

WOMEN IN SONG



FEBRUARY 26, 2024

7:30 PM

Josephine Campbell Recital Hall

Hughes Fine Arts Center

MUSIC AT UND

Program

Hiraeth Cait Nishimura
Bria Smithberg, *baritone saxophone*
Sydney Crockett, *piano*

A City Called Heaven Josephine Poelinitz

Marshall County Central Chamber Choir

Itsuki-no-Komori-uta: Japanese Lullaby of Itsuki Village Trad. Japanese Folk Song/Will Offermans
Ren Crowder, *student conductor*

UND Flute Ensemble

Faith is the bird that feels the light Elizabeth Alexander
Sophia Roehl & Alissa Schell, *soloists*

The Girl With The Numbers Marie-Claire Saindon
Kaitlynn Christensen, Cassandra Fincher, Natalie Helfrich, *trio*

Kaleidoscope Heart Sara Bareilles
Emma Campbell, Bella Costa, Jerrica Eldridge, *trio*

UND VIVO Chamber Choir

For Solo Flute Gina Genova
Dr. Lisa Bost-Sandberg, *flute*

"A Universal History of Nobleness" Suite for Cello and Piano Dr. Alejandro Drago
I. King Solomon and the Two Women
II. Bishop Myriel and Jean Valjean

Duo Cantabile

Dr. Simona Barbu, *cello* & Dr. Nariaki Sugiura, *piano*

Arachne Hilary Tann
II. Arachne's Boast (Arachne as a young girl)
III. Athene's Song (the fury of the goddess)
IV. The Spider's Valediction (Arachne transformed)

Dr. Anne Christopherson, *voice & crotale*

Nocturne en forme de blues Francine Aubin
Dr. Scott Sandberg, *alto saxophone*
Dr. Ling Lo, *piano*

Shadow River Elaine Hagenberg
Warrior Kim Baryluk
Kétina Francois, *student conductor*

Jam! Tracy Wong

UND Allegro Choir

What Happens When A Woman? Alexandra Olsavsky

Massed Choral Ensembles

Marshall County Central Chamber Choir

Dr. Michael Thompson, conductor

Kaydence Augustine
Katie Bevington
Tessa Hoglo
Brooke Bjorgaard
Hannah Bjorgaard

Jorja Love
Kylee Bolstad
Megan Lefebvre
Ellie Underdahl

UND Flute Ensemble

Dr. Lisa Bost-Sandberg, conductor

Ren Crowder, student conductor

Kathryn Barnes, *Beaufort, NC*
Mitchell Berger, *Roseau, MN*
Avery Boehm, *Mandan*
Elisha Boelk, *International Falls, MN*
Ren Crowder, *Duluth, MN*
Alaina Ferry, *Watford City*
Mimi Hays, *Seattle, WA*

Gillian Hoffman, *Grand Forks*
Zoey Junker, *Mandan*
Emma Kratcha, *Hankinson*
Ashlynn Mitzel, *Bismarck*
Elizabeth Parton, *Minot*
Braylyn St. Aubin, *Wahpeton*

UND Viva Chamber Choir

Mrs. Melanie Popejoy, conductor

Ashley Berger, *Grand Forks*
Emma Campbell, *Houston, TX*
Kaitlynn Christensen, *Bismarck*
Bella Costa, *Grand Forks*
Eliza Dodds, *Grand Forks*
Jerrica Eldridge, *Valley City*
Cassandra Fincher, *Grand Forks*
Madeline Godwin, *Fergus Falls*
Maddalene Guthrie, *Woodburn, OR*
Bryn Hanson, *East Grand Forks, MN*
Natalie Helfrich, *Berthold*
Ella Henry, *Grand Forks*

Megan Hubley, *Bismarck*
Jada Jensen, *Grand Forks*
Anna Massmann, *East Grand Forks, MN*
Ilanora Peterson, *Mayville*
Sophia Roehl, *Grand Forks*
Morgan Ronnie, *Velva*
Alissa Schell, *Baker, MT*
Samantha Stordalen, *Bismarck*
Lauren Tatro, *St. Michael, MN*
Henrietta Tracey, *Williston*
Lucy Welsh, *Grand Forks*

