



# NSSBE

National Society  
of  
Steel Band Educators

## 2021 Professional Conference

**February 27, 2021**

**Virtual Event**

# Schedule

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## **SATURDAY, February 27**

**11:30 A.M. (All times EST)**

**Welcome: Dr. Chris Tanner, NSSBE President  
Introduction and Video**

**11:40 A.M.**

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

**Presenters: Mat Britain and Dan Moore**

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 Britain Moore Duo, 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.

**12:30 P.M.**

### **Cultural Heritage and Tradition in Our Panyards: A Roundtable Discussion**

**Panelists: Yuko Asada, Wayne Bernard, Amanda Duncan,  
Mia Gormandy-Benjamin, Kayleen Justus, 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.

**1:30 P.M.**

### **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.

**2:10 P.M. - 20 minute break**

# Schedule

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2:30 P.M.

**Funding and Teaching Pan in a Digital Era**

**Presenters: Dave Gerhart and Tyler Swick**

This session will introduce teaching techniques for steel pan in a remote, hybrid or in-person teaching models. Educators are facing a digital hurdle when it comes to teaching equal content across hybrid and distanced classrooms. Tyler Swick will demonstrate methods for teaching beginning pan techniques through the use of multiple cameras, OBS studio, Google Slides, and new technologies. When it comes to federal government grants, there are a lot of acronyms and procedures. Dave Gerhart will give strategies for finding federal government funds, including ESSA (Title IV-A Grants), CARES and CRRSA Acts, Title II and CTE grants.

3:30 P.M.

**The Britain Moore Duo**

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NSSBE would like to thank our Sponsors:

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**John Willmarth**



*THANK YOU!*

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# President's Welcome

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Welcome to the NSSBE 2021 Professional Conference – Virtual Edition!

One year ago, as we were on the cusp of our third annual conference, the harsh reality of the COVID-19 pandemic made it impossible to convene in Cincinnati, Ohio. Our Board of Directors and Conference Co-Chairs made the necessary yet heartbreaking decision to cancel our event, mere days before it was about to happen.

Since that time, people around the world have adapted, and new ways of working have been adopted. The words “remote,” e-learning” and yes – “Zoom” – are now firmly entrenched in the vocabulary, and especially so in institutions of learning. Everyone has had to adjust not only plans and procedures, but also expectations. Organizations recognized the need to pivot, in order to remain viable and responsive to their constituents. NSSBE is no exception, and since March 2020 our Board of Directors and Conference Co-Chairs have met bi-weekly to prepare for today’s conference, and also to investigate new initiatives to promote the Society’s growth and sustainability. The pressure of the pandemic has forced us to act, and NSSBE will be better for it.

Today, we are pleased to welcome all of our presenters, some of whom were scheduled to appear in 2020, and who have graciously agreed to return for this year’s event. The information that our clinicians and panelists will share with us will be timely, informative, and inspiring. On behalf of the entire NSSBE leadership team, I congratulate these individuals for their achievements, and thank them for their contributions to our program today. I also wish to thank our vendors for their support, and I invite you to take note of their offerings as featured in the countdown videos between each session. Finally, I applaud Conference Co-Chairs, Mike Greer and Mike Wendeln, who have done outstanding work in preparation for today’s event.

The 2021 NSSBE Professional Conference is only our third such meeting, and I am happy to report that attendance this year has increased dramatically in comparison to our first two conferences. Undoubtedly, this year’s virtual format is one factor contributing to the increase in registration, as members can save on travel time and costs. While we are committed to returning to a face-to-face format in 2022, we also have plans to incorporate virtual sessions geared toward professional development, as we move forward. This only makes sense. If anything, the pandemic has made us all recognize that communicating in an online or virtual space is an indispensable method of doing business.

