




We will be playing at the  
Grand Rapids Festival of  
the Arts on Saturday,  
June 3rd from  
1:45- 2:30pm at the  
Grand Rapids Art Museum.



We have been invited to  
play at the National  
Flute Association  
Convention 2017 in  
Minneapolis August 11<sup>th</sup>  
at 11:00am.



*West Michigan Flute  
Orchestra  
& Great Lakes Flutes  
Present*

*Our 25<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Concert*

*May 6, 2017, 7:30 pm  
First Congregational Church*

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## WMFA – Celebrating 25 Years!



The 2016/2017 season marks the West Michigan Flute Association's 25<sup>th</sup> year! With a mission to provide a showcase and forum for the flute, the organization actively seeks to provide a community for flutists with playing opportunities, recitals and workshops; it also seeks to add to flute choir repertoire with commissions for flute choir music. WMFA's primary focus is their performing groups: West Michigan Flute Orchestra and Great Lakes Flutes. WMFA has also sponsored youth flute groups over the years, primarily the WMFA High School Flute Ensemble, founded by Karen Betz-Griewahn and the WMFA Middle School Flute Choir, founded by Christy Kliwer.

In this 25th year, if members are asked what makes WMFA special to them, some might point to the social gatherings - like the lunches we have together after the first rehearsal of each season, or the ad hoc groups formed for special purposes like Christmas and local festivals. Others might point to highlights in their years of playing with the flute orchestra, such as playing at our beloved Darlene Dugan's first spring concert with 18 of her students at Calvin College in 1991, or at her final concert in 2012 with 60 flutists, many of whom had come out specifically to play under Darlene one more time before her retirement. Some remember playing with the Alpenhorns at the Tulip Time Festival in Holland and at the National Flute Association Convention in 2014, and others the magnificent experience of playing with the Holland Chorale and Ars Voce vocal groups from Michigan in 2015 in a first ever piece commissioned for flute orchestra and vocal choir by Jenni Brandon. WMFA has been a leader in the flute world for commissioning new music for flute orchestra. WMFA is widely respected as one of the premiere flute orchestras across the United States. WMFA has commissioned several works by our own GR's Dave Wells as other Michigan composers. We are proud of the heritage of commissioning that we have established in the flute world.

In addition to great memories, some are simply proud to be a part of an organization that promotes the flute in a non-competitive way. They are proud to have helped commission 16 new works for flute choir, to be a part of such a large flute community, and to have helped purchase 2 contra basses (affectionately named George and Gracie) and several other low instruments for the group to play. Playing flute in a community group helps people enjoy flute, whether it is a hobby, a serious passion or part of their job. Our members come from all walks of life- whether students, scientists, doctors, teachers, band directors, factory workers, school board members, stay at home moms, medical technicians, just to name a few. We meet together to form a common purpose- to promote the love we have of the flute and flute orchestra music. WMFA has sponsored many flute seminars, 2 flute festivals, many masterclasses, playing sessions and have been featured performers at several NFA conventions. We will once again be featured at the 2017 NFA convention in Minneapolis in August 2017, playing with the Madison Flute Choir and a local choir to perform the Jenni Brandon, "America Belongs To Us" work.

Our board has worked diligently over the past 25 years to provide innovative programming for the flute orchestra and other flute adventures we have had. Planning meetings always seem to center around food, whether at a local restaurant or potluck. There have been so many individuals that have helped out by being a board member and serving in ad hoc roles and worked so diligently for this organization.

Here's looking toward and forward to our next 25 years together making great music!



