



Central Washington University  
Department of Music  
presents:

# Orchestra Festival Thursday

Dr. Nikolas Caoile,  
Director of Orchestras

Jerilyn S. McIntyre Music Building Wayne S. Hertz Concert Hall  
Thursday, March 12, 2026

# Program

*12:35 PM - Lewis and Clark Concert Orchestra - Agnus Nunes*

**Mysterious Forces**

Michael Hopkins

**Beside the Still Waters**

James Leith Macbeth  
arr. Carrie Lane Gruselle

**The Gates of Janus**

Richard Meyer

*1:00 PM- Juanita High School- TBD*

**Scenes from the Emerald Isle**

Carrie Lane Gruselle

**Spirited Away**

Joe Hisaishi  
arr. Jiyoung Um

**Themes from Romeo & Juliet**

Pyotr Illich Tchaikovsky  
arr. Carrie Lane Gruselle

*1:25 PM- Chiawana High School- Peter C Blake*

**Capriol Suite**

Peter Warlock

I.

II.

IV.

**Meditation from Thais**

Massenet  
arr. Keith McDaniel

Ryan Abastillas, *cello solo*

**Allegro Con Brio**

Dvorak  
arr. Robert D. McCashin

*2:40 PM- Lewis and Clark Symphonic Orchestra- Agnus Nunes*

**Onward Katie** O'Hara LaBrie

**The Flow of The Tide** Yukiko Nishimura

**Mosaic** Jeffrey Hart

*3:05 PM- Hazen Philharmonic Orchestra- Chris Coy*

**"Adagio-Allegro" from Symphony 1** L.V. Beethoven  
arr. John O'Neil

**"Allegretto" from Symphony 3** Franz Schubert  
arr. Robert D. McCashin

**Carpe Diem** Richard Meyer

*3:30 PM- Union High School Concert Orchestra- Tim Siess*

**Tanc Furioso** Katie O'Hara LaBrie

**Enigma Variations** Elgar  
arr. Parrish

**Ghosts of Brandenburg** Richard Meyer

*3:55 PM- Lewis and Clark Chamber Orchestra- Agnus Nunes*

**A Bridgewater Serenade** Martin Ellerby

- I.
- II.
- III.
- VII.

**Souvenir de Florence** Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

*4:20 PM- Ellensburg High School Orchestra- Jenny Humprey*  
**Hungarian Dance No. 5** Brahms  
arr. Merle J. Isaac

**Reverie** Susan H. Day

**Fantasia Espanola** Soon Hee Newbold

**4:55 PM - CWU Mariachi Club**

*5:05- Eliana Cobbs*  
**Louisiana Blues Strut** Samuel Coleridge Taylor

*5:10 PM - CWU Symphony Orchestra- Dr. Nikolas Caoile*

**Symphony No. 1** Leonard Bernstein  
I. Prophecy  
II. Profanation

## Adjudicator photos and bios:

### Dr. Rebecca Nederhiser



Dr. Rebecca Nederhiser is a passionate conductor, scholar, music educator, and oboist. She currently conducts the Wartburg Community Symphony and Kammerstreicher string ensemble, and teaches music theory, oboe, and conducting at Wartburg College in Waverly, IA. In her short time at Wartburg, Nederhiser has created community engaging traditions, including an inaugural string camp, the formation of the St. George String Quartet, and collaborations/clinics with national composers and artists including Neave Trio, Reena Esmail, Tim Brown, René Clausen, and Jocelyn Hagen. Most recently she embarked on a European tour with Kammerstreicher to Germany, Austria, Croatia, Slovenia, and England, performing in prestigious halls across Europe, including the St. Stephen's Cathedral. Known for her collaborative spirit, Nederhiser has created innovative collaborations in the concert hall, including a community performance of Handel's Messiah involving over 100 chorus members, cutting edge AI-imagery for Stravinsky's Pulcinella Suite, and a Music Takes Flight local art competition in conjunction with Respighi's The Birds. In February 2023, she

