

(2016 – 2017)

THE ENSEMBLE

Michael Levine (Director) — Michael Levine is originally from St. Louis Park, Minnesota. He first attended the University of Minnesota and then The Juilliard School, where he received his Bachelor of Music Degree. For three years he held the position of Assistant Principal Trombone in the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra. Michael founded the Dallas Brass in 1983, and played trombone in the group until 2015. He continues to serve as the ensemble's Master of Ceremonies and Artistic Director. Michael has recently created a program called *Harmony Bridge*, which is designed to connect school band students with people in senior communities around the country. At present, *Harmony Bridge* has been launched in Minnesota, Wisconsin, New York, Massachusetts and Arkansas. After living in Dallas for over 30 years, Michael now resides back in Minneapolis, MN.

Luis Araya (Trumpet) — Born in Alajuela, Costa Rica, Luis Miguel Araya has studied music extensively both in Costa Rica and in the United States, holding a Bachelor of Music degree from the National Institute of Music (Costa Rica), a Master of Music degree from Loyola University in New Orleans and a Doctorate in Music from Arizona State University. Luis was a member of the Costa Rica National Symphony Orchestra (1997-2012). As a soloist, Luis has played with the National Symphony Orchestra of Costa Rica, Alabama Symphony Orchestra, Uppsala Chamber Orchestra (Sweden), and Loyola Chamber Orchestra, among others. He is an artist/clinician for Stomvi trumpets and Warburton mouthpieces.

Terry Sawchuk (trumpet) — Originally from Detroit, MI, Terry is Associate Professor of Trumpet at the University of Colorado Boulder. He makes his return to the Dallas Brass in the 2016-17 season having toured with the ensemble in 1989-90. Terry has an extensive orchestral resume including the Colorado Symphony, Denver Chamber Orchestra, Colorado Ballet Orchestra, among others. As a soloist, Terry has performed at several International Trumpet Guild Conferences and at the National Trumpet Competition. He has toured with the national Broadway productions of *Carousel* and *Miss Saigon* and has performed with numerous jazz and commercial artists around the United States. Terry received his music degrees from the University of Michigan and has taught at Northern Illinois University, the University of Missouri-Kansas City, the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and at the University of Kansas. Terry is a Bach trumpet performing artist.

Juan Berrios (Horn; Alto Horn; Flugelhorn) — Born in Bayamón, Puerto Rico, Juan's family moved to Florida when he was in middle school. He went on to study music at the University of Central Florida. For three years, Juan was a member of the award-winning Brass Band of Central Florida. He has spent summers at the Music Academy of the West and the Aspen Music Festival, two of the most prestigious music festivals in the country. Active as an educator and performer in the Central Florida area, Juan works with many middle and high school music programs in central Florida, and has performed with the Sarasota Orchestra, Orlando Philharmonic, Brevard Symphony, and Palm Beach Symphony, among others. When not touring with the Dallas Brass, Juan enjoys teaching, cooking, and bowling. He lives in Kissimmee, FL with his wife, Annie, a flute player and elementary school music teacher.

Ryan Christianson (trombone) — Born to a musical family in Grand Forks, ND, Ryan first began playing trombone at the age of two! At age thirteen, he took his first professional job as a trombonist with a local swing band, and continued through his high school years to perform regularly in various professional rock and jazz groups. Ryan attended the University of Minnesota, and has performed with such national acts as Lorie Line and the Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra. Ryan has also performed at such prestigious rock music festivals as Sonshine Music Festival and the Vans' Warped Tour. In 2014, Ryan was selected as one of three finalists for the International Trombone Association's Carl Fontana Competition. Recently married, Ryan now resides in Chicago, IL, with his wife Sarah.

Paul Carlson (Tuba) — Paul began playing the tuba at the age of 11 in Illinois. He has completed studies at the University of Illinois (B.M.), the University of New Mexico (M.M.), and at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music (D.M.). His experiences include the New Mexico Brass Quintet, Santa Fe Symphony Brass Quintet, The King's Brass, the Walt Disney Collegiate All-Star Band, Harvey Phillips Tuba Company, as well as a number of regional symphony orchestras. Paul has also been a featured soloist at the International Tuba Euphonium Conference and the Midwest Regional Tuba Euphonium conference. He is Affiliate Professor of Tuba and Euphonium at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI. Paul is a Buffet Group USA Tuba Artist performing on B&S and Meinl Weston tubas.

Andres Crovetti (percussion/drums) — Born in Illinois and raised in Slinger, Wisconsin, Andres Crovetti received his Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Minnesota. 2016-17 marks Andres' first season with Dallas Brass. Additionally, Andres performs both as a drummer and vibraphonist with a variety of jazz and pop bands in and around the Minneapolis-Saint Paul area, and is also an active freelancer in the classical music scene. He has had the privilege of performing at esteemed Twin Cities venues including the Artist's Quarter, the Dakota Jazz Club, Orchestra Hall, Icehouse, and the Twin Cities Jazz Festival. As an educator, Andres has an extensive private studio teaching musicians of all ages. In his free time, you might find Andres bowling or catching up on the latest Green Bay Packers news.