

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to all of the judges for the preliminary rounds and for the semi-final round: the applied faculty in each division and Melinda Boyd, Christopher Merz, and Erik Rohde. Special thanks also to each of the pianists who have collaborated with the students: Sean Botkin, Robin Guy, Natia Shioshvili and Serena Hou.

Finally, thanks to our final round judges: Danny Galyen, Brisa de Paula, Maddy Tarantelli, Mike Conrad, and Erik Rohde.

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. In the event of an emergency, please use the exit nearest to you. Please contact the usher staff if you need assistance.

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

The University of Northern Iowa honors the ancestral stewards of the land on which our university rests. Through the work we do every day to live our mission, the University of Northern Iowa aspires for you to see a community that: honors Native and Indigenous People and culture, lives the 7th Generation Principle, does good for the people and communities we serve, and embraces stewardship of our mission and land. Please see our full stewardship statement at president.uni.edu/stewardship-statement.

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SCHOOL OF MUSIC

INSTRUMENTAL CONCERTO COMPETITION FINALS

COORDINATED BY
ERIK ROHDE

PROGRAM

Concerto for Alto Saxophone and String Orchestra . . . Pierre Max Dubois
I. Lento espressivo – Allegro
III. Rondo: Allegretto

Logan Neifert, saxophone
Sean Botkin, piano

Violin Concerto No. 1 in D major, op. 19 Sergei Prokofiev
I. Andantino

Emma Andersen, violin
Sean Botkin, piano

Leader Lieder Dana Wilson
I. Lighting the Way
III. Responding

Megan Bennett, trumpet
Sean Botkin, piano

Concerto for Flute and Orchestra in D Major, op. 283 . . . Carl Reinecke
I. Allegro molto moderato

Aubrey Williamson, flute
Robin Guy, piano

BRIEF INTERMISSION

Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra Ney Rosaura
I. Saudacao (Greeting)
IV. Despedida (Farewell)

Aiden Endres, marimba
Sean Botkin, piano

Concerto for Trombone and Orchestra in C Nino Rota
I. Allegro giusto
II. Lento, ben ritmato
III. Allegro moderato

Owen Weimer, trombone
Sean Botkin, piano

Grunge Concerto Scott McAllister
I. Freely
III. Headbanging

Lauren Geerlings, oboe
Serena Hou, piano

Concerto for Cello in B Minor Antonín Dvořák
III. Finale: Allegro moderato

Turner Sperry, violoncello
Serena Hou, piano

The competition winner will be announced in the lobby following this evening's concert.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Logan Neifert is a senior pursuing a degree in Jazz Studies and Saxophone Performance here at UNI, under the direction of Dr. Ann Bradfield and Professor Chris Merz. He has been involved in the UNI Wind Ensemble, Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, Jazz Band One, Panther Marching Band, saxophone quartet and jazz combo during his time at UNI. He has also studied under and collaborated with artists such as Melissa Aldana, Anat Cohen, Dave Camwell, and Marcus Strickland. Logan was additionally a finalist in the 2023 Emerging Artist Competition. After graduating this spring, Logan plans to pursue a Masters in Jazz Studies.

Emma Andersen is a master's candidate studying violin performance at the University of Northern Iowa studying under Dr. Nash Ryder. After completing her undergraduate degree at Ball State University under Professor Anna Vayman, she has performed as the concertmaster of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra since the Fall of 2022 as well as the violinist in Trio EMS, a piano trio made up of faculty and students. Throughout her career, she has performed as a soloist with two orchestras across the Midwest as well as a section violinist in more. Some of her greatest enjoyments in music are working with current music composer students to create new pieces for the violin as well as teaching students at MacPhail Center for Music in her hometown Austin, MN, as well as her own private studio in Cedar Falls.

