

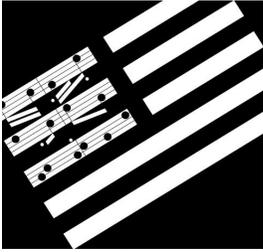
Cascadia Composers presents

# In Good Hands

Young performers, local composers,  
colorful new piano music



Saturday, June 16, 2018 @ 3 PM  
Lincoln Recital Hall (Room 75)  
1620 SW Park Ave.  
Portland, OR 97201



National  
Association of  
Composers  
U  
S  
A



# Cascadia Composers

## Mission Statement

*Cascadia Composers* engages our community through the creation, performance, and promotion of contemporary musical art, while providing resources and opportunities to Cascadia composers.

*Cascadia Composers* serves northern Oregon and southern Washington and was founded in 2008.

Website: [www.CascadiaComposers.org](http://www.CascadiaComposers.org)

## Governing Board

Ted Clifford, President

Daniel Brugh, Vice President

Jeff Winslow, Secretary/Treasurer • Texu Kim, Webmaster

Matthew Andrews, Stage Management • David S. Bernstein, Cynthia Gerdes,

Jan Mittelstaedt, Greg A Steinke, Linda Woody, at large

Tomas Svoboda, Honorary Member

*Cascadia Composers* is a chapter of the National Association of Composers/USA (NACUSA). NACUSA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Founded by Henry Hadley in 1933, it is one of the oldest organizations devoted to the promotion and performance of American concert hall music. Many of America's most distinguished composers have been among its members.

**These concerts and presentations are made possible by dues from NACUSA (National Association of Composers/USA), other grants and donors, and fundraisers sponsored by Cascadia.**



Program cover design/image: Kim Still/Matthew Kaminski

# CASCADIA COMPOSERS

(Cascadia Chapter of the National Association of Composers/USA)

*presents*

## ***IN GOOD HANDS***

*Local Music Students Perform Music by Cascadia Composers*

Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 3 pm

Lincoln Hall Room 75, Portland State University, Portland, OR

### **GIGGLES**

Suravi Lakkavalli

Jan Mittelstaedt

### **CHILDHOOD MEMORIES\***

Ginnie Wu

Dianne Davies

### **THE MERRYANDREW (Merry Andrew)**

Cathy Jiang

Jan Mittelstaedt

### **THE MUSIC BOX BALLERINA in F Major**

Michelle Cheng

John DeRuntz

### **DANCE OF HOPE (Tarantella)**

Thalia Wong

Jan Mittelstaedt

### **SOUND BITES: Thematic Introductions to the Minors, Modes and Other Scales**

Nicholas Yandell

*A Song for the Raven\** (Melodic Minor)

Isaac Dryfuse

*The Open Road\** (Ionian Mode/Major Key)

Bella Lo

*Through the City Gates\** (Dorian Mode)

Bella Lo

*Let it Rain\** (Lydian Mode)

Phoebus Chen

*A Walk Through the Ruins\** (Aolian Mode/Natural Minor)

Torin Repasky

*The Sword of Damocles\** (Phrygian Mode)

Lennox Kornelis

<b><i>PRELUDE NO. 6 in G Minor</i></b>		John DeRuntz
	Rachel Wang	
<b><i>From FAMILY PORTRAIT Five Vignettes for Piano</i></b>		Greg A Steinke
	Dad's "Tune"; Music for Carl Asa; Mom's Delight	
	Leo Trajano	
<b><i>PRELUDE NO. 3 in A Major</i></b>		John DeRuntz
	Jonathan C. Huang	
<b><i>LONESOME WALTZ*</i></b>		Dianne Davies
	Kristy Tong	
<b><i>LIKE SPIDERS AROSS THE STARS</i></b>		Nicholas Yandell
	Ethan Chang	
<b><i>REFLECTIONS in G Major</i></b>		John DeRuntz
	Kyle Chen	
<b><i>THE NEWEST CHAPTER</i></b> (for Chloe Safar)		Paul Safar
	Elaine Lee	
<b><i>PHRYGIAN DYNASTY II</i></b>		Liz Nedela
	Nishant Sane	
<b><i>MINSTREL MUSIC</i></b>		David S. Bernstein
	Melissa Hooten	
<b><i>ECLECTIC ETUDE</i></b>		Jan Mittelstaedt
	Elena Trajano	
<b><i>ETUDE NO. 5 in F Sharp Minor</i></b>		John DeRuntz
	Ian Wang	
<b><i>Rascals on a Theme from OVERTURE OF THE ROCKIES*</i></b>		Nicholas Yandell
	Eric Seaman	
<b><i>BLEECKER STREET</i></b>		Nicholas Yandell
	Ethan Wong	
<b><i>MIXOLYDIAN TAG</i></b>		Liz Nedela
	Alvin Lai and Rex Zhao	

