



*Commencement Concert
2024*

COMMENCEMENT CONCERT

FRIDAY, JUNE 7, 2024 ▪ 7:30 P.M.

Dana Abbo '24
Hannah Anderson '24
Jonathan Bass '24
Daniel Boyd '24
Dylan Coble '24
Lauren Coon '26
Patience Garcia '24
William Gear '25
Henry Giles '24
Tucker Hall-Klingensmith '24
Eli Hooker Reese '26
Cindy Kaiser '24
Casey Joan Kollman '24
Luke Kovscek '25
Leah Kukman '24
Darren Lam '24
Katie Larson '24
Ben Lewis '25
Tashi Litch '24
Addison Littlefield '24
Hazel Musto '24
Amber Newman '24
Evan Ney '24
Emma Nolte '24
Connor Parr '24
Jackson Peters '24
Seth Ploeckelman '25
Hana Ramos '26
Gabe Reyes '24
Ryan Saladin '24
Paola Saldaña Galvan '24
John Stecher '24
Kate Stenson '24
Jando Valdez '24
Mitchell VonEschen '24

<i>Overture to Candide</i>	Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) arr. Charlie Harmon
	Henry Giles, piano Jonathan Bass, piano
<i>Amor</i>	Richard Strauss (1864-1949)
	Addison Littlefield, soprano Sarah Wheeler, piano
<i>Bal Masqué</i>	Amy Beach (1867-1944)
	Hazel Musto, piano
<i>Ignition</i>	Kevin Day (b. 1996)
	Ryan Saladin, trombone Leah Kukman, trombone William Gear, trombone Hannah Anderson, tuba
<i>Suite Ernestina</i> I. Costurera	Lucas Saboya (b. 1980)
	Dylan Coble, guitar
<i>Sonata for Two Clarinets, FP 7</i> III. Vif	Francis Poulenc (1899-1963)
	Tucker Hall-Klingensmith, clarinet Paola Saldaña Galvan, clarinet
<i>Long Live</i>	Taylor Swift (b. 1989)
	The New Romantics Emma Nolte, soprano and guitar Hana Ramos, guitar Tashi Litch, mandolin Ben Lewis, bass Jando Valdez, percussion

Fever Dreams for Three Piccolos and Piano

Amanda Harberg
(b. 1973)

Darren Lam, piccolo
Cindy Kaiser, piccolo
Amber Newman, piccolo
Marisa Landsverk, piano

From *Cabaret*
Maybe This Time

John Kander
(b. 1927)
Fred Ebb
(1928-2004)

Casey Joan Kollman, soprano
Jonathan Bass, piano

Cloudbreak

James Naigus
(b. 1987)

Lauren Coon, horn
Connor Parr, horn

From *Canciones clásicas españolas*
Del cabello más sutil

Fernando Obradors
(1897-1945)

Daniel Boyd, baritone
Henry Giles, piano

Invierno Porteño

Astor Piazzolla
(1921-1992)

Ryan Saladin, trombone
Seth Ploeckelman, marimba

As It Fell Upon a Day

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Dana Abbo, soprano
Cindy Kaiser, flute
Patience Garcia, clarinet

Too Fast

Kate Stenson
(b. 2001)

Kate Stenson, violin and voice
Jackson Peters, guitar
Jennifer Harlee, piano and voice
Ben Lewis, bass
Mitchell VonEschen, drums

Ambivert

I. Extrovert

Karalyn Schubring
(b. 1999)

Verve Quartet
Evan Ney, soprano saxophone
Gabe Reyes, alto saxophone
John Stecher, tenor saxophone
Luke Kovscek, baritone saxophone

Zenith

Tashi Litch
(b. 2001)

Eli Hooker Reese, fiddle
Hana Ramos, guitar
Tashi Litch, mandolin
Ben Lewis, bass

Please join us for a reception in Shattuck 163 following the performance.

*We collectively acknowledge that Lawrence University is situated on
the ancestral homelands of the Menominee and Ho-Chunk people.*

STUDENT BIOS

Dana Abbo '24 will graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance. She sang the role of Morgana in Lawrence's production of Handel's *Alcina* and a variety of roles in opera scenes programs, including Lucia in Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor*, Antonia in Offenbach's *Les contes d'Hoffmann*, and Alice in Amy Scurria's *A.L.I.C.E.* She was grateful to production stage manage the 2024 Mainstage production of *Cendrillon & Alice Tierney*. During her time at Lawrence, she has performed with Cantala, Gamelan, Kinkaviwo, and Concert Choir. She would like to thank Karen Leigh-Post, Copeland Woodruff, Kristin Roach, Alvina Tan, Leila Pertl, Sara Ceballos, Phillip Swan, and Steve Sieck for their tireless support throughout her time at Lawrence.

