

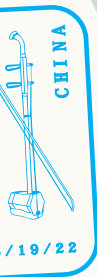


• THE MICHIGAN POPS ORCHESTRA PRESENTS •

OH, THE PLACES POPS GOES!



SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022 • 7PM AT THE MICHIGAN THEATER



UAC
UNIVERSITY ARTS CENTER

MPO
MICHIGAN POPS ORCHESTRA

WELCOME TO OH, THE PLACES POPS GOES!

To Our Beloved Audience,

Welcome to "Oh, The Places Pops Goes!" an around-the-world musical travel experience with your very own Michigan Pops Travel Agency! Our itinerary includes a cruise with pirates in the Caribbean, a delectable meal of Ratatouille in France, a potions class at Hogwarts, a voyage on a magic carpet, and an expansive view of the skies on a flying bicycle! I hope you enjoy your time with Pops Travel Agency as we musically transport you around the world and beyond!

We extend our deepest gratitude to the University Activities Center and the Center for Campus Involvement for their support; FedEx; the incredible staff at Michigan Theater, including Patty Havey, Scott Clarke, and Scott McWhinney; the Michigan Marching Band staff including Kimberly Smith, Dr. Richard Frey, and Dr. John Pasquale; Cort Toschlog-Green for lighting design; Dave Schall for audio recording; Irene Ng for poster design; Mary Blaske and the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra; and the staff at the School of Music, Theatre, & Dance for the use of their facilities and equipment.

We owe immense gratitude to Leonard Bopp and Robert Meese, our Music Director and Assistant Music Director, respectively, for their guidance and persistence to drive us to perform at the highest level. I want to also offer many thanks to the members of the Executive Board, all of whom work tirelessly to ensure that our concert is a success each semester. Additionally, thank you to all of the dedicated Pops musicians ("Popsicles") for sharing your talents with our group. A large part of being in Pops is not only the music we play, but the Pops Family that we all come together to make. Pops has single-handedly been my favorite part of attending the University of Michigan, and I owe much of the great experience I've had to all my amazing Popsicles. It has been my honor to serve as your Executive Director, and all of your hard work and dedication to Pops has inspired me to put just as much diligence and passion as you all have into this organization.

Lastly, we'd like to thank you, our wonderful audience! We work hard each semester to prepare a concert of the highest music and entertainment quality for you - the families, friends, and fans of Pops. I know you won't regret your decision to come on this musical journey around the world and hope you'll be back for our next show. For now, welcome to Oh, The Places Pops Goes!

Pops Love,
Katie Sesi
Executive Director

PROGRAM

Spring Festival Overture Huanzhi Li

Music From *Up* Michael Giacchino
Robert Meese, Conductor

Apu: Tone Poem for Orchestra Gabriela Lena Frank

A Whole New World from *Aladdin* Alan Menken & Tim Rice
Arr. Sammy Sussman
Nicholas Daly & Logan Saad, Soloists

Pirates of the Caribbean Klaus Badelt
Arr. Ted Ricketts

Super Mario Galaxy Mahito Yokota & Koji Kondo
Arr. Andres Soto
Robert Meese, Conductor

Flying Theme from *E.T.* John Williams
Robert Meese, Conductor

INTERMISSION

Harry's Wondrous World John Williams

The Nutcracker Pyotr Tchaikovsky
Spanish Dance

Concerto No. 1 for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 26 Max Bruch
Mvt. I
Peter Fazekas, Soloist

Le Festin from *Ratatouille* Michael Giacchino
Arr. Sammy Sussman

Tender Land Suite Aaron Copland
Party Scene & The Promise of Living
Robert Meese, Conductor

Danzón No. 2 Arturo Márquez

ORCHESTRA MEMBERS



Violin I

Katie Sesi*~
Katie Zhao
Andy Chen
Rose Sproat~
Matthew Yao
Frank Wang
Alex Zhang
Sophia Lee
Adham Fattah^
Melissa Beyrand~^
Oliver Gao
Marcus Schubert
Ranya Liu
Aruna Ganesan
Lucas Tittle

