



Interlochen

ARTS ACADEMY

Interlochen, Michigan
205th Program of the 64th Year

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INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Keith Aleo, director

with Guest Artists

Michael Linville, piano
Orlando Jacinto Garcia, composer

and students from
**Traverse City West Senior High School
Percussion Ensemble**
Doug Downer, director

Sunday, April 26, 2026
4:00pm, Music Center 1010

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PROGRAM

March for Two Pairs of Kettle Drums André Philidor and Jacques Philidor
(1647-1730) (1657-1708)
arr. Dieter Dyk

Ionisation.....Edgard Varèse
(1885-1965)

with

Traverse City West Senior High School Percussion Ensemble

Doug Downer, director

Michael Linville, piano

Percussion Suite.....Johanna M. Beyer
(1888-1944)

Love Songs: Book OneDavid Skidmore
(b. 1982)

Michael Linville, piano

****World Premiere Performance****

mientras suben las mareas (while the tides rise)Orlando Jacinto Garcia
(b. 1954)

Michael Linville, piano

Marimba SpiritualMinoru Miki
Part 2 (1930-2011)

William Tao, soloist

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INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Ethan Blesch, Oak Park, Ill.
Jesse Brown, Massillon, Ohio
Jonah Hilles, Bozeman, Mont.
Carlos Montenegro, Homestead, Fla.
Joel Moss, Kasilof, Alaska
William Tao, Shanghai, China
Leslie Yang, Rockingham, Va.
Lucas Young, Goleta, Calif.

TRAVERSE CITY WEST SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Doug Downer, director

Eric Haag
Porter Lawens
Rhys Miller
Tayen Petoskey

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PROGRAM NOTES

March for Two Pairs of Kettle Drums André Philidor & Jacques Philidor

The *March for Two Pairs of Kettle Drums* was composed around 1685 primarily by André Philidor. It is assumed he composed this work with his brother Jacques; thus, the listing of both brothers as the composers. The *March for Two Pairs of Kettle Drums* is a pioneering Baroque work and is recognized as one of the first compositions to include written parts for kettle drums within an outdoor court festival collection. It highlighted the Louis XIV-era development of military music, utilizing two pairs of timpani tuned in C & G and E & G. The Philidor brothers served as military musicians (both timpanists) for Louis XIV, composing works for the king and primarily performing at the Palace of Versailles.

Ionisation

Edgard Varèse

Composed between 1929 and 1931, Edgard Varèse's *Ionisation* is a landmark of 20th-century music, widely recognized as the first major concert hall composition for a percussion ensemble. It marked a radical departure from traditional Western music by focusing entirely on "organized sound" rather than conventional melody or harmony. The work was premiered on March 6, 1933, at Carnegie Chapter Hall in New York, conducted by Nicolas Slonimsky. Because few musicians were percussionists at that time, the ensemble included legendary

composers such as Henry Cowell, William Schuman, and Paul Creston. Varèse himself operated the sirens. Instead of traditional themes, Varèse used rhythmic cells and fragments that expand and vary and serve as “percussion themes.” The piece moves through sparse, low-frequency textures into dense, polyphonic military-style cadences before the final entry of pitched instruments.

Percussion Suite

Johanna M. Beyer

Composed in 1933, Johanna Beyer's *Percussion Suite* is one of the earliest standalone works for percussion ensemble. It predates much of the “famous” percussion repertoire by John Cage and Lou Harrison and is celebrated for its quiet, understated expressive qualities. Unlike the aggressive “shock” factor often associated with early 20th-century percussion, Beyer’s suite focuses on process, transparency, and delicate textures. Beyer was a student of Henry Cowell, Ruth Crawford Seeger, and Charles Seeger.

Love Songs: Book One

David Skidmore

Composed in 2009, David Skidmore’s, *Love Songs: Book One* was commissioned by Mark Ford and the University of North Texas Percussion Ensemble. As the title suggests, the suite is an exploration of the depth and complexity of human emotion. Rather than focusing solely on romantic sentiment, Skidmore utilizes a wide sonic palette and varied percussion battery. David Skidmore is a Grammy-winning percussionist and a founding member of Third Coast Percussion.

mientras suben las mareas

Orlando Jacinto Garcia

Notes from the composer:

“*mientras suben las mareas* (while the tides rise) was composed in the summer of 2025 for pianist Michael Linville and the Interlochen Percussion Ensemble, Keith Aleo director. Written for its premiere in April 2026 in Interlochen, Michigan, the work reflects my concerns about the human impact on climate and sustainability—concerns made more immediate by my own proximity to the ocean. Scored for four percussions and piano, the piece treats the prepared piano as a fifth percussion instrument, expanding the ensemble’s timbral palette. Its melodic and harmonic language draws on pentatonic scales and materials derived from quintal sonorities. Ostinatos and intricate counterpoint between parts further shape the work’s texture. As in much of my music, the slow evolution of musical material and the suspension—or “freezing”—of time in the listener’s perception remain central aesthetic goals.”

