



# FISCHOFF

NATIONAL CHAMBER  
MUSIC ASSOCIATION

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Notre Dame, IN - September 14, 2021 - The Fischhoff is pleased to announce the commencement of its annual Gold Medal Tour in person, featuring the Aero Quartet, winners of the 2021 Fischhoff Competition Senior Wind Division Gold Medal.

This award-winning group hails from the University of Michigan and includes members Salvador Flores (soprano saxophone), Walt Puyear (alto saxophone), Matthew Koester (tenor saxophone), Brian Kachur (baritone saxophone).

Praised by Pulitzer Prize finalist and Grammy award-winning composer Augusta Read Thomas for their "nuanced, colorful, artfully sculpted" performances, Aero Quartet is committed to promoting new and traditional repertoire for the saxophone quartet. Most recently, the ensemble has collaborated with world-renowned American composer Jennifer Higdon on a new work for saxophone quartet to be recorded and released later this fall. They were also named first prize winners in the 2021 Music Teachers National Association Chamber Music Competition and the New Orleans Chamber Music Competition.

Each fall, the Senior Division Gold Medal winners of the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition return to the Midwest to perform in concert venues, community centers and schools in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Michigan and Illinois.

Fischhoff's Executive Director, Kara Kane explains, "This time last year we saw all of our mainstage Gold Medal concerts cancelled so we threw ourselves into outreach and education. We wanted to ensure that the music making wouldn't stop for the junior high and high school students we serve. Instead of spending 5 days performing outreach, we spent 5 months working with teachers to creatively connect our exceptional Fischhoff alumni with this next generation of music makers. There were so many silver linings and it was huge success, but nothing beats being in person." Fischhoff is delighted to be able to safely bring this year's Gold Medalists back into the classroom and back on to concert stages.

Central to Fischhoff's mission is its commitment to provide innovative outreach sessions and masterclasses to local middle and high school students at no cost. Since 1995, Fischhoff artist educators have personally inspired over 90,500 local youth.

We are thrilled to announce the tour schedule:



credit: Timothy Edwards

**Thursday, September 16**

Thiel College, Con Spirito Chamber Music Series, Greenville, PA  
7:00 p.m. (Eastern)

[Free admission & open to the public](#)

**Friday, September 17**

Valparaiso University, Guest Artist Concert, Valparaiso, IN  
5:00 p.m. (Central)

[Open to the public](#)

**Saturday, September 18**

Masterclass & Concert, Midwest Young Artists Conservatory  
Music @ the Fort Concert Series, Highwood, IL  
7:00 p.m. (Central)

[Streaming live](#)

**Sunday, September 19 - Tuesday, September 21**

Local outreach in Indiana and Michigan

**Wednesday, September 22**

The Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concerts, Chicago, IL  
12:15 p.m. (Central)

[Free admission & open to the public](#)

Broadcast live at WFMT 98.7FM and at [www.wfmt.com](http://www.wfmt.com)

**Thursday, September 23**

Merrimans' Playhouse Chamber Arts Series, South Bend, IN  
7:00 p.m. (Central)

[Open to the public](#)

[Learn more about Aero Quartet](#)

---

**About Fischhoff National Chamber Music Association**

Founded in 1973 in South Bend, Indiana, the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition has grown to become the largest chamber music competition in the United States, and one of

the most prestigious classical music prizes attainable today. Since its founding, more than 7,600 musicians have participated, many of whom have gone on to distinguished careers in music performance and education.

This unique arts organization has secured its place as the nation's premier educational chamber music competition because of the caliber of its jurors, performance venues and well-known alumni. It is also known for extensive outreach programming during the competition and throughout the year. The Fischhoff uniquely partners with competition alumni to bring free, innovative music programs directly to children of all ages in their own schools and community centers. Since 1995, these programs have served more than 90,500 community children, reaching more than 4,000 underserved and at-risk youth annually.

**Media Contact:**

Contact: Emma Gettinger, Program Manager

574.631.2903

[emma@fischhoff.org](mailto:emma@fischhoff.org)

[www.fischhoff.org](http://www.fischhoff.org)

**FOLLOW US**