Violin II

Julie Zhou*
Sydney Proudlock
Max McLoughlin^
Jennani Jayaram^
Alexandra Fortune~
Tanushree Rathi^
Calise Wang~
Michelle Li
Shannon Liang
Jennifer Meng
Kevin Wang
Atticus Driver
Luke LaMere
Sarah-Marie Jabre

Cello

Peter Nam*
Mitchell Chang
Pavani Anand
Lauren Hertzner
Jinwook Lee~
Jeffrey Lin^
Jagienka Timek~^
Avi Weingarten^
Malin Andersson~^
Sean Tant
Ben Stefadu^
Richard Liu

Viola

Stephen Moss*~^
Paul Fedorowicz~^
Matthew Proefke
Sarah Gellman
Minnie Sun^
Anthony Medei
Alexander Gedeon
Lindsey Choi
Anna Shinohara

Double Bass

Sylvia Wei*
Tanya Lai~^
Dan DeLano

Flute/Piccolo

Nicholas Cemalovic*
Nicole Kim
Olivia Kulawiak
Elayna Sabelhaus*~^
Claire Wan
Jessica You

Oboe

Stephanie Turner*^
Megan Wieger

Clarinet/Bass Clarinet

Isabella Panse*^
Benjamin Stensen
Kevin Wang
William Zhang^
Allan Zhao

French Horn

Alex DiGennaro
Suraj Menon
Matthew Riddell
Noah Stevens*
Siwei Sun

Trumpet

Greg Papefthymiou*^
Kohler Briggs
Ian Loree

Trombone

Isaac Brooks*^
Austin Lan*
Evan Chung
William Knudsen

Tuba

Alexander Tran

Piano

Nat Shi

Percussion

Logan Edwards
Ben King
Angela Lee^
Shreya Mani

Supplementary Musicians

Oboe/English Horn: Jeffrey Langer
Clarinet/Bass Clarinet: Oliver Bishop
Bassoon: Isaac Bartol
Bassoon: Marissa Honig
Percussion: Bella Villaseñor
Percussion: Reed Puleo

*Section Leader

~Member of Executive Board

^Graduating Member

MUSIC DIRECTOR

LEONARD BOPP

Music Director Leonard Bopp is a recent graduate from the masters degree program in Orchestral Conducting at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre and Dance, where he studied with Kenneth Kiesler. In addition to serving as Music Director of the Michigan Pops, Bopp serves as Assistant Conductor of the Life Sciences Orchestra. Throughout his time at Michigan, he has also served as a Cover Conductor for the University Symphony Orchestra and the Contemporary Directions Ensemble. Bopp is also Artistic Director and a founding member of the BlackBox Ensemble, a New York City-based contemporary music ensemble devoted to using new music as a platform to advance the social justice causes of our time.

After graduating from The Juilliard School Pre-College Division, where he studied trumpet with Raymond Mase, Leonard attended Williams College, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Music and English, where he was Assistant Conductor of the Berkshire Symphony and Student Director of the I/O Contemporary Music Festival. Upon graduation, he was awarded Highest Honors in Music for his senior thesis on Benjamin Britten's wartime compositions, and was named the 2019 recipient of the Hubbard Hutchinson Fellowship in Music. At the University of Michigan, Leonard's compositional and research work has been supported by the U-M Libraries Mini-Grant, the International Institute Individual Fellowship, and ArtsEngine.



ASSISTANT MUSIC DIRECTOR

ROBERT MEESE



Emerging conductor Robert Meese currently serves as the Assistant Music Director of the Michigan Pops Orchestra, Assistant Conductor of the University Symphony Orchestra, and Assistant Conductor and Manager of the Campus Symphony Orchestra. Robert studies Orchestral Conducting with Kenneth Kiesler at the University of Michigan, and has recent masterclass experience with Christian Măcelaru, Gerard Schwarz, Jose-Luis Novo, and Grant Cooper.

