



School of Music  
University of Missouri

2020-2021 Series | Special Event

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# **2021 Creating Original Music Project:**

## **Junior Division Virtual Concert**

**April 24, 2021 | 10:30am  
Sinquefeld Music Center**

## Program

**What I Did** ..... **Violet Martin**

*Violet Martin, ukulele and voice*

**The Lion Song** ..... **Lacie Reetz**

*Lacie Reetz, ukulele and voice  
David Reetz, bass guitar*

**La Hébétment** ..... **Samir Shaik**

*Eve Werger, piano*

**Tide** ..... **Jocelin Murray**

*Jocelin Murray, piano and voice*

**Infiltration** ..... **Conrad Crutchley**

*Conrad Crutchley, piano*

**Aria to Nyx** ..... **Benjamin Stoker**

*Benjamin Stoker, piano and voice*

**The Thunderbird** ..... **Hannah Reetz**

*Hannah Reetz, ukulele and voice  
David Reetz, bass guitar*

**Maybe It's** ..... **Faye Boland**

*Faye Boland, voice and piano*

**Endless.** ..... **Ian Lundholm**

*Ian Lundholm, piano*

**Locked.** ..... **Hannah Wolkowitz**

*Hannah Wolkowitz, soprano saxophone  
Amanda Wolkowitz, piano*

**Lingering Reflection ..... Yueheng Wang**

*Johanny Veiga Barbosa, violin*

*Alexandre Negrão, violin*

*Preston Roberts, viola*

*Andrew Lewis, violoncello*

*Eve Werger, piano*

## Composer Biographies and Program Notes

### What I Did

North Callaway suffered a great loss this school year when a boy in his freshman year took his life. This hit my family hard, as 2 of my siblings are also freshman. Seeing others in pain, I decided to write a song about suicide, from the perspective of the lost soul looking back on her choice. I hope that it may help others to see a better way, and also to help other students, everywhere, but especially my siblings that were grieving this great loss.

– Violet Martin

### Violet Martin

Violet Martin is 12 and a 7th Grader at North Callaway Middle School in Auxvasse, MO. She has always had a passion for music, especially singing, and was introduced to Solo performance at five years old by her Elementary Music teacher, Ms. Sherry Reetz. Since then, she has continued to grow and thrive in music with the help of her music teacher and her family. She has since performed many vocal solos, learned to play the ukulele, the flute, and is learning to play the piano. She started writing little songs of her own, about a year ago, this song being the third she has ever written.

### Lacie Reetz

Lacie Reetz is the daughter of David and Sherry Reetz of Mexico, Missouri. She is ten years old and in fourth grade at North Callaway Williamsburg Elementary School. She has been performing with her family since she was three years old in churches, and a variety of community events around mid-Missouri. She always has a melody in her head and frequently turns them into songs with creative meaningful lyrics. She placed 2nd in last year's COMP contest. Lacie sings and plays guitar, ukulele, piano and drums.

### Le Hébétément

This piece's name is *Le Hébétément*, French for "Daze". I was inspired by the COVID-19 crisis and wanted to create a piece that encapsulates the strange, repetitive feeling of quarantine. The chromatic mediant relationship between the titular chords of the piece makes it feel on edge and unusual. The piece starts slow and steady, then escalates to a thunderous climax, before coming down again and returning to its original slow and steady pacing, almost as if it could be repeated from the beginning, summarizing just how quarantine felt for lots of people throughout the world, me included. Overall, this piece is meant to be a pure expression of my feelings throughout quarantine, and it is a way of symbolizing this unprecedented time not in words, but in notes.

–Samir Shaik

### Samir Shaik

Samir is an 8th grader who is passionate about music and composition. He plays the piano and writes music for himself and the people around him. He loves to write to convey emotions and feelings felt by many across the world. This is his third time participating in the COMP festival. On top of composition, he also plays tennis and writes.

