



COMMENCEMENT  
CONCERT

2016

# COMMENCEMENT CONCERT

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2016 · 8 P.M.  
LAWRENCE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Joseph Connor '16  
Alexandra Damisch '16  
Jacob Fernandez '17  
Nathan Gornick '18  
Hallie Hillemann '16  
Annaeka Johnson '16  
Craig Jordan '19  
Matthew Kierzek '17  
Brandin Kreuder '16  
Laetitia Lehman-Pearsall '16  
Jacinda Martin '16  
Katie Mueller '16  
Colin Parsons '16  
Kayla Siembieda '16  
Elena Stabile '16  
Leo Sussman '16  
Kennison Ther '16  
David Voss '16  
Stephen Weikel '16  
Sofie Yang '16  
Dylan Younger '16

## PROGRAM

*Habanera*, op. 21, no. 2

Pablo de Sarasate  
(1844–1908)

Sofie Yang '16, violin  
Juan Sebastián Avendaño, piano

From *Falstaff*  
“Sul fil d’un soffio etesio”

Giuseppe Verdi  
(1813–1901)

Elena Stabile '16, soprano  
David Voss '16, piano

*Escape Wisconsin*

Caleb Burhans  
(b. 1980)

Colin Parsons '16, saxophone

From *Concert Album for Left Hand Alone*  
Meditation

Leopold Godowsky  
(1870–1938)

Laetitia Lehman-Pearsall '16, piano

*Loops I*

Philippe Hurel  
(b. 1955)

Leo Sussman '16, flute

*Warp and Weft*

Paul Dooley  
(b. 1983)

Annaeka Johnson '16, oboe  
Nathan Gornick '18, clarinet  
Colin Parsons '16, saxophone  
Dylan Younger '16, bass clarinet  
Jacob Fernandez '17, bassoon

*Oh, quand je dors*

Franz Liszt  
(1811-1886)

Katie Mueller '16, soprano  
David Voss '16, piano

*Tzigane*

Maurice Ravel  
(1875-1937)

Brandin Kreuder '16, violin  
Craig Jordan '19, piano

### **Intermission**

*Get It!*

Gene Koshinski  
(b. 1980)

Jacob Fernandez '17, bassoon  
Kennison Ther '16, percussion

*Concerto for Oboe*  
II. Poco andante

Bohuslav Martinů  
(1890-1959)

Stephen Weikel '16, oboe  
David Voss '16, piano

*Sonata for Violin Solo, op. 40*  
I. Allegro moderato

Miklós Rózsa  
(1907-1995)

Hallie Hillemann '16, violin

*Quatuor*  
I. Allegro

Jean Françaix  
(1912-1997)

Leo Sussman '16, flute  
Annaeka Johnson '16, oboe  
Dylan Younger '16, clarinet  
Jacob Fernandez '17, bassoon

From *Venus in Seide*  
"Spiel auf deiner Geige"

Robert Stolz  
(1880-1975)

Kayla Siembieda '16, mezzo-soprano  
Anthony Capparelli '14, piano

*Scaramouche*  
II. Modéré  
III. Brasileira

Darius Milhaud  
(1892-1974)

Joseph Connor '16, saxophone  
Susan Wenckus, piano

*Strange Humors*

John Mackey  
(b. 1973)

Alexandra Damisch '16, clarinet  
Matthew Kierzek '17, clarinet  
Jacinda Martin '16, clarinet  
Dylan Younger '16, bass clarinet  
Kennison Ther '16, darbuka

## STUDENT BIOS

Saxophonist **Joseph Connor '16**, from the studio of Steven Jordheim and Sumner Truax, is active as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral player, improviser and educator. Keenly interested in expanding the solo and chamber repertoire for the saxophone, Joseph has worked closely with composers David Werfelmann '06, Zachary Green, John Mayrose, JP Merz '14 and others to premiere new works for saxophone in various settings. As a soloist and orchestral player, Joseph has appeared with the Lawrence University, La Crosse, Fox Valley, Manitowoc, Green Bay Civic and Oshkosh Symphony Orchestras. Joseph is a founding member of Slipstream, a new music quartet. Joseph travelled to Strasbourg, France, to perform *Silent Sounds: improvised soundtracks for silent films* with the Lawrence University Saxophone Quartet and Sumner Truax at the 17th World Saxophone Congress. After graduation, Joseph will complete his student teaching in the band program at Oshkosh West High School, continue performing, prepare for graduate school, and doggedly pursue the perfect cup of coffee.

