

National Society

2020 Professional Conference

March 14, 2020

Walnut Hills High School Cincinnati, Ohio

Schedule

SATURDAY, March 14

8:15-9:00 A.M. (Room 1850)

Check-In/Coffee and Pastries

Welcome: Dr. Chris Tanner, NSSBE President

9:30 A.M. (Room 1840)

Creating an ideal sound for your steel band

Presenter: Tom Miller

This session will discuss setting up your players with technical and musical concepts to achieve the ideal sound for your steel band. Basic playing technique, proper touch of each voice, instrument balance, and ensemble issue will be discussed.

10:45 A.M. (Room 1845) Including Afro-Cuban Percussion Instruments and Rhythms in your steel band Presenter: Joseph Galvin

Joe specializes in teaching folkloric and popular Afro-Cuban music as well as steelpan at IU's Jacobs School of Music, giving him a unique laboratory to combine these two wonderful cultures of music. This clinic will explore the fundamentals of Afro-Cuban percussion and how to apply them to your steelband in a hands-on workshop. We will focus on proper playing technique for many of the common handheld instruments used in styles such as rumba guaguanco, danzon, chachacha, son, salsa, and mozambique.

11:45 P.M. - LUNCH (Room 1850)

1:00 P.M. (Room 1840)
Pan Aerobics
Presenter: Emily Lemmerman

Emily Lemmerman will present a systematic approach designed to help educators teach their young performers how to be comfortable and feel natural incorporating physical movement in performance.

2:15 P.M. (Room 1845)

Thinking Outside the Grooves: What's next for North American Pan?

Presenter: Britain Moore Duo

This session aims to promote and inspire creative thinking and to open a dialogue about how to take steel pan ensembles and repertoire to the next step on its evolutionary journey. The BMD, who—in the 1980s—became the first touring steel pan/marimba duo, will discuss creative developments past, present, and future, and along the way share their insight and ideas about how we might begin to think "outside the grooves" of the steel pan.

Schedule

3:45 P.M. - BREAK Be sure to visit our Vendors! (Room 1850)

4:30 P.M. (Room 1840)

<u>The Place of Cultural Heritage and Tradition in Our Panyards and Classrooms</u> Presenters: Kayleen Justus and Janine Tiffe

The theme of this roundtable-and-discussion session centers on one of the four main objectives of the National Society of Steel Band Educators: "To honor the cultural heritage and traditions of steel pans and steel bands." The session panel is composed of steel band directors who will share examples of their own effective approaches to doing this in a variety of educational contexts. After the initial presentations, the session will open to further discussion about engaging cultural heritage and tradition in pan pedagogies and in our professional organization.

5:45 P.M. (Recital Hall - Upstairs) **The Britain Moore Duo**

NSSBE would like to thank our Sponsors:

Patty Dee
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THANK YOU!

President's Welcome

On behalf of our Board of Directors and the members of our Steering Committee, I am very pleased to welcome you to the 2020 Professional Conference of the National Society of Steel Band Educators, at Walnut Hills High School in Cincinnati, OH. Special thanks are due to the entire music staff at WHHS for accommodating us, and particularly to Mike Wendeln, director of the Walnut Hills High School Steel Drum Band. He and Mike Greer, once again serving as Conference Co-Chairs, have done outstanding work in preparation for today's event.



We are excited to present a program that is informative and engaging, featuring experts in the field who are dedicated to excellence. Our clinicians include Joseph Galvin, Kayleen Justus, Emily Lemmerman, Tom Miller, and Janine Tiffe. These accomplished performers and scholars will enlighten, inspire, and increase our understanding of the steel band art form, and we are honored to have them with us. Additionally, our featured guests, the Britain Moore Duo, bring to the table decades of experience in performing, teaching, and composing-arranging. Their contributions are sure to resonate with us long after our meeting concludes.

This is our third annual meeting, and while NSSBE remains young, our leadership team is committed to providing a platform for those working as steel band ensemble directors and leaders to share best practices, engage in professional development, and network. We hope that as we move forward, the NSSBE annual Professional Conference becomes a regular destination for our community, an essential event in the rhythm of one's year that cannot be missed. To that end, we need your help: please spread the word of what has occurred at this event among your professional colleagues. Together, as members, we will grow this organization in the coming years.

