



College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

ARTIST-FACULTY AND GUEST RECITAL SERIES
Sponsored by WKAR

Nicole Keller, organ

Generously sponsored by the
Lansing Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Sunday, September 14, 2025
Alumni Memorial Chapel, 3:00 p.m.

PROGRAM

Toccata in F, BWV 540

Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685–1750)

Psalm 23

Mein junges leben hat ein end, SWV 324

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck
(1562–1621)

Praeludium in G Minor, BuxWV 149

Dietrich Buxtehude
(1637–1707)

There Is A Happy Landing
So Fades the Lovely Blooming Flower
I Love Thee, My Lord

George Shearing
(1919–2011)

A Quaker Reader

A Secret Power

The World of Silence

There is a Spirit That Delights to Do No Evil

Ned Rorem
(1923–2022)

Choral No. 3 in A Minor

César Franck
(1822–1890)

GUEST ARTIST BIO

Hailed as a “skilled and stylish player with a keen ear for orchestration” (*The American Organist Magazine*) **Nicole Keller** has earned a reputation for colorful, virtuosic performances praised by audiences and presenters as unique concert experiences. She has performed on significant instruments in historic venues including St. Patrick Cathedral, New York; Cathédrale Notre-Dame, Paris; Dom St. Stephan, Passau; St. Patrick Cathedral, Armagh, Northern Ireland; and The Kazakh National University for the Arts, Astana, Kazakhstan.

Equally at home as a soloist and chamber musician, Ms. Keller’s appearances with orchestra include concertos, works for small chamber orchestra, and large works involving organ, harpsichord, and piano. In recent seasons, she debuted world premieres for solo organ, chamber orchestra and vocal ensemble including *Concerto for Organ No. 5 in memoriam György Ligeti* by Bálint Karosi and the debut of *Handel: Made in America* by Terrance McKnight and Pat Eakin Young at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. She has extensive experience as a continuo player in performances of Bach’s St. Matthew and St. John Passions, Christmas Oratorio, and Mass in B minor in addition to a host of baroque cantatas and chamber music.

Ms. Keller’s debut commercial recording, *Those Americans*, was released by Raven CDs in 2024. The album is praised as “an exciting programme of twentieth- and twenty-first-century works by composers from the USA...Nicole Keller meets their considerable technical challenges with aplomb, as the outer movements bristle with finely controlled energy, while the contrasts of the inner movements are equally finely captured” (*Organists’ Review*). The music paints a picture of the diverse landscape of 20th century American organ music through the works of Rayner Brown, Calvin Hampton, Florence Price, William Grant Still, and Anne Wilson.

Ms. Keller was recently appointed to the faculty of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance at the University of Michigan, leading a program focused on discipline, scholarship, and love for the instrument and its many possibilities and repertoire in all forms. She is dedicated to teaching and mentoring students to prepare for careers as performers, teachers, and church musicians as well as musicians who create new opportunities and identities for the modern organist.

GUEST ARTIST BIO (cont.)

Ms. Keller received the Performer's Certificate and the Master of Music Degree in Organ Performance and Literature at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York under the tutelage of David Higgs. While at Eastman, she studied continuo with Arthur Haas and improvisation with Gerre Hancock. She received the Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance from the Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music in Berea, Ohio, where she studied piano with George Cherry and Jean Stell and organ with Margaret Scharf.

Nicole Keller is represented in North American exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.

TEXT

A Quaker Reader, Ned Rorem

A Secret Power

When I came into the silent assemblies of God's people, I felt a secret power among them
which touched my heart, and as I gave way unto it, I found the evil
weakening in me and the
good raised up ... — Robed Barclay

The World of Silence

There must be a hush from the din of the world's noises before the soul can hear the inward
Voice; . . . a closing of the eyes to the glare and dazzle of the world's sights before the inward
eye can see that which is eternally Real..." — Rufus Jones

PRIVATE GIFTS play a vital role in our ability to maintain and enhance the quality of the programs we offer. Donations support student scholarships, fellowships, student travel and performance opportunities, instrument acquisitions, guest artists, outreach activities, operations, and other crucial areas that make the College of Music an exemplary place of learning.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2025-2026 SPONSORS