No matter the format, we hope that 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. NSSBE 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. Our conference is an important venue for doing so, and I thank you for your attendance this year. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Chris Tanner". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Chris Tanner  
President, NSSBE

# Presenters

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**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

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**Mat Britain** is a Nashville based performer, educator, and composer specializing in steel pan (steel drums), percussion, and drumset. He can be heard on everything from movie soundtracks and commercials to quadruple platinum hits by Country mega-star Kenny Chesney. He played steel pan solos on several notable Chesney tracks including *When The Sun Goes Down* and *Shift Work* as well as on his albums *Just Who I Am: Poets & Pirates*, *Be As You Are (Songs from an Old Blue Chair)*, and *The Road & the Radio*. He has also recorded and/or shared the stage with Nashville luminaries Lee Greenwood, Neal McCoy, CharleyPride, Louise Mandrell, and the Warren Brothers. During his three-year tenure with Lee Greenwood, Mat earned the possibly dubious distinction of being the first percussionist to grace the stage of the Grand Ole Opry with Latin percussion instruments—congas, bongos, and timbales.



Mat discovered steel pan as a student at Wichita State University in one of the country's first university-based steel bands, and followed his love of pan from the plains of Kansas to the island of Trinidad. He has traveled numerous times to Trinidad to perform with the Amoco/BP Renegades Steel Band at the prestigious Panorama Festival. As a steel pan performer, Mat leads his band *Deep Grooves*, and for the last 30-plus years he has worked with marimbist Dan Moore as half of the *Britain Moore Duo*. In 2012 Mat appeared with the Nashville Symphony at Carnegie Hall for the North American premiere of the Charles Ives *Universe Symphony* under the baton of Giancarlo Guerrero.

Mat is director of the Vanderbilt University Steel Band Program which comprises college and community steel band students. He has taught at the Taipei International Summer Percussion Camp in Taiwan, The Birch Creek Music Performance Center in Door County, Wisconsin, and for the last 20 years at the University of Iowa Percussion Immersion week.

Mat is an endorser and clinician for Sabian Cymbals, Gon Bops Percussion, Innovative Percussion mallets and sticks, and XL Protecstor cases.

# Presenters

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**Dan Moore** explores the many creative and expressive capabilities of percussion, making music with inspiring performers throughout the world in an array of diverse musical settings. He has performed in North, Central, and South America, Asia, and Europe as well as in most of the USA including Puerto Rico, Alaska, and Hawaii.

As a vibes, marimba, and percussion artist, he has appeared on more than 30 professional recordings — 15 as a leader or co-leader. In 2018 he produced a recording with the Iowa Steel Band featuring the music of Steel Pan Legend

Andy Narell. The album featured the first studio recording of Vince Mendoza's Green Ballet since its original release in 1992. Andy performed on the recording and mixed the project personally. Percussive Arts Society reviewer Josh Armstrong wrote; "This is one of the best steel pan albums produced in a while, in regard to sound, and the playing is excellent as well. The playing and production are superb, and serve as an excellent example of not only how to record steel pans but more importantly, how to play them."

Dr. Moore is professor of music at the University of Iowa School of Music where he received the 2018 Iowa Board of Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. As head of Iowa Percussion, he has created an award-winning student-centric program that encompasses contemporary chamber music, concert percussion, electronic music, steel band, improvisation, traditional Chinese drumming, and other ethnic music. Iowa Percussion nurtures the serious study and creative exploration of the percussive arts, and for the last 62 years has been the training ground for many outstanding percussion performers, educators, music therapists, university professors, administrators, business leaders, and other professionals.

Dr. Moore is Director of the Birch Creek Music Performance Center Percussion and Steel Band program in Door County, WI. Each summer he leads a distinguished group of faculty performers in presenting an eight concert performance series and a motivational academy for student percussionists.

Dan Moore is a Yamaha international performing artist, a signature mallet artist for Innovative Percussion, and a performing artist for Sabian Cymbals, Gon Bops Percussion, and Grover Pro Percussion. His music is published by Row-Loff Productions, Innovative Percussion, Alfred Publishing, Tapspace, and Cricket City Music and Media.

## Presenters

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**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 plays tenor pan with the Atlanta Steel Collective and is a member of the Atlanta Percussion Ensemble.



**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.

# Presenters

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**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. Ellie Manette. 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.

