

fanfare

Vol. 32, No. 1 • August 2023



Preucil students return to Hancher Auditorium for Annual String Concert!



PREUCIL
School of Music



Director's Message By Sonja Zeithamel



It is always special to see that your efforts have paid off! This year at Preucil School of Music, our calendar was overflowing. The School's focus was on our return following COVID to all things involving music and education. During this period, the School's Preschool and Music Together® programs increased their offerings and expanded their hours. Our instrumental faculty and students participated in regularly programmed school events and enjoyed the return to public venues such as Hancher Auditorium and City High Opstad Auditorium. Our students once again had the opportunity to present amazing live performances, participate in winter and summer chamber programs, work with guest artists in masterclasses, present outreach concerts in Iowa and Illinois, perform with the UI Symphony Orchestra, and compete in various competitions at the local, state and national levels. Cello Choir made a professional recording of their favorite repertoire and the School bid a fond farewell to 25 outstanding seniors. The final step in completing our return is to increase the enrollment back to pre-COVID levels. We hope to achieve this goal in the 2023-2024 school year.

In addition to the exciting things happening with our students, the Board of Trustees and Guild have returned to in person meetings. As with everything, our membership on these committees is down since COVID, but our goal in the coming year is to reverse that. Within these vital groups, we have started looking ahead to the future, updating the School's strategic plan and discussing ways to celebrate the School's 50th Anniversary in 2024-2025.

Being part of a community that appreciates the arts, education and values its youth has been a very special journey for the School spanning nearly five decades. We have faced challenges, seen positive growth, touched the lives of hundreds of children and families through music and contributed to the arts community in the Eastern Iowa area. We look forward to celebrating the past and embracing the future where we hope to carry on the Preucil legacy for another 50 years. If you would be interested in helping the Board of Trustees and Preucil Guild in any capacity with this milestone event, please contact Adam McLaughlin or Sonja Zeithamel. This would be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with alumni!

The articles about our programs and students that follow tell an exciting story of our year and our return to live music! I hope you enjoy reading about our activities as much as we enjoyed having the opportunity to once again do what we all love to do.

Our return this year has been made possible by the outpouring of support, gratitude and appreciation by our donors, volunteers, faculty, staff, families, and friends. We have accomplished a lot, but we still have a lot more ahead of us. Everyone at Preucil School would like to say **thank you** for your ongoing support and hope to see you at one of our upcoming performances in the new year!

"Where love runs deep, much can be accomplished!" - Shinichi Suzuki



Preucil Preschool students celebrate Doris Preucil's birthday!



2022-23

Director

Sonja Zeithamel

Assistant Director

Lisa Guttenberg

Director Emeritus

Doris Preucil

Business Manager

Adam McLaughlin

Permanent Board Members

Doris Preucil, Secretary
William Preucil
Sonja Zeithamel
Lisa Guttenberg

Board of Trustees

Anjana Aggarwal
Jason Aird
Tim Evans
Ross George
Katie Kahler
Geri Kohlhaas
Luis Martin-Estudillo
Robin Jackson Miller
Saif Sami
Lyse Strnad
Madeline Windauer
Joe Yockey

Preucil Guild

Kiki Aanestad
Linda Cretzmeyer
Catherine McGarvey
Jon Ranard
Patricia Roberts
Cheri Viner-Lynch
Sze Sze Yockey

Committee Members

Brian Hunt, Finance
Brad Langguth, Finance

Board Member Changes

The Preucil School of Music is a non-profit organization governed by the Board of Trustees (BOT). Its objective is to set policy and direction for Preucil School and to support the Preucil Administration in accomplishing the organization's mission. The Preucil Guild, a subcommittee of the BOT, focuses on fundraising, marketing and special events. Members of both boards commit to serving a three-year term, which may be extended for a second three-year term.

The School appreciates the service by each of its Board and Guild members. The School could not operate and continue offering the quality music experience for its students without the support of both groups. Today's economy presents special challenges to non-profit organizations, and these individuals with their vision, expertise and desire to make a difference have been an inspiration to the school's leadership!

Farewell!

Each year several people complete their terms or resign their position for personal reasons. This year we say farewell to Board of Trustees members Geri Kohlhaas and Madeline Windauer. Geri will remain on the Financial Aid Committee for one more year and Madeline will remain on the Finance Committee.

Welcome!

This year we welcomed new Board members Lyse Strnad, Luis Martin-Estudillo and Robin Jackson Miller to the Board of Trustees.

How May I Serve?

If anyone would be interested in serving on the Preucil School of Music BOT or Guild in this very special volunteer capacity, please let Sonja Zeithamel know at 319-337-4156, x103; zeithamel@preucil.org.

Check out the Preucil School of Music Website for the latest news and updates: www.preucil.org

- ◆ Ways to help the Preucil School of Music: Stuff, etc., Goodshop.com, GoodSearch.com, AmazonSmile.com
- ◆ A link to the Preucil School, Preschool & Music Together® Facebook Pages can be found on the Preucil School website.
- ◆ Alumni link: Click "Alumni" tab on the website to go to a page where alumni information can be submitted. It is regularly monitored. Keep in touch!

