Biography

Since 2004, the Gaudete Brass Quintet (GBQ) has committed itself to presenting serious brass chamber music through compelling concerts, commissioning new works and adventurous recordings. The group has engaged in live performances at venues such as Merkin Hall and Symphony Space in New York City and Millennium Park in Chicago, commissioned new works from noted composers such as David Sampson, Jonathan Newman, John Cheetham, Steven Bryant and Stacy Garrop, and appeared on radio broadcasts on WFMT in Chicago and Nashville Public Radio.

While keeping this rigorous performance schedule, Gaudete Brass has recorded three albums: Brass Outings (2006), winner of the CDBaby Editors’ Choice distinction and nominee for Just Plain Folks Best Classical Chamber Album; Conversations in Time with organist R. Benjamin Dobey (2011, Pro Organa); and Chicago Moves, produced by Grammy winner Judith Sherman and featuring several of its commissioned works (2012, Cedille Records).

The Quintet has also presented educational programs and concerts at prominent institutions including The Juilliard School, Eastman School of Music, and Arizona State University and starting in the fall of 2013 the GBQ has joined Roosevelt University’s Chicago College of Performing Arts faculty as ensemble-in-residence.

Gaudete (gow-day-tay) is a form of the Latin word for “Joy.” We support the idea that chamber music, even (and perhaps especially) the serious kind, can powerfully communicate both the poignant and the exuberant.
Residency Overview

The Gaudete Brass is one of the few brass quintets in the world that is exclusively committed to performing serious chamber music. The members of the quintet have succeeded in their musical careers by becoming experts at presenting and programming, preparing new compositions, working with composers, entrepreneurship and business, as well as the fundamentals of chamber music. The Quintet has had the wonderful opportunity to share these skills with chamber music students, music business classes, and composers all over the country through residency programs.

Each GBQ residency will be tailored specifically for each institution. The Quintet will work with your institution to create the most meaningful residency to meet your unique needs, using one or more of the modules listed below.

Chamber Music Skills
Ensemble Coaching
Compositional Residency
Entrepreneurship
Open Rehearsal
Educational / Outreach Performance
Collaborations
Brass Quintet as a Chamber Ensemble

Chamber Music Skills
The GBQ explores the essentials of creating great music in a chamber ensemble setting. The quintet shows how to navigate the fundamentals of time and intonation in a small group, how to discuss aspects of style, and how to function without a conductor or a coach. The beginnings of more in depth topics such as repertoire, music business and creating opportunities as emerging musicians are also included in this topic.
Compositional Residency
Encouraging composers to write for the brass quintet is a fundamental part of GBQ’s mission. As part of this residency, Gaudete presents a lecture demonstration on how to write successfully for brass instruments. Composers who attend that class are encouraged to write a short piece for brass quintet. GBQ can then work with each composer individually to discuss how to make the piece as successful as possible. GBQ has presented this in the past as part of semester long composition classes with the new compositions being performed by Gaudete as part of a composition recital or final project. When only one visit is possible, we accommodate private reading sessions with composers that have already written for brass quintet. In any format it is also possible for composers to record the GBQ’s performance of their piece for private use.

Entrepreneurship
GBQ has presented this class to music students in performance, education and business. Topics include marketing and branding, networking, cold calling, promotional materials (including developing audio and video), and the basics of business structure. The Quintet also discusses communicating effectively with presenters, audiences, donors and each other.

Open Rehearsal
Since GBQ is always adding new pieces to its repertoire, frequent rehearsal is necessary. Observing an open rehearsal can be a great way for students to find ways to make their own rehearsals more efficient. In open rehearsals, the GBQ provides the opportunity for observers to ask questions about the rehearsal process.
Educational / Outreach Performance
The Gaudete Brass has often performed for younger or underserved audiences that cannot be reached by traditional chamber music concerts. Outreach concerts have been a great way for the institutions to increase visibility while serving their communities and promoting appreciation of music.