# Presenters

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Born in Brooklyn, New York, **Wayne Bernard** began to experience the world of Steel Pan at a very young age, and have continued to build a life and legacy that have, and will continue to, impact generations of Panists to come. With playing experience that spans over 25 years, he has worked with many Steel Orchestras that represent the foundation of the culture such as CASYM, Harmony, Metro - and Pantonic Steel Orchestra where he spent 5 years at the helm as Captain. Working with these bands has allowed Wayne to experience many notable performances such as, NY World Music Festival, `International Conference and Panorma (ICP) in Trinidad and Tobago, and two tours to Africa to perform in Visa for Music and MASA World Music Festivals.

In 2015, Wayne and a few others decided to take a major step in the steelband community by starting a steelband organization. In addition to his dedication to the steelpan artform, Wayne has also been able to achieve an Associates Degree in Computer

Science and a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Information Systems from New York City College of Technology. Wayne is a founding member of Pan Evolution Steel Orchestra (PESO) and currety treasurer of Brooklyn Steel Orchestra (BSO).

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**Amanda Duncan** is a multi-faceted percussionist from the Los Angeles area. She performs music ranging from orchestral and jazz to pop and world genres, and has shared the stage and recorded with many world-class musicians, including Michael Giacchino, Mike Portnoy, Stephen Perkins (Jane's Addiction), Andy Narell, Liam Teague, Ray Holman, eighth blackbird, Billy Sheehan, Victor Provost, Martin Chalifour, Christopher Washburne and SYO-TOS, New Music Chicago, and Matthew Tembo.

Amanda frequently records and performs with Pan Rocks LA, a 40-member steel pan ensemble from the USA and Canada (directed by Tracy Thornton) that recorded the music of Rush in 2018, and a five-song EP and a video documentary in 2017. In 2016, she traveled to Trinidad and Tobago to perform with the PCS Nitrogen Silver Stars Steel Orchestra in Panorama, the world's largest steel band competition. Amanda has also twice traveled to Brazil to study drumming and culture in Rio de Janeiro and Salvador, Bahia.

An active music educator, Amanda is the Director of Percussion at Santa Margarita Catholic High School - where she teaches Steel Band, Percussion, Handbells, AP Music Theory, and Jazz - and the Percussion Instructor at Orange Coast College. Additionally, she has given lessons, clinics, and masterclasses throughout Southern California. Her students have been awarded performance-based scholarships to study music at major universities, top ten DCI drum corps, and summer festivals nationwide.

Amanda received her Master of Music degree from Northern Illinois University, and her Bachelor of Music degree from the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at California State University, Long Beach. Her teachers include Dr. Michael Carney, Dr. Dave Gerhart, Brad Dutz, Raynor Carroll, Robert Chappell, Liam Teague, Dr. Cliff Alexis, and Dr. Gregory Beyer.



## Presenters

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**Dr. Mia Gormandy-Benjamin** is an Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT). A native of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Gormandy-Benjamin received a Bachelor of Music degree (2009) and a Master of Music degree (2011) in steelpan performance from Northern Illinois University (NIU). She then received a second Master of Music degree (2013) and a Doctor of Philosophy degree (2017) in ethnomusicology from Florida State University (FSU). Her doctoral research focused on the history and performance practices of steelpan musicians in Japan. Dr. Gormandy-Benjamin has performed in several different countries around the world including Austria, Australia, England, Japan, the United States, Canada, and countries of the Caribbean. She has also performed with many world-renowned artists such as 11-time Grammy award winner Paquito D’Rivera. Dr. Gormandy-Benjamin guest starred at several American university steelbands including University of Akron Steel Drum Band and Humboldt State University Calypso Band. Several

committees awarded her over the years including the Laventille Steelband Festival Foundation, the Port-of-Spain City Corporation, Tau Beta Sigma, and Gamma Nu of Kappa Kappa Psi. She was also awarded “One of NIU’s Most Outstanding Women of the Year 2011.” Dr. Gormandy-Benjamin has been the recipient of several grants including the Howard Mayer Brown Fellowship presented by the American Musicological Society and the Carol Krebs Research Fellow Award granted by Florida State University. She is the co-founder of the global steelpan project called the Virtual Steelband where 22 countries with over 300 pannists are registered with the organization. She later worked on the “Pan in Unity” project as a response to the 2020 pandemic, which featured 691 musicians from 23 countries. Dr. Gormandy-Benjamin is a long-time member of the renowned Massy Trinidad All Stars Steel Orchestra, where she serves as a performer, transcriber, conductor, educator and was recently appointed musical director for the Classical Jewels concert series. She also serves as television commentator for Panorama, the largest steelband competition in the world.

