

Phillips Exeter Academy Music Department



Spring Term Orchestra Concert Symphonia Chamber Orchestra Symphony Orchestra

Rohan Smith, *conductor*

Honoring Principal William K. Rawson'71; P'08

Tuesday, May 26, 2026
7:00 PM

“the Bowld”
Forrestal Bowld Music Center
29 Tan Lane
Exeter, NH



***This performance is dedicated to
Principal William K. Rawson '71;'65,'70 (Hon.); P'08***

On this occasion, the students, faculty and staff of the Music Department wish to express our deep gratitude to Principal Bill Rawson for his sustained commitment to the Art of Music at Exeter.

As trustee, your support during a time of financial constraint was critical to ensuring that the Class of '59 Expansion of the Forrestal-Bowld Music Center went forward, and that we now have the privilege and joy of performing in the beautiful and inspiring concert hall that is The Bowld.

Our students have seen you at countless concerts of every genre – orchestral, choral, jazz, band, vocal and instrumental chamber music, digital music, solo showcases and senior recitals. We really notice this and it matters to us! Moreover, your joy in music itself, and your curiosity about our art is always evident.

Principal Rawson, our heartfelt thanks for your dedication to the Arts, and for making the musical life of Exeter so vibrant!

Program

Symphonia

Hymn and Fuguing Tune No.2 for String Orchestra

Henry Cowell
(1897-1965)

Chamber Orchestra

Lyric for Strings
arr. for small orchestra Tristan Price

George Walker
(1922-2018)

Peter and the Wolf
a Symphonic Tale for Children, Op. 67

Serge Prokofiev
(1891-1953)

The story and the music for "Peter and the Wolf" was written by Sergei Prokofiev in 1936 for a children's theatre in Moscow. He used instruments from four instrument families (Strings, Woodwinds, Brass and Percussion) to tell the story. Each character is represented by a particular musical instrument. "Peter and the Wolf" has become Prokofiev's most notable work and serves as a great children's introduction to music and the instruments of the orchestra

Symphony Orchestra

Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini, Op. 43

Serge Rachmaninoff
(1873-1943)

Benny Wang '26, *piano soloist*
Winner, 2026 Concerto Competition



Congratulations to our seniors – you will be missed!

Mansa Awuah, Mel Benavidez, Ethan Benenson, Ava Bullock, Anna Christina Byun, Jonny Civitarese, Nico Crevier, Sophia Davis, Evan Fan, Sofia Gonzalez-Gulick, Shashwat Gupta, Erin Han, Katie Hu, Robert Joo, Allegra Lai, Albert Lu, Arabella Mariano, Anshi Mehra, Tristan Price, Ashim Rai, Anne Wang, Meg Xu, Martin Yau



Mansa Awuah

I'm a four-year senior from Modesto, CA and on campus I live in Amen Hall. I've been playing the cello since I was three – my siblings are musicians also, so music has always been a huge part of my life. During my time at Exeter, I've been a member of the Symphony and Chamber Orchestras. I've loved working together with my peers to produce collective harmonies, and I'm grateful to Exeter for fueling my passion for music! In my free time, I enjoy reading romcoms and mystery novels, working out, and watching comedies.



Mel Benavidez

I'm a 2-year senior from Houston, Texas, and I live in Dow House. I only began to learn harp after I started at Exeter, but I've fallen in love with my instrument and the art I can create with it. I joined Symphonia for my senior year, and I hope to pursue harp in college as well! When I am not practicing, I like to dance, bake, and make crafts.



Ava Bullock

I'm a two-year senior from Cape Cod, Massachusetts, currently living in Moulton House. I've been playing the violin since I was three, and during my time at Exeter, I've played in chamber groups, student showcases, and with the Symphony Orchestra. Growing as a musician my whole life, I'm so grateful to have participated in the music program at Exeter. Outside of music, I enjoy cross country, triathlons, reading and drawing.



Anna Christina Byun

Thank you for coming to our final concert! It is hard to believe this is my last performance at Exeter, having played in the Symphony Orchestra all four years. It has been a joy to revel in and be challenged by such amazing music. I will miss the rehearsals and the many laughs shared with my fellow orchestral members and Mr. Smith. Thank you, Exeter Music Department.



Jonny Civitarese

I'm a three-year senior and I am a day student from Kittery, Maine. I have been playing double bass since 5th grade and have played in both smaller ensemble groups and larger orchestras throughout my time playing! In addition to playing double bass, I also sing at the academy and I'm a big pop music fan!



Nico Crevier

I am a four-year senior from Rye, NY and the student listener in Guptill House. I have been musical for a long time, playing lots of instruments from a young age. I briefly played the guitar, then stopped and picked up the piano, after which I started the violin and finally the flute. I stayed focused on the flute, now in my ninth year of playing, and in my sophomore year I started playing the guitar again. I love playing music with groups! I have an amazing time playing in the Chamber Orchestra and Symphony Orchestra at school, and when I am at home I play with other musicians at the local church. Aside from music, I love being outdoors—from rowing to spike ball—I love to build things, and I love science.



