

# IOWA

School of Music

## EXHIBIT AND RECITAL

### **ELEANOR WALTZES: WOMEN'S MUSIC AND POETRY FOR ELEANOR ROOSEVELT DURING THE GREAT DEPRESSION**

SARAH HACHTMAN, soprano

HALIE AUGUSTUS, piano

RACHEL WALTER, violin

CALEB ESTRADA-VALENTÍN, flute

KATIE FORBUSH, violoncello

WENDI GRIFFITHS, reciter

MARIAN WILSON KIMBER, reciter

with

KATE ORAZEM, Iowa Women's Archives

SARA HARVEY, historic foods consultant

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026, at 3 PM, VOXMAN RECITAL HALL

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## PROGRAM

### **Hearing Women During the Great Depression**

Marian Wilson Kimber

### **Introduction to the Iowa Women's Archives Exhibit**

Kate Orazem

*- Intermission and Exhibit -*

### ***Eleanor Roosevelt Waltz (1937)***

Elise Skaife, Colfax, Washington

### ***Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt (1934)***

Evelyn Sherill, Miami, Florida

### ***We're on Relief (excerpt, 1935)***

Virginia T. Norton, Austin, Texas

***Last Roses (Serenade) (1933)***

Anka Lacay, Gary, Indiana

**To Anna Eleanor Roosevelt (1936)**

Ethel Weidenaur, Eagle Rock, California

***Our Lady Eleanor (1939)***

Ruby Millard, Buffalo, New York

**Letter, June 4, 1934**

***Lock Me in Your Heart***

Jennie Gheen, Clifton Springs, Virginia

**Letter (excerpt), December 21, 1933**

Mrs. O. H. Conway, Lebanon, Ohio

***Home (1934)***

Elizabeth Merz Butterfield, Jamestown, New York

**A Toast to Roosevelt Leadership (1938)**

A.L.E.B. Home Demonstration Club of Georgia

***My Day (1940)***

H. Johansen, Mantua, Ohio

**Letter (excerpt), November 3, 1934**

Mrs. Nellie E. Ford, Monongahela, Pennsylvania

**Mrs. Roosevelt's First Visit to Our County (1934)**

Cora Rundle, Morgantown, West Virginia

***First Lady Eleanor (1939)***

Kay Wilson and Clarence King, San Marino, California

**The Day of Wrath (excerpt, 1934)**

Carroll Tyson, Duluth, Minnesota

***Housewife's Blues (1937)***

Hetty Kopp

**A Song of Hope (excerpt, 1934)**

Addie Benbow Henderson, Lubbock, Texas

***Hymn for Peace (1938)***

Madeline Bush

**Here's to You (1936)**

Flo Underwood, Ohio

***The First Lady of the Land March (1935)***

Margaret Hennigh, Louisburg, Kansas

*Please join us after the concert for a "making do" reception featuring Depression-era recipes.*

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

### HALIE AUGUSTUS

Halie Augustus is a pianist, educator, and collaborative artist. She holds a Doctorate in piano performance and pedagogy from the University of Iowa, with a secondary area in voice. Her international career has included appearances at Carnegie Hall, Palais Montcalm–Maison de la Musique, and Museo MACA. A passionate advocate for music's transformative power, Halie believes deeply in the arts as a means of connection, communication, and service. Her work as a performer and educator is guided by curiosity and a commitment to creating meaningful musical experiences.

### CALEB J. ESTRADA-VALENTIN

Flutist Caleb J. Estrada-Valentín is currently teaching as the sabbatical replacement for Prof. Nicole Esposito at the University of Iowa, where he is completing a DMA. A Miyawa Emerging Artist, he serves as piccoloist for the Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra and has recently been acting second flutist with the Quincy, Illinois, Symphony Orchestra. Caleb performs with the Iowa City Flute Choir and has directed the New Horizons Flute Ensemble. He has received first-prize awards in the Texas Flute Society's 40th Annual Myrna W. Brown Artist Competition, the Flute Society of Kentucky's 2026 Young Artist Competition, the Central Ohio Flute Association's 2026 Young Artist Competition, and the Rochester Flute Association's 2025 Emerging Artist Competition.

### KATIE FORBUSH

Katie Forbush is a versatile cellist whose career spans orchestral and chamber music in the United States and abroad. She has worked with renowned cellists including Yo-Yo Ma and Gary Hoffman, and collaborated with award-winning ensembles such as the Harlem Quartet and Attacca Quartet. Her performances have taken her throughout the United States and to England, France, and Czechia. A founding member of the Seamark Quartet, Katie also serves as principal cellist of the University of Iowa Symphony Orchestra. She holds degrees in cello performance from Western Michigan University and the University of Iowa, where she is currently pursuing her DMA.

### WENDI GRIFFITHS

Wendi Griffiths is a DMA candidate in voice at the University of Iowa, graduate research assistant, and assistant editor and inaugural Richard Crawford Internship recipient for the *Journal of the Society for American Music*. Her research works to expand vocal curricula to include underrepresented composers, particularly women. Currently, she is writing a dissertation that anthologizes early Broadway songs by women (1900–1925) and presenting a lecture recital exploring the practical studio implications of the nineteenth-century practice of self-accompaniment. Wendi has taught and performed

across the country as a vocalist and pianist. She holds degrees from the University of Utah and Florida State University.

### **SARAH HACHTMAN**

Soprano Sarah Hachtman brings warmth and versatility to both operatic and concert stages. A doctoral student in voice performance at the University of Iowa, she has sung roles ranging from Despina in *Così fan tutte* to the contemporary Margaret in *Fierce*, as well as local premieres including *Orphan Train to Iowa* and *The Machine Stops*. In concerts, she has performed Brahms's *German Requiem* and works by Ron Nelson and Frank Ticheli. Sarah also explores the intersection of literature and song through lecture recitals at Jane Austen festivals. She and her husband and kids have called Iowa City their home for nearly two decades.

