



Manhattan Wind Ensemble Presents

magic AND mystery

Sarah Fernández, Music Director & Conductor
Scott Byers, Associate Conductor

15 March 2025 | 8 pm



PETER NORTON

**SYMPHONY
SPACE**

ENSEMBLE

Sarah Fernández

Conductor & Music Director

Scott Byers

Associate Conductor

Piccolo

Frederika Rentzeperis
Marvin Miao Wang

Flute

Olivia Chen
Andie Cohn *
Danielle Green
Deborah Healy
Kimberly Hom
Monica Karpuk
Andrew Ramirez
Frederika Rentzeperis
Michelle Rosen
Marvin Miao Wang
Tianxin Xu

Oboe

David de la Nuez *
Dahlia Weinger

E♭ Clarinet

Sherlock Chan
Andrew Lee

B♭ Clarinet

Anne Bailey
Dawn Barrett
Cereese Blose
Jack Borrebach
Matt Brauner *
Sherlock Chan
Katherine Chiu
Allyson Hotchkin
Andrew Lee
Sara Mazurek
Leyla Novini
Isabela Quintero Ardila
Marika Thompson
Paul Weinger
Cory Zhou

Bass Clarinet

Will Link


Bassoon

Zac Bohanan

Soprano Saxophone

Max Scheiber 

Alto Saxophone

Mark Broomfield
Jo Ellen Fusco
Jane Handa
Kevin Leysath II
Kelly Pomeroy
Max Scheiber
Brian Spund
Shari Vrod
Isobel Williams *

Tenor Saxophone

Jonathan Illari *
Michele B. Kaufman

Baritone Saxophone

Joshua Cohen
Josh Lang *
Greg Shatan

French Horn

Eric Deiboldt *
Karen Donovan *
Alexandra Honigsberg
Marshall Hopkins
Sarah Muller

* Principal

 Concertmaster

 Spotlights Sax Quartet

Trumpet

Daniela Amir *
Sarah Fishman
Rebecca Freed
Jasmine Leahy
Yoshi Nagayama
Jasper Scheiber
Richard Springer

Trombone

David Goehring
Margaret Hubble
Joph Steckel
Zachery Utt *

Euphonium

Courtney Dennis
Karen Popkin *
Dimitri Vishnepolsky

Tuba

Alan Gilbert
Zach Obsniuk *
Jedd Wolchok

String Bass

Soham Maiti

Percussion

Hampton Douglas
Nina Feliciano
Samantha Horowitz
Jacob Kibel
Jay Neger
Ethan Steinberg *
Marielle Sumergido

Piano

Adam Bernstein



magic AND mystery

Windsprints

Richard L. Saucedo

Colonial Song

Percy Aldridge Grainger

Mary Shelley Meets Frankenstein

A Modern Promethean Tango

Erika Svanoe

Spotlights

Thomas Doss

---INTERMISSION---

How to Train Your Dragon

"A Symphonic Portrait"

John Powell

Arr. Ton Van Grevenbroek

Shadow Rituals

Michael Markowski

SARAH FERNÁNDEZ

Conductor & Music Director

Sarah Fernández has been teaching music through a wide variety of mediums for over a decade. A native of the California Central Valley, she currently lives on Long Island and has been teaching preK-12 general music and chorus there since 2012. Presently, Fernández is Choral Director and General Music Teacher at Forest Road Elementary School and Shaw Avenue Elementary School in Valley Stream UFSD #30 in Nassau County. From 2018-2024, she served as Chairperson for the NMEA Division II Chorus. She is an active pianist, clarinetist, guest conductor and clinician in the greater New York City area.

She received her Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education at the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music in Stockton, California and her Master of Arts degree in Music Education at Teachers College at Columbia University. Fernández has performed at internationally prestigious institutions such as the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, IL, the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE), Beijing Normal University, Shanghai Normal University, Boston Symphony Hall, Lincoln Center & Carnegie Hall. She made her podium debut in Stockton conducting the the Pacific Symphony Orchestra, the University of the Pacific Wind Ensemble, student recitals and composition premieres during her undergraduate study. This was followed by a 3-year period as Guest Conductor then Assistant Director of the Columbia University Wind Ensemble. For many summers, Fernández worked with the Columbia Summer Winds as Associate Conductor with colleagues Dr. Andy Pease and Dr. William Tonissen as well as collaborated with



composers such as Michael Markowski and Jim Territo.