commissioned nationally renowned composer Jocelyn Hagen to write a ground-breaking work in celebration of the Wartburg Community Symphony's 70th anniversary in collaboration with the Wartburg Choir. Featuring the talent of Isaac Gale (AI generative artist), Brian Newhouse (poet and managing director of Minnesota Public Radio/American Public Media's classical programming) Scott Winters (Ion Concert Media) and the Wenger Corporation (surround sound installation), the orchestra and choir performed Hagen's music while an AI-generated movie was projected onto the screen through the syncing technologies of Ion Concert Media. This cutting-edge technology eliminated the need for click track, allowing the music to be organically linked to the images in real time. To their knowledge, the WCS is the first orchestra to perform a work with the simultaneous combination of AI-generated movie, choir, and surround sound. Most recently, Nederhiser earned 3rd place in the 2023 American Prize competition for the Vytautas Marijosius Memorial Award in Orchestral Programming for this concert. Through Trace Chamber Society, Nederhiser has pursued research of Schönberg's Society for Private Musical Performances and their chamber arrangement methodology. This has included highlighting the work of modern-day arrangers Iain Farrington from England and Peter Stangel from Germany. Most recently, Nederhiser traveled to Vienna to celebrate Arnold Schönberg's 150th anniversary, continuing this research at the Arnold Schönberg Center. Her passion for women composers has also taken her to the Royal College of Music in London, investigating the unpublished manuscripts of composer and conductor Avril Coleridge Taylor. She recently presented her research "Trailblazers: Exploring British Women in Music" at the 2025 International Conductor's Guild Conference held at the Royal College of Music in London. Nederhiser has a music education degree from Warner Pacific University, master's degrees from Washington State University (oboe performance), and Central Washington University (orchestral conducting) and a DMA in orchestral conducting from University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In her spare time, Nederhiser enjoys hiking, reading cooking, traveling, and exploring her local coffee shops.

## Dr. James Welsch



Dr. James O. Welsch is Music Director of the Tacoma Youth Symphony Association, where he leads the Tacoma Youth Symphony. A conductor, composer, arranger, and educator, he also serves as Associate Conductor of the El Paso Symphony Orchestra. Earlier in his career, he served as Music Director of the Florida Symphony Youth Orchestras. During his time in El Paso, he simultaneously held the roles of Music Director and General Manager of the El Paso Symphony Youth Orchestras while serving on the conducting staff of the El Paso Symphony.

As a composer and arranger, Dr. Welsch has written orchestral works and educational arrangements performed by both student and profes-

sional ensembles. His creative work often focuses on expanding meaningful repertoire opportunities for young musicians while strengthening the educational and artistic impact of orchestral performance. Dr. Welsch is the founding Music Director of Orquesta Filarmónica Juvenil México-USA "The Bridge," a binational youth orchestra uniting musicians from Ciudad Juárez and El Paso in performances on both sides of the border. A dedicated educator and clinician, he has taught at Syracuse University and Stetson University and served as Visiting Professor and Director of Orchestras at the University of Central Florida.

## Dr. Anna Edwards



Conductor Anna Edwards' musical career progression as a violinist, educator, and symphony conductor has inspired her mission to encourage and promote musical diversity at the highest level from professional, educational, and collaborative music organizations across the country. She is a passionate advocate of music from under-represented composers on the concert stage.

Currently, Edwards balances her time between conducting in the Pacific Northwest, serving as a guest conductor/clinician

across the country, and developing young musicians through instruction and collaboration with professionals in concert settings. The 2026-2027 season marks the twelfth season for Edwards as Music Director of the Seattle Collaborative Orchestra, eleventh season as Music Director of the Whidbey's Saratoga Orchestra, and ninth season as Artistic Director of the Pacific Northwest Conducting Institute.

Leveraging her experiences as an instrumentalist and educator Edwards turned to refine her career as a conductor. After training with Michael Jinbo at the renowned Pierre Monteux School for three seasons, she received her Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Washington.

Anna launched her newest venture in the fall of 2022, [annascomposerdatabase.com](http://annascomposerdatabase.com), a curated list of composers and compositions that help music organizations create interesting and diverse programs for concert performance.