Thank you for your attendance at this year's Professional Conference. Through your presence, you demonstrate your commitment to our mission – advancing steel band education in the United States. I am delighted that you have chosen to deepen your understanding of this wonderful discipline with us, and I look forward to spending the day with you.

Thank you,

Chris Tanner

President, NSSBE

Presenters



Mat Britain (steel pans and percussion) and Dan Moore (marimba, vibes and percussion) began their musical journey together back in 1984 and they continue to record and perform their unique blend of musical styles that feature everything from jazz to folk and pop, contemporary percussion, music of the world, their own unique original compositions, and creative arrangements of standard tunes they lovingly call "treatments."

The two first got together as a duo when they were students at Wichita State University studying with influential percussionist J.C. Combs. Britain was working on an undergraduate degree and became fascinated with the steel pan. Moore was working on his master's and focusing his energies on the marimba. Their first duo recording was the result of the need for an additional tune for a Wichita State University Steel Band recording. Dan and Mat skipped lunch to create their first BMD composition titled Clock on the Wall—a reference to the limited amount of time they had to create a new composition before the recording engineer returned from lunch.

Then in 1984, inspired by a one-off duo performance by Andy Narell and Dave Samuels, they formed the Britain Moore Duo and became the first touring steel pan/marimba duo. This trail-blazing pair has four commercial recordings to their credit including a

four-song EP record titled The Britain/Moore Duo (1989); Cricket City (1993); Little World of Rhythm (2001); and Nutville (2014) which features thirteen groovy tracks ranging from classic BMD tunes to large-scale productions—music from Argentina, Brazil, Trinidad, and the USA—all filtered through the BMD's one-of-a-kind musical lens.

The BMD performs throughout the country having presented countless concerts in colleges and universities, grade schools, secondary schools, jazz clubs, and music festivals. They've joined forces for performances and recordings with influential musicians such as Matt Wilson, Johnny Rabb, Danny Gottlieb, the late Ed Shaughnessy, Peter Erskine, The Percussion Group Nexus, Fernando Hashimoto, the late Tom Roady, Roy "Futureman" Wooten, and many others.

Moore has fine-tuned his approach to the marimba and vibes with hundreds of solo performances throughout the world over the last thirty years, also helping enhance the BMD's global perspective on music. Mat has traveled to Trinidad to participate several times in the Panorama competition, and both have traveled to China to perform and learn traditional Chinese drumming. In 2019 the BMD undertook their first European tour with performances and workshops in Slovenia and Poland.

They continue to perform and record as a duo making them one of the longest running percussion duos still working today. Along the way, they've influenced a generation of percussionists who've performed their music and imitated their unique style.

Presenters

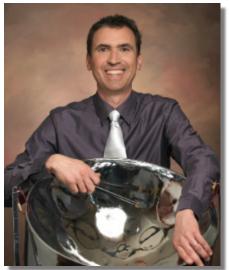
Joe Galvin has taken a varied path to becoming a steelpan performer and Afro-Cuban percussionist. He studied piano and violin at a young age, and by high school he was drawn to the drum set. While in school, he sought out and participated in as many music groups as he could, accompanying ensembles on piano and drums, singing in choirs, and playing various strings in everything from orchestras to garage rock bands. This musical eclecticism led Galvin to begin college studying piano, but he quickly shifted his attention to percussion, where he fell in love with the steelpan.

Galvin has performed extensively over the years, the following are just a few performances of note: He performed as a featured soloist and ensemble member with the Aguavá New Music Group in 2005 at the Library of Congress, Washington D.C. He has been fortunate to share the stage with leaders in their fields such as percussionist Michael Spiro, steelpan virtuoso Liam Teague, and marimbist Kevin Bobo. He has also performed several times at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention. Galvin had the fortunate opportunity to perform with the BP Renegades in Trinidad's Panorama competition in 2013 and again with the PCS Nitrogen Silver Stars, directed by Liam Teague, in 2016.



