

WOMEN IN SONG



MARCH 2, 2026

7:30 PM

Josephine Campbell Recital Hall
Hughes Fine Arts Center

UND MUSIC

PROGRAM

- The Thumbelina Poems* (2025) Callie Stadem (b. 1991)
Maybe You Don't Know the Story
Thumbelina Fell In Love
Anne Christopherson, *soprano*
Callie Stadem, *harp*
- An April Day* Florence Price (1887-1953)
Henrietta Tracey, *mezzo soprano*
Kaden Dowling, *piano*
- Suite for Cello & Piano* Alejandro Drago (b. 1970)
"A Universal History of Nobleness"
1. King Solomon and the Two Women
2. Bishop Myriel and Jean Valjean
Dr. Simona Barbu, *cello*
Dr. Nariaki Sugiura, *piano*
- O Magnum* Michelle Roueche (b. 1964)
Lucy Welsh & Ella Henry, *soloists*
Samantha Stordalen, *student conductor*
- Tipitin* Mariá Grever (1885-1951)
arr. Raul Dominguez (b. 1991)
Eliza Dodds, *soloist*
UND VIVO Chamber Choir
- Ray* Jenni Watson (b. 1985)
Dr. Scott Sandberg, *alto saxophone*
- Music from *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind* Joe Hisaishi (b. 1950)
arr. Kathryn Barnes (b. 2004)
Kathryn Barnes, *conductor*
UND Flute Ensemble
- VALLEY VIEWS* Cait Nishimura (b. 1991)
Mvts. 1 & 3
Hannah Thorlakson & McKenna Emineth, *trumpet*
Samantha Stordalen, *horn* • Natalie Helfrich, *trombone*
Elizabeth Keele, *tuba*
UND Prairie Rose Brass Quintet
- Flying Into the Sun* Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)
6. A Waterbird
Eliza Dodds, *soprano*
Hazel Mendez, *piano*
Samantha Stordalen & Bella Voeller, *ensemble*
- l'inverno perduto II* for flute and fixed media (World Premiere) Helen Bledsoe (b. 1965)
Dr. Lisa Bost-Sandberg, *flute*

Aure Volanti

Francesca Caccini (1587-1640)

Zoey Junker, Gillian Hoffman, Alaina Ferry, *flute*
Dr. Ling Lo, *harpsichord*

Turn

October Project (o. 1989)
adapt. Carrie Tennant
arr. UND Allegro Choir

Hope Lingers On

Lissa Schneckenburger (b. 1979)
arr. Andrea Ramsey (b. 1977)

Blake Anderson, *cajon* • Henrietta Tracey, *shaker*
UND Allegro Choir

UND ALLEGRO CHOIR

Mrs. Melanie Popejoy, Conductor

Dr. Ling Lo, Collaborative Pianist

SOPRANO 1

Bridget Foerster • *Pisek*
Kirsten Harper • *Eau Claire, WI*
Bailie Hostrup • *Lancaster, MN*
Aubree Johnson • *Lyons, SD*
Jillian Larson • *Finley +**
Savannah Mauch • *Horace*
Grace McHugo • *Grand Forks*
Chloe Mizner • *Rogers, MN*
Phoebe Seep • *Marshall, WI*
Ashley Whitteron • *Hawley, MN*
Azia Wittmayer • *Bottineau +*
Chloe Zou • *Beijing, China*

SOPRANO 2

Amber Anderson • *East Grand Forks, MN*
Samantha Biondi • *Remsenburg, NY*
Alyssa Christopherson • *Grand Forks*
Elise Falla • *Grand Forks*
Miley Farniok • *Buffalo, MN*
Alaina Ferry • *Watford City +**
Mackenzie Friesen • *Altona, Manitoba, CA*
Kyanne Galbraith • *Aberdeen, SD*
Shanna Gette • *Langdon*
Emily Haiiby • *Pelican Rapids, MN*
Paige Handly • *Hatton +*
Vivian Harju • *Park Rapids, MN*
Ryah Hogberg • *Grand Forks*
Apryl Jordan • *Grand Forks*
Zoey Junker • *Mandan **
Vanessa Jurek • *St. Cloud, MN*
Anna Kaiser • *Grand Forks*
Elizabeth Keele • *Dickinson*
Faith Magstadt • *Bismarck*
Evelynn McDowell • *Kansas City, KS*
Lance Miller • *Crosby*
Abby Runyan • *Park Rapids, MN*
Sadie Stimmler • *Savage, MN*
Natalie Thompson • *Bismarck*
Maddy Tyson • *Jamestown*
Morgan Uhlir • *Grand Forks*
Jaida Vivier • *Northwood*
Rachel Willey • *Devil's Lake*

