Wild Prairie Winds

Professional Wind Quintet

Masterworks and Residency

January 12-15, 2023

Nevada, Missouri

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Who We Are

Since its formation in 2017, the Wild Prairie Winds has made performance and education of chamber music in the Midwest a cornerstone of their mission. They achieve this through various educational initiatives, community outreach and engagement within diverse venues, and adventurous programming. Praised as “new and exciting” by The Daily Iowan this 501(c)(3) non-profit organization is committed to small communities. As a testament to their mission they have used their funds to provide aid to community-focused organizations including disaster relief, diversity inclusion and awareness, environmental initiatives, and educational programs.

Their engagement with diverse venues has taken them to the Red Oak Performing Arts Center and the Corning Opera House while on their state-wide Iowa chamber music tour sponsored by the Office of Outreach and Engagement at the University of Iowa in 2018 and 2019. Other communities within Iowa they’ve performed in include New Hampton, Des Moines, Coralville, Cedar Rapids, Marion, Washington, Shenandoah, Toledo, and Milford. In an effort to be as accessible as possible to their audiences they have performed widely in libraries, city centers, public parks, schools, nursing homes, and local community theaters. In the summer of 2021, they provided a series of city park concerts funded by the City of Iowa City in addition to providing online streaming content for the residents of Johnson County funded by the Community Foundation of Johnson County.

In tandem with their unique performance outlets, their educational and outreach initiatives have been equally as innovative. In the spring of 2021 they opened applications for their first High School Honor Quintet, which was a free, five-week experience for high school musicians located within two hours of Des Moines, Iowa. They also created free online educational content in the fall of 2020 which was shared with school directors across the state of Iowa to aid music education during the pandemic, and streamed a free, live-streamed recital featuring works by female composers.

As a professional ensemble, the Wild Prairie Winds has been recognized as an internationally acclaimed chamber group when they were awarded 1st Prize in the Professional Division of the Gates of Hope International Chamber Competition held in July of 2020. They’ve appeared as a guest artist at St. Ambrose University, Western Illinois University, Truman State University, the University of Arkansas, and the International Double Reed Society Symposium.

www.wildprairiewinds.com

Acknowledgements

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, much of what we do is supported through donations and sponsorship. We want to take this moment to acknowledge the individuals and organizations that have made this residency in Nevada, Missouri possible for 2023.

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Residency Schedule

The schedule may change due to unforeseen circumstances
Public Events are on **Saturday Only**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

1:30PM-2:30PM Performance for Nevada Middle School and High School Music Students
4:30PM-6:30PM Cottey College Masterclasses
Double Reed Making
Individual Instrument Classes

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

1:00PM-2:30PM Community Luncheon at Iguana Azul
113 W Cherry St, Nevada, MO 64772
7:00PM-8:30PM Masterworks Performance at Cottey College
Recital Hall within the Haidee and Allen Wild Center for the Arts
FREE ADMISSION

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

1:00PM-2:00PM Performance at The Bungalows at Nevada Assisted Living Facility

Individual Biographies

John Ross

Flute & Director of Research and Development

Flutist John Ross is an accomplished soloist, educator, chamber musician, and orchestral performer. He currently serves as Assistant Professor of Music at Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri. Prior to his appointment at Cottey, he was on the music faculty of West Virginia State University. At WVSU, he developed a chamber music program and worked with the Ilia Musin International Academy of Advanced Conducting to develop the Charleston Chamber Orchestra, a group in residence at the institution. He has also served on the faculty of the Music for the Sake of Music summer program in Green Bay, Wisconsin and the Sparrow Music Camp in High Springs, Florida, and has served on the faculty of the Florida State University Summer Music Camps.

A versatile performer, Dr. Ross has given performances throughout the United States, Canada, and central Europe, and in such venues as the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. and the Lucerna Great Hall in Prague, Czech Republic. He has been principal flute of the Italian-American Opera Festival Orchestra (CA), the Charleston Chamber Orchestra (WV), and Taneycomo Festival Orchestra (MO). He has also performed with the Muncie Symphony, the Tallahassee Symphony, and the Charleston Light Opera Guild. He has been a featured soloist with the WVSU Wind Ensemble, the Florida State University Symphonic Band, the orchestra of Music for the Sake of Music, and the Butler Philharmonic Orchestra in Hamilton, OH. His flute ensemble Silver Lining Flutes toured around Costa Rica in Spring 2017, performing and giving masterclasses as part of the Promising Artist of the 21st Century series. His folk trio Cuttin' Bracken has performed throughout northern Florida, including multiple performances at the Florida Folk Festival in White Springs, Florida.