*\*World Premiere*

## Teachers Participating

Dianne Davies  
Alena Dubauskaya  
Diane Hsu  
Irene Huang  
Marjorie Janove  
Jan Mittelstaedt  
Nancy Stone  
Susan Todd  
Fen-Fang Tsao

## Program Notes

### **GIGGLES** by Jan Mittelstaedt

This piece is based on the pentatonic (five tone) scale...Although there are many different pentatonic scales, *Giggles* was created from one which uses only black keys. *Giggles* is one of my first compositions for piano and is included in my first published collection, *Solo Snips*.

### **CHILDHOOD MEMORIES** by Dianne Davies

This is the composer's third piece written for piano solo. This piece was inspired by the ageless children's taunt of "Nanny Nanny Boo Boo" and the intrigue of a NFMC Festival required composition, based on changing meters, performed by her student. The ABA form felt like a good start.

### **THE MERRYANDREW (Merry Andrew)** by Jan Mittelstaedt

This music depicts the antics of a clown. The A section is playful with a scherzo feel (the happy clown) and the B section is slower, more lyrical, and begins with an A Minor chord (the sad clown). George Gershwin wrote a piece called *Merry Andrew* as have others.

### **THE MUSIC BOX BALLERINA in F Major** by John DeRuntz

This music box slows down and speeds up just like a real dancer.

### **DANCE OF HOPE (Tarantella)** by Jan Mittelstaedt

"*Tarantella*" is a group of various folk dances characterized by a fast, upbeat tempo, usually in 6/8 time ...accompanied by tambourines. It is among the most recognized forms of traditional southern Italian music. (Wikipedia) Tarantism is a hysterical condition. It was believed that the bite of a "wolf spider" or "tarantula" could cause tarantism. According to an ancient Greek myth, victims would begin dancing to music like our tarantellas and their tarantism would disappear. **Dance of Hope** addresses the chaos in our world (tarantism) with the hope that positive action (tarantella) will bring peace (healing).

## **SOUND BITES FOR PIANO: Thematic Introductions to the Minors, Modes and Other Scales** by Nicholas Yandell

1. *A Song for the Raven*: As a short work, this piece is the theme music for the raven: a dark, mysterious, and shady character.
2. *The Open Road*: This work introduces a traveler overlooking miles of open space and the road with no end in sight that they are about to set off on.
3. *Through the City Gates*: This is a work about facing a metropolitan cityscape for the first time and all the wonder and intimidation it brings.
4. *Let it Rain*: This song is about staring out at a rainy afternoon, letting go, perhaps even crying, and through these actions, finding release.
5. *A Walk Through the Ruins*: This work paints a sound picture of ancient ruins in the early evening just before sunset. The crescendo is the setting sun blazing through the top of a chapel which was once adorned with a magnificent stained-glass window. For a moment glory of this building is restored and then quickly fades away.
6. *The Sword of Damocles*: The title references a story from ancient history and is about a feeling of ever present fear and apprehension hanging over oneself.

### **PRELUDE NO. 6 in G Minor** by John DeRuntz

Variations of the opening phrases gradually move this piece into the key of F Minor in the melancholy central section. The return to the home key is unexpectedly dramatic and eventually leads to a closing cascade of descending sixths in the treble.

### **From FAMILY PORTRAIT Five Vignettes for Piano** by Greg A Steinke

*Family Portrait* for Piano was written as a remembrance of my family in 1976–78. It is dedicated to and was presented as a present to my in-laws, Carl and Rose Larsen. It is built around two short pieces originally written as birth announcements for my two sons, Carl and Kyle. Thus, most of the musical materials for the other movements for “Dad,” “Mom” and Clara, our dog at the time, are ultimately derived from *Music* for Carl Asa and *Lullaby* for Kyle Alban. *Family Portrait* was premiered in March of 1978 in Olympia, Washington by Diane DeMoulin, a piano student at the time at The Evergreen State College.