Previously, Robert graduated from Duke University with Highest Distinction, having earned the Julia Wilkinson Mueller Prize for Excellence in Music and the Duke Symphony Orchestra Conductor's Award. His artistic study was supported by the Music Department, the Benenson Award in the Arts, and the Undergraduate Research Support Office. While at Duke, Robert studied conducting with Verena Mösenbichler-Bryant, and led the Duke Chamber Players for four years as Artistic Director. The culmination of his undergraduate studies included performances of Aaron Copland's Appalachian Spring Suite, Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony no. 6, and his own arrangement of Robert Schumann's Kinderszenen, op. 15.

EXECUTIVE BOARD



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Co-Social Director	Melissa Beyrand
Co-Social Director	Paul Fedorowicz
Librarian	Calise Wang

SOLOIST

NICHOLAS DALY

Nicholas Daly is a Junior BFA Musical Theatre major at the University of Michigan. In 2020 he was the Grand Prize Winner for Playbill's Search For A Star. At the University of Michigan he has been seen in Sonnets, Soliloquies, and Soul, and Choir Boy. Endless gratitude to my family and the Creator for the abundance of love that informs everything I do.

@nick_t_daly



SOLOIST

LOGAN SAAD



Logan Saad is a sophomore pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre. This year, she has participated in MUSKET's production of FUNNY GIRL and the concert version of FIDDLER ON THE ROOF produced by UMS, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Department of Musical Theatre. Much love to all of her friends and family for supporting her endeavors. She is honored to be performing with Michigan Pops, and as always... GO BLUE!

2022 CONCERTO COMPETITION WINNER

PETER FAZEKAS



Peter Fazekas, 17, is a Junior at Ann Arbor Huron High School currently studying violin with Adam Stepniewski, acting principal at DSO. He is the assistant concertmaster for his high school orchestra, and a 1st violinist in both the Detroit Symphony Youth Orchestra and Michigan All-State Orchestra. Recently, he served as concertmaster for the Nutcracker Ballet in collaboration with DSYO and Ballet Americana, under the orchestral direction of Dr. Ken Thompson. He has also competed at a state level in numerous chamber ensembles over the

past few years, with a focus on pre-classical and romantic repertoire. Fazekas is a multifaceted performer, taking the stage with both classical and traditional folk music at several conventions in Cleveland, Windsor, Toronto, and Niagara to name a few. He was invited to perform alongside pianist Zsuzsanna Balla and acclaimed opera singer Sándor Balla for the 2019 Hungarian Congress.

Outside of his music endeavors, Fazekas is also an All State Athlete in both varsity swimming and waterpolo, having consecutively competed at D1 State Championships throughout his high school years. He enjoys exploring the great outdoors in his free time through board related sports and can often be found snowboarding/skiing in the winter along with skateboarding and riding his electric unicycle in the summer. In terms of plans after graduation, Fazekas plans to continue his musical and academic career at his school of choice.

PROGRAM NOTES

Spring Festival Overture - Huanzhi Li

Tonight's musical trip around the world begins in China with Spring Festival Overture. This piece is the first movement of a suite honoring the Lunar New Year. The piece portrays celebrations in the Shanbei region of the northwestern Shaanxi Province, where the composer lived for many years. Sandwiched between the energetic opening and closing sections is a lyrical middle section built on a centuries-old melody that expresses New Year greetings and the hopes for good luck and peace.

Music From *Up* - Michael Giacchino

Next, we travel to the fictional land of Paradise Falls, which is the dream destination from Disney Pixar's movie "Up." In the film, 78-year-old Carl Fredricksen attempts to fulfill his lifelong dream of reaching Paradise falls by attaching thousands of balloons to his house to fly there. With the help of a stowaway little boy named Russel, the balloon-powered house reaches the South American wilderness. This heartwarming film won several prestigious awards for its soundtrack, including two Grammys, a Golden Globe, and an Oscar. Each character has a unique musical theme and this medley is sure to transport you to a nostalgic place.

