

CBDA Consortium for Social Justice Commissions

Statement from the CBDA Board:

As educators, we are privileged to welcome students into our classroom regardless of their race, religion, socio-economic status, sexuality, or gender identity. We are also fortunate to teach alongside amazing educators that reflect that same diversity we see in our classrooms. All students and educators have our full love and support during this transformative moment in history, and the CBDA Board stands in solidarity with our Black students, educators, and families in their battle for justice, equality, and equity. Black Lives Matter.

The lives of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery have been added to a long list of Black lives that have been unjustly and tragically taken. They were once students, and we as educators, want our students to know that we stand together against racism, hatred, and bigotry in all its forms. As educators, we have the unique opportunity and important task of ensuring that all of our students know that they matter, that they are valued, and that they are capable of enacting great change in the world. We choose not to be silent, but we also recognize that our words are not enough. The CBDA Board has decided to follow our words with action. The discussion of systemic racism must evolve beyond this moment in history, and as music educators we want to provide an opportunity for that difficult discussion to occur in our rehearsal rooms.

Consortium Summary:

CBDA is organizing a consortium to commission two pieces, one for High School Band (Grade 4), and one for Junior High School Band (Grade 3). We want these two pieces to help tell the story of social injustice within our nation. We are honored to work with Composers Kevin Day (HS) and Katahj Copley (JHS) in the creation of these two works. Along with these two compositions, the published copies will come with lesson plans, discussion topics, and resources to help guide conversations about social injustice while preparing this music for performance. We see the value and need in keeping the discussion ongoing in our classrooms and rehearsal rooms and hope you will join us in this endeavor to support this movement.

Details:

Consortium contributors can participate in the commissioning of the High School Band Piece (\$200), Junior High Band Piece (\$150), or both (\$350). Each member of the consortium will receive the following:

- Inclusion of the name of the school/organization and/or director in the published score.
- One published hard copy set of the work given immediately after the premiere by the California All-State honor bands.
- All learning resources, lesson plans, and discussion topics to accompany that work/works.
- There will be no exclusivity given to consortium contributors. Immediately following the premiere performances from the All-State HS band and All-State JHS band, the pieces will be available for purchase from your vendor. The purpose of this consortium is to promote the conversations of social injustice in our schools and wind band programs. Our belief is that the sooner we can get this music into our bandrooms, the sooner these courageous conversations can begin and continue on.

Timeline:

Both works will be premiered by the California All-State Ensembles at the next in-person California All-State Music Education Conference. (Currently planned for February 2022). All consortium members will receive the score + parts immediately following the premiere. Membership will be open until September, 1, 2021.

High School Details: The goal is to create a piece of quality music that is playable by most high schools in California. We are working towards a Grade 4 piece between eight to ten minutes in length.

Title information: Requiem for the Unarmed, Kevin Day

Instrumentation: Picc., Fl. 1-2, Ob. 1-2, Bb. Clar. 1-2-3-4, Bass Clar., Contrabass Clar. (opt.), Bsn. 1-2, Contra Bsn. (opt.), Soprano Sax, Alto Sax, Tenor Sax, Bari. Sax, Bb. Trpt. 1-2-3-4, F Horn 1-2-3-4, Tbn. 1-2-3, Bass Tbn., Euph., Tuba, Double Bass., Celesta (pno. If not available), Timp., Marimba, Glock., Chimes, Perc. 1-2 (Concert Bass Drum, Sus. Cym.)

Junior High School Details: The goal is to provide a piece of music that is playable by most junior high school bands in the state. We will be working towards a Grade 3 piece between four to five minutes in length.

Title information: When Heaven Cries, Katahj Copley

Instrumentation: Picc., Fl. 1-2, Ob 1-2, Bb. Clarinet 1-2-3, Bass Clar., Contrabass Clar. (opt.), Bsn. 1-2, Contra Bsn. (opt.), Alto Sax 1-2, Tenor Sax, Bari Sax, Trpt 1-2-3, Tbn 1-2, Bass Tbn., Euph, Double Bass. (opt.), Piano, Timp., Marimba, Glock., Vibes., Perc. 1-3 (Concert Bass Drum, Sus. Cym, Tam-tam)

About Kevin Day:



Kevin Day (b. 1996, Charleston, WV) is an American composer, conductor, multi-instrumentalist, and native of Arlington, Texas. Day is currently pursuing a Master of Music in Music Composition degree at the University of Georgia. Day earned his Bachelor of Music Degree in Instrumental Performance from TCU (Texas Christian University), where he studied euphonium and tuba with Richard Murrow, composition with Neil Anderson-Himmelspach, Blaise Ferrandino, and Till Meyn, and conducting with Germán Guitiérrez and Eddie Airheart. He currently is the Composer-In-Residence for the Mesquite Symphony Orchestra in Mesquite, TX for their 2019-2021 seasons and is an alumnus of the Gabriela Lena Frank Creative Academy of Music. Kevin is currently studying with Peter Van Zandt Lane for composition and Cynthia Johnston Turner for conducting.

