

THE BEST OF POPS

sunday, april 2, 7pm
michigan theater

Christopher Lees
music director

Sarah Maynard
executive director



the michigan pops orchestra's
tenth anniversary concert



THE

Welcome to
**THE BEST
OF POPS!**



Welcome to "THE BEST OF POPS," an anniversary celebration of ten years of Michigan Pops Orchestra music! It's hard to believe that Pops has only been around ten short years—in this time, we have walked down Broadway, rode out to the Wild West, traveled Around the World, and even flew to Outer Space. Most recently, we jumped right into cartoons and even brought Superman to life! But now, in a monumental concert for our orchestra, it is an evening to celebrate all of the adventurous music-making experiences we have had over the lifetime of Pops. And whether it is your tenth year of Pops concerts or your very first show, the music we share tonight will be magical and memorable, so please sit back and relax as we take a trip down memory lane...

"The Best of Pops" features the sounds of the 80-plus member Michigan Pops Orchestra, one of the most diverse and unique student groups on campus. Musicians from a variety of disciplines within the University come together to produce concerts that always prove to be anything but typical. This special concert highlights some of our favorite snapshots from the movie music, Broadway hits and classical favorites featured in past shows—it was certainly hard to choose!

As the only student-run and directed orchestra on campus, Pops has numerous friends who have helped us over the years—this particular concert would not be possible without the assistance of many willing and generous people including Mary Kisor of UAC, Steve Weaver of First Impressions Printing, Tara McComb and Scott Clarke of Michigan Theater, Linda Siglin of the Major Events Office, Maggie St. Clair and the Michigan Marching Band, Solid Sound, and Ring of Steel. Please know how very grateful we are to each of you who have helped us this semester throughout the production of "The Best of Pops."

Finally, thank you all for joining us this evening. We hope you thoroughly enjoy the show and these unforgettable favorites as much as we love bringing them to life again! As we end an era and move into a new decade for Pops, we look forward to sharing music for years to come.

Sarah Maynard

Executive Director, Michigan Pops Orchestra

MICHIGAN POPS PRESENTS

THE BEST OF POPS!

Michigan Pops 10th Anniversary Concert

at the Michigan Theater, April 2nd, 2006, 7pm

Twentieth Century Fox Theme

Lord of the Rings Symphonic Suite

Howard Shore
(arr. Whitney)

Les Toreadors from Carmen

Georges Bizet

Variations on a Shaker Melody
Steve Bizub, Conductor

Aaron Copland

Cuban Overture

George Gershwin

An American Symphony
from Mr. Holland's Opus

Michael Kamen

*****INTERMISSION*****

The New World
from Songs for a New World

Jason Rober Brown
(arr. Shymanovitz)

Hedwig's Theme
from Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

John Williams

Seasons of Love
from Rent

Jonathan Larson
(arr. Lees)

Pirates of the Caribbean
John Zastoupil, Conductor

Klaus Badelt
(arr. Ricketts)

Duel of the Fates
from Star Wars Episode I: The Phantom Menace

John Williams

Circle of Life
from Lion King

Elton John
(arr. Beck)

THE MUSICIANS!

Conductor - Christopher Lees

Assistant Conductor - John Zastoupil

First Violin

Jessie Harvey, Concertmaster
Sarah Thiel, Assoc. Concertmaster
Lyndsey Brown
Richard Chang
Jeff Ferman
James Kornacki
Betty Lee
Sarah Maynard
Alexandra Peri
Michelle Ravitsky
Zoe Rudisill
Rhea Sirkar
Kim Stradal
Andy Wang
Li Yi

Second Violin

Carolyn Nishon, Principal
Michael Chang
Patricia Chang
Josh Elson
Cassie Jeng
Grace Liu
Clare McGuire
Elizabeth Parker
Danny Pearlberg
Christine Rhee
Shari Rosen
Liz Stover
Justin Tien
Lindsey Trainor
Andy Whitten
Angela You

