Gail A. Brechting, Conductor & Artistic Director



Mrs. Brechting is in her thirty-first year as the conductor of the award-winning West Michigan Concert WINDS. Under her direction, the WINDS received the John Phillip Sousa Foundation's Sudler Silver Scroll Award. She has organized six international tours with the WINDS, most recently to Scotland and Ireland. She has had the privilege of conducting the WINDS in Chicago's Symphony Hall, as well as the historic Carnegie Hall in New York City. The WINDS have performed in three ACB Conventions. Gail is the Lifelong Arts Program Director of Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp. Holds the honor of being a Begian Scholar Conductor. As conductor Gail took the Blue Lake International Community Band to Europe in 2025 and again upcoming in 2027. She is a Past President of the Association of Concert Bands. – 2021-2023. She is honored to be the Chairwoman of the Sudler Silver Scroll Award committee, and was recently elected to the board of the John Philip Sousa Foundation. She holds a BME from Central Michigan University and a MA from West Michigan University. Mrs. Brechting has been on the music faculty of Muskegon Community College and is retired after a 40-year music education career, 34 of those with the Reeths-Puffer Schools. Gail is a member of many professional organizations, ABA, ACB, MSBOA, WBDI, and PEO. She lives in Spring Lake, MI with her engineer/pianist husband Frank. Their daughter Annelise a Physician Assistant and husband Adam live in Greenville, SC. For fun she loves to travel, spend time with family and swim. She holds Silver & Gold medals in the US Masters Swimming.