

Spring 2016

## Northern Iowa Wind Symphony: Remembrance 2015-2016 [program]

University of Northern Iowa. School of Music.

*Let us know how access to this document benefits you*

Copyright ©2016 School of Music, University of Northern Iowa

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.uni.edu/recital\\_programs](https://scholarworks.uni.edu/recital_programs)



Part of the [Music Performance Commons](#)

---

**Offensive Materials Statement:** Materials located in UNI ScholarWorks come from a broad range of sources and time periods. Some of these materials may contain offensive stereotypes, ideas, visuals, or language.

# Remembrance

2015-2016

University of Northern Iowa  
Wind Symphony

School of Music  
University of Northern Iowa

# The Wind Symphony Credo

This is what we believe; this is who we are

We aspire to the highest expressions of Being  
... in performance; in scholarship; in leadership

We believe that music can heal the Soul's wounds ...  
and ease suffering of the Spirit

We are not distracted by unattainable efforts toward  
perfection. Rather, we direct our attention to the discovery of  
the highest levels of expression that lie within each of us

We are invested in community ... seeking transformative  
experiences which support the interconnectedness among  
composers, performers, and listeners

We choose to be responsible for each other ...  
and, to each other

For the tasks given to us, it shall always be our intention to give  
the best of which we are capable

## Performance Repertoire

- William Connor (England, b. 1949) . . *Tails aus dem Vood Viennoise* (1993)
- Ingolf Dahl (Germany, 1912-1970) . . *Concerto for Alto Saxophone  
and Wind Orchestra, II*  
(1949-1954)
- Jacob De Haan (Netherlands, b. 1959) . . . . . *Nerval's Poems*
- Davide Delle Cese (Italy, 1856-1938) . . . . . *L' Inglesina* (1897)
- John Frantzen (USA, b. 1964) . . . . . *Poem* (1998)
- David Gillingham (USA, b. 1947) . . . . . *No Shadow of Turning* (2005)
- Julie Giroux (USA, b. 1961) . . . . . *Culloden* (2000)
- Frank Gulino (USA) . . . . . *Capriccio* (2010)
- Frigyes Hidas (1928-2007, Hungary) . . *Double Concerto for  
Oboe and Bassoon* (2003)
- Jenö Huszka (Hungary, 1875-1960) . . . . . *Bob Herceg* (1902)
- Franz Lehár (Slovakia, 1870-1948) . . *Vilia's Lied from Die Lustige Witwe* (1905)
- John Mackey (USA, b. 1972) . . . . . *Sheltering Sky* (2012)
- David Maslanka (USA, b. 1943) . . . . *Give Us This Day: Short Symphony* (2006)
- Hardy Mertens (Netherlands, b. 1960) . . . . . *The Butterfly Lovers* (2008)
- Giacomo Puccini . . . . . *Nessun Dorma from Turandot* (1924)
- Rolf Rudin (Germany, b. 1961) . . . . . *Amen* (2011)  
*Lied ohne Worte* (1997)
- Dmitri Shostakovich (Russia, 1906-1975) . . . . *Suite for Variety Orchestra*  
(c. 1956)
- Robert Washut (USA, b. ) . . . . . *The High Road* (2013)
- John Williams (USA, b. 1932) . . . . . *Summon the Heroes* (1996)

## **Rehearsal Repertoire**

- John Barnes Chance . . . . . *Variations on a Korean Folk Song*  
Benjamin Haemhouts . . . . . *The Last Song*  
Rolf Rudin . . . . . *Song Without Words*  
Percy Aldridge Grainger . . . . . *Sussex Mummers' Christmas Carol*  
*Ye Banks and Braes O' Bonnie Doon*  
Alfred Reed . . . . . *Othello*  
Brian Balmages . . . . . *Rippling Watercolors*  
Timo Forsström . . . . . *Sons of the Midnight Sun*  
Frigyes Hidas . . . . . *Capriccio*  
Vincent Persichetti . . . . . *Divertimento for Band*

## **Guest Artists**

- Elizabeth Anderson, violin  
Cayla Bellamy, bassoon  
Jeffrey Brich, tenor  
Leia Lensing, mezzo-soprano  
Ryan Middleton, saxophone  
Heather Peyton, oboe  
Robert Washut, piano  
Anthony Williams, trombone

Hello Dr. Johnson,

It was a pleasure to hear the Wind Symphony Concert on Thursday, November 12th. Of greatest joy were:

- hearing music that was artfully interpreted (*RJ*) and performed (*students*)
- hearing Urbandale alumni who continue to mature as musician's and young adults to contribute to the lineage of the UNI Wind Symphony. (*Fortune, Andrews, Schmitt*)

Working with High School students offers me a frequent opportunity reflect on how to choose a college. One factor I believe is critical to past success and future success at UNI (***and a central reason for a student to choose UNI***) is the University's commitment to hiring exceptional full time applied faculty - and nurturing an environment where those faculty feel professionally and artistically rewarded enough to stick around for a long time. (*Hanson, Tritle, Grabowski, Graham, Hogancamp, Floyd, Barry, Funderburk* - and hopefully the next generation of applied faculty follows suit!)