Dr. Galvin received his music degrees from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, culminating in a doctorate of percussion performance with a focus of steelpan and Afro-Cuban percussion traditions. Upon Professor Michael Spiro's retirement from IU beginning in January 2019, Galvin will be Spiro's interim replacement through the Jacobs School of Music Percussion Department, directing the Afro-Cuban Folkloric Ensemble, steelpan ensemble, and coaching the Latin Jazz Ensemble big band.

You can hear his playing on two Grammy nominated albums: The Wayne Wallace Quintet's Intercambio and Michael Spiro and Wayne Wallace's Canto America with La Orquesta Sinfonietta. His most recent album, released in 2017, is a collaboration with Michael Spiro entitled BÁKINI – En el Nuevo Mundo, combining the folkloric musics of Afro-Cuban, Afro-Brazilian, and Trinidadian lineages into a contemporary sound. You can also hear Galvin and Spiro on two Ritmos Unidos recordings, a Latin jazz ensemble comprised of IU faculty and alumni.



Tom Miller's vast experience as a performing percussionist, steel drummer, composer, arranger and educator has made him one of the most respected and sought after soloists and clinicians today. Tom has performed worldwide with his own popular group Pan Ramajay, with other notable pan artists, Andy Narell, Ray Holman, Len "Boogsie" Sharpe, Othello Molineaux, the Our Boys Steel Orchestra. Tom was also a featured guest performer at Trinidad and Tobago's annual "Pan and Jazz Festival," in 2005 and 2010.

He currently is the director of Steel Drum Ensembles at the University of Denver, Lamont School of Music as well as the founder and director of the Pan Ramajay Summer Steel Drum Festival, in Denver, Colorado, occurring annually in July. Tom is the founder and president of one of the foremost steel drum music publishing companies, Pan Ramajay Productions (www.ramajay.com).

Presenters

Dr. Kayleen Justus is an Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology and World Music at Kennesaw State University. She has presented her academic work at various international and regional conferences, including the Society for Ethnomusicology, the Percussive Arts Society International Convention, the American Anthropological Association, and the Eastern Caribbean Islands Cultures Conference. She has recently been published in Caribbean Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (2019), the SAGE International Encyclopedia of Music and Culture (2019), the Society for American Musicology Bulletin (Spring 2018), Pan Magazine (2016), and The World of Music Journal (2014).

Kayleen earned a Ph.D. in Musicology (2014) and an M.M. in Ethnomusicology (2008) from Florida State University. She has served as the director of university and community steel bands since 2007 and performs and records as a pan player in the United States and the Caribbean. Dr. Justus also currently directs the steel band at Midtown International School in Atlanta, Georgia.





The owner of Barracuda Steel Drums, based in Austin, Texas, **Emily Lemmerman** studied the art of building and tuning pans directly with Ellie Mannette from 1998-2004. She now works as an internationally recognized pan tuner, and is the first and only woman to tune for Trinidad and Tobago's Panorama competition, as well as for any Panorama worldwide. Emily is also active as a performer, clinician and composer, and is published by Boxfish Music and Hillbridge Music. A member of the National Association of Steelband Educators Steering Committee, she is also the Assistant Editor of NSSBE's magazine The Steel Times and contributes to it as a columnist.

Dr. Janine Tiffe received her Ph.D. in ethnomusicology from Florida State University and is Assistant Professor at the Kent State University School of Music where she directs the KSU African Ensemble and KSU Steel Band, and teaches courses in world and popular musics. Dr. Tiffe has performed with Women in Steel and Invaders Steel Orchestra; as a member of Azaguno, she performed for the 2002 FIFA World Cup ceremonies in Seoul, Korea. Her research interests include the African diaspora, particularly the Trinidadian steel band, as well as musical migration, transmission, pedagogy, and education. She has authored articles in Percussive Notes, Musicians and Composers of the 20th Century, and Double Voicing and Multiplex Identities: Unpacking Hegemonic and Subaltern Discourses in the Caribbean. She is an active member of The Society for Ethnomusicology and Percussive Arts Society, and serves as Director of International Chapters for Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity.



