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New England Conservatory
Preparatory School
Piano Department
Germany Tour 2025

Thursday, June 5 | Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, Boston
Sunday, June 22 | Musiksalon Liszt-Haus, Weimar
Thursday, June 26 | Schumann-Haus, Leipzig

PROGRAM

Partita No. 1 in B-flat major, BWV 825

Johann Sebastian Bach

I. Praeludium
IV. Sarabande
VI. Gigue

Sora Egozy

Abegg Variations, Op. 1

Robert Schumann

Kaya Charoensiddhi

Transcendental Etude in E-flat major, S. 139 ("Eroica")

Franz Liszt

Calix Huang

Sonata in C minor, Op. 13 ("Pathétique")

Ludwig van Beethoven

III. Rondo: Allegro

Sarah Kisin

Ballade No. 3 in A-flat major, Op. 27

Frédéric Chopin

Claire Zhang

Toccata, Op. 155

York Bowen

Yulia Golger-Kajimoto

Prelude and Fugue in B-flat minor, BWV 867

Johann Sebastian Bach

Leo Bingye Ren

Nocturne in D-flat major, Op. 27 No. 2

Frédéric Chopin

Rebecca Lai

Romance in E-flat minor, Op. 11 No. 1	Clara Schumann
Romance in F-sharp minor, Op. 28 No. 2 Grace Zhuo	Robert Schumann
Prelude in E-flat major, Op. 23 No. 6	Sergei Rachmaninoff
Étude-Tableau in C minor, Op. 39 No. 1 Maggie Bai	Sergei Rachmaninoff
Vingt Regards sur L'Enfant-Jésus XI: Première communion de la Vierge Patrick Xu	Olivier Messiaen
Sonata No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22 I. So rasch wie möglich Hanna Suzuki	Robert Schumann
Sonata in F-sharp major, Op. 30 George Lin	Alexander Scriabin
Sabre Dance from <i>Gayane</i> Maggie Bai & Patrick Xu	Aram Khachaturian

STUDENT BIOGRAPHIES

Maggie Bai, 14, is an 8th grader at Oak Hill Middle School and a pianist of exceptional promise. She began piano lessons at age four and currently studies with Angel Ramón Rivera and Kanako Nishikawa. Maggie is enrolled at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School, where she is a member of the Chamber Music Intensive Performance Seminar. She participates in piano seminars with Konstantinos Papadakis and studies chamber music with Laura Blustein.

Her recent achievements include First Prize in the 2024 Michael H. Welles Wellesley Symphony Young Soloist Competition and the 2024 New England Conservatory Preparatory School Concerto Competition. She has performed solo recitals at the New England Conservatory's Williams Hall and Concord Center. Maggie is passionate about pursuing a future in music and looks forward to the journey ahead.

Kaya Charoensiddhi is a sophomore at Wellesley High School. She has been playing the piano for eleven years and currently studies at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School with Hitomi Koyama. Kaya has received recognition at several competitions. She was a finalist in the Boston Pops Fidelity Investments Young Artists Competition and placed third in the New England Conservatory Preparatory School Concerto Competition. Kaya has also performed at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall. Besides performing, Kaya enjoys connecting with other musicians through chamber music, masterclasses, and music festivals. She has studied at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute and the Mozarteum University International Summer Academy in Austria. In addition to music, Kaya enjoys writing for her school newspaper, competing on Science Olympiad, and running track.

Yulia Golger-Kajimoto started piano at five years old. She is currently studying with Ms. Hitomi Koyama at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. Yulia won first place in the little Mozart competition in 2019 and 2020, third prize in the International Junior Chopin Competition in 2020, and honorable mention in the Paderewski competition and Junior Online Piano competition. She currently lives in Brookline, Massachusetts, and plays piano in her high school orchestra. Yulia frequently performs in the United States and Japan.

Calix Huang is a senior from Lexington High School, graduating this year. He is interested in engineering and computer science, but outside of academics, he enjoys classical music, watching basketball, and walking around town. He started playing the piano when he was five years old just out of curiosity, however, he has continued to study piano since then. He now studies piano with Yukiko Sekino at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. He appreciates the musical works of all composers and doesn't have a favorite to play or to listen to. He has played at various venues in the Boston area, and at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. This tour will be his first time playing internationally and also his first time visiting Europe.

