



**Midwest Young Artists
Conservatory
Presents:**

**Songs of Hope and Inspiration:
A Spring Choral Concert**

Featuring:

Maestros

Directed by Meghan Mullins

Voices Rising

Directed by Elizabeth Weismehl

VocalPoint

Directed by Andrew Dahan

**Michael Tan,
Accompanist**

April 28, 2024

1:00pm

Bennett Gordon Hall at Ravinia

Program

Shine! (3")	Faith John, violin; Alex Kim, cello	Adam and Matt Podd
Bring Your Dreams Along (2'30")		Patricia Mock and Shayla Blake
Make a Little Music (3'30")	<u>Maestros</u> <u>Directed by Meghan Mullins</u>	Andy Beck
Cantar! (3")		Jay Althouse
When I Close My Eyes (3")	Soloists: Aria Rosario, Odylia Cheng, Alex Tan, Ariel Tan, Sean Lee Alex Kim, cello	Jim Papoulis
Let's Call the Whole Thing Off (3")		Gershwin/ arr. Russell Robinson
	<u>Voices Rising</u> <u>Directed by Elizabeth Weismehl</u>	
The Poet Sings (2'45")	<u>Voices Rising and VocalPoint Trebles</u> <u>Directed by Elizabeth Weismehl</u>	Z. Randall Stroope
Children, Go Where I Send Thee (4")	Soloists: Ashley Cheong and Nora Sharman Rap: Joseph Wang	arr. Kevin Phillip Johnson Rap Crafted by Ayana Davis
Come Travel with Me (2'30")		Scott Farthing
Amazing Grace (5'45")	Soloists: Zachariah Elliott and Cristian Gibbs	Arr. Jeremy Fox
The Road Home (3")	Soloists: Mia Abraham and Elaine Xu	Stephen Paulus Text by Michael Dennis Browne
	<u>VocalPoint</u> <u>Directed by Andrew Dahan</u>	
Oye (3'30")	<u>Maestros, Voices Rising, and VocalPoint</u> <u>Directed by Elizabeth Weismehl</u>	Jim Papoulis

Special thanks to the following Concert Jazz Band students
for their help throughout this program:
Peter Eisenmenger, drums; Audrey Groth, bass; Alex Machado, piano

Program Notes:

Shine

Shine is a song about love, unity, and hope. This piece features six soloists from the Maestros as well as a beautiful chorus sung by the whole choir that comes back throughout the piece. *Shine* teaches us that even in the most difficult times, coming together and working with others can make a positive difference.

Cantar!

With the flair of Cuban salsa music, exciting rhythms, and a catchy melody, *Cantar!* ("Sing!") will make you want to move. Sung in Spanish, the refrain translates to "Sing a joyful song".

When I Close My Eyes

Jim Papoulis is known for writing songs with messages of hope, inspiration, and lyrical melodies. *When I Close My Eyes* is a beautiful reminder to believe in oneself even when things are difficult.

Let's Call the Whole Thing Off

This jazz song was written for the 1937 film "Shall We Dance" in which Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers sing while dancing on roller skates. It is most well-known for its different pronunciations, such as po-tay-to/po-tah-to and to-may-to/to-mah-to. This is meant to reflect the different social classes in America at the time. Those in the upper-class preferred more of a refined "ah" sound to distinguish them from the lower-class.

Come, Travel With Me

The men of VocalPoint present this beautiful piece by contemporary composer Scott Farthing with text inspired by Walt Whitman's "Song of the Open Road."

Children, Go Where I Send Thee

Children, Go Where I Send Thee is a traditional African American Spiritual popularized in the 1930s by the Golden Gate Quartet. The lead singer of this group, Willie T. Johnson, was the father of the arranger of this version, Kevin Phillip Johnson. As his father did before, the son uses rhythm in exciting new ways and a rap section to continue the evolution of this folk tune.

The Road Home

Stephen Paulus presents this arrangement of the traditional hymn tune "Prospect" published in 1835 in *Southern Harmony* with new text composed specifically for the composer.

Oye

Jim Papoulis works with *The Foundation for Small Voices* to conduct songwriting workshops for children around the world. While working with students in Mexico, he asked them if they had a message they wished to convey to the world. Their message became the song they wrote together: Oye—"to listen" or "to listen up". In Papoulis' words "When I hear this song performed, I am suddenly transported back to the streets where these children walk, go to school, live, and dream—they dream that somehow, somewhere, their small voices will be heard."