### **PRELUDE NO. 3 in A Major** by John DeRuntz

A delicate, contemplative piece in 5/4 time that seems to stop and start due to the irregular meter... I was inspired to write this as a Christmas gift for a friend who appreciated my music.

### **LONESOME WALTZ** by Dianne Davies

This is the composer’s second piece written for piano solo. This piece was inspired by an original waltz composed by a fellow student of Lisa Marsh. A waltz and ABA form came naturally. The middle section of the piece is built on the diminished scale (whole, half, whole, half, etc. or just the opposite). The loneliness and sadness of this piece expresses the grief she felt as a child after her only sister died when Dianne was eleven.

### **LIKE SPIDERS ACROSS THE STARS** by Nicholas Yandell

This piece is a piano arrangement of a work I originally wrote for mandolin and ukulele duet. The title is a line from Jack Kerouac’s *On the Road* but gained a life of its

own when I attempted to audiate the actual visual image contained within the simile. Just imagine some spiders crawling around in the cosmos...

***REFLECTIONS in G Major*** by John DeRuntz

Perhaps this is actually a classical jazz ballad. It was transcribed from an acoustic guitar piece I wrote many years ago.

***THE NEWEST CHAPTER*** by Paul Safar

This short piano piece was written for my daughter's high school graduation. The musical seed of it came from a sweet little Father's Day gift she made for me back in elementary school that had four random musical pitches on it. I used those pitches as the starting point for the piece. I hoped to convey a sense of demarcation of a new time in one's life as well as the open ended quality of ones future.

***PHRYGIAN DYNASTY II*** by Liz Nedela

Plagal Phrygian: E-E with strong use of B (the plagal) with a "hint" of the formation of impending historic development of a m3rd, which eventually becomes a relative major (G) intervals of 5ths, 4ths; arpeggios (hand over hand); repeated notes, cross-hands; syncopation by "displaced accents" and ties...

***MINSTREL MUSIC FOR THE COURT OF KING ARTHUR*** by David S. Bernstein

This is a composition that contains a short chorale-like lyrical idea contrasted with a more lyrical theme mid-way in the work. In form it is a simple ternary design which suggests also a variation process involved with both the material of the A and B sections. Other characteristics of this piece are the cross rhythms and meters of 3/4 and 6/8. Intervals of fourths and fifths are prominent and certain modal harmonic progressions as well as harmonic progressions from the 19th century are also featured.

***ECLECTIC ETUDE*** by Jan Mittelstaedt

This composition is made up of a mixture of styles (e.g. classical and popular), rhythms, and melodies. Fragments of a few songs from the 1950's are included.

***ETUDE NO. 5 in F Sharp Minor*** by John DeRuntz

This music is a study concentrating on the technique of playing notes of a melody in the treble by crossing the left hand over the right while still maintaining the bass line.

***Rascals on a Theme from OVERTURE OF THE ROCKIES\**** by Nicholas Yandell

I originally wrote this for my master's project, a symphonic work entitled: *Overture of the Rockies*. The work featured numerous American folk songs from the 1800's, and after working with these songs for months, I decided to write one myself in that style. This song became *Rascals*, a short, playful take on rambunctious mountain life.

***BLEECKER STREET*** by Nicholas Yandell

Bleecker Street gained its name in part from where I was when I came up with the ostinato bass part that begins and is played throughout the composition. This title also reflects my impression of the bustling atmosphere one enters when walking on this street in Greenwich Village in New York City.

## **MIXOLYDIAN TAG** by Liz Nedela

*Tag* is taken from a set of duets based on Modes: *DUETS ON THE MODE*. The modes were used before Bach's time, and are sometimes still used today. The tonal system (scales) that we know were developed in the 1600's and came from the modes. The fifth note of the mode developed into the beginning of the next scale. Each scale begins on the fifth note of the one preceding it. In order to follow the "new" scale system, key signatures were developed. Each key contained sharps or flats to show the series of half and whole steps of each scale. The modes had many variations. *Tag* is based on the mixolydian mode from G-G. The fifth note of the mode was sometimes used to begin the mode, which placed emphasis that the fifth note was prominent.