Apu: Tone Poem for Orchestra - Gabriela Lena Frank

Apu: Tone Poem for Orchestra is written by Gabriela Lena Frank, who is a composer of Peruvian-Chinese-Lithuanian-Jewish heritage and is also a graduate of UofM! Her wide-ranging heritage has prompted her to learn about non-Western music and find ways to integrate influences into Western musical traditions in new ways. About Apu, Frank has written: "In Andean Peru, spirits are said to inhabit rocks, rivers, and mountain peaks with the intent of keeping a watchful eye on travelers passing through highland roads. The apu is one of the more well-known spirits that is sometimes portrayed as a minor deity with a mischievous side who is rarely seen. Simple folk songs and a solemn prayer often successfully placate the apu to ensure safe passage through the mountains." The tone poem brings this spirit to life.

A Whole New World from *Aladdin* - Alan Menken & Tim Rice

"A Whole New World" is from Disney's 1992 animated film *Aladdin* and is a passionate ballad between the primary characters, Aladdin and Jasmine. Aladdin is a lovable street ragamuffin who meets Jasmine, the Princess of Agrabah. While visiting her palace, he met a magic genie and together they embarked on a dangerous mission to stop the evil sorcerer Jafar. The lyrics portray Aladdin showing the sheltered princess a world of beauty and the pair's acknowledgement of their love for each other, all while riding on Aladdin's magic carpet.

PROGRAM NOTES

Pirates of the Caribbean - Klaus Badelt

Our journey now crosses the ocean and journeys into the Caribbean as we perform music from the classic pirate swashbuckler, *Pirates of the Caribbean*. The movie, which is based on the Disney theme park ride of the same name, follows the tale of Jack Sparrow as he goes up against Captain Barbosa's crew, who all turn into skeletons at night. Tonight's medley features a rollicking cello opening before transitioning to many of the recognizable themes from the movie, including the famous credits song "He's a Pirate."

Super Mario Galaxy - Mahito Yokota & Koji Kondo

The next part of our musical journey involves traveling between virtual gaming worlds with the music from *Super Mario Galaxy*. In this adventure, Nintendo character Mario travels the cosmos to save Princess Peach and the rest of the universe from Bowser, the villainous leader of the Koopa race. The beloved Italian plumber races around space to collect power stars with the help of Rosalina, the watcher of stars. This game was the first in the *Super Mario* series to use an orchestra for its soundtrack and is widely praised as one of the greatest games.

Flying Theme from *E.T.* - John Williams

We now stay up in space to experience one of the most popular selections from the soundtrack of the beloved 1982 film, *E.T.* With music composed by John Williams and under the direction of Steven Spielberg, the film tells the story of a boy who meets an alien and helps him return to home. Tonight's selection can be heard during the iconic flying bicycle chase scene.

Harry's Wondrous World - John Williams

Next stop: Hogwarts! Composed by John Williams, "Harry's Wondrous World" is a suite composed of famous themes from the film, including "Hedwig's Theme", "Hogwarts Forever", and "The Quidditch Match". This specific suite is used in the first two films and is iconic to fans. The success of the *Harry Potter* series is a heartwarming phenomenon to those who love the books, and the soundtrack brings to life the associated wistful feelings and transports listeners to experience the incredible magic of Hogwarts.

The Nutcracker - Pyotr Tchaikovsky

The *Nutcracker* is the last of Tchaikovsky's three ballets, with music beloved by many. The basic plot of the ballet tells the story of a young German girl who dreams of a Nutcracker Prince and a fierce battle against a Mouse King, as she travels through the different lands in her dreams. Tonight's performance is of the Spanish Dance, which appears in Act Two of the ballet in the "Realm of Sweets", where this selection is associated with chocolate!

