



Malmgren Concert Series

presents

Boston Public Quartet

Sunday, October 5, 2025
4 p.m.

We acknowledge with respect the Onondaga Nation,
Firekeepers of the Haudenosaunee,
the Indigenous people on whose ancestral lands
Syracuse University now stands.

PROGRAM

Welcome: Rev. Brian Konkol, Vice President and Dean of Hendricks Chapel

Piano Quartet No. 2 in D Major
I. Moderato - piu vivo

Mel Bonis (1858–1937)

Limestone + Felt

Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)

Duo for Violin and Cello
I. Meandering
II. Dirge
III. Presto

Jessie Montgomery (b. 1981)

Strum

Jessie Montgomery

Piano Quintet in A Minor
I. Allegro non troppo
II. Andante con moto
III. Juba
IV. Scherzo

Florence Price (1887–1953)

Boston Public Quartet

Betsy Hinkle, Violin
Jason Amos, Viola
Nicholas Johnson, Cello
Joy Cline Phinney, Piano

Joined by William Knuth, Violin

Malmgren concerts are presented with support from the Malmgren Fund.

About Boston Public Quartet

For 19 seasons, the Boston Public Quartet (BPQ) has built a reputation for powerful, community-centered performances and a deep commitment to amplifying historically excluded voices in classical music. Founded in 2007 by violinist Betsy Hinkle, BPQ began as a string quartet embedded in Boston's neighborhoods. Today, it performs as a flexible ensemble with piano, reaching audiences across the country through concerts, residencies, and collaborative projects.

At the core of BPQ's mission is the belief that classical music should reflect and include the full range of human experience. This means programming works by living and underrepresented composers, building partnerships with community organizations, and creating space for connection between performers and audiences. The ensemble's current members—Betsy Hinkle (violin), Grant Houston (violin), Jason Amos (viola), Nicholas Johnson (cello), and Joy Cline Phinney (piano)—bring together wide-ranging experience as performers and educators.

BPQ has been awarded over \$150,000 in grants in the past five years and partners with public and private funders to present free and accessible programming. Performances take place in both traditional concert venues and unexpected spaces—from the Strand Theatre in Dorchester to the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, and from neighborhood parks to community centers. The group frequently collaborates across disciplines, working with composers, dancers, visual artists, and students of all ages.

As educators, BPQ members teach in a variety of settings, including the Phillips Academy Andover Musical Minds summer program, and maintain a strong presence in schools and community music programs. The ensemble's annual series, *A Radical Welcome*, invites audiences into themed programs that highlight collaboration, accessibility, and shared experience.

BPQ's 2025-26 season reflects its expansive vision, featuring the Amy Beach Piano Quintet, a new commission for string quartet and marimba by Melika Fitzhugh, the Samuel Coleridge-Taylor Clarinet Quintet, Caroline Shaw's *Limestone + Felt*, Jessie Montgomery's *Duo for Violin and Cello*, and audience favorites like Thomas Tillis' *Wade in the Water*.

Rooted in Boston and reaching far beyond it, Boston Public Quartet continues to challenge conventions, expand repertoire, and build spaces where classical music feels connected, relevant, and welcoming.

For more information, please visit bostonpublicquartet.com.

About William Knuth, guest violinist

William Knuth, violinist and Fulbright Scholar, has earned recognition for his artistry as a solo and chamber musician. He is Assistant Professor of Violin and string department coordinator at the Syracuse University Setnor School of Music with a private teaching studio in Syracuse, NY. As a member of Duo Sonidos with guitarist Adam Levin, Knuth has performed extensively throughout the United States, Europe, Canary Islands, and South America. During the Fall of 2024, he was Visiting Professor of Violin at the University of São Paulo in São Paulo, Brazil in addition to solo and chamber music and recording engagements around Brazil.

Knuth's most recent recording project, *Sessions: Rhode Island*, blends world sounds from the Far East, Middle East, and the West with some of the foremost international performers in the field and reached #1 on the Billboard Classical Crossover charts in the fall of 2024. As Duo Sonidos, Knuth and Levin released their most recent album *Duo Sonidos: Wild Dance* on the NAXOS label, which immediately rose to no. 3 on the Billboard classical music charts. The duo was awarded First Prize at the 2010 Luys Milan International Chamber Music Competition in Valencia, Spain, and BBC Music Magazine chose the debut album Duo Sonidos as the "BBC Top Choice US Release Album." Knuth is a Grammy Recording Academy voting member. Current projects include a planned record release of original new works commissioned by the duo for violin and guitar by internationally celebrated Brazilian composers Sergio Assad, Clarice Assad, João Luiz, Marco Pereira, and Egberto Gismonti.

Knuth has taken the role of Assistant Concertmaster of the AIMS Festival Orchestra in Graz, Austria, Associate Concertmaster of the vibrant Boston-based chamber orchestra Discovery Ensemble, is a member of the esteemed New York City-based new music group Ensemble Signal, and was a long-standing member of the Boston Philharmonic.

Knuth holds an M.M. from the New England Conservatory of Music, where he studied violin with Nicholas Kitchen of the Borromeo Quartet; a Fulbright certificate for studies in Austria with Ernst Kovacic at the Vienna University of Music and Performing Arts; and a B.M. from the Eastman School of Music, where he was a student of Lynn Blakeslee.

The Malmgren Concert Series of Hendricks Chapel

Sundays at 4:00 p.m. in Hendricks Chapel

Join us for music to stir the soul and ignite the spirit as we welcome renowned musicians to the stage of Hendricks Chapel in the heart of Syracuse University! Sundays at 4 PM - free and open to the public.

October 19, 2025 - Remembrance and Resilience

University Singers perform Herbert Howells' Requiem and Syracuse University Symphony Orchestra presents Thea Musgrave's Phoenix Rising in a concert commemorating victims of violence and terrorism, including those who perished in the Pan Am 103 Air Disaster.

November 16, 2025 - Fall Choral Concert with the Setnor School of Music Choirs

Choirs from the Setnor School of Music perform an inspiring program featuring a diverse array of composers and styles to celebrate the close of the fall semester.

Please join us for these additional special music events hosted by Hendricks Chapel:

Thursday, October 9 at 4:00 p.m. - The Logic of Creativity: Music, Mathematics, and Expression

Performance and lecture by pianist, composer, and mathematician Eugenia Cheng

Sunday, November 2 at 3:30 p.m. - High School Choral Festival

Sunday, December 7 at 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. - Holidays at Hendricks

Tickets will be available on November 12 at 12:00 p.m.

For more information, visit chapel.syracuse.edu.