ALTO 1

Isabella Anderson • *Burlington*
Ava Bailey • *Spearfish, SD*
Bryanna Barkhouse • *Grand Forks*
Corrina Boyd • *Chestertown, MD*
Ellé Brueckner • *Larimore*
Eliana Darling • *Langford, SD*
Lily Erdmann • *Bismarck*
Seija Freiberg • *West Allis, WI*
Alyssa Gangelhoff • *Grand Forks*
Sophie Greene • *St. Paul, MN*
Grace Hanson • *Grand Forks*
Elizabeth Heinert • *Bismarck*
Ava Henning • *Ellendale*
Kenadie Hill • *Bottineau*
Regan Keller • *Jamestown*
Kalei Lee • *Aneta*
Kiera Musil • *Shakopee, MN*
Madison Schaeftbauer • *Bismarck*
Holly Schiessel • *Pequot Lakes, MN*
Matilda Treat-Frost • *Dickinson*
Melissa Trott • *Roosevelt, MN*

ALTO 2

Rachel Benson • *Bottineau*
Hope Bjornson • *Buffalo, MN*
Amy Blais • *Duluth, MN*
Hannah Braun • *Buffalo, MN*
Gabby Chapulis • *Baxter, MN*
Anna Cooper • *Hudson, WI*
Hattie Jackson • *Hawley, MN*
Emmerson Lamb • *Mohall*
Logan Love • *St. Paul, MN*
Ollie Payne • *Grand Forks*
Rebecca Poor • *Groton, SD*

+Denotes Section Leaders

*Denotes Allegro TEAM

UND VIVO CHAMBER CHOIR
Mrs. Melanie Popejoy, conductor
Samantha Stordalen, student conductor

Ellen Berry • *Grand Forks*
Bella Costa • *Grand Forks*
Kaitlynn Christensen • *Bismarck*
Eliza Dodds • *Grand Forks*
Jerrica Eldridge • *Valley City*
Maddalene Guthrie • *Woodburn, OR*
Bryn Hanson • *East Grand Forks, MN*
Natalie Helfrich • *Berthold*
Ella Henry • *Grand Forks*
Jada Jensen • *Grand Forks*
Meris Lindsay • *Cavalier*
Anna Massman • *East Grand Forks, MN*
Ilanora Peterson • *Mayville*
Samantha Stordalen • *Bismarck*
Henrietta Tracey • *Williston*
Lucy Welsh • *Grand Forks*

**Members are listed in alphabetical order
as they change parts on every song*

UND FLUTE ENSEMBLE
Dr. Lisa Bost-Sandberg, conductor
Kathryn Barnes, student conductor

Mia Peterson, *piccolo*
Gillian Hoffmann, *flute*
Mitchell Berger, *flute*
Briar Maudal, *flute*
Alyssa Tarasen, *flute*
Mimi Hays, *flute*
Zoey Junker, *flute*
Marie Hylton, *alto flute*
Oriana Cheney, *alto flute*
Elizabeth Parton, *bass flute*
Averie Eixenberger, *harp*

GUEST ARTISTS

Lyric coloratura soprano, **Anne Christopherson** enjoys a varied and rewarding career as a performer and teacher. Her sensitive musicianship and insight reveals itself in the genres of art song, cabaret, opera, operetta, musical theatre and oratorio.

