Philharmonic Orchestra
Amy Gillingham Culligan, music director and conductor

presents
Much Ado about Shakespeare

featuring
Meg Booker, soprano and winner of 2023 NKU Philharmonic Aria Competition
Sierra Conner and Kiley Ernst, actors

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2023 // 7 p.m.
Greaves Concert Hall

This program will last approximately 60 minutes with no intermission.

This program is presented with special thanks to Michael Hatton, NKU SOTA Program Head of Theatre and Dance, for the assistance with Shakespearean scenes and to Joy Burdette and Kelly Mackenzie-Thurley, NKU SOTA Music voice faculty, for their assistance in the Philharmonic Aria Competition.
PROGRAM

Scene 1: *Othello*
*Othello*, Act IV, Scene 2  
*Desdemona’s monologue*  
Kiley Ernst, actor

*Othello* Suite, Op. 79  
Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912)  
I. Dance  
II. Children’s Intermezzo  
III. Funeral March  
IV. The “Willow Song”  
V. Miliary March

Scene 2: *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*
*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Act II, Scene 1  
Fairy and Puck  
Kiley Ernst and Sierra Conner, actors

Overture to *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Op. 21  
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Scene 3: *Julius Caesar*
*Julius Caesar*, Act II, Scene 2  
*Calpurnia’s monologue*  
Sierra Conner, actor

“Piangerò la sorte mia” from *Giulio Cesare*  
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)  
Meg Booker, soprano soloist

Scene 4: *Romeo and Juliet*
*Romeo and Juliet*, Act II, Scene 5  
*Juliet and Nurse*  
Kiley Ernst and Sierra Conner, actor

*Romeo and Juliet*, Fantasy Overture  
Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)
PERSONNEL

**Meg Booker**
Soprano, Winner of 2023 NKU Philharmonic Aria Competition

Known for her enormous range, yet slender physique and dominating stage presence, Meg Booker recently starred as Gasparina in *La Canterina* at Northern Kentucky University. Ms. Booker has performed with the Butler Philharmonic Orchestra, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and is a sought-after soloist in the Cincinnati and Louisville areas. In 2020, she was accepted into the Kentucky Governor’s School for the Arts for Vocal Music, as well as the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. She has won prizes in multiple international competitions and received an Honorable Mention in the prestigious Hal Leonard Vocal Competition. Most recently, she worked as an intern at the Cincinnati Opera. Ms. Booker attends Northern Kentucky University as a full-talent scholarship recipient and Vocal Performance major with an Entrepreneurial Studies minor. She currently studies under Dr. Kimberly Lazzeri and Dr. Joy Burdette.

**Sierra Conner**
Actor

Having been in the world of theater since elementary school, Sierra Conner is wildly passionate about telling stories on the stage. She is a freshman BFA Acting major at Northern Kentucky University, and she accredits her training prior to college to Commonwealth Theatre Center in Louisville, as well as the Governor’s School for the Arts drama program in 2022.

**Kiley Ernst**
Actor

She is thrilled to explore Desdemona, Juliet, and Puck, some of her favorite Shakespearean characters, in this concert. Kiley is currently pursuing a BFA degree in Acting. Kiley brings her unique interpretation and love for Shakespeare into this concert. Previous credits include *Twelfth Night, Mr. Burns, and The Wild Party*. Ms. Ernst would like to invite you to her next production, *Play That Goes Wrong*, as a member of the stage management team.
NIKU PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN I
Maia Loiacono, concertmaster
Gracie Niehaus, assoc. concertmaster
Eva Vandegrift
Emily Stephens
Audrey Klanke
James Edler

VIOLIN II
Benjamin Lorson, principal
Lindsey McNeney, assoc. principal
Void Turner
Mackenzie Opitz
Jacob Canada
Ella Nicholson
David Veshapidze
Minji Kim

VIOLA
Shelby Dodd, principal
Madeline Murray, assoc. principal
Darius Briscoe
Tanner Haller*
Ellen McGoron*

VIOLONCELLO
Melissa Young, principal
Anna Stephens, assoc. principal
Annie Hovey
Evan Gates
Seth Martin
Victoria Jackson
Emma Senn
Ngozi Usuami

DOUBLE BASS
Malachi Nance, principal
Delaan Sumler

FLUTE
Noah Jacobsen, principal
Lisa Malsom

OBOE (performed on clarinet)
Noah Mattoon, principal
Hannah Winstel

BASSOON
Caroline Phipps, principal

CLARINET
Peyton Wallace, principal
Abby Morrison
Erin Mills, bass clarinet

HORN
Michael Morgan, principal
Barbara Phillips+

TRUMPET
Abigail Cole, principal
Robbie Lasonczyk
Mariah Coyler

TROMBONE
Kian Raleigh, principal
Rachel Millward
Alexander Lang, bass trombone

PERCUSSION
Luke Myers, principal
Patrick Medovich
Andrew Kiner

HARP
Joseph Rebman, principal+
TBD harp

STAGE CREW/SET-UP
Tanner Haller, stage manager
Jacob Canada
Malachi Nance
Anna Stephens
Eva Vandegrift

LIBRARIANS
Void Turner
Erin Mills
Emily Stephens

PERSONNEL MANAGERS
Shelby Dodd, manager
Kian Raleigh, assistant manager

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.

sota.nku.edu • music.nku.edu