## WMFA – Celebrating 25 Years!



### West Michigan Flute Orchestra

Darlene Dugan, founding director and Director Emeritus  
Julie Sooy, current director

### West Michigan High School Flute Ensemble

Karen Betz-Griewahn, founding director  
Jeri Blough  
Danielle Breisach  
Beth Koster  
Marcia Schaner  
Julie Sooy  
Cheryl Wells  
Caryn Wilson

### West Michigan Middle School Flute Ensemble

Christy Kliewer, founding director  
Cheryl Wells

### WMFA's commissions

David Wells, *Tag* 1997  
Richard Cerchia, *Titania's Dreams*, 1999  
David Wells, *Ballgames*, 2000  
Catherine McMichael, *Legend of Sleeping Bear*, 2003  
David Wells, *Caterpillar*, 2004  
Darlene Dugan, *Reflections on Bonnie Doon*, 2005  
David Wells, *Sicilienne for Cheryl*, 2007  
Darlene Dugan, *Flint Hills Memories* 2008  
Kelly Via, *Cross the Wide Missouri* 2008  
Matt H. Doran, *Variations and Scherzo* 2010  
Valerie Coleman, *Pontchartrain*, 2011  
Kelly Via, *Remembrances*, 2011  
Ken Kreuzer, *Crossroads* 2012  
Kathleen Mayne, *Royal Concerto for Flute Quartet and Flute Orchestra*, 2013  
David Wells, *Rondo for Otto and Marie*, 2014  
Jenni Brandon, *America Belongs to Us*, 2015  
David Wells, *Dugie's Rag*, 2016  
Theo Ndawillie II, *Not The End*, 2017

## Our Director



**Julie Sooy** has directed the West Michigan Flute Orchestra since 2012. She is in her 20<sup>th</sup> year of teaching at Hope College and also teaches flute privately in the Holland area. She is also the director of the Hope College Flute Choir and founder and director of Flutes Soli, a youth flute group which is part of the West Michigan Flute Association that meets at Hope College. In other flute endeavors, Julie is the assistant principal with the Holland Symphony, free lances in the West Michigan area and enjoys

collaborating with other musicians to perform excellent music. Some of her memorable performances include numerous solo, duet, trio, quartet and flute choir performances at Hope College, Herrick Public Library, Tulip Time, White Lake Chamber Music Festival ARTPRIZE, Park Church (Grand Rapids), Hope Church and numerous performances at the National Flute Association Convention.

Julie is devoted to enjoying music through the flute, and helping others to do so as well. She loves working with flutists who are passionate about making music and loves to help them to do it well. She lives in Zeeland with her husband and three children.

## Guest Conductor

**Karen Betz-Griewahn** is a founding member of and performs with the West Michigan Flute Orchestra and Chamber Flute Choir and also she was the founding and past director of the West Michigan High School Flute Ensemble. She is Past President and Member At Large of the WMFO board. Karen holds degrees in flute performance and studied at Grand Valley State University and the University of Michigan. She has performed with the West Shore Symphony, Hope College Repertory Theater, Grand Rapids Civic Theater, Kent Philharmonia Orchestra, Grand Rapids Chamber Winds and currently performs with the Westwinds Quintet. She has taught on the adjunct faculties of Aquinas, Grand Rapids Community and Grand Rapids Baptist Colleges (Cornerstone College) She has an active flute and piano studio, and is also active as an accompanist in the area and is an active clinician and adjudicator. Karen is a band assistant at Byron Center Christian Middle School and plays piano for St. John's Lutheran Church. She has performed with WMFO at several NFA conventions and served as a newly published Music Judge NFA in 2000. She is an active member of the Grand Rapids Piano Teachers Forum and the Grand Rapids Musician's League.

## West Michigan Flute Association

The purpose of WMFA is to offer a showcase and forum for the flute. It provides an opportunity to perform and the means to share knowledge, education and resources with those interested in the flute. WMFA consists of people from many different age groups, educational backgrounds and occupations. WMFA is part of the Arts Outreach Program at Grand Rapids Community College.