Her “dazzlingly supple voice” has been acclaimed in such roles as Cunégonde in *Candide*, Mary Warren in *The Crucible*, Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, Nanetta in *Falstaff*, Susanna in *The Marriage of Figaro*, Yum-Yum in *The Mikado*, Mabel in *The Pirates of Penzance*, and Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*. Other performances include engagements with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, the Colorado Music Festival Orchestra, New York Lyric Opera Theatre, the Boulder Philharmonic, the Boulder Chorale, the Bozeman Symphony Orchestra, the Idaho Falls Opera Theatre, the Crimson Creek Players, the Grand Forks Master Chorale and is a regular soloist with the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra.

Her students are active performers in North and South America including non-Equity Broadway tours (*Cats*) and on Broadway (*Phantom of the Opera*), Amici Opera, Festival di Musica Antigua (Paraguay), Regina Opera, Harlem Opera Theatre, Musica Figurata (Brazil), New York Lyric Opera Theatre, New York Summer Opera Scenes, Oberlin Baroque Institute, the International Convention of Arts and Humanities, the Black Hills Opera Institute, the Firehall Theatre, Frostfire Productions, the Greater Grand Forks Symphony, the Grand Forks Master Chorale, as well as the UND Departments of Music and Theatre. They have also been winners of the North Dakota NATS Student Auditions.

Callie Stadem is a harpist, composer, and vocalist based in Grand Forks, ND. She is a member of the faculty at Concordia College (Moorhead, MN) as a harp instructor and teaches harp, composition, and voice privately throughout the Red River Valley. She is the founder and director of the Northern Plains Harp Project, a program that strives to support the harp community in the region by providing better access to harps. She has also served as a faculty member at the International Music Camp, and as the director of the Red River Harp Ensemble in Fargo, ND. As a free-lance harpist and composer, Callie maintains a busy performance schedule in the tri-state area with regional symphonies, chamber ensembles, and as a solo artist.

Callie earned her M.M in Music Composition at the University of North Dakota (2016), as well as a B.A. in Music and Philosophy from Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD (2013). Highlights of her composition portfolio include her chamber opera “The Ransom of Sophia,” and children’s musical “Smelly Scallywags,” as well as “Innovation – Draft 8,” a symphonic piece commissioned by the Northern Valley Youth Orchestra. In her free time, she likes to practice Norwegian rosemaling, garden, train for triathlons, and enjoy the outdoors with her husband, children, and dog.

Henrietta Tracey is a Senior Music Education major at the University of North Dakota. She has participated in ensembles such as the UND Concert Choir, Vivo Chamber Choir, Enöxa Chamber Choir and the Allegro Choir. As a student of Dr. Justin Montigne, she has performed as a soloist with the 2' o'clock Jazz Band, the University Band, and has appeared in various studio recitals. Henrietta serves on the board of the Student Chapter of the National Association for Music Education and a member the American Choral Directors Association. She serves as President for the UND Chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and President for the UND Concert Choir. Ms. Tracey was born and raised in Williston, North Dakota where her love for teaching was inspired by her mother, a high school Spanish Teacher, and Mrs. Katie Rooke, her high school choir director.

Kaden Dowling is a senior at UND completing a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance, studying piano under Dr. Nariaki Sugiura, and a Bachelor of Arts in French, having recently studied in Montpellier, France. He is frequently engaged as a collaborative pianist with singers, choirs, and musical theatre productions. As a solo pianist, he won the 2024 GGFSO Young Artists Concerto Competition and the Undergraduate Division of the 2025 Thelma Willett International Piano Competition. Kaden is a member of the UND Red River Piano Trio, which will complete a residency in Kanuma, Japan in May.

An astounding international cellist and educator, **Dr. Simona Barbu** began her musical studies at age seven and gained public attention as a member of the leading string quartet of the Conservatory of Timisoara in her native Romania, where she made her solo debut in Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rococo Theme with the conservatory's symphonic orchestra. Ever since, she has traveled to Asia, South America, Europe, and the United States as a soloist, chamber musician, clinician, and orchestra musician. She has collaborated with world class musicians such as Emilio Colón, Edward Auer, Emile Naoumoff, Lydia Artymiw and Milton Masciadri. Barbu has been an active orchestral musician, performing with Memphis Symphony Orchestra, South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, Fargo Moorhead Symphony Orchestra, and serving as principal with the Eroica Ensemble in Memphis, Starkville Symphony Orchestra and most recently with the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra.