Collaborations
GBQ has partnered with other brass players to explore the large brass ensemble repertoire and double brass quintet repertoire. The Quintet has also worked extensively with organists and collaborated with solo clarinet, oboe, violin, soprano voice and, most non traditionally, theremin. The quintet has performed often with choirs including performing the GBQ’s own quintet setting of the large brass version of Rutter’s Gloria. GBQ has also enjoyed performing the great concerto repertoire for brass quintet and wind ensemble. In this setting, the Quintet can partner with an ensemble from your institution for a concert or other presentation.

Brass Quintet as a Chamber Ensemble
This residency component includes a lecture, demonstration and discussion for brass players already experienced in chamber music playing regarding the state of brass chamber music. GBQ will discuss difficult aspects of approaching early music and new music, as well as examining and programming the existing repertoire. The discussion will also focus on the importance of forming and maintaining an ensemble identity and how to share that identity with concert presenters and audiences.
“Working with the Gaudete Brass was one of the highlights of this year for me. They knew my piece COPPERWAVE very well, having performed it several times beforehand, and yet they managed to be flexible enough to go with more changes that I suggested at our session together. They are an extraordinary group that is quite serious about creating a new repertoire for the brass quintet.”

**Joan Tower**  
Grammy Award Winning Composer  
Asher B. Edelman Professor in the Arts; Faculty, The Bard College Conservatory of Music

"Gaudete Brass Quintet is an outstanding young group bringing fresh ideas to brass chamber music. I'm really excited to see such a fine ensemble dedicated to serious brass repertoire."

**Raymond Mase**  
American Brass Quintet  
Chair of Brass  
The Juilliard School

"The concert that the Gaudete Brass presented was one of the brightest highlights in the ten years of Lake Park’s Musical Mondays. It was a privilege to present GBQ. Having been a part of a performing group myself, I know the joy of making music with and for others and truly envy the caliber of excellence each individual brings to this extraordinary quintet."

**Thallis Hoyt Drake**  
Music Director  
Lake Park’s "Musical Monday’s"  
Milwaukee, WI

"The Gaudete Brass Quintet plays the Wert madrigals with an attention to articulation and subtle phrasing akin to the best period vocal groups."

**Greg Ingles**  
Historic Trombones;  
Spiritus Collective,  
Ciaramella and Piffaro
**Chicago Moves**
In February 2012, many of the works that the quintet has commissioned were recorded on a new album to be released on Cedille Records in November 2012 under the guidance of Grammy award winning producer Judith Sherman.

**Conversations in Time**
In this 2010 recording, the Gaudete Brass Quintet teams up with organ virtuoso Robert Benjamin Dobey in a lively album of original music for Brass Quintet and Organ, from a variety of American and European composers. The modern works are punctuated by three arrangements of short works by Giovanni Gabriele for brass ensemble with organ. The Schoenstein organ of Grace Episcopal Church, Sheboygan, is the featured instrument / venue.

**Brass Outings**
The Gaudete Brass' debut CD features brass chamber music across the last five centuries and is the perfect addition to any collection. In 2006, the Gaudete Brass released its first album (featuring Andre Previn's Four Outings for Brass), which was honored with the CDBaby Editors' Choice distinction and nominated for the 2009 Just Plain Folks Best Classical Chamber Album.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Music Written for the Gaudete Brass Quintet</th>
<th>Composer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sonata for Brass Quintet (2008)</td>
<td>John Cheetham (b. 1939)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vic and Sade’s Band Concert (2008)</td>
<td>Jan Bach (b. 1937)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Moves! (2011)</td>
<td>David Sampson (b. 1951)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brass (2011)</td>
<td>Rob Deemer (b. 1970)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sevenfive (2013)</td>
<td>Steven Bryant (b. 1972)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Still (2013)</td>
<td>David Sampson (b. 1951)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three Preludes for Brass Quintet (2013)</td>
<td>Eric Malmquist (b. 1985)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dragon Call (2014)</td>
<td>Jessica A. Hunt (b. 1987)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fanfare on an English Tune for BQ with Antiphonal Tpts (2015)</td>
<td>Paul Von Hoff (b 1978)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colloquy for Brass Quintet (2016)</td>
<td>Jessica A. Hunt (b. 1987)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annunciation and Magnificat (2016)</td>
<td>Kile Smith (b. 1956)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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