## **Composer Biographies**

### **David S. Bernstein**

David Bernstein's music has seen its expression in a wide variety of genres. His concert music ranges from compositions for the theatre and musical theatre to works for dance, opera, orchestra, chorus, band and many varied chamber music ensembles. His music has been performed in many areas of the United States, Canada, South America, and Europe. He has traveled widely and given lectures on his music in Vienna, Paris, Warsaw, Posnan, Crakow, The Eastman School of Music, The University of Alberta, The University of Southern California, New York University, The University of Kentucky, and many others. His music is published by G. Schirmer, Acoma Productions, Ludwig Music Publications, Willis Music, Abingdon Press, Lawson-Gould, Dorn Productions, Music for Percussion, Inc., and most recently, Clear Note Publications. Bernstein earned a B.M. and M.M. from Florida State University and a doctorate in music composition with distinction from Indiana University.

### **Dianne Davies**

Dianne Davies, BA in music from Lewis and Clark College with piano emphasis and K-12 music education certification, has taught public and private school music and currently focuses on her private piano studio, performing and her family. In February of 2016, she created her own show titled Attachments & Detachments Tragedy to Triumph combining the music of Cascadia Composers with dance, live art and theatre to tell her own transparent story. Simultaneously, she created her comedy show titled, *Dianne Davies has Fallen off her Bench*. It is classically funny with traces of Victor Borge, Carol Burnett, Liberace, Igudesman & Joo and P.D.Q. Bach, including *Soleful* playing with her feet to performing upside down and backwards. A new facet in her musical life is composing. She has been under the mentorship of Lisa Ann Marsh since 2016. The two pieces on this program are among her very first compositions.

### **John De Runtz**

John DeRuntz pianist and composer, competed in the prestigious Van Cliburn Sixth International Piano Competition for Outstanding Amateurs in Fort Worth, Texas in May of 2011. To hear a number of his works, log on to the website: <http://www.theunknowncomposer.com>. John has composed more than seventy classical, romantic and impressionistic piano pieces, and fifty of them appear on four CD albums, Soaring, Fantasia, Reverie and Encore. David Stabler, the music critic for the Oregonian, has written of John's music as being, "in a lyrical style suggestive of Chopin." Another music critic, Olin Chism, of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, wrote, "He is unabashedly

old-fashioned, composing in a sort of neo-Chopin style that was kind of charming. A couple of his melodies lingered in memory." John spent his professional career as an internationally known and award-winning mathematician, scientist and professor, teaching physics at the University of California, Berkeley, and later was a Senior Staff Scientist at the Lockheed Research Laboratory in Palo Alto, California.

### **Jan Mittelstaedt**

Jan Mittelstaedt, B.S. in education from Bucknell University, B.A. in music from Marylhurst University and M.M. in composition from The University of Portland, continues to work with her mentor, Dr. Walter Saul. Jan participated in the Ernest Bloch Composers Symposium in 1993, was the Oregon Music Teachers Association Composer of the Year in 1994, has received ASCAP special awards since 1994, and has published piano music. A teacher of piano and composition, Jan has an active studio, is a member of the OMTA piano syllabus adjudicating staff and serves the organization in other ways. In 2017, she received an Honorary State Membership award. Her music has been performed in six states not including two of her student piano pieces which have been performed all over the country in various NFMC Junior Festivals. Jan is a past president of Cascadia Composers and remains on the board of directors. [www.sintsink.com](http://www.sintsink.com).

### **Liz Nedela**

Liz Nedela, MM, Med, BA, teaches piano and composition in Vancouver, WA. She is fond of contemporary composition techniques, counterpoint, ethnic, modal and early music, and weaves these aspects into her compositions. She writes music in many genres, instruments and voice, completing commissions from music teachers' organizations, church, orchestra, chamber music, Women's Music festivals, and private individuals and ensembles for concerts and special events. She has earned an MM in composition (winning a Composer Showcase award and scholarships); and a BA and MEd with focus on piano, composition, English, and theater, devising a program for teaching composition. For several years, she served as the Montana State and the Northwest Division chair of composition for MTNA (Music Teachers National Association). In 2014, Liz was awarded the WSMTA (Washington chapter of MTNA) Composer of the Year, resulting in Penta-Moods, a study in pentatonic modes. She is an active member of Cascadia Composers and other music organizations and has served as adjudicator in piano and composition.

