

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

MARK KELLOGG,
TROMBONE

Sunday, November 2, 2025

Hatch Recital Hall

7:30 PM



University
of Rochester
Eastman School of Music

PROGRAM

**Saturday Night is the Loneliest
Night of the Week** (1944)

Jule Styne/Sammy Cahn
(1905-1994/1913-1993)
arr. Sam Streeter

September in the Rain (1937)

Harry Warren/Al Dubin
(1893-1981/1891-1945)

Assumptions (2021)

Amy Azzara
(b. 1999)

There is No Greater Love (1936)

Isham Jones/Marty Symes
(1894-1956/1904-1953)

Loving Those We Never Knew (2025)

Mark Kellogg
(b. 1964)

The More I See You (1945)

Harry Warren/Mack Gordon
(1893-1981/1904-1959)

Peace (2023)

Amy Azzara

Love Me or Leave Me (1928)

Walter Donaldson/Gus Kahn
(1893-1947/1886-1941)

Mark Kellogg, trombone
Amy Azzara, vocalist
Christopher Azzara, piano
Jeff Campbell, bass
Eric Schmitz, drum set

MEET THE ARTISTS

Mark Kellogg has embraced a wide range of musical roles throughout his career as a performer, teacher, conductor and administrator. Whether it's taken the form of appearing as a concerto soloist, playing in a wide variety of chamber ensembles, performing as an orchestral musician or as a jazz player, teaching students of all ages or overseeing artistic programs or festivals, he has been most fortunate to explore a rich array of musical opportunities. In addition to holding the position of Professor of Trombone and Coordinator of the Brass Chamber Music Program at the Eastman School of Music, Mr. Kellogg holds affiliate faculty appointments in the school's departments of Music Teaching and Learning and Chamber Music. He also serves as Co-Conductor of the Eastman Trombone Choir and Conductor of the Eastman Brass Guild and leads the school's Advanced Diploma Colloquium.



An Eastman faculty member since 1991, Mr. Kellogg's past duties have included teaching euphonium and jazz trombone, leading the school's audience development program Eastman To Go, chairing two of Eastman's performance departments (Chamber Music and Winds, Brass and Percussion) and initiating a course under the auspices of Eastman's Arts Leadership Program called "Parallels Between Acting and Musical Performance". This course was inspired by the work of his son, Rob Kellogg, a professional actor in New York City.

In January of 2025, Mr. Kellogg assumed a new role as conductor of the Perinton Concert Band. This ensemble enjoys a rich, 48-year history as one of the northeastern United States' most highly regarded community bands.

Mr. Kellogg performed for twenty-eight years as a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, occupying the Austin Hildebrandt Principal Trombone position. He appeared as soloist with the RPO on many occasions, performing the concerti of Tomasi, Albrechtsberger, Larsson, Shilkret and Jeff Tyzik (commissioned by the RPO in celebration of the orchestra's 80th anniversary), works by Elliott Carter and Fred Sturm and numerous jazz and euphonium solos on the orchestra's Pops

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series. Prior to his appointment in the Rochester Philharmonic, Mr. Kellogg performed as a member of the San Francisco Symphony and the National Repertory Orchestra. In recent seasons, he has also played with the Oregon Symphony, the Florida Orchestra, the Charleston Symphony, the Naples Philharmonic and The Syracuse Orchestra.

Mr. Kellogg has been a frequent guest with the Eastman Wind Ensemble, appearing as soloist in the Eastman Theatre and on tours to Japan and Carnegie Hall with Donald Hunsberger and Mark Davis Scatterday. He has also performed as a soloist with the Hartford Symphony, the US Army Orchestra, the Youngstown Symphony, the Penfield Symphony, the Hamilton New Music Ensemble, Brazil's Orquestra Sinfonica do Theatro da Paz, and Argentina's Camerata Eleuthera Chamber Orchestra.

