
NORSEMAN BAND

MICHAEL BUCK '89, *CONDUCTOR*

ST. OLAF PHILHARMONIA

CHUNG PARK, *CONDUCTOR*



SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025 | 7:30 P.M.

BOE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

PROGRAM

NORSEMAN BAND MICHAEL BUCK '89, *CONDUCTOR*

Eyes Turned Skyward		Matt Dehnel '99 (b. 1979)
Chorale and Alleluia	Paul Niemisto, <i>guest conductor</i>	Howard Hanson (1896–1981)
Spin		Carl Schroeder '05 (b. 1982)
Pride, Promise, and Progress	Timothy Mahr '78, <i>guest conductor</i>	Timothy Mahr '78 (b. 1956)
A New Orleans Symphony I. Jackson Square IV. Play!		Carl Holmquist '05 (b. 1983)

ST. OLAF PHILHARMONIA CHUNG PARK, *CONDUCTOR*

Plink, Plank, Plunk!		Leroy Anderson (1908–1975)
Loco-Motion		Stella Sung (b. 1959)
Viola Concerto in G minor I. <i>Appassionato; Allegro con spirito</i>	Lucas Sanner '25, <i>viola</i>	Cecil Forsyth (1870–1941)
<i>Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten</i>		Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)
Swan Lake Suite, op. 20a, Version B <i>Scène</i> <i>Danse Hongroise – Czardas</i> <i>Danse Espagnole</i> <i>Valse</i>		Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

PROGRAM NOTES

NORSEMAN BAND MICHAEL BUCK '89, CONDUCTOR

It seems most appropriate, as St. Olaf College celebrates its sesquicentennial anniversary, that the Norseman Band would honor the musical legacy of this institution's journey. All of the Norseman Band performances during the 2024–25 academic year have featured multiple connections to St. Olaf. These connections include works arranged or written by Ole students and alumni, works commissioned by St. Olaf, works with a Nordic theme, works connected to our school history, and composers and conductors who served as St. Olaf faculty members. As an Ole alum, a returning member of the Norseman Band, arranger, conductor, and a parent of an Ole alum, I am honored to have "... a place on the dear old Hill. For fondly, I love it still."

— *Michael Buck '89, conductor*
lyric quote from St. Olaf School Song
"High on Manitou Heights"

Eyes Turned Skyward

Matt Dehnel '99 (b. 1979)

Note from the composer:

Eyes Turned Skyward, quite simply, is about flight. I have always been fascinated with flight, from screaming fighter jets to the stunningly silent glide of the snowy owl. The music captures the invigorating experience of a ride in a plane and the awe-inspiring sight of a bird maneuvering through the air. And, for a peaceful moment in the middle, the music depicts the serene space above the clouds — when we have flown high enough to be removed from everything down below.

In search of a title for a piece about flight, I stopped immediately upon finding Leonardo da Vinci's statement, "for once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the Earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return." The sentiment there is one of thrill and adventure, but also of dreaming and aspiring. As human beings throughout our country and our world struggle to find the right ways to treat each other and help each other, I maintain there is hope, and the notion of our *Eyes Turned Skyward* also serves as a metaphor for keeping our head up and our hopes high.

Chorale and Alleluia

Paul Niemisto, *guest conductor*

Howard Hanson (1896–1981)

Howard Hanson's first work for concert band, *Chorale and Alleluia*, was completed in 1954. The premiere performance occurred at the convention of the American Bandmasters Association at West Point in February of that year, with Colonel William Santelmann, leader of the U.S. Marine Band, conducting.

The chorale-like texture and pleasant sonority appears seemingly simple, though a complex tapestry of frequently shifting tonality through numerous modal transformations unfolds. Modal transformations continue, interspersed with multiple modulations throughout the work, fueled by the addition of new melodic material. At first, the woodwinds interject the second melody between phrases of the chorale. Motivic snippets of the joyous *Alleluia* theme appear in the low brass as the work gradually gains momentum. With building intensity, the bold statements of the new melody, the *Alleluia* theme, and a contrapuntal texture combine into a swirling sea of sonic adventure. One could easily imagine an exuberant, majestic exaltation, akin to the sound created by the juxtaposition of a glorious pipe organ and cathedral bells.

— *Program notes by Michael Buck '89*

Spin

Carl Schroeder '05 (b. 1982)

Note from the composer:

Spin was inspired by my childhood family biking trips in southeastern Minnesota, and is dedicated to four music teachers who were very influential in the course of my education: Timothy Mahr, Peter Hamlin, Keith Liuzzi, and Jeffrey Ruhnke.

While growing up, one of my favorite traditions was my family's annual bike trips near Lanesboro, Minnesota. I've written several pieces inspired by favorite memories, and *Spin* is the newest one, meant to capture the spirit of a mile-long ride at top speed in high gear. Set in one continuous quick tempo, it uses frequently shifting meters — primarily 7/8, 3/4 and 4/4, plus a bar of 9/8 — that call to mind the irregular rhythms of bike pedaling, with a few periodic moments of calm as the music coasts along before the pedal rhythms resume, building to a triumphant finale.

Timothy Mahr conducted the premiere of *Spin* in May 2019 with the Minnesota Symphonic Winds, and in 2020, C. Alan Publications added *Spin* to its catalog, making it my first published work for band. My deepest thanks to Tim, the Minnesota Symphonic Winds, and C. Alan Publications for bringing this piece into the world.

