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Michigan Festival
of Sacred Music
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www.mfsm.us

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We continue in our efforts to contribute to the sacred music repertoire by seeking to commission new works. The MFSM welcomes inquiries from donors interested in commissioning works for future festivals.

Volunteers Welcome

If you enjoy inspirational music, like to meet new people and receive free admission to concerts, please volunteer! Contact us at (269) 382-29010 / director@mfsm.us and join us!

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WELCOME TO THE CONNECTING CHORDS MUSIC FESTIVAL!



We are excited about our new look. The name “Connecting Chords” describes our programming and philosophy for the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music (MFSM), where we take a broad view of the word “sacred”, presenting events that not only represent diverse faiths, but transcend faith traditions and bring the community together by highlighting things considered sacred by most people: human dignity, the environment, cultural traditions, and freedom of expression.

This year’s festival will feature 18 events, 7 of which are free, with many additional educational outreach events, between October 5-November 25. We have scheduled over two months, making an effort to avoid conflicts with other arts organizations while giving audiences time to reflect on the programs they attend.

Many wonderful artists, both new to us and returning favorites, local and from further afield, will present a wide variety of exciting, uplifting and thought-provoking programs. We collaborate with new and old friends in presenting these artists, and continue to appreciate the close sense of community which makes Kalamazoo so special.

This year we dedicate the festival to **Gulnar Husain**, an early Board member and influence on the MFSM. In a fitting tribute to her, we bring back **Dawud Wharnsby**, the first artist she recommended to me when I began as Executive Director. Dawud performs with other artists from the Abrahamic faiths in the Abraham Jam, embodying Gulnar’s efforts to bring the community together to celebrate our diversity.

Please join us as we experience the transformational power of music, exploring our rich cultural fabric while appreciating how it can all fit together into a larger harmony.

Elizabeth (Betsy) Start
Executive Director

MUSIC FOR ALL

FALL 2018



Kalamazoo College Department of Music

UPCOMING ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES

Academy Street Winds Symphonic Band - Thomas Evans, Director
October 26 at 8 pm

Jazz Band - Thomas Evans, Director
November 9 at 8 pm

Kalamazoo Philharmonia - Andrew Koehler, Director

*In collaboration with the West Michigan Opera Project,
a performance of Carlisle Floyd's timely and moving opera Susannah.*

November 10 at 8 pm

College Singers - Christopher Ludwa, Director
November 11 at 4 pm

Japanese and West African Percussion Ensembles - Carolyn Koebel, Director
November 13 at 7 pm

All performances take place in the Light Fine Arts Building's Dalton Theater on the campus of Kalamazoo College, and most are free!

For more information, please visit www.kzoo.edu/music.

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IN MEMORY OF GULNAR HUSAIN



Since immigrating from Pakistan to America in January of 1981, Gulnar Husain worked tirelessly to unleash her fellow citizen's own potential, encouraging others to share their gifts and talents to build a better community in her adopted hometown of Kalamazoo.

For over 35 years, Gulnar volunteered and gave joyously of her time to numerous Kalamazoo entities, such as Kalamazoo Interfaith Coalition for Peace and Justice, Kalamazoo Islamic Center,

Western Michigan University, Communities In Schools of Kalamazoo (CIS), Volunteers In Service to America (VISTA), Kalamazoo Public Schools, Portage Public Schools, St. Augustine School, Kalamazoo Non-Violent Opponents of War, Kalamazoo County Summit on Racism, Michigan Interfaith Coalition for Peace, Kalamazoo Lend a Hand, Fetzer Institute's Gardens of Many Faiths and to the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music, where she served two terms on the Board.

Gulnar was dedicated to the MFSM mission, helping to bring many respected artists to Kalamazoo in order to promote mutual respect and understanding. She became an active member of MFSM since its inception in 2001, and worked to grow the organization and bring the community together over the years through the various MFSM programming and events. Gulnar was the founder of the Muslim Children's Youth Choir of Kalamazoo, which sang Islamic nasheeds with Dawud Wharnsby at the MFSM in 2005.

Gulnar's passion was serving her faith, family and community; being a part of MFSM allowed her the opportunity to serve all three.

She felt it was important to engage children and youth in community service and social justice activities in order to promote their development as well as teach them to "build bridges of inclusion" as she called it.

Even as Gulnar was undergoing intense chemo for her pancreatic cancer in 2017, she continued to be actively engaged in the community and expressed her heartfelt support for MFSM's work. ✨

WELCOME ...

to the eighteenth year of the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music in Kalamazoo.



As one of the premier spiritually inspired musical festivals and one that invites renowned artists from the region as well as globally, this is a very special year. First, due to increased patronage and sponsorships, this is the third time we are holding this festival annually as compared to the biennial format that was previously in place.