Board of Directors

Chris Tanner (D.M.A., West Virginia University, 2000) is professor of music at Miami University and the founder and director of the Miami University Steel Band. The Miami University Steel Band has appeared three times at the prestigious Percussive Arts Society International Convention (2011, 2005, 2002), and has also twice headlined the annual PANorama Music Festival in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The ensemble has five studio recordings produced and distributed by Pan Ramajay Productions. Tanner is active as a performer, educator, and composer/arranger. He has served as a guest clinician or performing artist at numerous festivals, workshops, high schools and universities. Most notably, Tanner is the author of *The Steel Band Game Plan: Strategies for Starting, Building and Maintaining Your Pan Program*, published in December 2006 by Rowman & Littlefield Education under the auspices of NAfME.





Dr. Brandon Haskett is an Associate Professor of Music Education at Saginaw Valley State University and teaches music education courses, general education courses, Percussion Ensemble, and Valley Steel. He graduated from Arizona State University with a Doctor of Musical Arts in Music Education and a Masters of Music in Percussion Performance. Haskett previously taught at North Georgia College and State University as the Coordinator of Music Education. Previously, he taught band, orchestra, jazz band, and steel band at Kenilworth School (K-8) in Phoenix, Arizona.

Haskett's main research focus includes the study of world music ensembles in the public schools and adult/community music education. His work has been published in the International Journal of Community Music, Update: Applications of Research in Music Education, and Percussive Notes. He is a frequent presenter of academic and pedagogical presentations throughout the United States.

Steering Committee / Conference Co-chairs

Mike Greer is a percussionist and educator with over 24 years of diverse performing and teaching experiences. He is currently in his 15th year as the steel band director at DuBose Middle School in Summerville, SC. The DuBose Steel Band program is currently one of the largest scholastic steel band programs in the country with over 250 members in eight steel bands. Over the last 12 years, Mike has also helped to start nine other steel bands in his district, leading a team of ten steel band directors that help more than 1500 students learn the Trinidadian art form of pan every day. In the Spring of 2017, Mike produced the DuBose Steel Band's first album, Momentum, featuring members of the DuBose



Steel Bands, as well as internationally acclaimed artists Gary Gibson and Victor Provost. Mike's diverse performing experiences began with the Broadway hit Blast! as a percussionist in the original London cast. Since moving to South Carolina, he has remained an active performer in the Charleston area, performing weekly on steel pan, percussion, or drum set. Mike has been the principal timpanist for the North Charleston Pops Orchestra since 2012, and the drummer for Ashley Ridge Worship since 2010. In the summer of 2017, he traveled to Laborie, St Lucia to perform with the Laborie Steel Band in the St Lucia Panorama.

Mike holds a Bachelor of Music in Percussion degree and a Master of Arts in Teaching degree from Eastern Kentucky University, as well as Master of Music in Percussion degree from Miami University. Mike endorses Vic Firth Sticks & Mallets, Pearl Drums, and Adams Concert Percussion as a member of their education teams. As a member of the steering committee for the National Society of Steel Band Educators, Mike recently co-chaired the 2018 and 2019 National Conferences for the NSSBE in Oxford, OH.



Mike Wendeln has been teaching steelband full-time since 2009, and has recently moved to Cincinnati, Ohio. Wendeln is the director of steelbands at Walnut Hills High School and has founded a new steelband program at Withrow High School. In addition, he directs the Cincy Steel community steelband program. Accomplishments include teaching at Leon High School in Tallahassee, Florida for 8 years where the steelband program grew to be one of the largest and most successful in the state.

Throughout college and his professional career, he has had the opportunity to perform alongside many of the great pan players and educators in steel pan today, and has traveled to Trinidad on three occasions to absorb pan culture firsthand. In both 2015 and 2016, Wendeln performed with birdsong Steel Orchestra in the Trinidad National Panorama competition and in 2018 was featured in an article published by *Pan Podium* Magazine. He has earned a Bachelor degree in Music Education from Miami University and a Masters degree in Percussion Performance from Eastern Kentucky University and was a member of the Miami University Steel Band under Dr. Chris Tanner and EKU Steel Band under Dr. Jason Koontz.