Pride, Promise, and Progress

Timothy Mahr '78 (b. 1956)

Timothy Mahr '78, *guest conductor*

Note from the composer:

Pride, Promise, and Progress was commissioned by St. Olaf College to celebrate the sesquicentennial of the City of Northfield, Minnesota, 1855–2005. The composition was premiered under the composer's baton on November 10, 2005 by the Northfield High School Concert Band, led by Mary Williams. The work leans forward with purposeful drive in its attempt to capture the strength of character found within the citizenship, past and present, of this city of “Cows, Colleges and Contentment.”

A New Orleans Symphony

Carl Holmquist '05 (b. 1983)

I. Jackson Square

IV. Play!

Note from the composer:

Set in four movements, *A New Orleans Symphony* captures the pain, despair, and destruction brought on by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. This powerful work draws from several familiar tunes, including the hymn tune *Nettleton*, *Oh When the Saints*, and *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*. The fourth and final movement, "Play!," injects some hope as the vibrant city is rebuilt.

I. Jackson Square

This opening movement is a depiction of New Orleans before the storm. We begin with street music in Jackson Square, which is a central gathering place in the French Quarter. The brass section, building incrementally from low to high, introduces the hymn tune *Nettleton*, which is commonly sung to the text *Come thou Fount of Every Blessing*. The percussion and woodwinds join the sound through interjections, as if more musicians are coming to the square to join in the fun. The music then shifts as a funeral procession enters the square. The traditional jazz band of trumpet, clarinet, trombone, tuba, and drums plays a slow and solemn dirge, which is followed by the whole ensemble joining in that mournful song. Then, in keeping with the tradition of a New Orleans funeral, the band kicks off the up-tempo second line rhythm and everyone marches home for a joyous celebration of life. An original melody, which will return in the final movement, is combined with the familiar tunes of *Oh When the Saints* and *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* to bring the movement to an uplifting close.

*Come, thou fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.*

*Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of thy redeeming love.*

— Russell Robinson

IV. Play!

A simple tune emerges from the silence. The music grows. The vibrant city is being rebuilt. We hear the rhythms of the second line. The musicians are returning to Jackson Square. This time, to celebrate new life!

ST. OLAF PHILHARMONIA

CHUNG PARK, CONDUCTOR

Plink, Plank, Plunk!

Leroy Anderson (1908–1975)

Leroy Anderson may be best known as a pianist and organist, but he had a deep affinity for the string section. He once described the strings as “the most important part of the orchestra,” and one could say he was obsessed with *pizzicato*, the technique string players use to pluck the string instead of using the bow. He picked up many secondary instruments over the course of his life (including trombone, tuba, and cello), but it was the double bass that he played in orchestras, both in school and professionally. Anderson’s first composition at age 12 was a string quartet. Upon showing it to his piano instructor, Anderson received a year’s scholarship to study music harmony at the New England Conservatory of Music.

At the time of *Plink, Plank, Plunk!*’s composition, Anderson had already led the Harvard University Band, written and arranged a plethora of pieces for the Boston Pops Orchestra (including the famous holiday tune *Sleigh Ride*), received his Ph.D. in German and Scandinavian language studies, served as an intelligence corporal and then as the director of the Scandinavian Department of Military Intelligence during World War II, and served active duty in the Korean War — all while his success as a composer was growing domestically and internationally. Part of a series of pieces that were recorded as an album instead of premiered live, *Plink, Plank, Plunk!*’s 1951 release helped to cement Anderson’s reputation as one of the most prominent composers in 20th-century America. A piece written entirely in *pizzicato*, *Plink, Plank, Plunk!* unites orchestras at all levels and brings excitement and joy to audiences all over the world.

— Program notes by Sofie Urberg-Carlson ’26

Loco-Motion

Stella Sung (b. 1959)

Composer Stella Sung is known for innovative compositional techniques such as integrating computer technology into musical performance. Throughout *Loco-Motion*, there is the undeniable sense of life and hope — the heart of music. The pervasive, pulsing eighth notes pull us through the entire piece as if on an exciting train ride. Be sure to listen for the lush wetlands and dense forests of Dr. Sung’s home state of Florida in the soaring melodies and unpredictable rhythmic changes. *Loco-Motion* was commissioned by the Florida Symphony Youth Orchestra in 2011 for the finale concert of their 54th season. In addition to being an internationally recognized composer, Dr. Sung is the director of the Center for Research and Education in Arts, Technology, and Entertainment (CREATE) at the University of Central Florida (UCF), and is a professor of music at UCF’s School of Visual Arts and Design (Digital Media), College of Arts and Humanities.

— Program notes by Sofie Urberg-Carlson ’26

Viola Concerto in G minor

Cecil Forsyth (1870–1941)

I. *Appassionato; Allegro con spirito*

Lucas Sanner '25, *viola*

Born in Greenwich, Cecil Forsyth was an English composer, musician, and musicologist. Remembered mostly as a composer, he was largely acclaimed for his 1914 book *Orchestration*. Though an accomplished composer, his work is now largely obscure — when he moved to the United States in 1914, he left behind much of his legacy in his homeland.

