

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE WALDEN SCHOOL ANNOUNCES 2016 CONCERT SERIES

Summer Concerts, Composers Forums, and Moderated Discussions Feature Nearly Three Dozen Renowned Guest Artists, Resident Composers, and Ensembles-in-Residence Representing a Diverse Range of Musical Styles and Genres, and Hailing from Throughout the United States.

More than 100 World-Premieres will be presented.

Summer Concerts are Free and Open to the Public

June 14, 2016, DUBLIN, NH—Starting June 18, 2016, more than 100 students and educators from twenty US states and seven countries will begin arriving in Dublin, New Hampshire, for intensive music studies at The Walden School. It is an unparalleled, immersive creative experience—part skill development and part retreat. Creativity and community are central in Walden’s signature approach to exploring musicianship through improvisation and composition.

For more than forty years The Walden School has produced free public concerts, drawing enthusiastic audiences to its campus at the Dublin School. Their unique Concert Series, which has twice been awarded the Chamber Music America/ASCAP Adventurous Programming Award, returns to the Monadnock region this summer for an eight-week season of concerts, interactive composers forums, and lecture/demonstrations.

The Walden School has a rich tradition of bringing the world’s finest new music talents together for the inspiring synergy only possible in such a setting. Walden School participants and audience members can sit side-by-side to listen and learn. The sonic possibilities are endless and unknown.

“This season is guaranteed to be *ear-opening*,” says Executive Director Seth Brenzel. “The Composers Forums are particularly stimulating, focusing attention on compositional process.” In these workshop sessions, musicians get to hear their works in progress come to life in a concert setting. Composers Forums are overseen by a faculty moderator or visiting composer-in-residence who leads an engaging discussion with the creative artists and audience. The composers receive constructive feedback as a springboard toward further work. These gatherings feature brand new music of differing styles and levels, from beginning young musicians to advanced, established artists.

“We are so fortunate to have two excellent Composers-in-Residence joining us this year,” adds Brenzel. “Paula Matthusen (Young Musicians Program) is an award-winning young composer and Professor of Music at Wesleyan University, where she teaches experimental music, composition,

and music technology. GRAMMY® award winner Michael Daugherty (Creative Musicians Retreat) is a Professor of Music at the University of Michigan, and one of the most in-demand and most often performed American composers. Each will present a lecture-demonstration full of musical examples and interesting stories, speaking candidly about their career development and their art.”

Audience members will be the first to hear the composers of tomorrow with performances of new music written by Walden’s renowned faculty artists as well as participants in the Young Musicians Program (ages 9 to 18), and the Creative Musicians Retreat (adults). **More than 100 new works are created, performed, and discussed each summer.**

The Walden School will host several outstanding performing musicians who are leaders in the industry in support of new music, both on stage and in the classroom. This season they welcome the string ensemble Mivos Quartet in residence, and this is their second year partnering with the multi-instrumental International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE). “Additionally,” says Seth, “this will be a *harp-tastic* season! There will be two chances to get up close and personal with the harp—a specialized, rare instrument to experience.” Harpist Ben Melsky will perform a solo concert on July 3rd, and ICE includes a remarkable harpist, Bridget Kibby. Former Walden faculty member Aurora Nealand will return to the stage, joined by five outstanding musicians from New Orleans. Nealand was voted “Best Saxophonist,” “Best Female Performer,” and with the Royal Roses, “Best Traditional Jazz Band” in the 2015 and 2016 Big Easy and OffBeat Awards.

Choral singing is central in Walden’s programs. Each participant sings in the school chorus to improve musicianship and listening skills while enjoying the communal experience of making music together. This season features the Quince Contemporary Vocal Ensemble, a quartet of excellent singers known for thriving on unique musical challenges and genre-bending 21st century repertoire.

Brenzel adds: “There’s something special about *new music*. People aren’t sure if they’ll like it. That’s okay! The freshness of new ideas is very exciting. These concerts are certain to be evocative and leave audiences inspired.”

THE 2016 WALDEN SCHOOL CONCERT SERIES

All events are free and open to the public.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

OPENING CONCERT featuring

[Carlos Cordeiro](#), clarinet

[Steven Beck](#), piano

The *New Yorker* called Steven Beck “one of the City’s finest young pianists.”

Carlos Cordeiro was described by the *New York Times* as “elegant, vigorous, and memorable.”

SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

LECTURE / DEMONSTRATION

Michael Daugherty, Composer-in-Residence, Creative Musicians Retreat

GRAMMY® award winner Michael Daugherty will present and discuss some of his own compositions, which include chamber, choral, and symphonic music, operas and film scores. Daugherty has been hailed by *The Times* (London) as “a master icon maker” with a “maverick imagination, fearless structural sense and meticulous ear.”

TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

CONCERT featuring

Mivos Quartet, Ensemble-in-Residence, Creative Musicians Retreat

Lauren Cauley & Hanna Hurwitz, violins

Victor Lowrie, viola

Mariel Roberts, cello

"This vital young New York string quartet embraces toothy modernism with punk-rock verve" - *New York Times*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

COMPOSERS FORUM I, Creative Musicians Retreat

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

COMPOSERS FORUM II, Creative Musicians Retreat

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

COMPOSERS FORUM III, Creative Musicians Retreat

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

SUNDAY, JULY 3, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

CONCERT featuring

[Ben Melsky](#), harp

Ben Melsky is a bold, expressive, risk-taking performer called “a phenomenal harpist” by *Chicago Magazine*.

