

# Concert Program



A Joint Faculty Recital by

Pei-Shan Lee, *piano*  
Ayano Ninomiya, *violin*  
Lluís Claret, *cello*

Wednesday, October 1, 2025

7:30 p.m.

NEC's Jordan Hall

## PROGRAM

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**Ludwig van Beethoven**  
(1770–1827)

**Piano Trio in E-flat Major, op. 1 no. 1**

Allegro  
Adagio cantabile  
Scherzo: Allegro assai  
Finale: Presto

*Intermission*

**Piotr Ilich Tchaikovsky**  
(1840–1893)

**Piano Trio in A Minor, op. 50**

*(In memory of a great artist)*

Pezzo elegiaco: Moderato assai – Allegro giusto  
(A) Tema von variazioni: Andante con moto  
(B) Variazione finale e coda

## Artist biographies

Cellist **Lluís Claret** was born in 1951 in Andorra la Vella to exiled Andorran parents, and began his musical studies at the age of nine. In 1964 he moved to Barcelona, Spain, where he won major distinctions at the Conservatory of the Liceu, and began working with Enric Casals, brother of Pablo Casals. He continued his studies in France, Italy, and in the United States, with masters such as Maurice Gendron, Radu Aldulescu. Claret has said that his personal meetings with György Sebök, Eva Janzer, and Bernard Greenhouse were also implemental in the development of his artistic personality. Claret's professional career was launched into the international spotlight after he took first prizes at the Pablo Casals International Cello Competition in 1976 and the Rostropovich Cello Competition in 1977.

Chamber music, pedagogy, and a great interest in contemporary music are all essential elements of Claret's musical focus. His previous teaching posts include the "Victoria dels Angels" Music School at Sant Cugat in Barcelona, and the Toulouse Conservatory in France. He currently teaches at the Conservatori Superior de Música del Liceu in Barcelona, and has presented masterclasses in France, Portugal, Belgium, Italy, the U.S., Japan, and Korea. Also, together with Bernard Greenhouse he conducted seminars at the Abbey of Fontfroide in Narbonne, France.

A consummate performer, Claret has been on stage in the principal capitals of Europe, America, and Asia. Under the baton of Vaclav Neumann, Mstislav Rostropovitch, Pierre Boulez, Karl Münchinger, Dimitri Kitaienko, Sakari Oramo, George Malcolm, and many others, Claret has performed with orchestras such as the Washington National Symphony, Moscow Philharmonic, Hungarian Philharmonic, Czech Philharmonic, English Chamber Orchestra, and the French National Orchestra. He has also performed with notable orchestras in Tokyo, Seoul, Düsseldorf, Bamberg, Stuttgart, Moscow, Madrid, and Barcelona. In 1980, he founded the Barcelona Trio, which performed for nearly 15 years. He also was member of the Berlin Trio for ten years with Klaus Helwig and Christane Edinger. His interest on contemporary music has brought him to personal collaboration with prestigious musicians such as Henri Dutilleux, Witold Lutoslawski, Krzysztof Penderecki, Joan Guinjoan, Iannis Xenakis, and Pierre Boulez.

A regularly invited jury member for international competitions, Claret has served on the juries of the Rostropovitch Competition in Paris, France, Paulo Cello Competition in Helsinki, Finland, the International Pablo Casals Competition in Kronberg, Germany, and the Adam Cello Competition in Auckland, New Zealand. He joined the NEC faculty in 2016 and serves as co-chair of the String Department.

Pianist **Pei-Shan Lee's** playing has been praised in *Strad Magazine* as "glittering... sensuous, tender, and luminous." *The Boston Musical Intelligencer* writes of her "gorgeous tone and color range" with "monumental orchestral sonorities." *The Washington Post* hails her as a "consummate" artist, and the *Maine Classical Beat* commends her gift for "holding it all together... as the composer directing from the piano."

Ms. Lee has toured the world with concerts throughout much of Europe, Israel, Asia, and America. Major venues in the United States include Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center, and Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall. Ms. Lee has also performed at the Mostly Mozart Festival, Caramoor Festival, Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, Rockport Chamber Music Festival, Bowdoin Festival, Heifetz Institute, and Chautauqua Institute. Festivals abroad have included ProQuartet in France, Great Wall Academy in Beijing, Formosa Chamber Music Festival in Taiwan, and International Piano Festivals in Spain and Russia.