If pieces written for solo viola and orchestra are rare, rarer still is a viola concerto written in a large-scale Romantic style. Premiered in 1903, Cecil Forsyth's Viola Concerto was the first of its kind in regards to its scope. Previous major viola concertos tended to remain modest with instrumentation so as not to overpower the soloist's sound. Forsyth had no such fears when orchestrating his concerto. With a full brass and percussion section, the piece is not just a showcase for the viola, but for the entire orchestra.

The piece begins with a melodramatic solo on the viola's lower strings. Tension rises as a dismal strain leads into a heroic theme from the orchestra. Motifs of fury and hope clash, eventually collapsing into a formidable cadenza. Quietly, the orchestra springs back into action. With lively arpeggios from the soloist at its climax, a gallant fanfare leads to a hearty finish.

— *Program notes by James Bajzer '28*

Lucas Sanner is a B.A. music composition major and has been playing viola for eight years. During their time at St. Olaf, they have played viola in the St. Olaf Orchestra, the St. Olaf Philharmonia, and a number of student groups and ensembles. When not playing the viola or occupied with the busy music major, Lucas enjoys sitting down with a good book, figure skating, ballet, or playing games with friends. After graduation, they plan to continue pursuing music composition full-time. While Lucas is looking forward to life after the Hill, they will miss “hamming” it up and grooving with their stand partner at the back of the viola section.

Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten

Arvo Pärt (b. 1935)

There is perhaps no composer better suited to create a piece dedicated to the memory of Benjamin Britten than Arvo Pärt. Pärt's own music was a contradiction of genres, maturing in the Soviet Union as the country began to relax its regulations following the death of Joseph Stalin.

Pärt was heavily influenced by Gregorian chants, Orthodox rituals, and Renaissance aesthetics. At the same time, he brought the avant-garde techniques of Western European and American composers like Schoenberg to his home country of Estonia. The resulting sound, mesmerizingly haunting and beautifully ringing, became a signature for Pärt and simultaneously garnered him international acclaim and domestic condemnation. Not only was the avant-garde sound not considered suitable for Soviet music, but the messages were also often subversive — politically and religiously. Pärt was eventually pressured to emigrate after he confessed to being religious.

Cantus in memoriam Benjamin Britten demonstrates a compositional style that Pärt himself invented, drawing from many styles of music and focusing on the sonic world of a church bell. The style, called *tintinnabulation* (“little bells”), involves two voices: a melody voice and a harmony voice, which relate to each other with very specific rules. Listen carefully as these voices weave around each other in a chant-like manner, the bell ringing ominously in the background.

— *Program notes by Sofie Urberg-Carlson '26*

Swan Lake Suite, op. 20a, Version B

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)

Scène

Danse Hongroise – Czardas

Danse Espagnole

Valse

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's original *Swan Lake* premiered in 1877 at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow. While the initial performance was not well received, the ballet rose in popularity after Tchaikovsky's death. Tchaikovsky's brother Modest and conductor Riccardo Drigo made some changes to Tchaikovsky's original score and the revised version of *Swan Lake* premiered in 1895. Although a suite featuring six movements was eventually created, it was not published until after his death.

The opening movement, titled *Scène*, starts with a delicate melody heard repeatedly throughout this movement, played by the oboe with strings shimmering underneath. As this melody is repeated, it sets the scene of swans and the cursed swan maiden Odette in the lake. As the music becomes more dramatic and intense, it represents the entrance of the villain Rothbart, the sorcerer who has cast a spell on Odette and the other maidens. The movement ends with the lower-range instruments playing a final reiteration of the melody to show the longing of Prince Siegfried, who has fallen in love with Odette. *Danse Hongroise – Czardas* starts out with a grandiose and regal introduction fit for royalty before transitioning to a faster tempo full of upbeat spirits, showcasing a more playful character. *Danse Espagnole* is fiery and fast-paced, featuring castanets. Its bold, playful, and passionate melodies reflect the characteristics and energy of a Spanish dance. The *Valse* has a lilting, waltz feel as the violins lead the dance with poise and elegance, painting the picture of a royal ball.

— Program notes by Kacie Cortes '27

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BIOGRAPHIES

Timothy Mahr is in his 26th season as the principal conductor and music director of the Minnesota Symphonic Winds. Under his baton, the ensemble has presented at The Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic and the national convention of the American School Band Directors Association, toured to Singapore, and was the recipient of the Sudler Silver Scroll, the national award for community bands from the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

Mahr recently retired as a professor of music at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, where he held the Robert Scholz Endowed Chair in Music, conducted the St. Olaf Band, and taught courses in composition, music education, and conducting. He also held director of bands positions at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, and Milaca High School (MN). An alum of St. Olaf College, his graduate degrees are from The University of Iowa, where his principal teachers were Myron Welch, Morgan Jones, James Dixon, and John Hill.

A past president of the North Central Division of the College Band Directors National Association (1999–2001), Mahr has served on the board of directors of the National Band Association and the Minnesota Band Directors Association. Active in 40 states as a guest conductor and clinician, Mahr has also appeared professionally in Norway, Mexico, Singapore, Thailand, Japan, and Canada. He has been in residence on over 35 college and university campuses as a guest composer/conductor and has twice conducted performances with the Duluth-Superior Symphony Orchestra. Mahr has led over 25 all-state and intercollegiate bands.

