



Franciscan Center for
Music Education and performance

Holy Family Conservatory of Music

6751 Calumet Ave., Manitowoc WI 54220

Sponsored by the
Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity

NEWSLETTER NO. 5

MAY 2025

The Franciscan Center Turns Hurt Into Hope by Sister Carol Ann Gambsky

The Franciscan Center is a beacon of hope by fostering a deep appreciation for music and the arts by transforming ordinary moments into meaningful experiences through instruction, encouragement, and performance.

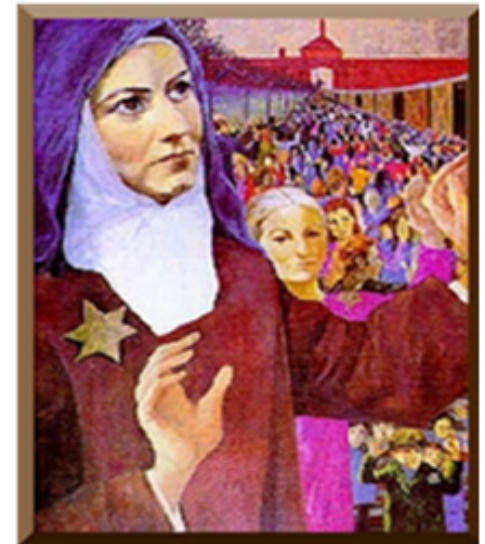
Teaching music is a powerful symbol of hope because it nurtures creativity, connection, and resilience. While music has the ability to uplift spirits, it also brings people together, and provides an outlet for emotions that words sometimes cannot express. During Holy Family Conservatory lessons and group classes joy is fostered, confidence, and a sense of belonging help students develop lifelong problem-solving skills. Students listen to one another, work as a team, and appreciate diverse perspectives—all essential qualities for building their hopeful future.

Music also plays a role in healing and social change. Performances dedicated to communities facing hardship serve as messages of solidarity and encouragement. An example of this is the benefit concert that was presented in May of 2022 which raised money to assist Ukrainian people.

The Franciscan Center is a place that provides vitally important pathways to uplift and heal people who are hurting or feeling misunderstood. Three recent events held at the Franciscan Center are testament to its mission to transform hurt into hope. Laurie Crawford was Wrap Up speaker for the March 2025 Women's Summit held at the Franciscan Center Inc. Laurie shared her belief that when more women come into their power there will be a kinder, gentler, more compassionate and just world.

In the same month of March, the Sharon S. Richardson Community Hospice organization hosted an event at the Franciscan Center for people whom they serve to gather in community to seek comfort and healing as they grieve the recent loss of their loved ones.

Music-based events carry people in pain forward. Musical melody, lyrics, and rhythm can spark resilience and is a reminder of light beyond darkness and emotions, shifting sorrow into strength and despair into determination. One such event was the April 2025 the Holocaust Remembrance concert presented to honor 80 years of liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp. Music of Jewish composers who were killed in concentration camps or who were Holocaust survivors was performed. Honoring the Holocaust victims was a way to pay respect to those who were killed and served as a powerful reminder of what can occur when prejudice and discrimination remains unchallenged. The event challenged and offered hope that all people can be agents of change, peace and reconciliation.



Thoughts, ideas, opinions...

**We want to hear
from you!**

- ☐ What types of programs, entertainment or names of speakers, performers would you definitely attend at the Franciscan Center?
- ☐ Could you provide us the names of individuals who want to be on our mailing list?
- ☐ What vendors would you suggest for our 2025 Fall Festival?
- ☐ Who would you nominate to consider joining our team of volunteers at the Franciscan Center?
- ☐ Would YOU like to be a volunteer yourself?
- ☐ Other/Miscellaneous thoughts, ideas, suggestions?

Please email or call: 920-645-6564
scarolann@fscs-calledtobe.org

Film Festival held at Franciscan Center



Prepping Endries Hall prior to event



The Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast held an *International Film Festival* in Endries Performance Hall on April 4th. The day prior to the event committee members visited the Franciscan Center for Music Education and Performance in preparation for the *Film Festival*. Franciscan Center Event Coordinator, Charyce Welch (pictured far left) assisted members of the organization as they prepped all the lighting cues, tested the AV equipment, and explored the auditorium to prepare all of the details. The April 4th event began at 5:30 pm with refreshments and continued 6:30 - 8:30 pm with viewing of the films. This event was hosted by the Friends of Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast NMS, in partnership with the International Ocean Film Festival, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, and the Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast NMS. This was the first ever Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast International Film Festival. This inaugural event brought internationally and locally acclaimed films to the community and helped to deepen awareness and conservation of the ocean waters and the Great Lakes.