Since coming to the United States from Taiwan, Ms. Lee has specialized in the duo repertoire for both strings and woodwinds, and has collaborated with some of America's most important musicians, including her distinguished faculty colleagues at NEC: violinists Margaret Batjer, Cathy Cho, Ryu Goto, Jacques Israelievitch, Stefan Jackiw, Ani Kavafian, Joseph Silverstein, and Ian Swensen; violists Brian Chen, James Dunham, Edward Gazouleas, and Dmitri Murrath; and cellists Robert deMaine, Andres Diaz, and Pieter Wispelwey. She has appeared in concerts with the Ariel, Formosa, Harlem, Jupiter, and Szymanowski String Quartets, and with principals of the Bavarian Radio, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Detroit, and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

A member of NEC's Collaborative Piano Faculty, and a passionate advocate for advancing the art of piano-instrumental collaboration, Ms. Lee previously served on the faculty of California State University Northridge, where she created a new MM in Collaborative Piano. Her doctoral thesis, "The Collaborative Pianist: Balancing Roles in Partnership," has become an important resource for schools wishing to begin Collaborative Piano degree programs and has been translated into Chinese. Formerly on the faculty of the Perlman Music Program, she currently directs the Collaborative Piano Fellowship program at the Bowdoin International Music Festival in Maine during the summers.

Originally from Taiwan, Ms. Lee came to the U.S. after winning the Youth Division of Taiwan's National Piano Competition. Based in Boston, she has worked with the Boston Symphony Orchestra's guest conductors and soloists, and participated in the filming of *The Portrait*, on violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter, and of *Talent Has Hunger*, on cellist Paul Katz and his NEC cello studio. She has also held positions at the Chautauqua Institute, Cleveland Institute of Music, and Meadowmount School of Music. Former teachers include Irma Vallecillo, Anne Epperson, Jonathan Feldman, Solomon Mikowsky, and Yu-Yun Chen.

Winner of numerous prizes including the Walter Naumburg International Competition, Tibor Varga International Competition, Astral Artists National Auditions, Young Performers Career Advancement, and Lili Boulanger awards, **Ayano Ninomiya** has performed with orchestras across the U.S., Switzerland, Bulgaria, and most recently in Carnegie Hall. Praised for her "deeply communicative and engrossing" (*The New York Times*) performances, recent and upcoming teaching and performance festivals include Yellow Barn's Young Artist Program, Ravinia's Steans Institute, Portland Chamber Music Festival, Skaneateles Music Festival, Colorado

College Music Festival, Kingston Chamber Music Festival, and the Bowdoin International Music Festival. She has been featured on Musicians from Marlboro tours in the U.S. and France, and has given a TEDx talk at the University of Tokyo. She was first violinist of the Ying Quartet and was Associate Professor at the Eastman School of Music until 2015 when she joined the violin faculty of New England Conservatory. As a recipient of the Beebe Fellowship, Ayano studied in Budapest, Hungary, at the Liszt Academy after graduating from Harvard University and The Juilliard School.

### **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

*all programs subject to change*

Visit [necmusic.edu](http://necmusic.edu) for complete and updated concert information

**NEC Jazz Studies Dept.** presents **Sara Serpa**, jazz composer and vocalist, and **Matt Mitchell**, piano

*Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

**Enchanted Circle: The Callithumpian Consort**, Stephen Drury, artistic director

Works by Lucier, Mastel, Laubrock, and Hyla

*Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

**First Monday at Jordan Hall**, 41<sup>st</sup> season

Works by Shostakovich, Ravel, Gubaidulina, and Massenet

*Monday, October 6, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**Tuesday Night New Music**

New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

*Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Brown Hall*

**NEC Chamber Orchestra**, Donald Palma, artistic director

Strauss *Sextet for Strings* from *Capriccio*; Mozart *Serenade No. 6 in D Major*;

Weinberg *Symphony No. 7*, op. 81

*Wednesday October 8, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**NEC Symphonic Winds**, Sylvia Alimena, guest conductor