Hannah Anderson '24 is a tubist from Independence, Iowa who is finishing her Bachelor of Music degree in tuba performance and instrumental music education. For the past few years, she has studied with Marty Erickson and Josh Biere. In the fall she will be completing her senior recital as well as her student teaching at Einstein Middle School and Pulaski High School. During her time at Lawrence, she has participated in ensembles including Wind Ensemble, Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, tuba/euphonium ensemble, and several smaller chamber groups. She has plans to continue with her performance and pedagogy studies after Lawrence.

Jonathan Bass '24 is graduating with degrees in piano performance and French and francophone studies. In addition to his solo playing, Jonathan has performed at Lawrence as a member of jazz combos, piano duos, various chamber ensembles, and as an instrumental and vocal studio accompanist. Highlights of Jonathan's Lawrence career include playing as a rehearsal pianist for the 2022 Mainstage Opera production of Puccini's *Suor Angelica*, working with composers Brian Raphael Nabors and Reena Esmail, and performing Beethoven's third piano concerto as a winner of the concerto competition. Jonathan is deeply grateful for the

tremendous support and guidance he's received from his professors, and to his unwavering hometown community of Washington Island, Wis.

Daniel Boyd '24 is a fifth-year graduate of Lawrence University in Appleton, Wis., a residential liberal arts college and conservatory of music, devoted exclusively to undergraduate education. While at Lawrence, Daniel pursued a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance, studying in the studios of John Holiday and Esteli Gomez. Daniel has performed in the Lawrence University Viking Bass Clef Ensemble and Concert Choir, as well as the Mainstage Opera productions and with the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra in their Masterworks. Additionally, Daniel has received many awards and accolades during his time at Lawrence, most notably, his senior recital placing as a finalist for The American Prize in the Undergraduate Opera category. After graduating, Daniel will head to Schroon Lake, N.Y. to take part in the Seagle Festival for a second year performing both Leporello in Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and Judge Turpin in Sondheim's *Sweeney Todd*.

Dylan Coble '24, originally from Cleveland, Ohio is a Bachelor of Musical Arts graduate with a cognate in French. He has studied classical guitar with Nathan Wysock, has been an active member of the Jazz Band and a few ensembles, and participated in small improvisational duos of classical and folk. He was also an active member in the Cross-Country team at Lawrence. After graduating, he looks forward to scrounging together money as a musician.

Originally from Buffalo, N.Y., **Lauren Coon '26** is a double-degree student pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in geosciences and a Bachelor of Music in horn performance. Studying under Ann Ellsworth, Lauren has performed with the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Viking Chorale, numerous chamber groups, was a founding member of Rox Quartet, and performed with the Prague Summer Nights Orchestra in the Czech Republic. Outside of class and the practice room, she can often be found staring up at trees looking for birds, weightlifting, or looking for cool rocks.

Patience Garcia '24 is a senior, graduating this year with a Bachelor of Music in clarinet performance and a Bachelor of Arts in English. During her time at Lawrence, she has studied clarinet with Andy Hudson, David Bell, and Orlando Pimentel. Over the past five years, she has participated in many ensembles, including Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Gamelan Cahaya Asri, Viking Chorale, Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, and a variety of chamber groups.

William Gear '25 is a junior in the trombone studio at Lawrence. He studies with Tim Albright and has had the opportunity to play in many of Lawrence's ensembles. He looks forward to his senior year at Lawrence and hopes to establish a career playing trombone and living near the mountains.

Henry Giles '24 is a senior from Lawrence University, where he has studied for four years under Michael Mizrahi. He has been studying the piano since the age of four. Prior to studying at Lawrence's Conservatory of Music, he studied under Amanda Kirkpatrick, Head of Piano at Washington University in St. Louis. In the fall of 2024, he will begin his Master of Music at the University of Iowa as a teaching assistant. His summer festival studies include the Decoda Chamber Music Festival, Bowdoin International Festival, and the Gijón International Music Festival.

