



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas
College of Music

Special Recital | Friday, May 12, 2023 | 12:00 pm | Winspear Hall

**UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
FOR THE COLLEGE OF MUSIC**

Prelude

Choral No. 1 in E Major (1890)César Franck (1822–1890)

from *Evocation*, Opus 37 (1941)Marcel Dupré (1886–1971)
III. Allegro deciso

March in D Major,
Opus 56, No. 3 (1876).....Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911)

Michael Soto, organ

Processional

Fanfare en rondeau (1729).....Jean-Joseph Mouret (1682–1738)

Michael Soto, organ

National Anthem

The Star-Spangled
Banner (1778/1814).....John Stafford Smith/Francis Scott Key
(1750–1836)/(1779–1843)

Kara Libby, soprano • Jimin Seo, piano

Welcome..... John W. Richmond
Professor and Dean

Greetings.....Michael McPherson
Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Keynote Address.....Daniel Sher
Professor and Dean Emeritus, College
of Music, University of Colorado Boulder

Performance

from *Sonata, Opus 19* (1939)Paul Creston (1906–1985)
III. With gaiety

Luke Vanek, alto saxophone • Xiao Wang, piano

Recognition of Candidates John W. Richmond

Bachelor of Arts in Music

Bachelor of Music in Music Education

General Choral & Instrumental Music/Choral/Keyboard/Guitar

General Choral & Instrumental Music/Choral/Vocal

General Choral & Instrumental Music/Elementary/Instrumental

General Choral & Instrumental Music/Instrumental/Band

General Choral & Instrumental Music/Instrumental/Orchestra

Conferring of DegreesMichael McPherson

Presentation of Undergraduate Candidates.....marshals lead to stage

Congratulations.....Ernest Martinez, Vice-Chair of the UNT
Alumni Association Board of Directors

Closing Remarks..... John W. Richmond

Alma Mater

Glory to the Green

and White (1919/1922) Julia Smith/Charles K. Langford
(1905–1989)/(1901–1923)

Singing glory to the green, singing glory to the white,

For we know our university is striving for the right;

Down the corridor of years, we'll forget the joys and tears,

But North Texas, North Texas we love!

Kara Libby, soprano • Jimin Seo, piano

Recessional (audience remain seated)

Pomp and Circumstance March

No. 1 in D, Opus 39 (1901) Sir Edward Elgar (1857–1934)
arr. Alan Baylock (b. 1967)

Brian Lawrence, tenor saxophone • Cristina Smith, trumpet
Jeongmin Ha, piano • August Bish, bass • Colman Burks, drumset

A native of El Paso, **Michael Soto** is currently pursuing a doctor of musical arts degree in organ performance with a concentration in harpsichord at the University of North Texas. He holds a bachelor of arts in linguistics and French and a bachelor of music in organ performance from the University of Texas, a master of arts in English language education from the American University in Washington, D.C., and a master of music in organ performance from the University of North Texas. His primary teachers include Frank Speller, Gerre Hancock, Vincent Warnier, and Jesse Eschbach. Michael has served as organist and music director in churches in France, Tunisia, the District of Columbia, and Illinois. Before returning to Texas, Michael was active in the Chicago area as a soloist, accompanist, and secretary of the local chapter of the American Guild of Organists. He currently serves as organist of Flower Mound United Methodist Church, and he is a teaching fellow in the UNT College of Music.

Luke Vanek is a senior music education major from Las Vegas, Nevada and just completed a 16-week student teaching internship at Frisco ISD. Luke was named the 2022–2023 Presser Scholar, an award given to one undergraduate student each year who shows a high level of academic and musical accomplishment and embodies the qualities of leadership and citizenship.

Xiao Wang, DMA alumna, graduated in Spring 2018. She played with Landon Chang in Fall 2021 for commencement ceremonies. Dr. Wang is an internationally recognized pianist who received her undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Cincinnati. She came to the University of North Texas to study with faculty member Pamela Mia Paul and graduated with her DMA in piano performance.

As a graduate from a Tier One research university, you have honed the skills you need to go anywhere and achieve anything. Your creativity, diligence, caring spirit, adaptability and UNT education have given you the wings to soar high in everything you do. No matter where life takes you next, the Mean Green family and our global alumni network of 461,000 are here to support you.