We are pleased to note that audience attendance and response was overwhelmingly positive for the 10-plus musical programs performed during a 5-week period in last year's musical festival. We are anticipating this year's performances to be just as stellar. Second, in keeping with patron and advisory board feedback, we have named our current festival the *Connecting Chords Music Festival*. Fundamental to almost all forms of music, "Chords" in its letters befittingly represent the essence of this festival: C for connection, H for harmony, O for outreach, R for resonance, D for diversity and S for Sacred. In this context, we extend the meaning of sacred to include as well as go beyond the traditional religious musical perspective. We hope that you will find the beauty of diversity and the spiritual and sacred aspects that you value well represented in this year's outstanding slate of musical performances.

This year is also very special as we dedicate this festival to honor **Gulnar Husain** whose contributions to the MFSM were invaluable and transformational. Though we are deeply saddened that Gulnar is no longer with us, we will always cherish her memory and deeply value her uplifting and inspiring work to advance diversity, peace and harmony in our community and beyond.

On behalf of MFSM, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our patrons and our Advisory Board for their support. Special acknowledgment is also due to our Board for all their time and hard work and to our Executive Director, **Elizabeth Start**, for her gargantuan efforts in planning and organizing the entire program and without whom this festival would not have been possible.

Best Wishes,
Zahida Luqmani
President
Michigan Festival of Sacred Music

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The Michigan Festival of Sacred Music appreciates and gratefully acknowledges the support of the organizations listed here.

Support provided by the Arts Fund of Kalamazoo County, a program of the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo.

This activity is supported in part by an award from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The 2018 appearance of Fifth House Ensemble is supported by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a program of Arts Midwest that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and the Crane Group.

The Organ with Brass & Voice concert support was arranged through the Kalamazoo Federation of Musicians, with a grant provided by the Music Performance Trust Fund, which is funded by Recording Companies in Canada and the United States.

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Please consider becoming a supporter of Connecting Chords Music Festival. Donations made to the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, are tax deductible.

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Rabbi Nachman of Breslev

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MISSION

We serve audiences and communities of all faiths and cultures by providing opportunities to connect with each other through music.

VISION

The connecting power of music fosters mutual understanding and respect and builds community harmony.

The Michigan Festival of Sacred Music follows an Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and employs personnel and provides programs and services without regard to gender (including pregnancy), gender identification, sexual orientation, race, color, ethnic or religious background, descent or nationality, disability (including past, present, or future physical, intellectual or psychiatric disability, learning disorders or disease), marital status, age, height and weight.

This EEO policy applies to employment, internal promotions, training, opportunities for advancement, terminations, relationships with outside vendors and customers, use of contractors and consultants and in dealing with the general public.

2019 EVENTS

SOUND & SPIRIT

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2019 ▶ 2:00 PM

First Baptist Church

Our **Sound & Spirit** program will take place on **Sunday, February 3**, during the United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week (February 1-7).

The week seeks to spread the message of harmony and tolerance among the followers of the three monotheistic faiths and all the world's religions. Its message invites everyone, excludes no one and is purely voluntary.

Our February 3 event will featuring area artists and other events at the First Baptist Church, followed by a Syrian dinner.



AMIT PELED FRIDAY, MAY 31, 2019

Temple B'nai Israel

On **Friday, May 31, 2019**, we collaborate with Temple B'nai Israel to present world-renowned cellist **Amit Peled** in a free program titled *The Journey with my Jewishness*. He describes the program as "a short performance/chat with a mix of Jewish music and Bach."

Peled has been featured on television and radio stations throughout the world, and he earned a Grammy nomination in 2017 for *Unknown Music of Nadia Boulanger*.

Dates/lineup subject to change.

TIMOTHY R. BOTTS

“EXPRESSIVE CALLIGRAPHY”

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 ▶ 5:00 – 8:00 PM

First Baptist Church

315 W. MICHIGAN AVE.

FREE EVENT



Timothy R. Botts is a master calligrapher who studied graphic design and calligraphy at Carnegie-Mellon University. After graduation, he spent three years in Japan teaching conversational English where he was exposed to the rich brush writing tradition of the East.

He then began a forty-year career at Tyndale House Publishers, designing over 600 books and bibles before his retirement in 2012.

“I aim to make the words look like what they mean, always trying to strike a balance between legibility and expression,” says Botts.

“Making these word pictures is, for me as a visual person, the strongest way to reflect on God’s Word. To share them with others is an additional joy.”

The art will be on display through November 25. ✨



BAHAR ENSEMBLE

WITH ORCHESTRA ROUH

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 ▶ 6:00 – 7:30 PM

First Baptist Church

315 W. MICHIGAN AVE.

FREE EVENT



Bahar Ensemble is a collection of musicians from Kurdistan, Saudi Arabia and the United States playing traditional Middle Eastern music around the Kalamazoo area. Members of the ensemble include **Ahmed Tofiq**, violin; **Liz Youker**, cello; **Faris Alshobaini**, oud; **Dede Alder** and **Nicholas Baxter**, percussion; and **Beau Bothwell**, bass.