—Orlando Jacinto Garcia

Marimba Spiritual

Minoru Miki

Miki composed *Marimba Spiritual* as a direct reaction to the devastating famine and starvation in Africa during the early 1980s. Having personally experienced

similar suffering in Japan during and after World War II, Miki felt a moral obligation to express both his condolences and his anger through music. The resulting composition is a profound exploration of "spiritual" themes," tracing a path from mourning to renewal. The Interlochen Percussion Ensemble will be playing part 2 of this work this evening.

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Michael Linville is an American musician, conductor, and educator known for his longstanding leadership role at the New World Symphony, one of the United States' premier training orchestras for emerging professional musicians. Linville serves as Dean of Instrumental Performance at the New World Symphony, where he plays a central role in shaping the artistic and educational experience of its fellows—highly trained postgraduate musicians preparing for careers in major orchestras. In this capacity, he oversees instrumental studies, coaches chamber music, and helps design programming across the ensemble's extensive concert season. As a performer, Linville has appeared as a soloist with orchestras such as the San Francisco Symphony, as well as with the New World Symphony and other regional ensembles. His work is also represented on several recordings, spanning orchestral and chamber repertoire, including projects he has produced himself. Beyond performance, Linville is deeply involved in musician training and professional development. He has helped develop programs that emphasize not only technical excellence but also communication skills, community engagement, and career preparation—key components of the New World Symphony's mission to bridge the gap between conservatory study and professional orchestral life. Through his multifaceted career as performer, conductor, and educator, Michael Linville has contributed significantly to the cultivation of the next generation of orchestral musicians, shaping both their artistic growth and their transition into the professional music world.

Orlando Jacinto Garcia, through more than 200 works spanning orchestral, choral, chamber, solo, electronic, site-specific, and interdisciplinary collaborations with film, video, and dance, has established himself as a leading voice in contemporary classical music. His music—often described as "time-suspended sonic explorations"—reflects the influence of his studies with Morton Feldman, among others, and is distinguished by its evocative sense of color, space, and atmosphere. Born in Havana, Cuba, in 1954, Garcia migrated to the United States in 1961. He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including fellowships and residencies from the Rockefeller, Fulbright, Knight, Civitella Ranieri, Bogliasco, and Cintas Foundations, as well as the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the State of Florida, and the MacDowell and Millay Colonies. His works have received prizes from the Ariel, Noise International, Matiz Rangel, Nuevas Resonancias, Salvatore Martirano, and Bloch International Competitions. Most recently, he has received five Latin Grammy nominations in

the Best Contemporary Classical Composition category (2009-2011, 2015, 2021). Garcia is the founder and director of the NODUS Ensemble, the Miami Chapter of the International Society for Contemporary Music, and the New Music Miami ISCM Festival, and serves as resident composer for the Miami Symphony Orchestra. A committed educator, he is Distinguished University Professor and Composer in Residence at the School of Music at Florida International University.

Doug Downer, a native of Grand Rapids, Michigan, holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Central Michigan and Master of Music Performance (Percussion) from the University of Northern Colorado. His primary teachers included Gray Barrier, Jim White, Andrew Spencer, and David Hall. Downer is currently serving as the Head Band Director at Traverse City West Middle School as well as working with the percussion students at Traverse City West Senior High School.

For Interlochen Arts Academy conductor bios, please visit our website at interlochen.org/directory/faculty or scan the QR code with your phone's camera.



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UPCOMING SIGNATURE SERIES HIGHLIGHTS

The Who's Tommy

**Music & Lyrics by Pete Townshend; Book by Des McAnuff & Pete Townshend; Additional Music & Lyrics by John Entwistle & Keith Moon
Friday, May 8-Sunday, May 10 | Corson Auditorium**

Experience the electrifying rock opera *The Who's Tommy*, a groundbreaking musical that follows the journey of Tommy Walker, a young boy who becomes deaf, dumb, and blind after witnessing a traumatic event. As he grows, Tommy discovers an extraordinary talent for pinball, propelling him to fame and spiritual awakening. With iconic songs like "Pinball Wizard" and "See Me, Feel Me," this production delves into themes of trauma, resilience, and the search for meaning.

