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ECSD NEWS RELEASE

March 30, 2021

ECSD (FL) All County Band 2021 Goes Virtual *Nine Clinicians to Lead Online Workshops*

The 2021 Escambia County All County Band will feature top clinicians from around the United States as students engage in Virtual Master classes for two days on March 31, 2021 and April 1, 2021. Escambia County High School Band Directors will also have Professional Development sessions with Dr. Julian White and Dr. Nola Jones.

"Our students can't have a traditional All County Band this year due to the circumstances, but we have been awarded the resources to provide them with a first class musical experience virtually with some of the country's leading clinicians," said Ronald Gray, Pine Forest High School's Fine Arts Department Chair, Director of Bands and lead organizer for ECSD's 2021 All County Band Clinics.

A landing page has been created to help direct the students to the correct online links:

<https://sites.google.com/ecsdfi.us/ecsdfi2021bandmasterclass/home?pli=1&authuser=1>

Students' Instrumental Clinicians:

French Horn: Zackery Chambers, a native of Miami, Florida, has a Bachelor of Science degree in music from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU), as well as a Master of Arts degree from Florida Atlantic University (FAU). He is currently the director of bands at Barbara Goleman Senior High School and a member of the Florida Memorial University band staff where he serves as director of French horns & music technology for "The Roar" marching band.

Clarinet/Saxophone: Diron Holloway is a saxophonist who currently works for the Broward County Public Schools developing the musical skills of young musicians, by teaching music theory, practical skills and relevant coursework. Previously, he served as Director of the Award Winning FAMU Jazz Ensemble I.

Percussion: TeAiris Majors, a native of Pensacola, plays the marimba, vibraphone, and drums. He graduated from FAMU on 2015 and studies music performance at University of Florida and he has served as Assistant Band Director for Sam Houston High School in San Antonio, TX.

Oboe/Bassoon: Dr. Rebecca Mindock is the Associate Professor of Double Reeds at the University of South Alabama. She completed her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Oboe Performance and Pedagogy at the University of Colorado-Boulder, from which she also has a Master of Music degree. She earned bachelors degrees in Music and English Literature from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Euphonium/Tuba: Demondrae Thurman is currently the Professor of Music at Samford University where he teaches low brass and conducting while serving as conductor of the wind ensemble and Director of Graduate Studies. Thurman is a Miraphone Performing Artist and plays exclusively the Miraphone 5050 Ambassador "Edition" euphonium. He is also a Shires Trombone Performing Artist.

Flute: Mrs. Dennine M. White, currently the Director of the FAMU Flute Choir, she has served in this capacity for the past ten years. Mrs. White is a graduate of Florida A&M University earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education. She received the Mast of Music Degree in Flute Performance from the University of Akron. Further study was done at Florida State University.

Trumpet: Dr. Peter Wood, Professor of Music, teaches applied trumpet and coaches brass ensembles at the University of South Alabama. He serves on the International Trumpet Guild Board of Directors and as the ITG Publications Editor, overseeing production of the ITG Journal.

Trombone: Dr. Arie VandeWaa, Assistant Professor of Music (Trombone and Music Business) at the University of South Alabama. A Mobile native, Dr. VandeWaa has worked as a freelance trombonist in Alabama since 2010 and has performed with the Mobile Symphony, Mobile Opera, the Tuscaloosa Symphony, The Mobile Big Band Society, The Druid City Big Band, and the Southeast Chamber Orchestra, and the Mobile Pops Band.

Band Directors' Clinicians:

Dr. Julian White, a retired Distinguished Professor of Music, Director of Bands and Chairman of the Music Department at Florida A&M University, graduated from Florida A&M University earning a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. He later received a Master's Degree from the University of Illinois, and the Doctor of Philosophy Degree from Florida State University. Dr. White served as Band Director of William M. Raines High School for 10 years. The band consistently received superior ratings in marching and concert band assessments. Students

in the band participated in Solo and Ensemble Assessments and received more than 200 superior medals each year.

Dr. Nola Jones, a veteran music educator for over 25 years, is currently Director of Educational Programs for Conn-Selmer Inc. Previously, she served as the Director of Visual and Performing Arts for Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools in Nashville, Tennessee. In addition to providing support for over 400 arts education specialists, Dr. Jones helped structure and implement Music Makes Us, a public/private partnership among Metro Nashville Public Schools, the mayor's office, and music industry and community leaders in Nashville. Dr. Jones received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Mississippi State University and the Master of Music Education degree from Mississippi College. She received her Doctorate of Musical Arts in Conducting from the University of South Carolina, where she was a student of Dr. William J. Moody.

ECSD All County Band POC: Ronald Barnard Gray, Jr., Pine Forest High School's Fine Arts Department Chair, Director of Bands, 850-941-6150 Ext 249, rgray1@ecsdfl.us www.SuperSoundBand.com

Media queries about Escambia County School District topics should be directed to Kim Stefansson, at (cell) **850-393-0539** or kstefansson@ecsdfl.us. Like and share posts about ECSD found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ecsdfl Go to the Escambia Schools Public Relations page on www.facebook.com/ecsd.public to see pictures of recent events. Visit ECSD's web page at www.escambiaschools.org
ECSD prc 03302021