PROGRAM NOTES

Concerto No. 1 for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 26 - Max Bruch

Next in our program, we feature our high school concerto competition winner, Peter Fazekas, who is playing Max Bruch's Violin Concerto. While not much attention has been paid to Bruch's other compositions, his violin concerto is one of the most popular pieces in violin repertoire, let alone all concerto repertoire. The Concerto has an incredible mixture of technical virtuosity and emotional bravura, so Peter's performance of the first movement is sure to awe you!

Le Festin from *Ratatouille* - Michael Giacchino

We know you are wondering"What if pops missed its connection in Paris?" Well, you are in luck, since we next will play one of the most memorable songs from Disney's "*Ratatouille*", which takes place in Paris, France. The film follows Remy the rat and his journey to become a great chef alongside his new garbage-boy teammate, Linguini. Remy eventually gets the chance to prove his culinary skills to a great food critic and teaches us that truly anyone can cook.

Tender Land Suite - Aaron Copland

Written by Aaron Copland, the Tender Land Suite brings our journey home with Midwestern influences. In 1952, he received commission from the NBC Television Opera Workshop and conceived an opera inspired by stories of sharecroppers and rural Americans in their everyday settings. While NBC canceled the opera, it eventually made its premiere with the New York City Opera in 1954, although it was not a critical success. Many think that the built-in intimacy of telling stories from settings like an American living room did not translate well onto a large stage and did not conform to pre-existing expectations of what an opera should be. As a result, Copland revised the opera in 1955 and later arranged the orchestral suite. Around the 80s and 90s, the opera and its music gained a new popularity, suggesting that Copland was perhaps ahead of his time.

Danzón No. 2 - Arturo Márquez

Composer Arturo Márquez is a Mexican composer, who was the son of a mariachi musician and displayed musical talent from an early age. Reflecting the composer's interest in Mexico's musical heritage, Danzón No. 2 is his most well-known composition, and for good reason! The music is inspired by the sounds of Mexican dance salons and is now often referred to as a second national anthem for Mexico. In Márquez's notes on the piece, he writes "The Danzón No. 2 is a tribute to the environment that nourishes the genre. It endeavors to get as close as possible to the dance, to its nostalgic melodies, to its wild rhythms, and although it violates its intimacy, its form and its harmonic language. It is a very personal way of paying my respects and expressing my emotions towards truly popular music." In our performance, be sure to listen for interspersed solos from the clarinet, oboe, piccolo, violin, trumpet, and the claves!

GRADUATING MEMBERS



MALIN ANDERSSON

Malin could not be happier that she and her cello “Jude” have spent these last four years head over heels in PopsLove. She is graduating with a B.A. in Creative Writing, a Sweetland Minor in Writing and a Minor in Music. Malin has met partners-in-crime, played La La Land with Jarvis the dog in her lap, received bruises from movie shenanigans, and geeked out over so many pieces (shout out Prince of Egypt.) As Co-Technical Director with Queen Jagienka, she has poured her heart into thanking Pops for all it has given her. She is deeply grateful for the support of her amazing family and dedicated friends who have attended every performance – virtually and in person! Finally, she wants to let everyone know that the cellos truly are the #bestsection. After graduation, you can catch her in Stockholm, Sweden where she will probably still be talking about how much she loves Pops.

MELISSA BEYRAND

Melissa is graduating from the College of Engineering with a degree in Biomedical Engineering and a minor in French. She has played in Pops since Winter 2019 in both the first and second violin sections, and is currently a member of the executive board, serving as Social Director. Some of Melissa’s favorite Pops memories are winning the Pops Cup with the second violins, playing excerpts from Porgy and Bess in the “From Pops with Love” concert, and attending her first Progressive. After graduation, Melissa plans to complete a Master’s in Biomedical Engineering at U of M before pursuing medical school.



