

Southshore Concert Band

Benton Harbor, Michigan – Dale Reuss, Conductor

1:45 p.m.

Program

Nobles of the Mystic Shrine	John Philip Sousa arr. Frederick Fennell
Symphonic Dances from “Fiddler on the Roof”	Jerry Bock Sheldon Harnick arr. Ira Hearshen
Mountain Thyme	Samuel R. Hazo
Transcendent Journey	Rossano Galante

History

The Southshore Concert Band (SCB) was formed in January 1992. The band is comprised of musicians from all walks of life representing many communities throughout Michigan’s Great Southwest Coast. The band is a non-profit organization, dedicated to “Performing for the Joy of Music.” The SCB is currently in residence at Lake Michigan College in Benton Harbor, Michigan performing up to four programs annually on the Mendel Mainstage of Lake Michigan College. The SCB has also performed collaboratively with other Berrien County community organizations, including: Lest We Forget, for an annual Veteran’s Day concert; The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians; Twin City Players; and the music department of Lake Michigan College. The band also performs several outside performances for various Southwest Michigan communities each year. It has been the band’s pleasure to perform at The Red Cedar Festival several times over the past three decades, making the trip to Okemos approximately once every 3 seasons. The Southshore Concert Band has also travelled to perform at several more distant locations including Washington D.C., Boston, MA, and at the Gettysburg Battlefield, PA.

To date, the SCB has commissioned five compositions including: *The Quest* by David Shaffer; *The Southshore March* by John Edmondson; *Poem for Bernie Kuschel* by Scott Boerma; *Bronze Star Overture* by James L. Hosay; and *Safe Harbor* by Robert Longfield. A new commission from Rossano Galante has been contracted for an April 2025 premiere.

The Southshore Concert Band was founded by its current conductor, Dale L Reuss. Mr. Reuss is a 1974 graduate of Michigan State University having earned a Bachelor of Music Degree. He received a Master’s in Classroom Teaching in 1980 from MSU and a Master’s in Educational Leadership from Western Michigan University in 1996. Mr. Reuss served as Band Director for Climax-Scotts Public Schools from 1974 to 1976 and for Bridgman Public Schools from 1976 to 1996. During that year, Mr. Reuss moved to the classroom, teaching Social Studies and serving in administrative roles for the Bridgman School District until his retirement from public school in 2011. Mr. Reuss also has served as an adjunct faculty member for Siena Heights University and Lake Michigan College History department from 1999 to 2017 and he continues as a part time instructor for the LMC music department.

Web Page

Social Media