UND Allegra Choir

Mrs. Melanie Popejoy, conductor

Kétina Franois, student conductor

Dr. Ling Lo, collaborative pianist

Soprano 1

Nicole Anderson, *Grand Forks*
Kaitlynn Christensen, *Bismarck*
Abby Cullen, *Thompson*
Avery Durfee, *Big Timber, MT*
Marit Ellingson, *Dahlen*
Bridget Foerster, *Pisek*
Lexie Jacobson, *Underwood*
Jillian Larson, *Finley*
Ashlynn Mitzel, *Bismarck*
Azia Wittmayer, *Bottineau*

Soprano 2

Samantha Biondi, *Remsenburg, NY*
Elisha Boelk, *International Falls, MN*
Alyssa Christopherson, *Grand Forks*
Alaina Ferry, *Watford City*
Lora Gatheridge, *Humboldt, MN*
Aislinn Hunter, *Grand Forks*
Zoey Junker, *Bismarck*
Elizabeth Keele, *Dickinson*
Kalei Lee, *Northwood*
Sophia LeMire, *East Grand Forks, MN*
Kaitlin Rivers, *Maple Lake, MN*
Morgan Ronnie, *Velva*
Maya Sanford, *Bismarck*
Maren Olstad, *East Grand Forks, MN*
Kaitlyn Twedell, *Grand Forks*

Alto

Sophia Bertossi, *Crystal, MN*
Amy Blais, *Duluth, MN*
Corrina Boyd, *Chestertown, MD*
Rebecca Brookhart, *Parker, CO*
Isabelle Cross, *Fargo*
Abigayle DeWolfe, *Buffalo, MN*
Madison Gehrhardt, *Woodbury, MN*
Anna Hansen, *Edgemont, SD*
Marion Humble, *Minot*
Gloria Knudson, *Litchville*
Alaina Lajesse, *Wahpeton*
Sadie LaPlant, *Apple Valley, MN*
Kiera Musil, *Shakopee, MN*
Abigail Redeske, *Farmington, MN*
Holly Schiessel, *Pequot Lakes, MN*
Matilda Treat-Frost, *Dickinson*

Guest Artists

Bria Smithberg is a junior music education major at the University of North Dakota where she studies saxophone with Dr. Scott Sandberg. Bria performs in the UND Saxophone Quartet and Saxophone Octet, as well as the One O'Clock Jazz Ensemble, University Band, Wind Ensemble, and Concert Choir. Her honors include selection for North Dakota Intercollegiate Band, College Band Directors National Association-North Central Intercollegiate Band, North Dakota All-State Band, UND Honor Band, Concordia Honor Band, Northwest Festival Band and star awards at the North Dakota High School Activities Association solo and ensemble festival. Ms. Smithberg has attended the International Music Camp and participated in the Northern Ambassadors Tour. She is currently President of the UND National Association for Music Education Collegiate Chapter and Treasurer for the Single Reed Studio.

Sydney Crockett is a junior at the University of North Dakota focusing on studies in piano performance. She is originally from Langdon, North Dakota and during her high school years, made frequent trips down to Grand Forks for lessons with Dr. Nariaki Sugiura. She started taking piano lessons at the age of 7 with Lisa Schuler of Langdon. Sydney started getting serious about studying piano around the age of twelve and started working with Dr. Sugiura during her freshman year of high school. In November of 2018, she won the piano concerto competition at the University and performed with the University's Chamber Orchestra, and has participated in many piano studio recitals before attending UND. Along with performing solo piano, she participates or has participated in many different ensembles including the piano duo group, piano trio, Wind Ensemble, and Concert Choir. As well as playing piano, she also plays cello, flute, violin and sings. She is very passionate about sharing her love of music through performance especially when she gets to perform with other musicians.

Michael Thompson is the director of choirs and bands at Marshall County Central Schools in Newfolden, Minnesota. He is a proud alum of the University of North Dakota, receiving undergraduate degrees in both music education and vocal performance. Michael is the conductor of two choral ensembles, three band ensembles, and an extra-curricular chamber choir. He also currently serves as the union president for MCC schools. Outside of school, he maintains a small private voice studio and sings with the Grand Forks Master Chorale. In the past, he has worked with the Grand Cities Children's Choir as a voice lesson instructor and directed the Holy Family church choir. He has composed and premiered multiple choral and vocal works and arrangements, including an arrangement of "Libertango" (Piazzola), premiered by Vivo Women's choir in 2017, and a song cycle for tenor and piano entitled "Songs for Digital Natives." Although he enjoys the creativity of composing and arranging, teaching and making music with his students at MCC is his biggest passion. In his free time, Michael enjoys spending time with his wife and family, woodworking, and traveling the world.