**Alexandra Damisch '16** is a senior candidate for a Bachelor of Music in clarinet performance and a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics, a program she completed in four years. She has been a section leader in Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble, and has also played with the Symphony Orchestra, Clarinet Choir, Opera Orchestra and the 112 Woodwind Quintet. In addition to clarinet studies, Alexandra and her family have toured extensively on piano, performing in more than 20 countries and traveling to many more. A native of Northbrook, Ill., this fall Alexandra will pursue her M.Sc. in statistics at the University of Minnesota, and she hopes to continue playing clarinet. She is very excited to perform with some of her best friends tonight. Many thanks to Associate Professor David Bell.

**Jacob Fernandez '17** came to Lawrence from Oklahoma City to study bassoon under Carl Rath. Playing in chamber music ensembles with Dylan Younger, Annaeka Johnson and Leo Sussman for the last three years has been one of the biggest highlights of his Lawrence career. Starting next winter and spring, Jacob will be student teaching and will finish his degrees in music education and bassoon performance. After Lawrence, Jacob looks forward to teaching public school band and orchestra.

**Nathan Gornick '18**, from the studio of David Bell, is a junior from Elmhurst, Ill., majoring in instrumental/general music education and clarinet performance. He will be spending the summer playing in the pit orchestra at the College Light Opera Company. In his spare time Nathan likes obsessing over all things Harry Potter, dismantling the patriarchy and listening to Adele on repeat.

**Hallie Hillemann '16**, a fifth-year senior from the studio of Samantha George, is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in violin performance and a Bachelor of Arts in psychology. During her time at Lawrence, she has enjoyed playing in many chamber ensembles and has held section leader positions in the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra. Hallie spent the full 2014-15 school year in Vienna, where she studied violin with Barbara Gorzynska. She has taken part in summer music festivals, including the Quartet Program at SUNY-Fredonia, Sewanee Summer Music Festival, Rocky Ridge Music Camp and Madeline Island Music Camp. After graduation, Hallie will attend Vanderbilt University for a master's in special education, a passion she developed during college through employment with developmentally disabled and autistic populations.

**Annaeka Johnson '16**, from the studio of Howard Niblock, is a candidate for a Bachelor of Arts in music. She has especially enjoyed learning and performing great music with friends in various chamber ensembles during her time at Lawrence. This summer Annaeka will be interning in the music library of the Merit School of Music in Chicago, with the hopes of pursuing library sciences in the future.

**Craig Jordan '19**, a sophomore, is pursuing his Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance under Catherine Kautsky. Originally from Ames, Iowa, he previously studied with Sue Hudson of Des Moines, Iowa, and has had numerous coachings with piano faculty from Waldorf College, Iowa State University, the University of Northern Iowa, the University of Iowa, Augustana College, the New England Conservatory and New York University. He has collaborated with many small and large ensembles, including the Iowa All-State Choir. Craig hopes to grow, both in his solo performance and collaborative experience this summer at the InterHarmony Music Festival in Arcidosso, Italy.

**Matt Kierzek '17**, a native of Muskego, Wis., is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in music education (choral/general/instrumental). During his time at Lawrence, he has enjoyed performing with others in Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, Viking Chorale and Concert Choir, especially enjoying the ACDA convention trip and performance with Concert Choir in Des Moines, Iowa, in 2014. Next year, Matt will finish up degree requirements and student teach in the spring. He would like to thank all of his teachers, David Bell, Teresa Seidl and Kenneth Bozeman, for their dedication, wisdom, guidance and encouragement throughout his time at Lawrence.

**Brandin Kreuder '16**, a native of Burlington, Wis., from the studio of Samantha George, is graduating from Lawrence with dual degrees in violin performance and studio art. In the fall he will be working toward a master's in violin performance at the University of Miami Frost School of Music as a Mancini Orchestra Fellow. While in Miami, he is excited to build connections and expand his collaborative music skills. Additionally, Brandin will be seeking opportunities to get involved with Miami's art scene and build his portfolio in hopes of eventually obtaining a Master of Fine Arts degree in ceramic sculpture.