One the way home, Mary and I were talking about the concert. One of her comments was that when she was in college (out of state) her band didn't have "the horses" to play much of that literature. (Wisely,) I didn't have the heart to tell her what I truly believe: The students entering UNI are probably on par with the students who enrolled in her university. The difference - UNI has a much more fully staffed applied faculty than her university. What a difference that makes for students over the course of 4 years.

Other colleges and universities who merely "survive" with a plethora of adjunct applied staff or split faculty members (e.g. a trombone prof. who is also head of theory, director of bands, and covers the applied tubas and euphoniums as well) will never be able to "thrive" in the type of rich, vibrant, artistic environment that benefits students on UNI's Campus.

Clearly, many things have to go "right" to have such a culture. For this one thing - please share my thanks and congratulations to those in decision-making positions for their commitment to students by employing a full and highly qualified Applied Faculty.

See you on the journey.  
Myron Peterson

I just wanted to send a note to say how much I truly enjoyed the concert last night. The music was beautiful, heartfelt, and so full of emotion...it reminded me in a heartbeat why the Wind Symphony is such a special and wonderful group. I definitely miss the opportunity to be part of such a highly musical and excellent group, but I am so grateful for the time I spent in the ensemble... I would not be who I am today without it.

Also, I was wondering if you could possibly send me a copy of the description you gave of the outstanding musician award. Those sentiments reminded me of what I should strive to be in my daily life, and it is something that I'd like to continue to reflect on and refer back to in the future.

Thank you so much for a night of marvelous music!

Hayley (Graham)

Ron, I don't think I have ever heard the Wind Symphony sound better. The ensemble playing was exemplary as was the balance of parts. The overall tone quality of the group was outstanding as were the soloists. The choice of literature was a testament to your continual search for new and important music. Congratulations, I enjoyed the concert!

Bill (William Shepherd)

I am offering both my congratulations and thanks for the concert last evening! The Wind Symphony was at their peak performance level throughout the entire program, and what a fantastic program it was! I thoroughly enjoyed each selection as well as the featured soloists - what an amazing group of musicians, both students and faculty! We are fortunate to work in such a talented and creative environment! It is still work at times, but the rewards far exceed the difficulties! Congratulations on another immensely successful year!

And thank you for the public recognition last night! The plaque is beautiful and the messages from the faculty are heart-warming! I don't need this much attention, but I guess sometimes it goes with the territory! I am grateful, and just a bit overwhelmed!

Randy Hogancamp

Hi Ron,

Thank you for sharing some of the tour memories of your musicians. I am very moved by their responses and emotional connection to the music...all due to your musicality, dedication, and stewardship. Thank you for bringing *Poem* to life for your students and audiences both here and abroad.

The students at UNI are very fortunate to be able to work and make music with you.

best,

John (Frantzen)

Congratulations, Ron, on a stunning concert. I scurried home to edit a paper, and regretted that I could not greet you in person. I hope we'll have time to visit in the near future.

Best to you and your wonderful ensemble.

Jean (McDonald)

Dear Ron-

I very much enjoyed the concert last night- I particularly liked the double concerto and loved hearing about your relationship with the composer.

Congratulations!  
Mitra (Sadeghpour)



