Bard College Conservatory of Music

Degree Recital

Nora Regina Graf, percussion

Saturday, November 14th, 2026, 4:00 PM

László Z. Bitó '60 Conservatory Building, Performance Space

Violin Concerto in A Minor, BWV 1041 — J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
- Allegro Moderato
- Andante
- Allegro Assai

Athena Allen, *double bass*
William Chang, *piano*

"Ragtime Rotate" - a percussion ensemble project — George Hamilton Green (1893-1970)
- Ragtime Robin - Nora Regina Graf
- Cross Corners - Dennis O'Keefe
- Log Cabin Blues - Ian Abbott
- Rainbow Ripples - Juan Diego Mora Rubio
- Triplets - Nathaniel Valsania

- Intermission -

Histoire du Tango — Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)
- II. Café 1930

Liliána Szokol, *flute*

Suite for Flute and Jazz Piano Trio — Claude Bolling (1930-2020)
- II. Sentimentale

Liliána Szokol, *flute*
Athena Allen, *double bass*
William Chang, *piano*

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Nora Regina Graf ’28, a fourth-year undergraduate double majoring in percussion and psychology, has been playing music since the age of five. Her first instrument was the piano, then she picked up percussion and studied both instruments simultaneously at Aelia Sabina Elementary Music School (Budapest, Hungary). Before coming to Bard Conservatory, she completed a three-year vocational training program in percussion performance, studying at King St Stephen Conservatory (Budapest, Hungary). During these years, because of her keen interest in all sides of music-making, she learned to play the flute, she took part in her first conducting classes and competitions, and she also took private vocal lessons. At Bard, she studies percussion with Eric Cha-Beach, Jason Treuting, and Jason Haaheim, she takes piano lessons from Blair McMillen, conducting lessons from James Bagwell, and in this semester, drum set lessons from Peter O’Brien as well. In previous semesters, she participated in Chamber Singers, and currently she is the timpanist of Bard College Community Orchestra. She also studied percussion with Luke Rinderknecht at the 2026 Bowdoin Festival. Being a multi-faceted musician, Nora aspires to become a professional conductor one day, and as she continues her studies at Bard, she is eager to further develop her leadership skills, initiating and supporting collaborative music-making projects.



William Chang ‘27 is a fourth-year undergraduate at Bard College majoring in Biology. Originally from Nottingham, UK, he has been playing the piano for 15 years and currently studies with Professor Blair McMillen at Bard. Before attending Bard, William spent six years at Chetham’s School of Music in Manchester, where he received extensive musical training and performed regularly in recitals and concerts. At Bard, William is an active chamber and collaborative musician. He is currently a member of the student-formed Trifolium Trio and regularly performs as a collaborative pianist with fellow musicians. He has also performed in a piano duet and served as rehearsal pianist for Bard College’s production of Urinetown, staged at the Fisher Center’s LUMA Theater by the Bard Theater & Performance Program. In his second year at Bard, William was named one of three winners of the Bard College Community Orchestra Solo Competition and performed the first movement of Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 23 with the orchestra in April 2025. Beyond performance, William has taught piano privately, at a Yamaha Music School in the UK, and through Bard’s Musical Mentorship Initiative, a program dedicated to expanding access to music education.



Athena Allen ‘27 is a fifth-year double bassist at the Bard College Conservatory of Music studying with Satoshi Okamoto. In addition to bass, she also studies biology. She started her musical journey at a young age playing the piano, violin, and signing. She began playing double bass at the age of 12 and started formal training soon after at Juilliard’s Music Advancement Program. She also attended Juilliard Pre College as a recipient of a scholarship and grant from the Dan J. Epstein Foundation. In 2022, she toured with the Chineke! Junior Orchestra, performing at the Lucerne Music Festival and Young Euro Classic. She also attended Bowdoin Music Festival in 2026. Her previous teachers include Lubima Shentov, Rion Wentworth, and Eugene Levinson.



Liliána Szokol ‘28 is an emerging flutist and current undergraduate at the Bard College Conservatory of Music, pursuing a double degree in Flute Performance and Human Rights. A student of Tara Helen O’Connor, she previously studied under Endre Varga, Eszter Horgas, and Béla Drahos in Hungary. Her awards include an Honorable Mention at the Bard Conservatory’s Concerto Competition (2025), 1st Prize at the London Classical Music Competition (2023), and Absolute 1st Prize at the Femus International Flute Competition (2020) in Serbia. In addition to performing at Carnegie Hall with The Orchestra Now this year, she has recently played at Brevard Music Center and participated in Amy Porter’s Anatomy of Sound masterclass. Liliána has been named the Bitó Scholar for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 academic years, and she is also currently working on her Human Rights Senior Project that centers around the voices of women concerning the failings of the Hungarian legal system.