

CBoP has new director

Matt Zook, of Garfield has been hired to direct Community Band of the Palouse whose members who come from all parts of the area.

The new director has been with the Garfield-Palouse School District since 2014 teaching instrumental general music and directing two middle school bands, the high school choir and high school wind ensemble along with various extra-curricular music activities like the pep band, jazz ensemble and garage band.

Matt dedicated his life to musical pursuits at an early age coming from a very musical family and background. He started studying clarinet in 4th grade and continued playing clarinet, saxophone and drums through high school and into college.

He earned a composition degree from Western Washington University in 2006 where he also studied conducting and rehearsal techniques. In 2021 he received his Masters in Teaching from Washington State University and studied with Dr. Danh Pham and conducted and played in various university ensembles and performances.

When he's not conducting or teaching he stays active playing a variety of instruments in different ensembles and bands encompassing a variety of musical styles. Composition remains a passion for him, especially in the genres of contemporary, experimental and improvised music.

Matt recognizes the important tradition the band has in the communities of the Palouse.

"I believe in the power of music and realize how critical the Arts are for bringing people together and enriching the community. Directing the band is so important for me to ensure the Community Band of The Palouse continues to support community events and provides an opportunity for musicians to gather and experience Art together.

"I look forward to making the best musical experiences I can and the possibilities of expanding our performances and ensemble opportunities to reach even more of the area," the director said.

Band Concerts Planned for September, November at Gladish

The Community Band of the Palouse, or CBoP, which formed in 1974, draws adult musicians from the Palouse region of Eastern Washington and North Idaho, as well as surrounding communities.

The Band starts rehearsals for its next series of performances on Sept. 13 and will continue to rehearse every Tuesday from 7:30-9 p.m. in the Gladish Little Theatre. (Mark your calendars and join them for a Veteran's Day performance on Nov. 11, and a Holiday concert on Dec. 13. The band welcome interested musicians with any level of experience and ability to dust off their instruments and join the group. For more information, check out the website: <https://palouseband.org/> .

A subset of band members also perform as the German band, Auf Gehts, and has been doing so for nearly 40 years. An additional subset of the band, CBoP, Sr. , plays regular concerts at area senior residences and care centers.

The Community Band of the Palouse has called the Gladish Community and Cultural Center home for 10 years, rehearsing weekly and performing in Gladish's Domey Auditorium. "The band is truly grateful to have the support and accommodations the great folks at Gladish provide," members said.



Matt Zook