Steering Committee

Yuko Asada is a musical instrument technician at Northern Illinois University (NIU) where she directs the NIU Community School of the Arts Steelband and contributes to the daily operations of the NIU Steelband under the direction Liam Teague. She also serves as assistant steelband director at Birch Creek Music Performance Center, and steelband director at NIU Percussion Camp. Yuko attained a Bachelor of Arts degree from West Virginia University (WVU), where she was first introduced to the art of steelpan building and tuning by Dr.



first introduced to the art of steelpan building and tuning by Dr. Ellie Mannette. She later pursued and earned a Master of Music degree and a Performer's Certificate in steelpan from NIU.

Yuko gained many years of steelpan building and tuning experience as an apprentice and intern to Trinidadian steelpan builder Dr. Cliff Alexis. Yuko has presented on her work as a steelpan builder and tuner at the Young Women's Conference in Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics at Princeton University, and as a transcriber at International Conference and Panorama in Trinidad and Tobago. She has also conducted several workshops at various locations including Japan and Australia.

Yuko is also an experienced performer where she can be seen performing on several different voices within the steelpan family. She performed with Pastiche Steel Ensemble, a group she co-founded, for several years since its inception in 2009. She has also performed in Trinidad and Tobago on several occasions and in different capacities, including for the national Panorama competition held annually.

Yuko Asada not only builds, tunes, conducts workshops, and performs, she also serves as adjudicator for pan festivals including the Virginia International PAN Fest, as transcriber for several organizations including the Trinidad and Tobago Music Literacy Trust, and as composer for prominent figures in the United States and Trinidad and Tobago. Yuko also co-founded the Virtual Steelband, an online performance culminating pannists from around the world, and is a member of the Tuners Guild of Trinidad and Tobago, the Percussive Arts Society, and the National Association for Music Education. For her many years of work and dedication, Yuko was the feature of a Japanese documentary show entitled *Gutto Chikyubin* in 2017. She also appeared on *Midday Fix* on WGN-Chicago and *You and Me* on The U.



Matt Dudack is currently senior lecturer in percussion at the University of Akron where he is artistic director of the acclaimed University of Akron Steel Drum Band. He received two Emmy nominations for his work with *Hammer on Steel*, a PBS broadcast and DVD which has since aired all over the United States.

Collaborations have included such notable steelpan artists as Boogsie Sharpe, Cliff Alexis, Ray Holman, Tom Miller, Liam Teague, Robert Greenidge, Earl Rodney, Andy Narell, Relator, and David Rudder. Matt is also artistic director of the steelband at the Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron. His arrangements and method books are published by MauMauMusic.

Steering Committee



His early musical education was in the realm of orchestral percussion, however, **Dr. Anthony Hailey** shifted his attention to African and Caribbean music styles during graduate school. Hailey is a native of Charlotte, NC, and he began playing the double second pan in 1990 as an undergraduate music student at East Carolina University. This experience led him to West Virginia University where he studied steel drum construction, tuning and arranging with Ellie Mannette. After receiving a Master's of Music in 1994, Hailey noticed a growing interest in ethnic and world music among music educators in the U.S. This shift of interest prompted Hailey to pursue his doctorate degree in world percussion from West Virginia University, which he received in May 2005.

An active percussionist in Hampton Roads, Virginia; Hailey has performed locally with many artists including Ben Vereen, the Girls Choir of Harlem, and Dance Theater of Harlem and he is professor of percus-

sion studies at Tidewater Community College. Internationally Hailey has studied and performed at the University of Ghana, Legon, toured South Korea performing at the Seoul International Drum Festival and the 2002 World Cup Opening Ceremony. Dr. Hailey performed in the 2006, 2007 and 2008 Trinidad and Tobago National Steel Band Panorama Finals with Skiffle Bunch, Starlift and Renegades steel orchestras respectively. In 2015, Hailey lead his Mosaic Steel Orchestra to place 20th out of 24 bands in Trinidad during the Inaugural International Conference and Panorama where he also presented his research paper "Positive Propensity of Pan". As an arranger, in 2017 Dr. Hailey was the first African-American to work as musical arranger in the Trinidad & Tobago National Steel Band Panorama composing for the Sangre Grande Cordettes Steel Orchestra.

