



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Palmetto Concert Band to Present World Premiere of Jay Bocook's "Groundswell (From Dusk till Dawn)" at the Koger Center

Columbia, SC – Feb. 10, 2026 – The Palmetto Concert Band is proud to announce the world premiere performance of "Groundswell (From Dusk till Dawn)," a stunning new work by acclaimed wind ensemble composer Jay Bocook. The performance will take place on Saturday, Feb. 14, at 8 p.m. at The Koger Center for the Arts. Admission is free.

Commissioned by Palmetto Concert Band to mark its 25th anniversary as an ensemble, this premiere marks a significant moment for both the ensemble and contemporary wind literature, as Bocook's composition captures the dynamic energy and emotional landscape of the city of Columbia, and the USC Women's Basketball team, under the leadership of Dawn Staley. Audience members will be among the first in the world to experience this evocative and powerful work.

"My son and his family now live in Columbia, and I have spent much time here over the years. The city seems to be experiencing a resurgence in energy and vitality recently," Bocook said. "This revival has, in my opinion, been spearheaded in large part by the tremendous success experienced by Dawn Staley and her Women's Basketball program. For these reasons, I have dedicated this work to the beautiful city of Columbia, and in recognition of the Women's Basketball team at USC, 'Leading the way!'"

The Palmetto Concert Band, known for its excellence in performing both classic and modern repertoire for winds, is thrilled to collaborate with Bocook to bring this music to life. This special evening promises to be a highlight of the 2025-2026 Palmetto Concert Band season for music lovers, educators, and performers.

"It is always exhilarating to bring new music to life. The world premiere of 'Groundswell' was even more exciting, given it is composed by such a world-renowned composer who resides right here in South Carolina," said Dr. Cormac Cannon, Palmetto Concert Band conductor and music director. "The combined talents of Jay Bocook and the Palmetto Concert Band are something of which our entire state can be proud."

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This noteworthy performance is presented as part of The University of South Carolina's 48th annual Band Clinic. This concert will also include compositions from Claude T. Smith, Chandler L. Wilson, Lewis J. Buckley, John Phillip Sousa, and Serge Prokofiev. For media inquiries or further information, please contact info@palmettoconcertband.com.

About Palmetto Concert Band:

The Palmetto Concert Band, founded in 1999 by James K. Copenhaver and William J. Moody, comprises professional and semi-professional musicians from South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia. Many members are alumni of the University of South Carolina School of Music and public school band directors. Despite receiving no compensation, these passionate performers choose to play due to their love for music and performing outstanding wind band repertoire.

About Jay Bocook:

Jay Bocook is internationally recognized as a composer, arranger, conductor, and educator. His works have been performed at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, and the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. In 2003, Bocook was a contributing arranger to the musical *CyberJam*, which opened to rave reviews at London's Queen's Theatre. More recently he worked as the arranger for *Blast! The Music of Disney*, which open in Tokyo, Japan in the summer of 2017.

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