

## April 5, Retirement Concert Celebration for Steven Thompson



Dear Waldorf Band Alumni from the "Mr. T" years (1986-2003)

Steve Thompson, much-loved band and jazz band director, professor and friend to many Waldorf students, is retiring. Join us and play in his Alumni Band. His retirement celebration will be at **Bethel University on Saturday, April 5 in St. Paul, MN**. The day's schedule:

- 11 am rehearsal
- Lunch on your own with friends
- 3 pm concert
- Reception
- 5pm program

**RSVP by March 22 with number in your party.** After that date we will do our best to accommodate everyone. Do your best to RSVP, and please come regardless.

Send us your stories, share photos, send a note. Use the link to register, share info, and upload info. [Full details and registration!](#) A link to the livestream will be on the [Registration page](#).

It will really be special to have lots of Waldorf alums there. You don't have to play if you don't want to. Join us that day, regardless! Please call or text your friends from Band and make sure they know about this!!!

I'll be there and I look forward to seeing all of you!

**Ben Allaway**  
Director, Waldorf Choir, 1987-1992  
Des Moines, IA  
515-720-1038

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## News!

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**Waldorf University - Officially Non-Profit!!**

# WALDORF IS APPROVED FOR NONPROFIT STATUS!



Waldorf University is proud to announce that the U.S. Department of Education has approved Waldorf's request to convert to nonprofit status. This is the final step of the process since the Higher Learning Commission, the IRS, and the State of Iowa had previously approved the Change in Ownership.

The nonprofit status granted by the U.S. Department of Education marks a pivotal moment in Waldorf's ongoing efforts to further its educational and social impact. The new status enables the university to expand its research capacity, enhance partnerships with community organizations, and improve student services while maintaining its commitment to reinvesting resources into its educational programs and mission.

"We are thrilled to receive this approval, as it allows us to broaden our impact in ways that will directly benefit our students, faculty, and the communities we serve," said Robert Alsop, President of Waldorf University. "This nonprofit status empowers us to focus even more on our core mission of providing an inclusive and affordable educational experience that drives success and opportunity for all."

This milestone is part of a broader strategy by Waldorf University to continually enhance its educational offerings, expand its reach, and build stronger relationships with industry, government, and nonprofit sectors. Waldorf is committed to fostering an environment where academic excellence, personal growth, and community development go hand in hand.

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## Upcoming Events!

We are planning events and meetups through next fall, so keep your calendar handy in the coming weeks! Visit [waldorf.edu/events](https://waldorf.edu/events) for more!

*Image courtesy of Bethel University*

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## Waldorf Cedar Rapids Meet-up, Thursday, March 27

**Waldorf University Meet-up @ Third Base Brewery**

**March 27, 2025, 5-8 p.m.**

**500 Blairs Ferry Rd NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa**



*All alumni and friends of the Waldorf community are welcome to join us!*

*Cash bar. First round of appetizers on us!*

*Courtesy RSVP to [alumni@waldorf.edu](mailto:alumni@waldorf.edu)*

**SAVE THE DATE** - Come visit with Waldorf alumni and friends on **March 27 from 5-8pm** in Cedar Rapids, Iowa at **Third Base Brewery, 500 Blairs Ferry Rd NE**. For fun, let's celebrate Hollywood and baseball with a few stories from our catcher's mitt co-hosts, Waldorf's own Kent Stock, Mark Danker, and Lynn Petersen, all from the Class of 1981. They represent members of the first Waldorf **Team of Honor** with their 1981 baseball team. Kent was the subject of the movie *Final Season*, and Mark was a baseball playing ghost in the movie *Field of Dreams*.

Email [alumni@waldorf.edu](mailto:alumni@waldorf.edu) if interested!

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## **Waldorf Indianapolis Meet-up, Friday, April 11** *Fire Department Instructors Conference*



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR** - Are you in Indianapolis or going to be for the FDIC conference? Doc Wicks 1988 is hosting an alumni and community meet up at Metazoa Brewing Co., 140 S College Avenue, Indianapolis, IN. RSVP to Theo Schoneman 2020, Director of Engagement & Alumni Relations at [alumni@waldorf.edu](mailto:alumni@waldorf.edu) and 641-585-8148.

Connect with Waldorf alumni from the area as well as fire and safety professional alumni, and build your friend and professional networks. We are excited to see you! We'll have a booth at FDIC, too, so stop by, sign in, and get a special token of thanks!

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## **The Waldorf Community Artist Series Presents: Glenn Miller Orchestra!**

# The World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra



**Monday, April 7 • 7 p.m.**

**Boman Fine Arts Center • Forest City, IA**

*Tickets can be purchased online at [bomanfineartscenter.org](http://bomanfineartscenter.org), by calling 641.585.8278, by scanning the QR code, or at the door.*

The World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra, an 18-member ensemble, will be performing the classic big band hits of Glenn Miller, on **April 7** at 7pm in the Boman Fine Arts Center!

**Cost:** Students and Children FREE, Adults \$20

*Tickets can be purchased online at [bomanfineartscenter.org](http://bomanfineartscenter.org), by calling 641.585.8278. Tickets will also be available at the door.*

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## Des Moines Coffee Series



Visit with Waldorf alumni & friends at our bimonthly coffee series, **first Thursdays, greater Des Moines area, 7 – 9 am** - whenever you can stop by! First coffee or beverage is provided with Waldorf swag, in exchange for a favorite Waldorf story. Mark your calendars and we hope to see you there!

- 4/3 **Twisted Bean**, 4504 Merle Hay Rd, Des Moines IA 50310
- 6/5 **Chain & Spoke**, 515 28<sup>th</sup> St, Des Moines IA 50312
- 8/7 **Freedom Blend Coffee**, 2329 Hickman Rd, Des Moines IA 50310
- 10/2 **Main Street Café & Bakery**, 2510 SW Birch Dr, Ankeny IA 50023
- 12/4 **Grounds for Celebration**, 2709 Beaver Ave, Des Moines IA 50310

Questions? Email [alumni@waldorf.edu](mailto:alumni@waldorf.edu), or text/call Rod Schultz at 608-312-0521

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## Award Nominations Needed

Alumni Awards recognize Waldorf alumni who have performed distinctive and meritorious service in areas such as public affairs, education, church, business, and government. We are also seeking nominations of people who may not necessarily fit the description of those awards, but may be deserving of other potential awards. Helen and Gerald Barth received the "2024 Heart and Spirit" Award for their incredible impact on Waldorf and the student body. If you have anyone in mind, email us at [alumni@waldorf.edu](mailto:alumni@waldorf.edu) or check out the [awards page](#) and submit a nomination through our [online form](#).

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## Celebrate Waldorf through Philanthropy



We have experienced a record outpouring of support for Waldorf since 2022. So many alumni, family members, and friends celebrate their love for Waldorf by including the University in their philanthropy. With such an incredibly strong financial position, no debt as of summer 2026, and bucking enrollment trends for the past several years, Waldorf has a bright future. Please [make a gift](#) to the Waldorf Fund or a priority area of Scholarships, Alumni Relations, and Campus Ministry are great options. You can make gifts to existing scholarships by typing the name in the comments box.

The future of Waldorf is bright, and we are grateful for your love for Waldorf! How can we help you achieve your dream for Waldorf?

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