Dr. Hailey has received several grants from the US Embassy in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad for his youth outreach work in Sangre Grande. Hailey is the CEO of Mosaic Steel Orchestra, which he founded to share his passion for the art form with American youth - encouraging them to strive for excellence while building the discipline and self-confidence necessary to overcome life's challenges. Mosaic is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the community through performing arts.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, **Eugene Novotney** received his Bachelor of Music Degree in Percussion from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and his Master of Music Degree & Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from the University of Illinois, with emphasis in Percussion, Composition, and Ethnomusicology. He has performed on several occasions in Trinidad's National Panorama Competition, and he has regularly served as an adjudicator for Pan Trinbago, the national governing body for the advancement of steelband music in Trinidad & Tobago.

He is Professor of Music and Director of Percussion Studies at California State University-Humboldt, and is the founder and coordinator of the "Percussion in World Music" program for the California State University Summer Arts Program.

Novotney currently serves as a member of the Board of Director's of the Percussive Arts Society. His recordings have been released on the Bembe, Delos, SANCH, Pogo, Rituals and Earthbeat (Rhino) labels, and

his compositions and arrangements are available through Smith Publications of Sharon, Vermont and Mau Mau Music of Cleveland, Ohio. His professional artists endorsements include Black Swamp Percussion, REMO Incorporated, and the Cooperman Fife and Drum Company.

Steering Committee



Patty Dee has been a committed and successful music educator for over twenty years teaching elementary, middle and high school classroom music, band, and steel band in California. Patty has a Master's Degree in Education.

For fifteen years, she has led various steel drum performing groups that have performed at festivals, weddings, and community events. Patty has performed on steel drums as a soloist at Carnegie Hall and other venues with local high school and professional choirs and orchestras. She attends yearly steel drum workshops in West Virginia and Colorado, and continues to compose and arrange for steel band and directs two steel bands at Cuesta College Community Programs in San Luis Obispo, California.

Having been born around the Trinidadian culture, **Kendall Williams** has adopted the country's national instrument, the steel pan. From as early as the age of four, Kendall made efforts to mimic his parents as they displayed their talents in a Miami-based steel band. It wasn't long before his efforts turned into a reality as he developed his skills and passion for the instrument. As he got older his passion brought out a connection to music and he was able to perform with large, world-renowned steel bands in Trinidad and Tobago as well as bands in the New York based scene for years and counting. He took things a step further when he graduated from Florida Memorial University with a B.A. in Music under the direction of Dr. Dawn Batson, with his main instrument being the steel pan. He continued to further his studies at NYU Steinhardt, where he pursued a Masters of Music Degree in Music Theory & Composition, studying with Julia Wolfe, Michael Gordon, and Rich Shemaria. There he also actively participated in the NYU Steel band under the leadership of Artist Faculty member Josh Quillen. As he moved closer to graduating, his goals included composing



and arranging music that could further showcase the steel pan for the virtuous instrument it is, while bringing his unique style to more conventional instruments known today. Now that he has graduated he aggressively pursues a career as a composer, arranger, and advocate for the steel pan instrument. He works to open peoples' minds to the possibilities steel pan can offer the world by showing that the instrument is more versatile than it may seem. In 2013, 2015, and 2017 he had music for steel pan and contemporary ensemble programmed on the Bang on A Can Marathon. Just before that, he was awarded the opportunity to work with the Brooklyn Philharmonic on a project that involved steel pan and contemporary music compositions.

In 2014 he was the Van Lier Fellow with the American Composers Orchestra. In addition, he is also currently a doctoral student in music composition at Princeton University! There he studies under the auspices of Dan Trueman, Steve Mackey, Dmitri Tymockzo, and So Percussion to name a few. In his most recent years, he has been actively lecturing and leading workshops at various colleges, universities and high schools across the United States.