In 2012, Barbu formed the *Duo Cantabile* together with pianist Dr. Nariaki Sugiura. The duo traveled extensively and gave 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), 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 including North Dakota Museum of Art Concert Series, Greencastle Summer Music Festival in Indiana, Masterworks Music Festival in Ohio and the latest in Warsaw Summer Classical Concert Series in Indiana. Their concert programs often include duo's transcriptions and newly commissioned pieces by living American composers. Two of the latest commissions were Bruce Stark's Suite for Cello and Piano (2021) and Dr. Alejandro Drago's "Suite for Cello and Piano «A Universal History of Nobleness»" (2022), included in the duo's latest audio recording released in October 2024.

Music critics have raved about **Nariaki Sugiura's** performances in Europe with such accolades as "the most sensitive touch on the piano," and "possessing the rigueur, passion, and discipline of an old Samurai." International concert artist Nariaki Sugiura has performed solo recitals and concerto engagements in the U.S., Europe, South America, and Asia at some of the most prestigious concert halls including Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Symphony Hall at Shenzhen Concert Hall (China), Ferenc Liszt Music Academy Recital Hall (Hungary), Daejeon Arts and Cultural Center Hall (South Korea), Manoel Theater (Malta), Kioi Hall (Japan), and Museo de Arte (Puerto Rico). He has appeared as soloist with the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra, Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra, UND Chamber Orchestra, and many others. His arrangements for chamber ensembles and piano ensembles have been frequently performed, and he has also conducted his ensemble arrangements.

A devoted teacher as well as performer, Dr. Sugiura has become one of the leading piano pedagogues of his generation. He has given piano master classes at numerous institutions around the world. Currently he is Associate Professor of Piano and Collaborative Piano at University of North Dakota while also holding visiting faculty position at East China Normal University in Shanghai. His students have received prizes and scholarships from local, regional, and national music competitions. Previously, he has taught at DePauw University, Indiana University, and Lamont Summer Pre-College Music Academy in Denver, and Guangdon University of Foreign Study in China. While he was at Indiana University, he worked for legendary cellist Janos Starker as a studio pianist. He has been an adjudicator for many national and international piano competitions in the US and Asia.

Samantha Stordalen is a Junior Music Education student at the University of North Dakota. She has been involved in many ensembles in her time at UND including Concert Choir, Wind Ensemble, Vivo Chamber Ensemble, Enöxa Chamber Ensemble, the Prairie Rose Brass Quintet, and the Pride of the North Marching Band. Her musical accolades before college include Choir President and Drum Major her senior year of high school, 4-year North Dakota All-State Festival award winner and attendee, being selected for and performing with the All-State Vocal Jazz ensemble twice. She has also been selected and participated in State, Regional, and National ACDA. Ms. Stordalen currently serves as President for the UND chapter of National Association for Music Education (NAfME), Vice President of UND Concert Choir, and co-section leader of the Horn section in the UND Wind Ensemble. Previously she has served as Vice President and Treasurer for the UND chapter of the Student National Association for Teachers of Singing (SNATS), Secretary of the UND chapter of NafME, and section leader for the Mellophones in the Pride of the North Marching Band. Additionally, she is a founding member of the Prairie Rose Brass Quintet, which is the first all-female brass quintet in UND history.

Dr. Scott Sandberg serves as Associate Professor of Saxophone and Clarinet in 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.

The UND Flute Ensemble is open to students of all majors and performs repertoire featuring the full flute ensemble instrumentation of piccolo, flute, alto flute, and bass flute. Dr. Lisa Bost-Sandberg is their instructor

Kathryn Barnes was born in Oceanside, California, before moving to various cities around the world. Beginning her music career on piano before switching to flute in 6th grade band, she became involved with marching band in high school and continued her passion in college with the Pride of the North where she is currently serving her third year as Drum Major. At UND she is pursuing majors in Air Traffic Management and History and a Music minor. Kathryn is a member of the UND Wind Ensemble and Flute Ensemble and has performed with the 1 O'clock Jazz Band as well as various pep bands under the Pride of the North.