Orchestra Rouh is an education initiative from the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, in partnership with the Suzuki

Academy of Kalamazoo. They offer regular, ongoing music instruction to children of Syrian and other refugee and international families.

Rouh means both “hope” and “spirit” in Arabic. The program is designed to nurture the emotional well-being of children through music instruction, led by teachers who are bilingual in English and Arabic, and including music from Arabic traditions.

This 6:00 PM performance will be part of the October Art Hop in tandem with the Timothy R. Botts “Expressive Calligraphy” exhibit, which is open from 5:00 - 8:00 PM. ✨

FIFTH HOUSE ENSEMBLE

“DEGENERATE ART”

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7 ▶ 7:30 PM

Light Fine Arts Building Dalton Theater
Kalamazoo College

1200 ACADEMY ST.

 **TICKETED EVENT**

Praised by the *New York Times* for its “conviction, authority, and finesse,” the Chicago-based Fifth House Ensemble harnesses the collaborative spirit of chamber music to reach beyond the traditionally-perceived limits of classical music.

Delving into music that was censored, banned, and propagandized as “degenerate,” Fifth House Ensemble will shed new light on works by artists facing oppression under three different regimes: Nazi Germany, Soviet Russia, and the dark days of McCarthyism in the United States.

There will be a pre-concert talk with the artists for ticketholders at 6:45 PM, and a post-concert discussion following the performance.

5HE will present a public workshop, “Connective Statements,” on Monday, October 8, at 10:55 AM in the Kalamazoo College Light Fine Arts Building Recital Hall.

While in Kalamazoo, 5HE will be visiting Loy Norrix and Portage Northern High Schools.



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Fifth House Ensemble taps the collaborative spirit of chamber music to create engaging performances and interactive educational programs, forging meaningful partnerships with unexpected venues, artists of other disciplines, educational institutions, and audiences of every type. The ensemble's artistic, educational, and civic programs engage theater groups, video game designers, corporate innovators, and folk bands to share stories as diverse as the communities it serves.

Through the ensemble's heartfelt social and civic practice work, Fifth House has co-created artistic projects with urban neighborhoods, social service organizations, and an agricultural community to spark conversations on issues that matter.

Fifth House features **Herine Coetzee Koschak** (cello); Elizandro Garcia-Montoya (clarinet); **Eric Heidbreder** (bassoon); **Grace Hong** (oboe); **Sarah Plum** (violin); **Sixto Franco** (viola); **Parker Nelson** (french horn); **Katherine Petersen** (piano); **Eric Snoza** (double bass); **Melissa Ngan** (flute); and **Dan Visconti** (composer).

PUBLIC WORKSHOP – Connective Statements: Public Speaking for Musicians

Artists have many opportunities to connect with audiences of all types through speaking from the stage. 5HE will share how to select content in a way that is responsive and relevant to audiences of varying ages and experience levels; we call these *connective statements*. 5HE will also share some public speaking tips and tricks from our friends in the acting world to help you warm up your voice and to overcome common obstacles. ✨

The 2018 appearance of Fifth House Ensemble is supported by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a program of Arts Midwest that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, and the Crane Group.



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JORDAN HAMILTON

CELLO

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 ▶ 2:00 PM

Kalamazoo Public Library
Downtown

315 S. ROSE ST.

FREE EVENT



As a member of Last Gasp Collective and the Southwest Michigan Symphony Orchestra, **Jordan Hamilton** finds new ways for the cello — considered by many a “traditional instrument” — to connect to a modern audience.

By merging songwriting, loop pedals, sample machines, cello, and vocals, the Western Michigan University Graduate creates a sound that is reminiscent of experimental hip-hop, folk, soul, and classical.

Whether he is playing original tunes, Bach, Chance the Rapper, or the Beatles, Hamilton’s music is sure to capture the heart and the mind while aiming to expose new horizons. ✨

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DIO TRIO

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 ▶ 8:00 PM

Dalton Center Recital Hall
Western Michigan University

VAN DE GIESSEN RD. #3001

 **TICKETED EVENT**

This unique conglomeration of musical virtuosos is most certainly larger than the sum of its parts. The internationally-renowned artists bring their own nuanced musical taste and training, which they manage to masterfully combine into a blend of music that touches the soul and expands the mind.

