



MARCH 3, 2021
7:30 PM

BENJAMIN FIRER, DIRECTOR
ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO CONVOCATION HALL

PROGRAM

Allegro from Sinfonia No. 6	Johann Christian Bach Arr. McCashin
Hope in the Dark	Marie Sin Young Park
<i>world premiere*</i>	
Concerto for Marimba	Ney Rosauero
Dr. Laura Franklin, Marimba	
Capriol Suite	Peter Warlock
1. Basse-Dance, Allegro moderato	
2. Pavane, Allegretto, ma un poco lento	
3. Tordion, Con moto	
4. Bransles, Presto	
5. Pieds-en-l'air, Andante tranquillo	
6. Mattachins (Sword Dance), Allegro con brio	
Conducted by Izabella Gieron	
Scheherazade	Rimsky -Korsakov
1. The Sea & Sinbad's Ship	Arr. Gruselle
2. The Story of the Kalendar Prince	
3. The Young Prince & the Young Princess	
4. Festival at Baghdad – The Sea – The Ship Goes to Pieces on a Rock Surmounted by a Bronze Warrior	

MYSO METROPOLITAN YOUTH STRING ENSEMBLE MEMBERS

VIOLIN I

Courtney DeVenuto,
*concertmaster The Nicolette
Bellos Memorial Choir*
Lauren Raimbault
Claudia Dlugosz
Lenette May Lee

VIOLIN II

Ben Keene
Alexandra Rocha
Madison Randle
Gabe Hawley
Abigail Hogan
Patricia Maka
Madelyn Allen
Olivia Tan

VIOLA

George Graefen
Margaret Randle

CONTRABASS

Brendan O'Connor
Phoebe Shaughnessy

CELLO

Mia Melde, *principal*
Claudia Danowski
Lorelei Summers
Alivia Glas
Eric Radulovich
Christian Hawley

LAURA FRANKLIN GUEST ARTIST

Laura Franklin (Featured Marimba Soloist) is founding Dean of the College of Humanities, Fine Arts & Communications at Lewis University, where she has served since July 2019. Prior to coming to Lewis University, Franklin was Professor of Music & Chair of the Department of Fine & Performing Arts at Saint Louis University, & she also served as Chair of the Fine Arts Division at Brevard College (NC), where she began her higher education career in 1998.

Franklin is an active percussionist, performing regularly as a chamber & orchestral musician, in addition to being a solo marimbist. She has presented numerous performances, workshops, & masterclass throughout New England, the Southeast, the Midwest & Hawaii. A well-known percussion pedagogue, Franklin is a founding member of the National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy (NCPD), & has served on the Board of Advisors for NCPD since 2001. In addition to performance & pedagogy activities, she has performed many roles in service to the arts. Franklin is an executive board member of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans, serving as Treasurer of that organization since Fall 2019. She is also a former board member of the National Association of Schools of Music, a former chair of the International Percussive Arts Society (PAS) Research Committee, & former president of the North Carolina Chapter of PAS.

Franklin earned the Doctor of Musical Arts in Percussion Performance from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, the Master of Music in Performance & the Master of Music in Musicology from the New England Conservatory of Music, & the Bachelor of Music in Performance from Texas Tech University. She resides in Lisle with her two children, two dogs, a cat & her daughter's bearded dragon.

SIN YOUNG (MARIE) PARK COMPOSER

Sin Young (Marie) Park is a New York-based Korean composer born in Bordeaux, France. She worked as the music director of a short animation film, which received an award from the Korea Animation Producers Association & also wrote the music for the children's musical which was chosen to celebrate the Korean Alphabet Day. Her orchestra piece was selected by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra as an Honorable Mention, & went to the semi-finals of the American Prize. Her recent piece was selected by Ebb & Flow Arts' Music from Around World series. She won several international competitions such as 2015 Delta Omicron Triennial

Composition Competition, Mullen Sacred Composition Competition, 2015 Singapore Asian Composer Festival, The Minimal Piano Series, National Flute Association's composition competition & Music Unites the World Songwriting Contest, etc. Her piano piece "Du-Dream Prelude No. 3" & "ARI 2019" were released & can be streamed at Apple Music, Amazon, Spotify, & YouTube, etc. Her music was performed at Mid-Atlantic Flute Convention, National Flute Association's annual conference, Delta Omicron's Triennial Conference, Asbury Solomons, Blankenship Hall, Alumni Concert Hall, Kresge Hall, Stoughton Opera House, Mills Hall, Soldiers & Sailors' Hall, Carnegie Music Hall, & Se-jong Arts Hall. She has studied with Richard Danielpour, Leonardo Balada, Nancy Galbraith, Les Thimmig, Laura Schwendinger, Eun-Hye Park, & Insik Lee. She is a research fellow at Veritas Musicae. She is a graduate of Ewha Womans University (B.M.), Carnegie Mellon University (M.M.), & University of Wisconsin-Madison (D.M.A.). Currently, Sin Young is an Adjunct Assistant Professor teaching at Drew University & Bloomfield College.