Viola

Kathy Blanchard, Principal
Emily Altman
Evan Brown
Alex Chen
Ellen Michaels
Katie Niehues
Zach Rosenthal
Hannah Smith
Ben Srivastava
Trevor Verrot
Marla Wojciechowski

Cello

Diana Keung, Principal
Erin Bachynski
Connie Chang
Michael Eisenberg
Kenny Koshorek
Lauren Miller
Lindsay Parker
Gail Shen
Kristen VanDyke
Jennifer Wurtzel

Bass

William Stoddard, Principal
Lauren Ham
Joel Skaistis

Harp

Diana Elliot

Percussion

Joel Acevedo
Cory Hafer
Charles Lee
Christina Li
Jessie Stith

Happy Birthday
Michigan Pops!

THE MUSICIANS!

Flute

Tom McDonough
Erin Platte
Ranjan Radhamohan
Virginia Silvis

Oboe

Jessica Bickel
Emily Downs
Heather Schier

Clarinet

Marina Epstein-Katz
Shelley Greene
David Sohn
Maya Subbarao

Bassoon

John Gettel
Jeff Lovell

French Horn

Jonathan Duggan
Laura Hunsberger
Stephanie Jahnke
Cody Martin
Ann O'Connor
Casey Stiehl

Trumpet

Jacob Dugopolski
Jared Faraudo
Sarath Sanga
Allison Wachter

Trombone

Sarah Tomaszewski
Matt Vanderlaan

Bass Trombone

Nathan Platte

Tuba

Mike Dobbs



Our Michigan Pops Orchestra Exective Board

Sarah Maynard
Christopher Lees
John Zastoupil
Lindsay Parker
Michael Dobbs
Kathy Blanchard
Trevor Verrot
Tom McDonough
Maya Subbarao
Carolyn Nishon
Josh Elson
Jessica Bickel

Executive Director
Music Director
Assistant Music Director
Executive Assistant
Small Ensembles Director
Outreach Director
Treasurer
Librarian
Social Coordinator
Co-Publicity Director
Co-Publicity Director
Program Director



Our Conductors:

Christopher Lees is in his fourth and final season as Music Director of the Michigan Pops. This term he completes his Masters Degree in Orchestral Conducting, and brings his time in Ann Arbor to a close. Having appeared with groups such as the University Symphony Orchestra, Campus Symphony and Philharmonia, the Michigan Sinfonietta, the 125th Philharmonic, the Grand Rapids Sinfonietta, das Korngold Festpiel Orchester, and the Mariah Carey Festival Orchestra, Christopher has conducted widely around the area. In 2003, he won first prize at the American Choral Directors Association National Undergraduate Conducting Competition and he has participated in masterclasses with Lorin Maazel, Thomas Wilkins, Larry Rachleff, Anton Armstrong, and others. He is very proud of how the orchestra has developed these last four years, and is extraordinarily proud to be a part of its history and community.



John Zastoupil, a native of Kingwood, Texas, is currently the Assistant Director of the Michigan Pops Orchestra and will continue as Music Director next season. He has been a guest conductor of the U of M. Symphony, Concert, and Campus Bands as well as the Baylor University Wind Ensemble and Chamber Winds. He is currently working towards a Masters in Wind Conducting at the University of Michigan. John holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Baylor University in Waco, Texas. As an active percussionist, John has performed with the U of M Symphony Band, Waco Symphony, Lyric Opera of Waco, San Angelo Symphony, and the Aspen Music Festival Orchestras. Before coming to Michigan, John worked with the Westlake High School and Hill Country Middle School band programs in Austin, Texas.