*All alone, in the darkness
They are crying out for your help
They are hoping, they are dreaming
They are asking for a chance to be heard
Are you listening, can you hear their cries
They are watching, they are listening
They are searching to find their way
Can you see them, can you hear them calling
What their voices are trying to say*



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATING SENIORS!

VocalPoint Seniors:

Zachariah Elliott, viola and voice

Years in MYAC: 2

School: Undecided

Anticipated Major: Piano

Most Memorable Moment: Speech and the Alumni Concert at Symphony Center, Choir with Ms. Stevi

Favorite Quote: "You can't hide! Dr. Dennis has exquisite hearing!"

Elizabeth Erricolo, voice

Years in MYAC: 2

School: Marquette University

Anticipated Major: Business and Communications

Most Memorable Moment: My favorite memory is the conversation I had with Stevi Marks after VocalPoint's final performance in May 2023. We discussed how grateful I was to know her and how I was inspired by her, not only in music but in life.

Favorite Quote: "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything." - Plato

Zachary Fewkes, voice

Years in MYAC: 4

School: University of South Carolina

Anticipated Major: Business

Most Memorable Moment: Spring concert of 2023

Favorite Quote: "If you're gonna think anyway, you might as well think big."

Sofia Hagstrom, voice

Years in MYAC: 12

School: Undecided

Anticipated Major: Music Education and English

Most Memorable Moment: There are so many incredible memories from the time I have been at MYAC, but one of the things I will never forget is the people I met who made the time here so special.

Favorite Quote: "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm"- Ralph Waldo Emerson. I remember the group would always chant this with Stevi before going on stage for a concert.

Veronica Lada, violin, alto sax, voice

Years in MYAC: 12

School: Lehigh University

Anticipated Major: Economics

Most Memorable Moment: 30th MYAC Anniversary concert at Symphony Center. I played and sang with my sister who is MYAC 2013 Alumna

Favorite Quote: "Mazel tov! As they say in jazz, all the time" Mrs. Marks would say this after a good rehearsal, commending us for a job well done. "I want to hear the character of the music, put the accents where they belong!" Dr. Dennis always figures out the character of the music, encouraging me to look deeper into the music. "Perpy duck sound" "Nuance" "fitting into the fabric" Mr. Hansen always mentions strange sounds to perfectly describe the feeling and history of jazz. There is always more to the story than you think, especially a piece music. Each of my teachers here have a way of teaching me how to express myself without the need for words, I am grateful I've learned how to be myself through music.

Kaley Meister, voice

Years in MYAC: 11

School: University of Miami

Anticipated Major: Neuroscience

Most Memorable Moment: Christmas concerts

Favorite Quote: ""This is a serious rehearsal" -Stevi

Faye Steinfink, voice

Years in MYAC: 8

School: Undecided

Anticipated Major: Musical Theater

Most Memorable Moment: Going to Bulgaria. I got super close with everyone on the trip, and it was truly inspiring.

Favorite Quote: Stevi always used to tell us "Nothing great is ever achieved without enthusiasm."

Orchestra and Jazz Program:

Duke Baur, tenor sax

Years in MYAC: 3
School: Manhattan School of Music
Anticipated Major: Jazz Saxophone
Most Memorable Moment: Playing at Symphony Center at the 30th Anniversary gala
Favorite Quote: "One thing you should know about me is that I am right 100% of the time"
- Drew Hansen

Mackinzie Carpenter, clarinet

Years in MYAC: 2
School: Roosevelt or Lawrence University
Anticipated Major: Music Performance & Education
Most Memorable Moment: Playing at Symphony Center for the 30th Anniversary. I will never forget how amazing that night was. I got to meet many alumni and got closer to my section.
Favorite Quote: "My mother could burp louder than that!" "Don't sit there fat, dumb, and happy! FIX IT!"
- Dr. D

Julia Cerimele, violin

Years in MYAC: 8
School: Amherst College
Anticipated Major: Undecided
Most Memorable Moment: Mahler 1
Favorite Quote: "Let's go, gang!"

Julia Choi, viola

Years in MYAC: 4
School: Harvard University
Anticipated Major: Neuroscience
Most Memorable Moment: Playing at the community concert
Favorite Quote: "Anything can be."
- Shel Silverstein

Rebecca Choi, clarinet

Years in MYAC: 4
School: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Anticipated Major: Biology
Most Memorable Moment: Playing ghost in the graveyard at the MYAC GALA

Teresa Ciaglo, violin

Years in MYAC: 7
School: University of Florida
Anticipated Major: Plant Science
Most Memorable Moment: Playing Danzon 2 at Ravinia
Favorite Quote: "My grandma can burp louder than you!"

