

MSU MUSIC

2025-2026 SEASON



BAND / CHAMBER MUSIC / CHOIR / EARLY MUSIC
JAZZ / NEW MUSIC / OPERA / ORCHESTRA

music.msu.edu/events



College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

WELCOME!



Welcome to the **2025–2026 Season** of the MSU College of Music, where we take great pride in presenting a diverse and inspiring series of performances. Our commitment to excellence in the musical arts shines through symphonic ensembles, chamber music recitals, jazz concerts, choral works, opera productions, and new contemporary creations. Each event highlights the artistry, discipline, and creativity of our students, faculty, and distinguished guests. We're proud to remain the best deal in town for high-quality live music.

This season also arrives at an exciting moment as the entire university joins together for Michigan State University's **"Uncommon Will. Far Better World."** campaign. The College of Music is undertaking bold efforts to expand access, foster innovation, and strengthen the future of music at MSU and the broader community, and we welcome all who value the arts to explore how financial support can help advance this mission. To learn more, visit music.msu.edu/giving.

Please join us throughout the season and experience music that uplifts and connects through its power, beauty, and creativity, presented in venues designed to bring you closer to the sound and spirit of every performance.

Sincerely,

JAMES B. FORGER | DEAN, COLLEGE OF MUSIC

MSU College of Music Season

2025-2026

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VENUES

MURRAY HALL
BILLMAN MUSIC PAVILION
MUSIC BUILDING
Capacity: 156
(130 main floor, 26 balcony)

HOLLANDER HALL
MUSIC BUILDING
Capacity: 91

ALUMNI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
RED CEDAR ORGAN
Capacity: 135

FAIRCHILD THEATRE
MSU AUDITORIUM
Capacity: 400

COOK RECITAL HALL
MUSIC BUILDING
Capacity: 180

WHARTON CENTER
COBB GREAT HALL
Capacity: 2,420

PASANT THEATRE
Capacity: 585



Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center for Performing Arts

MSU College of Music events are hosted in a variety of distinguished venues, each well suited to the scale and genre of the music performed. From large symphonic ensembles and fully staged operas to chamber music recitals, jazz, and choral concerts, MSU's acoustically engineered spaces are designed to immerse audiences into the music and create an intimate experience.



Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium

MSU Federal Credit Union showcase series

Experience a season of standout performances with the MSU Federal Credit Union Showcase Series. From contemporary chamber groups and holiday favorites to large ensemble collaborations, each concert highlights the breadth of musical offerings at MSU and beyond. Join us for programs that are diverse, engaging, and thoughtfully curated.



American Modern Ensemble

10/15 Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
American Modern Ensemble brings its signature energy and versatility to MSU, showcasing contemporary works with a focus on influential living composers. Based in New York City and co-founded by composer Robert Paterson and violinist Victoria Paterson, the ensemble is known for dynamic programming that explores a broad musical palette with instrumentation ranging from strings, winds, and percussion to piano and voice. Their inventive approach and bold repertoire offer a compelling window into the evolving landscape of modern classical music.

Symphony Orchestra and Choirs, “Alegria Navideña”

12/6 Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

COBB GREAT HALL, WHARTON CENTER \$\$\$
Celebrate the season with one of MSU's most treasured musical traditions. The Symphony Orchestra joins Choral Union, State Singers, and University Chorale for *Alegria Navideña* (Holiday Joy), a program highlighting the spirit of the season through music sung in Spanish. Featured works include *El Mesías* (Handel's *Messiah*, Part I) and Ariel Ramirez's *Navidad Nuestra*, rich with Latin American rhythms. Lee R. Kesselman's *Festival of Lights* offers a vibrant setting of English and Hebrew texts, and the evening concludes with a joyful audience sing-along. Conducted by Sandra Snow and Octavio Más-Arocas.

Generously sponsored by Kevin and Amy Guskiewicz, Barbara and Bill Given, and Ann, John, and Abby Lindley.

Annual holiday concert with MSU Symphony Orchestra and Choirs

*Tickets are only available through Wharton Center,
(517) 432-2000, (800) WHARTON, or whartoncenter.com*



A Jazzy Little Christmas

12/13 Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$\$
Get into the holiday groove with the MSU Professors of Jazz as they return for a festive evening filled with seasonal favorites reimagined through swing, soul, and classic jazz. Led by bassist and director Rodney Whitaker, this annual concert brings together the College of Music's exceptional jazz faculty for joyful arrangements, spontaneous improvisation, and high-spirited music with festive charm. Joining the lineup is celebrated jazz vocalist Carmen Bradford, whose warm, expressive voice adds sparkle to this can't-miss holiday tradition.

Generously sponsored by Joseph and Jeanne Maguire.

Newfound Chamber Winds

2/4 Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

COOK RECITAL HALL, MUSIC BUILDING \$\$
(RESERVED SEATING)
Known for their imaginative programming and commitment to new music, Newfound Chamber Winds brings a vibrant and forward-thinking energy to the stage. This modular wind ensemble performs in flexible groupings—from duos to full chamber configurations—creating space for inventive repertoire and compelling premieres. Their concerts highlight works by living composers and feature a range of styles and sonic textures, expanding the boundaries of traditional chamber winds. With a mission rooted in collaboration and innovation, Newfound offers audiences a bold and refreshing take on contemporary wind performance.

Newfound Chamber Winds



The entire Showcase Series is generously sponsored by the MSU Federal Credit Union.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS

\$ Gen Adm: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, free Students.
\$\$ Res: \$19 Adults, \$17 Seniors, \$9 Students.
\$\$\$ Res: \$24 Adults, \$22 Seniors, \$14 Students.
Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing;
Wharton \$3.50/seat + \$2-\$4/ticket online/phone.



MSU Professors of Jazz

Piano Monster: America 250!

5/3 Sunday, 3:00 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$\$
Celebrate 250 years of American spirit and iconic music as Piano Monster returns with its signature spectacle—four grand pianos and seven pianists in a powerful concert. This all-American program closes the Showcase Series with a wall of sound that honors the nation's rich musical legacy through a vibrant mix of genres and patriotic flair. Expect bold arrangements, celebratory energy, and a sonic tribute worthy of this historic milestone.

Generously sponsored by Andrea L. Wulf.



Joanne and Bill Church west circle series

The Joanne and Bill Church West Circle Series presents intimately scaled concerts in Fairchild Theatre that celebrate composers and their timeless works. From Vivaldi's vivid *Four Seasons* to chamber tributes to Beethoven and American composers, each program highlights a variety of MSU's artist-faculty. The season also includes the beloved *Happy Birthday, Mozart!*, an annual tradition that brings fresh surprises year after year.



Four Seasons

11/3 Monday, 7:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons* comes to life in this performance of one of classical music's most iconic works, from the freshness of "Spring" to the chill of "Winter." Violinist Dmitri Berlinsky leads the International Chamber Soloists, a dynamic string ensemble of MSU students from across the globe, bringing brilliance and expressive flair to this timeless masterpiece.

Generously sponsored by Trustee Emerita Dee Cook in memory of her husband Byron Cook, Barbara and Bill Given, Dr. Roy and Christine Meland, Gordon E. Miracle, and Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen.

Beethoven!

12/1 Monday, 7:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Celebrate one of the world's greatest composers—whose life was marked by personal struggles and profound deafness—with an evening of chamber music that reflects the expressive and emotional depth of his revolutionary music.

Generously sponsored by Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen.

Happy Birthday, Mozart!

1/26 Monday, 7:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Celebrate Mozart's 270th birthday with a joyful evening of music featuring some of his most beloved works. The annual tradition concludes with birthday cookies—because no Mozart celebration is complete without a sweet finish.

Generously sponsored by Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen, and Linn Van Dyne and Mike Knox.

USA at 250 years

4/13 Monday, 7:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Celebrate 250 years of American independence with a concert featuring U.S. composers who helped shape the country's cultural identity through creativity, innovation, and a bold spirit of expression.

Generously sponsored by April Clobes and Glen Brough.

The entire West Circle Series is generously sponsored by Joanne and Bill Church.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS

\$\$ Res: \$19 Adults, \$17 Seniors, \$9 Students.
Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing.

Ken and Sandy Beall cello plus chamber music festival

The Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival, directed by MSU cellist Suren Bagratuni, has been a proud tradition for more than 20 years. This three-concert series offers a dynamic mix of repertoire, from symphonic dialogues and jazz-infused explorations to the unique resonance of all-cello ensembles. Experience engaging performances that highlight the expressive power and versatility of chamber music.

Symphonic Dialogues

10/6 Monday, 7:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Joseph Haydn's vibrant *Sinfonia Concertante*, is a progressive work that blends symphonic elegance with the intimacy of a concerto. This rarely performed piece includes solo parts with each instrument in playful conversation with the orchestra. The program also includes additional chamber works highlighting the ensemble's expressive range. Guest conductor and MSU alumnus Tigran Shiganyan leads Camerata Michigan, a student ensemble, joined by MSU soloists Yvonne Lam (violin), Deborah Moriarty (piano), Suren Bagratuni (cello), Michael Kroth (bassoon), and Nermis Mieses (oboe).

Generously sponsored by Lauren Harris, and Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen.

Jazz Infusion

10/8 Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Grammy-winning pianist Taylor Eigsti joins MSU jazz bassist Rodney Whitaker and a unique lineup of instrumental guests for a genre-blending concert that reimagines chamber music through the lens of jazz. Fusing improvisation with rhythm and harmony at its core, this inventive program offers a fresh perspective on classical traditions.

Generously sponsored by Pat and Mary McPharlin.

Taylor Eigsti



Rodney Whitaker



Tigran Shiganyan



Suren Bagratuni



Gems for Cellos

10/10 Friday, 7:30 p.m.

COOK RECITAL HALL, MUSIC BUILDING \$\$
(RESERVED SEATING)

Experience the rich, resonant sounds of strings as only an all-cello ensemble can deliver. Led by MSU cellist Suren Bagratuni and featuring a wide-ranging program that highlights the instrument's expressive versatility, this concert showcases the cello's lyrical warmth, rhythmic energy, and surprising range across a variety of works.

