

Greeley Chamber Orchestra

conducted by Dan Frantz



*Featuring Keahi Donahue, cello
Winner, 2024 Walter and Virginia Charles Concerto contest*

*March 8, 2024 7:30 p.m.
Trinity Episcopal Church
3800 West 20th Street
Greeley, Colorado
www.greeleychamberorchestra.org*

Overture to Die Zwillingsbrüder

Schubert

Concerto in A minor for Cello and Orchestra

Saint-Saëns

Keahi Donahue, cello

Presentation of Awards

Intermission

Elegy for My Father

Robert Ehle

Symphony No. 1 in D major

Arriaga

Adagio-Allegro Vivace

Andante

Menuetto

Allegro con molto

Please join our soloist, members of the orchestra, and board of directors at a reception in the fellowship hall immediately after the concert.

Portraits of Greeley Chamber Orchestra soloists displayed at concerts this season and on the Program covers have been donated by Stan Kerns, Contemporary Studios

Do you wish to receive post card or electronic reminders for our concerts?

Please go to our web site: www.greeleychamberorchestra.org

The Greeley Chamber Orchestra is the Orchestra in Residence at the Trinity Episcopal Church, an arrangement made possible by the generosity of the members of the church and supporters of the orchestra

The members of the Trinity Episcopal Church would like to cordially invite all interested persons to activities and services at the church.

<https://www.trinitygreeley.org>

Keahi Donahue

Keahi Donahue is a junior at Nederland Middle-Senior High School. He started playing piano at age 5 and especially enjoyed Chopin's Waltzes. When he was 8, he tried the cello and loved it immediately. At age 13, he decided to focus on cello and quit the piano. He joined the Greater Boulder Youth Orchestras in 2018 and was principal cellist of their Sinfonia ensemble from 2018-2019, of the Philharmonic from 2019-2020, and of the Symphony since 2021. For a few years, he was a member of the Twintet quartet with his twin sister and twin friends. The quartet busked regularly and was an opener for the Nedfest music festival in 2018. He has studied with Christine Mallory of the Greeley Chamber Orchestra and is now a student of Dr. Charles Lee of the Boulder Philharmonic starting in 2020. He has performed in masterclasses by András Fejér of the Takács Quartet, Matt Zalkind and Alice Yoo of the Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver, and David Requiro and Meta Weiss of the University of Colorado Boulder. He particularly enjoys romantic era concertos and chamber music and has performed quartets by Haydn, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, and Shostakovich. He participated in the Colorado Music Festival chamber intensive and GBYO's chamber music program with Matt Dane. Last year, he won the GBYO Symphony's Concerto Competition and performed the finale of Haydn's C major cello concerto in Macky auditorium.

Keahi also sings in his school musical and honors choir, and will travel with the choir to perform in Carnegie Hall in March. Apart from music, he enjoys research in physics, science conferences, backcountry skiing, Chinese science fiction, alpine ski racing, calculus, Asian food, and travel. He also recently published a research paper with his NOAA mentor on solar flare prediction.

The Walter and Virginia Charles Concerto Contest

The Greeley Chamber Orchestra organized the Walter and Virginia Charles Concerto Contest, now in its 42nd year, in 1982 for high school musicians from northern Colorado (Boulder, Larimer, Morgan, and Weld counties) to promote and publicly recognize outstanding musicianship in our youth. The late Virginia Charles made a generous donation to the orchestra in honor of her late husband, Walter Charles. The concerto contest, created with Virginia's approval, was named after Walter at her request. All cash prizes given to the winners of the contest have come from Mrs. Charles' original and subsequent gifts. Virginia Charles passed away in 1986 and the name of the contest was changed at that time to honor both of these patrons of youth and music.

Walter Charles was the founder and conductor of the Colorado Philharmonic, now known as the National Repertory Orchestra. Virginia, a musician herself, was also instrumental in the success of that fine orchestra as well as assisting Walter in managing "Music Magic," a varied and dynamic program designed to expose young people to music. Together, Virginia and Walter fostered and promoted the musical careers of countless young people and this concerto contest continues that legacy.

The contest was held this year on January 6, 2024. The judges were Dave Green, principal clarinet, Carla Hager, concertmaster, Cheryl Primmer, principal horn and Dan Frantz, conductor.