Anna Edgcomb, oboe

Years in MYAC: 4
School: Duke University
Anticipated Major: Biomedical Engineering & Oboe Performance
Most Memorable Moment: The concert at symphony center in 2022. It was so amazing to be able to play at such a beautiful venture with such amazing musicians.
Favorite Quote: "My grandma can burp louder than that!"

Isabel Edgcomb, flute

Years in MYAC: 4
School: Undecided
Anticipated Major: Aerospace Engineering
Most Memorable Moment: I think my most MYAC memory was playing the concert at symphony center. I met so many amazing alumni, and I really enjoyed playing in that amazing space for the first time. I also remember loving the pieces we played, like Pines of Rome and Shostakovich! It is an experience I will never forget!
Favorite Quote: Whenever Dr.D starts singing a part when that person isn't here!

Peter Eisenmenger, drums

Years in MYAC: 2
School: Undecided
Anticipated Major: Jazz Studies
Most Memorable Moment: Playing wrygly by Maria Schneider
Favorite Quote: "I love a demonic possession"
- Drew Hansen

Nick Ellington, trombone

Years in MYAC: 3
School: DePaul University
Anticipated Major: Jazz Studies
Most Memorable Moment: Playing at 28 Mile the first time with Marquis Hill
Favorite Quote: My Lament (In Hunter's Voice)

Leonardo Fontane, bari sax

Years in MYAC: 2
School: University of Illinois Chicago
Anticipated Major: Music Education
Most Memorable Moment: Jazz in January concert with Marquis Hill
Favorite Quote: "To truly know it you have to be able to play it cold" - Mr.Griffin

Tanya Ganesh, oboe

Years in MYAC: 6
School: Northwestern University
Anticipated Major: Neuroscience & Oboe Performance
Most Memorable Moment: the oboe section wearing matching Christmas sweaters for the Holiday Concert

Caleb Goldstein, clarinet

Years in MYAC: 5
School: Hamilton College
Anticipated Major: Biology
Most Memorable Moment: Jazz in January 2024
Favorite Quote: One more time!

Miriam Goroff-Behel, alto sax

Years in MYAC: 4
School: Julliard School
Anticipated Major: Jazz Saxophone
Most Memorable Moment: Playing with Sharel Cassity

Kate Graham, violin

Years in MYAC: 7
School: Dartmouth College
Anticipated Major: Quantitative Social Science
Most Memorable Moment: Performing Barber Adagio for Strings with the Alumni at Symphony Hall
Favorite Quote: Dr D giving dating advice to help shape our musical expression of a piece.

Audrey Groth, horn, double bass

Years in MYAC: 5
School: University of Kansas
Anticipated Major: Undecided
Most Memorable Moment: Performing at Chicago Symphony Center
Favorite Quote: Why you rush?!?! - Dr. D

Oliver Hassard, violin

Years in MYAC: 6
School: University of Pennsylvania
Anticipated Major: Neuroscience
Most Memorable Moment: The most memorable moment at MYAC for me was the 25th alumni concert at Symphony Center. I performed with my brother for the first time in a long time and had spent the whole day in Chicago playing violin and spending time with friends from MYAC.
Favorite Quote: "Why. You. Rush." - Dr. D or "To play a wrong note is insignificant. To play without passion is inexcusable." - Beethoven

Leilani Hill, cello

Years in MYAC: 5

Kay Ito, viola

Years in MYAC: 3
School: Curtis Institute of Music
Anticipated Major: Viola Performance
Most Memorable Moment: I have way more than just one but soloing with the Symphony Orchestra.
Favorite Quote: "Everything happens for a reason, and it will all make sense one day." - Dr. D

Javier Irizarry, violin

Years in MYAC: 7
School: Northwestern University
Anticipated Major: Violin Performance
Most Memorable Moment: Performing at the outreach concert for Illinois public schools.
Favorite Quote: "My grandmother can burp louder than that!"