Steve Bizub is a graduate of the U of M School of Music's Artist and Scholar Honors Program in which he studied saxophone performance and orchestral conducting. He was the first music director of the Michigan Pops Orchestra, a position he held for three years. After college, a three-month trip to Tokyo, Japan turned into a six-year stay seemingly overnight. While in Japan, Steve has been active as a musician and music educator and has travelled to Ghana and India to study native drumming traditions of those countries as well as those of Japan. This fall, Steve will continue graduate studies at Oakland University and will serve on the faculty as a lecturer. He is honored to be a part of the MPO's 10th Anniversary concert and wishes the orchestra another 10 great years of music making.



POPS IN SPACE: MUSIC DIRECTOR: CHRIS LEES; COSTUME DESIGNER: FATIMA SYED
 SUNDAY/NOVEMBER 9-2003-7:00 PM-MICHIGAN THEATRE-ANN ARBOR, MI
 TICKETS - \$8 ADULTS - \$3 STUDENTS - AVAILABLE AT MUTD OR CALL (734)763-7K15
 A MICHIGAN POPS/UAAC PRODUCTION - WWW.MICHIGANEDUCATION.ORG

Wow, Pops has come a long way...

The Michigan Pops Orchestra began ten years ago as the idea of Warren Hsu who wanted to put together an orchestra that played music other orchestras on campus were not playing. Advertising at FestiFall where all the university clubs get together on the diag to tell people what they are and recruit new members, Warren was able to gather a core group of musicians and three different conductors. They rehearsed haphazardly during that first semester, reading different music, all the while trying to convince friends and other musicians to join. Then, the following semester the pieces all started coming together under conductor Steve Bizub and the first Pops concert was performed Sunday, March 31st, 1996.

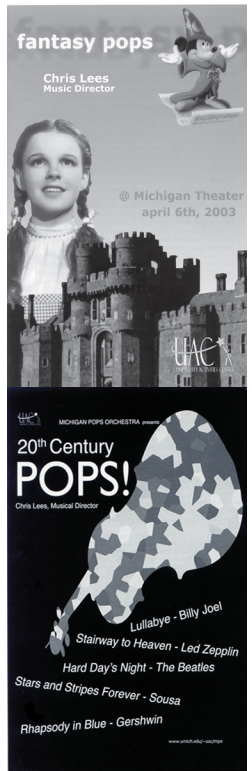
Pops has more than doubled its size since that very first concert, and gone through numerous different conductors, joined the University Activities Center, and changed concert venues. However, many things remain the same, including second violinist Michael Chang who was among the first Pops members when he was a Freshman at U of M and still plays with the group while he finishes up a PhD in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Michael says one of the biggest changes in Pops over the years is the conductors. Each one brings a different style and twist to the orchestra. Steve Bizub and Chris Lees have been the longest tenured conductors and have acted as bookends, bringing an excitement and energy, "It's energy. People are having fun. They're there because they want to be there." Other conductors, such as Doug Martin, focused on very difficult music, and brought Pops to Hill Auditorium. Steven Jarvi had a choral background, while Karl Shymanovitz loved Broadway and arranged an entire program which took so much time that they read music at the dress rehearsal! But, according to Michael, "It wouldn't be a MPO concert if we didn't try to kill the conductor with stress!"

The other major change is the executive board which has oscillated from as few as 2 to up to 12 members. This group of men and women rent the rehearsal hall, design the posters and programs, and record the concerts. "It has become more important over the years and brought more cohesiveness to the group."

However, Pops desire to grow and move forward has not changed. Today we work to perform outreach to schools and hopefully tour in the future, and all of this is possible from the vision of Warren and Steve ten years ago. Mike recalls rehearsals at Revelli hall, where we still rehearse today, when it was "bleak and cold... and only twenty of us were there playing hodge podge parts Steve Bizub would say, 'Don't worry. One day Michigan Pops will be huge and you'll get to say I was there at the beginning.'"

We send our thanks to those before us and hope we have made you proud, especially Steve Bizub, our guest conductor, and Warren Hsu who is in the audience tonight.

