

UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN IOWA
VOCAL ARTS FESTIVAL
2025

PROGRAM

Dr. Sara Blessing
Mr. Duane Philgreen, accompanist

<i>Insanae et vanae curae</i>	F. J. Haydn
<i>Nunc Dimittis</i>	Gustav Holst
<i>I Am Glad</i>	Daniel Schreiner
<i>Yotin</i>	Sherryl Sewepagahem
<i>Dance of Zalongo</i>	arr. Carol Barnett

CONDUCTOR

Sara Blessing is Assistant Professor of Instruction in Choral Music Education. Prior to her appointment at UNI, she was Director of Choral Activities at Graceland University. Sara has conducted a variety of regional honor choirs and has been a guest clinician at several schools around the Midwest. In 2016, she was the recipient of Graceland University's Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching, for which she was nominated by her students. In April of 2016, her choirs performed the world premiere of "You Guided Me" after commissioning the work from composer Michael John Trotta. Under her direction, the Graceland choirs have gone on 4 tours, performing in several states across the U.S., including Colorado, Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, New York, Ohio, Washington D.C., Pennsylvania, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Nevada, and California. In addition to teaching, Sara is an active soprano soloist.

Throughout her studies, Sara has had the privilege to work with many choral mentors including René Clausen, Morten Lauridsen, Ola Gjeilo, John Rutter, Jo-Michael Scheibe, Rollo Dilworth, Eric Whitacre, James Mulholland, Michael John Trotta, Timothy Stalter, David Puderbaugh, and Tim and Sandra Peter. She states: "The passion, diligence, drive, artistry, and scholarly work of these individuals has been an inspiration to my work as a choral conductor."

Sara is a member of the American Choral Director's Association, both the Iowa and Missouri Choral Director's Association, the National Association for Music Education, and the College Music Society. In addition, she is a member of both the Golden Key International Honor Society and Phi Kappa Phi – honor societies which recognize academic achievement.

Outside of teaching, Sara loves to travel, camp ("glamp"), hike, play piano, read and spend time with her family and friends.

ACCOMPANIST

Duane Philgreen is recently retired after 34 years as a music educator, the last 26 years at West Delaware High School in Manchester, Iowa. Duane received his Bachelor of Music degree from Drake University with additional coursework at The University of Iowa. He has served as president of the IHSMA Executive Committee as well as the Section 4 representative for the National Federation (NFHS) Music Advisory Committee. Mr. Philgreen has arranged music for many groups with several of his arrangements being sung at Regional ACDA Conventions. He has written numerous compositions for his choirs, including the 2019 winner of the ICDA/ IFA Choral Composition Competition.

In retirement Duane keeps busy as a freelance accompanist and clinician. He loves spending his free time with his grandson as well as making toys in *Grandpa's Workshop*.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC VOICE AND CHORAL FACULTY

Dr. Korey Barrett
Dr. Sara Blessing
Prof. Jeff Brich
Dr. Suzanne Hendrix
Dr. John Hines
Prof. Michelle Monroe
Prof. Kathryn Saulsbury
Dr. John Wiles

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS AND DIRECTORS

Algona High School	Todd Herbst-Ulmer
Aplington-Parkersburg High School	Jeff Bieber
Clear Creek Amana High School	Brittany Calloway
Clear Lake High School	Jason Heitland
Colo-Nesco Community School District	Bryan Ward
Columbus Catholic High School	Ryan Occeña
Council Bluffs Community School District	
Denver High School	Tim Baird
Dike-New Hartford High School	Cassidy Benschoter
Don Bosco High School	Karen Thoma
Dunkerton School District	Emma Menzel
East Marshall High School	Sheryl Mullikin
Marshalltown High School	Amy Ose
Spencer Schools	Bailey DeBolt
Waukon High School	Molly Woodard
Waterloo East High School	Sally Lange
Waterloo West High School	Holly Rose
Waverly-Shell Rock High School	Greta Nelson
Webster City High School	Aaron McCullough
West Central Community School District	Stacy Fink
West Delaware Schools	Jackie Hawkins-Keck
West Marshall High School	Tyler Mullikin

PERSONNEL

Soprano

Mallory Adams
Sadie Anema
Alex Barber
Kristen Best
Aaliyah Billups
Abigail Heckert
Macy Hermann
Alexandria Johnson
Olivia Jones
Tori Kenny
Lily Koch
Vivienne Lange
Alida Lundberg
Henrietta Molinaro-Blonigan
Maggie Moser
Lily Myrmo
Kate Nelson
Agatha Olson
Kalesta Olson
Natalie Orban
Ella Platte
Ella Reynolds
Trinity Protsman
Tiffanie Schmidt
Danica Scroggins
Makayla Seeley
Sierra Sessler
Savanna Smalley
Brooklin Smith
Mada Steburg
Lynnette Torres
Jocelynn Wolff