Evan Kessler, trumpet

Years in MYAC: 5
School: Yale University
Anticipated Major: Computer Science & Music
Most Memorable Moment: Playing Pines of Rome
Favorite Quote: "Don't just sit there fat, dumb, and happy" - Dr. D

Leon Levin, trombone

Years in MYAC: 1
School: University of Michigan
Anticipated Major: International Relations
Most Memorable Moment: Playing at the Hawthorn Mall for the Holiday Concert
Favorite Quote: "It's what I mean, not what I say" - Dr. Dennis

Alexandrew Machado, trombone, piano

Years in MYAC: 2
School: Oberlin College
Anticipated Major: Jazz Studies
Most Memorable Moment: Playing with Marquis Hill at Jazz in January 2023.
Favorite Quote: "I will stand here and watch you fail." - Drew Hansen

Adam Malinowski, flute

Years in MYAC: 1

Jet Maslowski, double bass

Years in MYAC: 5
School: The Ohio State University
Anticipated Major: Computer Science
Most Memorable Moment: When Dr D told us he drowned his kittens
Favorite Quote: "Life is a reflection of your choices. If you want to lead a better life make better choices." - Dr. D

Jacob Mendez, alto sax

Years in MYAC: 1

School: DePaul University

Anticipated Major: Music Education / Jazz Studies

Most Memorable Moment: Hanging out with present and past students of MYAC during the Alumni Concert.

Favorite Quote: "You're up with the big dogs now" - Mr. Hansen, during week of IMEC (All-State)

Aniela Meza, clarinet

Years in MYAC: 2

School: Undecided

Anticipated Major: Music Education

Most Memorable Moment: Playing at North Central College

Favorite Quote: "Turn to the person next to you and thank them for coming" - Dr. D

Tabitha Mo, flute

Years in MYAC: 9

School: Undecided

Anticipated Major: Flute Performance

Most Memorable Moment: Performing Shostakovich 5 for the alumni concert at Symphony Center!

Favorite Quote: "Don't sit there fat, dumb, and happy, do something about it"

Akshay Nair, viola

Years in MYAC: 7

School: University of Massachusetts Amherst

Anticipated Major: Computer Science

Most Memorable Moment: Playing the Alumni concert in Symphony Center

Favorite Quote: "Don't sit there fat, dumb, and happy and do something about it!"

Matthew Nerenberg, oboe, percussion

Years in MYAC: 4.5

School: University of Dayton

Anticipated Major: Chemical Engineering

Most Memorable Moment: Playing on CSO stage

Favorite Quote: "Do what I meant, not what I said," Dr. Dennis

Hunter Otgontseren, trombone

Years in MYAC: 3

School: Indiana University

Anticipated Major: Trombone & Music Education

Most Memorable Moment: Sight reading at the MYAC 2024 Gala for a bunch of dancers.

Favorite Quote: When Mr. Drew Hansen yelled "EAT THE MIC!"

Sam Persell, trumpet

Years in MYAC: 4

School: Oberlin College

Anticipated Major: Jazz Composition/ Dual Degree

Most Memorable Moment: Raiding the kitchen

Favorite Quote: "AAAAA-CHOOOOOOOOUUUUUU" - Hunter O

Liam Phillips, tenor sax

Years in MYAC: 1

Mira Pietrzkiwicz, cello

Years in MYAC: 4

School: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Anticipated Major: Physics

Most Memorable Moment: The Symphony Center Alumni Concert

Favorite Quote: "If I were a comedian, my family would have starved" - Dr. D

Ben Polonsky, trombone

Years in MYAC: 1

School: Macalester College

Anticipated Major: Biology & Music

Most Memorable Moment: Playing Tchaikovsky's 5th Symphony at Northwestern

Favorite Quote: "I don't want you ever again to take something at face value - to take things for granted. Let your curiosity run away with you. Know that beyond every ordinary explanation there is a deeper and more exciting discovery to be made." - Julie Andrews

Guadalupe Ramirez, oboe

Years in MYAC: 3

School: Undecided

Anticipated Major: Music Performance & Business Administration

Most Memorable Moment: Performing at the Chicago Symphony Center was memorable for my family and I! It was such a beautiful event and it felt surreal performing on stage with so many students and alumni.

Favorite Quote: "My grandma can burp louder than that!"

Eleanor Rebmann, flute

Years in MYAC: 4

School: College of Lake County

Anticipated Major: Communications

Most Memorable Moment: When a member of one of my chamber groups began looking around the practice room (a renovated jail cell that still has bars on the window), saying, "I don't know, but something about this place reminds me of a jail cell."

Favorite Quote: Dr. D: "Twiggy!"