Mahr's compositions have received performances worldwide and many have been published. He recently completed his 100th work for band. The first recipient of a commission from the American Bandmasters Association Commissioning Project, Mahr continues to be commissioned by universities, colleges, high schools, state bandmaster associations, and community groups nationally. Notable commissions have included works for the Music Educators National Conference, the Kappa Kappa Psi/Tau Beta Sigma National Intercollegiate Band, the 50th anniversary of the American School Band Directors Association, and two for the United States Air Force Band. He received the 1991 ABA/Ostwald Award for his work *The Soaring Hawk*. Mahr was elected to membership in the American Bandmasters Association in 1993. Mahr's family includes his wife, Jill Mahr, a music performer and educator; Jenna and her husband Michael Senich; and Heron.

Paul Niemisto was conductor of the Norseman Band from 1978 to 2016. Originally from Northern Michigan, he taught for a few years in the public schools in Atlantic Canada before coming to Minnesota. He graduated from the University of Michigan and then received his doctorate from the University of Minnesota in 2004.

In 1979, he founded the Cannon Valley Regional Symphony Orchestra, which he still conducts. In 1990, he founded Boys of America (*Ameriikan Poijat*), a Finnish-style brass septet made of American musicians, which has toured internationally. In summer 2006, he headed the now internationally-known Historic Brass Music Conference and the Vintage Band Music Festival (VBF), held in Northfield, Minnesota. The VBF is planning its 20th anniversary in 2026, coinciding with the American 250th anniversary.

During his many visits to Finland (in summers and winters), Niemisto has been a teacher of many wind players, wind band conductors, and has been a part of the renaissance of Finnish wind band music. He was also a member of the Great Western Rocky Mountain Brass Band in Silverton, Colorado, and a frequent player with the Sheldon Theatre Brass Band (MN) and the Rochester Symphony Orchestra (MN). Paul was awarded the "Living Treasure in the Arts" award by the Northfield City Council in 2013. He was a Fulbright scholar in Finland for a second time in the spring of 2017.

NORSEMAN BAND SENIORS



Top row (left to right): Logan Gooden, Jean-Luc Collette, Anders Peterson, Elsa Kirkegaard, Alyssa Schumacher, Fiona Boskovic
Bottom row (left to right): Abigail Shanahan, Hnukusha Vue, Katie Bergquist

Kathryn “Katie” Bergquist is an English and history double major from Prior Lake, Minnesota. She has played euphonium in Norseman Band for four years and has served as assistant manager and manager for the past two years. Her favorite Norseman memories include spending time with her section-mates, creating increasingly cryptic notes while serving as “Norsecouncil” secretary, and donning a pair of reindeer antlers and a Grinch-themed Christmas sweater to play in Norseman’s annual holiday sing-along. After graduation, she plans to work for a medical technology company while spending time with her cats, sewing, reading.

Fiona Boskovic is a computer science major with a concentration in business and management from Seattle, Washington. This is her fourth year as the harpist for the Norseman Band. She’s also played with the St. Olaf Band and Synergy Musicians’ Collective. During her time at St. Olaf, she’s been involved with many organizations, including Pamilya Pinoy, Linux Ladies, Women in STEM, Video Game Design & Animation, and Women’s Club Hockey. She’s very grateful for her time spent on the Hill and excited to travel after graduation.

Jean-Luc Collette is a quantitative economics major from Edina, Minnesota. He has been a Norseman Band percussionist for the past four years and served as treasurer for the band during his junior year. He is grateful to St. Olaf for many study-abroad opportunities and the ability to play music without majoring. He will miss having a place to practice music with the many friends he met through the band. After graduating, Jean-Luc will move to Denver, Colorado to work as a specialty credit analyst for U.S. Bank.

Logan Gooden is a history and social studies education major from Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. They have spent three and a half years as a percussionist in the Norseman Band, as well as a few semesters playing with the Chapel Ringers handbell choir. They will dearly miss their time spent at percussion section dinners. After graduation, Logan looks forward to teaching history in public schools.

Elsa Kirkegaard is an environmental studies and psychology major from Kewaskum, Wisconsin. She has loved playing flute in the Norseman Band for the past four years and feels grateful to have been able to continue her musical interests at St. Olaf! Her favorite parts of Norseman have been meeting many incredible people, enjoying the other flautists at section dinners, and playing some amazing pieces of music. Elsa will pursue a career in the environmental field after taking time to explore the world!

Anders Peterson is an independent major in sustainable product design from Eden Prairie, Minnesota. He is very grateful for being able to play in the percussion section of the Norseman Band for four years and the friends gained in this community. He will miss the jokes, rehearsals, and section traditions like percussion dinner. After graduation, Anders will be pursuing a master’s degree in manufacturing engineering from St. Thomas, but will still try to find ways to continue playing music.

Alyssa Schumacher is a biology and environmental studies major from Lino Lakes, Minnesota. She has loved playing in the Norseman Band for the entirety of her time at St. Olaf and has served as the section leader of the clarinets for the last three years. She feels lucky to have had such a wonderful environment to pursue music as a hobby and will be forever grateful for the lifelong friends she has met through the band. After graduating, she plans to enter the field of science and health communication.

