



College of Music  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

ARTIST-FACULTY AND GUEST RECITAL SERIES  
Sponsored by WKAR

# Pass A Good Time 2025

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Friendship & Kindness Edition

Alban “Kit” Bridges, piano  
Jane Bunnell, soprano  
Daniel Li, guitar  
Joseph Lulloff, saxophone  
Steven Mosteller, piano  
Ron Newman, piano  
Don Seitz, piano  
Richard Sherman, flute

Marc Embree, conférencier

*Generously sponsored by  
Liz and Tony Raduazo*

Sunday, October 5, 2025  
Fairchild Theatre, 3:00 p.m.

## PROGRAM

Just a Closer Walk with Thee Traditional  
Joe Lulloff, saxophone, and Steven Mosteller, piano

Stupid Things That I Won't Do  
from *Infinite Joy*  
Marc Embree, voice, and Steven Mosteller, piano

William Finn  
(1952-2025)

That Lucky Old Sun

Beasley Smith  
(1901-1968)  
words: Haven Gillespie

You've Got a Friend Carole King  
(b. 1942)  
Jane Bunnell, soprano, and Steven Mosteller, piano

Bridge Over Troubled Water

Paul Simon  
(b. 1941)

Suite No. 2, Op. 17  
III. Romance  
Alban "Kit" Bridges and Don Seitz, piano

Sergei Rachmaninoff  
(1873-1943)

Just Friends John Klenner  
(1899-1955)  
lyrics: Sam M. Lewis  
Joe Lulloff, saxophone, and Ron Newman, piano

Did She Mention My Name? Gordon Lightfoot  
If You Could Read My Mind (1938-2023)  
Marc Embree, voice, Daniel Li, guitar, and Ron Newman, piano

She Moved Through the Fair Irish Traditional  
arr. David Overton  
Richard Sherman, flute, and Ron Newman, piano

## PROGRAM (cont.)

Danny Boy Traditional  
text: Frederic Weatherly  
Marc Embree, voice, Richard Sherman, flute,  
and Ron Newman, piano

Friendship Cole Porter  
(1891–1964)  
Jane Bunnell, Marc Embree, voice, and Ron Newman, piano

He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother Bobby Scott & Bob Russell  
(1937–1990) (1914–1970)  
Marc Embree, voice, Daniel Li, guitar, Ron Newman, piano,  
and Chorus

## PROGRAM NOTES

***Just a Closer Walk with Thee*** is the traditional hymn played at funerals in New Orleans, which is played slowly and respectfully leaving the church, and joyous and upbeat upon the return to church. It is our tradition to honor those loved ones who have left us this past year and as a prelude to usher in our "Pass A Good Time 2025".

"Pass A Good Time" is a New Orleanian expression that celebrates just about anything – a wedding, a funeral, a birthday, a graduation. It is a gathering of friends to praise and live life to its fullest! After Katrina, Chris Rose, a noted and estimable writer, had this to say about New Orleans and South Louisiana:

*"Dear America,  
I suppose we should introduce ourselves: We're South Louisiana...You probably already know that we talk funny and listen to strange music and eat things you'd probably hire an exterminator to get out of your yard. We dance even if there's no radio. We drink at funerals. We talk too much and laugh too loud and live too large and, frankly, we're suspicious of others who don't."*

– Chris Rose

## ARTIST-FACULTY BIOS

**Alban "Kit" Bridges** accompanies extensively in the Chicago area. He has performed in recital series at Orchestra Hall, the Chicago Cultural Center, the Grant Park Music Festival, the University of Chicago, and in broadcasts heard on radio stations WGN, WFMT, NPR, and PBS. A finalist in the Young Keyboard Artists Association International Competition, Dr. Bridges had his Chicago solo debut at Orchestra Hall in 1993.

Mezzo-soprano **Jane Bunnell** joined the faculty of MSU's College of Music in August, 2015, as professor of voice. She has enjoyed an illustrious international career for 40 years. She has an especially long association with the Metropolitan Opera where she has sung 30 roles in more than 420 performances, including new productions of *Ariadne auf Naxos*, *Otello*, *Les Troyens*, *Faust*, and *Romeo et Juliette*, and the Met premieres of Nico Muhly's *Marnie*, Britten's *A Midsummer Nights' Dream*, and Wolf-Ferrari's *Sly*. She has also recorded with the Met for Sony/BMG and has toured Europe and Japan. She is frequently heard on Sirius XM radio.

