

VOCAL SOLOIST - JONATHON WELLER

Jonathon Weller is a British-born bass singer who also plays Bb Bass in RSBB and the Chicago Staff Band. He studied Vocal Performance and Music Education at the Chicago College of Performing Arts, Roosevelt University studying with artists such as David Holloway, Bruce Hall and Dr. Cheryl Frazes-Hill. He has worked with orchestras such as Northbrook Symphony, Illinois Philharmonic & Chicago Sinfonietta and performed with the Grant Park Festival Chorus. Jonathon is an active member of The Salvation Army, serving at Norridge Citadel Corps and leading the 40 strong Metropolitan Youth Chorus.

TROMBONE SOLOIST - BRETT TOLCHER

Brett hails from a family steeped in Salvation Army history. After initial lessons at The Salvation Army, he gained a place to study trombone at DePaul University School of Music with Charles Vernon of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and Mark Fisher of the Lyric Opera of Chicago Orchestra. A capable keyboard player, Brett can be heard at various charity functions and even the Chicago House of Blues! Brett gives his talents back to The Salvation Army in a variety of ways: he is Bandmaster of Norridge Citadel Band, Principal Trombone of the Chicago Staff Band and is a regular guest artist at various SA events.

CORNET SOLOIST - AMY NELSON

Amy started playing the cornet in Waukegan, Illinois. Since those formative years she has won the NABBA solo competition five times and soloed at the Grant Park Music Festival, Great American Brass Band Festival, Illinois Music Educators Conference, International Women's Brass Conference and the World Music Festival. She has held principal cornet positions with the Athena Brass Band, Illinois Brass Band, Chicago Brass Band, Princeton Brass Band and, of course, The Red Shield Brass Band. She has performed with Adele at the United Center and Sigur Ros at Madison Square Garden and worked with Broadway international tours of Cinderella, Fiddler on the Roof and the Sound of Music. Amy is a performing artist for Smith-Watkins Instruments and Denis Wick mouthpieces.

CONDUCTOR - DR. JONATHAN CORRY

Jonathan is currently Director of Music & Gospel Arts for The Salvation Army Metropolitan Division. After initial lessons from his father, Jonathan studied trumpet with John Miller at the Royal Northern College of Music and received his Masters in conducting after study with James Gourlay. Jonathan completed his Ph.D in 2016 after five years of performance research with the University of Salford. He has performed and recorded with Black Dyke and Brighouse & Rastrick bands and was concerto soloist with the Ulster Orchestra and Camerata Ireland performing concerti by Haydn, Hummel and Bach. A finalist in the 2005 European Conductors Competition, he has worked with bands including Besses O'th Barn, Grimethorpe, Cory, Flowers and Christlicher Musikverband Schweiz (CMVS) Staff Band. He has conducted several youth groups including the National Youth Orchestra of Ireland, European Youth Brass Band and various SA music schools. Jonathan was Bandmaster of the renowned Enfield Citadel Band for eight years leading them on various overseas tours and several commercial recordings. He continues to be in demand as a clinician, conductor, adjudicator and advisor for brass and wind bands. Jonathan is a Getzen performing artist.