

The D'Angelo Department of Music
at
Mercyhurst University

Presents

Faculty Recital Series: Faculty Collage

featuring

Hannah Bossinger, soprano
Dr. Nathan Hess, piano
Dr. Sarah Kahl, piano
Jonathan Nolan, guitar
Rebecca Wunch, clarinet

Walker Recital Hall
Wednesday, September 9, 2026
8:00pm



www.mercyhurst.edu/music

PROGRAM

Fantasia in C Major, H. XVII: 4

Franz Joseph Haydn
(1732-1809)

Nathan Hess, piano

Lagrima

João Pernambuco
(1883–1947)

Maria Carolina

Antonio Lauro
(1917-1986)

Jonathan Nolan, guitar

Rhapsody for Clarinet

Willson Osborne
(1906-1979)

Rebecca Wunch, clarinet

Fantasie in F Minor, D. 940

Franz Schubert
(1797-1828)

Sarah Kahl, primo piano
Nathan Hess, secondo piano

“If I Loved You” from *Carousel*

Richard Rodgers
(1902-1979)

“Climb Every Mountain” from *The Sound of Music*

Oscar Hammerstein II
(1895-1960)

Hannah Bossinger, soprano
Nathan Hess, piano

The use of recording devices is strictly prohibited. Please turn off and
stow all electronic devices. Thank you.

BIOGRAPHIES

Hannah Bossinger holds dual bachelor's degrees from Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania in Vocal Performance and Music Education in the studios of Dr. Anne Bentz, Susan Foster, and William Ambert in 2023. She went on to serve as the Director of Music Education at Butler Catholic School for two years. In this role she taught PreK-8 general music and directed the all-school musical each spring. After taking a year off from her personal schooling Bossinger continued her education at Youngstown State University, where she received a Master of Music in Music Education in the studio of Dr. Charles Dugan in 2025. Bossinger is Instructor of Voice in the D'Angelo Department of Music at Mercyhurst University. She teaches voice lessons, vocal techniques, diction, and opera workshop. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she continues to direct the musical at Butler Catholic School, and is the lead singer of Big Bad Scary, a rock and roll band in Western Pennsylvania.

Nathan Hess has soloed with the Manassas Symphony Orchestra, Erie Philharmonic, Erie Chamber Orchestra, Western New York Chamber Orchestra, and York Symphony Orchestra, among others. Recent guest recital appearances and masterclasses have included the American Liszt Society Festival; the Americas Society in New York City; College Music Society Northeast Regional Conference; the Second Sunday Recital Series in Binghamton, NY; Southwest String Quartet in Tucson, AZ; Bowling Green State University; Duke University; University of Wisconsin Eau Claire; West Chester University; Morgan State University; Randolph College; Duquesne University; the Steinway Society of Western Pennsylvania; and the High School for the Creative and Performing Arts in Pittsburgh.

Dr. Hess holds the Doctor of Musical Arts and Master of Music degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, and the Bachelor of Music degree from James Madison University, summa cum laude, where he was named a Presser Scholar. He has performed in chamber music settings with members of orchestras, such as the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic, Tucson Symphony Orchestra, and Buffalo Philharmonic. Dr. Hess also acts as an orchestral pianist with the Erie Philharmonic. For five years, Dr. Hess chaired the Piano program at the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Arts in Erie, teaching piano to some of the state's most talented pre-college students. He performed in

and produced a set of recordings for the textbook *Harmony in Context*, published by McGraw-Hill and written by Miguel Roig-Francoli. In addition to teaching and performing, Dr. Hess is active in the Music Teachers National Association as president of the local Erie chapter, and he adjudicates frequently throughout the region and East Coast. Dr. Hess is a professor of piano in the D'Angelo Department of Music at Mercyhurst, where he coordinates the piano area, the Faculty Recital Series, and the Roche Guest Artists Series. In 2018, he received an award for excellence in faculty scholarship. For nine summers, he taught on the faculty at Rocky Ridge Music Center in Estes Park, Colorado, and currently he teaches summers at Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan. He is the organist/pianist at Fairview Presbyterian Church in Fairview, PA. Dr. Hess can be heard on the Centaur label in recordings with flutist Susan Royal and of Bach arias produced by the International Trumpet Guild.

Dr. Sarah Kahl is the accompanist for the Erie Philharmonic Chorus (EPC), Erie Junior Philharmonic Chorus (EJPC) and Erie Philharmonic Youth Chorale (EPLYC). She also serves as the group piano instructor for both the EJPC and EPLYC. Kahl has extensive background in piano pedagogy and has taught piano and multi-level classes in the group piano setting at universities in Minnesota, North Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, and Pennsylvania. She also serves as a collaborative pianist and Adjunct Instructor of Music at Mercyhurst University. Kahl is an active performer in the Erie area where she performs with established musicians and students alike. In addition to her performance roles, she is the Music Coordinator at Church of the Cross in Fairview, PA, and operates a private piano studio. Kahl received her DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Kansas where she studied with Jack Winerock. She received her Master's degree in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Nebraska where she studied with Paul Barnes and pedagogy with Brenda Wristen. She received her Bachelor of Music Degree in Music Education from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota and studied under David Worth.