**Laetitia Lehman-Pearsall '16**, from Bainbridge Island, Wash., is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in piano performance. During her time at Lawrence, she has enjoyed delving deeper into accompanying and pedagogy, notably working as the rehearsal pianist for the 2013 Lawrence University Opera Production of *Street Scene*, as the recipient of a Conservatory<sup>2</sup> Grant in 2014 to study vocal accompanying at the Oberlin in Italy Summer Vocal Program and with her piano pedagogy student during this past year. She also studied abroad during the 2014–15 school year in Paris, studying music at the École Normale de Musique. Laetitia is grateful to her piano teachers Catherine Kautsky and Anna Reiser, her vocal accompanying mentor Bonnie Koestner and her piano pedagogy teacher Mary Van De Loo for shaping her experience at Lawrence. Following her graduation, Laetitia will be working in the nonprofit sector and as a music teacher. She also hopes to later continue her piano studies. Laetitia would also like to thank her parents, Leslie and Richard, for their unending love and support.

**Jacinda Martin '16** of Columbus, Ohio, is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in clarinet performance. While at Lawrence, she has been involved with many instrumental ensembles, including Gamelan Cahaya Asri, wind ensemble, orchestra and an array of diverse chamber groups. After graduation, Jacy will seek full-time employment in arts administration. She would like to thank her professor, David Bell, for his guidance and patience over the last four years, as well as her friends and family for their unwavering support.

**Katie Mueller '16**, a native of Broomfield, Colo., is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance and a Bachelor of Arts in biology and biochemistry. She will be starting her Ph.D. in cellular and molecular biology at UW–Madison next fall. Highlights of her time here at Lawrence include three years of independent research in Beth De Stasio's laboratory, a first-place win at the National Opera Scenes competition and a recent performance as Lucy Lockit in *The Beggar's Opera*. She would like to thank Beth De Stasio and Steven Spears for their incredible support and mentorship over the last five years.



**Colin Parsons '16**, a native of Park Forest, Ill., is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in saxophone performance and a Bachelor of Arts in biochemistry. While at Lawrence, Colin has enjoyed participating in various chamber ensembles. As part of a saxophone quartet, he has performed for community outreach concerts in the Appleton area and at Chicago's Park West theater for a "mini Kaleidoscope" concert. Last summer, Colin performed at the 17th World Saxophone Congress held in Strasbourg, France. There, as a part of a quartet, he presented a concert of improvised music to silent films. Following graduation, Colin hopes to pursue a career in the life sciences working in a research laboratory or at a biotechnology company. He would like to thank his teachers Sumner Truax and Steven Jordheim for their time, effort and dedication during the past five years.

**Kayla Siembieda '16** is a mezzo-soprano from Des Moines, Iowa. She is a student of Steven Paul Spears and is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance. Kayla will be continuing her graduate studies in vocal performance at Louisiana State University this fall. While at Lawrence, Kayla performed as Emma Jones in Kurt Weill's *Street Scene* and as Mrs. Peachum in John Gay's *The Beggar's Opera* and was an active participant in many opera scenes. Her favorites include Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*, Flora in Verdi's *La Traviata*, and Marcellina in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*. Last winter, Kayla won first place at the National Opera Association's Opera Scenes Competition as Marcellina in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*. She has also been a first-place and semifinalist recipient in the National Association of Teachers of Singing competition. Kayla has also performed in Graz, Austria, at the American Institute of Musical Studies, the International Lyric Academy in Viterbo, Italy, as Cherubino in Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro* and as a young artist with the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. She is excited to perform in the concert tonight and sing on the Chapel stage one last time! She would like to thank all of her teachers here at Lawrence, especially John Gates, Steven Paul Spears and Teresa Seidl for their guidance and support these past four years.

**Elena Stabile '16**, from the studio of John T. Gates, is a candidate for a Bachelor of Arts in English, with a minor in creative writing, and a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance. During her time at Lawrence, Elena has sung in a number of operas, including leading roles in *Albert Herring*, *Street Scene* and *The Beggar's Opera*, as well as in a number of collaborative performances, such as Steve Reich's *Music for 18 Musicians*. She also completed a draft of a novel for her *Senior Experience* in English, which she plans to keep working on over the next year. Starting in August, Elena will attend the University of Tennessee to pursue a Master of Music in voice.

**Leo Sussman '16** is graduating with degrees in flute performance and physics. During his time at Lawrence, he has served as principal flute in the Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble, played in the pit for three stage productions, premiered nearly a dozen new compositions, been featured as a soloist with the Jazz Ensemble and performed interactive programs at community venues in Appleton with his chamber ensembles. As a winner of the concerto competition, he performed Carl Nielsen's concerto with the orchestra this May. Leo has also appeared as soloist at the San Francisco Flute Festival, premiered an electroacoustic piccolo duet at Electronic Music Midwest and is a substitute piccolo player for the Sheboygan Symphony. At Lawrence, Leo has studied with Erin Lesser and Suzanne Jordheim; in his hometown of San Francisco, he has studied with Leslie Chin and Ken Rosen. He has been selected as a fellow at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival this summer and will begin graduate study in flute with Ransom Wilson at Yale School of Music in the fall.