Tucker Hall-Klingensmith '24 is a member of the Lawrence University Class of 2024, where he earned a Bachelor of Music in clarinet performance and music education, and studied with Dr. Andy Hudson, David Bell, Leila Ramagopal Pertl, Jaclyn Hittner, and Mike Ross. He is one of the founding members of Enclosure Time, Lawrence's first bass clarinet duo ensemble, and has performed with many chamber groups during his time at Lawrence. His post-graduation plans include student teaching in the Appleton Area School District.

Eli Hooker Reese '26 makes things. Mostly music. A candidate for the Bachelor of Arts in music and computer science, he was drawn to Lawrence by the diversity of musical opportunities. He's grateful to have played in groups with some graduating seniors this year, including in a bluegrass group with the dynamic, magnetic Tashi Litch.

Cindy Kaiser '24 is a flutist pursuing a dual degree (B.A./B.Mus.) in music performance, music education, and psychology at Lawrence University. She has been a member of the Lawrence University Wind Ensemble, the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, and the Lawrence University Mainstage Opera productions. At Lawrence, Cindy studied flute with Erin Lesser and piccolo with Suzanne Jordheim. Cindy has won multiple competitions while at Lawrence including the Lawrence University Wind Ensemble Concerto Competition in 2022. She is also a dedicated music educator and administrator. Cindy has been the flute section coach for the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra (FVSO) Sinfonia program since 2023 and is a private flute teacher through the Lawrence Community Music School. She has served as co-chair for the Lawrence University Conservatory Dean's Advisory Council, president for the SAI Xi Chapter, and president and junior advisor for the Lambda Sigma Alpha Pi Chapter. This year, she received the Lawrence University Chandler Senior Experience Grant and the Sigma Alpha Iota Chapter Outreach Grant for organizing a residency at Lawrence for visiting composer, Professor Amanda Harberg.

Casey Joan Kollman '24 is graduating from the dual degree program with a Bachelor of Music in vocal performance with a minor in vocal pedagogy, and a Bachelor of Arts in theatre arts with a focus in performance. Growing up in Muskego, Wis., she was a choir kid at heart. During her time at Lawrence, Casey Joan participated in a multitude of performing opportunities, some of which were: William Henry Hastings in *Richard III*, Sophie in Carly Pamela Follina ('21)'s play *Mercedes*, Ruggiero in Handel's *Alcina*, Junita/Mother Abby in *The Musical of Musicals: The Musical!* and many other theatre performances and opera scenes. During her

studies at Lawrence, she won second place in the Schubert Club's 2023 classical voice competition and won the Thelma Hunter Award this past March. She has been both a semi-finalist and a finalist at many NATS competitions and was in the top 15 semifinalists out of over 300 entries in the Opera Mississippi Young Musical Theatre Artist competition. Her favorite moments at Lawrence have been performing alongside her amazing Conservatory friends, especially as Sibella ("I've Decided to Marry You") in Fall Opera Scenes in 2021. She is particularly fond of her memories made in both Concert Choir and Lawrence University Vocal Spectrum, the latter of which she had the honor and privilege to direct this past academic year. Casey Joan would like to thank all of her LUVS singers for their passion and musicianship; Dr. Phillip Swan for his never-ending encouragement; Dr. Karen Leigh-Post for her incredible knowledge of singing; Copeland Woodruff for both his kindness and passion for live theatre that kindles her own; John Albrecht at First Congregational Church of Christ for his care and fostering of a loving musical church community; and Dr. Stephen Sieck for responding to all her emails so long ago, bringing her to Lawrence, and creating one of the best choral environments she has ever been a part of. It has been an absolute joy for Casey Joan to study at Lawrence University's Conservatory of Music for the past five years, and she has loved every minute of it.

Luke Kovscek '25, a fourth-year from San Carlos, Calif., is a dual-degree student pursuing a Bachelor of Music in saxophone performance and a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics. Luke has studied at Lawrence with Steven Jordheim and Joseph Connor, and is planning to pursue a Ph.D. in mathematics after their graduation next year.

Leah Kukman '24 is a senior graduating with a Bachelor of Music in trombone performance. They have participated in a variety of ensembles, including the Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, New Music Ensemble, Trombone Ensemble, and many chamber ensembles. During their time at Lawrence, they studied trombone with Tim Albright, and had the additional pleasure of

working with Michael Clayville. Leah holds so much gratitude for her mentors, peers, teachers, and Lawrence community for their time, kindness, and curiosity; she looks forward to sharing even a small portion of their generosity following graduation.

