NEC
New England Conservatory

Concert Program













Welcome to NEC!

I am thrilled to welcome you to New England Conservatory's 2025–26 concert season — a celebration of the power that music has to inspire and connect us to one another.

Whether you are seated in one of our concert halls or watching online, we hope the performances of our students, faculty, and guest artists uplift you.

Above all, we thank you for supporting our students as they cultivate their artistry and contribute to the world through music.

Andrea Kalyn
President


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We thank our generous donors, who remain committed to elevating the NEC experience and who make it possible for our students to continue their artistic pursuits. Every gift to The NEC Fund supports the pillars of an NEC education — scholarship, community engagement, and a world-renowned faculty.

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New England Conservatory

Trio Eris

Resident Ensemble in the
NEC Professional Piano Trio program

Andrew Jun Chen, piano
K. J. McDonald, violin
Annie SeEun Hyung, cello

Sunday, March 15 | 8:00 p.m. | NEC's Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

Wolfgang Rihm (1952–2024)

Fremde Szene III (1983)

Dmitri Shostakovich (1906–1975)

Piano Trio No. 2 in E Minor, op. 67

Andante — Moderato
Allegro con brio
Largo
Allegretto — Adagio

~ Intermission ~

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

Piano Trio No. 1 in B Major, op. 8 (1889)

Allegro con brio
Scherzo: Allegro molto
Adagio
Finale: Allegro

We bid a bittersweet farewell to NEC
with overwhelming gratitude for the community that nurtured our trio
from conception — what a privilege it has been to grow
surrounded by peers and mentors who inspire us
to be better musicians and humans daily!

Trio Eris, New England Conservatory's Professional Trio-in-Residence, is united by a genuine love of collaboration, and a deeply personal approach to music-making. The trio is a top prizewinner of competitions including the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition and Chamber Music Yellow Springs, and comprises violinist K.J. McDonald, cellist Annie SeEun Hyung, and pianist Andrew Jun Chen.

Originating from three distinct musical and personal backgrounds, the trio was introduced to one another in 2023 under the guidance of Merry Peckham and quickly developed a sense of camaraderie over the course of a serendipitous video call. During an eventful inaugural year as an ensemble, an unconventional artistic chemistry and compatibility was immediately apparent.

Recent finalists at Naumburg Competition and Young Concert Artists International Auditions, Trio Eris has attended Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival, IMS Prussia Cove and the Perlman Music Program's Chamber Music Workshop. Recent and upcoming engagements include performances at Schneider Concerts, Rockport Music, Harvard Musical Association, Olympic Music Festival, Martha's Vineyard Chamber Music Society, Jordan Hall, and the Panama Jazz Festival.

The trio has had opportunities to pass on their love for collaborative music-making through educational initiatives in Panama, Virginia, Washington, and across Massachusetts. They have also been closely mentored by Vivian and Don Weilerstein, Kim Kashkashian, Laurence Lesser, and Yeesun Kim, and have performed in masterclasses for Robert McDonald, Claudio Martínez Mehner, and Itzhak Perlman.

Named, ironically, after the Greek goddess of discord and strife, the ensemble finds itself perpetually embroiled in a dynamic whirlwind of activity and relative chaos — outside the rehearsal studio, the trio can be found engaging in a number of diverse hobbies including hiking, reading, cooking, and lifting weights.

Under the direction of Vivian Hornik Weilerstein, NEC's **Professional Piano Trio Program** is open to advanced ensembles who show the talent and commitment necessary to pursue a concert career. One trio is in residence at a time, typically for a period of two years.

The program offers intensive training and coaching for exceptional piano trios. Highlights include three hours of ensemble coaching per week, weekly individual studio instruction from NEC strings and piano faculty,

daily group rehearsals, and training in all aspects of musicianship and career development. Piano trios perform an annual recital in world-renowned Jordan Hall and give performances in venues such as the Kennedy Center, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and the Rhinebeck Chamber Music Society.

Previous graduates of the program include Trio Cleonice, The New Trio, Moêt Trio, Trio Cavatina, Tel-Aviv Trio, the Tal Trio, the Merz Trio, and Trio Gaia.

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Your gift to The NEC Fund has a direct and immediate impact on student scholarships, NEC's world-class faculty, and a collaborative and innovative learning environment rooted in the highest level of musical excellence. Please consider making a gift to support NEC at ***necmusic.edu/give*****.**

Food and drink are not allowed in the concert hall, and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited. Assistive listening devices are available for all Jordan Hall concerts; contact the head usher or house manager on duty or inquire at the Coat Room. Latecomers will be seated at management's discretion.

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