



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of
Arts and Science
SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS - MUSIC

SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS
MUSIC

PLAY IT FORWARD 2026

Concert Program

Greystone Singers

The Chain — Ingrid Michaelson (arr. *Robert Shellard*)

Erika Olson and Michael Liu, solo

Ubi Caritas — Maurice Duruflé

I'm a Train — Albert Hammond and Mike Hazlewood (arr. *Peter Knight*)

Greystone Singers & USask Wind Orchestra

Sleep — Eric Whitacre

USask Wind Orchestra

Perpetua — Pete Meechan

Gallop — Alfred Reed

USask Symphony Orchestra

Academic Festival Overture, Op. 80 — Johannes Brahms

Chamber Ensemble

Lied ohne Worte (Song without Words), Op. 109 — Felix Mendelssohn

Annika Benson, cello; Esther Zhu, piano

USask Jazz Ensemble

Danny Boy

Soloist: Keegan Isaac (trombone)

Hard Hearted Hannah

Soloists: Ronan Inkster (trumpet), Enna Ometlic (piano)

Body Snatchers

Soloist: Soren Hvenegaard (tenor saxophone), Dmitri Masich (vibes)

*The land is acknowledged as our Mother, the Earth. The University of Saskatchewan is committed to honor and support the *Indigenous peoples, Indigenous cultures, Indigenous values, and Indigenous languages that belong to the land of Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis. The University of Saskatchewan is committed to working towards mending colonized lands and protecting the land in a way that demonstrates honour, respect, and love. The University of Saskatchewan extends this commitment to the lands and Treaty territories (Treaties 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10) that constitute kisiskâciwan ([Saskatchewan], "the swift current", Cree/Saulteaux), and all Indigenous people that call kisiskâciwan home. We are born to the land and the land claims us.*

USask Greystone Singers

Ensemble Biography

The Greystone Singers is an auditioned choir, open to students from all colleges and departments who enjoy challenging and diverse choral music. Founded in 1958, the ensemble has built a reputation for artistic excellence through performances of traditional, classical, sacred, secular, and contemporary repertoire, as well as collaborations with renowned conductors, composers, orchestras, and other choirs. Under the direction of Matthew Praksas and accompanied by Deborah Buck, the award-winning ensemble continues its long-standing tradition of high-level performance.

Ensemble Membership

Soprano 1

Mia Gillingham, Erika Olson, Monica Steinke*, Adrianne Tanjusay, Fiona Zhao

Soprano 2

Arieanna Barsi, Jae Herman, Margarette Perolino*, Abby Wendland*, Abigail Winters, Sunny Yang

Alto 1

Halle Boutin, Julia Gordon*, Julia Grant, Olivia Numedahl, Catarina Pinheiro, Natalia Yurach

Alto 2

Adina Antu, Elsa Felstrom, Birgitte Friggstad*, Bethany Gadd

Tenor 1

Billy Panaligan, Joaquin Perez

Tenor 2

Stephané Gerard, Parker Hollinger*, Ollie Pollock

Bass 1

Dami Famuyiwa, Erik Jeerakathil, Sam Medernach

Bass 2

Jeremy Bell, Michael Liu*

**Section Leader*

USask Wind Orchestra

Ensemble Biography

The University of Saskatchewan Wind Orchestra, led by Stacey Mortenson-Spokes, is the premier large instrumental ensemble on campus and is open by audition to all university students who play wind or percussion instruments. Established in 1974, the ensemble rehearses twice a week and performs a wide variety of high-quality wind repertoire. It has established an impressive regional, national, and international reputation, performing across Canada, the United States, and Europe. Notable conference and festival appearances include the Canadian Music Educators Association Conference, the Texas Music Educators Association Conference, the World Music Contest, and the World Association of Symphonic Bands and Ensembles Conference. The ensemble is committed to performing and supporting contemporary music, regularly participating in new commissions and consortia. It recently recorded an entire album of Peter Meechan's music, *Skyscapes*, and has given Canadian and world premieres of works by composers including Elizabeth Raum, Paul Suchan, Dinuk Wijeratne, James M. David, Jeff Presslaff, and Tom Davoren. The ensemble has also welcomed world-class guest soloists, including trombonist Ian MacDougall, saxophonist Frederick Hemke, trumpeter Allen Vizzutti, and TorQ Percussion Quartet.

Ensemble Membership

Flute

Gale Bowles, Jeshua Baniaga, Ilsa Griebel (*piccolo*), Mellissa Lu, Olivia Nasr, Fiyinfoluwa Oyedeji*

Oboe

Michelle Blair, Tyrell Hardlotte*

Clarinet

Selim Bytyqi, Monaco Chanthavone-Burghall, Nicholas Gaschler, Chloe Kvill, Danielle Subido, Ziqin Zhao*, Wendy Zhou

Bass Clarinet

Grey Haughian, Soren Hvenegaard*, Benedict LeBlanc

Alto Saxophone

Rayna Coutts*, Hayden Webb*

Tenor Saxophone

Aleks Geldart*, Kewei Wang

Baritone Saxophone

Kai Deptuch, Ian Fraser, Callie Sherdahl

Trumpet

Camryn Boychuk, Ronan Inkster*, Tristan Kovachik, Marie Levesque, Tyson McBee, Julian Ruotsalainen