### **SARA HARVEY**

Sara Harvey is an avid home cook who enjoys researching historical recipes. Her previous culinary reconstruction was an eighteenth-century dinner held for the organizers of *Jane and Her Music*, which celebrated the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of Jane Austen in 2025. Sara lives in Iowa City with her husband and 100+ cookbooks.

### **DR. RACHEL WALTER**

Dr. Rachel Walter is principal 2nd violin of Orchestra Iowa and section violinist in the Quad City Symphony Orchestra. Walter is a founding member of the Burch Trio, which has residencies at Roosevelt University and Western Michigan University this fall. When Walter is not on the stage she is a music educator, teaching music and general courses at Coe College. Rachel received degrees from the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music (BM), the Bienen School of Music at Northwestern University (MM) and the University of Iowa (DMA). She has recorded commercially for Disney+, National Geographic, and Cedille Records.

### **MARIAN WILSON KIMBER**

Marian Wilson Kimber is Professor of Musicology at the University of Iowa. Her research has concentrated on Felix Mendelssohn, Fanny Hensel, and women's roles in American musical life. Wilson Kimber is author of *The Elocutionists: Women, Music, and the Spoken Word* (2017) and *Clubwomen Activists and the Making of American Music*, forthcoming from the University of Illinois Press. She edits the *Journal of the Society for American Music* and contributes to the blog, *Women's Song Forum*. In 2026 Wilson Kimber was the recipient of the Mildred Throne and Charles Aldrich Scholarly History Award from the State Historical Society of Iowa.

# PROGRAM NOTES

## IOWA WOMEN'S ARCHIVES

The Iowa Women's Archives (IWA) nourishes creative teaching, learning, and research by collecting, preserving, and sharing records of the history of Iowa women from all walks of life. Founded in 1992 by Louise Noun and Mary Louise Smith, IWA strives to serve a broad audience through a combination of classroom, in-person, and online programming. Visit our website [lib.uiowa.edu/iwa](http://lib.uiowa.edu/iwa) to learn more, or come see us on the third floor of the University of Iowa Main Library during our open hours.

## DEPRESSION-ERA FOODS

Eleanor Roosevelt's book *It's Up to the Women* contained recipes from home economics specialists, who suggested whole wheat bread and butter with almost every meal. Some now familiar products originated during the Depression, including Kraft Mac and Cheese, which began to be sold in 1937 for 19 cents; one box produced "a meal for 4...in 9 minutes!" Ritz Crackers were introduced in 1934 and could substitute for apples in "mock" apple pie. A common treat from the era was Poor Man's Cake, featuring raisins. Chocolate Wacky Cake did not become popular until the mid-1940s. It was considered easy and economical because it does not require eggs or butter.

## DONATE TO THE FOOD PANTRY

CommUnity Crisis Services' food bank distributed nearly 2 million pounds of food to assist Johnson County residents last year. Please donate your support to the food bank at this link: <https://builtbycommunity.org/donate/>.

## SOUNDING THE NATION AT 250

Today's event is part of *Sounding the Nation at 250*, organized by the Society for American Music (SAM) and commemorating the Semiquincentennial of the United States. *Sounding the Nation at 250* highlights the essential role music and the arts have played in expressing the hopes, struggles, identities and aspirations of communities across time. The series honors the artists, musicians, and creators whose work has shaped American culture while also looking forward to a future in which the arts continue to foster creativity, connection, and shared civic life.

Founded in 1975, the Society for American Music is dedicated to the study, teaching, creation, and dissemination of all musics of the Americas. As a non-profit, scholarly and educational organization, SAM serves academics, librarians, composers, performers, students, and members of the general public, fostering dialogue across disciplines and communities. Learn more about *Sounding the Nation at 250* at [sam250.org](http://sam250.org).

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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# LEARN MORE ABOUT ELEANOR ROOSEVELT AND THE GREAT DEPRESSION

The **Eleanor Roosevelt Papers**, made available by George Washington University, provides Mrs. Roosevelt's political speeches, "My Day" newspaper columns, transcripts from radio and television, and much more at: <https://erpapers.columban.gwu.edu>.

**The books listed below can be found at the Iowa City Public Library:**

Mary Jo Binker, *If You Ask Me: Essential Advice from Eleanor Roosevelt*  
Blanche Wiesen Cook, *Eleanor Roosevelt, Vol. 1: The Early Years, 1884–1933*  
Robert S. McElvaine, *The Great Depression: America, 1929–1941*  
Amity Shlaes, *The Forgotten Man: A New History of the Great Depression*  
Studs Terkel, *Hard Times: an Illustrated Oral History of the Great Depression*  
Jane Ziegelman, *A Square Meal: A Culinary History of the Great Depression*

**The following books are available from the University of Iowa Libraries:**

Books by Eleanor Roosevelt: *It's Up to the Women* (1933), *This is My Story* (1937), *This Troubled World* (1938), *My Days* (1938), and *This I Remember* (1949)  
Henry R. and Maurine H. Beasley, and Holly C. Shulman, *The Eleanor Roosevelt Encyclopedia*  
Blanche Wiesen Cook, *Eleanor Roosevelt, Vol. 2: The Defining Years, 1933–1938*  
Morris Dickstein, *Dancing in the Dark: a Cultural History of the Great Depression*  
C. Knepper, *Dear Mrs. Roosevelt: Letters to Eleanor Roosevelt Through Depression and War*  
Susan Ware, *Holding Their Own: American Women in the 1930s*

