

NEWS RELEASE



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QuartetFest features performances by the Penderecki and Miró string quartets

WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University invites chamber-music lovers to enjoy the 19th annual QuartetFest June 1 to 7, featuring performances of Ludwig van Beethoven string quartets and contemporary pieces by the Penderecki String Quartet, the Miró String Quartet and student participants.

A series of six concerts and intensive chamber-music workshops will be held throughout QuartetFest, a non-profit event that helps young musicians from around the world refine their talents. The theme “Beethoven to the Future” will allow students and audiences to explore the connection between Beethoven and contemporary composers.

“This event is about allowing musicians and audiences to enjoy their love of chamber music,” said Jerzy Kaplanek, an associate music professor at Laurier and a violinist with the Penderecki. “We are trying to connect the musical community around us and at large.”

The Penderecki String Quartet will perform June 1 and June 3, and feature world premieres by Michael Matthews and Norbert Palej. The Miró String Quartet, which regularly performs at top music houses around the world including Carnegie Hall in New York City, will perform a new work by Kevin Puts on June 4. Concerts on June 5, 6 and 7 will feature young artists.

All concerts begin at 8 p.m. and will either be held in the Maureen Forrester Recital Hall on Laurier’s Waterloo Campus or at the Kitchener Waterloo Chamber Music Society. Visit www.quartetfest.ca for a calendar of events.

New this year, audiences are invited to arrive an hour before their concert for a “Chat with the Artist.” Discussions will start at 7 p.m. and offer the opportunity to ask the performers and composers about their music and career.

Tickets for a QuartetFest pass are \$45 for students, \$55 for seniors, and \$65 for all others. Tickets are available at the door or by calling 519-886-1673. There is also a free concert on June 4 at the Keffer Memorial Chapel of the Waterloo Lutheran Seminary featuring the WLU String Academy.

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