## **The Warrior Tour**

March 10 – 18, 2016

Friday, March 11 . . . . . Busetto, Verdi's Birthplace

Saturday, March 12 . . . . Palazzolo sull' Oglio

Sunday, March 13 . . . . . Leno

Monday, March 14 . . . . Verona, Soresina

Tuesday, March 15 . . . . Aosta, Nus

Wednesday, March 16 . . Bardi Fortress, Verbania

Thursday, March 17 . . . . Verbania

Friday, March 18 . . . . . Verbania, Milano, New York, Chicago,  
Cedar Falls

ROOMIES . . . MEN

1A. Joseph Kreassig, clarinet

1B. Jacob Snyder, horn

2A. Joshua Carlo, bassoon

2B. Lucas Peterson, clarinet

3A. Mark Northup, saxophone

3B. Gage Schmitt, saxophone

4A. Daniel Meier, trumpet

4B. Benjamin Feuerhelm, trumpet

5A. Paul Lichty, trombone

5B. Austin Nolan, clarinet

6A. Nicholas Schumacher, clarinet

6B. Austin Wright, clarinet

7A. Taylor Hicks, tuba

7B. Nathan Jones, tuba

8A. Brent Mead, trombone

8B. Nathaniel Welshons, trombone

9A. Matthew Dutton, euphonium

9B. Seth Nordin, trombone

10A. Patrick Cunningham, percussion

10B. Ryan Garmoe, trumpet

11A. Samuel Bills, saxophone

11B. Rishi Kolusu, trumpet

12A. Jordan Boehm, trumpet

12B. Aaron Anderson, horn

13A. Alex Lafrenz, percussion

13B. Michael Bockholt, percussion

14A. Nicholas Behrends, percussion

14B. Andrew Hessenius, saxophone

ROOMIES . . . Women

1A. Madeline Roach, bassoon

1B. Aryana Sarvestaney, oboe

2A. Rylie Graham, flute

2B. Lydia Richards, flute

3A. Stacia Fortune, clarinet

3B. Ashlyn Christensen, horn

4A. Molly Evans, trumpet

4B. Lydia Raim, euphonium

5A. Arianna Edverson, clarinet

5B. Michaella Garringer, oboe

6A. Annika Andrews, oboe

6B. Emma Schmidt, clarinet

7A. Lexie Forstrom, saxophone

7B. Hannah Coates, clarinet

8A. Linnea Casey, flute

8B. Claudia Aizaga, flute

9A. Megan Brasch, percussion

9B. Elizabeth Schlotfeldt, clarinet

10A. Michelle Meadows, flute

10B. Rachel Ingle, flute

11A. Casey Dirksen, horn

11B. Victoria Piper, bassoon

On the day when  
The weight deadens  
On your shoulders  
And you stumble,  
May the clay dance  
To balance you.

And when your eyes  
Freeze behind  
The grey window  
And the ghost of loss  
Gets into you,  
May a flock of colours,  
Indigo, red, green  
And azure blue,  
Come to awaken in you  
A meadow of delight.

When the canvas frays  
In the curragh of thought  
And a stain of ocean  
Blackens beneath you,  
May there come across the waters  
A path of yellow moonlight  
To bring you safely home.

May the nourishment of the earth be yours,  
May the clarity of light be yours,  
May the fluency of the ocean be yours,  
May the protection of the ancestors be yours.

And so may a slow  
Wind work these words  
Of love around you,  
An invisible cloak  
To mind your life.

John O'Donohue

Everything was really special for me. I had lots of good memories from Italy but the best part for me was performing with amazing people. We interacted with each other a lot more and I felt an incredible connection between all of us while we were playing. I could feel it in the music. I felt happiness and love. I enjoyed every single performance, we had energy for that and we were really enthusiastic. This trip changed lives, our lives and their lives. Unforgettable trip.

***Claudia Aizaga, flute***

For me the greatest memory from this trip was the conducting seminar. Making music with the local conductors who were so passionate about their craft was a delightful and refreshing experience. This trip to Italy has been an affirmation for me. I am now more sure than ever that music must be a part of my life in the future.

***Aaron Anderson, horn***

*Believe that the Universe is friendly and Life is on your side*

This trip was just too amazing to pick one moment from. All of it was wonderful, inspiring, and life changing. The moment I want to share with you all came when we got home. I called my parents and my best friend on Saturday afternoon to try and tell them about my experience. Try is a key word in that sentence. I really don't have the words to describe a lot of the tour. It was so intense,

heartening, refreshing, and motivating that I can't put the single moments into perspective. I just want to say thank you to each and every one of you for making this group so loving and near to my heart.

*Annika Andrews, oboe*

My favorite memory from the trip was our last concert in Verbania. At this concert I was able to close my eyes, listen, and be moved by the music that we were making. I realized how amazing it was that we were able to end our tour with another outstanding concert, even with the conditions of weather and location. I also realized how much I was personally moved by the music. We talk a lot about how our music can heal hearts of the audience, but don't forget that the music we make is also for each other. To heal the souls of each other. And we had the opportunity to do this so many times this trip. It will certainly be something I will never forget.

*Nick Behrends, percussion*

*Believe that you are a once-in-all-history Event*

While it is virtually impossible to come up with one favorite memory or moment, one that really stands out was playing *Sheltering Sky* at our concert in Nus. Everybody was a little bit on edge that night before the concert, but everything leading up to the encore was beautiful and emotional, improving the moods and spirits of everybody. By the time we got to *Sheltering Sky*, I was in a very emotional place. From the very first note of the piece, I was overcome by how beautiful the piece was, and how musically we were playing it. It was almost an out-of-body experience. I was so grateful that we were all together, creating amazing music, that I

cried more than I have in recent memory. It was a very special moment for me. When we finished the piece, I was stunned that we had just created the most awe-inspiring, incredible musical experience that I have been, and probably ever will be, a part of.

Thank you to every single one of you for helping make last week one of the best of my entire life, past and future. Every single one of us gave it everything we could every single night, and we all have come away with a new perspective on music and on life. I loved spending time with everybody, and getting to know those I didn't know as well before. Every day brought new adventures and experiences, and I will forever be grateful that I was able to go on this trip and be a part of this amazing ensemble. Thank you.

*Samuel Bills, saxophone*

I would have to say that my favorite memory from this trip would be the bonds that were made and the support system we have created for each other. Like Taylor said, we kept drilling it over and over that we were a family and there for each other but it never really felt like that until this trip. More specifically it was the moments after the concerts in our big huddle that I felt like I was truly surrounded by a family. I hope that we will continue to grow closer together as we finish off the year. Thank you all for the incredible trip, it wouldn't have been the same without each and every one of you.