Table of Contents

Director's Message	1	Outreach	7	Graduation	16-19
Board Changes.....	2	Preschool Artists	8	Alumni News	20
Preucil Website	2	Return Celebration	9-10		
Faculty/Staff Farewells	3	Cello Department News	11		
New Faculty & Staff	3	Orchestra Festival.....	12		
Piano News.....	4	We Congratulate	13-14		
Harp Notes	5	In Memoriam.....	15		
Chamber Music Notes	6	Corporate Sponsorships	15		

Faculty & Staff Farewells

It is always sad to say goodbye to people who have made an impact on your life or the lives of others. The following people have been wonderful colleagues and made major contributions to the programs at Preucil School. As they move on, we thank each person for their dedication and support and wish them the very best in the future.

Dominique Archambeau, viola faculty
 Patricia Courtney, administrative assistant
 Adrián Gómez Hernández, cello faculty
 Tyler Hendrickson, piano faculty

New Faculty & Staff:

It is a privilege to welcome the following people into the Preucil “family.” To read more about our outstanding faculty and staff, visit our website at: www.preucil.org.



Adam McLaughlin, Business Manager, came to us in August 2022 with over 18 years of marketing and business development experience, including work in nonprofit fundraising. He holds a B.A. in Communication Studies from the University of Iowa. Adam is a tenor vocalist and has been a lifelong performer in community theatre and live music productions. Throughout his initial year at Preucil, he has found immense satisfaction in combining his passion for music with his work talents to serve the students and families of Preucil.



Katelyn Halverson, ECE, is thrilled to be going on her second year at the Preucil School of Music as the 5-day Preschool Teaching Assistant, having had started in August of 2022. She currently attends Kirkwood Community College and plans to pursue a degree in Early Childhood Education. Outside of the classroom, she loves playing with her cat, baking, spending time in nature, and volunteering for local community theatres. Katelyn is passionate about the arts and working with children, and she especially believes in providing a safe, fun, and educational environment for young artists. She cannot wait for school to start this fall, and to see all of the new and familiar faces!



Amy Phelps, cello faculty, is a native of Iowa City and a graduate of the Preucil School of Music. In 1989, she obtained a double degree in Cello Performance and French Literature from Oberlin College and Conservatory. After her undergraduate education, Dr. Phelps' multiple interests led her to France where she studied at the Conservatoire National de Région de Marseille and performed with the Marseille Opera Orchestra. From the University of Iowa, she earned a Masters in Music in 2004 and the Doctorate of Musical Arts in Cello Performance in 2008. Currently, Dr. Phelps teaches at Coe College, is Assistant Principal Cellist of Orchestra Iowa and section cellist of the Quad City Symphony and you might see her subbing with the Des Moines or Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphonies. Her hobbies outside cello include doing triathlons, gardening, and playing with her dogs.



Jenna Battleson, administrative assistant at Main Campus, comes to us with experience in non-profit fundraising coordination as well as community outreach. She is a teacher, pastor and former global worker having recently served in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Jenna holds a Bachelor of Sciences in Elementary Education with an additional endorsement in ESL from Greenville University and is currently working towards becoming a Free Methodist ordained minister. While Jenna is a native of Illinois, she and her family decided to relocate to Iowa City in May of this year to be near good friends. She is married to Keith and has two sons, Roman (11) and Solomon (8). In their free time they enjoy family read-alouds, playing board games, spending time with neighbors, and frequenting the local Thai restaurants.

Piano Highlights By Debra Hernstrom

During the first semester students prepared for the Multiple Piano Concert. 46 students participated in two multiple piano concerts for books 3 and up on December 18 at the North Campus in Walder Hall. Holiday music interspersed with selections by Grieg, Bizet, and the ever-popular "Sabre Dance" were on the program.

The Piano Workshop for books 1 and 2 took place on the weekend of March 3-5. This event is divided into two parts--a master class and a group class. Sara Stephens Kotrba from Eagan, Minnesota was the master class clinician for the second year. 44 students performed for her in this master class. Anna Salmon from Westminster, Colorado was the group clinician with 50 students participating. Be sure to ask your teachers about how to participate in these events this coming year.

Twenty-two students participated from the pre-twinkle and books 1-4 group classes for the first Piano Extravaganza Concert on April 23 at Walder Hall.



Anna Salmon working with young pianists in group class.



Anna Salmon & Sara Stephens Kotrba



Sara Stephens Kotrba with master class students



Piano Faculty: Stephen Mulvahill, Sasha Garver, Ruth Johnson, Chiaki Kubota, Barb Michaelson, Deb Hernstrom, Lauree Christman, Tyler Hendrickson

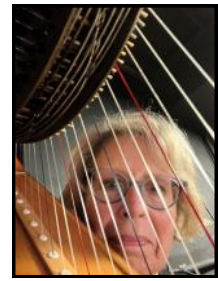
"Celebrating a successful first time Piano Extravaganza!"

Harp Notes By Pam Weest-Carrasco



Charles Brungardt, left, performs at Holy Name Catholic Church in Winfield, KS

The Eastern Iowa Chapter of the American Harp Society held an event at the North Campus. Harpists from eastern Iowa gathered to play together. Preucil student participants were Amelia Flaming, Charles Brungardt & Nona France. (below)



Amelia Flaming, left, enjoys her new pedal harp!



