

DAVIS-WALDORF  
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES | **DW**PAS  
23RD SEASON



THE WORLD FAMOUS

# GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA

Thursday, Feb 15, 2024 | 7:30 p.m.  
Te Ata Memorial Auditorium

Welcome to the Te Ata Memorial Auditorium on the campus of the University of Science & Arts of Oklahoma. We are proud to host the 23rd season of the Davis-Waldorf Performing Arts Series, a project of the USAO Foundation. This is the most ambitious season in the history of our series.

Thanks to grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, New England Foundation for the Arts National Dance Project, and Oklahoma Arts Council, we have expanded our educational mission. While every visiting artist provides a workshop, masterclass, or outreach performance, this season opened with a campus residency with PUSH Physical Theatre. The entire month of October has been devoted to workshops with students, mentoring, and production development of "HYDE." Additionally, PUSHers have been the inspiration for the USAO Theatre Arts Program "shadow show" "JEKYLL," where students will exhibit what they have learned about corporeal mime, physical storytelling, and methods of devising physical theatre. This extraordinary experience includes student designers, technicians, and production staff. A student-led "behind the scenes" documentary of this teaching and learning experience will be released in 2024.

This season also includes the return of The World-Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra, the comedy-meets-bluegrass sensation The Cleverlys, and the debut performance of the American Midwest Ballet Company in our series. We have created a new partnership with the Chisholm Trail Arts Council and exchanged FLEX tickets, so all subscribers can reserve a seat for their Live Concert Series. We are excited to continue to grow, reflect and support the growth of Chickasha's arts community and our local economy. Chickasha is moving Onward and the arts will continue to be a place where you can find community, inspiration, and awe.

Thanks for being here with us. We hope you make some great memories this season!

**Katie Davis, MFA**  
**Professor of Theatre Arts**





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This project was supported in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council,  
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and the National Endowment for the Arts.



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## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Davis-Waldorf Performing Arts Series is to encourage attendance at high-quality performing arts events as an aspect of a liberal arts education for our students, to provide an affordable cultural and entertainment resource for our college family and our community, and to lead in local arts education by presenting relevant and culturally diverse programming that broadens the aesthetic of our audiences.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

Katie Davis, *MFA DWPAS Executive Director*

Dr. Christy Clift

Susan Gearhart

Amy Goddard

Emily Godwin, *M.Ed.*

Amber Heilman

Jeff Taylor, *MFA*

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THE WORLD FAMOUS

# GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA

...The Miller Sound Lives Forever!

The first Glenn Miller Orchestra did not make it at all. It was a total and absolute economic failure. But Glenn knew what he wanted, held to that dedication and relentlessly worked to succeed. He launched his second band – the one that lives on today – in March of 1938. The Glenn Miller Orchestra has been a “hit” ever since.

The legendary Glenn Miller was one of the most successful of all dance bandleaders back in the Swing Era of the 1930's and 40's. A matchless string of hit records, the constant impact of radio broadcasts and the drawing power at theatres, hotels and dance pavilion, built and sustained the momentum of popularity.

Glenn disbanded his musical organization in 1942 at the height of its popularity to volunteer for the Army. There, he organized and led the famous Glenn Miller Army Air Force Band. It went to Europe to entertain servicemen performing numerous live and radio shows. On December 15, 1944, Major Miller took off in a single engine plane from the English Channel, never to be seen again. The army declared him officially dead a year later.



With the release of the major motion movie *The Glenn Miller Story* featuring Jimmy Stewart and June Allyson in 1954, interest and popular demand led the Miller Estate to authorize the formation of the present Glenn Miller Orchestra. On June 6, 1956, and under the direction of drummer Ray McKinley who had become the unofficial leader of the Army Air Force Band after Glenn's disappearance, the reformed Glenn Miller Orchestra performed its first concert and has been on the road ever since. Other leaders have followed Ray including clarinetists Buddy DeFranco and Peanuts Hucko, trombonists Buddy Morrow, Jimmy Henderson, Larry O'Brien and Gary Tole, and tenor saxophonist Dick Gerhart. Since January 2012, vocalist Nick Hilscher leads the band.

Today, the 18 member ensemble continues to play many of the original Miller arrangements both from the civilian band and the AAFB libraries. Additionally, it also plays some more modern selections arranged and performed in the Miller style and sound.

Just as it was in Glenn's day, the Glenn Miller Orchestra today is still the most sought after big band in the world.



# ERIK STABNAU

## Music Director / Saxophonist

Tenor saxophonist Erik Stabnau brings his lifelong enthusiasm for big band music to each performance of the Glenn Miller Orchestra. Having grown up with a love for the music of the swing era, Erik naturally gravitated toward Glenn Miller, drawn to his recognizable melodies and the distinctive sound of his reed section.

A Western New York native, Erik learned to play the saxophone, flute, and clarinet in a variety of disciplines before developing an interest in the large ensembles of Ellington, Basie, Dorsey, Miller and others. Excited to pursue a future in music, he attended college at the Eastman School of Music in his hometown of Rochester, earning a bachelor's of music in Jazz and Contemporary Media. Intent on broadening his education, Erik went on to study music business and recording with a masters degree in Audio Arts from Syracuse University.

Prior to his time with the Glenn Miller Orchestra, Erik performed and recorded as a bandleader and sideman throughout the Northeast, adding to his credentials experience as an educator, clinician, writer, and arranger. He was thrilled with the opportunity to join the orchestra in June 2017 on tenor saxophone, playing the music and solos that Tex Beneke first made famous in the 1930's and 40's. As a member of the band, Erik has performed across the US in 48 states and abroad in Canada and Japan and now is honored to step in front of the orchestra as its music director.



# PROGRAM

Directed by Erik Stabnau

Today's performance will include some of the following selections from the Glenn Miller Orchestra library:

Moonlight Serenade	Sunrise Serenade	St. Louis Blues March
Little Brown Jug	At Last Danny Boy	Adios
Serenade in Blue	Tuxedo Junction	Stardust
A String of Pearls	The American Patrol	Elmer's Tune
Anvil Chorus	In The Mood	Bugle Call Rag
Chattanooga Choo-Choo	Runnin' Wild	I've Got a Gal in
Handful of Stars	Rhapsody in Blue	Kalamazoo
I Dreamt I Dwelt in	Jeep Jockey Jump	Perfidia
Harlem	The Nearness of You	Someone To Watch Over
I Know Why	Sun Valley Jump	Me
Caribbean Clipper	Everybody Loves My	Tail End Charlie
Jukebox Saturday Night	Baby	Here We Go Again
Moonlight Cocktail	Song of the Volga	Swing Low Sweet Chariot
That's Sabotage	Boatmen	Pennsylvania 6-5000
A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square	Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree	

[www.glennmillerorchestra.com](http://www.glennmillerorchestra.com)



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