



**Amy Gillingham Culligan, *music director and conductor***

*presents*

**On the Rise, Op. 7**

*featuring*

**2023–2024 NKU Philharmonic Concerto Competition Winners:**

Maria Huff, *piano*

Maia Loiacono, *violin*

Peyton Wallace, *clarinet*

*in collaboration with*

Northern Kentucky University Chamber Strings

Amy Gillingham Culligan, *director*

*and*

Northern Kentucky University Youth Symphony Orchestra

Alexander Moore, *director*

**Wednesday, February 28, 2024**

**7:00 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.

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**DIGITAL PROGRAM**

## PROGRAM

### NKU PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA + CONCERTI WINNERS (30'):

Concerto in F Minor, op. 8 no. 4, RV 29, *L'inverno* ("Winter") (1725) (10')  
*Allegro non molto*  
*Largo*  
*Allegro*  
Antonio Vivaldi (1678–1741)  
Maia Loiacono, *violin*

Clarinet Concerto in A Major, K. 622 (1791) (10')  
*Allegro*  
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791)  
Peyton Wallace, *clarinet*

Piano Concerto in A Minor, Op. 16 (1868) (10')  
*Allegro molto moderato*  
Edvard Grieg (1843–1907)  
Maria Huff, *piano*

~ 5-minute pause ~

### NKU CHAMBER STRINGS (27'):

*Lies You Can Believe In* (2006) (7')  
Missy Mazzoli (b. 1980)

*Souvenir de Florence* String Sextet, Op. 70 (1890)  
I. *Allegro con spirito* (abridged) (5')  
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

*Girlfriends Medley* for Xylophone and Strings (1987) (6')  
Bob Becker (b. 1947)  
Arr. Nate Rowe  
Michael Culligan, *xylophone*

*Supermaximum* (2011) (9')  
Kenji Bunch (b. 1973)

The music performed on this program is made possible through the generous support of a Northern Kentucky University College of Arts and Sciences Collaborative Faculty-Student Project Award

~ 5-minute pause ~

### NKU YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA + NKU PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA (10'):

*Past Memories* (world premiere) (5')  
Erin Mills (b. 2000)  
Amy Gillingham Culligan, *conductor*

"Procession of the Nobles" from *Mlada* (1892) (5')  
Nicolai Rimsky-Korsakov (1844–1908)  
Arr. Merle J. Issac  
Alexander Moore, *conductor*

### **The Gold Jacket Society**

The annual "On the Rise" concert is in its seventh (opus 7) year. Each year, students compete in a concerto competition to have 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. 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.

## PERSONNEL



**Maia Loiacono, violin**  
**Concerto Competition Winner**  
*Sophomore, Music Education Major*  
*Student of William Herzog*

**Maia Loiacono** is a sophomore at Northern Kentucky University pursuing a degree in Music Performance along with minors in Theater and Honors. She loves violin and has been playing for thirteen years, currently studying under Dr. William Herzog. Thanks to her family's eclectic palate, she enjoys playing a variety of musical styles including Celtic, electric violin, traditional fiddle, and classical. She attended the Governor's School for the Arts and performed with the Kentucky All-State Orchestra. In her spare time, Maia loves to write, dance, explore nature, read tarot, and spend time with family and friends.



**Peyton Wallace, clarinet**  
**Concerto Competition Winner**  
*Senior, Music Education Major*  
*Student of Krista Weiss*

**Peyton Wallace** is a senior music education and clarinet performance double major at NKU. He is currently the principal clarinetist in the NKU Philharmonic Orchestra as well as principal and E flat clarinetist in Symphonic Winds. He is also a TA for the NKU Youth Symphony Orchestra. Peyton is a student of Professor Krista Weiss. After graduation, Peyton plans to direct a high school band program and continue to perform in local ensembles.



**Maria Huff, piano**  
**Concerto Competition Winner**  
*Senior, Music Performance Major*  
*Student of Richard Van Dyke and Christina Seal*

**Maria Huff** is an in-demand pianist in her hometown of Cincinnati. Huff began her piano studies at age five and has been in love with her instrument ever since. She has appeared as a soloist and as a collaborative pianist in concerts and masterclasses at NKU and in the Greater Cincinnati Area. Most recently, Huff was awarded the Ruth Tierney Piano Award by the West Hills Music Club. Huff has also been featured as a student presenter at Kentucky Music Teacher Association conferences, where she has presented research focused on diversity in piano pedagogy. Currently, Huff studies with Dr. Richard Van Dyke and Dr. Christina Seal.



**Erin Mills, composer**

**Erin Mills** is in their 5th year at Northern Kentucky University as a music major with a psychology minor. They have been composing for 7 years. Erin has been composing at NKU under Dr. Jason Richmond for about 4 years and has been studying clarinet under Prof. Krista Weiss for about 5 years. Outside of composing, Erin is a clarinetist in Symphonic Winds and Philharmonic Orchestra and sings as an alto in the Women's Choir. They are currently in the Sigma Alpha Iota chapter. Outside college, Erin does yoga and relaxes with their cat, Jiji. After graduating, Erin plans on getting their master's in Library Science, focusing on music, and continues to work on composing and playing.



