



CIVIC SYMPHONY *of* GREEN BAY

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WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR THE 2023 CIVIC SYMPHONY OF GREEN BAY STUDENT CONCERTO COMPETITION

GREEN BAY, Wis. – The Civic Symphony of Green Bay is pleased to announce the winners of its 2023 Miroslav Pansky Memorial Concerto Competition.

High School Division Winner

Sophia Serra, senior at Wisconsin Connections Academy, studies with Samantha George
Performed the first movement of Violin Concerto No. 1 in D Major by Sergei Prokofiev

High School Division Runner-up

Nolan Henckel, senior at Xavier High School in Appleton, studies with Bruce Atwell
Performed the third movement of Horn Concerto No. 1 in E-flat Major by Richard Strauss

College Division Winner

Gabe Roethle, senior at Lawrence University, studies with Wen-Lei Gu
Performed the first movement of Violin Concerto No. 1 in D Major by Sergei Prokofiev

College Division Runner-up

Ben Campbell, senior at Lawrence University, studies with Wen-Lei Gu
Performed the first movement of William Walton's Violin Concerto

Open to students in Northeast Wisconsin, the competition was held in late October on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay. There were a total of 34 applicants – nine in the high school age group and 25 college students. The judges heard a variety of selections from the solo repertoire, demonstrating the incredible level of talent of local student musicians. Ultimately the judges chose the best auditions, and for the first time, the two winners performed the same violin concerto.

Sophia Serra will perform at the orchestra's "Music for Young Listeners" concert the morning of Friday, February 16, 2024. Gabe Roethle will perform with the orchestra at the evening concert the same day. Scholarship awards will be presented to the students, with the first place winners each receiving \$500 and the runners-up each receiving \$250.

Tickets for the evening concert are now on sale, with pricing for adults (\$25), seniors (\$20), and students (\$15). There is also a livestream option available for \$25. Total price shown, no added fees. The February concert is a collaboration with several local school groups, including the Suzuki Music Academy of Green Bay, De Pere Middle School Orchestra, East High School Orchestra, and the St. Norbert College String Orchestra. The concert will demonstrate the progression from beginner groups to the college level, and how a student's musical journey can continue well into adulthood. The concert concludes with the Civic Symphony of Green Bay performing Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*. More information at gbcivic.org/events.

The biennial competition was established in 2008 as a tribute to Miroslav Pansky, who died in October 2007. He was founder and artistic director of the Pamiro Opera Company and conductor for 23 years of the Green Bay Symphony Orchestra. In designating the event in Pansky's memory, the board of directors for the Civic Symphony of Green Bay took particular notice of the inspiration and encouragement he provided to children and young people through his work with the youth orchestras he directed for many years.

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