An advocate for new compositions, Dr. Ross has performed on new music concerts and recitals at West Virginia University, Marshall University, the University of Mary Washington, Ball State University, and Jacksonville University, including two national conferences for the Society of Composers, Inc. He is a commissioning member of the Flute New Music Consortium, an organization dedicated to the advancement of the flute repertoire. Dr. Ross was chosen as a winner of the National Flute Association Convention Performers Competition, performing newly-published compositions at the 2015 NFA Convention in Washington, D.C. He has made guest artist appearances with harpist Dr. Jaclyn Wappel at Ball State University, Earlham College, James Madison University, and throughout southern Virginia, performing works based on musical traditions of countries throughout Asia.

Dr. Ross is a graduate of West Virginia University, Ball State, and Florida State University. His primary teachers include Joyce Catalfano, Thomas Godfrey, Francesca Arnone, Mihoko Watanabe, and Eva Amsler. He pursued additional studies with Mary Kay Fink, Liisa Ruoho, Jim Walker, Jan Gippo, Sarah Jackson, and Leone Buyse, and has participated in masterclasses given by Christina Smith, Elizabeth Buck, Jennifer Connor, Jean Ferrandis, Amy Likar, Catherine Ransom Karoly, Elise Shope Henry, Kathryn Lukas, and Carol Wincenc. Dr. Ross is also training to become a certified body mapping educator, studying body mapping with Amy Likar, Liisa Ruoho, David Nesmith, Rena Urso-Trapani, Kelly Mollnow Wilson, and Andrée Martin.

http://johnrossflute.com/

Jenna Sehmann

Oboe & Director of Operations

Jenna Sehmann is an oboist and Instructor of Double Reeds and Music History at Southeast Missouri State University. Jenna previously served as oboe faculty at Cornell College (Mount Vernon, IA) and Mount Mercy University (Cedar Rapids, IA). Dr. Sehmann holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in Oboe Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa, Master of Music degree in oboe performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and a Bachelor of Music degree in both music performance and music industry from Eastern Kentucky University. Major influences on Dr. Sehmann's career include Dr. Courtney Miller, Dr. Mark Ostoich, and Dr. Julie Smith.

Dr. Sehmann is an accomplished soloist and has won several competitions and awards. Most notably, she was the Kentucky chapter winner of the 2018 National Society of Arts and Letters Woodwinds competition, competing nationally in Chautauqua, NY in May 2018. She was also the second-place winner of the Mary Ann Starring Memorial Award in Woodwinds/Brass as part of the 2018 Sigma Alpha Iota Triennial Graduate Performance Awards. Other accomplishments include the 2017 MTNA Woodwinds Young Artist Competition (Kentucky division winner), and the 2016 recipient of the NAfME Carolyn Nelson Double Reed Award.
Dr. Sehmann has also performed in orchestral and chamber music settings at the Bay View Music Festival, Sewanee Summer Music Festival, Marrowstone Music Festival, Trentino Music Festival, Sault Ste. Marie Opera Orchestra, and Taneycomo Festival Orchestra. Professionally, Jenna has performed with the Quad Cities Symphony, Orchestra Iowa, Dubuque Symphony, Ottumwa Symphony, Dayton Philharmonic, Evansville Philharmonic, and the Bach Ensemble of St. Thomas.

In addition to performing, Jenna also has an interest in music history, and completed her secondary area studies in musicology during her doctoral degree. Her research focuses on literary connections and narrative in instrumental music. This research can be found in her Doctoral capstone project, which features recordings of works for oboe inspired by literature. This project highlights two of Jenna's greatest interests: oboe performance and theatrical literature and performance. Dr. Sehmann was named the sole recipient of the 2020 Sigma Alpha Iota Doctoral Grant in order to further her studies on this subject.

https://jennasehmann.com/

Evelyn Moria Tunison

Clarinet & Director of Education and Outreach

Moria Tunison is the Scheduling Specialist at the Jacobs School of Music. Her former faculty positions include Affiliate Instructor of Clarinet and Woodwind Methods at Bradley University, Adjunct Instructor of Clarinet at Illinois Wesleyan University, and Adjunct Professor of Clarinet at the University of Illinois at Springfield. In addition to teaching at the collegiate level, Moriahas experience teaching clarinet to pre-university students at the Woodwind Preparatory Program at Illinois Wesleyan University, the University of Illinois at Springfield Community Music School, the Klepak Scholars Program at Bloomington Junior High, the Music Shoppe Lesson Studios in Champaign, Illinois, and as a Clarinet and Woodwind Auxiliary Instructor at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp.