The West Michigan Flute Orchestra is one of the largest continuously rehearsing flute orchestras in the country. Founded by Darlene Dugan 25 years ago, this organization has performed at conventions of the National Flute Association in 1997, 2000, 2004, 2008, 2011, 2014 and 2015, and in the South East Michigan Flute Festival in 2012. Other performances have included a performance at Holland's Tulip Time, the Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts, and ARTPRIZE. One of the primary goals of the West Michigan Flute Association is to support the flute community and current American composers by commissioning new works. WMFA has commissioned and premiered 18 original flute choir pieces by Catherine McMichael, Matt Doran, Darlene Dugan (2), Valerie Coleman, Ken Kreuzer, Richard Cerchia, David Wells (6), Kelly Via (2), Kathleen Mayne, Jenni Brando and Theo Ndawillie II.

WMFA would like to thank Darlene Dugan, Calvin College, Hope College and Grand Rapids Community College for sharing their alto and bass flutes.

If you would like more information visit WMFA on the internet at [www.westmichiganfluteassociation.com](http://www.westmichiganfluteassociation.com)



### WMFA – Celebrating 25 Years!



**Your tax deductible donations are always appreciated.**

Send checks to:  
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Sparta, MI 49345

## West Michigan Flute Orchestra

### **\* Charter Member**

Julie Aaron-Shyne	Rebecca Gregory	Madeline Powers
<b>* Sue Ashbaugh</b>	Jaeha Han	Stephanie Proulx
Meagan Ashby	Aubrey Hoekema	Lucy Pugh
Wendy Batchelder	Linda Howard	Stephanie Roof
<b>* Karen Betz-Griewahn</b>	Kaitlyn Huisjen	<b>* Theresa Saroff</b>
Jeri Blough	Marijo Johnson	Kathy Simpson
Megan Bowman	Stephanie Keeler	Aline Snoeyink
Emily Brown	Lisa Kerr	Linda Spinella
Jolene Cron	Sharon Kuipers	Diane Sytsma
Jonathan Davis	Allison Langlois	Laura Triezenberg
Christy DeVol	Amy Lin	Kyrsten Turpin
<b>* Michele DeVries</b>	<b>* Vicki Lane-MacConnell</b>	Susan VanAllsburg
Deb Evink	Stephanie Maeszros	Rebecca VandeWalker
Carolyn Gallmeyer	Lisa Morris	Frans VanLiere
Dan Giacobassi	Sarah Morrison	<b>* Cheryl Wells</b>
Tori Giles	Kathleen Osborn	Kristen Zoetewey
Barb Gillan	Katherine Pettit	

### **\* Julie Sooy**

## Great Lakes Flutes

Karen Betz-Griewahn	Kaitlyn Huisjen	Stephanie Roof
Emily Brown	Stephanie Keeler	Kathy Simpson
Dan Giacobassi	Kathleen Osborn	Rebecca VandeWalker
Linda Howard	Stephanie Proulx	Frans VanLiere

## Our Board of Directors

President	Allison Langlois
Vice-President	Christina D'Arcangelis
Secretary	Lucy Pugh
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Member at Large	Christina D'Arcangelis
Member at Large	Stephanie Keeler
Member at Large	Kathy Simpson

# *West Michigan Flute Association 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Program*

## **Great Lakes Flutes**

Carillon Steven Tung  
b. 1967

## **West Michigan Flute Orchestra**

Silver Celebration Catherine McMichael  
b. 1954

Tag David Wells  
b. 1952

*Our First Commission, 1997*

Cassation Jindrich Feld  
1925-2007

Silver Jubilation Sonny Burnette  
b. 1952

*Directed by Karen Betz-Griewahn*

## **Great Lakes Flutes**

Monks Groove Peter Senchuk  
b. 1974

*Soloists:*

*Dan Giacobassi, Linda Howard & Stephanie Keeler*

## **West Michigan Flute Orchestra**

A la Maniere de Pat Vincenzo Sorrentino  
1973-2013

Not the End Theo Ndawillie II  
b. 1987

*Our 18<sup>th</sup> and most recent commission, 2017*



***Celebrating 25 years!***



*We'd like to welcome former members, and all flutists  
to the stage to play with us -*

Air Johann Sebastian Bach  
1685-1750  
arr James Christensen



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