Generously sponsored by Stanley and Selma Hollander Endowment for Chamber Music.

The entire Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival is generously sponsored by Ken and Sandy Beall.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS

\$\$ Res: \$19 Adults, \$17 Seniors, \$9 Students.
Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing.

Taylor Johnston early music series

This season of early music celebrates Europe's rich musical landscape with three vibrant programs steeped in the history and creativity that defined eras: The dramatic flair of the Neapolitan Baroque, bold reimaginings of Bach, and the majestic resonance of brass echoing the sounds of Venice's St. Mark's Basilica. Each concert offers a fresh perspective on the expressive power and diverse beauty of early music.



L'Invenzione *In the Shadow of Vesuvius*

9/30 Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Experience the vibrant musical world of 17th- and 18th-century Naples with L'Invenzione in a program that captures the drama and brilliance of the Neapolitan Baroque. Considered the musical capital of Europe at that time, Naples was a thriving hub of creativity where composers flourished under the ever-present gaze of Mount Vesuvius. This concert features recorder concertos and trio sonatas for strings by Alessandro Scarlatti and his contemporaries, offering an evocative journey into a world of dramatic musical contrasts that mirror the geographical and geopolitical backdrop of Naples itself.

Emi Ferguson and Ruckus *Fly the Coop*

10/28 Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Award-winning flutist Emi Ferguson joins forces with the boundary-pushing ensemble Ruckus—described as “the world's only period-instrument rock band”—to present *Fly the Coop*, a joyous, kaleidoscopic romp through some of Bach's most lively and transcendent works. The program features new arrangements of Bach's Flute Sonatas and Keyboard Preludes, orchestrated for baroque flute and the forces of Ruckus that include a vibrant mix of theorbos, baroque guitars, baroque bassoon, cello, viola da gamba, harpsichord, organ, bass, and the occasional banjo. The result is a colorful and joyful reimagining of Bach that's as playful as it is profound.



Dark Horse Consort *The Sounds of St. Mark's*

1/13 Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$
Named for the iconic bronze horses atop Venice's St. Mark's Basilica, the Dark Horse Consort brings to life the glorious brass traditions of the late Renaissance and early Baroque. This acclaimed ensemble recreates the inspiring musical atmosphere of 16th- and 17th-century Europe with a program of majestic canzoni for multiple choirs by Giovanni Gabrieli and Giovanni Picchi, alongside stunningly virtuosic sonatas by Dario Castello. Inspired by the rapturous kaleidoscope of sound for which St. Mark's was famous, this concert evokes the splendor and innovation of sacred music-making in churches of the time.



The entire Early Music Series is generously sponsored by the Taylor Johnston Early Music Series Endowment established by Taylor Johnston.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS
\$\$\$ Res: \$19 Adults, \$17 Seniors, \$9 Students.
Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing.

Worthington Family Foundation opera theatre season

This season, MSU Opera Theatre presents the sweeping American drama *The Grapes of Wrath*, a mid-season gala of arias and scenes in *A Celebration of the Beautiful Voice*, and a spring pairing of comic brilliance with Rossini's *La Cimbale di Matrimonio* and Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. All opera productions feature the MSU Symphony Orchestra performing in the pit.



FALL: The Grapes of Wrath **Music, Ricky Ian Gordon** **Libretto, Michael Korie**

11/19 Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
11/21 Friday, 7:00 p.m.
11/22 Saturday, 7:00 p.m.
11/23 Sunday, 3:00 p.m.
FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$\$
CONDUCTOR: Octavio Más-Arocas
STAGE DIRECTOR: Melanie Helton
SET DESIGNER: DJ Selmeyer
LIGHT DESIGNER: Brent Wrobel

Presenting the university premiere of *The Grapes of Wrath*, the sweeping American opera based on John Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. With music by celebrated composer Ricky Ian Gordon and libretto by Michael Korie, the opera follows the Joad family's westward journey from Dust Bowl Oklahoma in search of a better life. Powerful and deeply human, the story explores themes of resilience, loss, and hope. Considered an “American Masterpiece,” composer Ricky Ian Gordon's lyrical score captures the emotional landscape of a family struggling to survive. Gordon will be in residence and join Director Melanie Helton for preview lectures held 45 minutes before each performance. Sung in English with English surtitles.

Generously sponsored by James and Susan Bonfiglio, Friends of Jay D. Meetz, and the Eleanor H. and Harold E. Leichenko Opera Endowment established by Lauren Julius Harris.

A Celebration of the Beautiful Voice

1/24 Saturday, 3:00 p.m.
FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$\$
Experience the expressive power of opera in this annual gala event. Graduate students from the MSU Vocal Arts Program take the stage to perform arias and scenes from beloved operatic repertoire—ranging from timeless classics to modern masterpieces.

Generously sponsored by Richard Witter.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS
\$\$\$ Res: \$24 Adults, \$22 Seniors, \$14 Students.
Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing.

SPRING: Rossini and Puccini, **Operas of Comedy and Consequence** **La Cimbale di Matrimonio and Suor Angelica**

3/25 Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
3/27 Friday, 7:00 p.m.
3/28 Saturday, 7:00 p.m.
3/29 Sunday, 3:00 p.m.
FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM \$\$\$
CONDUCTOR: Katherine Kilburn
STAGE DIRECTOR: Melanie Helton
SET DESIGNER: Ranae Selmayer
LIGHT DESIGNER: Brent Wrobel

This spring's double bill pairs two contrasting one-act operas that explore themes of familial obligation and personal sacrifice. Rossini's *La Cimbale di Matrimonio* (The Marriage Contract) is a fast-moving farce about an arranged marriage gone awry, featuring spirited ensembles and the youthful energy of Rossini's earliest operatic style. Puccini's *Suor Angelica*, part of his *Il trittico* trilogy, tells the poignant story of a noblewoman forced into a convent, whose encounter with her estranged aunt leads to a heartrending climax. Sung in Italian with English surtitles, these one-act operas offer a night of contrasting emotions, memorable characters, and compelling scores. Join the opera's director, Melanie Helton, for preview lectures held 45 minutes before each performance.

Generously sponsored by the Eleanor H. and Harold E. Leichenko Opera Endowment established by Lauren Julius Harris, and Susan Davis.

The entire MSU Opera Theatre Season is generously sponsored by the Worthington Family Foundation.



JAZZ

For 25 years, MSU's Jazz Studies program has blended tradition with innovation, led by renowned faculty who perform, compose, and mentor. With top competition placements and a strong record of alumni success, the program offers vibrant student experiences and a dynamic season of public concerts featuring faculty, students, and world-class guest artists.

9/12 Friday Swing Dance

7:30 p.m. Large Rehearsal Hall, Music Building \$
The MSU Jazz Orchestras kick off the season with a night built for the dance floor. Join us for this high-energy concert as ensembles bring timeless swing and big band classics to life. Audience dancing is encouraged!

10/12 Sunday

Jazz Orchestras with Sean Jones, jazz trumpet

MSUFCU JAZZ ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

3:00 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$\$
Sean Jones is a leading voice in jazz trumpet, celebrated for his soaring sound, commanding technique, and deeply expressive style. A former lead trumpeter with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and a passionate educator, he bridges the jazz tradition with innovative performance.



Sean Jones

11/7 Friday

Jazz Nonets with Salim Washington, jazz saxophone

7:30 p.m. Murray Hall, Music Building \$
Four nine-piece ensembles take the stage with guest artist Salim Washington—saxophonist, composer, and scholar known for blending jazz with African diasporic traditions—adding a powerful voice to this dynamic program.

12/7 Sunday

Jazz Orchestras René with Marie, jazz voice

MSUFCU JAZZ ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

3:00 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$\$
René Marie is a GRAMMY-nominated jazz vocalist celebrated for her bold artistry, emotional depth, and genre-defying style. Blending jazz traditions with elements of soul, blues, and folk, she brings powerful storytelling and dynamic presence to every performance.



Salim Washington



René Marie

1/18 Sunday

Jazz: Spirituals, Prayer and Protest Concert

3:00 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium, free (ticket required)

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy, this powerful annual concert blends music and message through the lens of jazz. Featuring the MSU Jazz Orchestras and jazz vocalist Carmen Bradford, joined by MSU jazz voice students, the performance offers a stirring tribute through spirituals, reflective works, and bold expressions of hope and justice. *Generously sponsored by Pat and Mary McPharlin.*

2/13 Friday

Jazz Nonets with Jeff Haas, jazz piano

7:30 p.m. Murray Hall, Music Building \$
Four nine-piece ensembles bring the energy of big band and the nuance of small-group jazz to the stage. Guest pianist Jeff Haas—a Detroit-raised musician known for his soulful playing and deep roots in jazz performance and education—joins this powerful program.



Jeff Haas

3/15 Sunday

Jazz Orchestras with Harvey Mason, jazz drums

MSUFCU JAZZ ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

3:00 p.m. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center \$\$ (General admission seating)

Legendary drummer Harvey Mason returns to MSU for the first time since his 2017 residency. Known for his genre-defining work with Herbie Hancock's Head Hunters and countless jazz, funk, and fusion icons, Mason brings decades of innovation and groove to the stage in this powerful concert with the MSU Jazz Orchestras.



Harvey Mason

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS

\$ Gen Adm: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, free Students.

\$\$ Res: \$19 Adults, \$17 Seniors, \$9 Students.

Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing;

Wharton \$3.50/seat + \$2-\$4/ticket online/phone.

Jazz Spectacular Series

4/16 Thursday

Jazz Nonets

7:30 p.m. Murray Hall, Music Building \$

Four nine-piece ensembles bring big band and small-group jazz together with inventive arrangements and bold improvisation, adding a distinctive voice to the Jazz Spectacular Series.

4/17 Friday

Swing Dance

7:30 p.m. Large Rehearsal Hall, Music Building \$

Get on your feet for this high-energy night of swing! MSU Jazz Orchestras deliver timeless charts and toe-tapping rhythms from jazz's greatest composers.