- Sam and Mary Austin Fund for New Music (Musique 21 concerts)
- Ken and Sandy Beall (Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival Series)
- James and Susan Bonfiglio (Symphony Orchestra, Oct. 26; Fall Opera)
- Jenny Chung and Family for Human Rights Fund (Rucker, Feb. 15)
- Joanne and Bill Church (West Circle Series)
- April Clobes and Glen Brough (USA at 250 Years)
- Trustee Emerita Dee Cook in memory of her husband Byron Cook (Four Seasons)
- Susan Davis (Spring Opera)
- Dean Transportation (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- Alena Fabian, M.D. (Votapek, Mar. 23; Khristenko, Mar. 30)
- John and Gretchen Forsyth (Wagner, Sept. 19)
- Barbara and Bill Given (Four Seasons; Alegría Navideña)
- Anonymous (Rucker, Feb. 15)
- Howard and Pam Gourwitz (Lulloff, Oct. 30)
- Kevin and Amy Guskiewicz (Alegría Navideña)
- Lauren Harris (Symphonic Dialogues; Celebrating the Spectrum)
- Anne Hiller (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- Stanley and Selma Hollander Endowment for Chamber Music (Gems for Cello)
- Eileen G. Houston (Wagner/Johnson/Wang, Sept. 19; Thompkins/Dease/Tang, Oct. 14; Trombone Ensemble, Nov. 8; Kanda, Nov. 18; Tuba/Euphonium, Jan. 28; Huiet, Feb. 24)
- Taylor Johnston Early Music Series Endowment established by Taylor Johnston (Taylor Johnston Early Music Series)
- Hari Kern and the late Ralph R. Edminster, M.D. (Votapek, Mar. 23)
- Michael and Paula Koppisch (Votapek Piano Festival, Aug. 15-17; Sherman/Zuber, Mar. 24)
- Lansing Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (Organist Nicole Keller, Sept. 14; Organist Peter Sykes, Mar. 22)
- Jill Canny and Robert Last (MSU Federal Credit Union Jazz Artist in Residence, A. Cohen, April 18; Jazz Spectacular Finale Concert)
- Eleanor H. and Harold E. Leichenko Opera Endowment established by Lauren Julius Harris (Fall and Spring Opera)
- Ann, John and Abby Lindley (Alegría Navideña)

- **Merritt Lutz** (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- **Joseph and Jeanne Maguire** (A Jazzy Little Christmas)
- **Pat and Mary McPharlin** (Jazz Infusion; Jazz: Spirituals Prayer and Protest)
- **Friends of Jay D. Meetz** (Fall Opera)
- **Dr. Roy and Christine Meland** (Four Seasons)
- **Gordon E. Miracle** (Four Seasons; Votapek, Mar. 23)
- **MSU Federal Credit Union** (Showcase Series; Spartan Spectacular; Celebrating the Spectrum; MSU Music on The Road in Detroit)
- **George Orban and Rae Ramsdell** (Jang/Moriarty, Feb. 8)
- **Liz and Tony Raduazo** (Pass a Good Time, Oct. 5)
- **Leonard and Sharon Tabaka** (Jazz Spectacular Finale Concert)
- **TechSmith** (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- **Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen** (Symphonic Dialogues; Four Seasons; Beethoven; Happy Birthday Mozart!; Yehuda/Warren, Jan. 29; Bagratuni, Mar. 16; and Bagratuni, Mar. 31)
- **Linn Van Dyne and Mike Knox** (Happy Birthday Mozart!)
- **Barbara E. Wagner** (Wagner Chamber Music Competition)
- **Anonymous** (Beacon Hill Music Series)
- **Richard Witter** (A Celebration of the Beautiful Voice)
- **WKAR** (Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series)
- **Worthington Family Foundation** (Opera Season)
- **Andrea L. Wulf** (Piano Monster)

SPONSORSHIPS AND RECOGNITION

Sponsorships are available at \$1,000, \$2,500, and \$5,000. Sponsors will receive recognition in the form of event publicity, promotions, programs, and through online recognition. For information about event sponsorships and giving to the college, please call (517) 353-9872 or e-mail music.giving@msu.edu.



UPCOMING EVENTS

9/17 Wednesday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

An Evening with Ricky Ian Gordon and Melanie Helton

Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. (\$)

9/19 Friday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

The Many Colors of the Horn - Corbin Wagner, horn

Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. (\$)

9/21 Sunday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

Beethoven, Part 5 – Young Hyun Cho, piano

Cook Recital Hall, 3:00 p.m. (\$)

9/22 Monday

Musique 21: A Sonic Journey

Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. (\$)

9/23 Tuesday

Symphony Band

Cobb Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. (\$)

9/25 Thursday

Wind Symphony

Cobb Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. (\$)

9/26 Friday

Symphony Orchestra: Passion, Power and Majesty

Cobb Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

9/28 Sunday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

Letters from the Front: From Rome to Dachau

Fairchild Theatre, 3:00 p.m. \$

TICKET PRICES

- \$ \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors (age 60 and older), Students with ID and anyone under age 18 are free but require a ticket for admission.
- \$\$ \$19 Adults, \$17 Seniors, \$9 Students with ID and anyone under age 18.
- \$\$\$ \$24 Adults, \$22 Seniors, \$14 Students and those under age 18.
Please note: All events scheduled in Murray Hall are general admission seating.