Kevin has composed over 150 compositions to date and has had numerous premieres and performances by bands and orchestras across the United States, Austria, Australia, Taiwan, and South Africa. In 2020, his works were debuted at Carnegie Hall, as a part of the New York Wind Band Festival. He has collaborated with chamber groups such as Tribeca New Music, the TCU Trombone Ensemble, the Puerto Rican Trombone Ensemble, The Hartt School Tuba-Euphonium Consortium, The Zenith Saxophone Quartet, and others. He has also collaborated with brass virtuosos Dermondrae Thurman and Jens Lindemann on new concertos for their respective instruments.

Kevin is also an alumnus of the 2016 Disneyland All-American College Band on Tuba under the direction of Dr. Ron McCurdy and played with artists such as John Clayton, Wayne Bergeron, Ronald Carter (saxophone), Jiggs Whigham, and Gordon Goodwin.

Mr. Day is the winner of a BMI Student Composer Award, the NASA (saxophone) Composition Contest, the 2nd Annual Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Young Composers Competition, the Tribeca New Music Young Composers Competition, and the Dallas Winds Fanfare Contest, as well as being a finalist for the NBA William D. Revelli Composition Contest and the ASCAP Morton Gould Young Composer Award. He has also been a finalist for the Columbia Summer Winds Outdoor Composition Contest, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Earshot Residency, the MetWinds North American Student Composer Competition, and the R. Winston Morris Award for Excellence in Composition. Day's music has been featured at conferences across the U.S. such as the International Tuba-Euphonium Association Conference, the International Trombone Association Conference, the SCI Region VI Conference, Western International Band Clinic (W.I.B.C.), the National Association for Music Educators All-Northwest Conference, the Texas Music Educators Association Convention (TMEA), the Midwest Clinic, the American Bandmasters Association (ABA) Conference, and the College Band Directors National Association (CBDNA) National

Conference. Day is also the recipient of the W. Francis McBeth Student Musicianship Award from Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity.

In addition to classical music, Mr. Day has composed music for three short films: *A Partial Heart* (2015), *The Broken Man* (2017), and *Hello Henry* (2018). "*The Broken Man*" was broadcasted on live television on KERA's *Frame of Mind* Program in 2019.

As a conductor, Kevin has guest conducted the Arlington High School Symphony Orchestra, the Greater Fort Worth Community Band, the Next Gen Chamber Players, the Fort Worth Civic Orchestra, the TCU Symphonic Band, the TCU Symphony Orchestra, the TCU Concert Band, and the TCU Wind Symphony. He has worked with and has been mentored by renowned composers Gabriela Lena Frank, Julie Giroux, John Mackey, William Owens, and Frank Ticheli. Kevin is a member of BMI, ITEA, Kappa Kappa Psi, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. He is also a board member of the Millennium Composers Initiative.

Day's works have been recorded/distributed by Mark Records (Naxos) and are published by Murphy Music Press, LLC, Cimarron Music, and Kevin Day Music.

About Katahj Copley:



Katahj Copley (b.1998) is a native of Carrollton, GA. He is currently on track to receive his bachelor's degree in Music Education and Composition at the University of West Georgia. He studied saxophone with Dr. John Bleuel, DMA, composition with Dr. Glenn Eernisse, and euphonium and conducting with Dr. Cale Self.

On November 14, 2017, The University of West Georgia Saxophone Ensemble premiered his first work Spectra. Since 2017, Katahj has written over 50 pieces with 25 for wind band. He has had several works performed by local high schools in his current county such as Mt. Zion

High School Wind Ensemble- directed by Scott Jones, Central High School, directed by Neil Ruby and Carrollton High School Wind Ensemble, directed by Chris Carr.

He has been commissioned by colleges/universities and professional ensembles such as the 1st Infantry Brass Choir in Ft. Riley, Kansas- conducted by Michael Turner. At his current school, Katahj has premiered works for almost all ensembles at the University of West Georgia including the University of West Georgia Brass Ensemble, Concert Choir, Saxophone Ensemble, and Wind Ensemble. Katahj has also collaborated with the Rhode Island Recording Ensemble, conducted by Brian Cardany and was commissioned by the Nu Alpha chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi at Georgia State University.

His piece Sunshine was featured during the GMEA District XIII 9-10th Grade Band in February of 2020. He has also collaborated with several chamber groups as well such as the Axos Saxophone Quartet and the Admiral Launch Duo. In the spring of 2020, the University of West Georgia Wind Ensemble premiered NOVA at the 2020 CBDNA Southeast Division Conference. He is currently slated for a premiere of his work INFINITY at the 2020 Midwest Conference.

“Music for me has always been this impactful thing in my life. It can soothe, it can enrage, it can quiet and it can evoke emotions that are beyond me and this world we live in. I believe that music is the ultimate source of freedom and imagination and the most freedom I have had as a musician was through composing. Composition is like me opening my heart and showing the world my drive, my passion, and my soul.”