Megan Bennett is in her third year of studies at the University of Northern Iowa where she is pursuing a dual major in Trumpet Performance and Music Education. At UNI she is section leader of the Wind Ensemble, principal trumpet with the UNI Symphony Orchestra, a member of Jazz Band One, and performs with the Biscotti Brass. In 2023 she was the winner of the Fort Dodge Young Artist competition in which she performed the Neruda Trumpet Concerto. In addition, Megan is a past winner of the UNI Northern Festival of Bands Concerto Competition, past finalist in the 2022 UNI Concerto Competition, and has been a featured soloist with the Cedar Rapids Municipal Band. Outside of UNI, she has performed with the Waterloo Cedar Falls Symphony Orchestra, the Five Seasons Chamber Music Festival, KCCK's Summer Jazz Camp, and the Cedar Rapids Municipal Band. She is a student of Dr. Randy Grabowski.

From Norwalk, Iowa, **Aubrey Williamson** is a senior Flute Performance major at the University of Northern Iowa, studying under Dr. Hannah Porter-Occeña. During her years of study, she has been a member of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, the UNI Wind Ensemble, the Panther Marching Band, the UNI Flute Choir, and Jazz III. She also enjoys performing in small chamber groups, and focuses on programming music by living female composers. Aubrey has performed abroad in Prague, Vienna, and Budapest with the UNI Wind Ensemble, and will be performing in Italy with the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra this summer. Last year, she received an honorable mention as a finalist for the UNI Concerto Competition. Aubrey has won auditions to perform principal flute on Debussy's Prelude to Afternoon of a Faun and Hindemith's Symphonic Metamorphosis with UNI's Wind Ensemble and Orchestra. She has performed in masterclasses with guest artists both at UNI and the Iowa Flute Festival. Outside of UNI, Aubrey has performed in several flute choirs for the National Flute Association Conferences in Chicago and Phoenix, and has performed with the Fort Dodge Karl King Municipal Band, Waterloo Municipal Band, and has been a featured solo piccoloist with the Cedar Falls Municipal Band. Additionally, Aubrey has enjoyed serving for two years as the Vice President, Ritual for professional music fraternity Sigma Alpha Iota. She runs a private lesson studio in the Cedar Valley area, and enjoys School of Music recruitment events as a Panther Music Ambassador. Next fall, Aubrey plans to attend graduate school to pursue a Masters of Music in Flute Performance.

Aiden Endres, originally from Minnesota, is a Percussion Performance Major in his third year of studies at the University of Northern Iowa. Aiden is an active performer, playing with multiple ensembles across the entire school of music, gigging around the midwest with his own personal jazz fusion band, and recently winning a Section Percussionist / Assistant Timpanist job with a symphony in Illinois. He is very passionate about his education and has taken it upon himself to study with professionals such as Erich Rieppel, the Timpanist for the Minnesota Orchestra. In the future, Aiden plans to go to graduate school for his masters in Percussion Performance.

Owen Weimer is a senior Instrumental Music Education major here at UNI. He lives in Bettendorf, Iowa, where he attended Bettendorf High School, and performed in several different groups, as well as having the honor of being a 4 year All-Stater. He has performed with several different groups on campus, such as the UNI Wind Ensemble, UNI Jazz Bands 1 and 2, and has been a part of the UNI Trombone Quartet and UNI Jazz Slides as well.

Lauren Geerlings is a junior at the University of Northern Iowa pursuing degrees in Violin & Oboe Performance under the direction of Dr. Nash Ryder & Dr. Heather Peyton. During her time at UNI, she has been involved in a number of ensembles including the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Panther Marching Band, and co-founder of The Petrichord String Quartet. Previous instructors include Dr. Steve Koh, Dr. Ioana Galu, Jeff Multer, Wen Qian, Dr. Jay O'Leary, Lynn Gross, & Michele Grossman. Lauren plans on attending graduate school for her masters in instrumental performance.

Turner Sperry is a senior at UNI studying cello performance under Isidora Nojkovic. He performs regularly around the Midwest area, is the event coordinator, treasurer, and music librarian for his string quartet, The Petrichord String Quartet. He's studied under cellists such as Scott Sund, Hannah Holman, Neal Cary, Julian Schwarz, Sonja Kraus, Roman Borys, and a number of other instrumentalists. He plans to attend graduate school for his masters in cello performance next fall.