Upcoming Events

UNI Wind Ensemble with guests Makó Symphonic Band
7:30PM October 29th , Great Hall

Guest Recital: Drew Whiting, saxophone
6:00PM October 30th, Davis Hall

Senior Recital: Charlotte Ottemoeller
8:00PM November 6th, Davis Hall

About the Artist

Kate Wilken is a junior at the University of Northern Iowa dual majoring in Music Performance and Computer Science where she studies saxophone under Dr. Ann Bradfield. During her time at UNI, she has been involved in multiple ensembles including Wind Ensemble, Saxophone Quartet, Jazz Band II, and Symphonic Band. Additionally, Kate is the UNI Community Music School Saxophone Lesson Teacher.

UNI University of Northern Iowa

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Kate Wilken, Saxophone Junior Recital

with
Chloe Berns-Schweingruber, piano
Charlotte Ottemoeller, saxophone
Northern Winds, saxophone quartet

Monday, October 26th, 2026, 6:00 p.m. Davis Hall, Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center

Program

The Perfect Storm……Chris Evan Hass
(b. 1993)

I. The Calm Before

Charlotte Ottemoeller, alto saxophone
Chloe Berns-Schweingruber, piano

Rush……Pascal Zavaro
(b. 1959)

Arabesque……Jenni Watson
(b. 1985)

Ciudades……Guillermo Lago
(b. 1960)

II. Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Sir Patrick……Philippe Geiss
(b. 1961)

Northern Winds Quartet:
Abby Gaul, soprano saxophone
Kate Wilken, alto saxophone
Charlotte Ottemoeller, tenor saxophone
Marco Olachnovitch, baritone saxophone

About the Program

The Perfect Storm is a multi-movement piece by Chris Evan Hass that depicts the development and intensity of a storm. The first movement, "The Calm Before," represents the peaceful atmosphere before the storm begins.

Rush by Pascal Zavaro, a French composer, reflects his interest in rhythm and the influence of rock and contemporary music. Zavaro's compositions often combine energetic rhythms with a wide range of colors. In Rush, these influences come together to demonstrate the saxophone's technical capabilities and expressive range.

Arabesque by Jenni Watson is inspired by Debussy's *Arabesque No. 1*, originally written for solo piano. Watson reimagines melodic motifs from Debussy's piece, creating a version for saxophone that is described as having a continuously flowing, bubbling energy. The piece was premiered at the 2018 World Saxophone Congress as part of a recital celebrating Debussy's musical influence. Watson's version can be performed with either piano or a backing track, which adds another layer of sound to accompany the saxophone.

Ciudades by Guillermo Lago is a multi-movement work inspired by cities that have personal significance to the composer. The second movement, "Sarajevo," is dedicated to Lago's friends in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, a city affected by the civil war of the 1990s. Lago helped to rebuild the city's music community by supporting saxophone education and founding a wind ensemble with local musicians. The movement depicts the tragedy of war while also celebrating the power of music.

Sir Patrick by Philippe Geiss is based on traditional folk melodies from the Shetland Islands of Scotland. Commissioned by the U.S. Navy Band, the piece uses Celtic-inspired melodies and rhythms to highlight the different colors and capabilities of the saxophone.