Keyboard Music Educators Association Auditions April 12, 2025



Lily Reimer
1st Place Judges
Choice Award



Michal Krugman



Hudson Hoffman



Matthew Minehan



Haddie Hoffman



Hannah Nickels
2nd Place Judges
Choice Award



Grace Utech



Levi, Benjamin & Jude Harrison



Maya Nohr



Rachel Krugman

Keyboard Music Educators Association Auditions April 12, 2025



Aliza Backus



Essi Stream



Olivia Horkheimer



Henry Bingham



Vivian Barbercheck



Abby Jaeckel



Emily Popp



Peter Utecht



Keegan Henrickson

June 8th Picnic "Reunion Day" to Celebrate Holy Family Conservatory of Music 100 Years !

Who: EVERYONE !

What: Picnic "Reunion Day": Ribbon Cutting, recital, food, friendships, games, entertainment, art exhibits, historical displays, presentations

Where: Franciscan Center for Music Education and Performance
6751 Calumet Ave. Manitowoc, WI 54220

When: Sunday June 8, 2025 ~ 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Why: To reunite with friends, past and current students, families, teachers and CELEBRATE the 100-year Founding Anniversary of Holy Family Conservatory of Music (the actual anniversary date is Dec. 10, 2025)

Questions: Call 920-645-6564 to let us know what dish you would like to bring



Congratulations to all Students who performed during the April 26, 2025 Recital !

Ava Johnson-Voice
Arlen/Harburg (1939), Over the Rainbow

Ava Johnson-Piano and Voice
Tchaikovsky/Lawrence/Fain/Bruns (1959), Once Upon a Dream

Eliza Skaletski-French Horn
Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943), Vocalise, Op. 34 No. 14

The Great Eight Choir
Maya Nohr, Rachel Krugman, William Carlson, Olivia Carlson,
Michal Krugman, Bernadette Langer, Simon Langer, Veronica Langer
A Branch of May arr. Andrew Himelick & Patrick Fata
Rocky Mountain arr. Andrew Himelick & Patrick Fata
Yankee Doodle arr. Andrew Himelick & Patrick Fata
Waltzing Matilda arr. Andrew Himelick & Patrick Fata

*Michal Krugman-Piano
S. Prokofiev (1891-1953), Waltz

*Rachel Krugman-Piano
F. Kuhlau (1786-1832), Sonatina in C Major, 1st movement

Matthew Naidl-Alto Saxophone
F.T. McGrath, A Breezin' Cakewalk

Anastasia Munroe-Flute
Traditional, 1. Song of Hoe from Three Chinese Folk Songs

Christian Zipperer-Guitar
Traditional, When the Saints Go Marching In

Deidre Schuler-Guitar
William Leavitt (1926-1990), Etude No. 1

Isla Zipperer-Guitar
French Folk Song, Au Clair De La Lune

Logan Backus-Guitar
Simon and Garfunkel (1964), The Sound of Silence

Christy Scheurell-Piano
Friedrich Burgmuller (1806-1874), Innocence

*Benjamin Harrison-Piano
Louis Kohler (1820-1886), Carefree Stroll

*Vivian Barbercheck-Piano
Traditional Folk Song, Lightly Row

Julia Utecht-Piano
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759), Gavotte

*Keegan Henrickson-Piano
Traditional, The British Grenadiers

*Aliza Backus-Piano
West Indies Folk Song, Mockingbird

Norah Hackmann-Piano
Guiseppe Verdi (1813-1901), Aria
(Theme from La Traviata)

*Essi Stream-Piano
P. I. Tchaikovsky (1840-1893), Russian Dance

*Maya Nohr-Piano
P. I. Tchaikovsky (1840-1893), An Old French Song

*Haddie Hoffman-Piano
Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706), Canon in D

Isla Zipper-Cello
French Folk Song, Go Tell Aunt Rhode

Elsa Daane-violin
J.S. Bach (1685-1750), Musette

Grace Glaser-Voice
arr. Jay Althouse, Homeward Bound

Gina Schuler-Voice
Lowe/Werner (1956), I Could Have Danced All Night

Bernadette Langer-Voice
Giovanni Bononcini (1670-1747), Per La Gloria D'adorarvi

Veronica Langer-Voice
Franz Schubert (1797-1828), Seligkeit

Deidre Schuler-Voice
Alan Menken (1949-present), Home

Veronica and Bernadette Langer-Vocal Duet
Traditional arr. Dave and Jean Perry (2004), Loch Lomond