**Kennison Ther '16**, from the studio of Dane Richeson, is a music education major from Lake Zurich, Ill. During his time at Lawrence, he led the Sambistas group in LUPÉ for the past three years and was one of the student directors for the LUPÉ performance at the 2014 Percussive Arts Society International Convention. After Lawrence, Kenni will be completing his student teaching at Appleton West High School and James Madison Middle School.

**David Voss '16**, a composer, songwriter, pianist and vocalist from Santa Rosa, Calif., is the recipient of a Lawrence Composition Scholarship as well as a Piano Accompanying Fellowship. He won the 2014-15 Pi Kappa Lambda Award in Composition at Lawrence. He has been chosen as one of a select group of composers for the 2015-16 Lawrence Symphony Orchestra Composers' Forum. In addition to his composition studies with Joanne Metcalf and Asha Srinivasan, David has also studied composition with Anna Thorvaldsdottir, Carlo Forlivesi, Joel Puckett, Christopher Adler (University of San Diego), Brett Abigaña (New England Conservatory), Leo Wanenchak (Johns Hopkins Peabody Conservatory, The Walden School), Brooke Joyce (Luther College), Ben Taylor (Greenfarm Sonoma State University) and Marilyn Wilson (Music Teacher Association of California). David has studied piano with both Catherine Kautsky and Luba Poliak at Lawrence and has worked as an accompanist in the voice studios of John Gates and Teresa Seidl.

**Stephen Weikel '16** is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in oboe performance and a Bachelor of Arts in physics. He is a native of Lynnwood, Wash., and currently lives in Stratford, Conn. He would like to thank Professor Howard Niblock for teaching him the arcane mysteries of the oboe these past five years.

**Sofie Yang '16**, from Milwaukee, is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in violin performance with Samantha George. In her time at Lawrence, she has enjoyed the invaluable collaborative experiences of serving as concertmaster of the Symphony Orchestra, performing as soloist in January as co-winner of this year's concerto competition, playing engagements with her string quartet, Quartet Masque and being featured in three Kaleidoscope concerts and on Wisconsin Public Radio. Additionally, Sofie loves making music with the Fiddlers of Lawrence University and living green in Greenfire, a house, food cooperative and club dedicated to environmental sustainability. Sofie spent the previous summer at the Sewanee Summer Music Festival in Tennessee, where she was a semifinalist in the concerto competition, served as concertmaster for the Sewanee Symphony and met Sebastián, who is visiting from Colombia and performing with her this evening. She also attended the first installment of the Silkroad Project's Global Musician Workshop in Indiana, made possible through a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation. Prior summers include employment as a pit musician for the College Light Opera Company and teaching string orchestra and gymnastics at her hometown recreational department. Sofie is looking forward to being a counselor at the Madison Summer Music Clinic this summer and then moving to Chicago to continue her studies in pursuit of her M.Mus. in violin performance with Janet Sung at DePaul University. Sofie would like to thank her professor, Samantha George, for unending guidance, wisdom and conviction since her first lesson seven years ago. Sofie would also like to express immense gratitude to her family for their presence and mindfulness in all aspects of her life, truly making dreams possible.

**Dylan Younger '16**, a woodwinds specialist from Golden Valley, Minn., is a candidate for a Bachelor of Music in clarinet performance. At Lawrence, he has been thrilled to work in numerous musical contexts and particularly enjoyed collaborative work. In particular, he was pleased to play woodwinds for shows such as *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Grey Gardens*, as well as working in contemporary ensembles (one notable example being L I L I T H, which recently presented a program relating to the body and involved a collaboration of a vast array of people and different areas of expertise). He feels extremely fortunate to have worked with so many incredible studio teachers in the past four years and would specifically like to thank David Bell, Steven Jordheim, Suzanne Jordheim, José Encarnación, Sumner Truax, Howard Niblock and Carl Rath for their wisdom and expertise in lessons, ensembles, classes and so many more contexts. Their guidance, both musically and personally, over the past four years has been absolutely invaluable. After graduation, Dylan will be returning for his third summer of playing woodwinds in the orchestra of College Light Opera Company on Cape Cod. After that, he will be freelancing as a woodwinds specialist in the Midwest, likely centered in Chicago or Minneapolis.



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