4/18 Saturday

Jazz at Lincoln Center: Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Regional Competition

8:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m. Murray Hall, Music Bldg. free

Top high school bands from across the region gather for a full day of performance and competition. Students present works by Duke Ellington and other legends before a panel of Jazz at Lincoln Center clinicians and professional jazz artists.

4/18 Saturday

Jazz Spectacular Finale Concert with Anat Cohen

MSUFCU JAZZ ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$\$\$

Internationally acclaimed clarinetist and saxophonist Anat Cohen—celebrated for her charismatic stage presence, distinctive style, and mastery of the jazz tradition—headlines this series finale. The concert also features MSU Jazz Orchestra I, the Professors of Jazz, and the Outstanding High School Jazz Band of the Day, capping off a week of jazz excellence with energy, artistry, and collaboration.

Generously sponsored by Jill Canny and Robert Last, and Leonard and Sharon Tabaka.

Reserved seating: \$27 for adults; \$22 for seniors; \$17 for students; tickets available from College of Music box office, (517) 353-5340, online at music.msu.edu, or at the door. Add a \$1.50 convenience fee for all tickets ordered online or over the phone.



Anat Cohen



ORCHESTRAS

MSU orchestras present eleven concerts in the Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall, plus perform for two fully staged operas in Fairchild Theatre. The MSU Symphony Orchestra offers seven major performances, including a holiday collaboration with choral ensembles, while the MSU Concert Orchestra adds four more thematic concerts. The season spans classical masterworks to contemporary pieces, including the "Fanfare" performance series highlighting premieres by emerging MSU composers.

9/26 Friday

Symphony Orchestra, "Passion, Power, and Majesty"

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

The MSU Symphony Orchestra opens the season with two masterworks of emotional depth and orchestral grandeur. The program features Sibelius's dramatic *Violin Concerto in D Minor, Op. 47*, with student soloist Runqi Weng, winner of the 2024–25 Honors Concerto Competition. Also included is Saint-Saëns' radiant *Symphony No. 3 "Organ,"* a majestic work that unites orchestra and organ in a powerful finale. There will also be a Sam and Mary Austin Fanfare by an MSU student composer. Octavio Más-Arocas, conductor.

10/9 Thursday

Concert Orchestra, "Symphonic Dances"

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

Presenting a dynamic program celebrating rhythm, motion, and musical traditions from around the world. Works include *Symphonic Dances* by Sergei Rachmaninov, *Romanian Folk Dances* by Béla Bartók, music from *Swan Lake* by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, *Hoedown* from *Rodeo* by Aaron Copland, and *Danzón No. 2* by Arturo Márquez. The program also features *Gershwin by George!* arranged by Jerry Brubaker, and *Pavane* from *Symphonette No. 2* by Morton Gould. Conducted by Katherine Kilburn, joined by conductors Zongheng Zhang and Dan Jaggars.

10/26 Sunday

Symphony Orchestra, "Lift up Thine Ears"

3:00 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$

The MSU Symphony Orchestra presents a powerful program spanning centuries and styles. Highlights include Dvořák's expressive *Cello Concerto in B Minor, Op. 104*, featuring acclaimed MSU cellist Suren Bagratuni, and *Lift up Thine Ears* by guest composer Michael Daugherty, known for his rhythmically charged works inspired by American culture. The concert also features a new Sam and Mary Austin Fanfare by an MSU College of Music student composer. Octavio Más-Arocas, conductor. *Generously sponsored by James and Susan Bonfiglio.*



Michael Daugherty

11/18 Tuesday

Symphony Orchestra, "A Dance of Sound and Elegance"

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

The MSU Symphony Orchestra presents an evening of elegance and flair, from lyrical classics to bold contemporary voices. The program includes Quinn Mason's *Serenade for Strings*, a lush work by one of America's rising composers, and Mozart's *Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K. 622*, featuring MSU clarinetist Mingzhe Wang. The concert concludes with de Falla's vibrant *Suite No. 1* from *The Three-Cornered Hat*. Also featured is a Sam and Mary Austin Fanfare by an MSU student composer. Katherine Kilburn, conductor.

11/24 Monday

Concert Orchestra, "Night at the Movies"

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

The silver screen highlights this concert with a cinematic evening of iconic film music. The program features Bernard Herrmann's *Prelude* from *Psycho*, music from *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* by John Williams, *How to Train Your Dragon* by John Powell (arr. Sean O'Loughlin), *Pirates of the Caribbean* by Klaus Badelt (arr. Ted Ricketts), a *James Bond Medley* by Monty Norman (arr. Victor López), Joe Hisaishi's *Kiki's Delivery Service*, and Ennio Morricone's *Cinema Paradiso* (arr. Robert Longfield). Conducted by Katherine Kilburn, joined by conductors Zongheng Zhang and Dan Jaggars.

12/6 Saturday

Symphony Orchestra and Choirs, "Alegría Navideña"

MSUFCU SHOWCASE SERIES

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

Celebrate the season with Alegría Navideña (Holiday Joy)—a festive program uniting orchestra and choirs in Spanish-language works *El Mesías* and *Navidad Nuestra*, plus a joyful audience sing-along in English and other spirited performances. *See event details under the MSUFCU Showcase Series on page 4.*

2/6 Friday

Symphony Orchestra, "Holst's The Planets"

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

The MSU Symphony Orchestra presents a program that spans the intimate and the cosmic. Gala Flagello's *Everything Beautiful* offers a poignant meditation on beauty through rich textures and emotional depth. Gustav Holst's *The Planets* follows, an iconic suite exploring the drama and mystery of the cosmos—from the force of *Mars, the Bringer of War* to the shimmer of *Neptune, the Mystic*. Also included is a Sam and Mary Austin Fanfare by an MSU student composer. Octavio Más-Arocas, conductor.

2/26 Thursday

Concert Orchestra, "Spotlight and Spirit"

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

This concert shines a spotlight on the winner of the annual Honors Concerto Competition—featured in a solo work to be announced—alongside music that celebrates culture and the expressive power of music. The program includes *Vitality* by Gala Flagello, Florence Price's *Adoration* (arr. Thomas Taylor Dickey), and William Grant Still's groundbreaking *Afro-American Symphony*. Conducted by Katherine Kilburn, joined by conductors Zongheng Zhang and Dan Jaggars.

3/20 Friday

Symphony Orchestra's Honors Concert

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

Celebrate the rising stars of the MSU College of Music as winners of the annual Honors Concerto Competition, held Sunday, January 25, take center stage with the MSU Symphony Orchestra. This inspiring evening showcases outstanding student soloists in a program to be announced after winners are selected, offering a dynamic range of repertoire and a glimpse into the future of classical performance. An additional work will include a Sam and Mary Austin Fanfare selection composed by an MSU College of Music student. Octavio Más-Arocas, conductor.

4/16 Thursday

Concert Orchestra, "Making Herstory"

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

Making Herstory presents a powerful program that features music about women and written by women composers. The evening includes *Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman No. 6* by Joan Tower, curated movements from *Montgomery Variations* by Margaret Bonds, and *Battle for the Ballot* by Stacy Garrop, alongside a premiere by an MSU student composer—winner of the *Jere Hutcheson Composition Competition*. Conducted by Katherine Kilburn, joined by conductors Zongheng Zhang and Dan Jaggars.

4/23 Thursday

Symphony Orchestra, "Rhythms in Motion: A Celebration of Dance"

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

The MSU Symphony Orchestra closes the season with a high-energy program of dance-inspired music from around the world. Highlights include Strauss's elegant *Der Rosenkavalier Suite*, Juan Pablo Contreras's vibrant *Mariachitlán*, Carlos Simon's jazz-infused *Hellfighters' Blues*, and Ravel's hypnotic *Boléro*. Also included is a Sam and Mary Austin Fanfare composed by an MSU College of Music student. Join us for a season finale where rhythm and movement ignite orchestral brilliance. Octavio Más-Arocas, conductor.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS

\$ Gen Adm: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, free Students.

\$\$\$ Res: \$24 Adults, \$22 Seniors, \$14 Students.

Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing;

Wharton \$3.50/seat + \$2–\$4/ticket online/phone.



MSU Bands present a wide range of wind ensemble performances, from chamber works to full band repertoire, with a focus on underrepresented composers. Sixteen events take place in Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall, including performances by the Wind Symphony, Symphony Band, Concert Band, Campus Band, Spartan Youth Wind Symphony, and a special collaboration with MSU Choirs.

**9/23 Tuesday
Symphony Band**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center
The program includes *Mavericks* by Paul Dooley, *Komorebi* by MSU Alumnus Emmet Lewis, *Colonial Song* by Percy Grainger, and *Symphony No. 3 “Slavyanskaya”* by Boris Kozhevnikov. David Thornton, conductor.

**9/25 Thursday
Wind Symphony**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center
The program includes *Street Song* by Michael Tilson Thomas, *Puzzle Box* by Nick Bentz, *Hymn to a Blue Hour* by John Mackey, *Mariachitlán* by Juan Pablo Contreras, and *La Chancla* by Dennis Llinás. Kevin L. Sedatole, conductor.

**10/22 Wednesday
Concert Band and Campus Band**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center
The program includes *Iridessi* by MSU student composer Katahj Copley, *Valdres* by Johannes Hanssen, *Unquiet Hours* by David Biedenbender, and *Scenes from “The Louvre”* by Norman Dello Joio. Arris Golden, Concert Band conductor.

**10/24 Friday
Symphony Band and Wind Symphony**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center
Guest composer Michael Daugherty joins the MSU Bands concert for a program showcasing his works *Lost Vegas*, *Reflections on the Mississippi* featuring MSU tubist Chance Huiet, and *Fifteen: Symphonic Fantasy on the Art of Andy Warhol*. The concert also includes *Fugue à la Gigue* by J.S. Bach, (arr. Holst) and *Hammersmith* by Gustav Holst. David Thornton and Kevin L. Sedatole, conductors.