**Michael Culligan, guest xylophone soloist**

**Michael Culligan** was appointed Associate Principal Percussionist of the Cincinnati Symphony and Pops Orchestras by Louis Langrée in 2015, Michael is from Glen Ellyn, Illinois. After receiving a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Duquesne University where he studied with Pittsburgh Symphony percussionists Chris Allen and Andrew Reamer, Michael earned his Master of Music at Temple University under the tutelage of Alan Abel, Chris Deviney, and Angie Nelson. Following post-graduate work with Jeremy Branson and Ed Stephan at Duquesne, Michael was appointed 2nd percussion in the West Virginia Symphony and Canton Symphony. From 2010-2015, he performed as a regular extra in the Pittsburgh Symphony, including several tours with performances at Carnegie Hall, the BBC Proms, and the Berlin Philharmonic, among others.

## NKU Philharmonic Orchestra

Amy Gillingham Culligan, *music director and conductor*

### **Violin I**

Gracie Niehaus, *concertmaster*  
(Feb concert)

Maia Loiacono, *concertmaster*  
(Apr concert)

James Edler  
Emily Stephens

### **Violin II**

Eva Vandegrift, *principal*

Audrey Klanke, *associate*  
*principal*

Ben Lorson  
Mackenzie Opitz

Void Nox  
Lindsey McMenemy  
David Veshapidze\*

### **Viola**

Shelby Dodd, *principal*

Madeline Murray, *associate*  
*principal*

Darius Briscoe  
Ellen McGoron\*

### **Violoncello**

Annie Hovey, *principal*

Anna Stephens  
Victoria Jackson

Emma Senn  
Evan Gates  
Seth Martin

### **Double Bass**

Malachi Nance, *principal*

### **Flute**

Noah Jacobsen, *principal*  
Lisa Malsom

### **Oboe (performed on clarinet)**

Abby Morrison, *principal*  
Hannah Winstel

### **Bassoon**

Molly Dennison, *principal*  
Caroline Phipps

### **Clarinet**

Peyton Wallace, *principal*  
Erin Mills

### **Horn**

Michael Morgan, *principal*  
Barbara Phillips+

### **Trumpet**

Robbie Lasonczyk, *principal*  
Maddy St. Germain  
Max Robinette

### **Trombone**

Kian Raleigh, *principal*  
Kennedy Straub  
Sally Dotson, *bass trombone*

### **Percussion**

Luke Myers, *principal*  
Andrew Kiner

### **Keyboard**

Norma Dieterlen

### **Stage Crew/Set-up**

Eva Vandegrift, *stage manager*  
Darius Briscoe

Sally Dotson  
Audrey Klanke  
Robbie Lasonczyk  
Ben Lorson  
Erin Mills  
Malachi Nance  
Gracie Niehaus  
Anna Stephens

### **Librarians**

Void Turner  
Erin Mills  
Emily Stephens

### **Personnel Manager**

Shelby Dodd, *personnel manager*

\* Denotes community member

+ Denotes guest performer

## NKU Chamber Strings

*Members are listed alphabetically to acknowledge each player's contribution.  
They all serve as principal musicians.*

### **Violin**

William Herzog\*  
Audrey Klanke  
Maia Loiacono  
Ben Lorson  
Lindsey McMenemy  
Gracie Niehaus  
Emily Stephens  
Eva Vandegrift

### **Viola**

Holly Attar\*  
Darius Briscoe  
Shelby Dodd  
Void Nox

### **Cello**

Amy Gillingham Culligan\*  
Annie Hovey  
Victoria Jackson  
Seth Martin  
Anna Stephens

\* *NKU SOTA faculty and member of the  
Corbett faculty string trio.*

### **Double Bass**

Malachi Nance

## NKU Youth Symphony Orchestra

Alexander Moore, *director*

Maddy St. Germain, Luke Myers, Gracie Niehaus, Eva Vandegrift, and Peyton Wallace, *Teaching Assistants*  
Caroline Phipps and Kennedy Straub, *NKU Student Mentors*

### **Violin I**

Kathryn Dillman  
Roby Hardesty  
Angelica Ibarra  
Jiffanie Jose  
Noah Tyree  
Marley Winslow

### **Violin II**

Ella Arkenau  
AvaGrace Clark  
Ruby Fielding  
Emily Frank  
Catherine Glogowski  
Elena Weller  
Hanna Zamana  
Diana Zheng  
Isabella Zumhagen  
Max Zumhagen

### **Viola**

Isaac Bambach  
Adellyn Clark  
Bella Custodio  
Naomi Gibbons  
Ana Van Dyke

### **Cello**

Robin DaVault  
Nick Giglio  
Averie Holton  
Alana Williams

### **Bass**

Hannah Smith  
Miles Manning

### **Flute**

Alex Bovard

### **Clarinet**

Emily Gibbs  
Vincent Diccico  
Cole Paulowski

### **French Horn**

Maira Connelly  
Zoey Little

### **Trumpet**

Lauren DeBerge  
Emery Giglio  
Benjamin Turner

### **Trombone**

Audrey Rose

### **Baritone**

Maxwell Bambach

## HISTORY OF NKU PHILHARMONIC CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNERS

### Op. 7 (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 Performance Major  
Antonio Vivadi, 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 (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 (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  
Student of William Herzog

**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 Philipp 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 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