Faculty Pam Weest-Carrasco, left, traveled to Quincy, IL to teach group classes at the Javaux Music School.

Our harp studio says "goodbye and good luck" to senior, Mara Maas. (right). Mara will be attending the Coast Guard Academy to study data analytics.



Chamber Music in 2023 By Lisa Guttenberg



Our chamber music season began with the Winter Chamber Program in January. Seven groups rehearsed weekly for 10-14 weeks. On April 15, Maureen Yuen from Drake University and Ho Anthony Ahn from Kansas came to give masterclasses for all the groups. We concluded with a wonderful concert in Wilson Auditorium on April 18. Thank you to the coaches who helped make this possible: Dominique Archambeau, Lisa Guttenberg, Hannah Howland Jacobs, Michael Klyce, and Sonja Zeithamel. A big thank you also goes to Associated Chamber Music Players (ACMP) for the grant we received for this program.

On April 28, several of the Winter Chamber Program groups performed an informal concert in Walder Hall for the Thursday and Friday group classes.

On May 21, three seniors were recognized at graduation for their commitment to chamber music during their junior and senior high school years at Preucil. Congratulations again to Adrian Bostian, Haoran Wu, and Adam Zeithamel.

Summer Chamber Fest was the grand finale of our chamber music cycle. Twenty-eight students gathered at North Campus for a week of intensive study from June 25 – July 1. We welcomed Empire Wild back for the opening performance and jam classes. Students also participated and observed masterclasses led by Elizabeth Oakes and Empire Wild. Preucil alum, Edmond Henning, led a fiddle class for the violins and violas. The daily schedule consisted of coachings, supervised practices, jam classes, composition and improvisation workshop, orchestra, and viola for violinists. The final concert was held on July 1 and featured all eight chamber groups, the orchestra led by Linda Judiesch, the composition and improvisation workshop led by Ramin Roshandel, and the jam classes led by Empire Wild. A huge thank you to all the faculty and clinicians who made the week such a success: Amy Redhage, Edmond Henning, Elizabeth Oakes, Empire Wild (Ken Kubota and Mitch Lyon), Hannah Yang, Laura Shaw, Linda Judiesch, Marit Hervig, Mary Neumann, and Ramin Roshandel.

Our established piano quartet coached by Michael Klyce had two wonderful masterclass opportunities in April: Annie Fullard from the Cavani Quartet and Maureen Yuen from Drake University.

Our students gain so much musically and personally by participating in chamber music. Jacob Newton, a senior at Preucil, shared his thoughts about chamber music with me: “Doing chamber music helped me to realize how much fun it is to create music with other people. There’s some of that in orchestra, but in a small ensemble, everyone is responsible for contributing to the group interpretation—you’re truly crafting the music. It was an honor to work with three other musicians who all had meaningful contributions to what we did as an ensemble. I also feel like my ears were refined—I had to listen not only to the others in the ensemble, but also know exactly what I sounded like, which was definitely a challenge. As I’m working on my solo repertoire now, I can clearly see how participating in chamber music has made me a better musician.”

Join us for the exciting chamber events planned in 2023-2024:

Winter Chamber Program: January – April

Masterclass on Sunday, April 14 – Guest Clinicians TBA

Final Concert on Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00

Summer Chamber Fest: Sunday, June 23 – Saturday, June 29



Outreach By Pam Weest-Carrasco

Bringing music to the world . . .

Violas perform at the
Senior Center in Iowa City



Violin group classes perform holiday tunes at
Grand Living in Coralville

Amy Redhage & Preucil students performed
at the Coralville Public Library



Amy Redhage & Preucil students perform
at Grand Living in Coralville

Preschool Artists By Kirsten Williamson

When I spend time in the Preucil Preschool Art Studio as the Atelierista (art teacher), I am always amazed by the creative and energetic ways that the preschool artists use materials and express their ideas. When I spend time in the Stanley Museum of Art as a volunteer docent (tour guide) I am always amazed by the creative and energetic ways that the artists have used materials and expressed their ideas. I am grateful that all three of our preschool classes had the opportunity to visit the Stanley in 2023 to learn from and be inspired by the terrific art on display for the inaugural “Homecoming” exhibition.



“Mural” by Jackson Pollock

Before we took our field trips to the museum, we took time to learn about some of the artists that we would see. We read biographical picture books about artists Jackson Pollock, Alma Thomas, Yayoi Kusama, Joan Miro, and Henri Matisse, then made art inspired by their styles. I laid out huge mural papers on the playground and we made collaborative action paintings with different tools, like Pollock. We used dots to create abstract compositions, like Kusama. We painted with watercolors, using bright colors and brushstrokes aligned like Thomas.

We also spent time learning art museum rules and etiquette. Many of the students had been to hands-on museums like the Children’s Museum before, but maybe not to an art museum. We discussed why we visit an art museum—to be inspired! Even the three-year-olds understood why enjoying the art with our eyes was ok, but we needed to keep our hands from reaching out to touch it, to protect the artwork. Our Reggio-inspired preschool philosophy respects children as full-fledged humans, capable of being active members in the community. Our visits to the Stanley were fun adventures, and a wonderful way to put the philosophy into action.