Outside of MWE, Fernández is the Nassau County Representative for NYSBDA (New York State Band Directors Association) and has presented at conferences and symposiums on Programming Utilizing Technology and Arts Integration in Schools. She holds active memberships in NAFME, WBDI, NMEA, CBDNA and ACB. Fernández is also Music Director and Conductor of the Band of Long Island, a community concert band based in central Long Island. Both MWE and BOLI actively promote and support new works for wind band via commissions and consortiums as well as collaborations with guest conductors, clinicians, performers and composers. Most recently, MWE performed at the Instrumental Music Festival at Boston's Symphony Hall. Conducting mentors through collegiate studies and symposiums include Dr. Mallory Thompson, Jerry Junkin, Kevin Sedatole, Dr. Emily Threinen, Richard Floyd, Dr. Robert Halseth, and her dearest mentor, the late Dr. Eric Hammer.

SCOTT BYERS

Associate Conductor

Scott Byers is a passionate educator, conductor, and performer based in the greater New York Area. Currently serving as the Director of Bands at New Rochelle High School, Scott conducts the Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Band, and leads a comprehensive before-school chamber music program. Previously, he held positions as Associate Band Director at Wayne Valley High School in New Jersey and Band Director at Merrick Avenue Middle School on Long Island. As an educator, ensembles under his direction consistently receive top ratings of “Gold” and “Gold with Distinction” at state assessment festivals.



Scott currently serves as Associate Conductor of the Manhattan Wind Ensemble, a high caliber, audition-based community band dedicated to performing both standard repertoire and new works for wind bands throughout New York City. This upcoming summer, Scott will serve on the conducting faculty at Eastern Music Camp at Colgate University, leading the middle school and high school band divisions. He has performed as a saxophonist with the Brooklyn Wind Symphony, Long Island Wind Ensemble, Montclair State Wind Symphony, and Ithaca College Wind Ensemble. As a conductor, Scott has been selected to participate in conducting symposiums at Indiana University, Georgia State University, University of Massachusetts Amherst, University of Maryland, and Montclair State University.


Scott holds an undergraduate degree in Music Education and Saxophone Performance from Ithaca College and a Master's degree in Wind Conducting from Montclair State University, where he studied under Thomas McCauley. At Montclair State University, he served as an assistant conductor to the MSU Wind Symphony, frequently conducting in rehearsals and performances. He also performed with the group at the WASBE Conference in Prague, with additional appearances in Vienna and Munich. As a graduate student, Scott presented multiple chamber music recitals, conducting a variety of ensembles with repertoire spanning different historical periods.

Scott holds active memberships in New York State Band Directors Association (NYSBDA), New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA), Westchester County School Music Association (WCSMA) and the National Association for Music Education (NAfME).

Spotlights Sax Quartet

Max Scheiber is an amateur saxophonist and composer originally from South Florida. He attended the Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts in West Palm Beach, where he studied classical saxophone under Wayne Miller, Michael Forte, and Evan Rogovin. He graduated from Dreyfoos in 2011 as class valedictorian and was recognized by the College Board as the top AP scholar in the state of Florida. Max matriculated to the Jerome Fisher Program in Management & Technology at the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated summa cum laude in 2015 with undergraduate degrees in computer science and business and a master's degree in computer science. At Penn, he was a member of the Penn Glee Club and Penn Wind Ensemble. Max has been a member of the Manhattan Wind Ensemble since 2017, during which he performed Alexander Glazunov's Concerto in E-Flat Major at Boston Symphony Hall. Max currently works as a data scientist, and when not in the office or the rehearsal room, he is an avid golfer and oenophile.

Izzy Williams studied saxophone, violin and composition on the 'joint course' between The Royal Northern College of Music and The University of Manchester. After graduating, she volunteered at The Starehe Girls Centre in Nairobi teaching music and composition, whilst competing with the school choir nationally at the Kenyan Music Festival. Moving back to the UK, Izzy toured as a multi-instrumentalist and singer with the Giffords Circus Band in 2019. She then moved into a full-time teaching and pastoral-care role at Bryanston School, before relocating to New York, where she currently works at Nord Anglia School as a Juilliard Music Teacher.