**11/2 Sunday
Spartan Spectacular**

3:00 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center
An MSU Bands tradition since 1971, Spartan Spectacular brings together the MSU Symphony Band and Spartan Marching Band for a high-energy, surround-sound experience. The program also features the MSU Drumline, Twirlers, Color Guard, and special performances by College of Music faculty and student groups—offering something for the entire family.
Generously sponsored by the MSU Federal Credit Union.

Tickets go on sale to the public Oct. 2. Orchestra level \$17, grand tier \$14, group seating \$12 (either level). (Wharton Center only, ticketing fees: \$3.50/seat plus \$2–\$4/ticket for online or phone orders. See page 30 for details about ticketing and fees.)

**11/23 Sunday
Spartan Youth Wind Symphony and Wind Symphony**

3:00 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
The Spartan Youth Wind Symphony performs *Zing* by Scott McAllister, *Ensueño* by Joaquín Turina (arr. van der Beek), *Phoenix Rekindled* by Grace Baugher Dunlap, *Sol y Sombra* by George Gates, and *Minor Alterations* by David Lovrien. The Wind Symphony follows with *Brilliant Brushstrokes* by Ryan Lindveit, *Scherzo alla marcia* from *Symphony No. 8* by Vaughan Williams, and *Music for Prague, 1968* by Karel Husa. Dana Sedatole and Kevin L. Sedatole, conductors

**11/25 Tuesday
Symphony Band**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
The program includes *Urban Light* by James David, *This Night* by David Biedenbender, *Suite Française* by Darius Milhaud, and *The Frozen Cathedral* by John Mackey. David Thornton, conductor.

**12/4 Thursday
Concert Band and Campus Band**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
The program includes *Canzona* by Peter Mennin, *Over the Moon* by Frank Ticheli, *Wayfaring Stranger* (arr. M. Nelson) and *A Hornet’s Nest* by MSU Alumnus Henry Dorn, and *Riders for the Flag* by John Philip Sousa. Arris Golden, Concert Band conductor.

**2/3 Tuesday
Symphony Band**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
Symphony Band presents a program featuring *Marche Hongroise* from *The Damnation of Faust* (arr. Gotoh) by Hector Berlioz, the world premiere of *Express* by Maxwell Kowal, runner-up in the 2025 *Jere Hutcheson Composition Contes*, and *Trittico* by Václav Nelhýbel. David Thornton, conductor.



Newfound Winds

**2/5 Thursday
Wind Symphony**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center
The MSU Wind Symphony welcomes guest conductor Tyler Austin and guest ensemble Newfound Winds for a dynamic evening of music. The program includes *Incandescence* by Craig Adams, *The Bird-While* by Gala Flagello featuring Newfound Winds, *Buckaroo Holiday* from *Rodeo* by Aaron Copland (arr. Megan), and the world premiere of *Lenguaje*, *Symphony No. 1* by MSU Alumnus Frank Duarte—winner of the 2025 *Jere Hutcheson Composition Contest*. Tyler Austin, guest conductor.



Tyler Austin

**2/25 Wednesday
Concert Band and Campus Band**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
The concert’s program features *Children’s March* by Percy Grainger, *Of Endless Miles and Empty Rafts* by Michele Fernández, the world premiere of *Hymn to the Red Cedar* by MSU student composer Carlos LaLonde, and *Divertimento* for Winds and Percussion by Roger Cichy. Arris Golden, Concert Band conductor.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS
\$ Gen Adm: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, free Students.
Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing;
Wharton \$3.50/seat + \$2–\$4/ticket online/phone.

**3/17 Tuesday
Symphony Band**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
A varied program of dynamic works includes *Pegasus Fanfare* from *The Sleeping Spirit* by John Gibson, *Starry Ocean* by Shuying Li, *Anahita* by Roshanne Etezady, *Hands Across the Sea* by John Philip Sousa, and *The Wild Goose* by Ryan George. David Thornton, conductor.

**3/19 Thursday
Wind Symphony**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
MSU composer Zhou Tian presents the world premiere of his *Concerto for Saxophone*, featuring acclaimed MSU saxophonist Joseph Lulloff. The program also includes Paul Hindemith’s *Konzertmusik für Blasorchester, Op. 41* and *Symphony No. 8* by David Maslanka. Kevin L. Sedatole, conductor.

**4/22 Wednesday
Concert Band and Campus Band**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
The program features *Tuttarana* by Reena Esmail, *Second Suite in F* by Gustav Holst, *Resting in the Peace of His Hands* by John Gibson, *Fallingwater at Twilight* by James David, and *His Honor* by Henry Fillmore. Arris Golden, Concert Band conductor.

**4/25 Saturday
MSU Choirs with Wind Symphony**

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
The MSU Wind Symphony joins forces with the Choral Union, State Singers, and University Chorale for a powerful concert centered on the music of acclaimed guest composer Jake Runestad, known for his emotionally charged and socially resonant choral works. Featured selections include *Proud Music of the Storm* and *A Silence Haunts Me*, alongside additional pieces by Runestad and a work by MSU composer David Biedenbender. Kevin L. Sedatole, Sandra Snow, and Derrick Fox, conductors.

**4/26 Sunday
Spartan Youth Wind Symphony and Symphony Band**

3:00 Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$
Presenting a dynamic afternoon of music that highlights the versatility and spirit of wind ensemble repertoire. The program includes multiple works by Leonard Bernstein, including *Slava!* (transcr. Grundman), *Profonation* from *Symphony No. 1* (arr. Benciscutto), and *BSO Forever* from *Divertimento* (transcr. Grundman). Additional selections include *Fanfare Esprit* by Carol Brittin Chambers, *Hymn to the Infinite Sky* by Satoshi Yagisawa, *Resound*, and *Sunflower Studies* by MSU alumnus Nicole Piunno, *The National Game* by John Philip Sousa, and *As the Scent of Spring Rain* by Jonathan Newman. Dana Sedatole and David Thornton, conductors.



CHOIRS

MSU presents eight choral ensembles featuring MSU's top vocalists along with singers from across campus and the community that perform with depth, variety, and scale. Spanning major choral-orchestral works, chamber repertoire, and contemporary pieces, each ensemble reflects the richness and diversity of choral traditions. Our premier auditioned groups showcase music majors, while other ensembles bring together gifted singers from throughout the university and greater Lansing community.



10/4 Saturday Lansing Symphony Orchestra with MSU Choirs, "The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci"

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center
Presented by the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, this immersive multimedia concert showcases choirs from MSU. Featuring the University Chorale and State Singers, the program includes *The Notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci* by Jocelyn Hagen—a groundbreaking work that blends choir, orchestra, and synchronized video to bring da Vinci's ideas to life. The concert also features Holst's *The Planets*, performed by MSU's Mosaic choral ensemble with the LSO. **Tickets are only available through the LSO at lansingsymphony.org**

11/1 Saturday State Singers and University Chorale

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
State Singers presents a tapestry of choral music signifying "Many Threads, One Voice," exploring how personal truths unite through collective song. University Chorale complements the program with *Dixit Dominus* by Marianna von Martines—an 18th-century master of counterpoint—alongside Renaissance works by Maddalena Casulana and Orlando di Lasso, and modern selections by Ivo Antognini and Margaret Bonds. Derrick Fox and Sandra Snow, conductors.

12/2 Tuesday Viridis and Campus Choir

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
Viridis presents musical storytelling with treble voices, exploring themes of childhood and imagination through works by Ko Matsushita and Kevin T. Padworski, alongside Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* and Daniel E. Gawthrop's *Tuffer and the Gruffs*. Campus Choir shares a vibrant selection of global choral works, from Johann Michael Haydn's *Laetatus Sum* and Iraqi and Latvian folk arrangements by Shireen Abu-Khader and Jānis Ozols to film music by Rebecca Dale and Brandon Waddles' gospel setting of *Look and Live*. Mariana Romero Serra and Michael Huey-Jones, conductors.

12/3 Wednesday Mosaic and Singing Spartans

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
The Singing Spartans draw inspiration from Spartan Athletics' "Strength in Numbers," presenting music that celebrates community, resilience, and solidarity. Mosaic offers a program for soprano and alto voices shaped by the phrase "She fills my heart with song," exploring the emotional depth of music spanning works written by women in 17th-century Italian convents to those by contemporary composers. Together, the two ensembles highlight the power of song to comfort, uplift, and unite. Meredith Bowen and Stuart Chapman Hill, conductors.

12/6 Saturday Symphony Orchestra and Choirs, "Alegria Navideña"

MSUFCU SHOWCASE SERIES

7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center \$\$\$
Celebrate the season with Alegria Navideña (Holiday Joy)—a festive program uniting orchestra and choirs in Spanish-language works *El Mesías* and *Navidad Nuestra*, plus a joyful audience sing-along in English and other spirited performances. *See event details under the MSUFCU Showcase Series on page 4.*

4/2 Thursday Viridis and Campus Choir

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
Viridis opens the program with contemporary repertoire celebrating global cultures, featuring music from Bulgaria, Armenia, and beyond. Campus Choir follows with a program centered on the choral octavo, with Gwyneth Walker's *An Hour to Dance*—set to poetry by Virginia Hamilton Adair—serving as the musical and poetic focal point. Mariana Romero Serra and Michael Huey-Jones, conductors.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS

\$ Gen Adm: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, free Students.
\$\$\$ Res: \$24 Adults, \$22 Seniors, \$14 Students.
Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing;
Wharton \$3.50/seat + \$2-\$4/ticket online/phone.

4/7 Tuesday Mosaic and Singing Spartans

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
In recognition of the upcoming 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the Singing Spartans present music reflecting on how the ideals of freedom and "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" resonate across identities and in today's world. Mosaic offers a program for soprano and alto voices centered on Isabella Leonarda's *Domine, ad adiuvandum me festina*—"Lord, make haste to help me"—and explores how composers across time have used music to express urgency, hope, and resilience. Meredith Bowen and Stuart Chapman Hill, conductors.

