



College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Joanne and Bill Church
WEST CIRCLE SERIES

Happy Birthday, Mozart!

John DeBiase, oboe
Alex Delperdang, French horn
Michael Kroth, bassoon
Nermis Mieses, oboe
Tamar Mikeladze, piano
Deborah Moriarty, piano
Corbin Wagner, French horn
Mingzhe Wang, clarinet
Tasha Warren, clarinet
Sierra Watson, bassoon
Guy Yehuda, clarinet

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

Monday, January 26, 2026
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

ARTIST FACULTY BIOS

Michael Kroth serves as professor of bassoon and associate dean for undergraduate studies and operations at the Michigan State University College of Music. Distinguished for his vibrant artistry, resonant tone, and exceptional stylistic versatility, he maintains an active career as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral performer. Kroth performs frequently with the Detroit, Grand Rapids, and Cleveland Symphony Orchestras, and he holds principal bassoon positions with both the Lansing Symphony Orchestra and the Peninsula Music Festival Orchestra. He is also a longtime faculty artist with the Colorado College Summer Music Festival.

As a soloist, Kroth has appeared with the United States Air Force Academy Band, South Dakota Symphony, Lansing Symphony Orchestra, Colorado College Festival Orchestra, Uzbekistan National Symphony Orchestra, and MSU Chamber Winds. His repertoire encompasses the full breadth of bassoon literature, from traditional works to contemporary compositions, including notable performances of Dana Wilson's *Avatar*. Kroth's international career includes performances in Colombia, China, and throughout Europe, alongside an extensive recital presence across the United States. His recordings on Albany, Ultrasound, Earsay, and WTA Records have reached national and international audiences. His former students hold positions in orchestras, universities, and military ensembles nationwide. His honors include the William J. Beal Outstanding Faculty Award, the Withrow Excellence in Teaching Award, and the MSU Outstanding Supervisor Award.

Nermis Mieses is faculty at Michigan State University and the Sewanee Summer Music Festival. Formerly, she taught at Bowling Green State University, performed as Principal Oboe of the Detroit Opera and served as Chair of the IDRS Gillet-Fox International Competition for Oboe. Her artistry has been recognized by the University of Michigan Paul Boylan Alumni Award, the Barbirolli International Oboe Competition, the First International Oboe Competition of FEMUSC, and others. She is an active competition juror, recitalist, and masterclass presenter in America and abroad. She has performed with Sphinx, Chineke!, Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and several regional orchestras in Ohio and Michigan. Her debut album, *Oboe in Hues*, features solo oboe pieces by the French oboist-composer Gilles Silvestrini. In her native country of Puerto Rico, she earned a BM from the Conservatory of Music. Her MM and DMA degrees are from the University of Michigan under Nancy Ambrose King

ARTIST FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Tamar Mikeladze joined the piano faculty of the Michigan State University College of Music in 2015 where she serves as instructor of piano. A native of Tbilisi, Georgia, Mikeladze made her orchestral solo debut at age 11. She started her study at the Special Music School for gifted children that same year. She holds graduate and post-graduate degrees from Tbilisi State Conservatory. While in Georgia, she actively performed with national orchestras and appeared numerous times on national television and radio. Upon completion of her degrees, Mikeladze was appointed to the piano faculty of the Special Music School, where she taught for five years. In 2003, she began studies at Indiana University, South Bend, where she travelled with her studio to perform at music venues in Europe, and received Artist and Performer Diplomas and a Master degree in piano performance. In the fall of 2006, Mikeladze joined the piano faculty at the University of Notre Dame. Her performances include appearances at Auditorium Parco della Musica in Rome, Carnegie Weill Recital Hall and Steinway Hall. A recipient of the Rosamond P. Haeberle Memorial Piano award, Mikeladze served as adjudicator at the Michigan Music Association and Michigan Music Teachers Association competitions. Her recent recording is available as a part of a CD of Oakley's works released by Naxos in October 2018.

Deborah Moriarty is professor of piano and chair of the piano area at the Michigan State University College of Music, where she is a recipient of the Distinguished Faculty Award. A Massachusetts native, she made her debut with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at age 11. She has also served on the piano faculty at the New England Conservatory of Music and the University of Lowell. Moriarty attended the Curtis Institute of Music, the Juilliard School, and the New England Conservatory of Music, where she received her Master of Music degree with honors. She has studied with Russell Sherman, Theodore Lettvin, and Beveridge Webster.