Ren Crowder (they/them) is a MM flute performance major and Graduate Teaching Assistant at the University of North Dakota. Their research interests lie in queer theory, gender studies, race theory, intersectionality with musical identity, and flute music by queer people of color. They received their Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Minnesota-Duluth where they studied with Dr. Paula Gudmundson. Ren has performed with the Zenith City Flute Choir, the Twin Ports Wind Orchestra, the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra, and currently with the NorthboUND Flute Quartet.

Dr. Lisa Bost-Sandberg is a flutist, composer, and improviser deeply committed to contemporary music as well as its rich roots in the classical repertoire. In demand as a soloist and chamber musician, she has performed throughout the United States and Europe, including National Flute Association conventions, new music festivals (SEAMUS, EMM, Pixilerations, Spark, and SCI), and guest appearances at universities. She performs as principal flute of the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra, has a long-standing collaboration with pianist Éva Polgár, and has recorded on the Albany, GIA, and North Texas Jazz labels. Recent engagements include performing as a featured flutist-composer on the New York Flute Club's "Solo Flute Spectacular" concert, serving as guest recitalist and adjudicator for the 2020 Seattle Flute Society Horsfall Competition, and performing Mozart's Concerto in G Major with the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra. She is the bass flutist for the virtual film premiere of Julia Wolfe's Oxygen for 12 flutes, presented by Carnegie Hall.

A dynamic and impactful teacher, Bost-Sandberg has taught masterclasses, presented lecture-recitals, and led workshops at numerous institutions and festivals. She is the Teaching Assistant Professor of Flute at the University of North Dakota and teaches at the International Music Camp. She has previously served on the faculties of the University of Mary, the University of North Texas, the University of Texas at Dallas, Clarke College, and the Great Neck Arts Center.

Her compositions have been performed at conferences of the American Trombone Workshop, World Saxophone Congress, North American Saxophone Alliance, National Flute Association, Society of Composers, and Iowa Composers Forum. Recent projects include Starling for flute quartet, commissioned by Elizabeth Robinson, and Strikingly for piccolo and fixed media, commissioned by Claudia Anderson as part of her "Glass Ceilings" commission and performance project. Chroma, a collaboration with artist and commissioner Marjorie Schlossman, is the subject of a short film by Mary Trunk and Caren McCaleb. Bost-Sandberg's works have been honored as prize-winners and finalists in composition competitions of the National Flute Association, the Flute New Music Consortium, and the American Trombone Workshop.

She recently completed a term on the Board of Directors of the National Flute Association. She has also served the NFA as chair of the New Music Advisory Committee and as a member of the Archives and Oral History Committee. She is currently on the Board of the Schmitt Music Flute Gallery and is an Associate Member of the International Music Camp Corporation.

A Montana native, Bost-Sandberg received her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in flute performance with a related field in composition from the University of North Texas as a recipient of the prestigious Masters and Doctoral Fellowship. She is also a graduate of New York University (Master of Arts) and The University of Iowa (Bachelor of Music).

Duo Cantabile was formed in 2012 by cellist Simona Barbu and pianist Nariaki Sugiura, two international artists and pedagogues currently teaching at University of North Dakota. The duo traveled extensively giving performances, clinics, lectures, and master classes at prestigious institutions around the world, including Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Mannheim (Germany), Zoltan Kodaly EZI Kecskemet (Hungary), Academy of Music Gheorghe Dima (Romania), Xinghai Conservatory of Music (China), National Taipei University of Arts (Taiwan), University of Antioquia (Colombia), and the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. The duo has also participated in the performance series and conferences including North Dakota Museum of Art Concert Series, Greencastle Summer Music Festival in Indiana, Masterworks Music Festival in Ohio, and College Music Society National Conference. The duo's concert programs often include duo's transcriptions and newly commissioned pieces for cello and piano by living American composers. In 2023, the duo founded the Medora Music Academy, assuming roles as the artistic directors, enriching the musical landscape and educational opportunities within the region. The Duo's extensive performing and teaching activities resulted in receiving visiting professorships from institutions such as East China Normal University, honorable awards given to artists who have made significant contributions to their institutions.