ISAAC BROOKS

Isaac has had the pleasure of goofing around in the Pops trombone section since fall of 2018. He is graduating this year with a B.S. in Neuroscience and a minor in Computer Science. Two of Isaac’s favorite musical moments in Pops were when he got to play the euphonium solo in Mars from Gustav Holst’s The Planets Suite, and when he performed the Mii Channel theme for Pops Got Talent all those years ago. Playing in Pops has been the source of countless fun memories over the years, and Isaac is so grateful to have been a part of this wonderful orchestra! Pops love!!!

ADHAM FATTAH

Adham is a senior graduating with a B.A. in Public Policy, with a focus on foreign policy in the Middle East. This is his 3rd year in pops and 4th concert. His favorite piece this cycle is Danzon No.2. Next year he will be working in Cairo, Egypt in national security and trade.



GRADUATING MEMBERS

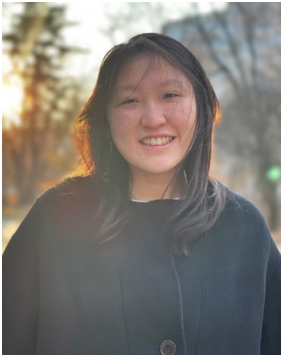


PAUL FEDOROWICZ

Paul has played viola for over ten years, and has been a member of the Michigan Pops for three. He has also served as co-social director on the executive board for two years. His favorite Pops memories include his freshman year Progressive and the Fall 2019 concert. Paul would like to thank all members of Pops, past and present, for an exceptional three years of making music and meeting new people. Paul is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, and plans to pursue a PhD in the same subject after a year's break.

JENNANI JAYARAM

Jennani is graduating with a double major in Mathematics and Statistics. She has played the violin for 13 years and excitedly joined Pops just this past fall as a final hurrah to her orchestra days. Over the last year, she has greatly enjoyed attending rehearsals every Sunday, and joining a new community at Michigan full of people who celebrate the experience of playing and listening to classical music. The highlight of her time in Pops was the opportunity to (finally!) play Danzon No. 2, a piece she dreamed of playing in an orchestra for the last 10 years - a bittersweet ending to her orchestral career. Following graduation, Jennani will be moving to New York where she cannot wait to attend concerts at Carnegie Hall. Go Blue!



TANYA LAI

Tanya is a senior studying Computer Science and a minor in Music. She has played bass with Pops since the first semester of freshman year and has been on the exec board for the past 3 years. Although she is a bit bummed that Covid hit and Pops didn't get to perform in full for 3 concerts, she is excited to be back together with the whole fam to make music this year. Some of her favorite memories from Pops include being part of Bassalonia, eating food (Popsucks, late-night Taco Bell runs), and hanging out with friends. She is very thankful for the Pops Pro Gaming Discord's existence, especially in the earlier Covid times. One of her favorite pieces to play was the Prince of Egypt from The Reign of Pops concert. After graduation, Tanya will be moving to Seattle to work as a software engineer.

ANGELA LEE

Angela joined Pops this semester and is really loving it so far! Pops is such a supportive group and the music is very fun to play. After graduation, she is excited to continue at Michigan for pharmacy school (and hopefully 4 more years of Pops Love :)



GRADUATING MEMBERS



JEFFREY LIN

Jeffrey has been in Pops since his sophomore year and has always been an avid fan of the snacks during rehearsal break. This summer he plans on spending a lot of time with friends and enjoying every day. He's excited to move to Atlanta after the summer to start work and explore a new place.

MAX MCLOUGHLIN

Max is a senior who studies Computer Science. He has played Violin since he was very young, and is extremely thankful to Pops for being such a great community where he could continue to play in a large ensemble. Max has enjoyed the great range of repertoire, and is especially excited about this final concert. After graduating he will be working as a software engineer for Etsy in Brooklyn.