*Michael Bockholt, percussion*

*Believe that you are here for a reason*

What sticks out for me in retrospect is the musical expression that we conveyed. I have played *Sheltering Sky* before with a lesser ensemble, and I thought that it was kind of boring and on just on the top side of average. The way we played it, however, really brought out the potential in it, as several other replies have already mentioned. The same could be said of Rudin's *Lied ohne Worte*. I really enjoyed playing it, and thought that there were instances where it was really beautiful. After looking for and listening to a few recordings of it, I am amazed at how boring most performances of it are. A ton of the ensembles play the piece just straight through with zero attention to emotion or musicality, and it just sounds bad. Contrasting my perception of our performances with these others really, for me, just shows the potential for elevating music off of the page.

*Jordan Boehm, trumpet*

*Believe that nothing is too good to be true*

My favorite memory was our concert in Soresina. It was such a struggle to get started for us. We were all exhausted and I heard so many people say they wanted to just get the concert done so we could leave. After the intermission, we seemed to figure it out and I believe that was the best we ever played the Connor. We played the rest of the concert very well and it was the perfect end to a 21st birthday I could have never imagined.

*Joshua Carlo, bassoon*



After reading through what others have described, I really treasure the most how we became responsible for each other and supported one another even in the most difficult moments. It came through the strongest for me when we were all feeling pretty low for losing a member of the group in Aosta. We were warming up on the stage at the concert hall in Nus and I was feeling a strong desire to speak words of encouragement to the group. Before I could compose the right thoughts, however, Ben stood up and became the voice of hope and perseverance for us to latch onto. Lydia Richards' words too released a floodgate of positive sentiments that I think we all needed to hear at this challenging mid-point of the tour. Pent up gratitude suddenly permeated the atmosphere in the room and I think many of us could feel a lump of strong emotion in our throats at that moment. Despite failings, illness, and fatigue, we drew strength from the positivity we shared in those moments.

By the end of the week, I had shared time, meals, good feelings, frustrations, and many beautiful musical moments with members of this group. Sharing so much time and so many meals together was truly a blessing! This is something I will miss about Italy and hope to recreate here more often. Thanks to all of our investment in each other, I was truly feeling like I had about 50 siblings by Friday of this week; whether facing conflict or not, we all really began to care more about each other's well being.

We're all in a boat together struggling to keep it sailing strong above the waves. Sometimes others have to pull the ropes harder to keep the sails full for those who are experiencing moments of weakness. I never felt alone this week. It was the most love I have felt from that many people at once, probably ever. Thank you all for giving yourselves so sincerely to this experience; Let's keep moving forward, together.

With gratitude,

***Linnea Casey, flute***

*Act boldly and unseen forces will come to your aid.*

*Dorothea Brande*

First of all, I'm so glad that so many of us were changed by this trip. It doesn't have to be anything profound. Just the fact that we went will have changed us. I loved how all of us really came together as a group and helped and supported each other through the trip. There were a lot of intense moments, both physically and spiritually, and I think that we grew as an actual family through them. I personally made more friends and became closer friends with the ones I already had. I learned so much more about the people in the group than I knew previously.

One musical thing that stood out in my mind, was the Frantzen. Before we came to Italy, it was just another piece that we played. While we were on tour however, that piece came alive for me in every single performance. One of the nights, I dedicated that piece to my grandmother, and halfway through I became so overwhelmed, I couldn't help but tear up. We all overcame so many obstacles and little hindrances on this trip and I am so proud of our group. Thank you for all being Warriors of the Light in Italy.

***Ashlyn Christensen, horn***

*Believe that we can build a better world*

My favorite memory was when Marta started crying during the conducting seminar. It not only sparked a change in her heart, but you could see every single person in the room moved by the experience. We made such beautiful music and it changed her life by knowing how she can see and feel the music being made with her eyes shut. This helped me appreciate being a part of this group and knowing that we are capable of changing lives in everything we do.

***Hannah Coates, clarinet***

I think my favorite memory wasn't necessarily a specific moment on the trip. Because I think there were multiple incredibly inspiring experiences. That being said, I think we can all agree that at times, the trip did not seem the most organized. And often we found ourselves not knowing what was going on logistically. I think the teamwork that was displayed in those moments, and the amount of teamwork we put in together as an ensemble was my favorite part. No one got angry with each other for the most part. Everyone worked together and we were successful because of it.

***Patrick Cunningham, percussion***

*In your life's journey, there will be excitement and fulfillment,  
boredom and routine, and even the occasional train wreck . . .  
But when you have picked a dream that is bigger than you are,  
and that can positively affect others, then you will always  
have another reason for carrying on*

*Pamela Melroy*

I've really enjoyed reading everyone's responses to this. Personally, there is no possible way for me to choose my favorite musical moment. The biggest thing, for me, was getting to go through all of these experiences with everyone. I wasn't the best at getting to know each and every one of you on this trip, but I do feel that we are still closer because of this trip. Highlights definitely include the conducting seminar with Marta, each and every concert we were able to put on, and the friendships that were formed and strengthened. I don't really get into sharing what's on my mind, but I do want all of you to know that I feel like I'm a better and stronger person because of everything we went through on this trip, good and not-so-good. For that, I thank you. Keep making music, and keep being ***incredible*** people.