Originally from San Francisco, **Darren Lam '24** will be graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree in flute performance and a minor in East Asian studies. During his time at Lawrence, Darren has participated in Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, New Music Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, and Opera as well as various chamber groups. After graduation, Darren will continue his musical studies at Bard University where he will pursue a Master of Music in Instrumental Studies in their Graduate Instrumental Arts Program next fall.

Katie Larson '24 is a pianist from Green Bay, Wis., finishing up her Bachelor of Music in piano performance and a minor in piano pedagogy, and Bachelor of Arts in psychology. Katie was also very involved in choir at Lawrence, spending time singing in Viking Chorale, Cantata, and Concert Choir. She also spent all five years in Sigma Alpha Iota, the music fraternity on campus, serving as president, treasurer, and vice president over the years. She found many opportunities on campus to teach, working as a Basic Keyboard Skills tutor, a student teacher through the Community Music School, and working with the Lawrence Girl Choirs as a manager and accompanist. After graduating from Lawrence, Katie will pursue her Master of Music in piano performance and pedagogy at the University of Oklahoma. She would like to give a special thank you to her piano professor, Anthony Padilla, for his guidance and constant support, and her pedagogy instructors, Mary Van De Loo, Anna Reiser, and Catherine Walby for their encouragement and mentorship throughout her time at Lawrence.

Ben Lewis '25 is a versatile bassist and composer hailing from Medford, Ore. He studies with Mark Urness and José Encarnación and plays in styles including jazz, bluegrass, old-time, funk, R&B, and rock. This year he has had the privilege of recording with a number of up-and-coming artists at Lawrence, releasing his own album, and touring nationally with his bluegrass band, The Litch Brothers. Ben wants to wish a prosperous and bountiful future upon all his graduating friends!

Tashi Litch '24 will be graduating with a Bachelor of Musical Arts with honors focused on mandolin performance and with a cognate in economics. During his time at Lawrence, he developed a place for the mandolin within the Conservatory, performing with his bluegrass ensemble, The Woebegones, as well as various combos and bands including Lawrence University Jazz Ensemble. Equally he introduced Lawrence University to the international bluegrass community, taking a Lawrence ensemble to perform at the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) annual conference and festival two separate years, and was invited to participate in the competitive IBMA Leadership Bluegrass program. On campus as co-president of the Band Booking Committee, he has directed LUaroo, the annual two-day campus music festival. Within the college he was a finalist in “The Pitch”, intercollegiate business startup competition. He was awarded the Grey Fox Bill Vernon Memorial Scholarship and was a finalist for the Watson Fellowship. Outside of Lawrence he continues to perform with his bluegrass quartet, The Litch Brothers, at festivals and venues around the U.S. Following graduation, he plans to continue with a career in the music industry as an organizer and performer.

Addison Littlefield '24 is a soprano from central Maine. At Lawrence, she has performed various opera roles including Quinn in *Alice Tierney*, Morgana in Handel's *Alcina*, and Seconda Cercatrice in Puccini's *Suor Angelica*. Additionally, she has been a featured soloist in Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* and Mozart's *Great Mass in C minor* with Lawrence Symphony Orchestra and Choirs. She has won multiple prizes in the Wisconsin College Classical

NATS Competition including first place (2020, 2021) and second place (2023). She was also the recipient of The Charles F.L. Anderson Opera Performance Scholarship in 2023. For the past three years, Addison has worked at First United Methodist Church as a choir intern and Sunday School pianist. Additionally, she teaches voice lessons and works as the administrator for NEWvoices. Upon graduation, Addison will be joining the Maryland Opera Studio in pursuit of her Master of Music.

Hazel Musto '24 is from Philadelphia, Pa. and is finishing up her Bachelor of Music in piano performance and Bachelor of Arts in chemistry. During her first two years at Lawrence, she accompanied Lawrence University Wind Ensemble on *Winter Blossoms*, and from then on took on multiple opportunities to accompany instrumentalists and work in chamber groups. She became an Accompanying Fellow in her third year and a Basic Keyboard Skills tutor the year after, where she was able to apply teaching skills learned in the Piano Pedagogy sequence. This past year, she achieved Honorable Mention in the MTNA state level competition, and competed as a finalist in the LSO concerto competition with the Amy Beach *Piano Concerto* and as a finalist in the Schubert Club competition. Next year, she will be starting her master's in piano performance at the Frost School of Music to study with Santiago Rodriguez. She would like to thank her professor, Anthony Padilla, for his unconditional support and guidance over the past five years and for helping her get to this point in her musical career.

