

### **Dominick Travis, 16, Flute**

Dominick began playing the flute at age thirteen, switching instruments from the bari saxophone. He is taught by Cynthia Fudala and plays in the Northwest Indiana Youth Symphony where he won the concerto competition this year. He also plays flute and piccolo for CYSO. He has enjoyed performing at Jacob's School of Music in honor recital and in the state honor band. Dominick received state recognition with distinction for his competitive solos each year. Dominick also enjoys playing tennis and has begun to learn the violin. He is homeschooled and lives in Valparaiso, IN.

### **Matthew Wells, 17, Piano**

Matthew has been studying piano for almost thirteen years and studied with Mrs. Lauren LeMahieu and Mr. Evan Rea. He is looking forward to pursuing a degree in Piano Performance in college. He is also a member of the varsity swim and water polo teams at Lincoln-Way East in Frankfort, IL where he is a senior.

### **Friends of the IPO would like to thank the following people for their generous support of our young artists:**

Anonymous, Leonard Achtenberg & Steven Livesey, Stephen Baker, Sharon & Ron Bean, Lois & Stan Birer, Connie & Tim Borchert, Carole Brejcha, Dot & Rex Brown, Joey & Stephen Buck, Ellen & Richard Davis, Verena Ellenberg, Laurie & Frank Fleishcher, Andrea & Richard Gibb, Elisabeth Glascoff, Pat & Paul Greenawalt, Karen & Perry Hoag, Kenneth Kubacki, Dory & Larry Machtinger, Pam & John McDonald, Janet & Mel Muchnick, Michelle Nelson, Christina Salerno & Ross Sweeney, Patricia Schanaberger, Cres & Richard Shulz, Jeanne & Don Schwarz, Shantha Sreekanth, Marcia Steward, Barbara Sturges, Marilyn Tannebaum, Maryellen Tomassetti, Emily & Ed Zabrocki.

Special thanks to Albert Jackson for providing insights on compositions, composers and for guiding us through this musical journey. Very special thanks to Mrs. Sue Pawlak and Dr. Lisa Kristina for their accompaniment.

### **Performed and recorded at Flossmoor Community Church**

Reverend Julie Van Til • Jamie Ford, Director of Church Operations

Photographs available at [www.NedThePhotographer.com](http://www.NedThePhotographer.com). Special thanks to Ned Risky for recording the event and always being there for IPO.

**Stage Manager:** Marie Grass Amenta, Founder/Director of The Midwest Motet Society

**Rising Star Showcase Directors:** Ellen Davis, Maryellen Tomassetti

**Committee:** Catherine Cox, Carole Joy Brejcha, Laurie Fleischer, Lindsay Fredrickson, Meredith Lowery, Dory Machtinger, Marcia Steward

# 2023 Rising Star Showcase



Friends  
of the  
IPO

**Geneviève Kubacki, voice**  
**Neel Patel, violin**  
**Anna Podlesak, piano**  
**Zach Tareak, piano**  
**Dominick Travis, flute**  
**Matthew Wells, piano**

Proceeds Benefit Illinois Philharmonic Orchestra

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# 2023 Rising Star Showcase

## Albert M. Jackson - Master of Ceremonies

Honorary Director / IPO Board of Directors  
Former Director, South Holland Master Chorale

### ANNA PODLESAK, piano

*Snowflakes* by Selim Palmgren, Opus 57 No. 2

### NEEL PATEL, violin

Concerto In C Major, Opus 48 by Dmitri Kabalevsky  
Dr. Lisa Kristina will accompany

### MATTHEW WELLS, piano

*Scherzo*, No.2, Opus 31 by Frederic Chopin

### GENEVIÈVE KUBACKI, voice

*Guinse Aile Fin Il Momento*

(Deh Vieni Non Tardar)

From the Marriage of Figaro  
by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*Nuit d'Etoiles*

Music By Claude Debussy

Lyrics by Theodore de Banville

*My Lord and Master*

From *The King and I*

Music by Richard Rodgers

Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein I

Mrs. Susan Pawlak will accompany

### DOMINICK TRAVIS, flute

*Caprice* no.24 for solo flute, 1st movement, quasi presto by Niccolò Paganini

### ZACH TARCAK, piano

Ballade no. 1 in G minor by Frederick Chopin

THANKS TO THE IPO OFFICE STAFF FOR ALL OF THEIR HELP

CHRISTINA SALERNO • KEN CHURILLA • TRISH HALPIN

# About Our Performers

### Geneviève Kubacki, 16, Voice

Geneviève is sixteen years old and the twelfth of thirteen children. Geneviève is homeschooled and lives in Minooka, IL. She enjoys musicals, baking and studying history. Her faith is very important to her and she believes that singing in her church choir for the various liturgical functions is the greatest use of her gift. She is thankful for her devoted teacher, Anne Perillo, for her wise instruction and constant encouragement and for her dedicated and supportive accompanist, Susan Pawlak. She thanks the Friends of the IPO for this unique opportunity to sing for the 2023 Rising Star Showcase.

### Neel Patel, 14, Violin

Neel Patel is a 9th grader at Carl Sandburg High School. He has been playing the violin for five years and the piano for ten years. Neel plays tennis and is part of Mathletes, Model UN, Orchestra, Business People of America, and Investment Club. He enjoys playing video games, listening to music, and reading in his free time. He recently qualified for ILMEA District. Additionally, he is part of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra's Accelerando Strings Orchestra, and has been with CYSO for two years. Neel resides in Orland Park, IL and Linda Veleckis Nussbaum is his violin teacher.

### Anna Podlesak, 14, Piano

Anna began playing piano at age four with her mother's instruction. At the age of eight, she started with Evan Rea and he has been instrumental in getting her to the level she is at today. They work very well together and he is both an excellent teacher and source of encouragement and support. Anna also participates in chorus and show choir and loves dancing and art. Anna is an 8th grader at Hickory Creek Middle School in Frankfort, IL.

### Zach Tareak, 17, Piano

Zach has been playing piano since he was nearly ten years old, on a small keyboard that had the range of about an octave. He went four years with little to no instruction, until his freshman year in high school when he began working with Evan Rea, who continues to guide him to this day. He has stood out in his community as an aspiring musician, which has led him to perform at many high school music events on solo piano, accompany various ensembles, and receive an invitation to perform a concerto accompanied by the LWSO in March of 2023. Zach is a senior at Lincoln-Way Central in New Lenox.