

Fredericksburg Music Club, Inc. Presents Kenari Saxophone Quartet In Concert February 18, 2018

Kenari Saxophone Quartet, Saxophone

Formed in 2012 at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, the award-winning Kenari Quartet has taken pride in delivering engaging performances through creative programming and compelling stage presence. The versatility of the saxophone is integral to the quartet and the present music from a wide range of genres that is well informed by all periods of classical music as well as jazz, soul, and other genres. The group has earned top prizes at the M-Prize Chamber Music Competition, the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, the J.C. Arriaga Chamber Music Competition, the Plowman Chamber Music Competition, Chesapeake Bay International Chamber Music Competition, and the Coleman Chamber Music Competition.

In collaboration with Naxos Records, the quartet recently completed the recording of their first album, which will feature the music of French composers Eugène Bozza, Alfred Desenclos, Pierre Max Dubois, Jean Françaix, Gabriel Pierné, and Florent Schmitt. The Album will be released towards the end of 2016.

As a recipient of Chamber Music America's Classical Commissioning Program, the Kenari Quartet was awarded a generous grant that allowed them to commission a new work from Corey Dundee, the group's very own tenor saxophonist. This exciting project was made possible by the Andrew. W. Mellon Foundation, The Aaron Copland Fund for Music, and the Chamber Music America Endowment Fund.

The Kenari Quartet enjoys a busy performances and teaching schedule, having recently completed recital and master class tours throughout Texas and California. Earlier this year, the Kenari Quartet was a featured ensemble at Chamber Music America's 2016 National Conference Ensemble Showcase, and in 2015 the group was highlighted on the American Public Media show Performance Today by taking part in a three-day Young Artist Residency. The Kenari Quartet is represented by Jean Schreiber with Classics Alive Artists.

Bob Eason, saxophonist

Bob Eason is currently an Associate Instructor of Saxophone at Indiana University and a doctoral student studying with Dr. Otis Murphy. Bob has appeared as a featured soloist in the Texas Music Educators Association conference as well as the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic. He holds a master's degree in saxophone performance from Indiana University and a bachelor's degree in music education from The University of Houston where he studied with Mr. Dan Gelok, Mrs. Valerie Vidal, and Dr. Karen Wylie.

Kyle Baldwin, saxophonist

Kyle Baldwin is currently living in the San Francisco Bay Area where he is teaching a small studio of students and continues performing with the Kenari Quartet. In the summer of 2016, Kyle graduated from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music with a bachelor's degree in music performance. There he studied with Dr. Otis Murphy and professor Tom Walsh. Originally from Fresno, California, he has also studied with Dr. Alan Durst at Fresno State University and Professor Larry Honda at Fresno City College. As a result of winning first prize in the Kings Symphony Young Artists Concerto Competition, Kyle performed Alexander Glazunov's Concerto with the Kings Symphony. He is a recipient of the Premier Young Artist Award Scholarship, a very honorable award given in the Jacobs School of Music, as well as the Marcel Mule Scholarship. At Indiana University, Kyle has performed as a member of the New Voices Opera, the Jacobs School of Music Saxophone Ensemble, and the Symphonic Band.

Corey Dundee, composer and saxophonist

Corey Dundee is a Los-Angeles based composer and saxophonist whose work embodies an intersection of disparate musical styles and concepts. A recipient of Chamber Music America's 2016 Classical Commissioning Grant, Corey was recently awarded a fellowship to attend the Norfolk New Music Workshop in Norfolk, CT, and in 2013 he was named Grand Prize winner of the Calefax Reed Quintet International Composition Competition. Corey has been a frequent finalist for the Morton Gould Young Composer Award presented by ASCAP, and has received commissions from the Taos Chamber Music Group and the UNCSAx ensemble.

Steven Banks, classical saxophonist

Steven Banks is currently a master's student in the Northwestern University Bienen School of Music, where he is a saxophone performance major under the instruction of Taimur Sullivan. Steven has been a featured soloist with the North Carolina Symphony, the Durham Symphony and the Indiana University Symphony Orchestra. Prior to going to Northwestern, Steven attended the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music, where he studied with Dr. Otis Murphy.