



NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Amy Gillingham Culligan, *music director & conductor*

presents

On the Rise, Op. 8

featuring

2024-2025 NKU Philharmonic Concerto-Aria Competition Winners:

Meg Booker, *soprano*

Annie Hovey, *soprano*

Russell Specht, *alto saxophone*

in collaboration with

Northern Kentucky University Chamber Choir

Katie Barton, *director*

Northern Kentucky Youth Symphony Orchestra

Alexander Moore, *director*

Thursday, February 27, 2025 // 7 p.m.

Greaves Concert Hall

THANK YOU!

We gratefully acknowledge the important role our administrators, faculty, staff, and other mentors play in making our concerts and preparations possible and successful. Thank you to our colleagues in applied instruments/voice, ensembles, history, theory, aural skills, piano, technology, advising, hall management, and to those across the campus in other disciplines for the important role you play in preparing our students both musically and academically.

PROGRAM

Gloria in D Major, RV 589 (1715) (30') Antonio Vivaldi (1678 - 1741)

1. *Gloria in excelsis Deo* (chorus)

Latin:

Gloria in excelsis Deo

English Translation:

Glory to God in the high

2. *Et in terra pax* (chorus)

Latin:

Et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis

English Translation:

And on earth peace, good will toward me

3. *Laudamus te* (America Gandolfo and Lily Lamb, *soprano soloists*)

Latin:

Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te,
glorificamus te.

English Translation:

We praise You, we bless You, we adore You, we
glorify You.

4. *Gratias agimus tibi* (chorus)

Latin:

Gratias agimus tibi

English Translation:

We give thanks to You

5. *Propter magnam gloriam* (chorus)

Latin:

Propter magnam gloriam tuam

English Translation:

For Your great glory.

6. *Domine Deus, Rex coelestis* (Meg Booker, *soprano soloist*)

Latin:

Domine Deus, Rex coelestis, Deus Pater
omnipotens

English Translation:

Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father
Almighty.

7. *Domine, Fili unigenite* (chorus)

Latin:

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.

English Translation:

Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

8. *Domine Deus, Agnus Dei* (chorus and Kimberly Legel, *alto soloist*)

Latin:

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.

English Translation:

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father.
You who take away the sins of the world, have
mercy on us

9. *Qui tollis peccata mundi* (chorus)

Latin:

Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem
nostram.

English Translation:

You who take away the sins of the world, receive
our prayer.

10. *Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris* (Annie Hovey, *alto soloist*)

Latin:

Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.

English Translation:

You who sit at the right hand of the Father, have
mercy on us.

11. *Quoniam tu solus sanctus* (chorus)

Latin:

Quoniam tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus,
Tu solus Altissimus, Jesu Christe,
Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

English Translation:

For You alone are holy, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the
Father. Amen.

12. *Cum Sancto Spiritu* (chorus)

Latin:

Cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

English Translation:

With the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the
Father. Amen

~ 5-minute pause ~

Finale from Symphony No. 2 (1872) (5') Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840 - 1893)

arr. Sandra Dackow

Northern Kentucky University Youth Symphony Orchestra
Alexander Moore, *conductor*

"Nimrod" from Enigma Variations (1899) (5') Edward Elgar (1857 - 1934)

Northern Kentucky University Philharmonic and Youth Symphony Orchestras
Amy Gillingham Culligan, *conductor*

"Poor wand'ring one" from Pirates of Penzance (1879) (4') Arthur Sullivan (1842 - 1900)

Annie Hovey, *soprano*

*Poor wand'ring one!
Though thou hast surely strayed,
Take heart of grace,
Thy steps retrace,
Poor wand'ring one!
Oh, I pray you, do! I implore you to return!*

"Trübe Augen" from Der Freischütz (1821) (6') Carl Maria von Weber (1786 - 1826)

Meg Booker, *soprano*

German:
*Trübe Augen
Schwaches, mattes Leben
Ungewitter,
Sturmgewitter droht,
Ach, wie weh es mir tut!*

English Translation:
*Cloudy eyes
Weak, dim life
Unrest,
A stormy tempest threatens,
Ah, how it pains me!*

