



EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL BANDS

YEAR END CONCERT & AWARDS

WIND ENSEMBLE | SYMPHONIC BAND | CONCERT BAND

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2026

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS THEATER

PROGRAM

CONCERT BAND

Frogs (2018)

Randall D. Standridge
(b. 1976)

Courage March (2000)

Harold Bennett, Arr. Clark
(b. 1963)

SYMPHONIC BAND

Fiesta! (2024)

Jorge Vargas
(b.1971)

Kvetchers (2020)

Laura Estes
(b.1959)

WIND ENSEMBLE

Urban Light (2021)

James David
(b.1978)

One Life Beautiful (2010)

Julie Giroux
(b.1961)

Dedicated to Greg Ollano

La Chancla (2024)

Dennis Llinás
(b.1980)

ABOUT ECHS BANDS

Located in the East Bay of the San Francisco Bay Area, El Cerrito High School holds a proud history of musical excellence and award-winning ensembles that dates to the school's opening in 1941. Comprised of three concert bands and three jazz ensembles with an enrollment of over 170 students, the band program continues to be recognized among the best in the Bay Area. It offers students the opportunity to develop their skills and passion for music through a variety of experiences that include performances, clinics, festivals, and travel opportunities. In addition to curricular ensembles, the program also offers several extra-curricular opportunities that include the Gaucho Band and Jazz Combos.

Led by El Cerrito alumnus Keith Johnson, all El Cerrito bands have received superior ratings and top honors at music festivals and competitions across the state over the last two decades. Notable events include performances at Carnegie Hall in New York City, Symphony Hall in Chicago, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and the Monterey Jazz Festival. Additionally, the program has traveled on international tours to Canada, France, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Spain, and Switzerland for cultural exchanges and performances at the North Sea Jazz Festival, Montreux Jazz Festival, Umbria Jazz Festival, Jazz à Vienne, and at the City of Valencia International Wind Band Contest.

Through the work of several dedicated directors and unwavering community support, the band program has created a lasting legacy. Continuing in that tradition, El Cerrito's ensembles have recently been featured at music education conferences across the state and nationally, including the California Music Educators Association (CMEA) Bay Section Conference in 2020 and 2024 (Jazz Ensemble), the California All-State Music Education Conference (CASMEC) in 2014 and 2024 (Jazz Ensemble), 2018 (Wind Ensemble) and The Midwest Clinic International Band and Orchestra Conference in 2024 (Jazz Ensemble).

**For a full history of El Cerrito High School Bands please visit our website
at www.echsbands.com/echsbandshistory**

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

Keith Johnson serves as Director of Bands at El Cerrito High School and lecturer of music at California State University, East Bay. A San Francisco Bay Area native, his career as a music educator spans two decades with experience at the middle school, high school, and collegiate levels. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in music and a Master of Arts degree in music education with an emphasis in wind conducting from San José State University.

Keith has been the recipient of various teaching honors that include the CMEA Paul Shaghoian State Jazz Educator Award (2026), El Cerrito High School Teacher of the Year (2020), CMEA Bay Section's Outstanding Jazz Educator Award (2018), KRON 4 Teacher of the Week (2016), CMEA Bay Section's Outstanding Music Educator Award (2014), the West County Ed Fund's Teaching Excellence Award (2014), and recognized as the West Contra Costa Teacher of the Year in 2014. Groups under his direction have received multiple awards and performed across the United States and Europe in venues that include Carnegie Hall in New York, Chicago's Orchestra Hall, the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., and at several international jazz festivals including Jazz á Vienne and the Montroux, North Sea, Umbria, Victoria, and Monterey jazz festivals.

Since arriving to El Cerrito High School in 2009, the ECHS Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble have been featured ensembles at local, state, and national conferences including the California All-State Music Education Conference (CASMEC) in 2014, 2018, and 2024 as well as the 2024 Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago. Prior to joining ECHS, Keith held positions as jazz director at Portola Middle School in El Cerrito, CA and later director of the Jazzschool Young Musicians Program at the Jazzschool in Berkeley. As program director, Keith founded and directed the award-winning Jazzschool Studio Band, recipient of four national Downbeat Magazine Student Music Awards and winner of the "Large Jazz Ensemble" category in 2011.

