

University of Missouri School of Music

2025-2026 Series • Guest Artist Recital

Concordia String Trio

Marcia Henry Liebenow, Violin

Leslie Perna, Viola

Karen Becker, Cello

March 19, 2026 • 7:30PM

Whitmore Recital Hall

Program

Trio for Violin, Viola and Violoncello, op 31 (1971-72) Robert Muczynski
(1929-2010)

Allegro assai
Andante Maestoso
Toccata Giocoso
Allegretto pizzicato-Allegro con spirito

Six Shakespearian Sketches for String Trio Gordon Jacob
(1895-1984)

- I. How Sweet the Moonlight Sleeps on Yonder Bank
- II. Foot It Featly
- III. In Sad Cypress
- IV. Grace In All Simplicity
- V. And A'Babbled of Green Fields
- VI. Here A Dance of Clowns

Brief Pause

Trio in c minor for Violin, Viola and Violoncello, op 36 Julius Zellner
(1832-1900)

Allegro con brio
Larghetto
Scherzo. Allegro moderato
Finale. Allegro molto

The **Concordia String Trio** explores and expands the eclectic repertoire of an under-appreciated genre—the string trio. This versatile ensemble has built a reputation for its exciting performances and innovative programs, juxtaposing pieces from the standard string trio repertoire with new compositions and little-known works of great composers. This fall, the Concordia String Trio will be presenting four concerts throughout the Midwest. Formed in 1999, the Trio has performed recitals, educational programs, and given lecture/demonstrations throughout the United States. Its members were featured on WTVP public television in a program entitled “Marcia and Friends” as part of the Peoria Symphony’s Sound Bites series. In 2022, they performed concerts and gave the

world premiere of Andrew List's "Beyond the Celestial Horizon for String Trio" (written for the CST) in Boston, Missouri, Nebraska, and Illinois. The Concordia String Trio has also been the resident ensemble at the Warebrook Contemporary Music Festival in Vermont and recorded a Capstone album entitled 90's *Timeflow – Chamber Music of Alan Schmitz*. In addition, the Concordia String Trio has recorded three albums on the Centaur Label: *Viennese String Trios*, (2017), *American Vistas*, (2018), and its most recent album, *From The Heart of Ra* released in 2022, which features two pieces written for them by Andrew List.

Violinist **Marcia Henry Liebenow** is a highly regarded teacher and in demand as a recitalist, chamber musician, and soloist. She is Concertmaster of the Peoria Symphony Orchestra, and professor of Violin, Viola, and Chamber Music at Bradley University. Marcia recorded the Grieg Violin Sonatas with internationally acclaimed pianist Antonio Pompa-Baldi for the Centaur label, appeared as soloist with orchestras in Europe, and performed in Germany, Ireland, and Wales. Recent concerto appearances have been with various orchestras in Montana, Iowa, and Illinois. She has been featured many times on American Public Media's *Performance Today*. In addition to the Concordia String Trio, she is a founding member of Peoria Lunaire chamber ensemble and the River City String Quartet. Marcia is a faculty artist at the Red Lodge Music Festival in Montana, Birch Creek Music Festival in Wisconsin, and has performed at festivals in Alaska, Vermont, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. She has taught at the ARIA International Summer Academy in Canada and Massachusetts, and her work has been recognized with the Outstanding Studio Teacher Award from Illinois ASTA, and the Distinguished Alumni Award from Ohio University. Marcia earned her Graduate Diploma in Violin Performance from the New England Conservatory.

Leslie Perna, violist, is a respected artist and teacher whose performances were broadcast internationally on radio and television by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Brazil's Radio and TV MEC and ABC Nightly News. She has recorded music by some of today's most important composers, including Samuel Adler, James Willey and Andrew List for the Albany, Centaur, Capstone, New World and CRI labels, and was violist of the Artaria, Da Vinci and Esterhazy Quartets. Her most recent release on Centaur records, "*From the Heart of Ra*" features chamber music for viola written for her by Andrew List. Her performances have taken her to Europe, Japan, Russia, Brazil, Canada, and many major American cities, where she is frequently invited to perform and teach. National Conference presentations include ASTA in Kansas City, Louisville, Salt Lake City and Orlando and MTNA in Dallas, Chicago and Spokane. She was awarded "Outstanding Alumni" from Baldwin-Wallace University and "Artist Teacher of the Year" and "Outstanding Collegiate String Educator" award from

Missouri ASTA. She is currently Professor Emerita of Viola at the University of Missouri, the former violist of the Esterhazy, Da Vinci and Artaria Quartets and a founding member of the Concordia String Trio.

Cellist **Karen Becker** is an active soloist, chamber musician, and passionate teacher whose career has taken her around the world to places such as Brazil, the Czech Republic, England, South Korea, Mexico, Norway, Switzerland, Vietnam, and throughout the United States. She has served as artist faculty at several national and international festivals in Europe, the United States, and most recently at the International Cello Institute. In 2023 she was invited to teach the Pre-Collegiate Cello Masterclass at the National Convention of the American String Teachers Association. Becker tours regularly as a soloist and chamber player as part of the Becker-Bogard Duo, the Concordia String Trio, and the new Front Range Piano Quartet. In October 2023 the Becker-Bogard Duo released their album *American Landscapes* with works by Samuel Barber, Libby Larsen, Warren Gooch, Laurence Sherr, and George Walker. Becker has recorded for several PBS documentaries and independent films and has been featured numerous times on American Public Media's *Performance Today*. She is principal cellist of the Lincoln Symphony and cello professor and chamber coach in the University of Nebraska's Glenn Korff School of Music.

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