*Peter Utecht-Piano
P. I. Tchaikovsky (1840-1893), Polka

*Jude Harrison-Piano
Muzio Clementi (1752-1832), Sonatina in C Major Op. 31,
No. 1 First Movement

Henry Rademacher-Piano
Toto (1982), Africa

*Grace Utecht & Kara Huehn-Piano
Russian Folk Melody, Two Guitars

Daniella Kaat-Piano
Rich Krentzlin (1864-1956), In Schubert's Day

*Levi Harrison-Piano
Edvard Grieg (1843-1907), In the Hall of the Mountain King

*Emily Popp-Piano
Traditional, Carnival of Venice

*Hannah Nickels-Piano
M. Clementi (1752-1832), Sonatina op.36 #3, 1st movement

***Keyboard Music Educators Association
Audition Participants**

***Lily Reimer-1st Place Judges Choice Award**

***Hannah Nickels-2nd Place Judges Choice Award**

Holocaust Remembrance Concert April 27, 2025



Special recognition and gratitude is given to Dr. Stanislava Varshavski for her countless hours of preparation, organization and passionate work to make this concert become a reality. She conceived the idea for this meaningful event/concert and is commended for her creativity and ability to collaborate with the special guest speakers Mayor Justin Nickels, Dr. Delphine Gamburg-Deputy Consul General at the Consulate General of Israel to the Midwest and Norman Gilliland- Wisconsin Public Radio.

Guest artist musicians were Dr. Stanislava Varshavski-pianist, Dr. Diana Shapiro-pianist, Dr. Benjamin Whitcomb-cellist, Dr. Julia Foster Rottmayer-soprano, Dr. Luis Fernandez-violinist and Dr. Katherine Decker-cellist.

Holocaust Remembrance Concert Guest Speakers and Artist Musicians



Dr. Luis Fernandez, Dr. Varshavski, Dr. Katherine Decker



Dr. Stanislava Varshavski, Dr. Delphine Gamburg, Dr. Diana Shapiro



Dr. Julia Rottmayer



Dr. Benjamin Whitcomb

[Israeli Consulate Delphine Gamburg
and Mayor Nickels April 27
Speeches.pdf](#)



Norman Gilliland



Mayor Justin Nickels



Name a Brick in Honor of 100th Anniversary of Holy Family Conservatory



I want to name a Brick.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Name to be engraved on Brick

I would like to be noted in the donation lists. Yes____No____

**All gifts are tax deductible to the extent
allowed by law.**

All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

\$200.00 Gift payment per brick is made by check.

Payable to: Franciscan Center INC

Mail to: Franciscan Center, 6751 Calumet Ave., Manitowoc WI 54220

A brick will be engraved with the name of donor's choice according to their request. Bricks will remain named for its lifetime.

Questions? Contact Sister Carol Ann Gambsky Phone: 920-645-6564 Email: scarolann@fscs-calledtobe.org

PLEASE CONSIDER NAMING A BRICK OR NAMING A CHAIR IN HONOR OF THESE PAST AND/ OR CURRENT TEACHERS

Allyson Wasmer
Amy Beekhuizen
Andrew Piehl
Anna Tsukervanik, Dr.
Ashley Reif
Beth Schulz
Blakeley Menghini
Bonnie Shimulunas
Carol Storck
Christopher Ducasse
Corey VanSickle
Diana Shapiro, Dr.
Dilek Engin Stolarчук, Dr.
Donna Schwinn-Roble
Emma McAlister
Hanna Stolper
Hayley Rathmell
Heidi Barker
Jacob Puestow
Jane Finch
Jonathan McConnell

Julie Koenig
Katherine Ray
Katie Christensen
Kimberly Plautz
Laura Hauer
Lauren Krithoff
Lauren Lubinski
Laurie Homuth
Lisa Van Sickle
Luis Fernandez, Dr.
Lydia Fogeltanz
Megan Lau
Michael Stearns
Noah Liermann
Noah Schaffrick
Patrick Stillman
Rissel Peguero
Rosalindae Siegfried
Sally Dalton
Sandra Eithun
Sister Alberta Schneider

Sister Alice Schroepfer
Sister Angela Paul
Sister Antonice Lauer
Sister Benjamin Eriksen
Sister Carol Ann Gambsky
Sister Cecilia Byrnes
Sister Cecilia Marie Kalous
Sister Celerine Diekemper
Sister Davidica Beschta
Sister Eligius Hoolihan
Sister Elise Winkler
Sister Elizabeth Benvie
Sister Frances Henry Steinbrecker
Sister Gabriel Kerner
Sister Joseph Philip Schadeberg
Sister Kenwyn Des Jarlais
Sister Lorna Zemke
Sister Lucianna Derus
Sister Lyra Putzer
Sister Marcus Steede
Sister Marella Wagner