STEPHEN MOSS

Stephen has played viola in Pops for seven semesters, and this is his second concert leading the viola section. For his senior year, Stephen joined the Pops Executive Board as the Outreach Director. He majored in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, and minored in Science, Technology, and Society. After graduation he plans to attend graduate school at the University of Michigan School of Public Health to get his MPH in Epidemiology before applying to medical school. Stephen's favorite memories of Pops include Pops Got Talent, competing for Pops Cup, and the first time back at the Michigan Theater this year.

ISABELLA PANSE

Isabella will be graduating from the Residential College with a BS in Honors Biochemistry. Since joining her freshman year, she has played clarinet in Pops for six semesters. Unfortunately, COVID interrupted her junior year, but she is very excited to have had two more concerts with Pops during her senior year! She loves the fantastic Pops community, which has made playing so much fun! Her favorite Pops pieces included the Prince of Egypt, Molly on the Shore, Jurassic Park, Phantom of the Opera, Scheherazade, and Danzon No. 2! After graduation, she will continue to work in an inherited cardiomyopathy research lab. She hopes to pursue a career in medicine and research.



GRADUATING MEMBERS

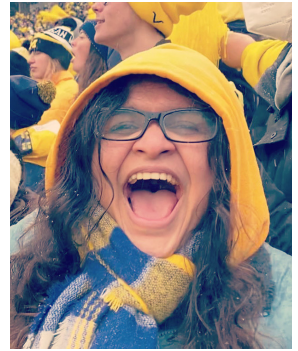


GREGORIOS PAPAETHYMIU

Greg is a trumpet performance major in the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance and is graduating with a Bachelor of Music. He will be pursuing a Master's in performance after a gap year in Chicago, where he will be helping further his professional brass quintet, the Braeburn Brass Quintet.

TANUSHREE RATHI

Tanushree Rathi is majoring in math and statistics and has been in Pops since her first semester of freshman year. Her favorite memories of Pops definitely include the last minute hustling to try and win Pops cup, multiple progressives, the thrill/fear of walking into practice without looking at the music all week and making fun of violas. She truly lives by the motto double the attitude, half the talent in everything she does and it has served her pretty well so far. She is incredibly grateful to Pops for the community it gave her in college and will miss her fellow popsicles when she graduates. She plans to move to Miami to work for Restaurant Brands International in marketing analytics and strategy and hopefully will start practicing the violin more. POPS LOVE FOREVER

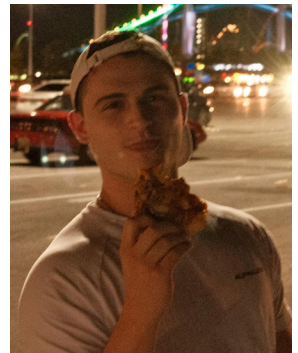


ELAYNA SABELHAUS

Elayna will be graduating with a double major in Biology, Health and Society and History along with a minor in Music. After graduation, she will be applying to medical schools while taking a gap year. She had been eager to join the Michigan Pops Orchestra since hearing about it during high school, and was so grateful to be able to join the flute section her freshman year. Since then, she has enjoyed every second of it (especially the Love concert!). Making music with people she cares about is one of her favorite things to do and brings about so many cherished feelings, so she thanks everyone in Pops for such wonderful memories throughout the years and for continuing to spread popslove! <3

BEN STEFADU

Ben will be graduating with a major in Neuroscience and a minor in Music. Ben has been in pops since freshman year and is so grateful for the pops community which has given him the opportunity to continue to enjoy playing in orchestra and making new friends. After graduation, Ben plans on taking a gap year and doing clinical research before applying to medical school. Even though this is his last semester in pops, Ben will spread pops love wherever he goes!!