An active performer, Moria has performed with the Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra, the Heartland Festival Orchestra, the Franco-American Vocal Academy Opera Chamber Orchestra in France, the Urbana Pops Orchestra, the 2017 National Intercollegiate Band, and with the Eastern Symphony Orchestra as the 2010 Concerto Competition Winner. She has also participated in various chamber ensembles including woodwind quintets, clarinet choirs, the MIL Clarinet and Percussion Duo, and the Illinois Modern Ensemble.

In addition to teaching and performing, Moria frequently publishes and presents on topics related to the clarinet. She recently presented “Creating a Meaningful Studio Class for a Small Studio” at the 2021 NACWPI conference. Her publications in various academic journals include her article, Lefèvre’s Third Concerto Viewed Through the Lens of His Méthode de Clarinette: An Argument for Historical and Pedagogical Performance Practice (published in the March 2021 edition of The Clarinet journal), her editorial Creating a Meaningful Studio Class for a Small Studio (published in the Spring 2021 edition of the NACWPI journal), and her article Teaching Younger Students During Covid (featured as part of the “Clarinet in the Time of Covid Series” on The Clarinet [Online]). Moria was also chosen as a Finalist in the 2020 International Clarinet Association Research Competition for her research on Jean Xavier Lefèvre and his Third Concerto.

Studying with J. David Harris, Moria received her Doctorate in Musical Arts in Clarinet Performance and Literature, with a cognate in Musicology, from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She earned her Master’s in Clarinet Performance from Michigan State University, where she studied with Dr. Guy Yehuda, and her Bachelor’s in Clarinet Performance and her Bachelor’s in Instrumental Music Education from Eastern Illinois University, where she studied with Dr. Magie Smith. Moria also studied clarinet with Harvey Hermann, piano with Dr. Susan Teicher, and oboe with Blaine Edlefsen.

Moria currently serves on the International Clarinet Association College and Pre-Professional Engagement Committee. She is a member of the International Clarinet Association, the College Music Society, the National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors, and Kappa Kappa Psi.

Outside of music, Moria loves running, gardening, traveling and visiting bakeries to find the perfect macarons outside of France.

https://www.evelynmoriatunison.com/

Shawn Seguin
Bassoon & Librarian

Dr. Shawn Seguin currently serves as the Instructor of Bassoon at Western Illinois University. An active orchestral musician, Dr. Seguin has served as Acting Principal Bassoon with the West Texas Symphony and Chorale (Midland, TX). He frequently performs with Des Moines Symphony, Quad City Symphony Orchestra, Sioux City Symphony Orchestra, and WCF Symphony.

As a recitalist, Dr. Seguin regularly performs solo and chamber recitals at the International Double Reed Society's annual conferences and presents lectures, masterclasses, and clinics across the nation. Dr. Seguin has toured across the state of Iowa with the wind quintet the Wild Prairie Winds and has developed programs to create musical opportunities for young aspiring performers. He can be heard on the recently released CD "As the Fireflies Watched" featuring new works by Jim Stephenson.

Dr. Seguin is an active arranger and his arrangements have been published through TrevCo Music and KOR Publishing and are available for purchase. His recent critical edition of Jean Coulthard's Lyric Sonatina for Bassoon and Piano will soon be made publicly available through Mayfair Music Publishing.

A graduate of the University of Iowa, he received the School of Music's prestigious and highly competitive award: the Iowa Performance Fellowship. During his studies at the University of Michigan, Dr. Seguin was the recipient of the Hugh and Nan Cooper Scholarship. Dr. Seguin holds degrees from the University of Oklahoma, the University of Michigan, and the University of Iowa. His teachers include Benjamin Coelho, Jeffrey Lyman, and Carl Rath.

https://www.shawnseguinbassoon.com/

Katey J. Halbert

Horn & Executive Director

Hornist Katey J. Halbert's vibrant personality and passion for music inspire both as a teacher and performer. Residing in Northwest Arkansas, she is currently the Visiting Assistant Professor of Horn at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. In addition to maintaining the studio and running studio class she also performs with the faculty wind quintet, Lyrique Quintette, and the faculty brass quintet, Brassworks. Previously, she has served on the faculty of Grand View University, Central College, Muskingum University, Marietta College, and Mount Vernon Nazarene University. Dr. Halbert has also maintained a successful private studio since 2009 and her students have gone on to participate in many prestigious youth symphonies, all-state ensembles, and summer programs including Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, Ohio and Iowa's All-State Ensembles, the Columbus Youth Symphony, and the Quad Cities Youth Symphony. She spends her summers on faculty at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Twin Lake, Michigan.

