**COLUMBIA CONCERT BAND**

Since 1983, the Columbia Concert Band (CCB) has a proud tradition of providing high-quality, free musical performances for Howard County and surrounding Maryland regions. The ensemble includes over 90 musicians who share a common passion for music and entertaining audiences throughout the year. CCB has a broad repertoire including traditional band arrangements, classical, contemporary, pop/rock, marches, jazz, Broadway, and Americana. CCB also supports the next generation of musicians through an affiliation with Howard Community College, which provides college credit to students for band participation. The Columbia Concert Band, Patuxent Jazz Band, and Flute Cocktail together comprise Columbia Bands, Inc. which is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. More information is available at [ColumbiaBands.org](http://ColumbiaBands.org).

**ABOUT OUR DIRECTOR**

Michael Blackman received a Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education from the University of Maryland, College Park. He studied clarinet with Ed Walters, performed under John Wakefield, and studied conducting with Dr. Paul Traver. He received a Masters Degree in Music Education at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, studying conducting with Dr. Harlan Parker.

A product of the Howard County Public Schools, Michael eagerly accepted a position with the school system in 1991.  He taught elementary school instrumental music for 18 years and was named Music Educator of the Year in 2007.  Currently, Michael teaches Band and Piano students at River Hill High School, where he has also taught Guitar, Music Technology, Music Theory, and Geometry.  School Band and Orchestra magazine selected him as Maryland’s representative to their national “50 Directors Who Make A Difference” list in 2019, and he received the “Howie Award” for outstanding artist from the Howard County Arts Council in 2022.

Michael has been a performer and soloist in many sections of the Columbia Concert Band since joining the group as a twelfth-grader in 1986.  He became the band’s Assistant Conductor in 1995.  In the Fall of 2000, he took over as Director, and was recently recognized by Howard County Executive Calvin Ball for his twenty years on the podium with this Ensemble.

As someone whose life has been deeply enriched by music, Michael’s goal is to pass this gift on to as many others as possible.  He believes that everyone should have music in their lives, and that every community should have music available to its residents.  He is eternally thankful for the guidance of his many teachers and mentors, and hopes to make a similar difference for his own students as well.

**COLUMBIA CONCERT BAND**

The Wild One!.................................................................................. Brian Balmages

Fantasy on an African-American Spiritual…………………….……. Bruce Preuninger

Lincoln…………………………………………………………John Williams/Jay Bocook

Les Miserables…………………………………………………………...arr. Jay Bocook

The Rusty Bucket………………………………………………...Carol Brittin Chambers

Sheherazade……………………………………….……. Rimsky-Korsakov/Jay Bocook

Malaguena………………………………………...Ernesto Lecuona, arr. James Barnes