4/17 Friday State Singers and University Chorale

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
State Singers offers a tapestry of choral music reflecting "Many Threads, One Voice," exploring how personal truths come together through collective song. University Chorale presents a program centered on Jewish musical traditions, featuring works by Salamone Rossi, Fanny Hensel, Lee Kesselman, and Roxanna Panufnik. The concert concludes with Alex Berko's *Sacred Place*, a meditation on Jewish ecology, spirituality, and community. Derrick Fox and Sandra Snow, conductors.

4/25 Saturday MSU Choirs with Wind Symphony

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

The MSU Wind Symphony joins forces with the Choral Union, State Singers, and University Chorale for a powerful concert centered on the music of acclaimed guest composer Jake Runestad, known for his emotionally charged and socially resonant choral works. Featured selections include *Proud Music of the Storm* and *A Silence Haunts Me*, alongside additional pieces by Runestad, a work by MSU composer David

Biedenbender, and *Duende: Four Preludes for Symphonic Wind Ensemble* by Luis Serrano Alarcón. Kevin L. Sedatole, Sandra Snow, and Derrick Fox, conductors.



Jake Runestad





MUSIQUE 21

Using a variety of theatrical techniques including film, lighting, and movement, Musique 21 features flexible instrumentation and focuses on new works for a truly unique experience.

9/22 Monday

Musique 21, “A Sonic Journey”

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$

This bold and captivating concert features five contemporary works that explore rhythm, texture, and emotion in strikingly different ways. The program includes pieces by Anna Clyne, Nico Muhly, Annie Hui-Hsin Hsieh, Sarah Kirkland Snider, and Julia Wolfe—composers known for their inventive styles and evocative worlds of sound. This evening promises a vibrant journey through today’s musical landscape. Octavio Más-Arocas, conductor.

10/27 Monday

Musique 21

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theater, MSU Auditorium \$

Known for his imaginative music drawing on American themes and culture, guest composer Michael Daugherty is featured in a program that includes his works *Firecracker* and *Steamboat*. Additional pieces include *Dani’s Dance* by Paul Dooley and *Migration* by Shuying Li, offering an evening of varied contemporary styles and marking the culmination of Daugherty’s residency at MSU—highlighting his music and that of two former students, Dooley and Li. Kevin L. Sedatole, conductor.

2/2 Monday

Musique 21

7:30 p.m. Murray Hall, Music Building \$

This program explores dynamic new works and adventurous sounds from the 21st century, featuring unique instrumentation and distinct creativity. Repertoire includes *Kairos* by MSU composer David Biedenbender, *Providence* by Gleb Kanasevich (world premiere), and *KIPU* by Daniel Cueto. Yuji Jones, conductor.

4/20 Monday

Musique 21, “From Darkness to Light”

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theater, MSU Auditorium \$

Featuring six contemporary works that explore transformation, tension, and reflection. At the center is a new song cycle by MSU composer David Biedenbender for tenor, violin, cello, and percussion—an introspective and visceral work rooted in poetic narrative. The program also includes pieces by Raven Chacon, Mary Kouyoumdjian, Alan Shockley, Đuro Živković, and David Lang—works that traverse ritual, disquiet, and unexpected rhythmic energy. Conducted by Katherine Kilburn, joined by conductors Zongheng Zhang and Dan Jaggars.

All Musique 21 concerts are generously sponsored by the Sam and Mary Austin Fund for New Music.



MORE ENSEMBLES

11/5 Wednesday

Percussion Ensemble

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$

MSU’s Percussion Ensemble presents a dynamic program of contemporary works, showcasing a wide range of sounds and textures through varied instrumentation.

11/6 Thursday

African Diaspora Percussion Ensemble

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$

Members of MSU’s Percussion Ensemble explore the vibrant drumming traditions of the African Diaspora, performing traditional Congolese and Cuban rhythms on culturally unique instruments.

11/8 Saturday

Trombone Ensembles

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$

MSU’s Trombone Ensembles showcase the full range of the instrument through original works and transcriptions, featuring unique combinations of an all-trombone lineup.

Generously sponsored by Eileen G. Houston.

11/16 Sunday

Chamber Music Showcase Concert

3:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$

Enjoy an afternoon of dynamic chamber music performed by select student ensembles from the MSU College of Music. This uniquely curated program highlights a variety of classical and contemporary works in an intimate recital setting.

11/22 Saturday

Sensory Friendly Spartan Concert

3:00 p.m. Auditorium, free

Community Music School East Lansing, 4930 Hagadorn Road

All are welcome to this event presenting a variety of chamber ensembles in a concert designed to accommodate individuals on the autism spectrum or those with sensory sensitivities. Enjoy fun, interactive music-making activities in an atmosphere that allows audience mobility and noise making. A quiet room will also be available for attendees.

1/28 Wednesday

Tuba and Euphonium Ensemble Concert

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$

Join us for a powerful brass concert featuring solo works, quartets, and full ensemble performances. The first under the direction of Chance Huie, newly appointed tuba and euphonium professor, this program continues MSU’s tradition of excellence in low brass performance. *Generously sponsored by Eileen G. Houston.*

4/14 Tuesday

Sensory Friendly Spartan Concert

10:00 a.m. Auditorium, free

Community Music School East Lansing, 4930 Hagadorn Road

(See 11/22 event description)

4/15 Wednesday

Percussion Ensemble

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$

(See 11/5 event description)

4/24 Friday

African Diaspora Percussion Ensemble

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$

Members of MSU’s Percussion Ensemble explore the vibrant drumming traditions of the African Diaspora, performing traditional Congolese and Cuban rhythms on culturally unique instruments.

Fall 2025

Spartan Marching Band

Watch the Spartan Marching Band’s home game activities, including fan-favorite performances and the march to the stadium. The drumline performs at the Student Book Store two hours before kickoff, and the SMB warmup starts 90 minutes before kickoff on Adams Field, next to the Music Building. Details at spartanmarchingband.com. David Thornton, SMB director; Arris Golden, SMB associate director.

8/29 vs. Western Michigan

9/6 vs. Boston College

9/13 vs. Youngstown State

10/11 vs. UCLA (homecoming)

10/25 vs. Michigan

11/15 vs. Penn State

11/29 vs. Rutgers

(Detroit, Ford Field)

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS

\$ Gen Adm: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, free Students.

Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing;

Wharton \$3.50/seat + \$2–\$4/ticket online/phone.



COMPETITIONS

From captivating chamber performances to bold entrepreneurial pitches, these annual competitions offer a front-row seat to the creativity and drive of rising talent at the MSU College of Music. Witness the next generation of musicians, collaborators, and innovators in action.

1/25 Sunday Honors Competition

1:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building, free
This annual event highlights a select group of student musicians across a range of disciplines, each featured in a public setting for highly anticipated performances. Presenting a rich variety of repertoire, participants compete for the opportunity to perform as soloists with MSU's top ensembles. Winners will be selected by a panel of external jurors and announced immediately following the concert.

2/15 Sunday Running Start Live Pitch Competition

1:00 p.m. Murray Hall, Music Building, free
Watch creativity and entrepreneurship take center stage as music students present bold ideas and business ventures in a live pitch format. A panel of jurors asks questions, sparking insightful discussions and culminating in an awards presentation—with up to \$2,500 in funding on the line. Audience members also play a role by casting their vote for the People's Choice Award.



4/12 Sunday Barbara Wagner Chamber Music Competition Showcase

1:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Now in its sixth year, the final round of the Barbara Wagner Chamber Music Competition features student ensembles from the College of Music delivering compelling performances as they vie for cash prizes and professional development opportunities. Selected by an esteemed panel of external jurors, the winners are announced at the close of the event—adding to the excitement of an afternoon filled with artistry and anticipation.

This chamber music competition program and concert is generously sponsored by Barbara E. Wagner.

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS

\$ Gen Adm: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, free Students. Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing; Wharton \$3.50/seat + \$2–\$4/ticket online/phone.



GIVING TO THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

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. To learn more about concert sponsorships and giving to the college, please contact the Advancement Office at (517) 353-9872.

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- James and Susan Bonfiglio (Symphony Orchestra, Oct. 26; Fall Opera)
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- 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)
- Anonymous (Rucker, Feb. 15)
- John and Gretchen Forsyth (Wagner, Sept. 19)
- Barbara and Bill Given (Four Seasons; Alegría Navideña)
- Kevin and Amy Guskiewicz (Alegría Navideña)
- Stanley and Selma Hollander Endowment for Chamber Music (Gems for Cello)
- Eileen G. Houston (Wagner, Sep. 19; Thompkins, Oct. 14; Kanda, Nov. 18; Trombone Ensembles, Nov. 8; Tuba/Euphonium, Jan. 28; Huiet, Feb. 24)
- Howard and Pam Gourwitz (Lulloff, Oct. 30)
- Lauren Harris (Symphonic Dialogues; Celebrating the Spectrum)
- Anne Hiller (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- 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 Competition, Aug. 15-17; Sherman/Zuber, Mar. 24)
- 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 Spirituals Prayer and Protest Concert; Jazz Fusion)
- 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)
- Liz and Tony Raduazo (Pass a Good Time Oct. 5)
- George Orban and Rae Ramsdell (Jang/Moriarty, Feb. 8)
- 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)
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SPONSORSHIPS AND RECOGNITION

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the College of Music artist-faculty & guest recital series

WKAR

sponsored by WKAR

9/7 Sunday (chamber recital)

Violin & Piano Duo Recital

3:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Guest artists Zenas Hsu (violin) and Sookkyung Cho (piano) present *Forgotten Gems*, a program spotlighting lesser-known 19th- and early 20th-century American composers. Featured works include violin sonatas by Clara Kathleen Rogers and Rossetter Cole, along with song transcriptions by Rubin Goldmark—rarely heard pieces that reflect the expressive style of their era.