For information and tickets, visit tickets.interlochen.org

UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS

Chamber Singers and Voice Area: Songs of Our Time **Thursday, April 30 | Dendrinos Chapel/Recital Hall**

Contemporary choral pieces and modern operas step into the spotlight in Songs of Our Time. Experience a diverse selection of vocal works by living composers performed by the Interlochen Arts Academy Chamber Singers and members of the Academy's voice studio.

Horn Studio Recital **Friday, May 1 | Dendrinos Chapel/Recital Hall**

Celebrate the brilliance of Mozart and the artistry of Interlochen's horn students in this special studio recital featuring the complete Mozart horn concertos. Each student will take the stage to perform one movement, offering a fresh interpretation of these timeless works. Between performances, students will share engaging insights into the history behind the concertos—exploring who Mozart composed them for, the instruments of his time, and what makes these pieces enduring cornerstones of the horn repertoire. The evening culminates in a grand finale as the entire horn studio unites for a horn choir transcription of a Mozart concerto movement—a joyful and resonant tribute to the master composer's legacy.

Ghost Sonata **Friday, May 1-Sunday, May 3 | Phoenix Theatre**

August Strindberg's *Ghost Sonata* is a haunting, surreal drama that delves into the hidden secrets and illusions beneath the surface of everyday life. Set in a mysterious apartment, the play reveals a cast of characters entangled in deception, guilt, and despair, exploring themes of identity, truth, and the supernatural. This atmospheric production invites audiences to confront the ghosts that linger in both the physical and psychological realms.

Interdisciplinary Arts: Annual Projects **Wednesday, May 6 | Phoenix Theatre**

Join Interlochen's interdisciplinary arts students as they share a diverse selection of capstone projects. Music, theatre, visual arts, film, dance, and creative writing converge in these genre-defying works.

Enea: A Chamber Opera in Two Scenes **Thursday, May 7 | Music Center 1008**

Follow a family of Italian migrants through the turbulent Ellis Island immigration process in this new, student-written opera from Interlochen Arts Academy Opera Theatre. Composition student James C. Teti and Creative Writing student Alexander Stillwell collaborate on this Chamber Opera, which interrogates American immigration politics. Join us for this heartfelt expression of

homesickness and familial love, and an impressive display of Interlochen talent from varied art forms. Directed by Ty Chiko, Conducted by Laura Osgood Brown, Piano reduction by Kieran Alston.

Singer-Songwriter: Lo-Fi Live

Friday, May 8 | Dendrinos Chapel/Recital Hall

Immerse yourself in an evening of raw, authentic sound as Interlochen Arts Academy's singer-songwriters take the stage with original compositions that embrace the lo-fi aesthetic—characterized by its unpolished production, intimate vocals, and heartfelt storytelling.

Creative Writing Senior Recital Reading

Wednesday, May 13 | Dendrinos Chapel/Recital Hall

Celebrate Interlochen Arts Academy's senior creative writing students in a special culminating reading. Enjoy works of poetry, prose, playwriting, and more in a variety of styles and genres.

Opera Workshop

Thursday, May 14-Friday, May 14 | Harvey Theatre

Enjoy selections from your favorite operas performed by Interlochen Arts Academy voice students. Presented in revue style, the program will feature excerpts from classical and contemporary operatic works.

For information and tickets, visit tickets.interlochen.org

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You can ensure the next promising young artist has the opportunity to come to Interlochen by supporting student scholarships. Make your gift to the Interlochen Annual Fund by visiting www.interlochen.org/giveonline.

Many of our venues are equipped with induction loop systems for the hearing impaired. Please ask one of our ushers if you need assistance connecting to the system. Support for recent upgrades to these systems provided by Michigan Arts and Culture Council; the NEA; Rotary Charities of Traverse City; the Les and Anne Biederman Foundation, Inc.; the Oleson Foundation; and Robert W. Anderson.

In consideration of the performing artists and other patrons, the use of flash photography is not permitted. Federal copyright and licensing rules prohibit the use of video cameras and other recording equipment.

In order to provide a safe and healthy environment, Interlochen maintains a smoke-free and alcohol-free campus. Michigan law prohibits any weapons, including concealed weapons, on Interlochen property because we are an educational campus.

Thank you for your cooperation.

www.interlochen.org