Works by Arnold, Danielpour, Hazo, Ticheli, Jager, Broughton, Holst, and Thomas

*Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

**Faculty Recital: Max Levinson**, piano

Schubert *Sonata in A Major*; Mussorgsky *Pictures at an Exhibition*

*Friday, October 10, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

## **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

*—continued*

### **NEC Composers' Series, Arthur Berger Memorial Concert**

Sid Richardson, curator; Berger *Five Settings of European Poets*; Agócs *Hyacinth Curl*; Mallia *Alone*; Lister *Ordinary Heartbreaks and Other Poems of Michael Blumenthal*; Richardson *Inscribed on a Lintel*; Richardson *How Do I Love Thee?*

*Wednesday, October 15, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **NEC Jazz Orchestra, Ken Schaphorst, director**

*"Dreamkeeper: Music of Carla Bley"*

*Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

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New music by NEC student composers, performed by their peers

*Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at 8:00 p.m., Burnes Hall*

### **Liederabend LXXVII, JJ Penna, curator**

*Wednesday, October 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., Williams Hall*

### **NEC Symphony, David Loebel, conductor**

Tower *Sixth Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman*; Haydn *Symphony No. 85, "La Reine"*; Franck *Symphony in D Minor*

*Wednesday, October 22, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **Perkin Opera Scenes**

*Thursday, October 23 & Friday, October 24, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.,*

*Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre*

### **Sonata Night 57, Pei-Shan Lee, director**

*Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., Burnes Hall*

### **NEC Chamber Singers, Erica J. Washburn, conductor**

*"Beyond Boundaries and Borders"*, works focussing on refugee issues and awareness, police brutality, victim recognition, and more by Shaw, von Bingen, Thompson, Curenton-Simpson, Bussewitz-Quarm, and Boulanger

*Thursday, October 23, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **Faculty Recital: Cameron Stowe**

*Monday, October 27, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

### **Faculty Recital: Borromeo String Quartet**

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall*

## **Upcoming Concerts at NEC**

*—continued*

**NEC Philharmonia**, Hugh Wolff, conductor  
Bacewicz *Overture*; Shostakovich *Piano Concerto No. 1*;  
Prokofiev *Symphony No. 5 in B-flat Major*, op. 100  
**Wednesday, October 29, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

**First Monday at Jordan Hall**, 41<sup>st</sup> season  
Works by Haydn, Britten, and Brahms  
**Monday, November 3, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

**NEC Trombone Choir**, James Markey, director  
**Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., Burnes Hall**

**NEC Philharmonia, NEC Symphonic Choir**, David Loebel, conductor  
Mozart *Symphony No. 31, "Paris"*; Debussy *Nocturnes*;  
Boulangier *Psaume 129*; Poulenc *Gloria*  
**Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

**NEC Composers' Series: "Home"**  
Sophia Szokolay '19, '25 DMA, violin and Sid Richardson, co-curators  
An exploration of cultural identity and belonging, shaped by the experiences of migration and the quest for a sense of home in the midst of dissonance – works by Sam Wu, Marc Migó, Richardson, Mallia, Sanlikol, Minakakis, and Gandolfi  
**Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

**NEC Undergraduate Opera Seminar: Opera Scenes**, Michael Meraw, director  
**Thursday & Friday, November 6 & 7, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Plimpton Shattuck Black Box Theatre**

**NEC Chamber Orchestra**, Donald Palma, artistic director  
Stravinsky *Apollon musagète*  
**Wednesday, November 12, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

**BSO Prelude: What I Hear - Tania León**  
**Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 5:30 p.m., Brown Hall**

**Sonata Night 58**, Pei-Shan Lee, director  
**Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., Burnes Hall**

**NEC Wind Ensemble**, William Drury, guest conductor  
Minakakis *Vykinon* (world premiere), Stephen Drury and Yukiko Takagi, piano  
**Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall**

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# Welcome to NEC!

I am thrilled to share New England Conservatory's 2025-26 concert season—a celebration of the power of music to connect and inspire 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.