Active as a jazz and chamber musician, Mr. Kellogg was a founding member of the brass and percussion ensemble Rhythm & Brass, touring the United States and Japan and making four recordings during his two years in the group. He has also performed with Clark Terry, Chris Vadala, Wynton Marsalis, Eddie Daniels, and Mel Tormé. Jazz and commercial recordings include collaborations with Jeff Tyzik, Gene Bertocini, Allen Vizzutti, Steve Gadd, Gap Mangione and as a member of the Dave Rivello Ensemble. His jazz recording with Eastman School faculty colleague pianist Tony Caramia, *Upstate Standards*, celebrates the music of upstate New York composers Harold Arlen, Alec Wilder, and Jimmy Van Heusen. Mr. Kellogg's most recent CD, *Impressions*, is a collection of French music for trombone and piano, featuring pianists Joseph Werner and Christopher Azzara. Since 2016, he has performed extensively with pianist Priscilla Yuen across the United States and South America.

A Conn Trombone performing artist, Mr. Kellogg has made appearances at numerous festivals and low brass symposia including the International Trombone Festival, the American Trombone Workshop, the Falcone International Euphonium and Tuba Festival, the Northeast Regional Tuba-Euphonium Conference, the Asian Pacific Music Educators Conference, the New York Brass Conference, the National Taiwan Symphony Orchestra's International Youth Orchestra Institute, the Hawaii Performing Arts Festival, London's Royal College of Music and the New World Symphony as well as at trombone festivals and master classes in Panama, Costa Rica, Argentina, Brazil, Japan, China, England, Denmark and Germany.

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In 2006, Mr. Kellogg founded Eastman's annual Summer Trombone Institute, a week-long workshop for high school, college, young professional and adult amateur trombonists. He also served as the co-host of the International Trombone Festival, held at the Eastman School in 2014.

Mark Kellogg and his wife, Meghan, a professional pianist, organist, singer and choral director, live in Brighton with their three cats.

Amy Azzara is a vocalist, educator, composer, and songwriter based in New York City, with a presence in upstate New York. Born in Hartford, CT and raised in a musical family in Rochester, NY, Amy's life and music have always been deeply intertwined, as she grew up immersed in music, learning songs by ear and surrounded by musicians.



Amy lives in Manhattan, singing live as a bandleader and as a collaborator on others' projects, and working on her own creative projects. Azzara's originals and adaptations of songs are central to her artistry. Her released works are available on streaming services. Through music, she tells stories in hopes of connecting with others, and expresses her feelings and her perspective. Her originals are inspired by the likes of Stevie Wonder, Jason Robert Brown, Sara Bareilles, and Stephen Schwartz. Her musicianship has developed in the context of listening to and drawing inspiration from musicians like PJ Morton, Bud Powell, Anita O'Day, Oscar Peterson, and Blossom Dearie. Always writing, Amy is currently finishing the songwriting process for her debut album, as well as developing an original musical entitled *The BFF Notebook* with her childhood best friend, Bridget Welch, which premiered at the 2025 ESL Rochester Fringe Festival. She is a vocalist in the New York Vocal Collective, a pop/jazz/R&B choir in its inaugural season, directed by Ben Bram. Amy is in a vocal trio with Emma Hedrick and Gabe Schonman singing the music of Lambert, Hendricks, and Ross. As a collaborator of *Foray Music* (a resource for musicians of all ages and levels), Amy shares videos and articles on YouTube and Substack, with Alexandria DeWalt and Charlie Christenson.

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Amy teaches early childhood music classes with Timbalooloo Music and with Musical Munchkins. She is passionate about music in early childhood, and loves to explore improvising and making music with kids. Azzara also teaches private voice and beginning piano lessons in New York City and online.

Amy earned a B.M. in Jazz Vocal Performance in 2022 from the University of Miami. During her time at the Frost School of Music, Azzara had the privilege of studying with Dr. Kate Reid, as well as singing lead soprano in a *DownBeat* award-winning jazz vocal ensemble and learning from renowned jazz educators. In 2022, Azzara toured Europe with the Frost Chorale under the direction of Dr. Amanda Quist, singing in London and Paris in beautiful, historic places, and once alongside VOCES8. In 2021, Azzara was honored with two *DownBeat* awards (Jazz Vocal Soloist and Small Vocal Jazz Group). Also in 2021, Amy attended the JAS Aspen Summer Academy under the direction of Christian McBride.