Amelia Rogers, violin and viola

Years in MYAC: 6

Owen Ruszczyc, trumpet

Years in MYAC: 5

School: Manhattan School of Music

Anticipated Major: Jazz Trumpet

Most Memorable Moment: MYAC at the Chicago Jazz Festival

Favorite Quote: "One thing you should know about me is that I am right 100% of the time"

- Drew Hansen

Carissa Schultz, violin

Years in MYAC: 1

School: Undecided

Anticipated Major: Undecided

Most Memorable Moment: Dr. Dennis being unintentionally funny

Favorite Quote: "We'll start at D. D as in dumb, Dennis, donut" - Dr. D

Elizabeth Smith, horn

Years in MYAC: 4

School: Northwestern University

Anticipated Major: Neuroscience/ Pre-med

Most Memorable Moment: Ravinia concert for elementary schoolers

Favorite Quote: "Imagine you're on a beach vacation in Mexico"

Vishal Subramanian, violin

Years in MYAC: 3

William Sun, trumpet

Years in MYAC: 2

School: Emory University

Anticipated Major: Business

Most Memorable Moment: Performing at the Chicago Symphony Center

Favorite Quote: "Go home and hug your mom."- Dr. D

Daniel Tolbert, cello

Years in MYAC: 8

School: Undecided

Anticipated Major: Music Performance or Music Industry

Most Memorable Moment: The Chamber Soiree in November 2023. I had just returned from a 6-hour drive from Nashville and was sick. My chamber group was so supportive, and we sounded great. I won't ever forget that.

Favorite Quote: "My grandmother can burp louder than that!" - Dr. D

Kevin Wang, violin and viola

Years in MYAC: 2

School: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Anticipated Major: Computer Engineering

Most Memorable Moment: Performance at Cuneo Mansion

Favorite Quote: Dr. D being emotional

Kai Werlinsky, violin

Years in MYAC: 3

School: Oberlin College

Anticipated Major: Violin Performance

Most Memorable Moment: Playing Brahms Symphony 1 with Symphony Orchestra

Favorite Quote: "Rip that mother sforzando!" - Dr. Dennis

Jason Xing, cello

Years in MYAC: 3

School: Northwestern University

Anticipated Major: Journalism & Political Science

Most Memorable Moment: Playing at the concert hall that will be my home for the next four years.

Favorite Quote: "Why you rrrushhhh he?"

NORTHSHORE JAZZ & CLASSICAL MUSIC FESTIVAL
 MYAC Center, 878 Lyster Rd, Highwood, IL 60040

COMMUNITY EVENT!

2024 MUSIC SCHEDULE

- 12:30-12:45 Reading Orchestra
- 12:45-1:00 Mr. Mark's Music & Movement Class Demo
- 1:00-1:30 Cadet Orchestra
- 1:30-2:00 Jazz Ensemble
- 2:00-2:30 Maestros
- 2:30-3:00 Concertino Orchestra
- 3:00-3:30 Voices Rising
- 3:30-4:00 Philharmonia Orchestra
- 4:00-4:30 Jazz Orchestra
- 4:30-5:00 Vocal Point
- 5:00-5:30 Concert Jazz Band
- 5:30-6:00 Concert Orchestra
- 6:00-6:45 Symphony Orchestra

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Rachel and Steve Hands
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Gerald O'Connor and Amelia Hannus
AM Hansen '06
The Hassard Family
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Drs. Stephen Persell and L Dennis and Dawn Hershberger
Marc and Elia Hill
Peter Hinman
Wei Wang and Jiayin Huang
Mark and Karen Huntenburg
Abelardo Irizarry
Charles and Shirley Ivy
Hans and Fumiko Jensen
Janusz, John, and Kristin Jeske
Ewa Jezykowski
Erik Johnson
Suzanne and Steven Jordheim
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Howard Kaspin
Steven and Michelle Katz
Manmohan Mahajan and Neetu Khanna
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Lavanya and Krishna Kumar
Julia Kypr
Kamila Lada '13
Andrea Lee
Hahn Lee and Hyejung Jung
Maureen and Michael Lee
Claudia Cryer and Jon Levine
Laura Lichtman
Candice and Joseph Lind
Bridget and Enrique Lipezker
Judith Luerssen
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Sarah Ruey
Regina Safran
Deirdre and Henri Schmid
J+ and Debbie Schneider
Bjorn Schwarzenbach '10
Michelle Schwartz
John W. Shaffer
Seth Werlinsky and Akari Shimizu
Katherine Song
Pedro and Elisheba Soto
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