### **Paul Safar**

Paul Safar is a versatile composer/performer and private piano instructor living and working in Eugene, Oregon. He performs regularly with the soprano Nancy Wood and thrives on collaborative projects. He has had commissions from the Delgani String Quartet and Oregon Parks Department and was the Oregon Music Teachers Association Composer of The Year for 2013-14. Paul's compositions have been played at Fear No Music concerts and the North American Saxophone Alliance, among other venues. His music has been performed in New York, Seattle, Cincinnati and Havana. Having a balanced background in both Classical and Jazz/Rock, Paul often tries to coherently combine these influences in his compositions. As an instructor, Paul enjoys sharing his knowledge of composition to both young students and piano teachers. He is a proud, card carrying member of Cascadia Composers, the Portland based chapter of NACUSA. When he isn't engaged in musical activities, he might be hiking, running or spending time with his family.

### **Greg A Steinke**

Greg Steinke is former Chair, Departments of Art and Music, (The Joseph Naumes Endowed Chair in Music), also Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Marylhurst University, Marylhurst, Oregon (retired, 6/15/01); Associate Director, Ernest Bloch Music Festival ('93–97) and Director, Composers Symposium ('90– 97) (Newport, OR); Holds a B.M. degree from Oberlin Conservatory, a M.M. degree from Michigan State University, a M.F.A. degree from the University of Iowa, and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. Articles on new oboe literature and music composition; revisions to the Paul Harder Harmonic Materials in Tonal Music, 6th-10th Ed., Basic Materials in Music Theory, 7th-13th Ed., Bridge to Twentieth-Century Music, Rev. Ed. for Pearson, and with H Owen Reed the Harder-Reed Basic Contrapuntal Techniques for Warner Bros. Pub.; and article, "Music for Dance: An Overview" in The Dance Has Many Faces, Third Ed., Ed. by Walter Sorell, a cappella books. Served as the National Chairman of the Society of Composers, Inc. (1988–97) and currently national President of NACUSA ('12–); Board Member of NACUSA Cascadia. Composer of chamber and symphonic music with published/recorded works and performances across the US and internationally, speaker on interdisciplinary arts and oboe soloist specializing in contemporary music.

### **Nicholas Yandell**

Nicholas Yandell is a Portland-based composer who specializes in the creation of concert works, film scores, post-rock songs, and electronic music. He has composed or collaborated on eight scores for short films and film projects and his concert works have been performed by groups such as 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel and the Delgani String Quartet as well many other groups and artists throughout Oregon, New York and Idaho. He holds a Masters of Music Composition and a Bachelor of Music from Five Towns College in Dix Hills, NY and his past composition teachers include Dr. Jill Miller-Thorn and Chuck Mymit of Five Towns College, Dr. Felipe Salles of University of Massachusetts Amherst, and Dr. Brad Hansen of Portland State University. He has taught composition privately and at Five Towns College and is currently a member of the Cascadia Composers and was on their board of directors from 2013-2015.

## **Performer Biographies**

**Ethan Chang**, 11, started taking piano lessons from Fen-Fang Tsao when he was six and half years old, completing OMTA Piano Syllabus Level VI. He was the winner of numerous OMTA festivals and also plays the violin in PYP's Young String Ensemble. He enjoys reading, spending time with friends, playing badminton and playing with his family cat.

**Kyle Chen**, 11, who just finished sixth grade at West Sylvan Middle School. He started piano lesson with Irene Huang at age 6 and has completed OMTA Syllabus Level VI. He has participated and received Outstanding Achievement awards in all OMTA period festivals every year since age 7. He was recently awarded his second Gold Cup from the National Federation Music Festival. Beside piano, Kyle likes to play tennis with his family and is a member of his school choir.

**Phoebus Chen** began playing the piano when he was five years old. In Austin, Texas, he studied with Dr. Ming Ge, before moving to Portland, where he studies with Alena Dubauskaya and just passed his level 7 syllabus. Phoebus, age eleven, will be

joining West Sylvan Middle School band as a percussionist. He enjoys soccer and basketball in his leisure time. He also holds red belt from World Tang Soo Do Association and is training intensively in golf. His piece has a touch of sadness.

**Michelle Cheng**, 9, will start fourth grade in Forest Park Elementary in the fall. She began her piano study with Irene Huang when she was 6 years old. She has completed OMTA Syllabus Level III this past spring. Michelle is a very talented ballet dancer, having started ballet lesson at age 4, and has danced as a soloist in many ballet performances. Besides piano and ballet, Michelle also loves horseback riding.