DIO Trio offers a varied repertoire, rooted in the rich and diverse musical heritage of the Arab Middle East — both ancient, and contemporary. This Arabic music comprises the classics by renowned historical and contemporary composers, as well as original compositions by the trio's members.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



A graduate of the Boston Conservatory, vocalist **Dima Orsho** holds a Masters degree in Opera Performance and is an established and seasoned performer, recorded artist, and collaborator with renowned international musicians such as Yo-Yo Ma. Having learned clarinet as a second instrument, she brings an instrument player's sensibility to her vocalizations, adding to the magic of the trio's pieces and becoming an innovator in the world of Middle Eastern music.









Oud player **Issam Rafea** — a veteran performer and recording artist — has served as the conductor of the Arab Orchestra at the Higher Institute of Music in Damascus. A true virtuoso and innovator of the oud, Rafea incessantly works to coax new sounds, harmonic combinations, and emotions out of this traditional instrument. He has collaborated with many artists of world renown, including the British pop group “Gorillaz.”



Percussionist **Omar al-Musfi** holds a Master's degree in Performing Arts from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, and he is currently director of the Middle Eastern ensemble at his alma mater. He is well known for his amiable presence, collaborative work ethic, and his distinctive and intuitive rhythmic creations — combining a classically trained sensibility with a fluid and colorful playing style. His collaborations include working with Shakira and Sting. ✨

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Friday, Oct. 5	5:00 PM	Timothy R. Botts – Expressive Calligraphy (exh)
Friday, Oct. 5	6:00 PM	Bahar Ensemble w/ Orchestra Rouh
Sunday, Oct 7	7:30 PM	Fifth House Ensemble 
Saturday, Oct. 13	2:00 PM	Jordan Hamilton, Cello
Saturday, Oct. 13	8:00 PM	DIO Trio 
Sunday, Oct. 14	3:00 PM	Hindu Dance & Music 
Sunday, Oct. 21	3:00 PM	HuDost 
Thursday, Oct. 25	7:30 PM	Tlen-Huicani 
Friday, Nov. 2	5:15 PM	Sky Legends of the Three Fires – w/ Larry Plar
Thursday, Nov. 8	7:30 PM	Tapestry “Lessons of Darkness” 
Friday, Nov. 9	12:00 PM	Arsentiy Kharitonov, Piano 
Friday, Nov. 9	7:30 PM	Tapestry “Starry Night” 
Saturday, Nov. 10	10:30 AM	Sacred Waters Kirtan
Sunday, Nov. 11	7:00 PM	Simon Shaheen 
Saturday, Nov. 17	10:30 AM	Frances Kozlowski & Friends 
Sunday, Nov. 18	3:00 PM	Organ with Brass & Voice
Sunday, Nov. 18	7:00 PM	Abraham Jam 
Sunday, Nov. 25	4:00 PM	Messiah Sing

 **TICKETED EVENT.** All other events are free. Schedule subject to change.

<i>ibit opens)</i>	First Baptist Church, 315 W. Michigan Ave.
	First Baptist Church, 315 W. Michigan Ave.
	Kalamazoo College Dalton Theater, 1200 Academy St.
	Kalamazoo Public Library, 315 S. Rose St.
	Dalton Center Recital Hall, WMU, Van De Giessen Rd. #3001
	Kalamazoo College Dalton Theater, 1200 Academy St.
	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1747 W. Milham Ave.
	Edison School, 924 Russell St.
mondon	Kalamazoo Valley Museum, 230 N. Rose St.
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	Unity of Kalamazoo, 1204 Whites Rd.
	Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 1747 W. Milham Ave.
	Kalamazoo Nature Center, 7000 N. Westnedge Ave.
	First Baptist Church, 315 W. Michigan Ave.
	Congregation of Moses, 2501 Stadium Dr.
	First Congregational United Church of Christ, 345 W. Michigan Ave.

For the latest information, please visit ccmusicfest.com

TAKE NOTE

COMMUNITY EVENTS

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First Presbyterian Church Concerts
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at [KalamazooSymphony.com!](http://KalamazooSymphony.com)



KSO
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ORCHESTRA

HINDU MUSIC & DANCE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14 ► 3:00 PM

Light Fine Arts Building Dalton Theater
Kalamazoo College
1200 ACADEMY ST.

🎫 TICKETED EVENT



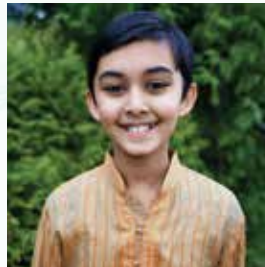
Artists drawn from the Midwest will perform a program of Hindu music & dance.

A disciple of Kshama Shah of the Mudra Dance Academy in Chicago, dancer **Anupama Mangalvedhe** will present a Bharatanatyam recital.