Mask display by Hervé Youmbi

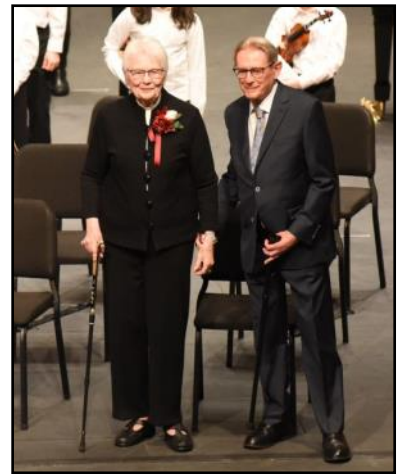


“Fantasy Coffin” (pink fish) by Eric Adjetey



“Surrounding” by Odili Donald Odita

A Grand Celebration of Our Return to Live Music!





Cello Department News By Laura Shaw

The cello department has had a very busy and very exciting year. For our group classes, it was a return to some of our usual activities, and for our cello choir, a venture into new things!

The cello group classes had numerous fun activities this year. They had a Halloween play-in at the end of October, and then a Holiday play-in at Melrose Meadows. The last time we had an outreach concert was before the pandemic, so we were very excited to share our music at the retirement community. The people at Melrose Meadows were so generous and welcoming. And of course, the group classes performed at Hancher Auditorium in February, which was a first for many of our younger players.

Our cello choirs had two joint concerts this year, featuring both the junior cello choir and the senior cello choir. Our fall concert was at Coral Ridge Mall, right by the Children's Museum. It was so great to get out into the community and show off the cello department, even if it was rather loud and hard to hear! Our spring concert was in Walder Hall at the Preucil School, where both groups showed the incredible progress made throughout the year. At this concert, our three graduating seniors were honored: Adam Zeithamel, Adrian Bostian, and Greta Stanier.

The Preucil School Cello Choir had an incredible year. Besides our two joint concerts with junior cello choir, we also performed at Cello Daze at the University, and we went on tour to Chicago. The tour consisted of a performance in Davenport, and then a joint concert in Chicago with Cellissimo, a group headed by Sally Gross and Alex Revoal from the Western Springs Suzuki Program. The kids also went ice skating downtown and had pizza all together. It was an incredibly fun and musical weekend. This was the first tour the Cello Choir has ever taken, and it was a huge success.

Our last big project of the year was finishing our recording sessions for Cello Choir's planned CD. We spent two weeks recording with Peter Nothnagle at St. Bridget's Church near Solon. Once the recordings are edited, we will be able to put together a CD. This has been a two-year project, and it's very exciting to see it nearly finished. The Cello Choir was very professional and worked incredibly hard through all the recording sessions.



Above: Graduating seniors Adrian Bostian, Greta Stanier & Adam Zeithamel.

Above right: Junior Cello Choir at Coralridge Mall.

Right: Cello Choir recording session

Orchestra Festival

Held March 7, 2023 at the Iowa City High School



Crescendo
Stephen Mulvahill, conductor



Vivace
Linda Judiesch, conductor



Concert Orchestra
Sonja Zeithamel,
conductor



Cello Choir
Laura Shaw, director



Philharmonia
Carey Bostian, conductor



Sinfonietta
Anthony Arnone, conductor

We Congratulate...

Preucil students and faculty received many honors at area events in 2022-23. Congratulations to all!

Iowa Music Teacher's Association (Piano)

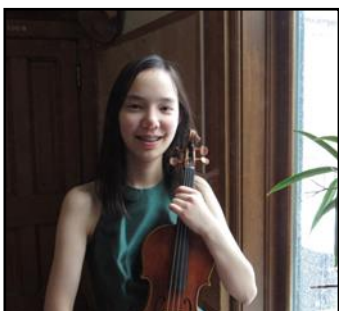
District Winners who qualified for State: Louise Gooblar-Perovic, Emily Ding, Abigail Chen, Khloe Zhao, Victor Yao, Alice Gooblar-Perovic

Alternates: Noah Wiechert, Serah Song, Rosanna Yang, Serene Song, Erin Chen, Abby Guo, Andrew Chen

Honorable Mention: Sephora Whalen, Nishvith Sudhakar, Milla Wiechert, Richard Yang

State Audition Runner Up: Louise Gooblar-Perovic, Alice Gooblar-Perovic

State Audition Honorable Mention: Khloe Zhao



Tai Chang Caputo

Iowa All-State Music Festival

Violin: Alec Bowman, Tai Chang Caputo, Andrew Chen, Andrew Dong, Jonathan Fan, Tina Hong, Anjali Lodh, Yuning Shao, Abigail Sigafoose, Anna Song, Grace Wolle

Viola: Marcus Brintle, Esther Puderbaugh, Haoran Wu

Cello: Adrian Bostian, Isaac Bullwinkle, Marina Escandell, Tessera Rippentrop, Sebastian Sauder, Greta Stanier, Adam Zeithamel, Ming Yang (alternate)

