



# CIVIC SYMPHONY *of* GREEN BAY

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CONTACT: Timberly Kazmarek Marbes  
920-432-4676 or timberly@gbcivic.org

## **“MILESTONES” CONCERT CELEBRATES EIGHT DECADES OF GREAT MUSIC IN GREEN BAY**

GREEN BAY, Wis. – Later this month, the Civic Symphony of Green Bay and the Dudley Birder Chorale will present the masterwork *Carmina Burana* at a concert celebrating milestone anniversaries for both groups. The 2024-25 season is the 30th anniversary for the Civic Symphony and the 50th anniversary for the Dudley Birder Chorale, totalling 80 years of great music in our community. The “Milestones” concert will be held at The Weidner on Saturday, October 26 at 2:00 pm.

The ensembles also welcome more than 250 students from Green Bay Preble High School choirs, the St. Norbert Youth Choirs, and the Appleton Boy Choir. Two vocal soloists from St. Norbert College will be featured in the performance.

### **Soprano soloist, Yi-Lan Niu**

Yi-Lan (Elaine) Niu completed her master’s degree in voice at the Eastman School of Music and her doctoral degree in vocal performance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. A versatile performer, Niu presents a wide range of vocal music from Renaissance lute songs to contemporary, minimalistic music. She has appeared as a featured soloist in major works and recorded several professional recordings. Niu is currently a music professor at St. Norbert College where she teaches applied voice, vocal diction & literature, vocal pedagogy, and opera.

### **Baritone soloist, Kent Paulsen**

Kent Paulsen is the artistic director and conductor of the Dudley Birder Chorale, founder and director of the Knights on Broadway, and the executive director of both the Youth Orchestra Program and the Boy and Girl Youth Choirs, all at St. Norbert College. Kent is an adjunct instructor of music at St. Norbert College and serves as the worship and music coordinator, choir director, and organist at Calvary Lutheran Church. Paulsen occasionally subs in on keyboards for touring Broadway productions.

Tickets for the concert are now available through Ticket Star, with pricing for adults (\$29), seniors (\$24), and students (\$19). Discounted season ticket packages for the orchestra’s 30th anniversary season are also available. For more information, visit [gbcivic.org/events](http://gbcivic.org/events).

Generous support for the Civic Symphony of Green Bay’s 2024-25 season is provided by the The George Kress Foundation, Schneider Foundation, Green Bay Austin Straubel International Airport, Cirrus Aircraft, Enstrom Helicopter Corporation, Pilotsmith, Heid Music & the Heid Family Foundation, NEW Dermatology Group, and Nicolet National Bank. Media sponsors are 91.1 The Avenue and Wisconsin Public Radio. The Civic Symphony of Green Bay’s season is supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Founded in 1995, the Civic Symphony of Green Bay is a community of musicians committed to sustaining the wonder and beauty of symphonic music through live performances and artistic collaborations. Volunteer musicians of all ages play in the Civic Symphony of Green Bay. They are professional musicians and amateurs from all walks of life, drawn together by the love of great symphonic music and the desire to share it with others. Seong-Kyung Graham has been the conductor and artistic director of the orchestra since 2005.

Since 1974, the Dudley Birder Chorale of St. Norbert College has set the standard for choral excellence in its performance of great masterworks, holiday favorites, and toe-tapping popular favorites. With 150 mixed voices, the chorale’s membership ranges in age from 18 through seniors. Members of the chorale come from more than 30 communities in northeast Wisconsin. Named for its dynamic founder, Dudley Birder, the chorale builds upon a long and distinguished tradition of choral music at St. Norbert College. Visit [birderchorale.com](http://birderchorale.com) for information about joining the chorale and upcoming concerts.

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