**Isaac Dryfuse**, 10, is a fourth-grade student at Valley Catholic Elementary School. He started piano lesson in Kindergarten with Mila Bada. Since 2nd grade, he has been taking piano lessons with Jan Mittelstaedt. He finished OMTA Syllabus Level V and participates in various OMTA festivals in past two years. Besides piano, Isaac is learning violin at school, and playing keyboard in school orchestra, and recently started music composition study with Daniel Brugh. At spare time, he enjoys playing soccer, swimming and participating in Cub Scout activities.

**Melissa Hooten** is a freshman at Southridge High School and has been studying piano with Jan Mittelstadt since she was five. Outside of her regular lessons, she plays at Hearthstone Retirement in Beaverton once a month. She has also accompanied her previous school's choir for the past two school years. It has been a challenging but thoroughly enjoyable learning experience for her, and she is hoping to continue accompanying in the future. Besides playing piano, she enjoys reading fantasy and mystery, drawing, and spending time with friends. She is looking forward to exploring a new musical window by taking guitar class next year at school.

**Jonathan C. Huang**, 12, is a sixth grader at Lake Oswego Junior High School. He has been studying piano for 6 years and has studied with Irene Huang since 2015. He loves to perform on the piano and has received many Outstanding Achievement awards in the OMTA period festivals. Jonathan has swum competitively since age 6. He also loves snowboarding with his family and friends.

**Lex Kornelis**, 11, began playing piano at four years old. In Los Angeles, he studied with Nora Chiang Wrobel, before moving to Portland, where he has studied with Nancy Stone for the last three years. He is in sixth grade at Northwest Academy, where he enjoys learning music and vocals. Lex will play *The Sword of Damocles*, by Nick Yandell, an edgy piece with lots of suspense.

**Alvin Lai**, 16, began his music studies with Dianne Davies Little Mozarts program in kindergarten. Next year he will be a junior at Westside Christian High School and is in Level 9 Syllabus. He is part of a piano duet team with Rex Zhao for NFMC Junior Festival. Alvin plays keys for his school's worship team. His other hobbies include track and field, choir, and soccer. His favorite subjects are music and math.

**Suravi Lakkavalli**, a student of Diane Hsu, is 6 and a half years old and has been playing the piano since she was 5 years old. She is currently a kindergartner at Findley Elementary school. Suravi enjoys doing gymnastics, swimming and art work. She likes spending time with family and friends.

**Elaine Lee**, 12, is a seventh grader at Stoller Middle School. She started studying the piano at age seven with Irene Huang and has completed Level VII of the OMTA Syllabus evaluation program. Elaine enjoys performing on the piano and has consistently participated and been awarded in the OMTA period festivals, as well as NFMC annual festivals. She recently performed in a masterclass at PSU for Dr. Susan Chan. Besides the piano, she also plays the trombone and is a member of her school band. Elaine is an avid swimmer and swims competitively. She also likes reading, playing basketball and badminton.

**Bella Lo**, 15, has taken piano lessons from Alena Dubauskaya since she was 7. She is a Freshman at Lincoln High School. Bella is a second-degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do, and in addition to piano, she also likes to play the drums. She has been studying Mandarin for several years, both in school and with a private tutor. In her free time, Bella likes to read, go running, and spend time with her family.

**Torin Repasky** is a 7th grader at Northwest Academy. He has been playing piano for 7 years, the last five under Nancy Stone. He started also playing trumpet last year, and is an avid composer. He has created many songs, playing with minimalist restatement of themes. Torin's other hobbies include playing video games, playing soccer, and participating in an after-school rock band, Angry Pigeons. Torin will perform Nick Yandell's eerie *A Walk Through the Ruins*.

**Nishant Sane** is a freshman at Westview High School. He studies piano with Jan Mittlestaedt. Recently, he has participated in the OMTA Syllabus and Junior Festival. He has been playing piano since age 5. Other than music, he loves to read books and do math problems. He has also performed in a lot of recitals and a local dementia care center. His favorite subject in school is Stem Chemistry.

**Eric Seaman**, 15, has been learning piano with Fen-Fang Tsao for 9 years, completing OMTA Piano Syllabus Level IX. Eric is wrapping up his Freshman year at Lake Oswego High School. Aside from piano, he enjoys playing basketball and soccer with his friends, and watching movies with his family.