Abigail Shanahan is a psychology major with concentrations in neuroscience and race and ethnic studies from Superior, Colorado. She has played alto saxophone in the Norseman Band all four years at St. Olaf College and is incredibly grateful for the people she has met while part of the group. She has really enjoyed meeting more people and being able to play amazing music. After graduation, she hopes to pursue graduate school and study psychology research.

Hnukusha Vue is an instrumental music education major and is excited to become a teacher and give back to her community. She will be a teaching fellow in St. Paul this summer and will be receiving her teaching license after the fall of 2025. While in Norseman Band during her undergraduate career, she had the opportunity to lead the Norseman flute section, a group of flautists she’ll surely miss playing with. Hnukusha hopes to find time between student teaching and lesson planning to indulge in sewing, singing, cooking, and dance.

ST. OLAF PHILHARMONIA SENIORS



Top row (left to right): Wren Meier-Gast, Victoria Menge, Lucas Sanner, Tarkel Price, Soren Miller, Caden Horan-Kimsal, Zach Zelinski
Bottom row (left to right): Caroline Juhl, Ava Hansen, Emily Philbrook, Ellie Kosek, Chloe Greene, Ash Graber, Annika Knudson, Mars Dall

Mars Dall is a bachelor of arts ancient studies and music major from Edina, Minnesota. Against all odds, after initially refusing to take music lessons outside of school orchestra, Mars became more involved with violin after deciding they wanted to study music in college. Mars has played violin in the St. Olaf Philharmonia for four years and has served as concertmaster for two years. Outside of orchestra, Mars serves as secretary of the St. Olaf Chapel Choir, secretary and treasurer of St. Olaf Taiko, and enjoys doing improv comedy with Scared Scriptless. After graduation, they will take a gap year before pursuing a master's degree in library science.

Ash Graber majors in Asian studies and Chinese, with concentrations in environmental studies, public health, and international relations. Ash started playing viola in fifth grade and has always had a passion for listening to and playing music. In their free time, Ash enjoys illustrating, crafting, finding bugs, and doing kendo. After graduating, Ash hopes to find time for plenty of hobbies, including playing the viola, and will miss playing music with their talented peers.

Chloe Greene is a biology major with a neuroscience concentration from Oakdale, Minnesota. Chloe has played flute in the St. Olaf Philharmonia for the past two years and is grateful for the musical opportunities it has provided, especially since she had no prior experience performing orchestral music. In addition to orchestra, Chloe played in the Norseman Band as a first year and has been a member of the St. Olaf Band flute section for the past three years. After graduation and a gap year spent working as an EMT and volunteering, Chloe hopes to attend medical school to become a physician.

Ava Hansen is a history major with a German studies concentration from St. Paul, Minnesota. She has played the violin since the first grade and has been a part of the St. Olaf Philharmonia since her first year. Outside of orchestra, Ava loves to climb and is one of the managers of the climbing wall at St. Olaf. After graduation, Ava plans to attend St. Catherine's University for a master's degree in occupational therapy. She thanks her Grandma and Grandpa Boulay for always supporting her in her music endeavors.

Caden Horan-Kimsal is a studio art major from St. Paul, Minnesota. Caden has played cello for the St. Olaf Philharmonia for the past four years and has pursued music since he was in fourth grade. Caden participates in the St. Olaf chess club and is also a six-time Lion's Pause pool tournament champion. Outside of school, Caden enjoys playing poker and pool with friends, practicing his juggling, and playing guitar. After graduation, he will be searching for a job in the arts and working part time in the restaurant industry.

Caroline Juhl is a studio art major with a concentration in Asian studies from Prior Lake, Minnesota. She is a flute and piccolo player, celebrating her fourth year in the St. Olaf Philharmonia and fifth year in the St. Olaf Band. When she's not in rehearsals, she can be found playing a variety of instruments, drawing on scrap paper, walking around campus, or resting in the Mellby lounge. Caroline intends to continue with music and art after graduation by joining community groups and taking personal commissions while finding a more permanent place of employment.

Annika Knudson is a psychology major from Bemidji, Minnesota. They are a four-year member of the St. Olaf Philharmonia and have been a student manager for the last three years. Outside of music at St. Olaf, Annika has been an audio/video engineer for Broadcast/Media Services for all four years on the Hill. This summer, Annika will work as a camp counselor for neurodivergent teenagers in Massachusetts before applying to graduate programs in the fall. Annika will especially miss viola dinners after rehearsals and trucking after concerts.

Ellie Kosek is a psychology and Spanish major from Middleton, Wisconsin. She has spent three semesters playing horn in Philharmonia, and has also played in the St. Olaf Band, Norseman Band, horn club, and the St. Olaf Handbell Choir. She also enjoys engaging with music in ballroom dance, swing, and winter guard clubs on campus. Outside of music, she enjoys reading, knitting, and photography. After graduation, she will be spending a year in Honduras working with Proyecto Aldea Global's Deborah Program.

Wren Meier-Gast is a chemistry major with a concentration in German studies from Mount Vernon, Iowa. He has been a member of the St. Olaf Philharmonia for all four years, two of which have been spent as principal and co-principal cellist. Orchestra has been a staple of community and fun throughout his college experience and will be sorely missed. After graduation, he plans to take a gap year before pursuing a graduate doctor of pharmacy program, although he will continue to make music a priority in his life and hopes to build his skill and love for music.

