Opus 36

Music-COMP

Tuesday, April 26th, 2022
The Cathedral Church of St. Paul
908 World Premieres and Counting...
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Cloud Dance
Chase Ehrlich, Grade 10
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Glass
Jamie Maddox-White, Grade 10
Montpelier High School

A Troublesome Saltation
Cole Alexander, Grade 12
Lake Region Union High School

Liquid Tree
Alden Kalbfleisch, Grade 10
BFA Fairfax

Violin Classico Nomal Dueto
Eric Edlund, Grade 11
Lake Region Union High School

Aurora
Drew Frankenberg, Grade 12
Independent

Amplificare
Arlo Bolles, Grade 7
Hunt Middle School

The Expedition
Maaike Dam, Grade 10
St. Johnsbury Academy

The Wandering Snail
Harrison Brown, Grade 9
Stowe High School

Progression
Callum Robechek, Grade 10
Montpelier High School

Entrance Music
Emery Nichols, Callum Robechek, Jamie Maddox-White

Many of our composers also write electronic music in Ableton, Logic, Soundtrap and more. During intermission and before the show, enjoy this other side of our student composers!

Hear more of their music at music-comp.org/opus_36
A special thank you to Michael Wright and the crew at LCATV for video production of Opus 36.

The Opus 36 documentary will be broadcast on LCATV later this year and available online.

Opus 36 Performers

Alison Cerutti, Piano
Maxwell Grube, Bassoon
Jane Kittredge, Violin
Katie Opera, Oboe
Anna Ruesink, Viola
Stefanie Weigand, Piano

Michael Close, Cello
Hilary Goldblatt, Flute
Dan Liptak, Clarinet
Brooke Quiggins, Violin
Kyle Saulnier, Bass

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Travis Ramsay
Matt LaRocca

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Rebecca Larkin
Justin Rito
Kyle Saulnier

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THE Vermont Community Foundation
John Wallace: I am a fifth grader and I have been playing piano and composing for the last three and a half years. I have always loved to sing and classical music is my favorite. I have been composing since first grade and have at least 320 pieces. I also busk on a local market place.

Abel Goodwin: I’m in 10th grade. I taught myself to play the guitar and have been playing for 2 years now. I’m also teaching myself the piano and have been taking music theory class.

Molly Caffry is a junior from Harwood Union. Has played Trombone since 4th grade and been composing since 7th.

Robin Weigand (they/them) is a 6th grader at Crossett Brook MS. They sing, play piano, and trombone and participate in chorus, band, and jazz band. They are also learning to play the guitar at school. Robin also likes gaming, reading, art, animals, and activism.

Vii Tenace: I am in 4th grade and this is my first time composing. I like composing because you get to put together music that you like and then you create something even better!

Evelyn Kirk is a fourth-grader at Rutland Intermediate School. She is 10-years-old. She thought Music-COMP would be a fun experience. She also plays the saxophone. She likes to cook and her favorite subject is math.

Leela McCann: Hi! I am a 7th grader who loves all art forms. I view myself as musical, spirited, and creative. I mainly play piano, but I also play violin at school and guitar when I have time. I like to be outside; much of what I write is influenced by the flora and fauna around me. I am also an animal lover, gardener, baker, knitter, poet, and writer.

Preslee Diaz is a fifth-grader at Rutland Intermediate School. She chose to do Music-COMP this year because she likes listening to music and she's always wanted to make her own. She plays violin in the orchestra and saxophone in the band. She likes to do traditional and digital art and also plays video games.
Mayla Landis-Marinello: I play cello and flute in the Suzuki method. I really like listening to and playing fiddle tunes.

**Amelia Alger** is a fourth grader at Edmunds Elementary School. She plays the piano. **Leena Yager** is also a fourth grade student at Edmunds Elementary. She lives with her mom, dad, brother, dog and cat. In her free time she likes to write and cook. And she LOVES hot coffee!

**Russell Desjardins** is a fifth grader at the Riverside School in Lyndonville, Vermont. He enjoys skiing, mountain biking and writing music. He takes piano lessons at the Judevine Music School in Hardwick.

My name is **Sophia Oszurek** and I'm thirteen, graduating from 8th grade at St. Albans Town Educational Center this June. The very first piece I wrote was premiered by the ARKA String Quartet which inspired me to continue writing music. My hobbies include piano, violin, reading, drawing, and playing soccer. I enjoy traveling to see new places too. I have a younger brother, Ethan, who has started composing for Music Comp as well and we're both members of our school's orchestra and the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association.

Hi! I am **Orson Bush**. I go to Champlain elementary, and I'm in the 5th grade. I play the piano, and this is my first time composing. I really liked it! Thanks!