### Infiltration

I wrote *Infiltration* on the piano in the winter of 2020-21 in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. I wanted to create a stealthy-sounding song with energy. I named the piece *Infiltration* because I imagined something

creeping into something else, using a well-thought-out plan and trying not to be noticed. The main theme of the composition starts the piece with a steady, jumpy beat. It then crescendos up into a smooth interlude, followed by a return of the main theme. The coda recalls the smooth sounds of the interlude, but in a higher octave to give the ending a sense of triumphant victory.

I like how the song is played in the key of G Major, and the G key helps emphasize the stealthy feel of the song. I wasn't necessarily thinking of the pandemic when I wrote it, yet the intense nature of the song might be a musical way to describe how this past year felt for many people.

– Conrad Crutchley

### **Conrad Crutchley**

Conrad Crutchley is a ten-year-old fourth grader from Fenton in Jefferson County, Missouri. As a preschooler, Conrad would listen to his older brother practice the piano at home, and he wanted to play the keys too. When Conrad's parents realized he could read the musical notes in his brother's piano lesson books, they signed him up for piano lessons at a local music store. Conrad has been taking piano lessons for about 4 years.

Before winning first place in the Elementary Instrumental Music category of the 2021 COMP competition, Conrad received an honorable mention in the same category in 2020. After taking a break from piano because of the pandemic, Conrad started studying piano with Cynthia Graeler in the Fall of 2020. Conrad recently received a gold trophy rating in the Arch Cup, a fall festival for piano students in the St. Louis area.

Conrad often creates stories and matches those stories to his own musical compositions on the piano, imagining a movie in his mind. Two of Conrad's favorite composers are John Williams and Alan Silvestri. When Conrad is not writing stories or playing the piano, he enjoys reading, Cub Scouts, swimming, and basketball. Due to the pandemic, Conrad's parents decided that his best learning opportunity this school year was homeschooling, and his current plans are to return to his former elementary school, Meramec Heights Elementary in Arnold, Missouri, next school year.

### **Aria for Nyx:**

My song is called "Aria for Nyx" because I wrote it for my cat, Nyx. It was inspired by the Metropolitan Opera Global Summer Camp, specifically Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette*. It was my first foray into composing opera. I've also written an aria for a potato based on Donizetti's *La Fille du Régiment*.

– Benjamin Stoker

### **Benjamin Stoker**

Benjamin Stoker is a fifth grader at Crossroads Quality Hill Academy in Kansas City. He studies piano and music theory with Dr. Cameron Dibble at the UMKC Community Music and Dance Academy where he is the proud recipient of the H. Lynn and Emily White Scholarship in Pre-Collegiate Music Performance. Ben was named one of the Top Ten Performers in UMKC's 2018 Spring Festival, and he has received Superior ratings in the KCMFTA Fall Festival (Special Merit Award - 2019 and 2020) and in the MMTA Honors auditions. Ben won first place in the Elementary Division of the University of Missouri's Creating Original Music Project competition (Instrumental) in 2019 and first place in the Elementary Division (Songs with Words) in 2020. In 2019, Ben won first place in Division I of the Ovation Young Artists Piano Competition. In addition to composing and piano performance, Ben has appeared as Tiny Tim in A Christmas Carol and Buster in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof at Kansas City Repertory Theatre. He was cast as Danny Torrance in the Lyric Opera's production of *The Shining*. Ben studies voice with Katya Gruzglina and participated in the 2020 Global Summer Camp at the Metropolitan Opera. In 2021, Ben curated two operas for the Metropolitan Opera's free student streams. In his free time, Ben enjoys playing with his cat, Nyx.

### **Hannah Reetz**

Hannah Reetz is the daughter of David and Sherry Reetz of Mexico, Missouri. She is seven years old and in second grade at North Callaway Williamsburg Elementary School. She has been performing with her family since she was three years old in churches, and a variety of community events around mid-Missouri. Hannah sings and plays ukulele and piano. She is very active participating in dance, soccer, basketball and piano lessons.

