

WINTER 2025 NEWSLETTER

Grand Rapids Federation of Musicians/AFM Local 56

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS!



JODIE WHITE
Trumpet, Horn, and Piano Technician

"Having just moved from Buffalo NY, I am excited to meet and play with the musicians of Local 56. Thank you for the warm welcome and, if you are in the Okemos area, come to Meridian Winds to say hello where I work as a brass technician."



CRAIG ROBINSON
Saxophone

"Greetings! I am excited to be a part of such talented people and look forward to adding my support. I'm originally from Detroit and have over thirty years of experience in jazz, fusion, and dance music."



SHIRLEY KIM

Cello

"As a new member of the Grand Rapids Symphony, I'm happy to be a part of Local 56. In addition, I'm excited to be part of this organization and cannot wait to collaborate with so many wonderful musicians."



RYAN BASSETT

Double Bass

"I am excited to be joining the strong and organized Local 56. Thank you to all the members and leaders working hard to look out for its musicians."

RANDOLPH MORRIS

Auxiliary Percussion



"I'm so grateful to join this organization, and I look forward to all the good work we can do together to make people happy in this world."



DANIEL TERPSTRA
Recording and Photography

"I have always loved professional musicians and deeply appreciate working with all of them. Thank you to Paul Austin and Charles Johnson for putting me into the mix!"

RON EVANS
Trumpet

"I'm very excited to be a new member of AFM Local 56 and look forward to performing and collaborating with our existing members. I can't wait to see what this new year will offer!"



CATHERINE LEE
Percussion and Conductor

"I'm excited to be part of the AFM and look forward to collaborating with other union members to be able to contribute to the community."





CHRISTOPHER JONES

Percussion

"Hello to the AFM Local 56 union! I am honored to be a part of an organization that has done so much to provide for musicians. I look forward to working more with our members in the years to come!"

DOMINIQUE KIM

Flute

"I am so excited to join Local 56 and the Grand Rapids musical community and look forward to making great music with great musicians. Thank you for having me!"



THOMAS HUBEL

Trumpet

"I'm looking forward to making music with so many wonderful colleagues in Local 56. Playing in the Grand Rapids Symphony has made me aware to how much our Union does for us. Many thanks!"



GEORGIY BORISOV

Clarinet

"I am very pleased to join Local 56! It is an incredibly rewarding experience to play with such a distinguished group of musicians in the Grand Rapids Symphony."



JUST US BAND

We are pleased to welcome the members of Just Us Band, all who joined Local 56 in 2024 (shown here performing at our November 2024 membership meeting).

Just Us Band includes Don Newton (drum set), José Ortiz (vocals), Darryl Malone (saxophone), Ron Evans (trumpet), and Carlton Newton (trombone).