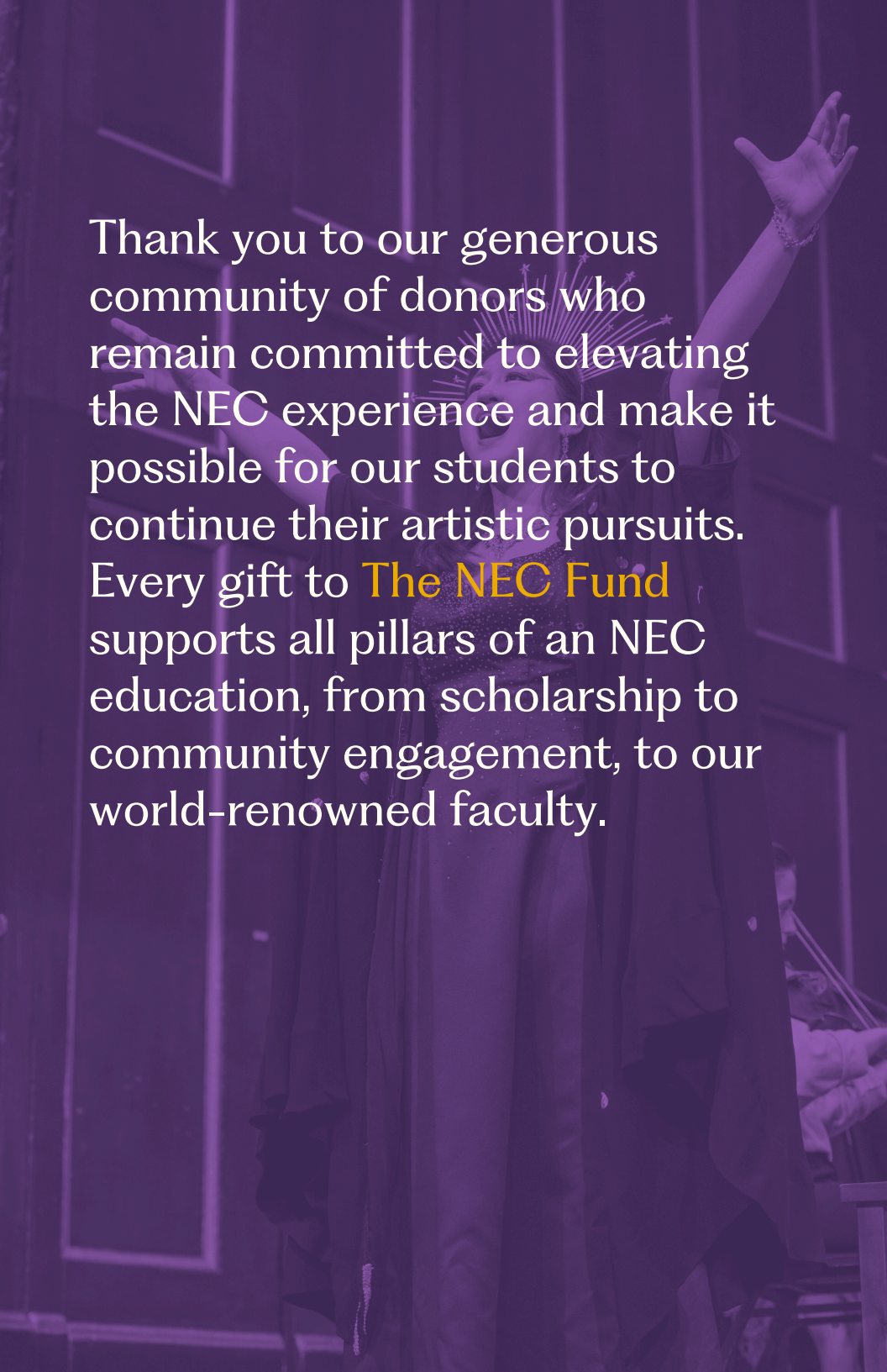
Andrea Kaylin  
President

A large orchestra is performing in a grand hall with ornate wood paneling and a high ceiling. The stage is lit with warm, golden light. A conductor in a dark suit stands at the front of the orchestra, facing the musicians. A soloist in a bright red jacket and dark pants stands in the center of the stage, holding a microphone. The audience is seated in the foreground, seen from behind, looking towards the stage. A large white rectangular box is overlaid on the upper half of the image, containing text.

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A woman in a black dress with a starburst headpiece, arms raised in a celebratory gesture, against a purple background.