### **Ian Lundholm**

Ian Lundholm just turned 10 years old and is in 4th grade. He was born in Idaho, moved to Indonesia when he was 4 months old and lived there for five years. He has lived in northwest Missouri for the last several years. Ian began taking piano lessons a little over two years ago after having shown great interest in the piano and keyboard and having taught himself many songs. He says, "I started making music about a year ago. My first song I ever made was called *Awesome Chords*. My favorite music to make and listen to is electronic music. When I grow up, I want to make music of all types, but mostly electronic music. I would also like to learn how to play the violin and maybe the trumpet."

### **Locked**

In 2020, I wrote a poem called "Locked." It was inspired by the poem "If I showed you my Teardrops" by Ernest Hemingway. This poem revolves around the idea of feeling locked inside of your sadness, and not wanting to trust other people to help you out of the well you have fallen into. I wanted my piece to have a story to it and so I used my poem and expressed the words through my original composition, "Locked".

– Hannah Wolkowitz

### **Hannah Wolkowitz**

Hannah Wolkowitz is an 8th grade student at Parkway Central Middle School in Chesterfield, MO. She enjoys reading fantasy and fiction books, going to the library, spending time with family, and playing around on the piano to experiment with different ideas for new compositions. Most of her afternoon time is spent at Team Central Gymnastics Academy where she trains as a competitive gymnast. She loves gymnastics, but she also loves saxophone. Hannah has been playing saxophone for 2 ½ years and studies with Jeffrey Collins. Before saxophone, she studied the piano for 7 years. "Locked" is Hannah's first composition.

### **Lingering Reflection**

*Lingering Reflection* is a piece about remembrance. It describes the desire to go back in time to either change or relive it. Many people in the world have something they regret and constantly torment themselves over it. This is portrayed in the piece by the clashing rhythms and melancholy melodies. The sweet and sanguine sections bring out the good memories that people wish they had cherished more. Although the future is still hopeful and there are many more memories to be made.

– Yueheng Wang

### **Yueheng Wang**

Yueheng Wang (age 13) is an eighth-grade student at Ladue Middle School in St. Louis, Missouri. Since the age of 6 he has studied piano under Mabel Kinder and Sue Chiu and earned the distinction of being an International Guild Winner in piano for 5 years. At the age of 7 he started his interest in composition and entered the University of Missouri Creating Original Music Project, winning 3 times first place and 2 times second. In 2019 he began studying music theory and music composition under Dr. David Werfelmann of Webster University. He

plays trumpet in band at his school and enjoys reading, basketball and hanging out with his friends.

### ***Mizzou New Music Initiative***

The Mizzou New Music Initiative brings together an array of programs intended to position the University of Missouri School of Music as a leading center in the areas of composition and new music. The Initiative is the direct result of the generous support of Dr. Jeanne and Mr. Rex Sinquefield, and the Sinquefield Charitable Foundation. The Sinquefields' vision is to create an incubator for the composition and performance of new music, and to position Missouri as a major center for the music of tomorrow.

### **MU Composer Connection**

The MU Composer Connection gives composers a chance to connect with and receive instruction from a graduate student in composition at MU *free of charge*. The School of Music recognizes that not all students throughout Missouri have the opportunity to study with a local composer. In an effort to give students further guidance while in the creative process the School of Music developed this distance-learning initiative.

Students can email works in progress, ask questions about composing, and receive feedback and suggestions. The current composer on call is Luis Hermano Bezerra, who can be reached at **composerconnection@missouri.edu**.

## 2021 Creating Original Music Project: Winners by Category

### Elementary Division (K-5): Instrumental Music

1st Conrad Crutchley, *Infiltration*  
Homeschooled, Fenton  
Sponsor: Cynthia Graeler

2nd Ian Lundholm, *Endless*  
Siegrist Elementary, Platte City  
Sponsor: Anna Burnett

### Elementary Division (K-5): Song with Words

1st Lacie Reetz, *The Lion Song*  
Williamsburg Elementary, Williamsburg  
Sponsor: Sherry Reetz

2nd Hannah Reetz, *The Thunderbird*  
Williamsburg Elementary, Williamsburg  
Sponsor: Sherry Reetz