BENJAMIN FIRER MUSIC DIRECTOR

Benjamin Firer is thrilled to join the faculty at Lewis University as Music Director of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra for the 2020-2021 season. An award-winning conductor, Firer is active throughout the Chicago area. Currently, as Director of Orchestra & Opera at Northern Illinois University, he directs the NIU Philharmonic, Opera Theatre, & teaches courses in music theory, orchestration & orchestral literature. At NIU, Firer helped design a new Master's in Conducting degree program & built a thriving graduate orchestral conducting studio. Along with his duties at NIU, Firer is on faculty as conductor with the Northeastern

Illinois University & the Chicago Chamber Music Festival.

Passionate about inspiring the next generation of musicians, Firer led the Dubuque Symphony Youth Orchestra during their 50th anniversary season, culminating in a side-by-side concert with the acclaimed Minneapolis Youth Symphony. A committed educator, he was engaged as a teaching artist through the Yale University Music in Schools Initiative, providing instruction at the John C. Daniels Magnet School while serving as Music Director of the Yale-Saybrook College Orchestra. Prior to his current appointment, Benjamin held posts as Interim Associate Director of Orchestras at the Pennsylvania State University, Summer Philharmonic Conductor at the Merit School of Music, Director of Orchestras at Juniata College, & Music Director of the Central Pennsylvania Youth Orchestras.

Firer was selected as an Emerging Conductor with the Peninsula Music Festival & as the conducting fellow for the Atlantic Music Festival. He has garnered awards including The American Prize in Conducting, The Woolsey Concerto Competition, Yale Chamber Music Competition, Ellen Battell Stoeckel Fellowship, & the Long Island University Conductors Award. Recognized for his musical entrepreneurship, he was granted the SUNY Thayer Fellowship in the Arts & the Emma Peters Hooper Endowed Award.

As a guest conductor, Firer has made appearances with the symphony orchestras of Champaign-Urbana, Dubuque, DuPage, Miami, Fargo-Morehead, Pennsylvania Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra de la Francophonie, Northwestern University Opera Theatre, Alice Millar Brass Ensemble, & New Music New Haven. In demand as a clinician for school & youth orchestras, he collaborates regularly with the Midwest Young Artists, The People's Music School, McHenry County Youth Orchestras, Rockford Symphony Youth Orchestras & CPS All-City Orchestras.



IZABELLA GIERON CONDUCTING INTERN

Izabella Gieron is an undergraduate Music Education & Music Performance Major at Northern Illinois University. She studies with renowned soloist & Avalon String Quartet musician, Blaise Magniere. She is a member of the NIU Philharmonic & is involved in chamber music.

Izabella was born & raised in the Chicagoland area. As a child, Izabella displayed advanced skills on both violin & piano. She has been studying piano since age 4 with Katarzyna Nowak until high school. In addition, she was a member of the Protégé Philharmonic in Chicago under the direction of Joseph Glymph. Joseph

Glymph continued as her mentor until college.

In her early music career, she was chosen to play in both District & All-State Orchestra throughout high school. Izabella performed in the All-Conference Jazz band for three years. She had the opportunity to perform alongside various artists such as, Marek Balata & Wici Song & Dance Theatre.

Not only has she performed at venues within the states, but she has performed internationally. In 2016, Izabella performed at the Folklore Music Festival in Paso Fundo, Brazil. In 2018, she performed at the CIOFF International Festival in Arequpia, Peru. In 2019, she performed at The International Folklore Festival "EUROFOLK – ZAMOŚĆ" in Zamość, Poland.

For the past four years, Izabella has been teaching private violin & piano lessons. She is also an active orchestra teacher for the Fox Valley El Sistema Program in Aurora, IL. Amongst many internships, she has had the opportunity to work with the People's Music School. She is an active chamber coach for high school orchestra programs around the Chicago-land area.

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MYSO 2020-2021 CONCERT SCHEDULE

The MYSO Board & partnering Universities will continue to evaluate the dangers of COVID-19 & decide how concert settings will function for the 2020-2021. Please visit mysomusic.org for developing information.

Wednesday, May 5, 2021	7:30pm St. Charles Borromeo Convocation Hall Lewis University in Romeoville, IL Free Admission
Thursday, June 3, 2021	6:30pm Outdoor Concert on the Hill Bicentennial Park in Joliet, IL Free Admission

CD RECORDINGS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

To purchase a recording of this program, click [here](https://www.flipcause.com/secure/reward/MTA3MzA0) (<https://www.flipcause.com/secure/reward/MTA3MzA0>). Proceeds will benefit MYSO. Thank you to Recording Artist Greg Ballak for his donation of time & talent.

SOCIAL MEDIA

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This program is partially sponsored by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council



UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

Spring Choral Concert	Monday, April 19 – 7:30 pm Live Streaming
Spring Cabaret	Tuesday, April 27 – 7:30 pm Live Streaming
Jazz Band Recital	Thursday, April 29 – 7:30 pm Live Streaming
Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra Concert	Wednesday, May 5 – 7:30 pm Live Streaming



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