The winners and their prizes are:

First Place: Keahi Donahue, cello, \$1,000.00 and tonight's performance

Second Place: Andrew Storey, violin, Fort Collins, \$500.00



Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Schubert is not famous for his operas. It certainly was not for lack of trying. Schubert wrote his first overture at age 14. He composed several works for the stage and undertook the composition of fifteen operas and operettas, completing more than half of them. Only *Die Zwillingsbrüder* "The Twin Brothers" and *Die Zauberharfe* "The Enchanted Harp" were performed in his lifetime. Four others have survived in their entirety, and two more in their vocal scores. One explanation for the neglect of Schubert's operas is that he simply didn't have the "flair" for dramatizing that Mozart or Verdi or Wagner possessed. "It wasn't in his blood." "It is by their overtures alone that Schubert's stage works are best remembered, and for the overtures alone his efforts were justified." In his defense, he only lived to age 31.

Overture to Die Zwillingsbrüder

At the end of 1818, Georg von Hofmann was commissioned to create a play from the French comedy *Les Deux Valentin*. Michael Vogl, who wanted to play the dual role, suggested that Schubert set the farce to music. In a German publication, it is described as a "Singspiel in einem Aufzuge." One criticism offered was that Schubert was incapable of composing the simple, tuneful melodies that would have been appropriate for this type of play, adopting instead the romantic singspiel style, thus creating an imbalance between text and music. Numerous intrigues delayed the premiere, which did not take place until June 14, 1820.

The plot is a love story in a pastoral setting complicated by problems of mistaken identity: twin brothers, Franz, (who wears a bandage over his right eye) and Friedrich (who wears a bandage over his left eye), both roles played by one baritone, return separately to their village. As the scene opens Anton and Lieschen are celebrating their engagement when they are horrified by the appearance of Franz, a hard-bitten Foreign Legionnaire who claims Lieschen's hand and dowry, promised to him by her father eight years earlier. When Franz's long-lost and gentle twin brother, Friedrich, turns

up, confusion reigns until all is resolved. At the very end the brothers are reunited, (with one person playing both roles?) and the lovers fall into each other's arms.

A number of adjectives come to mind when listening to this overture: launig, lustig, fröhlich, or, in English: jovial, playful, capricious, coquettish, delightful. The overture never wavers in its energy as the orchestra tosses tunes about. In the middle section, an especially charming two measure motif alternates between the violins and flutes, oboes and bassoons, before the overture returns to its first theme. The overture is above all, captivating.

Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

Camille Saint-Saëns remains one of the most notable composers in France's history. His long life (86 years) allowed him the vantage point of living through tremendous musical revolutions as well as tremendous changes in society. Some have described Saint-Saëns as one of the most remarkable child prodigies in musical history in that he was picking out tunes on the piano at age two, and was reading and writing and had already composed his first piece of music for piano by age three. At age five he was studying the full orchestra score of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* and was giving public recitals. At age seven he was reading and writing Latin fluently and deep in the study of botany and lepidoptery (the study of butterflies).

Concerto in A minor for Cello and Orchestra

The concerto in A minor is one of the favorite cello concertos for performers and audiences alike. Composed in 1873, this concerto contains the traditional three movements (fast-slow-fast) in one continuous piece. Rhythmic and melodic material introduced in the first few measures surface throughout the piece. The concerto begins with a forceful statement of the theme by the cello over strings. More instruments enter to add tension and drama with the soloist continuing to explore the extreme range of the instrument. A middle section which almost resembles an urbane dance is playful

and lighthearted. The final section, again returning to a more ponderous character continues to gain momentum to a “dazzling display of virtuoso fireworks”

Robert Ehle

A native of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Robert Ehle, Emeritus Professor of Music Theory and Composition, Electronic Music and Acoustics, joined the faculty of the School of Music at the University of Northern Colorado in 1971. He taught classes in music theory, composition and electronic music; and continues to serve on dissertation committees as an advisor to honors students. In Who’s Who in American Music, Ehle is listed as a composer of electronic music. He received a Bachelor of Music degree from Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, in 1961; a Master of Music in 1965; and his Ph.D. from the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas, in 1970. Before coming to UNC, Ehle was an assistant instructor at the University of North Texas from 1964 to 1970 and taught at the Denver Institute of Technology from 1970 to 1971. Among his compositions are "Sound Piece," A Space Symphony, "The City is Beautiful" and “A Whole Earth Symphony”. He received the Dallas Symphony Rockefeller Foundation Award in 1966. Ehle received a 2008-09 ASCAP PLUS Award in the concert music division from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). The awards are granted by an independent panel of distinguished music experts and are based on the unique prestige value of each writer’s catalog of original compositions and recent performances. Ehle enjoys hiking and exploring old railroad remains in the Rocky Mountains. He is proud of his family: wife Linda who is an accomplished organist, and son Todd, an accomplished violinist who was a member of the Greeley Chamber Orchestra and has returned to Greeley as a featured soloist with the orchestra.

