

Logan Larson is a classical music composer originally from Waukee, Iowa. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Music at Luther College ('16) in Decorah. While at Luther he studied composition under Dr. Brooke Joyce. Logan now studies under Dr. Forrest Pierce while pursuing his Master in Music Composition at the University of Kansas.

Composer and mezzo-soprano **Lisa Neher** writes theatrical, story-driven music for instruments and voices. Trained as a stage actress, her compositions are shaped by her keen sense of dramatic timing and feature aching, lyrical phrases, energetic rhythmic motives, and intense harmonies. Her instrumental works often draw inspiration from the natural world. For more information, visit her website, www.lisanehermusic.com.

Brooke Joyce's music has been described as "vividly pictorial" (*San Francisco Chronicle*) and "exceptionally gripping" (*Los Angeles Times*) and has been performed by soloists and ensembles around the world, including the Cincinnati Symphony, the Brentano Quartet, and the Nash Ensemble. Brooke serves as composer-in-residence at Luther College in Decorah.

Scott Eiklenborg is currently a 3rd-year percussion performance major at Wartburg College. Earlier this year, Scott won the first ever Waverly Community Symphony Orchestras Composition Competition. "My favorite part of composing is to become a part of the music in a way that is so much deeper than just reading and playing other composer's works." Outside of composing, Scott plays in many different ensembles within and outside the reach of Wartburg.

Robert Washut is Professor of Music at the University of Northern Iowa. An accomplished jazz composer and arranger, Washut has received numerous commissions from collegiate and high school jazz ensembles, professional jazz artists, and symphony orchestras. Washut also has served as a jazz composer-in-residence at numerous universities around the country.

Ben Hippen grew up in Decorah and returned in 2016 to pursue music projects. He recently released his second album, *Word Is*, featuring his solo keyboard work backed by an ensemble palette. He can be heard playing original music on the first Tuesday of every month at Java John's Coffee House in Decorah. Ben's music is available on Spotify as well as most online stores and streaming services.



The Iowa Composers Forum Fall 2017 Concert Series

HAMMERS



SEAN BOTKIN, PIANO

MATTHEW ANDREINI, MARIMBA

PROGRAM

Moonlight Luster Logan Larson

Icy Celestial Bodies Lisa Neher

Sacred Trees Brooke Joyce

 I. Aspen Grove

 II. Hackberry

 III. Chinquapin Oak

 IV. Red Oak

 V. Blue Beech

 VI. Elm

Dark Illuminations Scott Eiklenborg

Passionata Bob Washut

Fugue State Ben Hippen

The Iowa Composers Forum (ICF) was founded in March of 1987 in Des Moines by seven composers who wished to create an environment for the performance and dissemination of music composed by Iowans. Over the intervening years, the ICF has presented more than 100 concerts and tour recitals of works by member composers. These concerts have featured the performances of over 800 works of new music, including works by student composers from the elementary, middle, high school and collegiate level. The ICF has commissioned many new works, both unilaterally and in partnership with other organizations such as the Iowa Music Teachers Association and the Iowa Choral Directors Association. The ICF sponsors its own annual student composition competition, open to students studying at the collegiate level and earlier.

Pianist **Sean Botkin** began studying the piano at age five with his mother, making his first orchestral appearance four years later with the Honolulu Symphony. He went on to study privately with Neal O’Doan at the University of Washington and, under his direction, performed with the Seattle Symphony, Spokane Symphony, and Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra. Sean has garnered prizes in an impressive list of international piano competitions: William Kapell International Piano Competition, Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition, Busoni International Piano Competition, Cleveland International Piano Competition, World Piano Competition in Cincinnati, Dong-A International Music Competition of Korea, International Music Competition of Japan and the Washington D.C. International Competition. A graduate of Stanford University, the Juilliard School, and Indiana University at South Bend, Sean has studied with eminent artists Adolph Baller, Martin Canin, and Alexander Toradze. He made his New York debut at Alice Tully Hall in 1993 performing Bartók’s Concerto No. 2 with the Juilliard Symphony, conducted by Carl St. Clair. Other recent performances include Rachmaninoff’s Trio élégiaque No. 1 in G minor on the New York Philharmonic Ensembles concert at Merkin Hall and a solo recital at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall in New York. He is currently Associate Professor of Piano at the University of Northern Iowa and Artistic Advisor of the Midwest International Piano Competition.

Matthew Andreini currently serves as a percussion instructor at the University of Northern Iowa where his teaching responsibilities include Applied Percussion and Percussion Ensembles. Andreini also maintains an active performance career, performing regularly with a wide variety of ensembles throughout Iowa. In addition to his regular performing schedule, he has been a featured soloist with numerous ensembles and has performed multiple international tours throughout Europe, Central, and South America. As a chamber musician, Matthew has recently shared the stage with groups such as the Boston Brass and the Enso String Quartet. As an avid enthusiast of new music, Andreini plays an integral role in a collaborative new music organization known as the “Iowa/Hungary Project.” The “Iowa/Hungary Project” was founded by Matthew, along with Gabor Palotas (Hungary), to create and perform new works for percussion duo. The Iowa/Hungary Project recently completed tours in Europe and the US showcasing six new works commissioned from Iowan and Hungarian composers. Matthew has previously held teaching positions at Southwestern Community College (Creston, Iowa), and Joyful Noise Drums and Percussion (West Des Moines, IA) and currently teaches at the University of Northern Iowa. As a teacher, Matthew’s students have had continued success in competitions and have gone on to lead successful careers.