Prairie Rose Brass Quintet was inaugurated in fall of 2024 with all of the original members still playing today. The ensemble is the first all-female brass quintet in the history of UND. Their instructors include Dr. Cory Driscoll & Dr. Joel Pugh.

Eliza Dodds is a Junior Music Education Major. During her time at UND she has been a member of the Concert Choir, Enöxa Chamber Choir, Vivo Chamber Choir, and the Chamber Orchestra. She holds memberships in the American Choral Directors Association, National Association for Music Education and Student Nation Association of Teachers of Singing, of which she serves as Secretary. A voice student of Justin Montigne and an experienced theater performer, Eliza has worked with children in the GF Summer Performing Arts Company for three years.

Hazel Mendez is an undergraduate Piano Performance Major at UND. She has had the honor to perform at the Student Showcase and Honors Showcase Recitals in the Department of Music. In the 2024-2025 academic year, Hazel was the recipient of the Outstanding Achievement in Piano Award. Ms. Mendez is a laureate of the GGFSO and FMSO Young Artist competitions and has performed as a soloist with both orchestras. Along with her solo playing, she has been involved in the chamber music program and is a collaborative pianist for instrumental and vocal majors.

A distinctive and eloquent voice in the music of today, **Lisa Bost-Sandberg** is described by renowned musician Robert Dick as "...one of the important composer-performers of her generation...[her] interpretations are infused with deep musicality, questing intelligence and a joyous spirit." Deeply committed to contemporary music as well as its rich roots in the classical repertoire, Bost-Sandberg is known as an engaging flutist/composer/improviser, a dynamic presenter of workshops and lectures, and an impactful teacher.

In demand as a soloist and chamber musician, she has toured internationally, performing her own music and that of others at new music festivals (SEAMUS, EMM, Pixilerations, Spark, and SCI), National Flute Association conventions, International Low Flutes Festivals, and guest appearances at dozens of universities. Recent engagements include performing as a featured flutist-composer on the New York Flute Club's "Solo Flute Spectacular" concert and serving as the guest artist for the Utah Flute Festival and the Seattle Flute Society Horsfall Competition. She is the bass flutist for the virtual film premiere of Julia Wolfe's *Oxygen* for 12 flutes, presented by Carnegie Hall, and she has recorded on the Albany, Cantaloupe, GIA, and North Texas Jazz labels.

Bost-Sandberg has taught masterclasses, given presentations, and led workshops at numerous institutions and festivals. She is the Teaching Assistant Professor of flute and music entrepreneurship at the University of North Dakota, teaches at the International Music Camp, and coaches for the Northern Valley Youth Symphony.

Melanie Popejoy is Associate Director of Choral Activities at the University of North Dakota where she conducts the Allegro Choir, Vivo Chamber Ensemble & Hawks in Harmony, and instructs courses in Music Education methods. In addition, she is the Founder of the Grand Cities Children's Choir program. She has taught in Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, and Texas prior to coming to North Dakota. With over 41 years of teaching, Mrs. Popejoy has taught at the elementary, middle school, high school, and collegiate levels. Her choirs have performed at the North Dakota Music Educators Association Conference, the American Choral Directors Association North Central Conference, and the North Dakota ACDA Conference and two featured performances at Carnegie Hall. Popejoy has conducted numerous honor and festival ensembles and has been awarded generously. However, her greatest reward has been watching her students become more than they could have dreamed for themselves as singers, ensemble members, music educators, and contributors to our world.

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 Lo with the focus on expanding repertoire for piano and low brass.

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All of the Music Educators K-12, and Private Teachers
who had a part in the musical education of these wonderful singers

Dr. Daphne Pedersen, *Chair, Department of Music*
Dr. Casey Behm, *Director of Choral Activities*
Dr. Anne Christopherson, *Professor of Voice*
Dr. Justin Montigne, *Professor of Voice*
Department of Music Faculty
Mrs. Janice Engen, *Administrative Officer*
Mrs. Kelly Jordet, *Administrative Assistant*
Mr. David Variano, *Administrative Assistant*



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