At home on the concert stage, she has performed as a soloist, orchestral musician, and chamber musician throughout the world. In the past year she has performed in Bangkok, Thailand with the Lyrique Wind Quintet, as principal horn in the Symphony of Northwest Arkansas, and as a soloist for the International Women's Brass Conference. During her career she has also performed with the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra, Arkansas Philharmonic, ProMusica Chamber Orchestra of Columbus, West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Michigan Philharmonic, Quad Cities Symphony, Central Ohio Symphony, Waterloo-Cedar Falls Symphony, Southeast Iowa Symphony, Newark-Granville Symphony, McConnell Arts Center Chamber Players, and Opera Project Columbus. As chamber musician, she is currently the horn player and Executive Director of the 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the Wild Prairie Winds which was internationally recognized in 2020 when awarded the top prize in the Gates of Hope Chamber Competition. She has been a soloist with ensembles such as the Muskingum Valley Winds, Muskingum University Collegiate Choir, Bowling Green Men's Chorus, Central College Symphonic Wind Ensemble, and the Grand View University Choir and will solo with the University of Arkansas Symphony Orchestra is 2023.

As a clinician, she has been a visiting guest artist at schools such as Western Illinois University, Drake University, Grinnell College, Luther College, Iowa State University, Texas Women's University, and Wright State University. Additionally, she has worked high school clinics such as the CorDallas All-Region Clinic, the University of Iowa Hawkeye Honor Band, St. Ambrose University Honor Band, and many others throughout Ohio, Iowa, Oklahoma, Texas, and Michigan. In the summer of 2022 she was a guest clinician and judge for the Music and Marching Arts International Association in Bangkok, and also gave clinics for the ASEAN Youth Winds, and the Princess Galyani Vadhana Institute of Music while in Thailand.

An advocate for female equality in the music community, Dr. Halbert is a committee member for the International Alliance for Women in Music, and has been a professional mentor for the International Women in Brass. In 2018 she worked alongside composer Catherine McMichael to create "Borealis: An Essay in Three Movements for Horn and Piano" that was premiered at the International Women's Brass Conference in 2019, and then recorded by Dr. Halbert in 2020. She has also presented programs of all-female representation at the College Music Society's Central Regional Conference, Grand View's Faculty Research Colloquium Series, the Women Composer's Festival at Hartford, and the Music by Women Conference held at the the Mississippi University for Women.

Dr. Halbert received her Doctorate in Musical Arts in Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa under the direction of Jeffrey Agrell. Her previous schools include Ohio State University, Bowling Green State University, and the University of Michigan.

www.kateyjhalbert.con

Concert Program

Program to be selected from the following

Prairie Songs (1952) - Roger Goeb (1914-1997)

1. Evening
2. Dance
3. Morning

Four Caricatures (2009) - Daniel Morel (b. 1979)

Freeing the Caged Bird (2006) - Barbara Harbach (b. 1946)

1. Maya Angelou
2. Sara Teasdale
3. Kate Chopin
4. Emily Hahn

Suite No. 3 for Woodwind Quintet "Gone With the Woodwinds" (1957) - Don Gillis (1912-1978)

1. Five Piece Combo
2. "Take Five" Blues
3. A Frolic in B-Bop Major

Ritmo Indio: A Study in American Indian Rhythms for Woodwind Quintet (1969) - Louis W. Ballard (1931-2007)

1. The Source
2. The Soul
3. The Dance

Get Involved!

Audience Survey

Tell us what you think

This survey allows us to continue improving this experience as our organization grows. Please click the link below following the performance, and let us know how we did!

SURVEY

Donate

Contribute to our cause

This amazing opportunity costs $18,000-$20,000 annually to cover travel expenses, advertising, programs, and more. Any help that could be offered towards future residencies would be greatly appreciated to ensure the highest quality of experiences for all involved.

PAYPAL
PATREON

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