She has sung with the opera companies of Toulouse, Vienna, Cologne, and Schwetzingen, and with such American opera companies as Houston Grand Opera, Lyric Opera of Chicago, San Diego Opera, Minnesota Opera, Florida Grand Opera, and New York City Opera. Ms. Bunnell has collaborated with such notable conductors as James Levine, Valery Gergiev, Seiji Ozawa, and Robert Shaw. She has appeared in concert with the Boston Symphony, Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival, the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Atlanta Symphony, and the Minnesota Orchestra.

**Marc Embree** is an associate professor of voice at MSU's College of Music. Actor, singer, educator and storyteller, Embree was a principal singer with the New York City Opera for several seasons and has performed throughout the United States, Mexico, Canada, and Europe. Embree received critical acclaim for his performance of Frank Maurant in the Berlin/Ludwigshafen production of *Street Scene*, filmed for television. It has been released on DVD and widely broadcast. He created the role of William Emmons in *The Village Singer* by Stephen Paulus. The American opera and film composer Thomas Pasatieri asked him to create the role of the ghost of Ebenezer Scrooge in his opera *God Bless Us, Everyone* in 2012. This recording joins his recordings of Carlos Chavez's *The Visitors*, Kurka's *The Good Soldier Schweik*, *Rain* by Richard Owen, and

## ARTIST-FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

*An American Howl Quartet* by George Flynn. Embree also served as the narrator for the children's book *The Juggler* by Jeanette Hopkins. A dedicated teacher, his students have been appearing with increasing frequency in opera houses and theaters both here and abroad.

**Joseph Lulloff** maintains a prolific performance career as a soloist, chamber musician and member of the acclaimed Capitol Quartet. A recipient of the Concert Artists Guild Award and the Pro Musicis International Soloist Award, he has performed at venues such as Carnegie Hall, Weill Recital Hall, Disney Hall, and the Smithsonian Institute. Festival appearances include the Ojai Festival, the Autumn Festival in Moscow, the Lucerne Festival, the Cortona (Italy) Sessions, the Mid Europe Festival and the Ravinia Festival. He is a frequent soloist with orchestras and wind bands in the United States and abroad, including the Cleveland and Minnesota Orchestras, the U.S. Air Force and Navy bands, Moscow Contemporary Music Ensemble, the Polizeiorchester Bayern, and the Dallas Winds. He has performed as principal saxophonist with the Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, St. Louis, Minnesota, Grand Rapids and Lansing Symphony Orchestras in addition to jazz performances and numerous recordings. Lulloff is Professor of Saxophone at Michigan State University, where he is the recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award as well as the Withrow Award for Excellence in Teaching. During the summertime, Mr. Lulloff serves on the teaching faculty of the Brevard Music Center Summer Institute and the Great Plains Saxophone Workshop.

**Steven Mosteller** made his New York City Opera debut at Lincoln Center in 1993 conducting the original 1904 version of *Madame Butterfly*. A conductor at City Opera for twenty seasons, he has conducted at both the David H. Koch Theater at Lincoln Center and at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. While in New York, he served as an assistant conductor for the Metropolitan Opera and a guest artist for the Lincoln Center Visitors Center. He has also toured with the NYCO National Company throughout the U.S. and Canada. Mr. Mosteller has conducted productions with major regional companies and conservatories including The Manhattan School of Music and The Wolf Trap Opera. He was the Music Director of The New Jersey Opera and of the Depaul University Opera Theater. Most recently, Mr. Mosteller was with the Lyric Opera of Chicago and The Academy of Vocal Arts.

## ARTIST-FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

**Ron Newman** was a member of the Michigan State University faculty from 1980–2019. From 1980 until 1995, he was the Director of Jazz Studies, and during that time taught courses in jazz improvisation, theory, arranging and history, and directed the award-winning MSU jazz bands. In 1995, he became Professor of Theory, where his teaching duties included 20<sup>th</sup> century music, orchestration, styles and form, and jazz history. Between 2012 and 2022, he was the Music Director and Conductor of the Lansing Symphony Jazz Band. Additionally, he is active as a pianist in both classical and jazz venues, and most notably in concerts with his wife, jazz vocalist Sunny Wilkinson.