Concertino da Camera (1935) (4') Jacques Ibert (1890 - 1962)

I. Allegro con moto

Russell Specht, *alto saxophone*

"Danse Bacchanale" from Samson and Delilah (1877) (7') Camille Saint-Saens (1835 - 1921)

NKU Philharmonic Concerto-Aria Competition and the Gold Jacket Society

The annual "On the Rise" concert is in its eighth (opus 8) year. Since 2017, students have competed in a concerto competition with the winners having the opportunity to perform as soloists with the NKU Philharmonic Orchestra. The "Gold Jacket Society" takes a cue from professional golf, where winners are given a jacket. In 2024, an "aria competition" component was added to the competition, allowing vocalists the opportunity to compete to sing with the ensemble. To mark their accomplishment, winners of the competition are presented with a NKU Philharmonic Orchestra gold jacket upon performing their concerto. These talented young musicians are invited to come back to the "On the Rise" concert each year and wear their jacket.

CONCERT-ARIA COMPETITION SOLOISTS



Meg Booker, soprano
Concerto-Aria Competition Winner
Senior, Music Performance Major
Student of Kimberly Lazzeri

Meg Booker, soprano, is a senior at Northern Kentucky University (NKU). She recently starred as Angelina in Gilbert and Sullivan's *Trial by Jury* and Gasparina in Haydn's *La Canterina* at NKU. She has won prizes in multiple international competitions including First Prize in the New York International Music Competition and an Honorable Mention in the prestigious Hal Leonard Vocal Competition. Her concert repertoire includes Schubert's *Mass in G*, Mozart's *Laudate Dominum*, and Handel's *Piangerò la sorte mia*. She recently performed a solo commissioned recital with the Glow Music Concert Series. In 2025, Meg will make her debut as Micaëla in *Carmen* with the Kentucky Symphony Orchestra. She currently studies under Dr. Kimberly Lazzeri.



Annie Hovey, soprano
Concerto-Aria Competition Winner
Senior, Music Education Major
Student of Joy Burdette

Annie Hovey, soprano, is a senior studying Instrumental Music Education with a minor in Spanish. Although her main instrument is cello and she loves playing in the Philharmonic Orchestra, she is thrilled to be making her solo debut as a vocalist with the group. She has been studying voice with Dr. Joy Burdette since she came to NKU as a freshman. You can find her performing in NKU's Chamber Choir, NKU's Vocal Jazz Ensemble, or in her home choir at Indian Hill Church. Since her recent recital, she has been preparing for this opportunity and to make her debut with NKU's opera program as "Mercedes" in *Carmen*.



Russell Specht, alto saxophone
Concerto-Aria Competition Winner
Sophomore, Jazz Studies Major
Student of William Brian Hogg

Russell Specht, alto saxophone, is a Sophomore Jazz Studies major. He plays lead tenor saxophone in Jazz Ensemble, lead alto/soprano saxophone in the Supersax Ensemble, tenor saxophone in Jazz Combo I, and principal oboe in symphonic winds. In addition to saxophone, Russell enjoys doubling on other woodwinds such as clarinet and oboe/English horn. Additionally, Russell participated in the 2024 KMEA Intercollegiate Jazz Band playing both tenor and soprano saxophone. Russell is a student of Professor William Brian Hogg. After he graduates from NKU he plans to pursue a master's degree to continue expanding his knowledge and appreciation of music.

NKU CHAMBER CHOIR

Katie Barton, *music director & conductor*

SOPRANO

Meg Booker
America Gandolfo
Abigail Guilford
Jasmine Hollifield
Olivia Lamb
Abigail Rauen
Katie Schuman

ALTO

Brooke Boien
Annie Hovey
Lily Lamb
Kimberly Legel
River Saunders
Anna Stephens

TENOR

Bryce Biedenharn
Emery Frondorf
Kenton Lowe
Josh Turner

BASS

Reid Bennett
David-Michael Davies
Amir Edwards-Cuff
Zachary Felts
Vance Jones
Trevor Lee

NKU YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Alexander Moore, *music director & conductor*

Luke Myers, Peyton Wallace, Gracie Niehaus, Caden Graham, *undergraduate teaching assistants*

