

Wind Ensemble Concert

'A Salute to Our Veterans'

By Chloe McGee
Arts & Life Editor

The Brevard College Wind Ensemble took the stage to perform a musical selection in honor of United States' veterans last Thursday in the Porter Center. Dr. Eric Peterson, Director of Bands, conducted the concert.

With respects the night's patriotic theme, the band opened with John Williams' Midway March—a riveting tune that was originally composed for the 1976 motion picture Midway. The piece celebrates the Battle of Midway during World War II in which the U.S. Signals Intelligence broke a Japanese encryption code, allowing U.S. forces to plan a victorious counterattack. In his march, Williams alludes to the code with a series of repetitive staccato notes played in the brass.

The ensemble then performed David Maslanka's On This Bright Morning, wholeheartedly capturing the uncertainties of life as well as the possibilities that are sure to ensue. "On This Bright Morning acknowledges the struggle, and the feelings of pain and loss in times of transition, but embodies the pure

joy of realizing the bigger life. On this bright morning, life is new, life is possible," Maslanka wrote in his composition notes.

Next on the program was an emotionally rich orchestration written by Jeremy Bell entitled Forgotten Heroes. This composition serves as an homage to those who have selflessly fought to preserve our nation's freedoms without receiving the well-deserved honor and recognition. Bell specifically dedicates his work to the women of our military forces.

Eternal Father, Strong to Save continued the program's commemorative motif as the piece is also known as the Navy Hymn, appearing in most hymnals. The original words were first published as a poem in 1860 by William Whiting for a student that was to take sail for the United States; Whereas the melody was later composed in 1861 by the Episcopalian Reverend John B. Dykes. The original lyrics to Eternal Father, Strong to Save was featured in the program's booklet along with other works of complimentary poetry.

Directly following the Navy Hymn, an isolated snare drum call echoed throughout the music hall signaling the beginning of the next

piece entitled Celebration of Taps. Written by Daniel Butterfield in 1862, the composure was inspired by a foundational melody of patriotic repertoire: A 24-note bugle call known as "Taps," which is played ceremoniously at military funerals.

After a moment of due solemnity, the ambiance was lightened through an exciting performance of Ryan George's JINX. This mischievous composition plays off of the superstitious notion that when one's luck runs out, they must have become cursed or, better yet, jinxed.

As a tribute to five distinct branches of U.S. military, the band's finale was a compilation piece titled Armed Forces Medley, which featured excerpts from the Coast Guard, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Army's official anthems. The veterans in attendance were welcomed on stage to be honored as their branch's song was played, prompting a tremendous applause and standing ovation from members of the audience. Undoubtedly, this commemorative display was a glorious ending to a night of abounding patriotism and wonderful music.

Brevard College senior art exhibition

By Zach Dickerson
Campus News Editor

After years of hard work and determination, it all paid off for Olivia Murray and Kristina Cloud when "Handmade Tale" Exhibition opened on Friday, Nov. 8.

"When I was little I liked to play in the dirt, get messy and just be myself," Cloud, sculpture concentration, said. She first got started really working with clay when she started taking classes at a community college and continued this work when she became a member of Brookgreen Gardens in South Carolina and took classes there.

"I like to work with clay," Cloud said, "because it is flexible, soft, it has a natural feel and I enjoy working with my hands and manipulating and evoking emotion into my figures." Cloud got the idea for her work after seeing figures in an Art History course with Anne Chapin and she just adopted that style and made it her own.

Each of the figures that Cloud created for the show has a different texture and weight. "My figures started with arms and hands," Cloud said, "and I then took them away so I could focus on the figure of the torso more."

"I endeavor to create forms that evoke feelings of elegance, simplicity and strength in viewers," Cloud said in her artist statement. "I feel that I reach my creative potential when working with the female figure; capturing a moment of gestural grace through a physically direct, clay-modeling process."

Cloud explained her process of hollowing out the figures and then put them together. But first she would get a mass of clay and work and play with it until it becomes what she wants it to be and what feels right. She used methods of adding, subtracting and shaping clay.

Murray, sculpture and painting concentrations, focused her pieces in the show more on Scandinavian folklore.

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(Above) 'Birth of Venus' by Kristina Cloud.

(On front page) 'Elegant Rythm of the Female Figure (Group 1)' by Kristina Cloud. Photo by Zach Dickerson.