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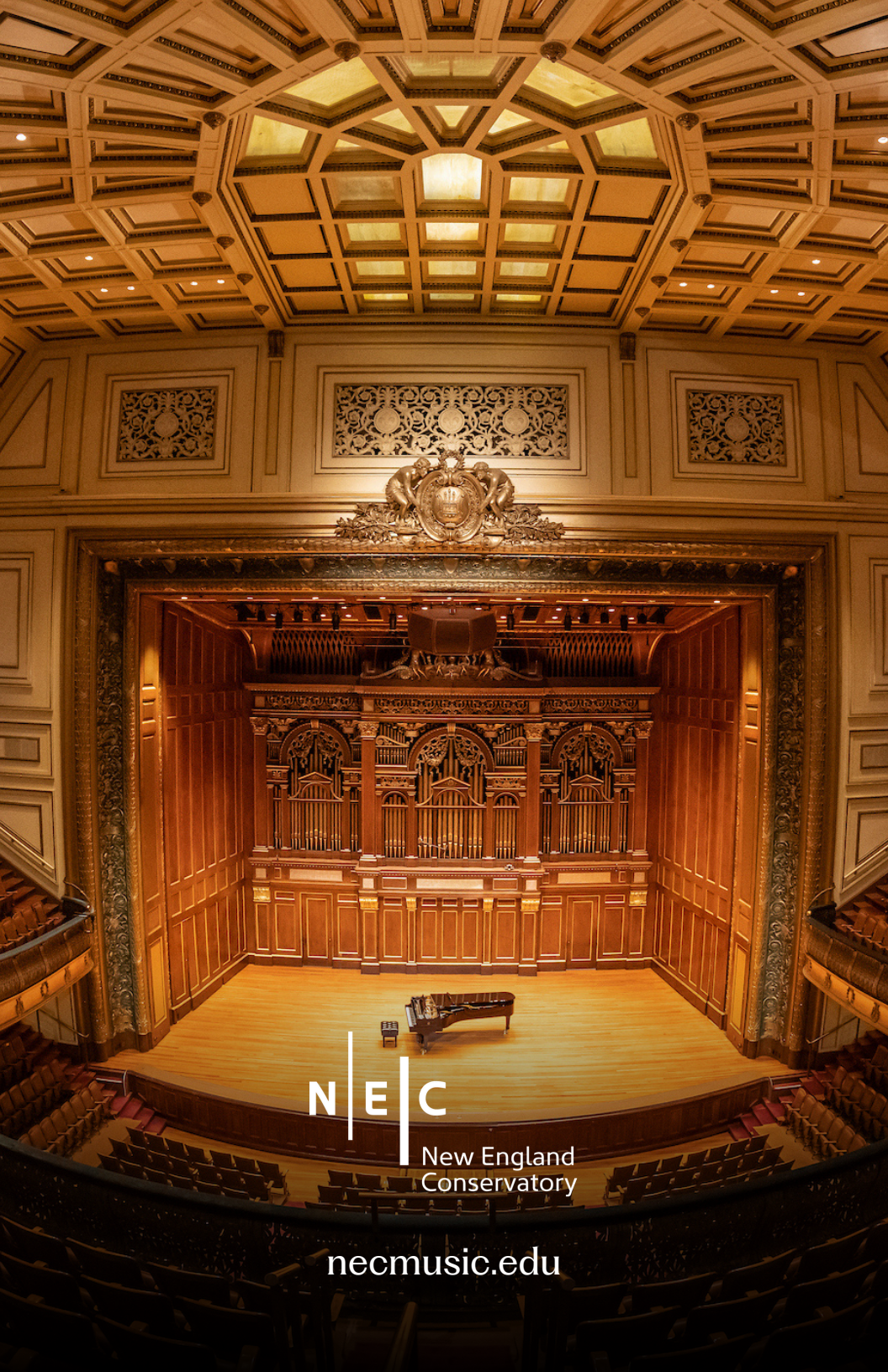
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This list reflects those who contributed to The NEC Fund and our annual scholarship appeal between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

*\*Indicates membership in the Tourjée Society. Named after NEC's founder, Eben Tourjée, the Tourjée Society recognizes those who have made a planned gift to NEC. Learn more by contacting Aaron McGarry, Planned Giving Officer, at [aaron.mcgarry@necmusic.edu](mailto:aaron.mcgarry@necmusic.edu) or 617-585-1356.*



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