Jonathan Illari is a distinguished saxophonist and accomplished international fine art attorney, seamlessly blending two worlds of creativity and intellect. As a performer, Jonathan has graced stages across the country from undergraduate studies at Cornell University under Dr. Mark Davis Scatterday, to recording at Skywalker Sound with the San Francisco Wind Ensemble. Offstage, Jonathan holds a law degree from Boston University and is licensed here in New York and abroad in the U.K. Whether performing or advising, Jonathan brings precision, passion, and a unique perspective to the legal and musical realms. Special thanks to his family and friends for bolstering him to where he is today. You know who you are.

Josh Lang is a Brooklyn-based saxophonist who studied under Dr. Jonathan Bergeron at Northern Arizona University. He's performed across the US and in Germany & Poland, plays regularly with Cobalt Quartet, Manhattan Wind Ensemble, & New York Wind Orchestra, and frequently collaborates with other ensembles including recently the Brooklyn Wind Symphony Saxophone Orchestra, Manhattan School of Music Saxophone Orchestra, & New Conductors Orchestra. He notably performed with the New Hudson Saxophone Quartet at the Bard Music Festival—marking saxophone's debut at this prestigious event. Josh is also an accomplished arranger and engraver, with highlights including editions of Zdeněk Lukáš' works and a 15-song children's musical.

MWE LEADERSHIP

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Michael Jones, President
Andie Cohn, Vice President
Max Scheiber, Treasurer
Nikhil Baliga, Secretary

ARTISTIC STAFF

Sarah Fernández, Music Director
Scott Byers, Associate Conductor

DIRECTORS

Dawn Barrett, Librarian
Monica Karpuk, Productions Manager
Will Link, Personnel Manager
Karen Donovan, Social Media Manager

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Jasper Scheiber
Greg Shatan
Brian Spund
Dahlia Weinger
Carly Weinreb

PROGRAM NOTES

WINDSPRINTS

Richard L. Saucedo

Windsprints is a flourish of notes and rhythms meant to stir the kind of emotion one might experience during the running of a 50- or 100-yard dash. The piece gets off the "starting blocks" quickly and immediately involves numerous wind and percussion instruments in a technical "race to the finish line!"

Windsprints was written for students (that I absolutely adore) in the top concert band (Wind Symphony I) at Carmel High School (Indiana) during late fall of 2003. The band performed the work at the National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis in February, 2004.

-Program Note by composer

Highly commissioned composer Richard Saucedo is known for writing music that is both fun to play and educational. Aside from being a composer, Saucedo is at his heart a music educator. His archive of works includes countless accessible pieces for musicians and ensembles of all ages, concert band, drum corps and beyond, while maintaining musical and artistic integrity.

Windsprints is a relentless drive from start to finish. Woodwinds running wild alongside broad brass chords, add in fanfare trumpets and gigue-like piano flourishes and you've got two and a half minutes of sheer excitement! I've personally performed this piece on clarinet and on piano, but I'm excited to experience it from the podium this time around!

- Notes by Sarah Fernández

COLONIAL SONG

Percy Aldridge Grainger

The editor writes, “Percy Grainger’s art is inextricably linked to folk music. Grainger’s settings of British, Danish, and American folk music are the finest of their kind, prompting no less a figure than Benjamin Britten to declare that Grainger was his ‘master’ in the art of setting folk music. Among those works written in conscious imitation of folk-style, Colonial Song is perhaps the finest of any of his original works.”

The musical material of Colonial Song dates from 1905. The work is dedicated to Grainger’s mother, and Grainger describes,

“No traditional tunes of any kind are made use of in this piece, in which I have wished to express feelings aroused by thoughts of the scenery and people of my native land, Australia, and also to voice a certain kind of emotion that seems to me not untypical of native-born colonials in general. Perhaps it is not unnatural that people living more or less lonely in vast virgin countries and struggling against natural and climatic hardships (rather than against the more actively and dramatically exciting counter wills of the fellow men, as in more thickly populated lands) should run largely to that patiently yearning, inactive sentimental wistfulness that we find so touchingly expressed in much American art. I have also noticed curious almost Italian-like musical tendencies in brass band performances and ways of singing in Australia (such as a preference for richness and intensity of tone and soulful breadth of phrasing over more subtly and sensitively varied delicacies of expression), which are also reflected here.”