In addition, brothers **Akash** and **Tejas Gururaja** with **Akhil Sai Avasarala** will perform a music set featuring violin, vocals, and percussion. ✨



Akash Gururaja



Tejas Gururaja



Akhil Sai Avasarala



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HUDOST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21 ▶ 3:00 PM

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Portage

1747 W. MILHAM AVE.

 **TICKETED EVENT**



Having toured the United States, Canada, and Europe constantly since 2006 — including a performance at our 2015 Festival — HuDost’s core musicians **Moksha Sommer** and **Jemal Wade Hines** will bring their unique sound back to Kalamazoo in 2018.

Self-described as “the Neo-Folk World-Rock Ensemble from Montreal and Kentucky”, the music of HuDost crosses all borders and barriers, taking listeners on a journey they’ll never forget. A seamless tapestry of sound, HuDost blends pop rock with traditional European and Middle Eastern folk music.

HuDost functions as a duo or as a band, including guest musicians of varying sensibilities and backgrounds. As a duo their instrumentation

includes vocals, harmonium (indian pump-organ), guitars, Dulcinet, percussion, and a slew of sonic ambient effects.

HuDost has collaborated or performed with many musicians, including Ani DiFranco, Philip Glass, Joan Osborne, Steve Kilbey (The Church), Jon Anderson (YES), Snatam Kaur, Ramy Essam, California Guitar Trio, Bell Orchestre, Neko Case, Jim Lauderdale, Omar Faruk Tekbilek, Mercan Dede, and many more. ✨



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TLEN-HUICANI

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25 ▶ 7:30 PM

Edison School

924 RUSSELL ST.

◆ TICKETED EVENT



With their traditional costumes and instruments, a concert with Tlen-Huicani (pronounced *wee-KAH-nee*) is like taking a musical journey through Mexico and South America.

Meaning “the singers” in their indigenous Indian language of Nahuatl, Tlen-Huicani makes the beautiful “*arpa jarocha*” — folk harp — the centerpiece of their music.

Founded in 1973, the group has shared stages with some of the top orchestras in Mexico and Latin America. Group director **Alberto de la Rosa** is one of the most respected musicians in all of Mexico, and he is considered among the most outstanding folk harpists in the world.

Since 1973, their music and international achievements have earned the honor of “Best Folk Group in Mexico” by the Union of Music and Theater Critics. In 2013 the governor of Veracruz honored them for 40 years of service to the development of the cultural landscape of Veracruz.

Tlen-Huicani has shared stages with some of the top orchestras in Mexico and Latin America, including the National Symphony of Mexico with Maestra Alondra de la Parra, as well as symphonies in Queretaro, Veracruz, and Xalapa. ✨

During the day on October 25, Tlen-Huicani will present a workshop for Edison School students.



Blendings

Vocal Ensemble

Repeat the Sounding Joy

Wed, Nov 28, 2018, 7:30 pm

Swinging holiday standards and popular favorites and carols, sung with a live jazz trio.

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Wed, May 15, 2019, 7:30 pm

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Find us on Facebook, or at BlendingsEnsemble@gmail.com
Hal Hobson-Morse, Director

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“SKY LEGENDS OF THE THREE FIRES”

PLANETARIUM SHOW

*With Native American storyteller Larry Plamondon
and the Southern Straight Singers*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2 ▶ 5:15 PM

Kalamazoo Valley Museum

230 N. ROSE ST.

FREE EVENT



As part of the November Art Hop, “Sky Legends of the Three Fires” — three Native American stories about the night sky — will be featured at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum Planetarium.

Noted for his knowledge of the traditional stories of the Anishinaabe, Native American storyteller and contributor to the planetarium show **Larry Pun Plamondon** will give a live presentation during the event. Recognized as a “tradition bearer” by the Michigan Humanities Council, Plamondon is a published author, playwright and an activist in Native American issues.



Music will also be performed by the **Southern Straight Singers**, a drum group featuring members of the Potawatomi, Odawa, Ponca, Sioux, and Commanche tribes. ✨

5:15 Plamondon & Southern Straight Singers

6:15 Planetarium show

7:15 Plamondon & Southern Straight Singers



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TAPESTRY

“LESSONS OF DARKNESS:
ARMISTICE DAY 1918”

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8 ▶ 7:30 PM

“STARRY NIGHT”

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 ▶ 7:30 PM

First Baptist Church
315 W. MICHIGAN AVE.

BOTH PERFORMANCES ARE  TICKETED EVENTS

Founded in 1995, vocal ensemble Tapestry has established an international reputation for its bold conceptual programming – combining medieval and traditional repertory with contemporary compositions.

The ensemble has won numerous awards, including WQXR and Chamber Music America's Recording of the Year and the prestigious Echo Klassik Prize for their recording Sapphire Night.