Sarah Kisin is a 17-year-old pianist studying with John Adams at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. Her awards include First Prize and the Bach Prize in the A. Ramón Rivera Piano Competition, First Prize in the Charleston International Music Competition, and multiple awards in the Steinway Piano Competition, the International Chopin Competition in Hartford, CT, and the Paderewski International Piano Competition. She attended the Boston University Tanglewood Institute's Young Artists Piano Program and is currently in the piano seminar program at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School.

Rebecca Lai, age 16, is a sophomore at Lexington Christian Academy. She studied under the tutelage of Anahit Truzan from the age of five and currently studies at New England Conservatory Preparatory School with Yukiko Sekino. She has passed the National Piano Auditions for four years as a National Winner and one year as an International Winner. She also holds the Advanced Bach Medal from the auditions won in 2019. Her past performances include the Crescendo International Competition 2023 at Carnegie Hall, where she performed Chopin's Nocturne in A-flat Major.

Rebecca has also attended the Atlantic Music Festival, where she participated in masterclasses by Victor Rosenbaum and Matti Raekallio. Her studies have also led her to chamber ensemble and accompanist opportunities where she collaborates with other instruments. Aside from piano, Rebecca enjoys cross-country running and volunteering at church.

George Lin is a 10th grader at Walnut Hill School for the Arts and currently studies under Professor Sergey Schepkin. He was profoundly inspired to deepen his commitment to music after watching the live stream of the 18th Chopin International Piano Competition in 2021. George believes that "working hard towards my goals and witnessing my own passion and persistence is a beautiful journey of self-exploration, which fills me with a sense of accomplishment." In addition to music, George enjoys traveling to different countries and exploring various cultures and landscapes. He values learning from diverse life experiences. George hopes to express his thoughts and tell stories through the music he shares with others.

Leo (Bingye) Ren is a piano student studying under Angel Ramón Rivera at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. Leo loves participating in chamber music and performing in ensembles at the New England Conservatory. He currently attends Buckingham Browne & Nichols school in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he performs at senior centers across Massachusetts. Leo is currently expanding his musical experience by learning to play the violin and singing in the New England Conservatory Preparatory School's Youth Chorale. Outside of music, Leo fences foil with Star Fencing Academy and on his school team, volunteers at a wildlife sanctuary, and skis during the winter.

Hanna Suzuki is an incoming 10th grader in Bedford, Massachusetts. She's been a student of Hitomi Koyama at New England Conservatory Preparatory School and explores music in the school's certificate program.

Hanna has won first place at numerous competitions: American Protégé International Piano and Strings Competition, Steinway Society of Massachusetts Piano Competition, Elite International Music Competition, Crescendo International Music Competition, and the Massachusetts Music Teachers Association Bay State Piano Contest.

Hanna also engages in research projects that mix music, acoustics, and computer science. She was honored with global awards in the NASA International Space Apps Challenge, selected as one of 10 national finalists in the 3M Young Scientist Challenge, and was awarded a national honorable mention by the National Center for Women and Information Technology. For her initiative to teach technical skills in youth communities, Hanna has been honored by the Congressional Award and the President's Volunteer Service Award.

A 10th-grade student from Vancouver at Phillips Academy, **Patrick Xu** began playing the piano at the age of four. Ever since, he has been deeply involved in music, whether it be performing in recitals, playing the violin in orchestras, or composing chamber music. Before attending Phillips Academy, Patrick achieved Distinction in the Associate of the Royal Schools of Music's diploma program and was the winner of the 24th International Children and Youth Piano Competition. Last year, he joined the New England Conservatory of Music Preparatory School, where he currently studies piano with Konstantinos Papadakis, participates in Angel Ramón Rivera's Piano Seminar, and studies composition with Rodney Lister.