Spencer Schools
Dike-New Hartford High School
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Dunkerton School District
Dunkerton School District
Webster City High School
Dike-New Hartford High School
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Spencer Schools
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Columbus Catholic High School
Spencer Schools
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
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Council Bluffs Community School District
Council Bluffs Community School District
Algona High School
Dunkerton School District
Marshalltown High School
Waukon High School
Dunkerton School District
Dunkerton School District
West Delaware Schools
Aplington-Parkersburg High School
Dunkerton School District
Dunkerton School District
Algona High School
Marshalltown High School
Waterloo West High School

Mezzo-Soprano

Paisyn Bare
Kaci Campbell
Addy Hyde
Anna Irvin
Candace Lindsay
Corbin Maaland
Lily Mitchell
Maya Pennington
Grace Sleper

Webster City High School
Spencer Schools
Don Bosco High School
Webster City High School
Spencer Schools
Spencer Schools
Council Bluffs Community School District
West Delaware Schools
West Delaware Schools

Alto

Sydney Anema
Emma Anhalt
Josephine Brady

Dike-New Hartford High School
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Clear Lake High School

Alexandria Brewer
Kennedy Burk
Phinn Burt
Lauryn Coleman
Addie Cooper
Kayleigh Cox
Adeline Decker
Campbell Dolash
Ayyah Donovan
Daisy Garcia
Cora Hennings
Ava Hurley
Olivia Klingenberg
Alex Large
Evelyn Loeffelholz
Emma Millenkamp
Lily Nichols
Kara Oberheu
Jada Protsman
Makayla Ratliff
Natalee Reemtsma
Charly Sharp
Audrey Shimp
Emily Story
Mary Thoma
Ash Tinoco
Kendalynn VanGinkel
Jayne Wenger
Rhys Wilbanks

Tenor

Ashliegh Amble
Keaton Anderson
Lindy Aswegan
Jonah Carney
Elijah Garrett
Finn Garrett
Oliver Gibson
Dominic Juarez
Cain Kerr
Braden Knight
ME Molinaro-Blonigan
Caleb Moore
Luke Moore
Isaiah Olson
Randi Ottesen
Anthony Rangel
Keizel Rivera
Lincoln Sieck
Brayden Swotek-Davis
Ryan Wei
Grace Wilson

Dunkerton School District
Denver High School
Waterloo West High School
Clear Lake High School
Clear Lake High School
Spencer Schools
Denver High School
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Waterloo East High School
Marshalltown High School
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Waterloo West High School
Dike-New Hartford High School
Council Bluffs Community School District
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Don Bosco High School
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Dike-New Hartford High School
Marshalltown High School

Clear Lake High School
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Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Marshalltown High School
Don Bosco High School
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Columbus Catholic High School
Clear Lake High School
Clear Lake High School
Dike-New Hartford High School
Council Bluffs Community School District
East Marshall High School
West Delaware Schools
West Central Community School District
Council Bluffs Community School District
Waterloo West High School
Clear Lake High School

Baritone

Jackson Abraham
Korbin Awe
Maddux Bennett
Anthony Bering
Matthew Hommowun
Bryce Hrnicek
Rush L'Heureux
James Lockie
Taylor Murrell
Owen Neuendorf
Kaidyn Robbins
Eli Shipley
Haedden Slawson
Cameron Ten Kley
Frederick Yang

Council Bluffs Community School District
Algona High School
East Marshall High School
Dike-New Hartford High School
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Webster City High School
Dike-New Hartford High School
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
Colo-Nesco Community School District
Waverly-Shell Rock High School
West Delaware Schools
West Delaware Schools
Spencer Schools
Spencer Schools
Waverly-Shell Rock High School

Bass

Chevelle Awe
Elliot Bieber
Jackson Campbell
Abraham Clark
Sebastian Dalbey
Aiden Dutcher
Sean Engle
William Flage
Andy Nelson
Clayton Schuler
Nathaniel Seehussen
Kyle Squire
Beau Taylor

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Aplington-Parkersburg High School
Waterloo East High School
Clear Lake High School
Waterloo West High School
Waterloo West High School
Waukon High School
Aplington-Parkersburg High School
West Central Community School District
West Marshall High School
Clear Lake High School
Waterloo West High School
Waterloo West High School

ADDITIONAL EVENT INFORMATION

In consideration of the performers and other members of the audience, please enter or leave a performance at the end of a composition.

Cameras and recording equipment are **not permitted**. Please turn off all electronic devices and be sure that all emergency contact cell phones and pagers are set to silent or vibrate.

This event is **free** to all UNI students, courtesy of the Panther Pass Program.

Performances like this are made possible through private support from patrons like you! Please consider contributing to School of Music scholarships or guest artist programs. Call 319-273-3915 or visit music.uni.edu to make your gift.