Based in Boston, the ensemble was founded at the Longy School of Music by **Laurie Monahan, Cristi Catt, and Daniela Tošic.**

“LESSONS OF DARKNESS: ARMISTICE DAY 1918”

In turns celebratory and solemn, “Lessons of Darkness” commemorates the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, marking the end of World War I. Tapestry will present works of composers affected by the war – Ralph Vaughan Williams, who abandoned his composing career to enlist as a private in the Royal Army Medical Corp; Sergei Rachmaninoff who was forced to flee Russia in 1917; Claude Debussy, whose *Noël des enfants qui n’ont plus de maison* lashes out at a world at war; and Maurice Ravel, who hoped to serve as a pilot but drove an ambulance and ultimately found a way to express his reaction to the war in his *Le Tombeau de Couperin*.



The program also touches on iconic wartime works, including songs by Stephen Foster (American Civil War) and Simon and Garfunkel (Vietnam). Tapestry offers this program in the hope that we learn from our collective history, and work together to avoid war at all cost.

Tapestry will be joined in this program by internationally renowned pianist **Arsentiy Kharitonov** (see bio, page 34).

“STARRY NIGHT”

In this exploration of the Night Sky, Tapestry brings together music and textual imagery relating earthly cycles to the celestial. The program opens with a solar eclipse as the world teeters on the edge of a black hole in medieval France, and then takes flight weaving together 16th-century Spanish Villancicos with works of David Lang, Hildegard von Bingen, Alan Hovhanness, Claude Debussy, Ivan Moody and Patricia Van Ness. Hovhanness’ beautiful melody, *In Early Dawn Song*, serves as a common thread through the concert as the cycles of the moon and stars are explored. Tapestry breathes life into the beautiful lyrics of this program in which “hearts rejoice,” “souls tremble” and “a thousand stars fall and rise in concert.”



Tapestry will be joined in this program by clarinetist **James Falzone**. ✨

Tapestry is pleased to make visits to schools during their time in Kalamazoo.

ARSENTIY KHARITONOV

PIANO

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 ► 12:00 PM

First Baptist Church

315 W. MICHIGAN AVE.

◆ TICKETED EVENT



After his triumphant debut at Carnegie Hall in 2016, pianist and composer **Arseniy Kharitonov** has been placed “in the top ranks of keyboard players today” (*New York Observer*). He is described as a pianist of “sumptuous tone, technical mastery, broad dramatic range of an astonishing breadth, and elegant phrasing.” (*Fanfare Magazine*)

A prizewinner of national and international competitions, Kharitonov has been heard in solo recitals and with orchestras all over the world.

Kharitonov started playing piano at the unusually late age of sixteen,

in the Rimsky-Korsakov College of Music of the famed St. Petersburg Conservatory in Russia, where his musical progress was immediate and astounding. Within three years, he was giving solo recitals, which featured his own compositions and improvisations in a variety of musical styles in addition to the standard piano repertoire. Kharitonov’s first orchestral appearances include solo performances with the St. Petersburg Philharmonic and the Mariinsky Theatre Youth Philharmonic Orchestra.

Kharitonov will be performing on the First Baptist Church’s Fazioli 9’2” concert grand piano – the first Fazioli piano in Michigan and the first in a church setting in the United States. Prior to its arrival in Kalamazoo, the instrument was used for concerts in northern Europe and England. ✨

SACRED WATERS KIRTAN

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10 ► 10:30 AM

Unity of Kalamazoo

1204 WHITES RD.

FREE EVENT



Singing in ancient languages of world religions, Sacred Waters Kirtan invites the audience into heart-centered devotional chanting across interfaith paths to unity in the One.

The Kirtan has been making music together for 12 years and is the resident ensemble at Sacred Waters Spiritual Center in South

Bend, Indiana. They will be joined in this program by local world percussionist **Carolyn Koebel**.

Participants regularly tell the group after attending their kirtans, they feel renewed, at peace, and transported into the Oneness to which we all belong. ✨

2018-19 SEASON

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, 3 PM

2018 Finalist Nathan Le, cello
WMU Symphony Orchestra, Miller Auditorium

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 4 PM

2018 Bronze Medalist Maya Anjali Buchanan, violin
Kalamazoo Junior Symphony, Chenery Auditorium

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 3 PM

2017 Gold Medalist William McGregor, double bass
Baltimore Chamber Orchestra,
Goucher College, Kraushaar Auditorium

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 8 PM

2018 Gold Medalist Charlotte Marckx, violin
Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, Miller Auditorium

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 10 AM AND 8 PM

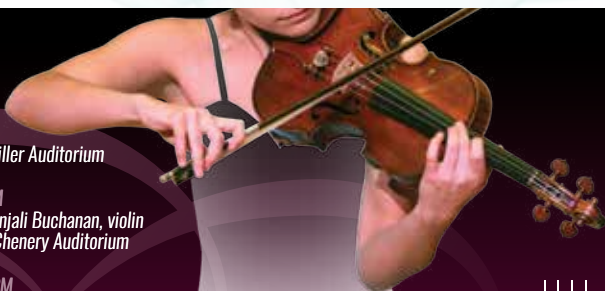
2017 Gold Medalist William McGregor, double bass
Grand Rapids Symphony, St. Cecilia Music Center

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 7 PM

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SIMON SHAHEEN

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11 ▶ 7:00 PM

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church of Portage
1747 W. MILHAM AVE.