VIOLIN I

Lillian Hardesty
Zachary Lyle
Marley Winslow
Hanna Zamana

VIOLIN II

Sophie Buse
Ella Arkenau
Ruby Fielding
Cecilia Gillispie
Erin McIntosh
Isabella Zumhagen
Max Zumhagen

VIOLA

Anna Cameron
Bella Custodio
Ryley From
Sydney Mcginnis
Anna Novak
Myla Wade

VIOLONCELLO

Claudette Gillispie

DOUBLE BASS

Hannah Smith

FLUTE

Kenna Hartley
Helena Phillips
Grace Paulowski
Alex Bovard

OBOE

Gwendolyn Stapp

BASSOON

Emma Fulton
Carson Rowe

CLARINET

Cole Paulowski

HORN

Maira Connelly
Anna Napier

TRUMPET

Lauren DeBerge

TROMBONE

Audrey Rose
Haneen Owda

EUPHONIUM

Max Bambach

TUBA

Nathan Walker

PERCUSSION

Rhys Stacy
Judah Lanter

HARP

Heidi Winkler

PIANO

Judah Lanter

NKU PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA PERSONNEL

Amy Gillingham Culligan, *music director & conductor*

VIOLIN I

Gracie Niehaus, *concertmaster*
Maia Loiacono
Eva Vandegrift
James Edler
Patrick Wunderlich

VIOLIN II

Audrey Klanke, *principal*
Ben Lorson
Jacob Canada
Nozomi Watanabe*
Lindsey McMenemy
David Veshapidze*

VIOLA

Noah Wheelock, *principal*
Isaac Bambach
Hagen Bramlage
Void Turner
Darius Briscoe
Ellen McGoron*

VIOLONCELLO

Caden Graham, *principal*
Annie Hovey
Anna Stephens
Alex McCombs
Victoria Jackson

DOUBLE BASS

Malachi Nance, *principal*
Alyssa Johnson

FLUTE

Anna Stivers, *principal*

OBOE

Derek Whippo (on clarinet), *principal*

* denotes community member

+ denotes guest performer

BASSOON

Caroline Phipps, *principal*

CLARINET

Noah Mattoon, *principal*
Taccoa Filice

HORN

Barbara Philips, *principal*
Victor Cabezas
Brooklyn Fritsch

TRUMPET

Robbie Lasonczyk, *principal*
Max Robinette
Aiden Oiler

TROMBONE

Kennedy Straub, *principal*
Anthony Mitchell

PERCUSSION

Andrew Kiner,
principal percussion
Luke Myers, *principal timpani*
& *assoc. principal percussion*
Avary Harper
Brian Spaulding

KEYBOARD

John Paul Shannon

STAGE CREW / SET-UP

Eva Vandegrift, *stage manager*

LIBRARIANS

Void Turner, *head librarian*

PERSONNEL MANAGER

John Paul Shannon

HISTORY OF NKU PHILHARMONIC CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNERS

Op. 8 Concerto Competition Winners (2024-2025 season)

Judges: Lucas Braga and Chika Kinderman, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

Meg Booker, *soprano*

Senior, Vocal Performance Major
Carl Maria von Weber, "Trübe Augen" from Der Freischütz
Student of Kimberly Lazzeri

Annie Hovey, *soprano*

Senior, Music Education Major
Arthur Sullivan, "Poor wand'ring one" from Pirates of Penzance
Student of Joy Burdette

Russell Specht, *alto saxophone*

Sophomore, Jazz Studies Major
Jaques Ibert, Concertino da Camera, movement I
Student of William Brian Hogg

Op. 7 Concerto Competition Winners (2023-2024 season)

Judges: Brianna Matzke, Wilmington College; Rose Brown, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra

Maria Huff, *piano*

Senior, Music Performance Major
Edvard Grieg, Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16, movement I
Student of Richard Van Dyke and Christina Seal

Maia Loiacono, *violin*

Sophomore, Music Education Major
Antonio Vivaldi, Concerto in F Minor, op. 8 no. 4, RV 29, L'inverno ("Winter")
Student of William Herzog