Bass: Leo Burchett, Lucy Charis-Carlson

Chorus: Lauren Ajax

Horn: Matisse Arnone

Iowa Junior Honors String Orchestra Festival

Violin: Lydia Evans, Lucas Iverson, Grace Meier-Gast, Norah Orhon, Thara Rajagopal

Viola: Matthew Lu, Kobi Nott

Cello: Gemma Escandell, Clara Meehan, Anna Platte, Ana Rippentrop, Talia Tungsiripat, Seoyoung Yoon

Iowa City Music Club Betsy Hawtrey Scholarship

Yuning Shao, violin

2023 National Youth Orchestra-USA

Adam Zeithamel, cello

2023 Central Iowa Symphony Young Artists Competition

Winner: Sebastian Sauder, cello

Muscatine Symphony Young Artist's Competition

Winner: Tai Chang Caputo, violin

Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony Young Artist Competition

Winner: Adam Zeithamel, cello

2nd Place: Adrian Bostian, cello

Ft. Dodge Symphony Young Artist's Competition Winner:

Sebastian Sauder, cello

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra Student Concerto Competition

3rd Place: Alec Bowman, violin

Cedar Rapids Gazette Excellence in the Arts Performing Artist Award

Adam Zeithamel, cello

Sebastian Sauder



Adam Zeithamel





**to the following students for completing the
100+ Days Practice Club
during the 2022-2023 school year!!**

Rocco Arnone
Charles Brungardt
Ilse Byersdorfer
Leif Charis-Carlson
Kalona Delgado (cello/flute/piano)
Zoe Delgado (cello/flute/piano)
Sebastian Dilley-Curto
Sienna Dilley-Curto
Jason Dong
Iulia Fang
Amelia Flaming
Amelia Foulker
Lucia Galluzzo
Ayla Keck

Gloria Metcalf
Jack Metcalf
Huy Nguyen
Sophia Nguyen
Jack Niemitalo
Lydia Niemitalo
Madeleine Pai
Lillian Rantanen
Laura Redhage
Paul Redhage
Clara Schwalje
Sophia Seele
Aimee Shao
Serah Song
Serene Song

Amelia Steffen
Anjali Strand
Everett Tungsiripat
Talia Tungsiripat
Angela Wang
Kairui Wang
Milla Wiechert (cello/piano)
Noah Wiechert
Lianna Wyrick
Rosanna Yang
Ian Zhao
Kaspar Zhao
Khloe Zhao
Li-te Zhui

Setting a goal and sticking to it is similar to making a New Year's Resolution. And deciding to practice 100 days in a row is putting the power of practice into action. Whether a beginner or an advanced player, what's important is the consistency of regular practice, thus building a habit and reinforcing one's skills on the instrument.

WAYS TO HELP PREUCIL SCHOOL OF MUSIC!

STUFF ETC.—ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF YOUR DONATED ITEMS GO TO THE STUDENT FINANCIAL AID FUND.

OFFICE DEPOT—WHEN YOU SHOP AT OFFICE DEPOT, ASK THE CLERK AT CHECK-OUT TO APPLY YOUR PURCHASE TO PREUCIL SCHOOL OF MUSIC. OFFICE DEPOT WILL AWARD PREUCIL SCHOOL 5% OF THE QUALIFYING PURCHASES IN MERCHANDISE CREDIT THAT CAN BE USED TOWARDS FREE SUPPLIES!

CONTACT US DIRECTLY — OUR GIVING PROGRAM INCLUDES A VARIETY OF OPTIONS THAT WILL MEET THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF PREUCIL SCHOOL OF MUSIC, NOW AND INTO THE FUTURE. YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT THROUGH ONE TIME GIFTS, ON-GOING GIFTS OR THROUGH FUTURE GIFTS. TO FURTHER EXPLORE GIVING OPTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO OUR BUSINESS MANAGER, ADAM McLAUGHLIN, AT 319-337-4156 OR EMAIL AMCLAUGHLIN@PREUCIL.ORG.

In Memoriam 2022-23

Imogene Judiesch (1922-2022): mother of PSM faculty member Linda Judiesch

Roger Dean Marshall (1932-2022): father of PSM student Lynette Marshall

Mischelle Rios (1965-2022): mother of PSM alum (2020) Amelia Rios-Van Saun

Janet Marshall (1936-2022): mother of PSM student Lynette Marshall

Margaret Dorsey Phelps (1940-2022): mother of PSM alums James (1990), Amy (1986) and Jennifer; grandmother of Gilbert (2013)

Joe Henderson (1993-2023): PSM alum (2012)

Linus J. Brungardt (1924-2023): father of PSM student Charles Brungardt

Janice Wilson (1929-2023): Preucil benefactor & wife of Herb Wilson (deceased)

Bruce Goddard (1945-2023): father of PSM alums Christopher (1991) & Laura (2002)

Beverly Cray (1935-2023): mother of PSM student Susan Hagan; grandmother of PSM alum Sean Hagan (2022)