 TICKETED EVENT

Simon Shaheen dazzles his listeners as he deftly leaps from traditional Arabic sounds to jazz and Western classical styles. His soaring technique, melodic ingenuity, and unparalleled grace have earned him international acclaim as a virtuoso on the oud and violin.

One of the most significant Arab musicians, performers, and composers of his generation, Shaheen's work incorporates and reflects a legacy of Arabic music, while it forges ahead to new frontiers. He'll be performing his Festival show with his trio.

His unique contribution to the world of arts was recognized in 1994 when Shaheen was honored with the prestigious National Heritage Award at the White House.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

A Palestinian born in the village of Tarshiha in the Galilee, Shaheen's childhood was steeped in music. His father, Hikmat Shaheen, was a professor of music and a master oud player. "Learning to play on the oud from my father was the most powerful influence in my musical life," Shaheen recalls. He began playing on the oud at the age of five, and a year later studying violin at the Conservatory for Western Classical Music in Jerusalem. "When I held and played these instruments, they felt like an extension of my arms."

After graduating from the Academy of Music in Jerusalem in 1978, Shaheen was appointed its instructor of Arab music, performance, and theory. Two years later he moved to New York City to complete his graduate studies in performance at the Manhattan School of Music, and later in performance and music education at Columbia University.

In 1982, Shaheen formed the Near Eastern Music Ensemble in New York, establishing a group that would perform the highest standard of traditional Arab music. This time also marked the beginning of Shaheen's workshops and lecture/demonstrations in schools, colleges, and universities to educate the younger generation.

As a champion and guardian of Arab music, Shaheen still devotes almost fifty percent of his time to working with schools and universities, including Julliard, Columbia, Princeton, Brown, Harvard, Yale, University of California in San Diego, University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and many others.

His concert credits are a veritable compendium of the world's greatest venues: Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, Cairo's Opera House, Theatre de la Ville in Beirut, and Belgium's Le Palais des Arts. In May of 2004, Shaheen appeared at Quincy Jones' "We Are The Future," fundraising concert in Rome in front of a half million strong crowd. ✨





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FRANCES KOZLOWSKI & FRIENDS

“SONGS OF PEACE
FROM AROUND THE WORLD”

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17 ▶ 10:30 AM

Kalamazoo Nature Center

7000 N. WESTNEDGE AVE.

 **TICKETED EVENT**



**Frances
Kozlowski**

Peace songs from around the world and many faiths will be presented by Kalamazoo-based **Frances Kozlowski**, an interfaith songwriter/author who has composed over 300 songs and four songbooks over a 45-year period. She is a student of Vedanta who has studied and performed throughout India. The musicians joining her include:



**Carolyn
Koebel**

Carolyn Koebel has created music for silent film soundtracks and modern dance since 1999. She has released over 25 recordings and is an adjunct professor of music therapy at Western Michigan University.



**Jeff
Morton**

A world music instruments collector, **Jeff Morton** plays over 80 different types of instruments including sitar, koto, tablas, marimba and numerous percussion instruments.



**Elizabeth
Start**

Elizabeth Start is a composer, a cellist with the Kalamazoo and Elgin (IL) Symphony Orchestras, and Executive Director of the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music.



**Erika
Jones**

Erika Jones, vocalist and percussionist, has been singing and playing music with her mother, Frances Kozlowski, since she was a small child. She also plays tablas in the kirtan group at the Self Realization Fellowship Meditation Group of Kalamazoo.

Admission to the Kalamazoo Nature Center is included with your ticket. ✨



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ORGAN

WITH BRASS & VOICE

Featuring *Karl Schrock (organ), Susan B. Anthony (soprano),
Scott Thornburg (trumpet), and Elizabeth Start (cello)*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 ▶ 3:00 PM

First Baptist Church
315 W. MICHIGAN AVE.

FREE EVENT



Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the church's Létourneau organ and its recent refurbishing, this brass & voice program will feature Kalamazoo artists, including:

A member of the faculty of the Western Michigan University School of Music since 1994, organist **Karl Schrock** holds a doctorate in organ performance and three master's degrees earned from the University of Michigan.

Following a long and successful international singing career, soprano **Susan B. Anthony** currently devotes her time to the teaching and coaching of young singers.

Trumpeter **Scott Thornburg** has performed as soloist and chamber musician around the world as a member of Spectrum Brass and the New York Trumpet Ensemble, and appeared with numerous musical groups.