Peyton Wallace, *clarinet*

Senior, Music Education Major
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K. 622, movement I
Student of Krista Weiss

Op. 6 Concerto Competition Winners (2022-2023 season)

Judges: Molly Norcross, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Acting Associate Principal Horn; Daniel Zawodniak, West Virginia Symphony Orchestra Percussion

James Tober, *clarinet*

Senior, Music Performance Major
Claude Debussy, Première rhapsodie
Student of Krista Weiss

Anna Stephens, *cello*

Freshmen, Music Education Major
Camille Saint-Saëns, Cello Concerto in A Minor, movement I
Student of Amy Culligan

Kyle Walker, *marimba*

Senior, Audio Production Major
Emmanuel Sejourne, Concerto for Marimba, movement I
Student of Michael Culligan and Joe Bricker

Op. 5 Concerto Competition Winners (2021–2022 season)

Judging panel: Dwight Parry, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Principal Oboe; Molly Norcross, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Acting Associate Principal Horn

Gracie Niehaus, *violin*

High School Senior

Max Bruch, Concerto for Violin, movement I

Russell Zimmer, *viola*

Senior, Music Performance Major

Cecil Forsyth, Concerto for Viola, movement I

Student of Holly Attar

Op. 4 Concerto Competition Winners (2020–2021 season)

Judging panel: Kara Camfield, University of Dayton Violin Faculty and Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra Violin; Molly Norcross, Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Acting Associate Principal Horn

Maddie Pittman, *violin*

Junior, Music Education Major

Camille Saint-Saens, Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso

Student of William Herzog

James Tober, *clarinet*

Sophomore, Music Performance Major

Concerto for Clarinet in A Major, K622, movement II

Student of Krista Weiss

Op. 3 Concerto Competition Winners (2019–2020 season)

Judging panel: Stephen Wadsack, Wright State University trumpet professor; Angela Jackson, Oak Hills High School Orchestra Director, Felipe Morales-Torres, Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra and Anderson Hills Orchestra Director

Victor Cabezas, *horn*

Junior, Music Composition Major

Gilbert Vinter, Hunter's Moon

Student of Linda Glover

Kyle Ledbetter, *cello*

High School Freshmen

Edward Elgar, Cello Concerto in E Minor, Op. 85, movement I

Student of Lee Griffith

John Niehaus, *viola*

High School Senior

Georg Phillip Telemann, Concerto for Viola in G Major, TWV 51: G9, movements I and II

Student of William Herzog

Nicole Ortiz, *clarinet*

Senior, Music Performance Major

Carl Maria von Weber, Concertino for Clarinet in E-flat Major, Op. 26, J. 109

Student of Krista Weiss

Opus 2 Concerto Competition Winners (2018-2019 Season)

Judging panel: Ahrhim Lim, NKU Music Preparatory Program Violin Instructor; Richard Van Dyke, NKU Lecturer of Piano

Jon McIntrye, *saxophone*

Junior, Music Composition and Music Performance Double Major with a Focus in Pre-Law

Alexander Glazunov, Saxophone Concerto in Eb, Op. 109

Student of Jennifer Grantham

Gita Srinivasan, *cello*

Sophomore, Music Performance Major

Elgar, Cello Concerto in E minor, Op. 85, movement I

Student of Amy Gillingham

Corey Watzek, *double bass*

Senior, Music Performance Major

Giovanni Bottesini, Concerto No. 2 in A Minor, movements I and II

Student of Owen Lee

Opus 1 Concerto Winners (2017-2018 Season)

Judging panel: Melissa Walding, Freelance Oboist; Heather Vest, Cincinnati Youth Choir

Christopher Gratsch, *marimba*

Senior, Music Performance Major

Camille Saint-Saëns, Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso

Student of Michael Culligan

Nao Kamiya, *piano*

Junior, International Relations Major

Felix Mendelssohn, Concerto for Piano and Orchestra in G Minor, Op. 25, movement I

Student of Sophie Wang

William Lommel, *trombone*

Sophomore, Music Education Major

Lars-Erik Larsson, Concertino for Trombone and Strings

Student of Michael Charbel