Lyric coloratura soprano, **Anne Christopherson** enjoys a rewarding career as an educator, performer, and coach. Her "dazzlingly supple voice," has been acclaimed in many genres in such venues as Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall, Symphony Space, the Banff Centre for the Arts, Opera di Lucca (Italy), Rnmin University (Beijing), the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, and the Colorado Music Festival. As a cabaret artist, Cabaret Scenes magazine lauded her "well-honed ability to convey emotion, tenderness, and poignancy..." in her one-woman show, I Hear Music, which premiered at The Duplex cabaret in NYC. Local audiences will have seen her perform on the UND campus, as the ND Museum of Art and the Firehall Theatre as well as with the Crimson Creek Players and Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra.

She has premiered *Oddly Beautiful* and *Three Songs to Texts* by North Dakota composer, Michael Wittgraf, and *In the beginning, mountains*, by Canadian composer, Diana McIntyre. She performed the France premiere of Christopher Berg's *Four Songs on Poems* by Vladimir Nabokov at L'Atelier de la Main d'Or with pianist and Grand Prix du Disque winner, Mary Dibbern, a UND alumna.

In addition to her degrees from the University of Colorado-Boulder and The Ohio State University, she has studied with the esteemed Martin Isepp at the Banff Centre's Academy of Art Song as well as multiple award winners of the cabaret world, Lennie Watts and Steven Ray Watkins. Dr. Christopherson is an Associate Professor of Voice at the University of North Dakota's Department of Music.

Dr. Scott Sandberg serves as Associate Professor of Saxophone and Chair of the Music Department at the University of North Dakota. He has toured China three times, including performing as a featured soloist with the East China Normal University Orchestra, and has performed world premieres at World Saxophone Congresses in Croatia (2018) and Scotland (2012). Sandberg has also performed in Canada, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Ireland, the United Kingdom, and Norway. In the United States, he has performed at numerous North American Saxophone Alliance conferences and International Saxophone Symposiums as well as with ensembles such as the Dallas Wind Symphony, Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra, Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, Waverly Community Orchestra, Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Slingers, Royal Klobasneks, and Dick King Classic Swing Band. His solo CD, "Duality: Works for Tenor Saxophone & Piano," was released by Albany Records in 2020.

Before arriving at the University of North Dakota, Sandberg taught saxophone and clarinet and directed the "Blue Crew" pep band as Assistant Professor of Music at the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, from 2012-2015. From 2010-2012 Sandberg resided in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex where he was the Director of the Wind Ensemble at the University of Texas at Dallas, Director of Orchestra at Lamb of God Lutheran Church, and Instructor of Saxophone for the Flower Mound ISD, Allen ISD, and Richardson ISD. He has also held the positions of Instructor of Woodwinds at the Marion Music Academy in Marion, Iowa; Instructor of Saxophone at the Bloomingdale School of Music in New York, New York; Instructor of Woodwinds at Wright Music Studios in Port Washington, New York; and Instructor of Jazz at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa.

Sandberg has presented clinics at the North Dakota Music Educators Association, the Northeast Texas Saxophone Symposium, and numerous universities and high schools. His work as an adjudicator has included NASA collegiate and high school competitions, MTNA, North Dakota All-State, and solo and ensemble contests for the North Dakota High School Activities Association, the Texas Music Educators Association, and the New York State School Music Association. He has taught at International Music Camp in the summer since 2013.

A native of Grand Forks, North Dakota, Sandberg is thrilled to have returned to his hometown to teach at the University of North Dakota, where he received his Bachelor of Music degree in music education. He received his Master of Arts and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in saxophone performance from The University of Iowa as a student of Dr. Kenneth Tse.

Sandberg serves on the Advisory Board of the Schmitt Music Sax Shop and is a Voting Member of the International Music Camp Corporation. He is a Selmer Paris and Conn-Selmer Endorsing Artist.

Dr. Ling Lo, native Taiwanese. As an active performer, Dr. Lo has been invited as a guest artist to present recitals at several universities including Purdue University Fort Wayne, Olivet College, Saginaw Valley State University, the University of Louisville, SUNY Potsdam, Schenectady County Community College, and the University of Kentucky. Additionally, Dr. Lo has served as a festival pianist for the Leonard Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Festival, the Mid-West Regional Tuba and Euphonium Conference, Henri Selmer Summer Clarinet Festival, and The Potsdam Clarinet Summit. She has also worked for opera productions such as “Le Nezzo di Figaro”, “Dido and Aeneas”, “Princess Ida”, and “Street Scene”. With a strong passion for chamber music, Dr. Lo has formed several chamber groups that focus on both classical and contemporary repertoire, including a piano, violin, and clarinet trio sponsored by Verdehr Trio, Henosis Piano Quartet, Connexion Trio, and currently the Duo LoW with the focus on expanding repertoire for piano and low brass.