***Matthew Dutton, euphonium***

I am not resigned to the shutting away of loving hearts in the hard ground.  
So it is, and so it will be, for so it has been, time out of mind:  
Into the darkness they go, the wise and the lovely.  
Crowned with lilies and with laurel they go; but I am not resigned.

Lovers and thinkers, into the earth with you.  
Be one with the dull, the indiscriminate dust.  
A fragment of what you felt, of what you knew,  
A formula, a phrase remains, ~~ but the best is lost.

The answers quick and keen, the honest look, the laughter, the love ~~  
They are gone. They are gone to feed the roses.  
Elegant and curled is the blossom. Fragrant is the blossom.  
I know. But I do not approve.  
More precious was the light in your eyes than all the roses of the world.

Down, down, down into the darkness of the grave  
Gently they go, the beautiful, the tender, the kind;  
Quietly they go, the intelligent, the witty, the brave.  
I know. But I do not approve. And I am not resigned.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

I think my favorite moment of the trip was the second day we were in Palazzolo. Before we had left for the trip, I had a particularly rough lesson that was making me question whether or not I was going into the right career or if I even deserved to be playing with such a great group of musicians. It had been bothering me, and I was trying to put all my feelings of frustration from it into the music. During the conducting seminar with Marta, I was definitely crying along with her, as all of the emotions spilled out of me. As the day continued on, I felt better about what I was doing, but there was still some lingering doubt what I was doing. During the our concert tonight, there was a moment during the Gulino where this wave of emotion just came over me and I realized that I had worked hard to be where I was in that moment and I was where I was supposed to be and where I needed to be. I never could have had this realization if it wasn't for all of you, though. Being able to play with such a great group of musicians is such a blessing, and you all inspire me to become the best version of myself. This trip really helped me want to become better and play music because I want to, not because I have to. This new attitude has already helped tremendously, and I thank you all for it! Thank you so much for everything and for the best week of my life!

***Arianna Edvenson, clarinet***

*Believe in doing great work*

I really have enjoyed reading everybody's favorite and most inspiring moments about our tour. I don't have a lot to say, because a lot of it would just be repeating what everyone else has already mentioned.

Musically, my favorite moment was the last concert. Although we had great moments during the other concerts, this one stood out to me. We all had a great time in Verbania that day, but when we sat down on the stage I could tell something special was about to happen. I am semi-partial to Summon

the Heroes. That piece has been with us for the majority of our time together and it was a great playing it in the church. To me, it truly felt “complete” to me during that performance.

As far as relationships go, I had a blast with everyone during the trip. I feel like I know every single person in the ensemble more than I did before. To me, the most amazing part is that I have noticed a difference today as I see people in classes or in the lounge. We are interacting with each other differently than before we left. Although our tour is over, I can tell that everyone has a new level of friendship in The Wind Symphony. Granted, it is day one back to school, but it is something I hope continues.

Thank you all for the trip of a lifetime!

***Molly Evans, trumpet***

My favorite part about this trip was watching and experiencing the life changing events happen in everyone. Having been on the first Italy trip, I had an idea of what kind of events and emotions would happen. Luckily, none of my expectations were met - they were exceeded. Watching new friendships come out of nowhere, or old friendships get even stronger was incredible, and the daily support that came from each and every person was unstoppable. The effects that all of the conductors (but especially Marta and Erina) had on the ensemble during the conductor's seminar was everything I had hoped for, and I am so glad this ensemble got to experience that. Overall, my favorite part of this trip was watching the magic happen from the other side - My life was forever changed during the last trip in a million different ways, and I had hoped that the same thing would happen to every member of this ensemble, whether they realize it in a month or in four years. I won't ever forget the memories created with the Wind Symphony family.

***Stacia Fortune, clarinet***

*Believe that some boundaries are meant to be crossed*

This trip was an experience that I will never forget no matter what. Having traveled to Brazil with the orchestra, I found myself not truly enjoying each moment and the entire trip shortly became a blur of memories in my head. I set a goal for myself for this journey, to really bask in the beautiful glow of everything that was going on around me. Even with the experience of (ALMOST) losing my wallet again, I found my mind and self at peace with whatever was to become of the situation.

These things being said, it is impossible for me to choose one favorite moment from this trip. The musical emotions I felt grew with each passing concert, the friendships both formed and strengthened became more apparent, and each memory more precious and permanent than the last. I have not always known WHY I feel the way I do about this group, but I know now it is because of the tremendous amount of love I have for every member of this ensemble. You guys drive me to be my very best because without all of the loving and accepting attitudes provided by everyone, I do not see how any of this would be possible.

Thank you all for everything you do for me.