Amy's intention is to grow as a human and a musician, while always considering the purpose, power, and necessity of art. Music has shaped her values and given her a skill set that drives who she is. She approaches music (and life) with honesty, improvisation, kindness, an open mind, awareness of self and others, and listening. Amy loves to improvise, record layered vocals, and adapt and reimagine songs. She challenges herself to sing what the music calls for. She believes that the voice transcends genre, and loves to sing in different contexts.

Mentorship is meaningful to Amy, and she is deeply grateful to Dr. Kate Reid, Dr. Charlie Christensen, Dr. Christopher Azzara, Peter Eldridge, Alison Wedding, Laura Jean Diekmann, Karie Templeton, and the Geva family (a non-exhaustive list). Mentors have helped her to discover new aspects of her artistry, and assisted in shaping and honing her technique, improvisation, artistry, professionalism, and overall approach.

When Amy isn't singing, she can be found, coffee in hand, at the lake or exploring NYC, with family and friends.

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Pianist, arranger, author, and educator, **Christopher Azzara** has made important contributions to advancing the understanding of creativity and improvisation in the music learning process. An innovator in music teaching and learning, Dr. Azzara is Eisenhart Professor of Music Teaching & Learning and Affiliate Faculty, Jazz Studies & Contemporary Media, and Woodwinds, Brass, & Percussion at the Eastman School of Music. Teaching and performing internationally, he is the author of numerous articles, arrangements, and books, including *Developing Musicianship Through Improvisation* and *Jump Right In: The Instrumental Series* (GIA Publications). His musical arrangements for instrumental and vocal ensembles are available through Oxford University Press and GIA. His research and publications are concerned with meaningful relationships among listening, creating, improvising, reading, composing, and analyzing music in vocal and instrumental settings. Dr. Azzara's work appears in journals such as the *Journal of Research in Music Education*, the *Bulletin of the Council for Research in Music Education*, the *Music Educators Journal*, *Early Childhood Connections*, and in *The New Handbook of Research on Music Teaching and Learning* (MENC/Oxford), and *Oxford Handbooks Online*.



Azzara performs as a soloist and in various ensembles, including the Chris Azzara Trio, and has played on and produced many studio and educational recordings. In Rochester, he performs with freelance musicians, members of the Eastman School of Music Faculty, and members of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra.

An active teacher and clinician, he has presented and performed extensively throughout the United States, and in Canada, the Caribbean, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, China, Japan, and Australia. He has presented clinics and workshops in a variety of settings, including TEDxRochester, the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Carnegie Hall, and leading music schools in this country and abroad.

Christopher Azzara is a native of Virginia and attended public schools in Fairfax County. After receiving the Bachelor of Music degree from

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George Mason University (1981), he taught instrumental music in the Fairfax County Public Schools and performed as a pianist in the Washington D.C. area. He later received a Master of Music (1988) and a Ph.D. in Music Education (1992) from the Eastman School of Music. Prior to joining the Eastman faculty, Azzara was a professor at The Hartt School of Music, Dance, and Theatre of the University of Hartford, CT (1991-2002). Dr. Azzara joined the Eastman faculty in 2002 and was chair of the Music Teaching & Learning Department (then called the Music Education Department) from 2010-2018. In 2022, as an Eastman professor, Azzara received the University of Rochester's Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, which recognizes a record of distinguished undergraduate teaching and a commitment to helping less experienced faculty colleagues and teaching assistants master their craft. In 2023 Christopher Azzara was named Eisenhart Professor of Music Teaching & Learning, the oldest endowed professorship at the Eastman School of Music.