Amber Newman '24, from Star Prairie, Wis., is a dual-degree student who will be graduating with a Bachelor of Music in flute performance and a Bachelor of Arts in environmental science. In the Conservatory, she studied with Erin Lesser and performed with the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, New Music Ensemble, Flute Ensemble, and various chamber groups. She has also participated in the Decoda Chamber Music Festival. In the college, she researched with Relena Ribbons for the past two years, investigating soil microbial communities and biogeochemical cycling. After graduation, Amber is headed off to

Panama to study tropical forest ecology with the Smithsonian and hopes to pursue graduate school for environmental science the following year, keeping music by her side.

Evan Ney '24 is a fifth-year student from Haverhill, Mass., studying saxophone performance and English. During his time at Lawrence he has played in a variety of styles, including jazz, classical, and contemporary music, and performed with the Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, New Music Ensemble, a wind quintet, saxophone quartet, saxophone duo, and others. He won a Downbeat Student Music Award with the Jazz Band, was named winner of the 2024 Lawrence Wind Ensemble concerto competition as a soloist, and has been awarded academic honors such as presenting two papers at the Harrison Symposium. This fall he will be attending the University of Oregon to pursue his master's in saxophone performance, and is excited to build on his experiences playing, composing, and teaching while at Lawrence.

From Appleton, Wis., **Emma Nolte '24** is finishing her Bachelor of Music degree, majoring in music education with a choral/general music emphasis. She studied voice with Esteli Gomez and piano with Anthony Padilla. In her time at Lawrence, she sang in Cantala and Concert Choir, performed in theater and opera scenes productions, sang in and accompanied for many Appleton ensembles, and took one term of a guitar class for educators before joining The New Romantics, the best Taylor Swift cover band at Lawrence. After graduation and a summer of teaching piano and voice lessons, she will be student teaching during the fall semester at Dunlap Elementary School with Toni Weijola '01 and at Appleton East High School with Dan Van Sickle '04.

Originally from Stillwater, Minn., **Connor Parr '24** is a student of Ann Ellsworth and is receiving a Bachelor of Music degree in horn performance. During his time at Lawrence, Connor has held section leading positions with Wind Ensemble and Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, opera orchestra, and has performed in several chamber groups. Connor is also a member of the LGBTuben Quintet,

initially debuting with the group in a recital performance at the 55th annual International Horn Symposium in Montreal. This fall, Connor will be studying with Dr. James Naigus and Dr. Jean Martin-Williams at the University of Georgia where he will be pursuing a Master of Music in horn performance, as well as working as a graduate assistant, and performing with the Southern Wind Quintet.

Jackson Peters '24 is a guitarist from Chaska, Minn. who will be graduating with a Bachelor of Musical Arts with a cognate in economics. During his time at Lawrence, he has participated in the Lawrence University Jazz Ensemble, Jazz Band, Tambo Toké, Sambistas, Symphonic Band, the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, several jazz combos and chamber groups, and dozens of recitals. Jackson has been very fortunate to be able to study music of all styles with such remarkable professors as Steve Peplin, Bill Carrothers, Patty Darling, Mark Urness, José Encarnación, and Nathan Wysock. In his last year, he served as an intern for the Fox Valley's pop-up jazz showcase Jazz Coterie and was able to perform alongside national acts at the Performing Arts Center, most notably Broadway star Jessica Vosk. After graduation, Jackson will return to the Twin Cities and begin working as a freelance musician, teaching at Opus Music Academy, and serving as a board member for the Minnesota Guitar Society.

Seth Ploeckelman '25 is a junior from Tomahawk, Wis. studying percussion performance with a minor in percussion pedagogy. At Lawrence, he has performed with numerous different ensembles such as Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Jazz Ensemble, Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, New Music Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Tambo Toké, Sambistas, and Kinkaviwo. He was also featured as a soloist with LUPÉ in 2023 and is featured on Downbeat-award-winning tracks with LUJB in 2022.