**Kira Lawson** is a junior at Essex High School. She participates in the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts, as well as Essex High School's Chamber Choir. She enjoys getting together with her friends to sing, and often plays original pieces on her ukulele at coffeehouses. She is very excited to share her new piece with everyone tonight!

**Otis Starble-Murphy:** I’m a 10th grade homeschooler who also takes classes at Burlington High School. I’ve been playing piano for 10 years, and I most enjoy playing classical music. I also play Volleyball, Hockey, and Ultimate Frisbee. In my free time I like reading and watching TV shows. This is my third year of Music-COMP.
**OPUS 36 COMPOSERS**
*Written by students as part of their mentoring profile*

**Chase Ehrlich:** I am a tenth grader at Montpelier High School. I play violin and piano. I enjoy composing and playing music.

**Jamie Maddox-White:** I am a tenth grade student at Montpelier High School. I make music in Ableton and Noteflight.

**Cole Alexander:** I am a senior at Lake Region Union High School. I did some composition for Opus years ago with a middle school program we had for a couple years at my elementary school in Glover, Vermont. It's nice to come full circle and have one of my pieces played all these years later. I enjoy running Track & Field and being outside. I also enjoy playing Piano, Saxophone, Guitar and singing.

Some of our young composers will also be broadcast on VPR Classical with the Student Composer Showcase and Helen Lyons.

Visit VPR Classical for past showcases and tune in to hear it live on air! vpr.net classical
OPUS 36 COMPOSERS
Written by students as part of their mentoring profile

My name is Alden Kalbfleisch and I am a Sophomore at BFA Fairfax. I enjoy creating. I participate in many music related programs at my school among other things.

Eric Edlund is a junior at Lake Region high school. He started playing fiddle when he was 6.

Drew Frankenberg is a homeschooled student from West Rutland, Vermont and lives for music. He started playing piano and clarinet when he was 8, and fell in love with music instantly. Since then he has learned guitar, saxophone, and mandolin. He started composing in 6th grade on a whim, and right away made it a large part of his life. When Drew isn't creating music he enjoys rock climbing, skiing, soccer, karate, and mountain biking.

Arlo Bolles is a 7th grade student at Hunt Middle School. He plays viola, bass guitar, and saxophone. He also plays baseball, and is into coding.

Maaike Dam is a 10th grade student at St. Johnsbury Academy. Hi, I'm Harrison Brown. I've played piano for ~8 years, and play some other instruments such as church organ, French horn, trumpet, and tenor horn. I also have prior experience with composition. I mainly listen to metal, classic and progressive rock, and most kinds of electronic music.

My name is Callum Robechek. I'm a 10th grader at Montpelier High School. I play Piano, Viola, and Drums, and love to compose both written and electronic music, in various different styles and genres, and I like to listen to everything from Dubstep to Jazz.
Jane Kittredge began studying the violin at age four. Upon graduating from U-32 high school in East Montpelier, VT, Jane moved to New York City to earn both her Bachelor and Masters of Music degrees at the Mannes College of Music studying with Sally Thomas, Lucie Robert, and Laurie Smukler. Her solo performance engagements, festival appearances and orchestral tours have brought her across the country, throughout Mexico, to London, Beijing, Italy, Canada and the French Alps. Based in Shelburne, Vermont, Jane can be seen and heard performing with a variety of ensembles including the Vermont Symphony, the Springfield Symphony, the DCINY Symphony in New York City, the Handel Society of Dartmouth College, the Burlington Chamber Orchestra, Tumbleweed, Playing for Good, the Middlebury Bach Festival, TURNmusic, the Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble, and on a number of albums put forth by local singer-songwriters.

A native of Middlesex, Vermont, Jane is the youngest of five children and will always be grateful for the inspiration of her family. When not playing, Jane loves to run, sing, hike, cook, dance, spoil her nieces and nephews, and shamelessly indulge in her addiction to European Soccer.

Born in Nashville, TN, Brooke Quiggins Saulnier (violin) began her violin studies at age 5. She has performed in recitals and concerts throughout the United States and Europe and has won top honors in numerous solo and chamber music competitions. She previously held the Principal Second Violin position in the Miami Symphony Orchestra, Ridgefield Symphony, the Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas, and Reading Symphony Orchestra and currently holds the Assistant Principal Second Violin position in the Vermont Symphony Orchestra. Brooke can be heard on the Sony Classical, Naxos, Columbia Records, Blue Note, and Universal record labels and has performed, collaborated and/or recorded with Gloria Estefan, John Legend, My Brightest Diamond, Sufjan Stevens, Young the Giant, Alexi Murdoch, and Aretha Franklin to name a few. Brooke received her Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees from the Manhattan School of Music under the private direction of Sylvia Rosenberg and Lucie Robert.
**Alison Bruce Cerutti** has performed as soloist and chamber musician throughout Vermont, and recently in Canada with Elizabeth Reid; and as a flute accompanist in the U.S. and France. For eight years, she studied with Louis Moyse and accompanied his flute master classes in Vermont and France, and in 2012 performed with his former students in St. Amour, France.