Love,

*Benjamin Feuerhelm, trumpet*

*Believe that there is always, always, always a way*

As much as I'd like to say that the gelato was my favorite part of Italy, it doesn't even come close to the joy that I felt from playing music and building relationships with all of you! I had no idea that simply a week could change me so greatly and build my confidence so much! Previously to this trip, I had struggled finding my place in the music program and tried to stay in the little shell I created for myself. However, all of your love and support totally changed that for me and I was so surprised and thankful to make some dear friends on this trip! You all are the best, and you made me really happy this week! Thank you!

My favorite part of the trip musically was the concert in Verbania. I loved how Dr. Johnson told us that this was the last concert for us. I usually go through concerts trying to get through it and don't take the time to actually enjoy the music that our group is producing. I decided to listen to and enjoy the music at this final concert. Between the fact that our music was absolutely beautiful and that we were in such a sacred place as that beautiful church made that moment very meaningful. I am very proud to be in such an amazing group as the UNI Wind Symphony! Both because it is made up of wonderful people and because we can do great things when we all come together with our music!

***Lexi Forstrom, saxophone***

While I agree with many things that everyone has already shared, my favorite experience of the trip cannot be captured in a single event. Instead, my most cherished memory will be our musical growth from our first performance to our last. As the week progressed, I thought our concept of the music matured exponentially and rightfully peaked in our final performance. In the church, I felt that each piece had personality and subtlety that only comes with the utmost commitment to the musical product. Thank you all for a wonderful experience and I'm excited to see what we can do in the coming weeks.

***Ryan Garmoe, trumpet***



If I knew you and you knew me ~~  
If both of us could clearly see,  
And with an inner sight divine  
The meaning of your heart and mine ~~  
I'm sure that we would differ less  
And clasp our hands in friendliness;  
Our thoughts would pleasantly agree  
If I knew you and you knew me.

If I knew you and you knew me,  
As each one knows his own self, we  
Could look each other in the face  
And see therein a truer grace.

Life has so many hidden woes,  
So many thorns for every rose;  
The "why" of things our hearts would see,  
If I knew you and you knew me.

Nixon Waterman

My favorite memory from the trip was our last concert. From the very first note of the Williams I began to have tears in my eyes. This was my favorite moment because it was a culmination of all my experiences that week. This one concert summed up our successes, struggles, quarrels, laughter, lessons learned, and new experiences. This week made me feel like I was finally part of the Wind Symphony family and that we were actually a family. I talked to people that I never had before, strengthened existing friendships, and learned more about the people around me and myself. I also found things in myself that I want to fix. Having seen the way Italians exist moved something in me. There is now a desire to enjoy life more, worry less about the small things, strive to be my best self, and to bring out the best in others. My new favorite quote was instilled in me on the plane ride back from Italy to Newark; it comes from the new Cinderella movie: "Have courage, and be kind." Those will certainly be words I live by as I remember my wonderful experiences in Italy and spending time with our Wind Symphony family.

Thank you for a life changing week,

***Michaella Garringer, oboe***

*Believe that you are far bigger than anything that can happen to you*

We talked about supporting and being there for each other before we even left for Italy. This care and love for each other is my favorite part of this trip.

It started with Marta at the conducting seminar. We were all there for her as she completely opened up her heart and soul to us. We all experienced her transformation as a conductor and we all felt for her as she began to put all of her emotions out in the open. I have never been so inspired to become a better musician than in that moment. Marta was then at our second concert location sitting front and center. It showed she cared as much for us as we do for her, and that was an amazing thing to see. On this trip I've gained new inspirations and friends, and I'm absolutely blessed to have had this opportunity. It has definitely changed me as a person and as a musician, and I will carry this with me for the rest of my life.

***Rylie Graham, flute***

My favorite memory of Italy was with my first host in Palazzolo. Her name was Rachel, and she took me to a pub, after our first concert, where I got to meet her friends. We hung out at this pub while I got to know about their interests in music, etc. They are some of the greatest people I have ever met, and I hope to keep contact with them for a long time.

***Andrew Hassenius, saxophone***

*Hope begins in the dark, the stubborn hope that if you  
just show up and try to do the right thing, the dawn will come.*

*You wait and watch and work; you don't give up.*

*Anne Lamont*

I was really hesitant to write this, mostly because it goes against what we have said for a long time. Every semester I have been in Wind Symphony we have said over and over that Wind Symphony is a family, and I have often struggled to see it. I always found that the biggest tell in a person or group is the difference between what they say and how they act, and for us, it wasn't good what I saw.

Over and over I struggled to see the family in a group of individuals, sure some sections were closer than others and some people got along really well together but nothing that really screamed love and acceptance like family should. Then we had our weekend retreat and all of us expressed our desire to do more and be more for each other, and I expressed my desire to make sure that these weren't just empty words, that we actually lived by them and for them. And everyone started the semester full of hope and excitement but little really changed, we were still a group of individuals that met twice a week, did our thing and went home, not a family but an organization. We went through the motions, especially on the days that we filmed rehearsal and as we got closer to the trip, but the feeling of belonging wasn't there.