James Neumann (1938-2023): father of PSM faculty member Mary Neumann

Faculty
Holiday
Luncheon



Seated: Linda Judiesch, William Preucil, Doris Preucil, Sonja Zeithamel, Lisa Guttenberg, Kitty Fink, Deb Hernstrom, Al Row 2: Adam McLaughlin, Carey Bostian, Dominique Archambeau, Amy Redhage, Molly Leefer, Stephen Mulvahill, Ana Marie Locke, Lauree Christman, Barb Michaelson, Joe Yockey (Board President) Row 3: Adrián Gómez Hernández, Laura Shaw, Hannah Howland Jacobs, Jeanette Welch, Marit Hervig, Chiaki Kubota, Sally Denison, Patricia Courtney

THE PREUCIL SCHOOL OF MUSIC SINCERELY THANKS THE FOLLOWING CORPORATE SPONSORS:

Platinum Sponsors:

GreenState Credit Union
Hills Bank & Trust Company
West Music

Gold Sponsors:

First Community Trust, N.A.
Iowa Audiology & Hearing Aid Centers
Iowa City Landscaping & Garden
Center
Jeff Edberg, Edberg, Inc.
Reck Violin Shop
West Bank

Silver Sponsors:

Smith & Wood Construction

Graduation 2023



Senior graduation took place on Sunday evening, May 21, in Wilson Auditorium. The evening's speaker was Mary E. Larew from the Preucil School Class of 2001. Many of Mary's formative memories took place at the Preucil School of Music from the age of 4 through graduation from high school. Her studies in violin with Sonja Zeithamel, then Doris Preucil; piano with Debra Hernstrom; and chamber music with cellist David Evenchick at PSM provided a perfect foundation for what would evolve into a rich and varied career in music.

Mary is now an accomplished violinist, an award-winning composer, and a seasoned arts administrator. She moved to Saint Paul a year ago with her family, from Connecticut, where her professional experience included serving as a teaching artist, Suzuki Violin instructor, music director, and in multiple administrative roles at community music organizations, including as Executive Director of the Danbury Music Center. Mary holds a degree from Oberlin Conservatory in Music Composition, a Master of Arts degree from Teachers College of Columbia University in Arts Administration, and a Ph.D. in Directing Medieval Music Dramas from the University of York. Currently she serves as the Executive Director of the Saint Paul Conservatory of Music. Mary lives with her husband and son Pascal in Saint Paul, MN where she continues the traditions she learned at the Preucil School of Music as a Suzuki parent. Following is Mary's message to the graduates.

Good evening. It is a tremendous honor to be here tonight. I was sitting where you were sitting now in 2001, and the day after tomorrow I will be 40.

I am so grateful to have studied with Sonja Zeithamel and Deb Hernstrom from the age of about 4 years old - although with Deb I had to start twice because the first time I tried piano lessons I was too shy to speak a word or to touch the piano. But after a break of a year or two, I begged my parents to return to piano lessons with Deb and am so grateful I did!

I am also thankful to have studied with Doris Preucil in high school, and to have had opportunities to play in orchestras, string quartets, and Espressivo Strings.

Anywhere I go in the music industry, if I mention that I studied at the Preucil School of Music, people are impressed and assume that I know what I'm talking about!

Tonight I wanted to consider the Mantra: Where love is deep, much can be accomplished.

Commencement is a time when many of us reflect on the chapters we have lived, and the chapters that are in our future. There are times in every life when the way forward is clear, and when the way forward is not clear.

When you feel called to pursue a particular future, that is tremendously valuable and it is to be cherished and protected. I encourage you to follow your inspiration, and to pursue it relentlessly - to love it deeply, for when love is deep, much can be accomplished.

At the same time, I want you to be liberated from a false understanding that we can plan our futures in detail, and that we can decide everything that will happen in our lives. In part, it is true that we can decide, but it's also not true, and many of the most interesting people I know, and people whom I respect the most, have changed their paths many times over the course of their careers. Some of these highly and diversely accomplished people are my peers, and remember, I'm only 40 on Tuesday.

I'd speculate that in each of our lives we will experience those times when we know exactly what we want to do, and also those times when we feel lost or uncertain of what we wish to do, and in those uncertain times I encourage each of us to lean into the Mantra: Where love is deep, much can be accomplished. Use the uncertain times to open your eyes and your ears and your heart and to pay attention to what you are doing and seeing and experiencing, and to discern what you love. Then lean into that love, because that love will lead you to the next step, even if it doesn't answer all of the questions or uncertainties you are grappling with.

On a different, but related note, I want to clear up one terrible idea which is the phrase: "do what you love and you will never work a day in your life." Let me tell you as someone who loves her work, nothing could be further from the truth. I work everyday, but when I love my work I wake up in the morning and I look forward to my day and I feel my brain on fire with interesting things to think about and ideas to consider and people to meet; and I love my work; and I work very hard. Most of the people I know who love their work also work very hard.

But when you deeply love your work and when you do what you love, you feel a tremendous sense of purpose and you bring into the world things that are desperately needed. You bring more love into your interactions with other people; people who are desperate for love because we're all in need of love.