-Program Note by Jennifer Daffinee

MARY SHELLEY MEETS FRANKENSTEIN: A Modern Promethean Tango

Erika Svanoe

Mary Shelley Meets Frankenstein: A Modern Promethean Tango imagines a scenario where the young author meets her own creation, the monster brought to life whom we colloquially refer to as “Frankenstein.” They meet, circling each other in a dance reflective of a tango. Mary is initially curious and sympathetic, while the creature pleads for compassion. In the moment when the two come together, Mary’s sympathy is overwhelmed by horror and she begins to panic, while the creature becomes furious with her rejection. With the final notes, we are left asking ourselves -- who is the real monster?

Commissioned by Andrew Boysen, Jr. and the University of New Hampshire Wind Symphony.

-Program Note by composer

SPOTLIGHTS

Thomas Doss

Spotlights is a fantastic virtuoso piece for saxophone quartet (SATB) and concert band that was commissioned by the outstanding Austrian saxophone quartet Mobilis. It is an impressive and exceptionally spectacular piece in which every member of the saxophone family is featured. The most important ingredients of this solo work are virtuosity, rhythm

and a good dollop of funk. It is a challenging but rewarding piece for saxophone soloists and yet very accessible to the audience.

- Program Note from publisher

Spotlights Continued...

Thomas Doss (b. 6 July 1966) is an Austrian composer and conductor. He was born into a musical family (both parents were active orchestra-musicians). His undergraduate degree was in music education, with an emphasis in trombone, composition, conducting, and piano. He has held residencies with various opera houses and festivals, working as both conductor and composer. Doss is known for collaborating with artists from many different genres, such as Harri Stojka, Chris de Burgh, Thomas Gansch, John Williams, Steven Mead, Christian Maurer, as well as many others. His passion for wind and brass ensembles have taken his expertise and talent around the world.

Teaching and coaching have also become an increasingly important part of Doss's work. Many of his students are award-recipients at international competitions. He also leads workshops and masterclasses at institutes across Europe, such as the Konservatorium Groningen (Netherlands), Lemmensinstitut (Belgium), Konservatorium Gent (Belgium), Universität Mainz (Germany), Musikuniversität Wien, and Anton Bruckneruniversität Linz (Austria). Currently he is professor of conducting at the Konservatorium Wien Privatuniversität, the Conservatorium Montiverdi in Bozano (I) and consults with institutes looking to improve and further their conducting programs.

MWE is thrilled to perform this exceptional work with our very own in-house saxophone quartet, featuring Max Scheiber (soprano saxophone), Isobel Williams (alto saxophone), Jonathan Illari (tenor saxophone) and Josh Lang (baritone saxophone).

-Notes by Sarah Fernández

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON

“A Symphonic Portrait”

John Powell

Arr. Ton Van Grevenbroek

If you have ever felt enchanted by the film scores of composers like John Williams, Michael Giacchino and Hans Zimmer, John Powell’s lush and soaring score to *How to Train Your Dragon* is sure to do the same. Arguably Dreamworks best film, it was nominated for two Oscars and followed with two sequel films.

Main protagonist, Hiccup, is a Norse teenager from the island of Berk, where fighting dragons is a way of life. His progressive views and weird sense of humor make him a misfit, despite the fact that his father is chief of the clan. Tossed into dragon-fighting school, he endeavors to prove himself as a true Viking, but when he befriends an injured dragon he names Toothless, he has the chance to plot a new course for his people's future. The film is a story of embracing differences, charting one’s own path in life, breaking prejudice, redemption through understanding and empathy, and most of all, the lasting bonds of friendship. The film and its score are EPIC in every sense, joyful, nostalgic, bold as a Viking and most of all, heart-warming.