We met Thursday, well before sunrise full of excitement to get underway, everyone just couldn't wait to be over there. We arrived, exhausted and stressed from our unending flight and were immediately pushed into a full day of activities. We started to gel together in Palazzolo, working with conductors and truly changing people and it got even better in Leno. By that point the stress started to kick in, long nights, little drinking, changes in schedules all began to feed into a growing irritation with each other that shortened tempers and made us all say and do things we maybe shouldn't have. It came to a head in Aosta and Verona, where our schedules were all wacky and Seth got left behind. We hit a breaking point that night and everyone felt it, where we would either shatter or truly come together as a family. And come together we did, that night everything seemed to change, nothing got us down, we were determined to enjoy the time we had with each other no matter what happened.

I had the opportunity to be with Austin and our group Thursday, and it was during that picnic that I could honestly say I had a home with the people I was with, I belonged both with them and with Wind Symphony. I watched people drop unusually large amounts of money on each other because they knew they would have them back, watched people lift each other up when they hit a low point just because they cared enough to want that person to be better.

Families struggle, Families fight, but Families are also incredibly strong. I've built bonds with people on this trip I didn't expect, but I wouldn't give them up for the world. The one thing I would ask is that we keep our family together, don't let normal life get in the way of being with each other. I would do anything for anyone in this ensemble, simply because they asked and they are part of my family and my home. If you read this whole thing then I'm super sorry for ranting, if you didn't skip to this last paragraph.

Diolach a hywl fawr,  
*Taylor Hicks, tuba*

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I --  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

Robert Frost

The best memory of the week, which was continuous, was playing *Poem*. I have been dealing with the loss of my friend since December. He was a junior in high school, a straight A student, and one of the best all around people you could ever meet. His heart failed him at a basketball practice and they said he would be able to pull out of the coma. But he was not able to. With everyday I face a new challenge. What could I have said while I still had the chance? *Poem* touched my heart. It gave me a place of healing in the music. I was changed by the love and acceptance of everyone in the ensemble as well as all the Italians we met. New friendships have started and I would have never thought I would call some of the percussionists my best friends at the beginning of the year, but now I don't see myself ever being without them. Thank you so much for making this trip possible.

***Rachel Ingle, flute***

*Believe that you might be the Light for someone else*

There are so many great memories of Italy that I have. There is the food, the friends, the camaraderie. My favorite one memory was our meal in Roncole. We had just been put through the stress of flying and of traveling. We were all tired. We were all worn down. Somehow we managed to go and stay awake for the whole day afterwards. After staying up nearly all night reading a book that I bought in the airport, I had to put someone in charge of keeping me awake on the bus. About once every 5 or ten minutes, I would be jolted awake by Matt after someone reminded me to stay awake.

For me, the meal was the start of the bonds that we had in Italy. If you ever need to bring a group of people together (especially musicians), give them food and wine. I remember sitting down and having the most light hearted genuine conversation with everyone I was around. The food gave us energy. The wine helped relax any tension we had. It was the first moment where we got to relax and enjoy being in each other's presence. I loved the thought

at the time of having a whole week with these people I have grown to love. I was excited that we were all having a fantastic time even though we hadn't even played a note yet.

**Nathan Jones**, tuba

*Believe that Life is sacred*

I'm going to echo what Sam said about *Sheltering Sky*. Every performance in Italy changed me in one way or another, but that performance in that day had me overflowing with ecstasy as I realized what a privilege and honor it is for me to do what I do on a daily basis. Other powerful musical moments for me were Dr. Washut's solo in Nus, the Frantzen performance in Soresina, as well as the Connor in Soresina and any time we played Rudin's *Song Without Words*.

I've always been insecure about my place in this ensemble and in the School of Music as a whole. Doubt has a powerful grip over me, and it has led to my downfall several times, even on the trip. However, I learned something important on this trip: when one is part of a family, they must rise up to the challenges in front of them for the sake of the family. There was a point in Soresina where I decided I wasn't going to let my insecurities cripple the group. I came into the second half of that concert ready to give everything I had for the sake of the group. I grew as a musician and person because I was able to see that people believed in me. At that point, there was no desire to wallow in my own doubt and

self-pity. I was able to play to the best of my ability and I had a wonderful time and I had half the impact on you all that you had on me.

Thank you for inspiring me to grow up. I will cherish the memories we made this week for the rest of my life. I love you all.

*Rishi Kolusu, trumpet*

*Listen to your Life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is . . .  
Touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and forbidden heart  
of it because in the last analysis, all moments  
are key moments, and life itself is Grace.*

*Frederick Buechner*

The concert in Soresina was my favorite moment. I went downstairs after intermission and noticed everyone was down. I walked around and tried to get everyone out of this exhausted funk. From the moment we began the Connor, I knew the 2<sup>nd</sup> half would be different. That was an amazing experience to share with my colleagues.