In addition to his teaching commitments Keith works frequently as an adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor throughout Northern California and has served on the boards of several professional music education organizations including the California Music Educators Association (CMEA), California Alliance for Jazz (CAJ), and is a Past President of CMEA Bay Section.

CONCERT BAND

FLUTE

Calliope Calvert Ward
Jacob Conner
Jade Duan
Shriya Seshia

CLARINET

Miles Judd
Elijah Mendelyon
Miro Mikaelian
Linus Visel

BASS CLARINET

Ila Troy

BASSOON

Felix Reyes

ALTO SAX

James Geller
Diego Navarro
Henry Pulupa

TENOR SAX

Laken Bounthany
Remi Roberts

BARITONE SAX

Sierra Luna

TRUMPET

Alec Gwinn-Scott
Katie Lyons
Mateo Steiner

FRENCH HORN

Matias Monahan
Evelyn Williams

TROMBONE

Diego Castle
Christopher Cutler
Canyon Fujisaka
Marilyn Hamrick
Mark Reilly

EUPHONIUM

Asher Custer
Wyatt White

TUBA

Damian Salcido
Ezekiel Wong

PERCUSSION

Dhwani Chandran
Winn Cheng
Wiles Goudie
Chris Lane
Nathaniel Ricketts
Cormac Rubey

* *Denotes principal players*

SYMPHONIC BAND

FLUTE

Alexander Becker *
Miki Berliner
Kai Nakamura
Itsuka Sumii
Mateo Warmerdam

OBOE

Aiden Choi *
Helen Feeny
Alexandra President

CLARINET

Curtis Beh *
Sagan Daigle
Beatrix Hatton
Alexander Johnson
Anissa Mikaelian

BASS CLARINET

Fred Winn

BASSOON

Rafael Brenman *
Tetsuya Shiozaki

ALTO SAX

Jackson Austin *
Ariel Barber
Edward Corbett II
Renzo Scarcella
Edward Smith

BARITONE SAX

Laertes Brard

TRUMPET

Leonard Abesamis *
Nathan Battugs
Daniel Betanzos
Joshua Kemball
Calliope Lasmanis
Evan Toth
Neolany Vazquez-Garcia

FRENCH HORN

Gus Crump *
Tristan Dos Santos Getas
Madison Norton

TROMBONE

Penelope Ayala *
Hannan Chang
Henry Clason
Saul Humphrey
Weston Koressel
Marco Ivicic
Koa Morrison

EUPHONIUM

Anthony Conner
Taz Haynes

TUBA

Rommel Ampie
Ramses Tirado

PERCUSSION

Sonia Bruce
Georgia Power
Philip Roopnarine
Rocco Scarcella
Max Shepherd
Kai Wong

** Denotes principal players*

WIND ENSEMBLE

PICCOLO

Ruby Miller

FLUTE

Corwin Gauna *

Calvin Hung

Kiri Marshall

OBOE

Ava Luna

CLARINET

Jack Duerr

Michael Geller

Isaiah Gonzalez *

Kalista Lin

Ronan Wynden

BASS CLARINET

Hollyce Bauer

Benjamin Mendelyon

BASSOON

Isaac Peterson

Evan Ratner *

ALTO SAX

Sean Fivian *

Alexander Jacox

Isaac Pletcher

TENOR SAX

Javier Gutierrez

BARITONE SAX

Thomas Conner

TRUMPET

Matteo Diaco

Adam Feiszli

Yahir Gomez-Porres

Mimi Odyniec *

Stewart Parkinson

Andrew Ybarra

FRENCH HORN

Jack Huie

Tallulah Moon *

Guinevere Troxell

Olive Ziegler

TROMBONE

Ailyn Arias Sanchez

William Bowden *

Neil Cooney

Matthew D'Amato

EUPHONIUM

Aidan Herp *

Lawrence Wong

TUBA

Charles Pryor

BASS

Leo Szarke

PERCUSSION

Marisol Castro

Evan Dea

Saranessa Eisen

Elliott Jacob

Sevan Markarian

Rani Millstein

Zeke Vlahohs

* Denotes principal players

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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