Victoria Menge is a social work and Spanish major with a concentration in family studies from Golden Valley, Minnesota. She has played viola in the St. Olaf Philharmonia for four years. Outside of orchestra, Victoria participates in theater, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and intramural broomball. She also works for the Wellness Center and volunteers with Project Friendship. She will greatly miss viola dinners and laughing at the "Silly Phillies" jokes. After graduating, she hopes to obtain her social work license and start practicing in the Twin Cities.

Soren Miller is a chemistry and education major from Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Soren has loved playing trumpet in the St. Olaf Philharmonia and Jazz II this year, and in the Norseman Band the previous three years. Outside of music, Soren has enjoyed a variety of science-education opportunities, including working as the director of the St. Olaf education outreach program, STEMQuest, and teaching chemistry in Hawaii over J-term. Following graduation, Soren plans to stay in Minnesota and teach high school chemistry, but will greatly miss this community of musicians.

Emily Philbrook is a psychology major with a concentration in public health from St. Anthony Village, Minnesota. She transferred to St. Olaf her sophomore year to be a part of the music ensembles here. She has played principal flute in the St. Olaf Philharmonia for the past two years and has also played flute in the St. Olaf Band for the last three years. This is Emily's first time playing in an orchestra, and she has loved every minute of it. Outside of music, she has enjoyed playing intramural volleyball and broomball and has also been a member of the St. Olaf Pickleball Club. She will miss her time in St. Olaf music ensembles but will continue playing the flute after graduation.

Tarkel Price is a German and political science major from Seattle, Washington. Tarkel is co-principal trombone and vice-president of the St. Olaf Philharmonia, where he has played for three out of four years, returning to the ensemble after one year in the St. Olaf Orchestra; he also plays trombone in St. Olaf Jazz I. Over the past four years, he has enjoyed experiencing the orchestra build a stronger community and is excited to watch the ensemble's continued growth. When he is not playing music, Tarkel is likely talking someone's ear off about opera, public transport, or something else entirely. After graduation, he plans to return to Seattle and work in music administration.

Lucas Sanner is a bachelor of arts music composition major from Rochester, Minnesota. Lucas has played viola in the St. Olaf Philharmonia since fall 2024 and has also had the pleasure of playing viola in the St. Olaf Orchestra, Synergy Musicians' Collective, Musical Theatre Lab, and various chamber ensembles. On campus, they are the treasurer for Musika Nova, St. Olaf's composition club, and are also a student collaborative pianist. In their free time, Lucas enjoys playing a friendly game at social chess club, figure skating in Skoglund, and dancing. After graduation, they plan to pursue a career in music composition.

Zach Zelinski is an ancient studies and English major from Frederic, Wisconsin. He has played percussion in the St. Olaf Philharmonia for four years, greatly valuing its sense of community in performing works across diverse repertoire; he has performed on instruments ranging from the snare and timpani to the castanets and *quijada* ("donkey jaw"). His extracurriculars have included lending percussion for services at the campus chapel, providing dynamic piano accompaniment for the dance department, and engaging in period performance in the Collegium Musicum. He will miss the opportunity that "Phil" gives for musical achievement while pursuing other engaging studies, and after graduation will continue to pursue this lifelong interest.

NORSEMAN BAND

MICHAEL BUCK '89, CONDUCTOR

FLUTE

- † Zea Althoff, *Portland, Ore.*
- Dan Bergan, *Prior Lake, Minn.*
- Kaitlyn Kinsch, *Cary, Ill.*
- § Elsa Kirkegaard, *Kewaskum, Wis.*
- Kayla McMayer, *Bloomington, Minn.*
- Grace Moeller, *Lake Crystal, Minn.*
- Kaisa Nilsson, *Boise, Idaho*
- Jasmine Patterson-LaBaw, *Rochester, Minn.*
- Chloe Pavett, *Victoria, Minn.*
- † Aubrey Sanders, *Ottawa, Ill.*
- Ani Spoor, *Eagan, Minn.*
- Jessica Thanghe, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
- *§ Hnukusha Vue, *St. Paul, Minn.*
- Caitlin Wallace, *St. Louis, Mo.*
- Will Weaver, *Marietta, Ga.*

OBOE

- † Ori Eikenberry, *St. Paul, Minn.*
- Avery Norris, *Elk Point, S.D.*
- Elsa Plocica, *Asheville, N.C.*

CLARINET

- † Mathea Benson, *St. Paul, Minn.*
- Liz Bunnell, *Savage, Minn.*
- Amelia Burns, *Fullerton, Calif.*
- Cora Harpel, *Ellendale, Minn.*
- Theodore Lee, *Geneva, Ill.*
- Nicholas Magnusson, *Roseau, Minn.*
- Johnna Maxwell, *Le Sueur, Minn.*
- Emily Nachreiner, *Mound, Minn.*
- Delaney O'Donnell, *Scandia, Minn.*
- Jenna Pollard, *Lawrence, Kan.*
- *§ Alyssa Schumacher, *Lino Lakes, Minn.*
- Dionna Uzueta Lucio, *South St. Paul, Minn.*
- Alayna Vogel, *Le Sueur, Minn.*

BASSOON

- † Ryan Carlisle, *Vermillion, S.D.*
- ^ Riley Holets, *New Prague, Minn.*
- Owen Joy, *Illinois City, Ill.*