Similarly to John Williams, Powell utilizes the Wagnerian popularized implementation of leitmotif, a compositional technique that uses thematic material such as rhythmic ostinati, a specific tonality or memorable melodies to signify the presence of a character or event on screen (or for Wagner, on the opera stage!). John Williams notably took that idea to the next level by

inserting thematic material even when the character was not on screen so their presence was felt, even if not seen - think of the two-note Jaws melody as you wade around at the beach... exactly! Powell, who spent considerable time studying with Williams, takes all of this a step even further and weaves themes together, almost mirroring the interactions of characters on screen through his score writing. It truly is as magical as the dragons he brings to life!

This masterfully adapted arrangement by Ton van Grevenbroek features from the original soundtrack This Is Berk, The Downed Dragon, See You Tomorrow, Romantic Flight, Battling the Green Death and finally Coming Back Around. MWE wants to extend a special thanks to Miles Wuster, Professor of Music at Martin Luther College for assisting our ensemble in having more time with the music!

-Program notes by Sarah Fernández

SHADOW RITUALS

Michael Markowski

Shadow Rituals was written for the first Frank Ticheli Composition Contest in 2006. It won first prize in Category 2 - Young Band.

The piece begins with the percussion section, and shortly after we hear the first theme played by the clarinets. The first theme is later heard in the flutes and bells before returning to the clarinets. Most of Shadow Rituals is related to the opening section, and the majority of the motives heard throughout are related to the first theme.

The second theme is very syncopated and is first heard in the horns and is followed by a development section. The piece then

has a brief moment of release as the flutes sustain a unison pitch. Then the third theme is played by a solo euphonium. The third theme is presented in canon in the bassoon, alto sax, and clarinets. The third theme is a perfect palindrome; if you played it backwards it would sound exactly the same. The first theme returns before a coda, but has been altered to fit a 6-beat pattern instead of a 5-beat pattern. This alteration is presented by the trumpets, over which an augmentation of theme one is expressed by the woodwinds. Shadow Rituals ends with a brief statement of the first theme by the woodwinds, and a brief statement of the second theme by the winds and brass.

-Program Note by composer

Join us after the concert at the
SPEAKEASY ROOM AT THE GIN MILL
442 Amsterdam Ave

and...

SAVE THE DATE

for our next concert:

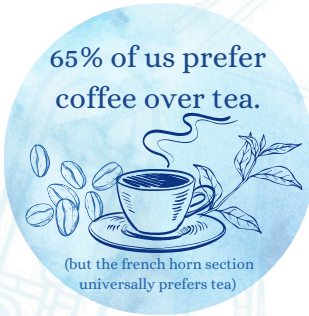
TRAVELERS

May 17th

8pm

Peter Norton Symphony Space

follow us on social media for updates!



Get to know the membership of MWE!

We have a wide range of hobbies...

Acting, Improv, Comedy, Composing, Reading, Anime & Manga, Travelling, Classic Cars, Trivia, App Development, Gambling, Museum Going, Watching GBBO, Volunteering, Collecting, Bird Watching, Photography, Puzzles, Video Games, Film, Board Games, Fine Dining, Whiskey, Baking, Cooking, Calligraphy, Colouring, Painting, Cross Stitch, Knitting, Crochet, Softball, Swimming, Basketball, Skiing, Scuba Diving, Soccer, Rock Climbing, Volleyball, Rugby, Kayaking, Running, Hiking, Gymnastics, Dancing, Fitness, Billiards, Bowling, Tennis, Cycling, Boxing, Trapeze, Economics.

Chinese
Cantonese
Mandarin
Spanish
Italian
German
Bengali
French
German
Hebrew
ASL
Polish
Persian
Portuguese
Japanese

We speak an impressive number of languages!



Our members hail from twenty different states and four different countries!

Our members work in an incredible variety of professions!

Actor, Art Lawyer, Associate Producer, Brand Strategist, Broadcast Engineer, Data Analyst, Data Engineer, Economist, Editor, Marketing Fundraiser, Product Manager, Healthcare Administrator, High School Music Teacher, Hospital Pharmacist, Financial Executive Assistant, Tech Sales, Journalist, Lawyer, Mechanical Engineering Professor, Music Therapist, Oncologist, Physician, Philosophy Professor, Project Manager, Public Relations, Research Scientist, Sales Manager, School Counselor, Anesthesiologist, Software Engineer, Speech Therapist, Technical Service Director, UX Designer