9/14 Sunday (organ recital)

Organist Nicole Keller

3:00 p.m. MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel \$
Internationally acclaimed concert organist Nicole Keller brings her distinctive and dynamic style to the MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel, performing on the Red Cedar Organ. Known for her engaging solo and chamber work, Keller appears regularly at major venues across Europe and North America.

9/17 Wednesday (voice recital)

An Evening with Ricky Ian Gordon and Melanie Helton

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
MSU soprano Melanie Helton joins renowned composer Ricky Ian Gordon for a narrated evening of his vivid and theatrical vocal works, including excerpts from the upcoming production of *The Grapes of Wrath*. Featuring faculty, student and alumni singers, the program highlights a decades-long artistic partnership with music once praised by *The New York Times* as "...caviar for a world gorging on pizza."

9/19 Friday (chamber recital)

The Many Colors of the Horn

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
MSU artist Corbin Wagner presents a unique recital showcasing the beauty and versatility of the horn. Joined by pianist Patrick Johnson and violinist I-Fu Wang, Wagner will perform a selection of short works on nine different horns, each offering its own distinct character and sound. An imaginative program sure to surprise and engage audiences. *Generously sponsored by John and Gretchen Forsyth and Eileen G. Houston.*

9/21 Sunday (piano recital)

Beethoven: Part 5

3:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Pianist Young Hyun Cho continues her Beethoven journey with *Op. 31—Sonatas No. 16* through *18*, highlighting the composer's bold style, sharp wit, and expressive depth.

9/28 Sunday (voice recital)

Letters from the Front: Music and Memory

3:00 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
MSU vocalists Anne Nispel (soprano) and Harlan Jennings (baritone), with pianist Elden Little, present a moving recital inspired by World War II letters from Lt. Benjamin Nispel. Marking 80 years since Victory in Europe, the program follows the 45th Infantry Division's path through France to Dachau. Music by Lully, Ravel, Ibert, Mozart, Barber, and Butterworth complements this powerful narrative of war, memory, and resilience.

10/3 Friday (piano recital)

Solo Piano Soundscapes

7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU pianist Derek Kealii Polischuk performs a solo recital featuring works by Marie Jaëll, Franz Schubert, Margaret Bonds, and Keith Jarrett. The program features a broad range of musical styles and two rarely performed gems by women.

10/5 Sunday (voice recital)

Pass A Good Time 2025

3:00 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
Bass-baritone Marc Embree returns with an afternoon of songs, stories, and musical fun. This year's program features MSU artists Jane Bunnell (mezzo-soprano), Joseph Lulloff (saxophone), Richard Sherman (flute) and pianists Ronald Newman, Don Seitz, Steven Mosteller, and Kit Bridges in a spirited mix of favorites and unexpected gems. Stick around afterward for cake and cookies! *Generously sponsored by Liz and Tony Raduazo*

10/13 Monday (piano recital)

Votapek and Friends 5th Edition

7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Pianist Ralph Votapek performs alongside Wei-Qin Claire Tang, and Daniel Bazin in an evening of vibrant two-piano works, featuring music by Barber, Bernstein, Kapustin, and Rachmaninoff.

10/14 Tuesday (chamber recital)

21st Century Americana

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
MSU trombonist Kenneth Thompkins presents a dynamic program of works by 21st-century American composers, including Brian Nabors, Jeff Scott, Michael Tilson Thomas, and Phillip Wharton. He is joined by fellow MSU artists Zhihua Tang (piano) and Gwen Dease (percussion). *Generously sponsored by Eileen G. Houston.*

10/22 Wednesday (ensemble recital)

The Korean Traditional Music Orchestra for the Blind (KTMOB)

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
The Korean Traditional Music Orchestra for the Blind (KTMOB) is a professional ensemble of visually impaired musicians founded in 2011 through a partnership between Korea's Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Tourism and the Siloam Center. Known for performances around the world, KTMOB blends traditional Korean instruments with a range of musical styles. Their program offers a moving message of resilience and hope, showcasing the unifying power of music across cultures and abilities.

10/23 Thursday (voice recital)

Rakes, Rogues, and Romantics

7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium \$
MSU tenor Richard Fracker takes the stage with pianist Elden Little for an evening that spans opera, art song, and musical theater. The program explores timeless tales of love, mischief, and passion drawn from classic and contemporary repertoire.

10/29 Wednesday (chamber recital)

andPlay, "Drifting Landscapes"

7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Guest duo based in New York andPlay—violinist Maya Bennardo and violist Hannah Levinson—brings a bold and collaborative recital of boundary-pushing contemporary chamber music. Known for their adventurous electroacoustic repertoire, the ensemble presents *Drifting Landscapes*, a program that explores texture, space, and resonance. Works include *Drift* (2024) by Emily Praetorius, *Lightning Fields* (2022) by Mariel Roberts, the world premiere of a new piece by MSU composer Anthony T. Marasco, and the U.S. premiere of a new work by Angharad Davies.

10/30 Thursday (chamber recital)

Saxophone Collaborations

7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU saxophonist Joseph Lulloff leads an evening of vibrant works for saxophone and piano joined by pianists Yu-Lien The and John Nichol. The program features *Romance* by Amy Beach, the world premiere of *Write Your Own Way* by MSU student composer Parker Fritz, and additional works showcasing the color, nuance, and versatility of the saxophone. *Generously sponsored by Howard and Pam Gourwitz.*

10/30 Thursday (carillon recital)

Halloween, Spooky Tunes for Carillon

9:00 p.m. Beaumont Tower, free
Celebrate Halloween with eerie melodies and familiar favorites played on MSU's 49-bell carillon beneath the autumn sky. (Rain Date Oct. 31)

11/12 Wednesday (chamber recital)

Riveros Duo: Reflections for Viola and Harp

7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU harpist Juan Riveros and guest violist Danny Jordan present a recital exploring the lyrical interplay between harp and viola. The program includes Schubert's *Arpeggione Sonata* arranged by Riveros, Bax's *Fantasy Sonata* for viola and harp, and Debussy's *La fille aux cheveux de lin* arranged by Jordan—highlighting the expressive potential of this unique instrumental pairing.

11/17 Monday (piano recital)

Brahms & Temperley: Piano Perspectives

7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Pianist Young Hyun Cho presents a program featuring Brahms's *8 Piano Pieces, Op. 76*, and *3 Intermezzi, Op. 117*, alongside two piano sonatas by composer and theorist David Temperley. Temperley, a Professor of Music Theory at the Eastman School of Music, will be present to introduce and discuss his works.

1/23 Friday (voice recital)

American Song Marking 250 Years

7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall \$
Celebrate 250 years of American music in this wide-ranging evening of song from the birth of the American spirit to the eclectic songs of today. Performed by MSU artists Jane Bunnell (mezzo-soprano), Marc Embree (bass-baritone), and Elden Little (piano), the evening brings an overview of this country's finding it's distinct voice.

1/29 Thursday (chamber recital)

Adama Quartet

7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Experience the premiere performance of *Adama*, a newly formed quartet featuring MSU clarinetists Guy Yehuda and Tasha Warren alongside guest artists Meg Okura (violin) and Dave Eggar (cello). This powerful recital presents commissioned works inspired by the global Jewish diaspora, with support from MSU's Serling Institute for Jewish Studies and Modern Israel. *Generously sponsored by Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen.*



Nicole Keller
Sunday, 9/14



Ricky Ian Gordon
Wednesday, 9/17



KTMOB
Wednesday, 10/22



andPlay
Wednesday, 10/29

2/8 Sunday (duo instrumental)
Keyboard Conversations
3:00 p.m. MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel
Enjoy a rare pairing of piano and organ in *Keyboard Conversations*, a duet recital featuring MSU artist-faculty Hae Won Jang (organ) and Deborah Moriarty (piano). Presented in the intimate and resonant setting of the MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel with the Red Cedar Organ, the program features beloved works specially arranged for this unique instrumental duo. *Generously sponsored by George Orban and Rae Ramsdell.*

2/9 Monday (chamber recital)
Il Bellissimo Suono, clarinet and piano
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Take an emotional journey through romantic Italian music in *Il Bellissimo Suono*, featuring MSU artists, Guy Yehuda (clarinet) and Young Hyun Cho (piano). This evocative program highlights the expressive beauty of works by Italian composers Ferruccio Busoni, Nino Rota, and Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco in an evening of rich melodies and lyrical interplay.

2/10 Tuesday (solo instrumental)
Latin America & the Harp
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Experience the vibrant sounds of Latin America through the expressive voice of the harp. MSU artist Juan Riveros presents a colorful program featuring works by Arturo Márquez, Alfredo Rolando Ortiz, María Suárez, Alberto Ginastera, and other prominent Latin American composers. Alongside his own original compositions and arrangements, this recital offers a rhythmic and lyrical exploration of musical traditions through the lens of the harp.

2/12 Thursday (duo instrumental)
French Master Works
3:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU violinist Dmitri Berlinsky is joined by distinguished guest pianist Gleb Ivanov for an afternoon of elegant and expressive French repertoire. Featuring sonatas by Camille Saint-Saëns and Gabriel Fauré, this recital showcases the refined melodies and rich harmonic textures that define the French Romantic tradition.



Dr. Haiqiong Deng
Sunday, 2/22

2/14 Saturday (duo instrumental)
Oboe Romances
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU oboist Nermis Mieses, joined by pianist Xavier Suárez, presents a program tracing a path through love, longing, and musical devotion. Featuring works by Clara and Robert Schumann, Carl Nielsen, and Robert Henriques, the recital moves from intimate romances to elegant fantasies and hidden gems—each piece reflecting deep connections between composers, performers, and the expressive power of music.