ALTO SAXOPHONE

- Flora Boyer, *St. Cloud, Minn.*
- Lizzie Elsenpeter, *Circle Pines, Minn.*
- Amanda Klug, *Webster, Wis.*
- † Brooke LaVoi, *Bemidji, Minn.*
- *§ Abigail Shanahan, *Superior, Colo.*
- † Brady Teegarden, *Hastings, Minn.*
- Kaiping Zhang, *Edina, Minn.*

TENOR SAXOPHONE

- Joseph Cooper, *St. Louis, Mo.*
- Leo Goodwin, *St. Paul, Minn.*

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

- Larry Williams, *Hastings, Minn.*

HORN

- Sophia DeVos, *McFarland, Wis.*
- Margo Musolf, *Edina, Minn.*
- † Cooper Oleyar, *Rosemount, Minn.*
- Max Pringle, *Apple Valley, Minn.*
- * Emily Schneider, *Minnetrissa, Minn.*
- Annika Shallberg, *Clear Lake, Iowa*
- Nat Simms, *St. Paul, Minn.*

CORNET/TRUMPET

- Margot Charette, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
- ** Hero Czarnik, *St. Paul, Minn.*
- Gavin Ihrke, *Edina, Minn.*
- Aaliyah Lund, *Eagan, Minn.*
- Claire Koenig, *Centennial, Colo.*
- Andrew Osborne, *Esko, Minn.*
- Jay Rief, *Lakeville, Minn.*
- Ava Stockinger, *Lakeville, Minn.*
- Isaac Traynor, *Eagan, Minn.*

TROMBONE

- Chi-Shuo Chang, *Taipei, Taiwan*
- Lu Chaput, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
- Maclain Everson-Rose, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
- Collin Green, *Golden, Colo.*
- Cooper Gundersen, *Stevens Point, Wis.*
- Elias Hanson, *Chaska, Minn.*
- Adrian Kakehashi, *Berkeley, Calif.*
- †* Evan Moran, *Waconia, Minn.*
- Aaron Pence, *Edina, Minn.*
- Aidan Rice, *Eden Prairie, Minn.*
- Pj Seguin, *Laingsburg, Mich.*
- †* Roxi Wessel, *Fort Collins, Colo.*

EUPHONIUM

- ^§ Katie Bergquist, *Prior Lake, Minn.*
- Carson Bridigum, *Bloomington, Minn.*
- †* Olivia Ceminsky, *North Mankato, Minn.*
- Ian Westerberg, *Stoughton, Wis.*
- Cole Willardson, *Minneapolis, Minn.*

TUBA

- Henry Floyd, *Bloomington, Ind.*
- Josh Freelove, *Pillager, Minn.*
- †* Lorelei Larson, *Ham Lake, Minn.*
- Daniel Meunier, *Rochester, Minn.*

HARP

- § Fiona Boskovic, *Seattle, Wash.*

PIANO

- Aaliyah Lund, *Eagan, Minn.*

PERCUSSION

- Ruby Catlin, *Apple Valley, Minn.*
- Ben Coffey, *Farmington, Minn.*
- § Jean-Luc Collette, *Edina, Minn.*
- Evan Cooley, *Farmington, Minn.*
- Ryan Curran, *Bettendorf, Iowa*
- Charlie Gambach, *Wayzata, Minn.*
- § Logan Gooden, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
- *§ Anders Peterson, *Eden Prairie, Minn.*
- Nate Stevenson, *Red Wing, Minn.*
- Sofia Villagomez, *Phoenix, Ariz.*

† Principal/Co-principal

*Section leader

• Officer

^ Manager

- Librarian

§ Senior

INTERESTED IN
BEING AN OLE?



SCAN ME

ST. OLAF PHILHARMONIA

CHUNG PARK, CONDUCTOR

VIOLIN

Vienna Adler, *Hopkins, Minn.*
 Charlie Barsanti, *St. Paul, Minn.*
 Maddy Boyko, *Burnsville, Minn.*
 Camden Cook, *West Linn, Ore.*
 Kacie Cortes, *Elmhurst, Ill.*
 ††§ Mars Dall, *Edina, Minn.*
 Abby Degen, *Brooklyn Park, Minn.*
 Kassidy Goodell, *Stevens Point, Wis.*
 § Ava Hansen, *St. Paul, Minn.*
 Logan Haugestuen, *Fort Collins, Colo.*
 Alexander James, *Marine On St. Croix, Minn.*
 Aaron Jesse, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
 Luke Jones, *Ferndale, Wash.*
 Usman Mallick, *Eden Prairie, Minn.*
 Grace Meyers, *Sioux Falls, S.D.*
 Lydia Miller, *Eau Claire, Wis.*
 • Mathea Petersin, *Eau Claire, Wis.*
 Simon Pryor, *Fargo, N.D.*
 Jillian Ray, *Lakewood, Colo.*
 Jacobo Esquivel Rodriguez, *St. Paul, Minn.*
 Paavo Rundman, *Edina, Minn.*
 Sylvia Sandhorst, *Decorah, Iowa*
 Audrey Scarlett, *Bettendorf, Iowa*
 Evelina Shirokova, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
 Tessa Snicker, *Bristol, Ill.*
 Anna Thompson, *Urbandale, Iowa*
 ** Ari Unowsky, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
 Eleanor Wigdahl, *Menomonie, Wis.*