Ehle offered his work "Cloud Chamber" for the Greeley Chamber Orchestra to perform in 1991. Since then the Orchestra has performed over 19 of Ehle’s compositions. The GCO’s recording of his Serenade on “Can vei la lauzeta mover” has over 11,000 views on YouTube.

Elegy for My Father

Ehle captured some of his emotions in musical sketches upon the death of his father in 1987 and revisited them in the summer of 1998 when he developed them and organized them into the Elegy. Ehle says about the piece "The death of one's father is something everyone is likely to experience. For me it was a very powerful experience and I hope others will hear this in the music."

Ehle orchestrated the work for full orchestra and allowed the Greeley Chamber Orchestra to premier the piece in 1999. Tonight the orchestra will present his most recent orchestration for strings alone which he feels has increased the solemnity and emotion of the music.

Juan Crisóstomo Arriaga (1806-1826)

Arriaga was born in Bilbao, Spain. Like Mozart, with whom he shared a birth date, January 27, he was both a child prodigy and an accomplished composer who died young. His earliest compositions include a divertimento, *Nada y Mucho (Nothing and Much)*, composed at age 11, and a two-act opera *Los Esclavos Felices (The Happy Slaves)* written at age 13 which was premiered, very successfully, in Bilbao in 1820. In September 1821, he was admitted to the Paris Conservatoire where his phenomenal progress in counterpoint enabled him to be named an instructor in harmony at age 18. Arriaga was also an excellent violinist. His most important works are probably the String Quartets and the Symphony in D. He died from exhaustion and a pulmonary infection in 1826 in Paris, 10 days before his 20th birthday. He was called “the Spanish Mozart” due to his seemingly effortless and prodigious output of music and, like Mozart, was buried in a public burial ground.

Symphony in D major

Adagio-Allegro vivace. After the opening Adagio in D major, the strings and bassoons complete the transition to the first theme of the allegro in D minor. In this classical sonata form,

 Program Notes

Arriaga flirts with chromaticism as he had done earlier in his string quartets.

Andante. In this modified sonata form the flutes, clarinets and oboes are used in pairs moving together in thirds. This is a beautiful movement without great emotional depth.

Menuetto and Trio. Here are the reminiscences of Mozart and suggestions of the scherzos of

Beethoven in the rhythms tied over the bar line. The flute solo in the trio reminds us of the Mozart G minor symphony.

Allegro con moto. Here again the music is back to the key of D minor and it is only near the end of the symphony that it returns to the major mode as the symphony concludes in a powerful Presto

Greeley Chamber Orchestra

Conducted by Dan Frantz

Please join us for the final concert of our Season!

April 19, 2024

Featuring Nat Wickham, trombone

performing Guilmant's *Morceau Symphonique*

And the Greeley Chamber Choir performing

Mendelssohn: Psalm 42 "As Pants the Hart" and Verleih uns Frieden

Bach: "Wir setzen uns mit Tränen nieder"

The Greeley Chamber Orchestra performs all concerts in the majestic sanctuary of the Trinity Episcopal Church, 3800 West 20th Street, Greeley

Concerts begins at 7:30 p.m. General Admission tickets are \$15.00 and available at the door. Youth grades K-12 are always admitted free.

www.greeleychamberorchestra.org

Upcoming Concerts of Fine Music

Colorado Piano Trio!

Sunday, March 10, 2024 at 2:00 pm

The Colorado Piano Trio is an award-winning international chamber music ensemble based in Greeley! Come out to hear American violinist Jubal Fulks, Polish pianist Adam Żukiewicz, and Slovenian cellist Gal Faganel perform works by Lera Auerbach, Kaija Saariaho, Rebecca Clarke and Clara Schumann.

First United Methodist Church
917 10th Avenue, Greeley

Beethoven in the Rockies!

Sunday, April 7, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

“Harmony Across Time”

The concert will welcome an array of local artists and UNC Faculty performing an exciting program of chamber works including works by Jane Vignery, Beethoven, Frank Bridge and Colorado composers Jim Klein and Ian Jamison!