Cerutti has played with Counterpoint, TURNmusic for the 2015 production of *A Fleeting Animal*, Arioso, the Northern Third Piano Quartet, the Cerutti-Reid Duo, Veritas, and the Bruce Klavier Duo. She appeared as a soloist with the Burlington Civic Symphony Orchestra, the Vermont Philharmonic, and the Norwich University Band Company. She has premiered works by Vermont composers Michael Close, Lydia Busler, Erik Nielsen, Dennis Bathory-Kitsz, and Canadian-American composer David Jaeger; and she can be heard in the soundtrack of Bess O’Brien’s documentary “All of Me”. A Vermont native, she studied with Sylvia Parker and earned degrees from Oberlin Conservatory and the Hartt School. She maintains an active piano studio and is an adjunct professor at Norwich University.

**Michael Close** is a composer, cellist, and music educator living in Worcester, VT. Michael has been a composer-mentor with "Music-Comp" since 2004. He teaches cello and chamber music classes at the Monteverdi Music School in Montpelier. He is also the music teacher at Doty Memorial School in his hometown of Worcester and a strings instructor at Browns River Middle School in Jericho. Michael performs with a variety of orchestral and chamber music groups including the Eleva Chamber Players, Arioso, Yellow Sky, and the Living Woods baroque ensemble. He is a prolific composer and some of his most recent works have been performed by the Montpelier Chamber Orchestra (VT), The Birmingham Bloomfield Symphony (MI), The Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble, The Playground Ensemble (CO), Chamber Music at the Scarab Club of Detroit, The Eleva Chamber Players (VT), the Vermont Choral Union, and Arioso (VT), and the Longmont Symphony (CO).
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Ana Ruesink (viola) enjoys exploring musical styles and traditions. An active freelance musician, she has performed with orchestras including the Vermont Symphony, Burlington Chamber Orchestra, Dartmouth Symphony, Opera Company of Middlebury, and other regional ensembles. She is a founding member of the string quartet Eclectica as well as the Jennings Quartet and Playing for Good. She has appeared on stage and in recordings with artists as far-ranging as Arlo Guthrie, Trey Anastasio, Yo-Yo Ma, and the Irish Tenors. Currently her favorite gig is the Barker Family String Band, featuring her husband and two daughters. Ana teaches viola at UVM and from her home in Burlington.

Stefanie Weigand has served as President and Membership Chair of the VT chapter of ACDA (American Choral Directors Association). She currently serves as a member of the NAfME Council for Choral Education and Youth R&R Chair with the ACDA Eastern Region. She enjoys working as a presenter, clinician, and guest conductor across the region and is currently the conductor of the Northern VT University - Johnson Chorale. Stefanie has been involved with Music-COMP as a performer and teacher since January of 2013 and is thrilled to be stepping into the role of Director of Education. She was the 2014 recipient of the VMEA's Outstanding New Music Educator Award and received a Masters of Music Education from Castleton University.

After completing her BFA in Musical Theatre from Ithaca College, Stefanie toured nationally with a Children’s Theatre Company and worked on stage and off as a performer, pit musician, and music director in New York. Since moving to Vermont, she has appeared as a vocalist, pianist, and music director for various organizations including TURNmusic, the Vermont Philharmonic, Stowe Theatre Guild, Lyric Theatre, Apex Ensemble, the Green Mountain Mahler Festival, The Saturn People's Sound Collective, Burlington Civic Symphony Orchestra, the Green Mountain Opera Festival, and more.

She now enjoys living in central Vermont with her husband and theatre partner-in-crime, along with their two daughters (plus their dog, cat, and chickens).
Composer **Kyle Saulnier** (bass) fuses the post-bop and avant-garde jazz vocabulary with modern orchestral techniques and industrial rock muscle. Alexander Abnos of WNYC has called his music "lush and inventive," and Downbeat Magazine referred to it as “a Great American Songbook of another order." Possessing a flair for the dramatic in all his works, he has carved a signature sound that is at once recognizable and unreplicable.

A frequent performer on acoustic and electric bass, as well as the baritone saxophone and woodwind doubles, Saulnier specializes in creative, composer-driven projects that blur the lines of traditional genre. He lives in Monkton with his wife, violinist Brooke Quiggins, as well as two high-maintenance cats. His chili recipe is not for sale.