Sophia Davis

I'm a four-year senior from Englewood, NJ, and on campus I live in Merrill Hall. My musical journey started at six with violin and choir, and I have been a part of orchestras, chamber groups, and rock bands since elementary school. I plan to continue my musical studies in college with jazz and composition/songwriting. I'm especially grateful for the beautiful performance spaces Exeter has provided, like The Bowld and The Round Room, where I cemented my love for creating music with others! Outside of music, I enjoy linguistics, environmental science, and fine arts.



Sofia Gonzalez-Gulick

I'm a four-year senior from Exeter, NH, originally from Asheville, NC, and I fell in love with music after growing up without cable and endlessly rewatching *The Sound of Music*, wanting to be Gretl from the Von Trapp family. My freelance career is marked by my debut, featuring a solo vocal interpretation of "Do-Re-Mi," with the ironic venue of Creative Minds, an inner-city daycare in Baltimore. And from there, I joined chorus in third grade, and kept singing. I picked up the trumpet in fifth grade, but was made to choose

between the two when choosing courses, resulting in my continuation of singing, until my band director pulled me back in by assigning me vibraphone in February 2022 out of necessity of players. That opened the door to jazz band piano, some piano-sax chamber work, and eventually the old oboe I found in my mom's closet, which I played for a joyful year in concert band. UNCG, a band camp I attended in Greensboro that summer, inspired me to audition for symphony and chamber orchestra. And since, I've continued to be ecstatic to play as much percussion as possible, especially multi-percussion, which I grew to love even more through playing in our school's pit orchestras in the theatre productions.



Shashwat Gupta

I'm a two-year senior from Dallas, Texas, and I live in Soule Hall. I started orchestra in sixth grade due to a school music requirement, but I ended up falling in love with the viola and continuing it to this day. I have been in Exeter's Chamber and Symphony Orchestras as a violist during my entire time here, and music has been a big part of my experience.

Outside of orchestra, I participate in various STEM and cultural clubs on campus, and I enjoy movies, music, and

spending time outside.



Erin Han

I'm a 4-year senior from Cambridge, Massachusetts, living in Wheelwright Hall. I've been playing the flute for the past 9 years, and music has always been an integral part of my identity. In addition to the PEA orchestras, I also play flute in the Boston Youth Symphony and NEC Prep Honors Woodwind Quintet. Every day, I'm continuously inspired by music's potential to speak without words and, in turn,

foster deep empathy. Outside of music, I enjoy reading, writing, rewatching my favorite TV shows, and crafting copious playlists on Spotify.



Allegra Lai

I'm a four-year senior from Hong Kong, and I live in New Hall on campus. I picked up the oboe in fourth grade, and I haven't stopped playing since! Joining the Symphony Orchestra at Exeter was my first time being in a musical ensemble, and I have thoroughly enjoyed learning, laughing, and performing with my fellow musicians. Outside of music, I love visual arts, writing, and going on fun adventures in town with my friends.



Albert Lu

I'm a four-year senior from Potomac, Maryland. I have played the cello since I was 8, and during my time at Exeter, I've played in Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, as well as Chamber Music. Music has become an integral part of my Exeter experience, and I've loved growing as a musician throughout these years. Outside of music, I enjoy math, writing music, and playing card

games.



Arabella Mariano

I'm a two-year senior from Manchester, NH, and I live in Merrill Hall on campus. I have been playing the violin since I was six and enjoy performing in recitals, competitions, and master classes. At Exeter, I play in both the Chamber and Symphony Orchestras. Outside of school, I enjoy playing with the NH Philharmonic Orchestra, and for patients in nursing homes and hospitals around New Hampshire. Aside from music, I love to ski, hike, shoot, watch surgeries, bake, and play lacrosse.



Anshi Mehra

I'm a four year senior from Marin County, California. I'm affiliated with Hoyt Hall on campus. I've been playing violin since I was 6 years old, and have dabbled in piano and acoustic guitar as well! I absolutely adore the way music can connect people. At Exeter, depending on the year, I have been involved with chamber music groups, Chamber Orchestra, and Symphony Orchestra. Thank you so much for being here today!



Tristan Price

I am a 4-year senior from Philadelphia, PA. I began playing cello at just 4 years old, and since then, it has been my entire life. I took a liking to orchestral percussion just within the past 4 years, here at Exeter, and it has also taken over my mind. I will be going into music after graduation, intending to add a bachelor's degree in Cello Performance to my ranks, and intend to go on to a master's degree in

Conducting. Outside of music, I love to cook and teach, and I have been known to dabble in the visual arts as well.



Martin Yau

I am a 4-year senior residing on the 2nd floor of Peabody Hall from Massachusetts. I am a Symphony and Chamber Orchestra Manager, an avid classical music listener, a Puerto Rico/New York trip attendee, a chamber group member, a PEA/Portsmouth concerto competition competitor, student showcase/Riverwoods performer, a Brahms, Sibelius, Tchaikovsky, Beethoven, Bach, Ravel,

Paganini, Ysaÿe violin grinder (the list goes on), and co-concertmaster as well. I've been playing the violin since I was 4 years old and outside music, I love playing squash, eating good food, and reading online novels! Orchestra has been an integral part of my experience here at Phillips Exeter, and I cannot thank enough Mr. Smith, the music department, as well as all the orchestra members, that make this experience possible. I am truly grateful and honored to be a part of this group of talented musicians for my last year at Exeter!