Jeff Campbell has carved out an impressive career as bass player of extraordinary artistry, fluent in both the jazz and classical idioms. As a jazz bassist, he maintains an active schedule performing with Marian McPartland, Gene Bertoncini, Rich Perry, Trio East, Harold Jones, and the Eastman Jazz Quartet featuring Harold Danko, and has appeared on McPartland's *Piano Jazz* program on National Public Radio. In



high demand across the globe, Jeff has performed at such prestigious European musical events as the Nice, Montreux, North Sea, Riga, and Parnu Jazz Festivals and has also appeared in the former Soviet Union and the Baltic Republics. His first CD, *West End Avenue*, with John Hollenbeck and John Wojciechowski, features a combination of original compositions and jazz standards. Additionally, Jeff is a member of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra bass section. His summers are occupied with the Birch Creek Music Performance Center in Door County, Wisconsin, where he serves as program director, and the Eastman Summer Jazz Studies and Bass Day, of which he is co-director.

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In addition to a busy performing schedule, Jeff maintains an active career as a jazz educator with a keen interest in bass playing of the past, present, and future. A full-time professor at Eastman since 1997, his teaching duties include jazz bass, jazz history, jazz theory and aural skills, and small group performance. He is a regular contributor to the *Double Bassist* magazine, and is the Jazz Editor of *Bass World*, the official publication of the International Society of Bassists. Jeff's book on the famous Duke Ellington-Jimmy Blanton duets (in preparation for publication) provides bassist with an opportunity to study the bass playing of the great Jimmy Blanton.

Jeff's music education began at an early age under the influence of his professional-musician parents. As a young musician, Jeff received much of his musical training working with local professional musicians in a myriad of musical styles and venues. Through these experiences, Jeff developed a healthy balance between the artistic and practical issues faced by today's professional musician. Jeff holds degrees in double bass performance and music education from Brigham Young University (BM) and the Eastman School of Music (MM, DMA). He has studied bass with John F. Clark, James VanDemark, Jeffrey Turner, and Robert Zimmerman, and jazz composition with Bill Dobbins and Fred Sturm.

Eric Schmitz is Professor of Jazz Studies at SUNY Oswego, where he directs the Oswego State Jazz Ensemble and Latin Jazz Ensemble, co-leads and performs with the Oswego Jazz Project (faculty jazz quartet), and teaches jazz and rock history, improvisation, jazz arranging, music theory and composition, and applied drum set.



He has lectured on music and given performances at universities throughout the United States as well as in Havana, Cuba; Kielce, Poland; and Cartagena, Colombia. Eric is an active composer and performer, as well as a clinician at schools throughout New York state. Eric has a passion for Cuban music and has made frequent trips to the island since 2007, where he has studied with Cuban percussion legend Emilio Del Monte since 2012.

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Eric's original compositions and arrangements for big band and chamber groups have been published by Really Good Music, LLC and Hip-Bone Music. Several of his original pieces are featured on ACE Composers and ACE Composers II, both released by Ravello Records.

Schmitz earned his Bachelor of music degree from the University of Northern Iowa and his MM and DMA in Jazz and Contemporary Media from the Eastman School of Music.

We acknowledge with respect the Seneca Nation, known as the "Great Hill People" and "Keepers of the Western Door" of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We take this opportunity to thank the people whose ancestral lands the Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester currently occupies in Rochester, New York.

UPCOMING EASTMAN PRESENTS CONCERTS

Tickets for all series concerts can be purchased at EastmanTheatre.org

EASTMAN PRESENTS - RANLET SERIES

Zemlinsky Quartet

Sunday, November 9, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Kilbourn Hall

Founded in 1994 while the members were still students, the Zemlinsky Quartet has become a much lauded example of the Czech string quartet tradition. The Zemlinsky Quartet won the First Grand Prize at the Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition in 2010, and has been awarded top prizes at the Banff International String Quartet Competition, Prague Spring International Music Competition, and London International String Quartet Competition where it also received the Audience Prize.

FACULTY ARTIST SERIES

David Bowlin, violin and Tony Cho, piano

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Hatch Recital Hall

EASTMAN PRESENTS - THE FERNANDO LAIRES PIANO SERIES

Jean-Efflam Bavouzet

Thursday, November 20, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

UPCOMING EASTMAN ENSEMBLE CONCERTS

All student performances are free unless otherwise noted.

Eastman Percussion Ensemble

Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall

Eastman Wind Ensemble

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre

Horn Choir

Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Kilbourn Hall



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