2/15 Sunday (voice recital)
Here We Go Again
3:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU baritone Mark Rucker and pianist Sadie Rucker present a powerful program of Spirituals in *Here We Go Again*, joined by MSU instrumentalists James Forger (saxophone), Yvonne Lam (violin), and Suren Bagratuni (cello). The recital explores both familiar and lesser-known spirituals, offering fresh interpretations and meaningful perspectives on this enduring musical tradition. *Generously sponsored by an anonymous donor.*

2/20 Friday
MSU Professors of Jazz
7:30 p.m. Murray Hall, Music Building \$
Hear the artistry and improvisational spark of MSU jazz artists in this annual concert featuring jazz standards, inventive arrangements, and original works. Rooted in tradition but driven by creativity, this group brings dynamic energy and expressive depth to every performance. A must-hear event for jazz lovers of all kinds. Artists: Carmen Bradford, voice; Xavier Davis, piano; Michael Dease, trombone; Randy Gelispie, drums; Randy Napoleon, guitar; Anthony Stanco, trumpet; Rodney Whitaker, bass.

2/22 Sunday (solo instrumental)
Lunar New Year Celebration Concert
3:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$ (Reserved Seating)
Now in its fifth year, this annual event celebrates the Lunar New Year with a special guest performance by renowned Chinese musician Dr. Haiqiong Deng. Through a program titled *Nature, Music, and Convergence*, Deng presents a musical journey highlighting the expressive traditions of the zheng and qin—two ancient Chinese instruments—offering a rich reflection on cultural identity, memory, and innovation. A reception will follow.

2/24 Tuesday (duo instrumental)
Chance Huiet, tuba
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Join us in welcoming new artist-faculty member Chance Huiet, assistant professor of tuba and euphonium, in his debut recital. The program features a variety of expressive brass works, including Ronald Newman's *Three Pieces for Tuba*, with MSU pianist Zhihua Tang as accompanist, and MSU trombonist Kenneth Thompkins joining on additional brass works. *Generously sponsored by Eileen G. Houston.*



Chance Huiet

3/13 Friday (duo instrumental)
Fantasies for Strings and Piano
3:00 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU artists I-Fu Wang (violin) and Zhihua Tang (piano) present a program of richly expressive musical form and emotion. Highlighting works by Olivier Messiaen, Franz Schubert, Arnold Schoenberg, and Henryk Wieniawski, this recital explores the imaginative possibilities of the violin-piano duo across time and style.

3/16 Monday (duo instrumental)
Dialogues for Cello and Piano
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU cellist Suren Bagratuni, accompanied by doctoral student and pianist Soojin Kim, presents a recital of sonatas by Johannes Brahms, Claude Debussy, and Benjamin Britten. Spanning the Romantic era to the 20th century, this program offers a vivid exploration of depth and expressive range in the cello-piano repertoire. *Generously sponsored by Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen.*

3/22 Sunday (organ recital)
Guest organist Peter Sykes
3:00 p.m. MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel \$
Renowned for his virtuosity and deep musical insight, guest artist Peter Sykes performs on the Red Cedar Organ in the intimate and acoustically rich setting of the MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel. A leading figure in the world of historical keyboard performance, a Core faculty member in the Historical Performance Department at the Juilliard School and Lecturer in Music at Boston University, Sykes presents a program that blends masterworks with interpretive depth and artistry.

3/23 Monday (piano recital)
Schubert's Last Sonatas
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
MSU pianist Ralph Votapek takes the stage with a program featuring the last two piano sonatas of Franz Schubert. These monumental works are richly expressive and structurally beautiful—hallmarks of Schubert's late style—and offer a rare opportunity to experience his profound masterworks in one sitting. *Generously sponsored by Alena Fabian, M.D., Hari Kern and the late Ralph R. Edminster, M.D., and Gordon E. Miracle.*

SEE PAGE 30 FOR TICKET DETAILS
\$ Gen Adm: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors, free Students.
Fees: College \$1.50/ticket + \$1 mailing;
Wharton \$3.50/seat + \$2–\$4/ticket online/phone.



Peter Sykes
Sunday, 3/22

3/24 Tuesday (chamber recital)
Music of America: Flute and Piano Perspectives
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Experience the rich variety of American music through the lens of flute and piano. MSU artists Richard Sherman (flute) and Eric Zuber (piano) present a program showcasing expressive works by American composers, an enlightening perspective on this versatile duo. *Generously sponsored by Michael and Paula Koppisch.*

3/26 Thursday (chamber recital)
Eriyns Quartet
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building \$
Known for their bold artistry and international reach, the Erins Quartet makes their MSU debut with a compelling program featuring Bartók's dramatic *String Quartet No. 3*, Gabriella Smith's vibrant *Carrot Revolution*, and Beethoven's profound *String Quartet No. 12 in E-flat Major, Op. 127*. Based at the Curtis Institute of Music as Quartet-in-Residence, the ensemble includes Elizabeth Stewart, violin; Joosep Reimaa, violin; Marija Räisänen, viola; and Stergios Theodoridis, cello.

3/30 Monday (piano recital)
Piano Etudes: A Musical Journey Through Time
7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall \$
MSU pianist Stanislav Khristenko presents a compelling solo recital tracing etudes over time. From the technical brilliance of early virtuoso works to modern interpretations that stretch the boundaries of the genre, this program offers a unique perspective on piano literature across the centuries. *Generously sponsored by Alena Fabian, M.D.*

3/31 Tuesday (solo instrumental)
Bach Cello Suites
7:00 p.m. MSU Alumni Memorial Chapel \$
MSU cellist Suren Bagratuni returns to the stage with solo performances of J.S. Bach's *Six Suites* for solo cello—timeless works often hailed as the pinnacle of the cello repertoire. Spanning six movements each, the suites offer a rich, expressive journey through Baroque dance forms and remain among Bach's most revered instrumental masterpieces. *Generously sponsored by Dr. Robert W. Uphaus and Dr. Lois M. Rosen.*



Erins Quartet
Thursday, 3/26

2025-2026 CALENDAR

9/7 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Violin & Piano Duo Recital <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 22
9/12 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Swing Dance Jazz	Large	\$	pg 10
9/14 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Organist Nicole Keller <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Alumni Chapel	\$	pg 22
9/17 Wed	7:30 p.m.	An Evening with Ricky Ian Gordon and Melanie Helton <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 22
9/19 Fri	7:30 p.m.	The Many Colors of the Horn <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 22
9/21 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Beethoven: Part 5 <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 22
9/22 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Musique 21, “A Sonic Journey” New Music Ensemble	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 18
9/23 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 14
9/25 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Wind Symphony Band	Wharton	\$	pg 14
9/26 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Orchestra, “Passion, Power, and Majesty” Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 12
9/28 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Letters from the Front: From Rome to Dachau <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 22
9/30 Tue	7:30 p.m.	L’Invenzione, “In the Shadow of Vesuvius” <i>Taylor Johnston Early Music Series</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 8
10/3 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Solo Piano Soundscapes <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 22
10/4 Sat	7:30 p.m.	The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci Lansing Symphony Orchestra with MSU Choirs (Tix: lansingsymphony.org)	Wharton	LSO	pg 16
10/5 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Pass A Good Time 2025 <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 22
10/6 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Symphonic Dialogues <i>Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 7
10/8 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Infusion <i>Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 7
10/9 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Concert Orchestra, Symphonic Dances Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 12
10/10 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Gems for Cellos <i>Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$\$	pg 7
10/12 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Jazz Orchestras with Sean Jones, jazz trumpet <i>MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Resicence</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 10
10/13 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Votapek and Friends 5th Edition <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 22
10/14 Tue	7:30 p.m.	21st Century Americana <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 22
10/15 Wed	7:30 p.m.	American Modern Ensemble <i>MSUFCU Showcase Series</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 4
10/22 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Korean Traditional Music Orchestra for the Blind <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 23
10/22 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Concert Band and Campus Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 14
10/23 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Rakes, Rogues, and Romantics <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 23
10/24 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Band and Wind Symphony Band	Wharton	\$	pg 14
10/26 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Symphony Orchestra, “Lift up Thine Ears” Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 12

10/27 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Musique 21 New Music Ensemble	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 18
10/28 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Emi Ferguson and Ruckus, “Fly the Coop” <i>Taylor Johnston Early Music Series</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 8
10/29 Wed	7:30 p.m.	andPlay, “Drifting Landscapes” <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 23
10/30 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Saxophone Collaborations <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 23
10/30 Thu	9:00 p.m.	Halloween, Spooky Tunes for Carillon <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Beaumont Tower	free	pg 23
11/1 Sat	7:30 p.m.	University Chorale and State Singers Choral	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 16
11/2 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Spartan Spectacular Band (Tix Oct 2: whartoncenter.com)	Wharton		pg 14
11/3 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Four Seasons <i>Joanne and Bill Church West Circle Series</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 6
11/5 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Percussion Ensemble Small Ensemble	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 19
11/6 Thu	7:30 p.m.	African Diaspora Percussion Ensemble Small Ensemble	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 19
11/7 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Nonets with Salim Washington, jazz saxophone Jazz	Murray Hall	\$	pg 10
11/8 Sat	3:00 p.m.	Trombone Ensembles Small Ensemble	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 19
11/12 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Riveros Duo: Reflections for Viola and Harp <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 23
11/16 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Chamber Music Showcase Concert Small Ensemble	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 19
11/17 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Brahms & Temperley: Piano Perspectives <i>Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR</i>	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 23
11/18 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Orchestra, “A Dance of Sound and Elegance” Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 13
11/19 Wed	7:00 p.m.	The Grapes of Wrath	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$\$	pg 9
11/21 Fri	7:00 p.m.	<i>Worthington Family Foundaton Opera Theare Season</i>			
11/22 Sat	7:00 p.m.				
11/23 Sun	3:00 p.m.				
11/22 Sat	3:00 p.m.	Sensory Friendly Spartan Concert Small Ensemble	Community Music School	Free	pg 19
11/23 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Spartan Youth Wind Symphony and Wind Symphony Band	Wharton	\$	pg 14
11/24 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Concert Orchestra, “Night at the Movies” Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 13
11/25 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 14
12/1 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Beethoven! <i>Joanne and Bill Church West Circle Series</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 6
12/2 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Viridis and Campus Choir Choral	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 17
12/3 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Mosaic and Singing Spartans Choral	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 17
12/4 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Concert Band and Campus Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
12/6 Sat	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Orchestra and Choirs, “Alegría Navideña” <i>MSUFCU Showcase Series</i> (Tix: whartoncenter.com)	Wharton	\$\$\$	pg 4
12/7 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Jazz Orchestras with René Marie, jazz voice <i>MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Resicence</i>	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 10