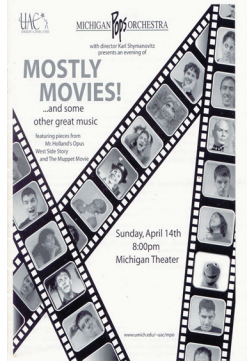


fantasy pops
Chris Lees
Music Director

@ Michigan Theater
april 6th, 2003

20th Century
POPS!
Chris Lees, Musical Director

Lullabye - Billy Joel
Stairway to Heaven - Led Zeppelin
Hard Day's Night - The Beatles
Stars and Stripes Forever - Sousa
Rhapsody in Blue - Gershwin



MICHIGAN POPS ORCHESTRA
with Director Jeff Szymanski
and the assistance of
MPO members

MOSTLY MOVIES!
...and some
other great music

Featuring pieces from:
An American Werewolf in
London
The Godfather
The Godfather Part II
and The Godfather Part III

Sunday, April 14th
8:00pm
Michigan Theater



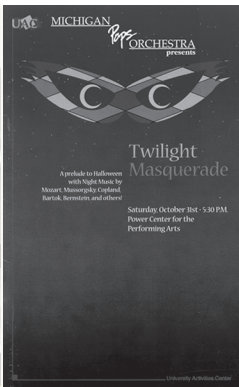
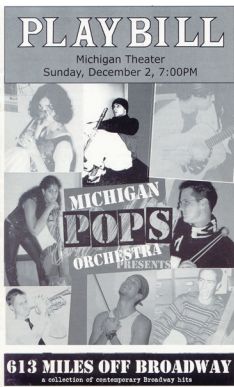
MICHIGAN POPS ORCHESTRA

Peter and the Wolf
and Other Musical Stories

Saturday, March 25, 2000
Reverend Center for the
Performing Arts,
8:00 PM

Featuring:
Babette Pomeroy
Rachael Williams
Narrating Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf
Steve Lepore
Shirley Verrett
Narrating Copland's Lincoln Portrait
with
Justin Bruns
Playing Sarasate's Carmen Fantasy

Music Director Jeff Szymanski
Assistant Director Jeff Szymanski
Executive Director Jeff Szymanski



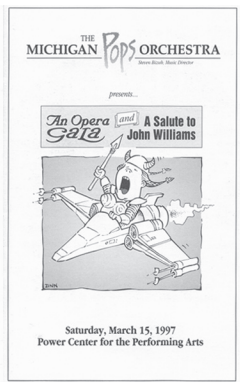
MICHIGAN Pops ORCHESTRA
Sylvia Babin, Music Director

Happy BIRTHDAY George!!

-A GERSHWIN CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION-



Friday, March 17 at 8:00PM
Power Center for the Performing Arts



We surveyed our current Pops musicians on their musical preferences and about their preferences in time travel since the past is on our mind this semester. Here are their answers:

Pops musicians' favorite piece is:

Pirates of the Carribean (43%),
LOTR and Harry Potter (15%)

Pops musicians' favorite time travel movies are:

Back to the Future (48%)

Pops musicians would prefer to:

Travel Back in time (67%), Forward in time (33%)

We want to thank the many people who make this possible, especially our wonderful donors.

Pops Concertmasters:

Michael LaChance
The Radhamohans
Nancy Vanderlaan

Pops Benefactors:

Wen-Li Chen
Linda & Howard Elson
Deborah A. Wurtzel

Pops Associates:

David & Anita Niehues
Carl Cormany & Valentina Sgro
The Stover Family
Jay Pearlberg
Debby & Barry Rosen
David & Becky Tomaszewski
Jenne-Tai & Theresa Wang

Friends of Pops:

Don & Carol Hafer
Laura Loughran McGuire
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Parker
Karen Rudisill
Velliyiur & Suba Subbarao
Dave VanDyke

On behalf of the entire Michigan Pops executive board, thanks for coming tonight and we look forward to seeing you in the Fall for another amazing musical journey.

~ Jessica Bickel, Program Director

