**Nexus Brass** is made up of a collection of the best brass performers in the Colorado Springs area. Nexus Brass performs numerous shows each year and engages the community youth in top-notch brass performance and education.



## Southern Colorado Handbell Alliance Board and Festival Committee

Joan Kuehn, Board President; Megan Reishus, Festival Chair;  
Teresa Allen, Betty Amon, Christina Chisum, Dillon Ekle, Debbie Koster,  
Bonnie Linder, Vicky Stoner

### Thank You...

...to Church in the Wildwood in Green Mountain Falls for the use of their platforms for our conductor's podium, to Jonathan Faires and Jay Hill for providing the sound system, to Mu Phi Epsilon for providing the morning coffee, to Bonnie Linder for organizing the morning donuts, to Holy Cross Lutheran Church for providing bottled water, to Heritage Ringers for organizing and providing the evening snacks, to Dillon Ekle for serving as liaison to our host venue, and to First Lutheran Church for providing printing services for these programs.

*Visit our website for more information about the Festival!*

**[www.socohandbells.org](http://www.socohandbells.org)**



## GALLERY OF LIVING ART 2024

A free, unique, and powerful presentation about Jesus told with life-size works of art, thoughtful music, and Scripture

**FRIDAY, MARCH 15 • 7:30 P.M.**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16 • 2 AND 5 P.M.**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17 • 3 P.M.**

*Junior Gallery of Living Art*

Designed especially for families, with a backstage tour

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