Beyond work, in the sense of one's professional life, there are the greater problems of the world. I think we all look around and we see things that trouble us, whether it's racism, or the environment, or deepening cultural divisions.

And even in these problems I encourage you to cultivate and to practice love. Love your neighbor. Love people you disagree with and try to understand them; try to find things in common. There are so many problems that we can solve, if we're working together on them and if we're working with love: Where love is deep, much can be accomplished.

When you are called to work on one of these problems by following your love, and by feeling that feeling that you can't ignore, that you need to step in and do something or say something: please do it; the world needs you.

And speaking of you:

The world needs you to be who you are: your unique self with your unique gifts, your unique Works, your unique ways of thinking about the world. So please love yourself deeply, and find out what it is that makes you who you are.

When you encounter an experience that challenges you, trust that you are going to learn more about yourself and about what you love, and you're going to find ways to lean into what you love and to approach the work with love.

Well, while I stand by everything I've said so far, it has been quite philosophical. Now I'd like to give some very concrete and specific advice: one piece of advice for those who anticipate entering the music industry as a professional, and one piece of advice to those who are not anticipating entering the music industry for your professional life.

To those who are going to pursue music, first I want to say: Yes! This is wonderful news! You are in for a wild and wonderful ride.

My advice to you is to take advantage of Suzuki teacher training and become trained so that you can pay your rent and put food on the table, all while making the world a better place with more music.

You are someone with a pedigree when you graduate from The Preucil School of Music, and when you combine that pedigree with teacher training you will find yourself with doors that open wide to hire you, or you can open your own studio and be your own boss.

You may end up finding that you want to devote most of your time to teaching; you may also find that this is part of a portfolio that helps you to have a rich and fulfilling and financially stable career. Most professional musicians are portfolio musicians.

To those who are not planning to pursue music as a profession (first, it's not too late to change your mind!) - I want to remind you that the world needs you and your understanding of music. The Arts in this country depend on your generosity with donations to Arts organizations throughout your life.

There are nations in the world that prioritize funding the arts and recognize that the arts are an important part of any healthy economy but in the United States, our government is very limited in its support of our arts sector, and relies on the generosity of individuals to keep a healthy abundance. Therefore: do not forget that where love is deep, much can be accomplished, and part of your love might well include making regular and generous donations to arts organizations.

I want to thank you all for listening and I want to encourage you to reach out to me if you ever need a sounding board for what you might want to consider for your work. I would be happy to give you advice or to listen or to share what I have observed throughout my quite diverse career in the music industry. I wish you every success, and I wish you, more than anything else, deep and much-accomplishing love.



Mary Larew addressing the Senior Class of 2023



Seated: Emily Guiaya, Greta Stanier, Adrian Bostian, Adam Zeithamel, Isaac Bullwinkle, Emma Genkinger, Wendy Meng

Standing: Haoran Wu, Matisse Arnone, Marcus Brintle, Sarah Redhage, Mira Wilmot-DiCarlo, Elliot Manjoine, Melissa Uc, Jennie Gidal, Jay Mascardo, Elaine Dai, Amy Anil, Lauren Ajax

Not pictured: Jonathan Fan, Mara Maas, Hanae Matsumoto, Madeleine Miller, Vivian Polgreen

Following is the list of graduating seniors:

Lauren Ajax (violin & piano): PSM 14 years, Liberty HS

High School Highlights:

- Show Choir
- Volunteer work
- Honor Roll
- National Honor Society
- Tennis

Future plans: Attending Grinnell College

Amy Anil (violin): PSM 10 years, Iowa City HS

High School Highlights:

- Graduation ceremony for bharatanatyam, an Indian classical dance
- Internship for speech pathology
- National Honor Society
- Volunteering at the Children's Hospital
- Tennis team

Future plans: Attending college to pursue a career in healthcare

Matisse Arnone (piano): PSM 8 years, Iowa City HS

High School Highlights:

- Drum Major for marching band for two years
- Organizing an Earth Day event
- Planning two school-wide voter registration drives
- Volunteering at the Field to Family online farmer's market
- Three years in All-State on French Horn

Future plans: Attending college on the east coast to study Environmental Policy

Adrian Bostian (piano & cello): PSM 14 years, Iowa City HS

High School Highlights:

- Playing chamber music with my family
- Tennis
- Psychology Club
- Student Senate
- Teaching young musicians

Future plans: Attending the Peabody Conservatory to study Cello

Isaac Bullwinkle (piano & cello): PSM 12 years, Iowa City HS

High School Highlights:

- All-State Orchestra 2022-4th chair
- 2022 Interlochen Cello Intensive
- City High Journalism: Opinion & Copy Editor, 2019-2023

Future plans: Attending Oberlin College; continue to play piano & cello indefinitely

Emma Genkinger (cello): PSM 14 years, Iowa City West HS

High School Highlights:

- West High Dance Team, 3 years
- Capital Orchestra Festival 2023 with West High orchestra
- National placement for West High Dance Team
- National Honor Society
- Trained at Nolte Academy for 16 years

Future plans: Attending University of Kansas to study Biology

Jennie Gidal (violin): PSM 6 years, Iowa City HS

High School Highlights:

- Mock Trial member
- President of Interact Club
- Cross Country
- Student Senator
- Tennis

Future plans: Attending Northeastern University to study History, Culture, & Law

Emily Guiaya (violin): PSM 2 years, Homeschool

High School Highlights:

- Volunteering at my local library
- Help homeschool my younger brothers
- Reading hundreds of books

Future plans: Work & save money for schooling

Elliot Manjoine (violin): PSM 2 years, Iowa City HS

High School Highlights:

- Musicals
- Improv
- Swimming
- Orchestra
- Choir

Future plans: Currently unsure

Jay Mascardo (violin): PSM 10 years, Iowa City West HS

High School Highlights:

- Pit orchestra
- National Honor Society
- Starting a small business
- Participating in the Student Producing Innovative Theater (SPIT)

Future plans: Attending college to study Health Sciences to become a Physical Therapist

Hanae Matsumoto (piano): PSM 12 years, Iowa City West HS

High School Highlights:

- Architecture summer program
- Cadenza classical music club
- Making art for my portfolio
- Online school

Future plans: Attending college to study Architecture

Wendy Meng (violin): PSM 13 years, Iowa City West HS

High School Highlights:

- Speech & Debate State Tournament
- West High Symphony Orchestra D.C. trip
- Internship at George Weiner Lymphoma Cancer research lab
- Pit orchestra
- Dissecting a pig in AP Biology

Future plans: Attending college to study Physical Therapy or Psychology

Madeleine Miller (piano): PSM 12 years, Mt. Vernon HS

High School Highlights:

- 2022 Class 3A Volleyball Player of the Year
- 2022 WaMaC Conference Volleyball Player of the Year
- 2021 & 2022 Volleyball First Team All-State
- 2022 Volleyball Elite All-State Team
- 2021 & 2022 Volleyball First Team All-Conference

Future plans: Playing volleyball at the University of New Mexico & studying engineering

Sarah Redhage (violin): PSM 8 years, North Cedar HS

High School Highlights:

- Cross Country
- Choir, band & drama
- Annual music camp in South Dakota
- National Honor Society
- Church youth trips & conferences

Future plans: Attending Concordia College

Greta Stanier (cello): PSM 13 years, Iowa City HS

High School Highlights:

- Varsity tennis
- All-State Orchestra
- State diving
- Camp Wapsie junior counseling
- Mock trial

Future plans: Attending university out of state

Melissa Uc (piano): PSM 12 years, Iowa City West HS

High School Highlights:

- Piano with PSM
- Attending classes with the University of Iowa & the University of Chicago
- Wrestling at Big Game Wrestling Club
- Editor-in-Chief of the Trojan Epic Yearbook
- All Iowa News Team of the Year 2022

Future plans: Attending university to study Political Science or Pre-Law & minor in Journalism or Economics

Haoran Mike Wu (viola): PSM 8 years, Iowa City West HS

High School Highlights:

- Founding Philosophy Club
- Junior Engineering Technology Society State Competition national qualifier
- Speech national qualifier
- All State Orchestra
- COVID

Future plans: Attending the University of Iowa

Adam Zeithamel (cello & piano): PSM 14 years, Iowa City HS

High School Highlights:

- PSSO Tour to Germany & the Czech Republic
- First Place in Ottumwa Concerto Competition 2022 & performing with the Symphony
- 4 year All-State Orchestra
- Interlochen Arts Camp summer 2022
- NYO-USA 2023

Future plans: Attending the University of Michigan to study Cello Performance & becoming a professional musician

News from Alumni

- **Lindsay MacIndoe** (1997) is a cellist, vocalist, songwriter and designer in Etna, AL.
- **Hannah Altmaier Yang** (2012) & her husband, Eric, welcomed daughter Opal on 1/3/23. Hannah is an elementary orchestra teacher with the Iowa City Community School District. Advice to current students: The hardest part of practicing is getting started. Once the instrument is out and tuned, it's way easier to keep going!
- **Ed Henning** (2016) plays fiddle professionally and is a songwriter for Tyler Richton & the High Bank Boys.
- **Lauren Aird** (2018) is a Criminal Judicial Specialist. Advice to current students: when you get stuck or frustrated with something, take a break & come back to it. Don't forget playing an instrument is supposed to be fun!



*Graduation performance by faculty Pam Weest-Carrasco
& senior Mara Maas*

A Special Note to Alumni & Parents

Graduates & parents, we'd love to hear from you! Each of you are important to the Preucil family and we want to stay in touch!

There are a number of ways for alumni to stay connected. Please keep us updated!

Options for staying connected or contacting us:

- ♦ Alumni page on our website: www.preucil.org
- ♦ Follow us on **Facebook**
- ♦ Email: info@preucil.org
- ♦ Address: Preucil School of Music
524 N. Johnson Street
Iowa City, IA 52245-2840

Faculty Honorees

A faculty luncheon was held in May to celebrate a successful year. Honorees included: Carey Bostian, orchestra conductor, 15 years; Linda Judiesch, violin faculty, 25 years; and Deb Hernstrom, piano faculty, 40 years. Congratulations and thank you for your service and loyalty!

