

CELEBRATING OHIO MUSIC AND COMPOSERS

Music in our summer 2022 folders and their connections to Ohio

James Swearingen

All Glory Told
Deep River
Flight of Valor
Novena

James Swearingen was born on September 26, 1947, in Dayton, Ohio. He earned degrees in music from Bowling Green State University and Ohio State University. He served as director of instrumental music at Grove City (Ohio) High School near Columbus, where his marching, symphonic, and jazz bands have all received acclaim for their high performance standards.

Swearingen has composed many pieces for band, and several of them have appeared on required music lists for band festivals throughout the United States. Numerous schools have commissioned him to compose new works, and he served as staff member and arranger for the Ohio State University Marching Band. He is also active as a guest conductor and clinician.

Clare E. Grundman

American Folk Rhapsody
The Blue and The Gray
Concord
Fantasy on American Sailing Songs
A Scottish Rhapsody

Clare Ewing Grundman was born on May 11, 1913 in Cleveland, Ohio. He is a graduate of Shaw High School in East Cleveland. He entered Ohio State University in 1930, receiving a Bachelor of Science in Education degree in 1934 and a Masters of Arts in 1939. In his first teaching position, he was an instrumental music teacher at University High School in Columbus, Ohio, in 1934-1935. He then moved to Lexington, Kentucky, and from 1935-1937 taught instrumental music in all grades. He returned to Ohio State in 1937 as an instructor of orchestration, bands, and woodwinds.

In 1941, he left Ohio State and began a career as a free lance composer and arranger. He also studied composition with Paul Hindemith during this time. This new phase of his career was interrupted by World War II. From 1942-1945, he served as a chief musician in the U. S. Coast Guard. After the war, he established himself as an important contributor to the American music scene. He died June 15, 1996 in South Salem, New York.

His papers and manuscripts are located in the Music and Dance Library at Ohio State.

The Black Horse Troop

John Philip Sousa wrote *The Black Horse Troop March* in 1924, dedicating it to Troop A of the Cleveland National Guard. Years before, in 1881, he had marched with his U.S. Marine Band and the same mounted troop in the funeral procession for President Garfield. When Sousa and his band premiered this march in Cleveland in 1925, the troopers rode their beautiful black horses right up on the stage with the band.

Frederick Fennell, arranger for *Black Horse Troop*

Frederick Fennell was born in Cleveland, Ohio on July 2, 1914. He chose piccolo as his primary instrument at the age of seven, as drummer in the fife-and-drum corps at the family's encampment called Camp Zeke. He owned his first drum set at age ten. In the John Adams High School (Ohio) orchestra, Fennell performed as the kettledrummer and served as the band's drum major.

Frederick Fennell was an internationally recognized conductor and one of the primary figures in promoting the Eastman Wind Ensemble as a performing group. He was also influential as a band pedagogue, and greatly affected the field of music education in the U.S. and abroad.

Mr. Fennell died on December 7, 2004. In Fennell's New York Times obituary, colleague Jerry F. Junkin was quoted as saying "He was arguably the most famous band conductor since John Philip Sousa."

Henry Fillmore

The Crosley March

The Klaxon

Men of Ohio

Henry Fillmore (December 3, 1881 – December 7, 1956) was an American musician, composer, publisher, and bandleader, best known for his many marches and screamers.

Fillmore was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, as the eldest of five children. In his youth he mastered piano, guitar, violin, flute, and slide trombone. He kept his trombone activities a secret at first, as his circumspect religious father James Henry Fillmore (1849–1936)—a composer of gospel songs, often in collaboration with Jessie Brown Pounds—believed it an uncouth and sinful instrument. Henry's mother secretly bought a used trombone for him and obscured from Henry's father the son's learning to play the instrument. Fillmore, whose relative Frederick Augustus Fillmore (1856–1925) was also a tune-composer for gospel songs, was a singer for his church choir as a boy. He began composing at 18, with his first published march "Hingham", named after a line of brass instruments. Fillmore entered the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music in 1901.

After graduating from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Fillmore traveled the United States as a circus bandmaster with his wife, an exotic vaudeville dancer named Mabel May Jones. They were married in St. Louis.

During the 1920s, Fillmore was back in Cincinnati conducting the Shriners Temple Band, which he turned into one of the best marching bands in the country.

Fillmore wrote over 250 pieces and arranged orchestrations for hundreds more. He published under a variety of pseudonyms, including Gus Beans, Harold Bennett, Ray Hall, Harry Hartley, Al Hayes, Henrietta Moore, and Will Huff. Fillmore used many pseudonyms throughout his career because he was worried that flooding the market with music published under "Henry Fillmore" would dissuade others from purchasing his music.

Fillmore used the named "Will Huff" as a pseudonym for several years, unaware that another composer living in the same state was also composing band music under that name. The two men met later in their lives and Fillmore's publishing company published many of the real Will Huff's compositions.

Michael Sweeney, arranger of

Hymn to the Fallen

Michael Sweeney (born 1952) is an ASCAP award-winning American composer and musician.

Michael Sweeney studied music education and composition at the Indiana University Bloomington Work. Sweeney taught five years in public schools of Ohio and Indiana, where he taught many concert, jazz and marching programs for students from elementary to high school.

Henry Mancini

Mancini Magic

Henry Mancini was born Enrico Nicola Mancini in the Little Italy neighborhood of Cleveland and raised in West Aliquippa, Pennsylvania, near Pittsburgh. Both his parents were Italian immigrants. Originally from Scanno, Abruzzo, his father Quintiliano "Quinto" Mancini was a laborer at the Jones and Laughlin Steel Company and amateur musician who first came to the U.S. as a teenager around 1910. His mother Anna (née Pece) came to the U.S. from Forlì del Sannio as an infant.