## Presenters

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**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.



## Presenters

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**Dr. Dave Gerhart** Assistant Marketing Manager, Education for the Yamaha Corporation of America and Lecturer of Percussion at the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at CSU, Long Beach, is a nationally recognized performer, composer, and educator. Dr. Gerhart, originally from Fairfield, California, holds a D.M.A. from the University of Southern California in Percussion Performance with a secondary emphasis in Music Education, Ethnomusicology, and Music Industry & Technology. He received a M.M. in Percussion Performance and Instrumental Conducting and a B.M. in Music Education from California State University, Long Beach. Dr. Gerhart has been featured on CDs with the Robin Cox Ensemble, Steven Hartke, and Gabriela Ortiz.



As a freelance musician, Dave has performed under Gustavo Dudamel, Zubin Mehta, Carl St. Clair, Enrique Diemecke, Mehli Mehta, and has performed with Yo-Yo Ma, Bobby McFerrin, Michael Kamen, Liam Teague, Yefim Bronfman, Ray Holman, Robert Greenidge and the Blue Man Group. His principle teachers include Dr. Michael Carney, Erik Forrester, Brad Dutz, and Raynor Carroll, principal percussionist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. His steel drum ensemble, the Island Hoppin' Steel Drum Band, performs throughout Southern California.

Dave serves on the Board of Advisors and the World Percussion Committee for the Percussive Arts Society. An advocate of using technology in the classroom, Dr. Gerhart was featured in *Technology and Its Use by Percussion Educators in the 21st Century* (Published in *Percussive Notes* – January 2012) by Tracy Wiggins and part of the case study *Using Technology to Enhance Performance Pedagogy in the Postsecondary Brass Studio* by Adam Snider. In 2010, Dave co-founded [DrumChattr.com](http://DrumChattr.com) and currently curates percussion related content for [PercussionEducation.com](http://PercussionEducation.com).

Dave's compositions and arrangements for triangle, timpani, percussion ensemble and steel drum orchestra are published by Bachovich Music Publications, Boxfish Music Publishing and Living Sounds Publications.

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**Tyler Swick** is an elementary music teacher in Las Vegas, NV where he runs an award-winning music program of 700+ students. Swick is a Yamaha 40 under 40 music educator and the only elementary music teacher in his district to receive the Heart of Education Award. After the bell rings, Swick heads over to the College of Southern Nevada where he directs the Coyote Calypso Steel Drum Band and teaches History of Rock to undergraduates. Outside of the classroom, he has performed at the Latin Grammys, Panorama, and was featured in an international LG phone commercial. Swick has played alongside Keith Urban, Logic, Mike Portnoy, Bad Bunny, and can be heard on the upcoming video game, "Beyond Good and Evil 2."



## Board of Directors

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**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.

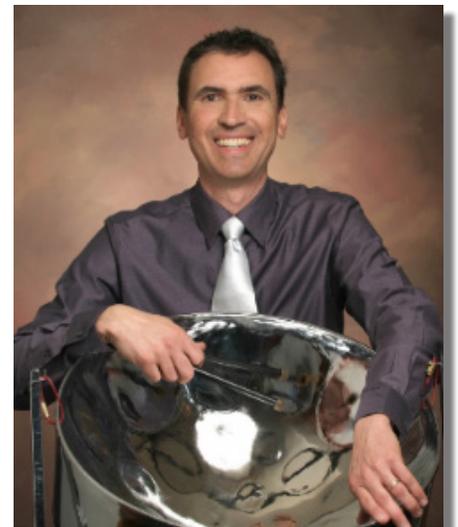


**Dr. Brandon Haskett** is a Professor of Music Education at Saginaw Valley State University and teaches music education courses, general education courses, Percussion Ensemble, and Valley Steel. He graduated from Arizona State University with a Doctor of Musical Arts in Music Education and a Masters 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.

**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 "Boogie" 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](http://www.ramajay.com)).