Claire Zhang is a 14-year-old freshman at the Winsor School in Boston who has been playing piano since the age of five. She studied for two years with Judith Olson at the Bloomingdale School of Music in New York City before moving to Massachusetts, where she began studying with Angel Ramón Rivera at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School. Claire has also participated in the Preparatory School's piano seminars for several years.

Over the course of her musical journey, Claire has developed a deep passion for piano and connecting people across cultures through music. She has competed in the New England Conservatory Preparatory School's Concerto Competition and was awarded the Bach Prize at the A. Ramón Rivera Competition. In addition to music, Claire enjoys creating art and exploring math.

Grace Zhuo is 14 years old, and she is a freshman at Newton North High School. She has played piano for nine years and has been studying at New England Conservatory Preparatory School with Marilyn Roth since she was nine, when she moved to Newton, Massachusetts. At the New England Conservatory Preparatory School, she has taken classes such as music theory and piano seminar, and has performed in the Youth Chorale, piano duos, and piano trios. She performed in a solo recital last year and will have another recital this year. Besides music, she likes math and chemistry, enjoys writing, reading, and biking in her free time, and participates in her school newspaper.

About New England Conservatory

New England Conservatory (NEC) is recognized internationally as a leader among music schools, educating and training musicians of all ages from around the world. With music students representing more than 40 countries, NEC cultivates a diverse, dynamic community for students, providing them with performance opportunities and high-caliber training by 225 internationally esteemed artist-teachers and scholars. NEC pushes the boundaries of making and teaching music through college-level musical training in classical, jazz and Contemporary Improvisation. It offers unique interdisciplinary programs such as Entrepreneurial Musicianship and Community Performances & Partnerships that empower students to create their own musical opportunities. As part of NEC's mission to make lifelong music education available to everyone, the Preparatory School and School of Adult Education delivers training and performance opportunities for children, pre-college students and adults. Founded in Boston, Massachusetts in 1867 by Eben Tourjée, NEC created a new model of conservatory that combined the best of European tradition with American innovation. NEC is at the center of Boston's rich cultural history and musical life offering concerts performed in NEC's renowned venue Jordan Hall. Alumni go on to fill orchestra chairs, concert hall stages, jazz clubs, recording studios and arts management positions worldwide. necmusic.edu

About New England Conservatory's Preparatory School

Founded by violinist and educator Frances Lanier, New England Conservatory's Preparatory School celebrates its 75th Anniversary in 2025, continuing to welcome children of all ages who have a desire to make music a profound part of their lives. Every week, over 1,700 students from across New England — from beginners to the most advanced young musicians — participate in lessons, classes, ensembles, and intensive certificate programs with world-class faculty. NEC Prep provides the opportunity to hone performance skills through participation in workshops, recitals, and concerts. At NEC Prep, students can experience meaningful musical education at one of the nation's largest programs of its kind. necmusic.edu/prep

About New England Conservatory's Piano Department

NEC Preparatory School's Piano Department has 250 students enrolled in weekly private lessons. Students in the piano department gain valuable performance experience through department workshops and recitals, in addition to chamber music ensembles, piano duo, and piano seminar classes. Select NEC Preparatory School piano students are invited to audition for biannual Performance/Learning Tours of European music capitals. Created in 2006 by Marilyn Roth and continued in 2025 under the artistic leadership of Konstantinos Papadakis, the NEC Prep Piano Tours have provided students the opportunity to perform in Vienna, Budapest, Paris, Nohant, Weimar, and Leipzig, while touring important piano-heritage sites in Salzburg, Erfurt, Berlin, and Prague. In addition to recital performances, students on the tour participate in masterclasses with professors from major European music conservatories.

With Gratitude:

Thank you to the teachers who prepared their students for the 2025 Piano Tour to Germany: Hitomi Koyama, Konstantinos Papadakis, Angel Ramón Rivera, Marilyn Roth, Sergey Schepkin, and Yukiko Sekino. Thank you also to Konstantinos Papadakis for his work as the Artistic Lead for this tour, and to Hitomi Koyama for her support as the Piano Department Chair at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School.



Thank you to pianist Xiaopei Xu for the design of the T-shirts for the 2025 Piano Tour to Germany.

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