**Kristy Tong**, 12, is in 6th grade at Happy Valley Middle School. She has taken piano lessons with teacher Marjorie Janove since she was 7 years old. Besides piano, she likes to play Ukelele. She enjoys drawing and wants to become an architect when she grows up. She loves and enjoys taking lessons with teacher Marjorie and will continue taking lessons for years to come.

**Elena Trajano**, 14 just finished her freshman year at Glencoe High School in Hillsboro. She has studied piano almost ten years, two with Andrea Granat and two with Susan Todd. Elena dances ballet, flamenco and modern at the Northwest Conservatory of Dance. Besides music and dance, Elena likes to draw and spend time with her family.

**Leo Trajano**, 10, is finishing fourth grade at Jackson Elementary School in Hillsboro. He has been studying piano for five years and has studied with Susan Todd since 2016. Also, a violinist, he is currently a member of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony Hillsboro Strings. Besides music, Leo loves to write and travel.

**Ian Wang**, 15, is a freshman in the International School in Beaverton. He has been playing piano since first grade, studying with Irene Huang. Ian has completed Level IX of the OMTA Syllabus evaluation program. He enjoys reading and playing tennis in his leisure time. Ian has consistently participated and been awarded in the OMTA period festival, as well as National Federation Music Club.

**Rachel Wang** is a 6th grader in the Summa Program at Stoller Middle school. She has been taking piano lesson with Irene Huang since age 7. Rachel loves school and in particular loves studying science and math. Besides piano, she plays the flute as a member of her school band. She enjoys ice skating, taekwondo, drawing and soccer and has won many awards in these activities. She is passionate with volunteering. She helps kids in aftercare twice a week and has signed up for volunteering at a local summer camp for the second year.

**Ethan Wong**, 17, is a junior at Westview High School. He has been studying piano with Alena Dubauskaya since he was 7 years old. Besides piano, Ethan plays various wind instruments in different bands at school. Ethan earned his Syllabus Level X in April, 2018, and will perform a jazzy composition titled *Bleecker Street* by Nicholas Yandell.

**Thalia Wong** is 9 years old and is finishing 3rd grade at Findley Elementary School. She has been studying piano for 3 years and has studied with Irene Huang since 2016. She has completed Level III of the OMTA Syllabus Program. Besides piano, you will find her drawing, reading and spending time with her family.

**Ginnie Wu**, 9, has been learning to play piano with Fen-Fang Tsao for 4 and half years, completing OMTA Piano Syllabus Level IV. She was the winner of numerous OMTA Festival. She also participated the OFMC 2018 Junior Festival and received superior+ on piano duet and concerto. Ginnie enjoys doing gymnastics and reading in her spare time.

**Cathy Yu-xuan Jiang**, 8, started her piano study in Shanghai, China for 6 months before her family immigrated to the U.S. two years ago. She has been studying with Irene Huang since 2016. Cathy has participated in many OMTA period festivals and has been awarded Outstanding Achievement awards. In her spare time, she loves to read, ski, swim and draw. She will be a third grader in Jacob Wismer Elementary School in the fall and is a member of her school's Girl Scout.

**Rex Zhao**, 15, started lessons at 7 years old and transferred to Dianne Davies in 2012. Next year he will be a sophomore at Southridge High School and is in Level 9 Syllabus. He is part of a piano duet team with Alvin Lai for NFMC Junior Festival and has played the solo event every year since 2012. Rex plays piano for choir at church. He also participates in cross country, track and field, and basketball. His favorite subject is math.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Special Thanks to:

**Jan Mittelstaedt**, IGH Chair and Coordinator  
**Dianne Davies**, liaison between Cascadia and OMTA  
**KimStill/Matthew Kaminski**, program cover, postcard, and poster design  
**Greg A Steinke**, program copy and layout  
Participating OMTA teachers, students, and parents

Our Big Thank You to Floral Sunshine, our vendor for the roses:

*Floral  
Sunshine*

*Radiant flowers for all occasions!*

**(503) 974-4740**

[www.floralsunshine.com](http://www.floralsunshine.com)

## CASCADIA UPCOMING EVENTS

### Astoria Music Festival

### MADE IN OREGON

New Music by Cascadia Composers

Wednesday, June 20th @ 7:30 pm | CCC Performing Arts Center, Astoria, OR

### CALDAREN

New Music by Cascadia Composers

Saturday, September 15th @ 4 pm | Mt. Tabor Amphitheatre, Portland, OR