Personnell

Symphonia

Violin I

Meg Xu '26, *concertmaster*
Daniel Lee '29
Macey Meigs '29
Olivia Liu '29
Eric Jin '28
Reya Satam '28
Andrew Pham '27
Artur Novaes Ferreira '27
Connie Thomas '27

Violin II

Ethan Benenson '26
Sophia Chen '28
Samuel Medina '29
Alex Ro '28
Ishaan Singh '27
Ashim Rai '26
Anika Wark '29

Harp

Mel Benavidez '26

Viola

Touma Miyakawa '27
Belén Valenzuela '29
Silas Trudell '29
Kelly Ugbala '28

Cello

Daniel Lee '28
Elijah Drobnick '28
Quinn Nash-Webber '29
Abigail Asfaw '27

Bass

MA Gump '28
Tristan Price '26

Chamber Orchestra

Violin I

Sophia Davis '26,
concertmaster
Martin Yau '26
Hugo Shinn '27
Aaliya Huang '29
Matias Yau '28
Sebastien TranPham '27
Michael Yoon '27

Violin II

Arabella Mariano '26
Lily Cui '29
Eilena Ding '28
Justin Zhang '29
Jessica Anselm '28
Lorenzo Recchia '29

Viola

Robert Joo '26
Changyu Jeong '28
Allison Chen '29
Shashwat Gupta '26
Alexa Morel '27

Cello

Tristan Price '26
Alvin Zhou '29
Shiloh Page '28

Bass

Adam Civitarese '27
June Koh '28

Flute

Erin Han '26
Nico Crevier '26
Madoka Hubbard '28

Clarinet

Annie Zhu '28
Kevin Chen '28
Hanna Zhang '29
Adrien Meslet '29

Soprano Saxophone

Ethan Cathey '28

Bassoon

Jayden Oh '28
Ethan Cathey '28

Horn

Mindy Holthe *
William Violette *

Trombone

Mike Strauss *

Trumpet

Jeannie Nadeau *

Percussion

Sofia Gonzalez-Gulick '26
Tristan Price, '26

* Guest artist

Symphony Orchestra

Violin I

Martin Yau '26, *concertmaster*
Sophia Davis '26
Anne Wang '26
Hugo Shinn '27
Myles Oluwo '27
Lily Cui '29
Katie Hu '26
Anshi Mehra '26
Aaliya Huang '29
Andy Liu '28
Matias Yau '28
Sebastien TranPham '27
Michelle Choo '27
Vincent Chen '29

Violin II

Arabella Mariano '26, *principal*
Michael Yoon '27
Eilena Ding '28
Ava Bullock '26
Catherine Manley '27
Alyssa Kim '28
Jessica Anselm '28
Jocelyn Wen '28
Catherine Chen '28
Justin Zhang '29
Eleanor Bullock '29
Lorenzo Recchia '29
Krithikh Raja '27
Daniel Lee '29

Viola

Robert Joo '26, *principal*
Evan Fan '26
Changyu Jeong '28
Shashwat Gupta '26
Alexa Morel '27
Allison Chen '29
William Chen '28
Kyros Wu '28

Cello

Anna Byun '26, *co-principal*
Alvin Zhou '29, *co-principal*
Albert Lu '26
Mansa Awuah '26
Manuel Zhang '28
Shiloh Page '28
Esther Kim '29
Owen Wood '27
Sophia Butler '27

Bass

Adam Civitarese '27, *co-principal*
June Koh '28, *co-principal*
Jonny Civitarese '26
MA Gump '28

Flute

Erin Han '26, *co-principal*
Nico Crevier '26, *co-principal*
Lena Kook '27
Ari Lee '27

Flute/Piccolo

Makoda Hubbard '28

Oboe

Ashley Gong '27, *co-principal*
Allegra Lai '26, *co-principal*
Reva Khaire '29
Yeonwoo Cho '28

Clarinet

Annie Zhu '28, *co-principal*
Kevin Chen '28, *co-principal*
Hanna Zhang '29
Adrien Meslet '29
Fiona Liu '28
Norah Pratt '29

Bassoon

Jayden Oh '28, *principal*
Ethan Cathey '28

Horn

Erik Sobotka '28, *principal*
Benedikt Sobotka *
Mindy Holthe *
William Violette *
Earl Powers *

Trumpet

Jeanne Nadeau *
Beverly Perriccio *

Trombone

Jillian Riordan '28, *principal*
Brendan Newbould *
Michael Strauss *

Tuba

Crystal Metric *

Timpani

Sofia Gonzalez-Gulick '26

Percussion

Tristan Price, *principal*
Alex Lim '27
Adrian Chan '28
Chris Deoki '29

Orchestra Managers

Tristan Price '26
Martin Yau '26

* Guest artist