He retired from Michigan State University in 2019, and in addition to his musical activities, he plays a lot of golf, reads extensively in all areas of non-fiction, and also loves crime/detective novels. COVID has been a major impetus in learning to cook (under the experienced tutorship of his wife Sunny), trying to learn a little Spanish, and watching a lot of great movies (and detective series, of course).

**Donald Seitz**, originally from Boise, Idaho, began his studies with Adelaide Marshall. He received his Bachelor degree in piano performance from Arizona State University. He continued his studies at Northwestern University in piano performance with Gui Mombaerts where he received his Master degree. Other studies with John Browning and Lili Kraus followed. Mr. Seitz has performed in the Chicago area with the Northwestern University Orchestra, with members of the Music of the Baroque, and other Chicago area organizations. Performing in Calgary, Canada, at the International Workshops, he participated in vocal and chamber music recitals as well as solo performances. Recent appearances in Chicago included a concert of some of Mr. Seitz's transcriptions of Korngold in collaboration with flutist Mary Stolper. In addition, Mr. Seitz maintains a full studio of private students in Evanston. Seitz and Bridges have collaborated in four-hand recitals throughout the United States in such diverse settings as the Shedd Aquarium and onstage with the Chicago Ballet. The duo has also participated with the Steinway Ten Piano Team in concerts in Lake Forest for the Lake Forest Symphony and in Benton Harbor, Michigan, for the opening of the Mendel Center for the Arts, at Lake Michigan College. Seitz and Bridges have also collaborated in recital and master classes at the Chicago Duo Piano Festival.

## ARTIST-FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Flute soloist, orchestral musician, recitalist, and recording artist **Richard Sherman** is a dynamic performer of outstanding dramatic power. He is principal flute with the Chautauqua Symphony Orchestra (New York), the International Chamber Orchestra of Puerto Rico, the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, and the Jackson Symphony Orchestra. He has given performances with the Chicago Symphony, the English Chamber Orchestra, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and the Toronto Symphony. His work as a soloist includes the Columbus Symphony, the Rochester Philharmonic, Youngstown Symphony, Lansing Symphony Orchestra, and Chautauqua Symphony, among many others. Sherman was the recipient of an ITT International Fellowship for study at the Royal College of Music in London and received the Henri Cohn Memorial Prize at Tanglewood for most outstanding fellowship student. As an educator, he oversees a vibrant flute studio at Michigan State University while also giving master classes throughout the country, including the Eastman School of Music, Northwestern University, Louisiana State University, Ohio State University, Arizona State University, Brigham Young University, and University of Michigan, among others. In 2020, he was presented with the William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Award, honored for a comprehensive and sustained record of excellence in creative activities, instruction and outreach.

## STUDENT BIO

Hailing from Shanghai, **Daniel Li** is a Chinese jazz guitarist who draws heavily from the tradition of bebop and blues music. Currently, Daniel is an undergraduate student at Michigan State University. He is being mentored by the acclaimed jazz guitarist Randy Napoleon. In China, he is often thought of as one of the most promising jazz musicians of his time. His melodic and lyrical approach with music gives him an emotive and unique personal sound.



**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)
- **Hamilton-Dodson African Diaspora Endowment for the College of Music** (Musekiwa Chingodza, Oct. 2)
- **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; Sensory Friendly Spartan Concerts)
- **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](mailto:music.giving@msu.edu).



# UPCOMING EVENTS

10/06 Monday  
Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus  
**Symphonic Dialogues**  
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. \$\$

10/8 Wednesday  
Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus  
**Jazz Infusion**  
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. \$\$

10/9 Thursday  
**Concert Orchestra: Symphonic Dances**  
Cobb Great Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

10/10, Friday  
Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus  
**Gems for Cellos**  
Cook Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$\$

10/12 Sunday  
MSUFCU Jazz Artist in Residence  
**Jazz Orchestras with Sean Jones, trumpet**  
Fairchild Theatre, 3:00 p.m. \$\$

10/14 Tuesday  
Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR  
**21<sup>st</sup> Century Americana - Kenneth Thompkins, trombone**  
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. \$

10/15 Wednesday  
MSUFCU Showcase Series  
**Mostly Modern Ensemble**  
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 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.*