First United Methodist Church
917 10th Avenue, Greeley

And remember our Friends at the Greeley Chorale!

Saturday, April 13, 2024 - 7:30 PM

The Greeley Chorale presents *Requiem & Royalty* featuring John Rutter's *Requiem* and Handel's *Zadok the Priest* and other works composed for Great Britain's Coronation ceremonies.

First Congregational Church
2101 16th Street, Greeley

The Greeley Chamber Orchestra

The Greeley Chamber Orchestra was founded in 1981, presenting its first concert on October 30, 1981. Through the years, the orchestra has grown from a very modest group of 17 musicians to its present size of over thirty-five. The orchestra has been allowed to perform all its concerts in the majestic sanctuary of the Trinity Episcopal Church, a setting that is acoustically perfect and visually stunning.

The music the orchestra performs during its five-concert season is exciting and unique.

The Greeley Chamber Orchestra has presented not only a varied spectrum of works but has featured some of the finest talents of Northern Colorado, many of whom are faculty at the remarkable School of Music of the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley. The Orchestra is joined twice a year by the Greeley Chamber Choir to perform works for choir and orchestra.

The repertoire of the Greeley Chamber Orchestra certainly focuses on music of the Baroque (Bach, Boyce, Handel, Telemann, and Vivaldi) and Classical (Beethoven, Haydn, Mozart and Schubert) periods but has also featured the music of various late 19th century (Brahms, Debussy, Ravel, Tchaikovsky and Wagner) as well as 20th century composers (Argo, Ehle, Prokofiev, Puccini, Shostakovich and Sibelius,)

The Greeley Chamber Orchestra is comprised of talented musicians from the northern Colorado and southern Wyoming area who take time from their busy schedules to collectively perform music. The musicians of the groups come from all walks of life and include accountants, administrators, computer engineers, entrepreneurs, homemakers, nurses, pharmacists, physicians, sales persons, teachers and students. This remarkable group of volunteers comes together every week to prepare the world's finest music, driven by their passion for wonderful music.

Dan Frantz

Dan Frantz founded the Greeley Chamber Orchestra in 1981 and has served as the orchestra's conductor since that time. Prior to moving to Greeley, Mr. Frantz performed trumpet in the Brico Symphony and other groups in the Denver area. He came to Greeley in 1975 to attend the University of Northern Colorado's School of Nursing, graduating with a Bachelor's degree in 1979. During his undergraduate years he studied trumpet with William Pfund and Gene Aitken, and presented two performance recitals through the School of Music. Mr. Frantz was accepted as a student by the renowned conductor, Antonia Brico in 1980; and studied conducting and music with her until her death in 1989. He has led the Greeley Chamber Orchestra and Greeley Chamber Choir in performances of a diverse listing of composers and types of music, championing the music of local composers and the less familiar works of baroque and classical masters. He has collaborated with a wide variety of local soloists and in 1993 conducted the Colorado Symphony Orchestra. He frequently serves as an adjudicator at various contests and competitions as well as supporting local public school music programs.

Mr. Frantz received his Master of Science degree in Psychiatric Nursing from the University of Colorado in 1985 and serves as a Clinical Specialist in Psychiatry at North Range Behavioral Health. He has taught in both the Department of Psychiatry in the School of Medicine and the Graduate Program of the School of Nursing at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, and frequently serves as guest lecturer and presenter at various nursing schools and programs. He was the first man to be awarded the Florence Nightingale Award for Excellence in Nursing (1993) and was selected as Honored Alumni for Humanitarian Service from the University of Northern Colorado (1994). Dan was honored with an award for Lifetime Contribution to the Arts in 2005 by [ArtsAlive](#) and was entered into the Greeley Arts Legacy Hall of Fame in 2023.

MUSICIANS**Violin I**

Carla Hager**
Cary Enlow
Amanda Mason
Debbie Nunley
Diane Penny
Stephanie Pickering

Violin II

Jeanene Gage*
Deanna Elkins
Bobbie Miller
Lenore Olsen
Alyssa Price
Amy Welsh

Viola

Molly Johnson*
Diana Delgado
Jeanece Kieselstein
Jazmin Prellwitz

Cello

Christine Mallery*
Nate Evans
Mercy Wuehler

Bass

Jeremy Woods*
Lois Bartlett

Flute

Marcia Bohnenblust*
Kristina Bain

Oboe

Rebecca Hunget*
Will Young

Clarinet

Dave Green*
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