As a believer of music education, Dr. Lo participated in “Celebrating of Spectrum: A Festival for Music and Life” as program assistant from 2016 to 2019, a program for young autistic pianists. In 2017, she presented this program at the DOCTRID conference in Limerick, Ireland. She had previously served as instructor at State University of New York in Potsdam, Saginaw Valley State University, The Flint Institute of Music, and staff pianist at Texas A&M University – Kingsville. Dr. Lo is currently serving as Teaching Assistant Professor in Collaborative Piano at University of North Dakota. In the summertime, Dr. Lo spends time with her family at New England Music Camp on faculty as the chair of the piano area.

Dr. Lo holds degrees from Michigan State University (D.M.A. Piano Performance/D.M.A. Collaborative Piano/M.M. Collaborative Piano) and Boston University (M.M. Piano Performance). Her teachers include Pavel Nersessian, Konstantinos Papadakis, Deborah Moriarty, and Zhihua Tang.

Kétina François is a Junior majoring in Music Education at the University of North Dakota. She graduated from Legacy High School in Bismarck, North Dakota. During her time at UND, she has participated in various musical groups like 2 o'clock jazz band, steel drum band, Enöxa chamber choir, Vivo Chamber Choir, Concert Choir, Allegro Treble Choir, Wind ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra, and the Northern Valley Youth Orchestra as a player and coach. Her private teachers are Dr. Anne Christopherson for voice, Dr. Simona Barbu for Double Bass, and Dr. Ling Lo for piano. Ms. François has participated in the Grand Forks Symphony Concerto competition where she received an honorable mention, and the Bismarck Mandan Symphony Concerto competition where she was a finalist. She has also received numerous accolades such as North Dakota All-State Choir, Jazz Choir, and Orchestra, UND Honors Orchestra and Choir, and several star awards at NDHSAA solo and ensemble festival. In spring 2023, she was awarded the Outstanding Voice Student in the UND Department of Music. Kétina is a member of professional organizations like the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA). She serves as President of the UND Student National Association of Teachers of Singing Chapter and Secretary of the UND NAfME Collegiate Chapter. She teaches piano and voice lessons at Popplers Music. As she prepares to enter the classroom, she aspires to follow in the footsteps of the music teachers who have helped shape her into the musician she is today.

Melanie Popejoy is Associate Director of Choral Activities at the University of North Dakota. She holds the Bachelor of Music Education degree and the Master of Arts degree in Music Education from Central Missouri State University, and has taught in Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, and Texas prior to coming to North Dakota. In her 44 years of teaching, Mrs. Popejoy has taught at the elementary, middle school, high school, and collegiate levels. She has conducted numerous honor and festival ensembles, including the North Dakota ACDA JH/MS Mixed and Treble Honor Choirs, the North Dakota ACDA Surround the State in Song Honor Choirs at various sites, the Northern Plains Kodaly Festival Regional Honor Choir, the Missouri Choral Directors Association 9-10 Honor Choir, and the UND Treble Honor Choir.

Mrs. Popejoy has earned numerous teaching awards throughout her career, including selection as the Raytown South Middle School (MO) Teacher of the Year; Meadowbrook Elementary (TX) Teacher of the Year; Waco Independent School District (TX) Teacher of the Year; the DeLay Middle School (TX) Teacher of the Year; a Community Leadership Award from the North Dakota Chamber of Commerce; Wal-Mart/Sam's Club North Dakota Teacher of the Year; Distinguished Alumnus award from the Central Missouri State University Department of Music; an Athena Award for Professional Excellence and Community Leadership; North Dakota Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Leadership Award; Grand Forks Thursday Music Club Gold Note Award; the Phenomenal Woman Award from UND Multicultural Student Services; North Dakota Choral Director of the Year, as well as being nominated twice for the UND Undergraduate Teaching Award. In 2021 she was selected as the North Dakota Music Educator of the Year by the North Dakota Music Educators Association. Under her direction, the Grand Cities Children's Choir has presented concerts at the 2003 North Dakota Music Educators Association Conference, the 2006 American Choral Directors Association North Central Conference, the 2009 North Dakota ACDA Conference, and two performances at Carnegie Hall in 2013 & 2020.

MUSIC AT UND

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