French Horn

Sable Scott, Millia Shiffman*, Muhammad Ammar Siddiqui, Dongxu Zhang

Trombone / Euphonium

Ian Michasiw*, Victoria Prak, Finn Sinclair, Blake Kozuska

Tuba

Ella Hydomako*

Percussion

Jenah Healey, Enna Ometlic*, Ellen van Heyst, Yeming You

* *Section Leader*

USask Symphony Orchestra

Ensemble Biography

Launched in 2021, the University of Saskatchewan Symphony Orchestra has grown from a 12-member string ensemble into a full symphony orchestra. The ensemble provides orchestral training and high-level performance opportunities for students, faculty, staff, and community members, while helping connect the Saskatoon Youth Orchestra and the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra. The initiative was spearheaded by Professor Dean McNeill, former Head of the Department of Music in USask's College of Arts and Science, together with conductor Professor Shah Sadikov. The orchestra also carries forward the University of Saskatchewan's long orchestral tradition, rooted in the Department of Music's founding in 1931 and its early sanctioned string ensemble. Today, the USask Symphony Orchestra continues that legacy through orchestral performance, community engagement, and musical collaboration.

Ensemble Membership

Violin I

Drusilla Waltz, Katia Pletneva, Aliona Matiash, Parham Golshenas, Tanya Veeman, Olena Ponomarenko, Marcel van den Hurk, Majid Has

Violin II

Wagner Barbosa, Vanessa Leon, Albert George, Lisa Poznia, Taiga Las, Yulin Wang

Viola

David Parkinson, Andres Proanos, Judy McCrosky, Kathleen Heuer

Cello

Annika Benson, Chris Stewart, Lloyd Rowsen, Siyu Huang, Nicholas Blenkinsop

Oboe

Michelle Blair

Flute

Anna Badke

Clarinet

Danielle Subido, Emma Gotioan

Trumpet

Dean McNeill, Michael Perkins, Chase Piper, Grady Cousins

French Horn

Nyah Hopkins, Graham McDonald, Dongxu Zhang, Payton Carroll

Percussion

Jon Canning

Chamber Ensemble

Ensemble Biography

Directed by Dr. Véronique Mathieu, Chamber Ensemble provides students with the opportunity to explore a variety of small ensemble settings and study repertoire spanning the Baroque period to the present day. In addition to regular end-of-term and outreach performances, the ensemble presents an annual concert during the week of International Women's Day, celebrating the contributions of women composers to music.

Performers

Annika Benson, cello

Esther Zhu, piano

USask Jazz Ensemble

Ensemble Biography

Under the direction of Dean McNeill, the USask Jazz Ensemble has toured Western Canada, the northern United States, and Quebec, and has commissioned and premiered many new works for the contemporary large jazz ensemble. The ensemble has released six CDs in its “Bumper Crop” series and has performed in venues such as Edmonton’s Winspear Centre. The USask Jazz Ensemble has also performed with acclaimed guest artists, including Jens Lindemann, Campbell Ryga, Al Kay, Wycliff Gordon, Allen Vizzutti, Hugh Fraser, Slide Hampton and many others.

Ensemble Membership

Alto Saxophone

Ziqin Zhao, Hayden Webb, Aleks Geldart, Anish Bedi

Tenor Saxophone

Soren Hvenegaard, Finn Boyle, Kewei Wang, Sam Brooks

Baritone Saxophone

Rayna Coutts, Ian Fraser

Trumpet

Tyson McBee, Ronan Inkster, Royce Hermanson, Daly Haas, Samuel Medernach, Dane Block

Trombone

Keegan Isaac, Nicholas Rogers, Ian Michasiw, Finn Sinclair, Victoria Prak, Andrew Pittman

Piano

Noel Doll, Enna Ometlic

Bass

Taegen Isaac, Matthew Pyke Jocson

Drums

Cruise Dahlgrin

Auxiliary Percussion

Dmitri Masich

Vocals

Keegan Isaac, Emma Gillingham, Ronan Inkster

Harmonica

Aramis St-gelais

Jazz Ensemble Manager/Librarian: Keegan Isaac

Upcoming Events

October 18, 2026

Amati Concert Series
Convocation Hall | 3:00 p.m.

October 18, 2026

Dean McNeill & Valerie Hall Recital
Trumpet and Organ
St. John's Church | 7:30 p.m.

October 19, 2026

Neil Weisensel's FARLS Lecture
Quance Theatre | 12:30 p.m.

October 23, 2026

Jeff Presslaff's FARLS Lecture
Quance Theatre | 12:30 p.m.

October 23, 2026

USASK Jazz Ensemble
The Bassment | 8:30 p.m.

November 19, 2026

USASK Wind Orchestra Concert
Quance Theatre | 7:30 p.m.

November 22, 2026

Greystone Singers, University Chorus, & USASK Symphony Orchestra Concert
Knox United Church | 3:00 p.m.

November 25, 2026

Concert Band Concert
Quance Theatre | 7:30 p.m.

November 28, 2026

USASK Jazz Ensemble Concert
Quance Theatre | 7:30 p.m.

November 29, 2026

Amati Concert Series: Garneau String Quartet
Convocation Hall | 3:00 p.m.

December 2, 2026

Chamber Ensemble Concert
Quance Theatre | 12:30 p.m.

B.Mus. Audition Dates: **January 16, 2027, February 6, 2027, March 6, 2027.**