## Conference Co-chairs

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**Mike Greer** is a percussionist and educator with over 25 years of diverse performing and teaching experiences. He is currently in his 16th 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 200 members in eight steel bands. Over the last 13 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 1000 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 NSS-BE in Oxford, OH.

**Mike Wendeln** has been teaching steelband full-time since 2009, and now resides in 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. 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 ECU Steel Band under Dr. Jason Koontz.

## Steering Committee

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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.

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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

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**Liam Teague** is Professor of Music and Head of Steelpan studies at Northern Illinois University (NIU), where he also directs the renowned NIU Steelband. Teague is also the recipient of an NIU Presidential Research, Scholarship and Artistry Professor Award.

Hailed as the “Paganini of the Steelpan”, his commitment to demonstrating the great musical possibilities of the steelpan has taken him throughout the world, and he has received many awards from his homeland of Trinidad and Tobago, including the Humming Bird National Award (Silver) and the Ansa McAl Caribbean Award for Excellence.

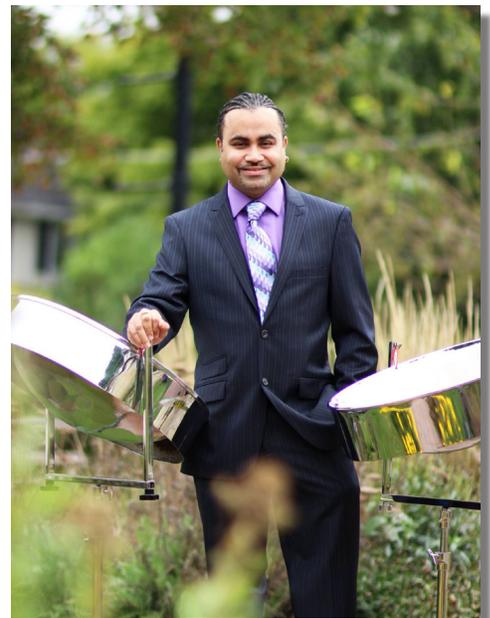
Teague has won a number of notable competitions such as the Trinidad and Tobago National Steelband Festival Solo Championship and the Saint Louis Symphony Volunteers Association Young Artist Competition. He has also performed with many diverse ensembles which include: National Symphony Orchestra, Taiwan National Symphony, Czech National Symphony, Saint Louis Symphony, Panama National Symphony, Chicago Sinfonietta, Vermeer String Quartet, Avalon String Quartet, Hannaford Street Silver Brass Ensemble, Nexus, Dartmouth Wind Ensemble, Indiana University Symphonic Band, University of Wisconsin-Madison Marching Band, and the Nutrien Silver Stars Steel Orchestra.

Teague has appeared in concert with Grammy-Award winning musicians Paquito D’Rivera, Dave Samuels, Zakir Hussain and Dame Evelyn Glennie, and has regularly collaborated with NIU colleagues Robert Chappell (multi-instrumentalist) and Faye Seeman (harp), with whom he co-founded the steelpan and harp duo Pangelic. He has also presented and performed at several Percussive Arts Society International Conventions (PASIC) and educational institutions across the globe.

Many of his compositions and arrangements are published with MauMauMusic, PanPress and RamajayMusic, and he has commissioned outstanding composers to write for the steelpan, including: Michael Colgrass, Jan Bach, Libby Larsen, Andy Akiho, Deborah Fisher Teason, Joey Sellers, Ben Wahlund, Erik Ross, Kevin Bobo and David Gordon.

He is steelband director at Birch Creek Music Performance Center in Door County, Wisconsin, and has also taught and performed at the California State University Summer Arts Camp and at the Interlochen Academy for the Performing Arts. Teague is also the author of a steelpan method for beginners published by the Hal Leonard Corporation, the world’s largest publisher of print music.

Liam Teague serves as arranger for the Nutrien Silver Stars Steel Orchestra at Panorama (the most celebrated steelband competition in the world) and has many recordings to his credit, including: *Hands Like Lightning*, *For Lack of Better Words*, *Panoramic: Rhythm Through an Unobstructed View*, and *Open Window*.



## Steering Committee

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**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 Boogie 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.



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 percussion 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.

## Steering Committee

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**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.

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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.

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Presenter **Yuko Asada** is also a member of the NSSBE Steering Committee.