Sister Marsaia Kaster
Sister Mary Aloyse Mayer
Sister Mary Carol Kopecky
Sister Mary Lois Jarvis
Sister Regine Dolores Sobleski
Sister Renee Mirkes
Sister Rosaire Pigeon
Sister Rose Cecile Armbruster
Sister Wilma Kurtenbach
Sister Winifred Crevier
Stanislava Varshavski Dr.
Stephen DCamp
Steve Proszenyak
Theresa Nier
Thomas Pibal



"Name a Chair" in Honor of 100th Anniversary of Holy Family Conservatory



**I want to name a chair in the Endries
Performance Hall.**

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

- ☐ I would like to specify my chair number(s):
- ☐ I would like you to assign my chair number(s).
- ☐ I would like to be noted in donation lists.

Name to be engraved on name plate is:

\$500.00 Gift payment per chair is made by check.

Payable to: Franciscan Center INC

Mail to: Franciscan Center, 6751 Calumet Ave., Manitowoc WI 54220

**All gifts are tax deductible to the extent
allowed by law.**

A name plate will be attached to the chair arm according to the donor's request. Seats will remain named for their lifetime. Please note that naming a chair does not guarantee or reserve that seat for performances or events.

Questions? Contact Sister Carol Ann Gambsky Phone: 920-645-6564 Email: scarolann@fscf-calledtobe.org

This event
will be held at
the
Franciscan
Center for
Music
Education and
Performance

St. Thomas The Apostle

Wine and Cheese Tasting

SILENT AND ORAL AUCTIONS

Friday, May 9, 2025

6:30-10:00 PM

Franciscan Center For Music

6751 Calumet Avenue • Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Tickets: \$25 in advance

\$30 at the door

** Price of admission includes wine & cheese tasting*

Tickets available at St. Thomas the Apostle - Newton and Superior Liquor - Manitowoc (cash only)



A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Manitowoc Warming Shelter building fund



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE!

~ We are happy to be able to offer scholarships! However, please note scholarships are not issued retroactively.

~ Prior to EVERY session you must send Dr. Varshavski a list of all private lessons (with length e.g. 30-min., 45-min., or 60-min.) and classes (choir, handbells, group piano or group violin) for which you intend to register your children.

~ After receiving the list, Dr. Varshavski will inform you about the process of receiving the scholarship. Please remember, Dr. Varshavski must receive this information BEFORE each session.

~ If she does not receive an e-mail prior to the session, we will be unable to issue any scholarships to you.

Holy Family Conservatory of Music

Summer Session 1 Began April 21st

PLEASE REGISTER NOW

ACTIVE | Holy Family Conservatory
of Music

PRIVATE LESSONS The discount is applied to the shorter lesson.

*Per session, if your family has three registrations (any instrument), your family will receive a 30% discount on the third registration.

*Per session, if your family has four registrations (any instrument), your family will receive a 50% discount on the fourth registration.

*Per session, if your family has six registrations (any instrument), your family will receive a 60% discount on the sixth registration.

*Per session, if your family has eight registrations (any instrument), your family will receive a 50% discount for the fourth registration AND a 100% discount on the eighth registration.

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

*Per session, if your family is registered for one private lesson, one group piano, one handbell or choir, your family will receive a 25% discount for one piano group class.

*Per session, if your family is registered for two private lessons and one handbell or choir, your family will receive a 100% discount for one choir or handbell registration.

*Per session, if your family is registered for two private lessons, one handbell or choir, one Music for Tots, your family will receive a 100% discount for one Music for Tots registration.

Scholarships are for Children of the Same Family. Please contact Dr. Varshavski BEFORE each session to receive scholarships.

Email: varshavskidma@fscs-calledtobe.org

"Music Camp Together" July 14-18, 2025

Holy Family Conservatory of Music
Franciscan Center 6751 Calumet Ave.,
Manitowoc, WI 54220

**Make Music,
Make Friends,
Have Fun!**



More Info/To Register

Go to:

www.hfconservatory.org

OR

scan QR code



**The registration closes
on June 29th**



920-645-6565



The Franciscan Center "*Transforms the Ordinary*". Let US help YOU transform YOUR event!



Book a **FAMILY REUNION**,
DANCE RECITAL, **BIRTHDAY**
PARTY, **WEDDING**,
GRADUATION, **ANNIVERSARY...**
and more! We would love to help
make your day special!

Contact Event Coordinator
Charyce Welch

Email: FCMEP@outlook.com

or

Call (920)645-6561 to learn more!