At age eight, Mancini began learning the piccolo with his father, a member of the Sons of Italy Band in Aliquippa, PA. Mancini said that hearing Rudolph G. Kopp's score in the 1935 Cecil B. DeMille film *The Crusades* inspired him to pursue film music composition despite his father's wishes for him to become a teacher.

After graduating from Aliquippa High School in 1942, Mancini first attended the Carnegie Institute of Technology (now Carnegie Mellon University) in Pittsburgh. Later that year, Mancini transferred to the Juilliard School of Music in New York City.

After turning 18, Mancini enlisted in the United States Army Air Forces in 1943. While in basic training in Atlantic City, New Jersey, he met musicians being recruited by Glenn Miller.

Loras Schissel, arranger for
Men of Ohio

Loras John Schissel is the music director and conductor of both the Virginia Grand Military Band, of which he is the founder, and the Cleveland Orchestra's Blossom Festival Band, two of the finest concert bands in the world.

Schissel made his debut with the Cleveland Orchestra in May 2007, conducting three performances of an Education Concert titled Spirit of America. The same month, he also made his debut with the Phoenix Symphony, conducting a program entitled Gershwin Celebration, and returned there in May 2008 to conduct for sold out concerts. He made his third annual appearance in Phoenix in May 2010 conducting an All-American Memorial Day program. In July 2008, he made his debut with the United States Army Band (Pershing's Own) on the steps of the U.S. Capitol. In 2011 he led the Cleveland Orchestra in a 9/11 commemoration concert on Public Square in downtown Cleveland.

Henry Fillmore dedicated *Men of Ohio* "To the President, Warren G. Harding, and his staunch Loyalists" in 1921, the year Harding became the twenty-ninth President of the United States. Harding played alto horn in his hometown band of Caledonia and later in Marion, Ohio, where his family moved.

Karl L. King
The Ohio Special

Karl Lawrence King was born February 21, 1891 in the village of Paintersville, Ohio. He was the only child of Sandusky S. and Anna Lindsey King. The King family moved to Canton, Ohio when he was eleven, the age he used newspaper carrier income to purchase his first musical instrument – a cornet. He studied with Emile Reinkendorff, director of the Grand Army Band of Canton, on this instrument.

He grew up as a self-taught musician with very little schooling of any kind. He left school after the eighth grade, age fourteen. His only music instruction included assistance from local musicians when he played brass instruments in the Canton Marine Band. He also had four piano lessons and one harmony lesson from musical show director William Bradford. He learned to compose by studying scores. He quit school to learn the printing trade while continuing to compose music at night, but he soon switched to playing in and composing for bands.

His first professional positions were in the Thayer Military Band in Canton, directed by William E. Strassner followed by the Neddermeyer Band of Columbus, Ohio, conducted by Fred Neddermeyer. He switched from the cornet to the baritone horn, with Strassner instructing him on that instrument. He also played in the Soldier's Home Band in Danville, Illinois.

Karl King joined Robinson's Famous Circus at the age of 19 as a baritone player. He joined the circus world at a time when the acts were in great need of special music since the standard music did not fit. Karl King was a master at writing music to match the rhythm of the acts and quickly rose to leadership positions in some of the most famous circus bands in the country, including the Buffalo Bill and the Barnum and Bailey. He contributed more circus marches than any other composer, and aerial waltzes and circus galops were his specialty.

Karl King was a United States march music bandmaster and composer. He is best known as the composer of *Barnum and Bailey's Favorite*. He died March 31, 1971.

The Ohio Special was dedicated to Roy Liston, music director, in Peebles, Ohio and active in the 1930s. Peebles is in southern Ohio in Adams County.

Queen City March

Written as a tribute to Cincinnati, the *Queen City March* was written by a relatively unknown composer. Clean, simple, and as melodically charming as a march can be! This 1927 gem proves that many march treasures still lie hidden in obscurity. Dedicated to the "Queen City" of Cincinnati (hometown of its publisher, Fillmore Bros)-Boorn was obviously as clever a salesman as he was a composer!), it has a definite circus flair, but with a gentle, easygoing gait, and the pyramidal trio melody is a truly delightful inspiration.

Steven Reineke*Rise of the Firebird*

Steven Reineke (born September 14, 1970) is a conductor, composer, and arranger from Cincinnati, Ohio. He is the Music Director of The New York Pops. He currently resides in New York City.

Steven Reineke has established himself as one of North America's leading conductors of popular music. Mr. Reineke is the Music Director of The New York Pops at Carnegie Hall, Principal Pops Conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Principal Pops Conductor of the Houston Symphony and Toronto Symphony Orchestra. He previously held the posts of Principal Pops Conductor of the Long Beach and Modesto Symphony Orchestras and Associate Conductor of the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra.

As the creator of more than one hundred orchestral arrangements for the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra, Mr. Reineke's work has been performed worldwide, and can be heard on numerous Cincinnati Pops Orchestra recordings on the Telarc label. His symphonic works Celebration Fanfare, Legend of Sleepy Hollow and Casey at the Bat are performed frequently in North America, including performances by the New York Philharmonic and Los Angeles Philharmonic. His Sun Valley Festival Fanfare was used to commemorate the Sun Valley Summer Symphony's pavilion, and his Festival Te Deum and Swan's Island Sojourn were debuted by the Cincinnati Symphony and Cincinnati Pops Orchestras. His numerous wind ensemble compositions are published by the C.L. Barnhouse Company and are performed by concert bands worldwide.

A native of Ohio, Mr. Reineke is a graduate of Miami University of Ohio, where he earned bachelor of music degrees with honors in both trumpet performance and music composition.