12/13 Sat	7:30 p.m.	A Jazzy Little Christmas MSUFCU Showcase Series	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$\$	pg 5
1/13 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Dark Horse Consort, “The Sounds of St. Mark’s” Taylor Johnston Early Music Series	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 8
1/18 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Jazz: Spirituals Prayer and Protest Concert Jazz	Fairchild Theatre	free	pg 11
1/23 Fri	7:30 p.m.	American Song Marking 250 Years Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 23
1/24 Sat	3:00 p.m.	A Celebration of the Beautiful Voice Worthington Family Foundaton Opera Theare Season	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$\$	pg 9
1/25 Sun	1:00 p.m.	Honors Concert Competition Competition	Cook Recital Hall	free	pg 20
1/26 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Happy Birthday, Mozart! Joanne and Bill Church West Circle Series	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 6
1/28 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Tuba-Euphonium Ensembles Small Ensemble	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 19
1/29 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Adama Quartet Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 23
2/2 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Musique 21 New Music Ensemble	Murray Hall	\$	pg 18
2/3 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
2/4 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Newfound Chamber Winds MSUFCU Showcase Series	Cook Recital Hall	\$\$	pg 5
2/5 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Wind Symphony Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
2/6 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Orchestra, “Holst’s The Planets” Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 13
2/8 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Keyboard Conversations Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Alumni Chapel	\$	pg 24
2/9 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Il Bellissimo Suono, clarinet and piano Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 24
2/10 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Latin America & the Harp Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 24
2/12 Thu	3:00 p.m.	French Master Works Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 24
2/13 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Nonets with Jeff Haas, jazz piano Jazz	Murray Hall	\$	pg 11
2/14 Sat	7:30 p.m.	Oboe Romances Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 24
2/15 Sun	1:00 p.m.	2025 Running Start Live Pitch Competition Competition	Murray Hall	free	pg 20
2/15 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Here We Go Again Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 24
2/20 Fri	7:30 p.m.	MSU Professors of Jazz Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Murray Hall	\$	pg 24
2/22 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Lunar New Year Celebration Concert Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 24
2/24 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Chance Huiet, tuba Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 24
2/25 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Concert Band and Campus Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
2/26 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Concert Orchestra, “Spotlight and Spirit” Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 13
3/13 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Fantasies for Strings and Piano Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 25
3/15 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Jazz Orchestras with Harvey Mason, jazz drums MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Resicence	Pasant	\$\$	pg 11
3/16 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Dialogues for Cello and Piano Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 25

3/17 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
3/19 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Wind Symphony Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
3/20 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Orchestra’s Honors Concert Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 13
3/22 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Guest organist Peter Sykes Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Alumni Chapel	\$	pg 25
3/23 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Schubert’s Last Sonatas Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 25
3/24 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Music of America: Flute and Piano Perspectives Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 25
3/25 Wed	7:00 p.m.	Rossini and Puccini, Operas of Comedy and Consequence	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$\$	pg 9
3/27 Fri	7:00 p.m.	Worthington Family Foundaton Opera Theare Season			
3/28 Sat	7:00 p.m.				
3/29 Sun	3:00 p.m.				
3/26 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Eriyns Quartet Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 25
3/30 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Piano Etudes: A Musical Journey Through Time Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 25
3/31 Tue	7:00 p.m.	Bach Cello Suites Artist-faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR	Alumni Chapel	\$	pg 25
4/2 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Viridis and Campus Choir Choral	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 17
4/7 Tue	7:30 p.m.	Mosaic and Singing Spartans Choral	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 17
4/12 Sun	1:00 p.m.	Wagner Chamber Music Competition Showcase Competition	Cook Recital Hall	\$	pg 20
4/13 Mon	7:30 p.m.	USA at 250 Years Joanne and Bill Church West Circle Series	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$	pg 6
4/14 Tue	10:00 a.m.	Sensory Friendly Spartan Concert Small Ensemble	Community Music School	free	pg 19
4/15 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Percussion Ensemble Small Ensemble	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 19
4/16 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Nonets Jazz Spectacular Series	Murray Hall	\$	pg 11
4/16 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Concert Orchestra, “Making Herstory” Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 13
4/17 Fri	7:30 p.m.	University Chorale and State Singers Choral	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 17
4/17 Fri	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Swing Dance Jazz Spectacular Series	Large	\$	pg 11
4/18 Sat	All Day	Jazz at Lincoln Center: Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Regional Competition Jazz Spectacular Series	Murray Hall	free	pg 11
4/18 Sat	7:30 p.m.	Jazz Spectacular Finale Concert with Anat Cohen Jazz Spectacular Series, MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Resicence	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$\$	pg 11
4/20 Mon	7:30 p.m.	Musique 21, From Darkness to Light New Music Ensemble	Fairchild Theatre	\$	pg 18
4/22 Wed	7:30 p.m.	Concert Band and Campus Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
4/23 Thu	7:30 p.m.	Symphony Orchestra “Rhythms in Motion: A Celebration of Dance” Orchestra	Wharton	\$	pg 13
4/24 Fri	7:30 p.m.	African Diaspora Percussion Ensemble Small Ensemble	Murray Hall	\$	pg 19
4/25 Sat	7:30 p.m.	MSU Choirs and Wind Symphony Choral-Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
4/26 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Spartan Youth Wind Symphony and Symphony Band Band	Wharton	\$	pg 15
5/3 Sun	3:00 p.m.	Piano Monster: America 250! MSUFCU Showcase Series	Fairchild Theatre	\$\$\$	pg 5

TICKETS & INFORMATION

VENUE PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

The College of Music presents events in a variety of venues across campus, each with nearby public parking (free or hourly rate). Parking lots and spaces typically reserved for faculty and staff become available free to the public after 6 p.m. and are marked with signage. All venues are accessible. For accommodations, call (517) 353-5340 or (517) 432-2000 for Wharton Center events.

- Music Building (333 West Circle Drive)
Cook Recital Hall, Murray Hall, Large Rehearsal Hall, Hollander Hall
- Wharton Center (750 East Shaw Lane)
Cobb Great Hall, Pasant Theatre
- Fairchild Theatre (MSU Auditorium Building, 542 Auditorium Road)
- Alumni Memorial Chapel (636 Auditorium Road)
- MSU Community Music School, East Lansing (4930 Hagadorn Road)
- Demonstration Hall (229 Demonstration Hall Road)



HOW TO GET TICKETS (AVAILABLE BEGINNING AUGUST 20)

- Online at music.msu.edu/events
- In person (102 Music Building, M–F, 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.)
or by phone, (517) 353-5340
- Venues, at the door, beginning 45 minutes before events

Note: All ticket sales are non-refundable unless an event is canceled or rescheduled.



TICKETING SYSTEM & PROFILES

The online system allows for multi-ticket purchases, profile management, and delivery preferences (mail, will-call, print-at-home, or mobile). Patron data is secure and used only for event communication.

COLLEGE OF MUSIC TICKET PRICES (Walk-up purchases are not subject to ticketing fees)

- **\$** General Admission: \$14 Adults, \$12 Seniors (60+); free for students with ID and anyone under 18 (ticket still required, contact the main office to acquire).
- **\$\$** Reserved Seating: \$19 Adults, \$17 Seniors, \$9 Students/Under 18
- **\$\$\$** Reserved Seating: \$24 Adults, \$22 Seniors, \$14 Students/Under 18

Note: Most events in Murray Hall, Cook Recital Hall, and Alumni Chapel are general admission.

COLLEGE OF MUSIC TICKET FEES (Purchases made online or over the phone)

- Add \$1.50 per-ticket
- Add \$1.00 handling fee for tickets that are mailed.

WHARTON CENTER TICKETING FEES

- A facility fee of \$3.50 is added for each seat
- Internet orders, add a fee of \$3.00 per ticket for \$ and \$\$ levels, and \$4.00 for the \$\$\$ level
- Phone orders, add a fee of \$2.00 per ticket for \$ and \$\$ levels, and \$3.00 for the \$\$\$ level.

EVENT POLICIES

Silenced cell phones and refraining from applause until after full musical selections is customary.

General admission is free for students and children under 18 (with ID), though tickets are still required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. At Wharton Center, all attendees must have a ticket and seat. Children under 5 and infants are not permitted unless otherwise noted. See more information and details at music.msu.edu/policy.



SUBSCRIBE TO EVENTS

Specify the types of events you are most interested in and receive email notifications about upcoming performances and special discount offers throughout the season.

COLLEGE OF MUSIC CONTACT INFORMATION

- Open: Monday–Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Closed on weekends and MSU observed holidays)
- Music Building, 333 West Circle Drive, East Lansing, MI 48824
- Phone: 517-353-5340, Email: music.mainoffice@msu.edu

ABOUT US



Michigan State University's College of Music is an inspiring force for experiential learning, artistic innovation, performance, and research. We empower excellence, expand access, strengthen community engagement, and develop exceptional musicians. Our excellent faculty are scholars, music educators, and performing musicians who nurture the next generation to master the diverse skills needed for sustainable careers in today's music industry. This dynamic environment extends to two Community Music Schools in East Lansing and Detroit, which together provide music education to 4,400 individuals annually, demonstrating our deep commitment to community impact.

EXPLORE MUSIC AT MSU

STAY UPDATED. Sign up to receive occasional emails about upcoming events and concerts, including this season brochure and special offers: music.msu.edu/subscribe.

CONNECT WITH US. Follow all things music at MSU and share with your friends. Join thousands of followers who connect with us through Facebook and Instagram @musicmsu.

EXPERIENCE MUSIC ONLINE. Nothing is better than a live performance, but you can still catch some events no matter where you are! Browse selections from our past concerts on YouTube and watch for opportunities to enjoy live performances streamed online.