Fast approaching junior-hood, **Hana Ramos '26** spent his second year of college learning Chinese, completing an album rollout, playing in a large number of campus bands, and making lifelong friends in SOL House and beyond. A guitarist in the Bachelor of Musical Arts program, he can often be found gazing wistfully through the trees or contemplating the nature of life. He would like to wish all his senior friends in and out of the Con the very best on their next chapter and a very happy graduation.

Gabe Reyes '24, a music educator and saxophonist from Skokie, Ill., is pursuing his undergraduate degree in saxophone performance and music education (instrumental). As a performer, Gabe has played in the GELL Quartet, Verve Quartet, Lawrence University Jazz Ensemble, Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band. In 2023, he was the concerto soloist with the Lawrence University Wind Ensemble playing *Diversion* by Bernhard Heiden. Additionally, as a chamber musician, he has performed at the Midwest Clinic, Midwest Young Artists Chamber Competition and Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. Gabe has studied extensively with teachers such as Bryan Polacek, Steven Jordheim and Joseph Connor. Gabe's post-graduation plans are to student teach in Chicago public schools and audition for graduate schools.

Ryan Saladin '24 is a multi-disciplinary performer and teacher from Metro-Detroit, Mich. He is graduating from Lawrence with degrees in neuroscience and trombone performance, studying trombone with Tim Albright and Michael Clayville. At Lawrence, Ryan has played with the Symphony Orchestra (LSO), concert bands, jazz big bands, New Music Ensemble, Trombone Ensemble, and many chamber music groups. He has also played with the Fox Valley Symphony, Green Bay Civic Symphony, and Oshkosh Youth Symphony, and has played at area churches, synagogues, and other community venues. Aside from performing, Ryan has also had the privilege of teaching lessons through Heid Music and the Fox Valley Sinfonia program. Additionally, he has worked as a neuroscience research assistant in the lab of Dr. Elizabeth Becker and as a Conservatory Admissions Intern, building skills in interdisciplinary

research and arts administration and outreach. This fall, he looks forward to pursuing a Master of Music degree in trombone performance at DePaul University in Chicago. He holds immense gratitude for his teachers, mentors, and friends at Lawrence and for their dedication, creativity, and kindness; he hopes to build a career guiding and inspiring young musicians just as they have guided and inspired him.

Paola Saldaña Galvan '24, a senior from Chicago, Ill. will be graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in international relations. She first heard about Lawrence through the Conservatory program and has played clarinet throughout her four years at Lawrence. She has played in Symphonic Band, Wind Ensemble, Lawrence Symphony Orchestra, Viking Clarinet Ensemble (ViCE), and has recently performed her senior recital. After Lawrence, she will be completing a fellowship with the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service and will begin graduate school in the fall.

John Stecher '24 is a saxophonist from Eau Claire, Wis. and will be graduating with a Bachelor of Music in music education (instrumental/general) and a Bachelor of Arts in economics. In his five years at Lawrence, John has been an active saxophonist, trumpeter, writer, and conductor. John has most recently been the assistant conductor of the Lawrence Symphonic Band and one of the conductors for the newly reestablished Lawrence Pep Band. Also active in the jazz department, John has played alto saxophone, tenor saxophone, and trumpet with the Lawrence University Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Band. John's big band arrangement of Wayne Shorter's *Witch Hunt* was premiered by the Jazz Ensemble this past winter. This fall, John will be student teaching in the Fox Valley and hopes to go on to be a high school band teacher.

Kate Stenson '24 is a violinist, vocalist and songwriter from Green Bay, Wis. She is graduating with a degree in the Bachelor of Musical Arts program on violin and voice, and has a cognate in entrepreneurship. She is currently in the process of releasing a nine-track album (produced by Lawrence graduate Michael Murphy '23)

titled *Momentary* which will release to streaming platforms by the end of June. She hopes to continue performing and writing her own music under her solo name “Kate Stenson Music” within the area upon graduation.

Jando Valdez '24 is a multi-instrumentalist and educator local to Appleton. His work includes forming the Lawrence University Mariachi Ensemble, instructing at the New York Jazz Academy, and managing various independent musical projects. In addition to serving two terms as co-chair of the Dean’s Advisory Council, Jando also serves as an IES abroad ambassador after studying abroad in Salamanca, Spain in fall 2023. When he’s not playing, he also spends time learning how to program videogames in Unity.

Mitchell VonEschen '24 is graduating with a Bachelor of Musical Arts degree with a cognate in mathematics. He will be returning home to Minneapolis, Minn., and he hopes to eventually go to grad school for mathematics.