Jonathan Nolan, a graduate of the D'Angelo Department of Music holds a degree in Music Education and a Master's in special education. Along with his passion for classical guitar, Jonathan has played across the country playing Irish folk music, rock, jazz and blues. Since graduating from Mercyhurst, Jonathan has been a music teacher in Erie's Public Schools for over 20 years. During this time, he has been recognized and received grants from PMEA, The Mr. Holland's Opus

Foundation, Little Kids Rock, the D'Addario Foundation and the NAMM Foundation. Mr. Nolan was honored in 2019 with a citation from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for his continuous work with the Wilson Middle School band program. That same year, he was awarded the Imagine Award from Erie Arts & Culture for his contributions to arts and culture education. Jonathan has also toured Irish festivals with The Mulligans for over fifteen years. Outside of music,

Originally from Erie, Pennsylvania, **Rebecca L. Wunch** is a clarinetist, saxophonist, pianist, and music educator. She earned a Bachelor of Music in Clarinet Performance with minors in piano and saxophone from Duquesne University, where she studied clarinet with Ron Samuels of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, piano with Sr. Carole Riley, Ph.D., and saxophone with world-renowned performer James Houlik. She later received a Master of Music in Music Theory with a dual concentration in clarinet performance from Bowling Green State University, where she also served as a teaching assistant in Music Theory and Aural Skills.

Ms. Wunch currently serves as the Mary A. Spadafor Endowed Chair of Music and Department Chair in the D'Angelo Department of Music at Mercyhurst University. She teaches music theory, aural skills, and clarinet, and coaches the clarinet choir and saxophone quartet. She also directs the Sullivan Conservatory of Music at Mercyhurst, which provides private music instruction for children and adults in the Erie area. Earlier in her career, she developed the curriculum for the middle school music program at the Perseus House Charter School of Excellence.

An active performer, Ms. Wunch has appeared in a variety of ensembles and venues, including performances with the Erie Chamber Orchestra, the woodwind trio Reed'm & Weep, and as a featured soloist with the Mercyhurst Orchestra. She performs regularly with the Presque Isle Sax Quartet and the Misery Bay Big Band, and serves as pianist and organist for Westminster Presbyterian Church in Erie. Her performance work has also included orchestral and theater productions such as *The Nutcracker*, *Swan Lake*, the Broadway Production of *Chicago*, and *Cirque Musica*.

Upcoming Events Fall 2026

JAZZ ENSEMBLE*

Directed by Dr. Scott Meier

Saturday, Sept. 26, 7 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

This is a ticketed event. No livestream. See prices below.

MERCYHURST CIVIC ORCHESTRA*

Directed by Dr. Michael Dolan

Sunday, Sept. 27, 4 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

This is a ticketed event. No livestream. See prices below.

WIND ENSEMBLE*

Directed by Dr. Scott Meier

Sunday, Oct. 4, 4 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

This is a ticketed event. No livestream. See prices below.

FACULTY RECITAL SERIES

Performers TBA

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 8 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

ROCHE GUEST ARTISTS SERIES

Kevin Sun Lee, piano

Wallis Lucas, soprano

Maddie Kolenc, alto flute

Performance: Monday, Oct. 19, 8:00pm

Masterclass: Tuesday, Oct. 20, 12:15-1:45pm (no livestream)

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

ROCHE GUEST ARTISTS SERIES

PA250: Our Jazz Story

Performance: Sunday, Nov. 1, 6 p.m.

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

Masterclass: Monday, Nov. 2, time TBD

This is a ticketed event. No livestream. See prices below.

Celebrating jazz and Pennsylvania's role in American history. Presented by the PA Jazz Alliance Inc. in partnership with Pennsylvania, Creative Industries, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Roche Guest Artists Series. Performed by the Keystone Jazz Orchestra; directed by Maestro Marko Marcinko.

SENIOR RECITAL

Eden Dolanc, piano

Saturday, Nov. 14, 1 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

FACULTY RECITAL SERIES

Saxophone quartet: Dr. Meier, saxophone, and Alumni Saxophonists

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m.

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

SENIOR RECITALS

Saturday, Nov. 21 4 p.m., Zachary Yeager, voice

7 p.m., Mekenzie Rowland, voice

Sunday, Nov. 22 1 p.m., Susan Vera, voice

4 p.m., Matthew Lenehan, French horn

7 p.m., Shane Dexter, voice

Walker Recital Hall

These events are livestreamed and free and open to the public.

D'ANGELO SMALL ENSEMBLES CONCERT

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 7:00pm

Walker Recital Hall

This event is livestreamed and free and open to the public.

'TIS THE SEASON

Collaboration between the Jazz Ensemble and the Dance Department

Dr. Scott Meier, Jazz Ensemble, and Noelle Partusch, dance dept. chair

Friday, December 4, 7:00pm

Saturday, December 5, 11:00am and 7:00pm

Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Center

Ticketed event: please see miac.universitytickets.com

For a full list of department performances, visit our **Concerts and Events page at www.mercyhurst.edu/music.**

THE D'ANGELO DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

provides an exceptional music education and is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music. Through its dedicated faculty, the department provides students with long-lasting, professional mentorships that lead to unique, individual opportunities tailored to each individual's specific career goals. Hands-on experience is essential to being successful in any field, and all students gain abundant performance experience through large and small ensembles, a weekly student recital hour, and a solo recital as their Senior Capstone. The Department produces more than 60 student, faculty, and guest performances throughout each academic year.

The D'Angelo Department of Music offers four highly regarded music degrees: **BA in Music**, **BM in Music Education**, **BM in Performance**, **BM in Composition**.

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