Elizabeth Start is a composer, a cellist with the Kalamazoo and Elgin (IL) Symphony Orchestras, and Executive Director of the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music. ✨



Karl Schrock



Susan B. Anthony



Scott Thornburg

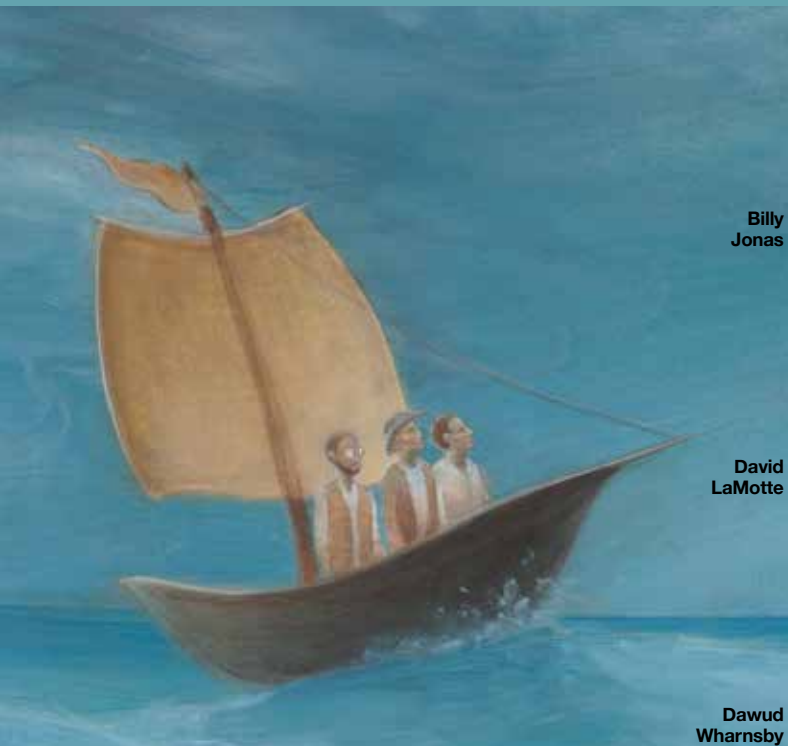


Elizabeth Start

The Organ with Brass & Voice concert support was arranged through the Kalamazoo Federation of Musicians, with a grant provided by the Music Performance Trust Fund, which is funded by Recording Companies in Canada and the United States.



There will be a reception following the performance, sponsored by the Southwest Michigan Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.



Billy
Jonas



David
LaMotte



Dawud
Wharnsby



ABRAHAM JAM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18 ▶ 7:00 PM

Congregation of Moses
2501 STADIUM DR.

◆ TICKETED EVENT

A Muslim, a Jew, and a Christian walk into a concert hall...

What may be mistaken for a stand-up comedian's opening line is actually Abraham Jam, a trio of internationally-renowned musicians who have teamed up to create art strengthened by diversity. **Billy Jonas**, **David LaMotte**, and **Dawud Wharnsby** — three "brothers" from the three Abrahamic faiths — have performed extensively over the last few decades in their individual careers.

"Harmony is better than unity," says LaMotte. "We don't have to be singing the same note to cultivate peace, we can sing different notes that are beautiful together."

ABOUT THE BAND

The band originally formed in 2010. LaMotte, who was working with the North Carolina Council of Churches at the time, came up with the concept as a goal to form interfaith respect and cooperation. He approached campus Jewish, Muslim, and Christian student organizations in the area, and he put together an interfaith student committee to select musicians — as well as the name of the band.

Abraham Jam was originally formed with **Dan Nichols**, an accomplished Jewish musician. Their first concert was at Duke University. Billy Jonas later replaced Nichols, which was an amicable transition for the trio.

“For thousands of years, in villages spread out around the world, song was a way for common people to share and pass along their stories,” explains Wharnsby. “Today, when we’re so interconnected through travel and technology, it is important that we also communicate. We need to sing our world’s ongoing story together.” ✨



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MESSIAH SING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25 ▶ 4:00 PM

First Congregational United Church of Christ

345 W. MICHIGAN AVE.

FREE EVENT



A community tradition since 1995, the annual Messiah Sing is a collaboration between the Michigan Festival of Sacred Music and First Congregational United Church of Christ.

The Sing features a chamber orchestra made up of professional musicians from the Kalamazoo area, along with soloists **Corlyn Longer-Schreck** (soprano), **Tami Snyder-Knutson** (mezzo soprano), **Howard Tejchma** (tenor), and **Joseph Schreck** (bass). Director of Music Ministries of First Congregational United Church of Christ **Michael Palmer** will be conducting.

Portions of George Frideric Handel's *Messiah* will be sung by those who wish to participate. For those who wish to listen only, you are welcome and encouraged to join us! ✨

First Congregational Church
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Photography by Fran Dwight

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