An active recitalist and soloist with orchestras throughout the eastern United States, she has also performed in Belgium, Japan, Colombia, Mexico, and the Soviet Union. Moriarty is a founding member of the Fontana Ensemble of Michigan, and as an advocate of new music, has participated in numerous premiere performances including Milton Babbitt's "Whirled Series" at Merkin Hall in New York City. She has recordings on the Crystal and CRI labels.

ARTIST FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Corbin Wagner received his Bachelor degree in 1979 from the University of Michigan. Prior to graduation, he became a member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. He later received his Master degree from University of Michigan in 1989. Prior to his appointment at Michigan State University, he served as adjunct horn professor at Oakland University, University of Michigan, and Wayne State University. He also served at the Interlochen Arts Academy from 2014-2023.

After his appointment as Associate Professor of Horn, Wagner retired from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra after 35 years and retired from the Detroit Chamber Winds of over 30 years of service. Wagner has received many prestigious performing honors, including a third prize at the 1983 ADR, the Munich International Horn Competition. He also took first prize at the American International Horn Competition in hand horn, valve horn, and horn quartet. He has released two CDs featuring new works for horn, soprano, and piano. He currently performs in the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, Peninsula Music Festival in Door County, WI., and Traverse City Symphony Orchestra.

Clarinetist **Mingzhe Wang** is committed to promoting both the music of our time and the classics. He has worked closely with some of the world's leading composers. In addition, he has performed on period clarinets with prominent groups such as The American Classical Orchestra and the Clarion Music Society Orchestra. As a chamber musician, Mr. Wang has collaborated and continues to work with some of the most prominent artists today, appearing in concerts and festivals in East Asia, Europe, and North America. Recent engagements include world premiere performances of music by Berlin-based composer James Helgeson and a performance of Isang Yun's monumental work *Riul*, with pianist Manuel Laufer, at the Isang Yun Association Berlin. His performances have been broadcast on China's Central Television, New York's WQXR, Nashville's WPLN, and many public radio stations across North America. Mr. Wang, native of Wuhan, China, first studied clarinet at the age of nine. His first public performance was at the age of ten. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Yale University, major teachers include David Shifrin, Charles Neidich, Ayako Oshima, and Paul Green. Mr. Wang is a co-founder of Trio Sélééné and currently serves as an Associate Professor of Clarinet at Michigan State University College of Music.

ARTIST FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Tasha Warren, two-time Grammy-nominated recording artist, teacher and international performer, has premiered over one hundred solo clarinet and chamber works throughout the U.S., Europe, China, South Korea, and India. She has recorded with Innova, Alba, SCI Records, Crystal, Centaur Records, and Bright Shiny Things. Her recordings have hailed praise from International Record Review, Fanfare Magazine, The Clarinet Magazine, Textura, and others. Warren is Assistant Professor of Chamber Music at the MSU College of Music and has taught on the music performance faculties of Louisiana State University and the University of Virginia.

She is a member of American Modern Ensemble and Jackson Symphony Orchestra and regularly performs with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra as well as Durant Street Winds. She has been the principal clarinet faculty of Mostly Modern Festival since its inception in 2018, and has implemented study abroad programs in Spain, India, and Israel, and chamber music programs with the Jacksonville Symphony Youth Orchestra, the University of Virginia, and the Musical Arts Youth Orchestra. She holds a DM degree from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and additional degrees from IUJSOM and the North Carolina School of the Arts. Warren is a Selmer-Paris Concert Artist.

MSU Associate Professor of Clarinet **Guy Yehuda** is recognized as one of the most outstanding and unique clarinetists on the international concert stage. The top prizewinner of several international competitions, Yehuda was hailed by composer John Corigliano as “one of the most awe-inspiring clarinetists today.” He has toured extensively in Europe, North America, Israel, and China, performing at the Lucerne Contemporary and Spoleto festivals, and with the Israel Philharmonic, Grand Rapids, Detroit, Haifa Symphony, Cincinnati Chamber, and Chicago Symphony Orchestras. He has toured Europe and the U.S. under the batons of top conductors including Pierre Boulez and Zubin Mehta, and performed and collaborated with Steve Reich, John Corigliano, Menahem Pressler, and many others.

A sought-after recitalist, Yehuda has performed as soloist in prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Disney Hall, Chicago Symphony Hall, and Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv. His discography includes several recordings, and he has given master classes around the world. A Selmer-Paris and Vandoren international performing artist and product consultant, he held visiting faculty positions at

ARTIST FACULTY BIOS (cont.)