GRADUATING MEMBERS

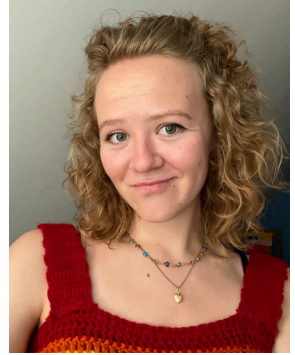


MINNIE SUN

Mingxuan (Minnie) Sun is pursuing a dual degree from the Ross School of Business and the School of Information. She played in Pops freshman year, took a COVID induced hiatus, then picked up her viola for the first time in two years and thankfully, somehow, made it through the audition again. She'll always treasure the Pops memories from performances and socials, the many fantastic friends she's met, and the emotion that can't be felt anywhere else except while making music. Orchestra has been a highlight of her senior year that she didn't expect, but couldn't be more grateful for. Minnie will be moving to Chicago after graduation and working in consulting at Bain & Company. She loves hosting friends, so reach out if you're ever in the area!

JAGIENKA TIMEK

Jagienka is a senior studying Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology and Music with a minor in Spanish. She's had the incredible opportunity to play in the MPO for the past 4 years, making it an absolute highlight of her college career. Alongside her wonderful techy partner in crime, Malin, Jagienka has been able to write funny concert antics, make Oscar-worthy movies, and meet other awesome members of Pops! After graduation, Jagienka will be pursuing transplant biology research in Germany prior to attending medical school. She sincerely hopes to keep playing after college and maintain the spirit of Pops in her life. From the bottom of her heart, Jagienka would love to thank each and every member of the orchestra for an amazing year. This orchestra has given her passion for music, film, and people a home when it had none. For that, she is forever grateful.



STEPHANIE TURNER

Stephanie has been a member of pops for the past three years, playing in the oboe section. Her favorite part about pops has been having the opportunity to continue playing in orchestra in college and getting to be part of a positive and fun community on campus. Her favorite memory during her time in Pops was performing her first concert at the Michigan Theater where her family and friends came to support her. She will be earning a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree upon graduation. Stephanie will be starting her nursing career at Johns Hopkins in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit this August.

AVI WEINGARTEN

Avi joined the Pops orchestra as a sophomore in Fall 2019 and has loved being a part of the cello section ever since. His favorite memories in Pops have been getting to "vibe" with the cellos during sectionals, attending social events like Pops Prog, and getting to help make the movies played during the concert. Avi is graduating this semester with a B.S. in Chemical Science and a Minor in Biology, and after college, he plans to take a gap year working in healthcare care followed by medical school in the future. Playing cello has been an important part of his life since he was very little, and Pops has allowed Avi to grow as a musician while becoming a part of the Pops family.



GRADUATING MEMBERS



WILLIAM ZHANG

William loves Michigan Pops Orchestra! William played clarinet for 6 semesters in Pops, and graduated with a B.S. in Information concentrating in User Experience (UX) Design and Minor in Computer Science in 2021. William will earn his M.S. in Information this April, concentrating in UX Design again. He loves every moment in Pops (outbursts, progressives, film pictures, and concerts), but he will never forget the moment he was accepted- it took him 3 semesters of persevering and auditioning. William hopes that whoever is reading this never gives up on their goals and never stops appreciating music, no matter how washed-up they might be! After graduating this semester, William will be roaming the Earth and working in technology. Pops love forever!

P.S. Shout out to my high school directors: Brian Nutting, Bryan Kolk, former Pops conductors Tal Benatar, Rotem Weinberg, and current Pops conductors Leonard Bopp and Robby Meese for their endless encouragement!





Rejected Concert Titles

- Welcome to Pops Airlines
- Around the World in Pops Days
- Pops World Tour
- Pops Flies Spirit
- Pops Misses Its Connection In Paris
- Global Overpopsulation
- Mr. Worldwide by Popsbull
- Popsport
- Passpop
- Poppin Around the World
- International PopsStars
- The Leonard Popp World Tour



Thank you for coming to tonight's concert!
We hope you enjoy the show!



photos by Ben Hsu



Thank you to the LSA Student Government and Arts at Michigan for
helping to make this concert possible!