3rd Benjamin Stoker, *Aria for Nyx*  
Crossroads Academy - Quality Hill, Kansas City  
Sponsor: Erika Williams

### Middle School Division (6-8): Fine Art Music

1st Yueheng Wang, *Lingering Reflection*  
Ladue Middle School, St. Louis  
Sponsor: David Werfelmann

2nd Samir Shaik, *Le Hébètement*  
Parkway West Middle School, St. Louis  
Sponsor: Patricia Nemish

3rd Hannah Wolkowitz, *Locked*  
Parkway Central Middle School, Chesterfield  
Sponsor: Chris Higgins

### Middle School Division (6-8): Pop Music

1st Faye Boland, *Maybe It's*  
West Middle School, Columbia  
Sponsor: Violet Vander Haar

2nd Jocelin Murray, *Tide*  
North Kirkwood Middle School, Kirkwood  
Sponsor: Leah Luciano

3rd Violet Martin, *What I Did*  
North Callaway Middle School, Auxvasse  
Sponsor: Sherry Reetz



## 2021 Creating Original Music Project: 2021 Honorable Mentions

Rebecca Ninemire  
Kamryn Henderson  
Jacob Barnes  
Nathan Crutchley  
Katherine Swinney  
Christian Cox  
Eli Parks  
Isaac Faust  
Ethan King  
Lily Lagergren  
Mila Perez  
James Boyd  
Ben Carrender  
Jackson Marlett  
Henry Rusten  
Kat Crawford  
Eliot Blackmoore

Kaden Justus  
Olivia Carpenter  
Eli Minasian  
Iris Gillam  
Ellee Land  
James Wolfe  
Cecelia Schmitz-Hoepker  
Anthony Fritz  
Jacob Pittman Davis  
Shawn Butler  
Brooklyn Portell  
Christopher Ramsey  
Ian Hendrickson  
Claire LI  
Gage Brown  
Ethan McFarland  
Charlotte Bauer

Gus Lookingbill  
Alex Sineff  
Jayden Coe  
Grant Satterlee  
Allison Mott  
Dylan Markey  
Posey Bischoff  
Malcolm Davis  
Tucker Owens  
Darcie Hingula  
Kolby Bryant  
Jack Vernon  
Justin Hahm  
Erin Lammers  
Riley Braker

## **Creating Original Music Project Acknowledgements**

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Stefan Freund – Professor, Composition  
Carolina Heredia – Assistant Professor, Composition  
Wendy Sims – Director of Music Education  
Neil Minturn – Associate Professor of Music Theory  
Sam Griffith – Assistant Teaching Professor of Jazz  
Luis Hermano Bezerra – “Composer-on-call”  
Daniel Fitzpatrick – Graduate Assistant  
David Myers – Director of Audio/Visual Services

### **School of Music Staff**

Nathan Martin – Fiscal Officer  
Brooke Danielsen – Operations & Logistics Coordinator, Fiscal Support, Large Ensemble Coordinator  
Ben Harting – Admissions Coordinator  
Holly Tenute – Administrative Assistant to the Director; Faculty and Development Support  
Susan Worstell – Administrative Assistant for Current and Prospective Student Support, Facilities  
Lucy Urlacher – Piano Technician

## **2021 Creating Original Music Project Judges**

### **Elementary Division Judges:**

Daniel Fitzpatrick  
Ethan Forte  
Grace LaRose

### **Middle and High School Popular Music and Jazz Judges:**

Sam Griffith  
Assistant Teaching Professor of Jazz  
University of Missouri

Neil Minturn  
Associate Professor of Music Theory  
University of Missouri

### **Middle and High School Fine Art Preliminary Judges:**

Luis Hermano Bezerra  
Kendra Franks  
Oswald Huynh  
Daniel Vega

**Middle and High School Fine Art Final Judges:**

Damien Geter  
Instructor of Voice  
Portland State University

Texu Kim  
Assistant Professor of Music Composition and Theory  
San Diego State University

Gilda Lyons  
Assistant Professor of Music Composition  
The Hartt School, University of Hartford