## William Waag



William Waag is a passionate conductor and music educator in northern New Mexico and has led the Santa Fe Youth Symphony since 2014. He is the Santa Fe Symphony's Associate Artistic Director of Youth Programs, and is also the Principal Conductor of the Santa Fe Community Orchestra and the Los Alamos Symphony Orchestra. In addition to his roles with local ensembles, William is a frequent guest conductor and clinician across the nation. As a guest conductor, William has led the Santa Fe Symphony, the Albuquerque Philharmonic, Seattle Rock Orchestra, Santa Fe Community Orchestra, Los Alamos Symphony, Mobile Symphony Youth Orchestra, El Paso Symphony Youth Orchestra, Albuquerque Youth Symphony, and All-Region Honor Orchestras in Texas, Alabama, and New Mexico.

William has held a variety of conducting and teaching positions at elementary, middle, and high schools, colleges, public and private institutions, and four states across the western United States. He has led wind and jazz ensembles, symphony

orchestras, drumlines, classes in music education, music theory, music for students with special needs, and pre-school music. Above all, William's deepest passion is for conducting youth symphonies and leading young musicians' exploration of the symphonic world. Previously with youth orchestras in Washington and Alaska, William is elated to be leading both youth and adult symphonies in New Mexico. William received a MM in Orchestral Conducting from Central Washington University, and a BM in Music Education from Boise State University. Originally from Boise, he lived in Washington state and Alaska before moving to Santa Fe. A Pacific-Northwesterner at heart, William loves exploring and climbing mountains in all seasons and traveling the highways slowly in his 1972 Volkswagen bus.

## Music Department Calendar of Events

March 14, 12:00pm	Trevor Patnode, Voice Recital*
March 14, 2:00pm	Maria Maddox, Graduate Voice Recital*
March 14, 3:00pm	Emmeline Baldwin, Piano Recital+
March 14, 7:00pm	Samantha Staab, Voice Recital+
March 15, 2:00pm	Mackenzie Turner, Voice Recital*
March 15, 4:00pm	Orchestra Concert+\$
April 3, 6:00pm	Jinjoo Cho & Max Geissler, Guest Artist Performance*
April 5, 4:00pm	Tommy Hawthorne, Faculty Bass Recital*
April 9, 7:00pm	Opera+\$
April 10, 7:00pm	Opera+\$
April 11, 7:00pm	Opera+\$
April 12, 2:00pm	Opera+\$
April 16, 7:00pm	Shea-Kim Duo, Joint Faculty Recital+
April 17, 7:00pm	Lorenzo Anguiano, Cello Recital+
April 18, 4:00pm	Tori Seward, Horn Recital*
April 21, 6:00pm	An Evening of Studio Ghibli*
April 26, 4:00pm	Jeremy Skeels, Trombone Recital*
April 27, 6:00pm	Bassoon & Oboe, Joint Studio Recital*
April 28, 6:00pm	String Studio Recital*

**All dates and times subject to change. For the most recent  
calendar of events, visit [www.cwu.edu/music](http://www.cwu.edu/music) or call (509) 963-1216**

\* Recital Hall      + Wayne S. Hertz Concert Hall      \$ Ticketed

Parking is free every weekday after 4:30 p.m. and all day on weekends,  
unless otherwise stated.

Please refrain from the use of cell phones and any electronic devices  
outside of accessing the program through the duration of your visit to our  
facility. Thank you.

Thank you for all that you do to advance Central's commitment to  
excellence and connecting our world through music.

Follow us on:  
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*Central Washington University acknowledges the people who have been on this land since time immemorial. The Ellensburg campus is on lands ceded by the Pshwanapum and other bands and tribes of the Yakama Nation in the Treaty of 1855. The Yakama people remain committed stewards of this land, cherishing it and protecting it, as instructed by elders through generations. We are honored and grateful to be here today on their traditional lands, and give thanks to the legacy of the original people, their lives, and their descendants.*