Conservatory students and teachers provide music for Earth Day Event April 22, 2025



Mr. Noah Schaffrick, Sister Carol Ann Gambsky, Bernadette Langer and Veronica Langer were invited by Eric Rebne, PT, DPT, Fellow of Pain Science to provide music at Manitowoc Harbor Town Clinic for their Earth Day Event. Employees at **Harbor Town Clinic** enjoyed live music performed during their noon lunch break while participating in activities prepared by the "Green Team" and Roxanne Miner, Director, Mission and Pastoral Care.



The goal for the Earth Day event was to promote employee engagement, reduce environmental impact, and prioritize employee wellness by fostering a space for connection and relaxation during mealtimes. The initiative aligned with the hospital's commitment to sustainability and creating a healthy, collaborative work environment.

Fox Valley Horns Concert at Franciscan Center Endries Performance Hall



April 13, 2025

Concert Program

La Peri

Titanic Fantasy

..... Soloist: Evan Haas

Band of Brothers

..... Soloist: Evan Gawron

Beauty and the Beast

..... Soloist: Teresa Pelkey

Here's that Rainy Day

..... Soloist: Blake Gassman

Elsa's Processional

Shadow of Your Smile

Moon River

..... Soloist: Evan Gawron

Days of Wine and Roses

..... Soloist: Alex Reimer

MUSICIANS

Ava Asbury

Matthew Bennett

Blake Gassman

Evan Haas

Nancy Krause – Pianist

Andy Parks

Alex Reimer

Brenda Stern

Natalie Bakken

Amy Coppernoll

Evan Gawron

Connie Henkel

Charlie Overton

Theresa Pelkey

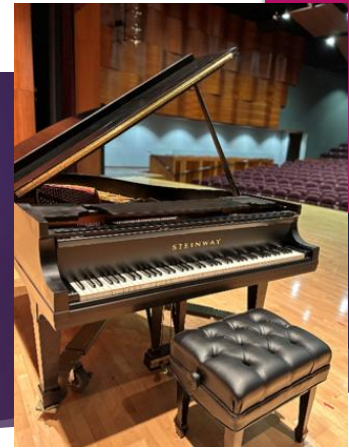
Rebecca Schruender



2025-2026

- Saint Thomas the Apostle Church Wine and Cheese Event Friday May 9, 2025 ~ 6:30 pm
- Manty Dance Recital Sunday June 1, 2025 ~ 2:00 pm
- Conservatory Student Recital Sunday June 8, 2025 ~ 2:00 pm
- "Music Camp Together" July 14-18, 2025
- Saturday October 18, 2025 ~ 2:00 pm ~ Concert Series No. 1
- Sunday October 26, 2025 ~ 2:00 pm ~ Conservatory Student Recital
- Sunday November 23, 2025 ~ 2:00 pm ~ Conservatory Student Recital
- Wednesday December 10, 2025 ~ Happy 100th Anniversary Day to Holy Family Conservatory
- Monday December 15, 2025 ~ 6:00 Conservatory Student Christmas Recital
- Saturday December 20, 2025 ~ 2:00 ~ Concert Series No. 2: Lessons and Carols
- Saturday March 14, 2026 ~ 2:00 pm ~ Concert Series No. 3

Signatures of famous pianists have been preserved on the rebuilt Steinway !



The Franciscan Center 1958 Steinway piano is stamped CB which indicates it was built to be a special travelling performance instrument prior to being sold. It was customary for the performers to write their signatures on the inside of the piano when performing. One of the signatures on the CB Steinway is that of famous Władziu Valentino Liberace. Did you know that he was born in Milwaukee WI and that his mother was from Menasha WI? "Liberace's prodigious talent was evident from his early years. By the age of 7, he was capable of memorizing difficult pieces. He studied the technique of the Polish pianist Ignacy Jan Paderewski. At the age of eight, he met Paderewski backstage after a concert at the Pabst Theater in Milwaukee. *'I was intoxicated by the joy I got from the great virtuoso's playing'*, Liberace said later. *'My dreams were filled with fantasies of following his footsteps...Inspired and fired with ambition, I began to practice with a fervor that made my previous interest in the piano look like neglect.'* Paderewski later became a family friend as well as Liberace's mentor, to whom the protégé never missed any opportunities to pay tribute."

(Taken from <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberace>)

Other signatures on the rebuilt Steinway



Jon Imosbersteg, Steinway expert who rebuilt our Steinway was able to preserve the signatures on the piano during the restoration process. Stay tuned to read in future Newsletters explanations of these signatures of other famous pianists.

Do you recognize any signature names?