Indiana University and the University of Virginia. He is principal clarinetist with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra and the clarinet faculty resident at Aria International Music Festival and Fresno Summer Orchestra Academy.

STUDENT BIOS

John DeBiase is an oboist and educator residing in the Lansing area pursuing his Doctoral of Music Arts degree at Michigan State University under the tutelage of Dr. Nermis Mieses. John serves as the teaching assistant to the oboe studio at MSU as well as oboe instructor at the MSU Community Music School and Alma College. John received his Bachelor degree from West Chester University of Pennsylvania with Dr. Henry Grabb and Master degree from Michigan State University. John keeps an active performance life with regional orchestras such as the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, Adrian Symphony Orchestra, and Rochester Symphony Orchestra.

Hailing from Los Angeles, California, **Alexander Delperdang** is a Master student in Horn Performance at Michigan State University and serves as the Graduate Assistant to Professor Corbin Wagner. During his time in California, he could be seen freelancing or performing with his horn quartet, Dämpfer Dans. In Michigan, Alexander can be seen performing with orchestras throughout Michigan, most frequently with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra and the Traverse City Philharmonic. Looking to the future, Alexander will be pursuing a Doctoral Degree in Horn with the hopes to teach at the collegiate level and win a permanent spot in a full-time orchestra.

Sierra Watson is a DMA student from Cincinnati, Ohio. She earned her Bachelor of Music in Bassoon Performance from Ball State University in 2021, and her Master of Music in Bassoon Performance from Michigan State University in 2023. While at Ball State, she was the winner of the 2019-2020 Undergraduate Concerto Competition. During her time at Michigan State, she has been a member of the Wind Symphony, Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Winds, and the Goat Rodeo Reed Quintet. She is an active member of the International Double Reed Society. Her primary teachers include Michael Kroth, Keith Sweger, and Bill Jobert.

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)
- **Jim Forger and Deborah Moriarty** (Lunar New Year Celebration Concert)
- **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)
- **Mary and Ron Junttonen** (A Celebration of the Beautiful Voice)
- **Hari Kern and the late Ralph R. Edminster, M.D.** (Votapek, Mar. 23)
- **Henry Kopek and Patricia Foreman** (Red Cedar Organ Series)
- **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** (Alegria Navideña)
- **Merritt Lutz** (Celebrating the Spectrum)
- **Joseph and Jeanne Maguire** (A Jazzy Little Christmas)
- **Marshall Music Co.** (Symphonic Dialogues)
- **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)
- **Charles and Nancy Seebeck** (Bagratuni, Mar. 16)
- **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)
- **Richard and Joan Witter Endowment for MSU Opera Theatre** (Fall and Spring Opera)
- **WKAR** (Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series)
- **Worthington Family Foundation** (Opera Season)
- **Andrea L. Wulf** (Piano Monster)

SPONSORSHIPS AND RECOGNITION

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

1/28 Wednesday

Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. \$

1/29 Thursday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR
Adama Quartet
Cook Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

1/30 Friday

TJEMS-Ciaramella - The Winds of Renaissance
Fairchild Theatre, 7:30 p.m. \$\$

2/2 Monday

Musique 21
Murray Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

2/3 Tuesday

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

2/4 Wednesday

MSUFCU Showcase Series
Newfound Chamber Winds
Cook Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$\$

2/5 Thursday

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

*Please visit our **official, secure ticket website** to purchase tickets:
music.msu.edu/events*

Avoid fraudulent sites by always using this link.

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.*

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UPCOMING EVENTS (cont.)

2/6 Friday

Symphony Orchestra: Holst: The Planets

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

2/8 Sunday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

Keyboard Conversations: Hae Won Jang, organ & Deborah Moriarty, piano

Alumni Chapel, 3:00 p.m. \$

2/9 Monday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

Il Bellissimo Suono – Guy Yehuda, clarinet

Cook Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

2/10 Tuesday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

Latin America and The Harp – Juan Riveros, harp

Cook Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

2/12 Thursday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

French Master Works – Dmitri Berlinsky, violin

Cook Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

2/13 Friday

Jazz Nonets with Jeff Haas, jazz piano

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

2/14 Saturday

Artist-Faculty and Guest Recital Series sponsored by WKAR

Nermis Miseses, oboe

Cook Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. \$

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