EST. 1996 THE
GIN MILL
Upper West Side
NEW YORK CITY

**lunch special
monday - friday
until 3 pm
\$14.99
any entree
and draft beer**

**lunch special!
monday - friday
until 3 pm
\$14.99
any entree
and draft beer**

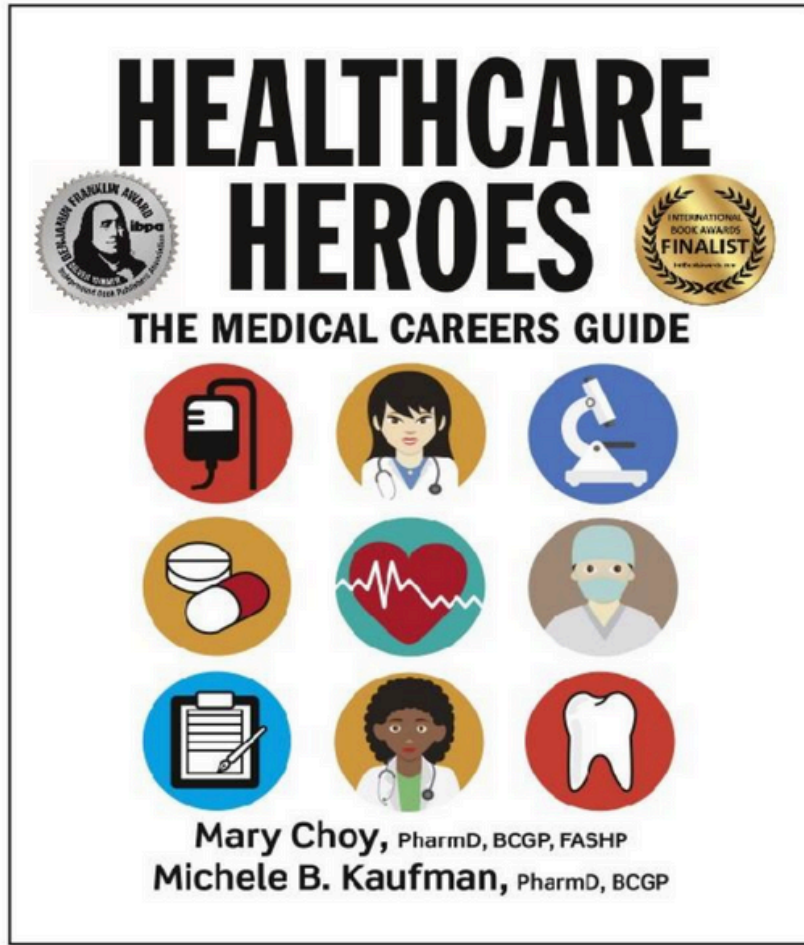
**lunch special!
monday - friday
until 3 pm
\$14.99
any entree
and draft beer**

give us a ring
to host your
private event!
(212) 585-2371



w 81 and amsterdam ave

Real Healthcare Heroes
Learn How to Become One
Award-winning book makes a great gift!



“An absolutely fascinating read with insight from renowned healthcare professionals.” –Readers’ Favorite Reviews

Buy your copy today!

www.healthcareheroesbook.com



THANK YOU

HELP SUPPORT US

The Manhattan Wind Ensemble is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. If you would like to make a tax-deductible one-time or recurring donation to the Manhattan Wind Ensemble, Inc., please visit: <http://manhattanwindensemble.com/donate/>



Your individual donations to Manhattan Wind Ensemble, Inc., as a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation may be eligible for matching by your employer.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR DONORS



HP Inc.
Manhattan Wind
Ensemble's 2025 Winter
Concert is made possible
in part with funds from
HP Inc.

HP Inc.* (HP.com)
Michael Jones
Michelle Kaufman
Joph Steckel
Marvin Miao Wang
Etsy

Manhattan Wind Ensemble would like to extend our sincerest thanks to: Avenue Church NYC for providing our weekly rehearsal space, Peter Norton Symphony Space for providing our beautiful concert venue & wonderful staff, Centanni Percussion for providing percussion instruments & equipment for tonight's performance.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@manhattanwindensemble

Program printing provided by HP
MWE logo designed by Cindy Seunarine, winner of the 2018 MWE logo contest.