**Hilary Goldblatt** lives in Vermont’s capital city, where she enjoys teaching young musicians in the Montpelier-Roxbury Public Schools. An active flutist in Vermont, Hilary performs with the contemporary chamber music ensemble TURNmusic.

Hilary earned a Master’s in Flute Performance from the University of Michigan School of Music in Ann Arbor. As an undergraduate, she performed with the Yale Symphony Orchestra in venues ranging from Carnegie Hall to Korea. Hilary has also enjoyed playing with the Opera Company of Middlebury, ChamberWorks series at Dartmouth College, Cathedral Arts in Burlington, VT, the Vermont Virtuosi Flute Ensemble, PipeDreams Flute Quartet, and Windsong woodwind quintet. She and her husband have two young sons and love to ski and sail.

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[www.uvm.edu/cas/music](http://www.uvm.edu/cas/music)
**Dr. Maxwell Grube** is an active bassoon educator, chamber musician, soloist, and orchestral freelancer in New York State and Vermont. He currently serves as Affiliate-Artist in Bassoon at the University of Vermont in Burlington, VT, and as bassoon instructor for the Vermont Youth Orchestra Association’s Endangered Instruments Program. He maintains a private bassoon studio in the Burlington area and regularly leads chamber music coachings, bassoon masterclasses, and bassoon reed-making sessions. Grube performs as second bassoonist/guest principal with the Orchestra of Northern New York as well as substitute second bassoonist with Symphoria (formerly the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra). He previously served as Adjunct Instructor at the Crane School of Music in Potsdam, NY from 2019–2021. Grube holds degrees from the Eastman School of Music (DMA, Performer’s Certificate, Bassoon Performance), Arizona State University (MM, Bassoon Performance), and Mansfield University of Pennsylvania (BM, Music Education/Bassoon).
Educator and woodwind musician **Dan Liptak** is a recent graduate of the Hartt School, and currently teaches band at the Crossett Brook Middle School in Duxbury VT. Equally versed in Jazz, classical and contemporary music, Dan has toured throughout Europe, Asia, Canada and the United States. In November of 2016, he was a featured clarinet soloist with the Eleva Chamber Players. A love for new and challenging music has lead to dozens of premieres of new works for solo clarinet, concerto and chamber music by composers Judd Greenstein, Kenji Bunch, Erik Nielsen, Robert Carl, David Macbride, Sedar Mukahtov, Jessica Rudman, Erberk Eryilmaz and many others.

An active non-traditional musician, Dan leads the 13 piece contemporary jazz group, APEX Ensemble since 2013, performing instrumental music blending the lines between jazz, rock, funk, world music and chamber music. In addition to APEX, Dan also performs with new music ensemble TURNmusic and the Big Bang Bhangra Brass Band. Dan is an active private lesson teacher maintaining a studio in Waterbury VT, in addition to teaching instrumental lessons, concert band and jazz band at Crossett Brook. Dan lives in Moretown with his wife Kate Noyes Liptak, and their two sons, Logan and Owen.

A native of St Albans, **Katie Opera** studied oboe with her father and later joined the Vermont Youth Orchestra, where she performed as a youth soloist with the VYO and VSO. Her principal teachers included Neil Boyer at the University of Southern Maine, Mark Weiger at the University of Iowa and César Ognibene at the Conservatoire National de Région of Lyon, in France. While in Europe, she served as principal oboist with the Romanian State Opera of Timisoara and also appeared with the Timisoara Philharmonic, the Europa Symphony, and the Bolshoi Ballet. Katie is currently principal oboist with the Burlington Chamber Orchestra and has performed in the Vermont Symphony Orchestra, Burlington Ensemble, and the Vermont Mozart Festival. Ms. Oprea teaches oboe lessons in Bakersfield.
Grant and Foundation Support

Vermont Community Foundation
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A special acknowledgement to our sustaining members. Your year-round commitment and support is so important to our young composers.

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Cara and Donald Robechek
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JULY 2: MANCHESTER
JULY 3: GRAFTON
JULY 4: SHELBURNE
JULY 9: EAST BURKE
JULY 10: STOWE
A very special thank you to all the music teachers of our young composers!

Betsy Nolan, Edmunds Elementary School
Michael Hakim, C.P. Smith
Hilary Goldblatt, Montpelier High School
Betsy Greene, Champlain Elementary School
Britta Fenniman Tonn, Private Instructor
Alex Charpentier, SATEC
Molly Dubois, Crossett Brook Middle School
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Grace Chris, Stowe High School
Ruth Holleran, Mid Vermont Christian School
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