VIOLA

James Bajzer, *Rochester, Minn.*
 Aidan Busse, *Bloomington, Minn.*
 Jameson Drieslein, *Eden Prairie, Minn.*
 § Ash Graber, *Eden Prairie, Minn.*
 **^§ Annika Knudson, *Bemidji, Minn.*
 Sage Koppana, *Paonia, Colo.*
 Annika Maakestad, *St. Paul, Minn.*
 Carson Macynski, *Woodbury, Minn.*
 § Victoria Menge, *Golden Valley, Minn.*
 Matthew Mollison, *Edina, Minn.*
 Ryan Moore, *Arden Hills, Minn.*
 Lauren Nordling, *Ham Lake, Minn.*
 Abby Ormsby, *Bellingham, Wash.*
 ^ Oden Pedersen, *Duluth, Minn.*
 Norah Purcell, *Omaha, Neb.*
 § Lucas Sanner, *Rochester, Minn.*
 • Sofie Urberg-Carlson, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
 Alex Walk, *St. Cloud, Minn.*
 ** Will Weaver, *Marietta, Ga.*

CELLO

- Noel Atkinson, *Coon Rapids, Minn.*
 Alaina Bailly, *Fergus Falls, Minn.*
 Lincoln Bramwell, *Fort Collins, Colo.*
 Mackay Campbell, *Green Bay, Wis.*
 Andre Chiang, *Woodinville, Wash.*
 Finn Coleman, *St. Paul, Minn.*
 Madeline Daugherty, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
 ** Elizabeth Ernst, *St. Cloud, Minn.*
 Hannah Gaff, *Normal, Ill.*
 Aidan Gallagher, *Dresser, Wis.*
 Hannah Heidenreich, *Fargo, N.D.*
 § Caden Horan-Kimsal, *St. Paul, Minn.*
 Odessa Hunt, *Boise, Idaho*
 Jacob Loerzel, *Willmar, Minn.*
 **§ Wren Meier-Gast, *Mount Vernon, Iowa*
 Sarah Rectenwald, *Duluth, Minn.*
 Ingrid Rustad, *Northfield, Minn.*
 Henry Smith, *Iowa City, Iowa*
 Ava Sticka-Jacobs, *Moorhead, Minn.*
 Julia Torgelson, *Seattle, Wash.*

BASS

** Campbell Kirtley, *Walla Walla, Wash.*
 Paavo Rova, *Duluth, Minn.*
 Clara Smith, *Apple Valley, Minn.*
 Kai Trelstad-Larsen, *Tacoma, Wash.*

FLUTE

**§ Chloe Greene, *St. Paul, Minn.*
 **§& Caroline Juhl, *Prior Lake, Minn.*
 **§& Emily Philbrook, *St. Anthony Village, Minn.*

OBOE/ENGLISH HORN

** Allison Tanabe, *St. Paul, Minn.*
 ◇ Connor Coleman, *Geneseo, Ill.*

CLARINET

** Adam Pott, *Arvada, Colo.*
 # Rebekah Talley, *New Berlin, Wis.*
 Kiera Stanford, *Seattle, Wash.*

BASSOON

** Icarus Bulander, *Minneapolis, Minn.*
 ** Maggie Walker, *Bozeman, Mont.*

HORN

* Addison Gager, *Woodbury, Minn.*
 **§ Ellie Kosek, *Middleton, Wis.*
 Sam Mattson, *Baxter, Minn.*
 Elijah Samuelson, *Milwaukee, Wis.*
 ** William Ulrich, *Medford, N.Y.*

TRUMPET

** Tait Butterfield, *Portland, Ore.*
 ** Samuel Hall, *Charlottesville, Va.*
 Sophia Kepros, *Cedar Rapids, Iowa*
 § Soren Miller, *Eau Claire, Wis.*

TROMBONE

** Anna Gargamelli, *Durham, Conn.*
 **§ Tarkel Price, *Seattle, Wash.*
 **• Brenden Ravndal, *St. Anthony Village, Minn.*

BASS TROMBONE

Aria Giefer, *Osceola, Wis.*

TUBA

** Erik Olson, *River Falls, Wis.*

PERCUSSION

Sophia Carlson, *Winona, Minn.*
 Will Dirkswager, *Hopkins, Minn.*
 ** Tor Lindell, *Rochester, Minn.*
 § Zach Zelinski, *Frederic, Wis.*

HARP

Finn Coleman, *St. Paul, Minn.*

KEYBOARD

Lizzy Chen, *Tamuning, Guam*

†† Concertmaster
 ** Principal/Co-principal
 * Assistant principal
 • Officer
 ^ Manager
 - Librarian
 ◇ English horn
 # Bass clarinet
 & Piccolo
 § Senior

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 Terra Widdifield '95, *associate director of music organizations*
 Connor Smith, *assistant director of music organizations for audience development*
 Sarah Gingerich '11, *assistant director of music organizations for project management*
 Jonathan Kopplin, *associate librarian for ensembles and performing rights*
 Veronica White '24, *coordinator of music organizations*
 Amelia McNeil-Maddox, *ticketing coordinator*

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 Tracey Engleman, *department vice-chair*
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 Lisa McDermott, *academic administrative assistant*
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 Sean Tonko, *associate director of event operations*
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