TUESDAY, JULY 5, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

COMPOSERS FORUM I, Young Musicians Program

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

FRIDAY, JULY 8, 7:30 PM

Fountain Arts Building at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

OUTDOOR CONCERT (weather-permitting) featuring Guest Artists

[Aurora Nealand](#) & the [Mississippi Gypsy](#)

Bandleader, saxophonist and vocalist Aurora Nealand is a captivating artist. “In performance, Nealand brings an effervescence to her presentation whether she’s sitting onstage, standing on the street, or marching in a parade. Her eyes light up as the music ignites, and her smile encourages other musicians to play their best, and the audience to get into it and dance, bounce or sway. It’s obvious that she takes the music seriously, but that exploring while playing is an aesthetic priority. She is definitely one to watch as an innovator and creator.” – *Downbeat Magazine*

Aurora will be joined by some amazing musicians from New Orleans, featuring the music of guitarist Russell Welch, a specialist in gypsy jazz (a la Django Reinhardt). They will be joined by vocalist and violinist Dr. Sick (Squirrell Nut Zippers), Tomas Majcherski (Rhythm Wizards), guitarist Leo Forde, bassist Joshua Gouzy (New Orleans Jazz Vipers), and Tomas Majcherski playing clarinet and saxophone.

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

COMPOSERS FORUM II, Young Musicians Program

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

CONCERT featuring members of the

[International Contemporary Ensemble \(ICE\)](#)

Josh Modney, violin; Ryan Muncy, saxophones
Mike Lormand, trombone; Bridget Kibby, harp
Jacob Greenberg, piano

The International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), described by the *New York Times* as “one of the most accomplished and adventurous groups in new music,” is dedicated to reshaping the way music is created and experienced.

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

CONCERT featuring

Young Musicians (YMP) alongside the [International Contemporary Ensemble \(ICE\)](#)

ICE functions as performer, presenter, and educator—advancing the music of our time by developing innovative new works and new strategies for audience engagement. ICE redefines concert music as it brings together new works and new listeners in the 21st century.

TUESDAY, JULY 19, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

COMPOSERS FORUM III, Young Musicians Program

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

COMPOSERS FORUM IV, Young Musicians Program

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

FRIDAY, JULY 22, 6:00 PM

Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

OPEN HOUSE EVENT

We invite our neighboring friends, families and supporters to join us for this special event. The 6:00 PM outdoor BBQ will be followed by student and faculty demonstrations. Learn more about The Walden School and then hear the exciting vocal quartet Quince, whose concert follows at 7:30 PM.

RSVP with your name and number of people in attendance:
events@waldenschool.org -or- (603) 563-8212.

FRIDAY, JULY 22, 7:30 PM

**Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire
CONCERT featuring**

[Quince Contemporary Vocal Ensemble](#)

Amanda DeBoer Bartlett, Liz Pearse, Carrie Henneman Shaw, sopranos
Kayleigh Butcher, mezzo-soprano

Described as "a new force of vocal excellence and innovation" by *The Brooklyn Rail*, Quince continually pushes the boundaries of traditional vocal ensemble literature.

TUESDAY, JULY 26, 7:30 PM

**Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire
COMPOSERS FORUM V, Young Musicians Program**

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

FRIDAY, JULY 29, 7:30 PM

**Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire
CONCERT featuring**

[The Walden School Players](#)

Laura Cocks, flutes; Dana Jessen, bassoon; Katie Schoepflin, clarinets
Erica Dicker, violin; Tawnya Popoff, viola; Chris Wild, cello
Bonnie Whiting, percussion; Eric Wubbels, piano

This dynamic program will include a diverse range of contemporary pieces for various instrumentations, including a work by Composer-in-Residence, Paula Matthusen.

SUNDAY, JULY 31, 7:30 PM

**Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire
LECTURE / DEMONSTRATION**

[Paula Matthusen](#), Composer-in-Residence, Young Musicians Program

Award-winning composer and Professor of Music at Wesleyan University, Paula Matthusen's works often consider discrepancies in musical space—real, imagined, and remembered. "Paula Matthusen's vivid imagination was evident from the first sound heard." – *New York Times*

MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 7:30 PM

**Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire
FESTIVAL WEEK
COMPOSERS FORUM I, Young Musicians Program**

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

FESTIVAL WEEK

COMPOSERS FORUM II, Young Musicians Program

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 7:30 PM

Louise Shonk Kelly Recital Hall at the Dublin School, Dublin, New Hampshire

FESTIVAL WEEK

COMPOSERS FORUM III, Young Musicians Program

Concert and working discussion of new music written by Walden School participants.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 7:30 PM

All Saints' Church, Peterborough, New Hampshire

FESTIVAL WEEK

THE WALDEN SCHOOL CHORAL CONCERT

Sarah Riskind, Director

One of our most popular concerts, this program features a wide variety of choral music sung by small and large ensembles.

About The Walden School:

The Walden School, founded in 1972, is an acclaimed summer music school, camp, and festival offering programs that emphasize creativity and community, specifically through the study of musicianship, improvisation, choral singing, and composition. In residence on the beautiful campus of the Dublin School in New Hampshire, the School provides an inspiring retreat-like environment ideal for creative music making. The School's 2016 programs are the Young Musicians Program for students ages 9 to 18, and the Creative Musicians Retreat for adults. Walden's Concert Series showcases free public performances by renowned artists and ensembles that work closely with program participants. The Walden School was awarded a Chamber Music America/ASCAP Adventurous Programming Award in 2014 and 2012, a 2011 New Music Educator Award from the American Music Center (now New Music USA) and was a finalist for a 2011 National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Award. The Walden School is the successor organization to the Junior Conservatory Camp.

The Walden School is a 501(c)3 organization, supported by major foundations, corporations, and hundreds of generous individual donors. For more information about The Walden School, visit our website at www.waldenschool.org.