The best part of the trip is revealed by how I feel right now. I feel pretty lost and lonely without the entire wind symphony surrounding me. To spend 8 days eating great food, performing great music, and interacting with great people was magical. Wouldn't trade it for the world.

***Brent Mead, trombone***



First off, thank you to Dr. Johnson and the entire ensemble from the bottom of my heart for giving myself and everyone in the group the unbelievable and truly once in a lifetime opportunity to tour in Italy. Like we talked about, the people and places from our travels will and have changed us forever. I know that I am changed, and that during the trip I felt things in my heart that I had never felt before, or at least not as profoundly as I had before. I did not anticipate all of the challenges that were presented along the trip, and I did not think that I would find so many mental, physical, and spiritual challenges all at once. But, what I learned was about trusting fate, and that things happen and play out as they will, despite what myself or anyone may think, want, or anticipate. I learned that there is a lot of beauty and mystery in being completely, in all ways, engaged, overwhelmed, and absorbed in the moment and what is happening around you. I learned a lot about being content at every single moment, and that at each moment in time there is always a purpose for why you are there, who you are with, and what is happening. I hope that no one ever forgets a moment of this trip, or overviews a moment of this beautiful life. ☺

***Michelle Meadows, flute***

*Believe that the little things in life aren't little*

Italy was a beautiful experience. I think Verbania was one of the most beautiful cities I've ever visited. However, the best experience for me wasn't really what was there in Italy, although there was enough of a culture shock to last a life time. The greatest feeling I had in Italy was the feeling of being in Italy. I know that sounds redundant, but let me explain. When I was in Italy, the states didn't feel real. Obviously I knew they were there and I knew my parents and friends were still there, but I didn't feel it was real. Italy became a home in a very short amount of time. It's like me in Italy could not coexist with me in the states. They were different people with different lives and different problems. Problems in Italy included:

rehearsals, not getting lost, pooping in a hole in the ground, paying to poop in that hole in the ground, etc. Problems at home are pretty similar to other people. I guess I enjoyed having a different set of problems and concerns and excitements. The only problem now is, now that I'm back, Italy doesn't feel real anymore. My next step? Get a good job and go to Italy consistently and learn Italian fluently.

***Austin Nolan, clarinet***

*Believe when others might not*

I'm in agreement with Hannah - my best moment was with Marta. That was the most intense musical moment I've experienced, and it really drove home how playing with emotion and expression is our ultimate goal. Besides the fact that it was incredibly moving and a bonding moment for everyone present, it also brought a sense of relief that we can forget about the technical aspects of music and just make something beautiful. I am eternally grateful that we all shared that moment, and I will be taking that memory to the grave. Love you all!

***Seth Nordin, trombone***

*Believe in the miracle of the second chance*

For me, the most memorable musical moments occurred during the conducting seminar on Sunday and during the concert in Nus. It was remarkable to see the growth in all of the conductors from Saturday to Sunday and to hear their words of thanks and praise. Every one of them was changed for the better by our shared experiences. The concert in Nus was an extremely emotional one for many of us, myself included. After a hard performance the night before and an interesting afternoon...I was very

grateful for Ben and Lydia's efforts to help us relax and focus on what was important.

After almost 18 years of performing in ensembles, I can count on one hand the number of times I've been moved to tears during a performance, and two of those instances have occurred in just the short time I have been with this ensemble. For that, I thank you!

As said by many before me, the memorable non-musical moments are simply too numerous to count. I am simply grateful and fortunate that my past experiences and choices have led me here and allowed me to make music and memories with this amazing group of people.

***Lucas Petersen, clarinet***

*Believe in giving back*

I truly appreciated all of the support from everyone in the ensemble. For those who do not know or have not noticed, I am an introvert. Large groups really overwhelm me. There were times in this trip where I felt like I had lost every ounce of energy because we were doing almost everything in a large group. I am grateful that several individuals noticed that I was not myself and got me to share what was going on. Some of them even said that they were going through the same things as me. Through these conversations, our relationships grew. I also enjoyed all of the laughter on this trip! Whether it was laughter in the large group or small groups, laughter really made this trip a joyful one. It helped us stay positive throughout the difficult situations. I am so thankful that I got to experience some fantastic music, the beautiful landscape, and the relaxed Italian pace with each and every one of you. I cannot wait to see what the rest of this semester holds for the Northern Iowa Wind Symphony!

***Lydia Raim, euphonium***

This trip changed the way that I see music and the way that I relate to music. For a long time, music has been a chore or a routine, something that I've done because it was what I was supposed to do or expected to do. It's been a Struggle to stay motivated or to even want to keep playing. I haven't felt like I can help people or do good through music, because I'm not out there saving lives or solving the problems of the world. I've been thinking about changing my major and not continuing with music. It's been a really stressful semester and year for me, to say the least. But, this trip changed my life. It showed me that I am a good musician, that I can use my gifts in a powerful way to help people, and that I can't live without music.

You all have shown me that we are capable of creating something incredibly powerful, heading and beautiful. There was a man in the audience in Verbania who sat on the edge of his seat for the entire concert. I feel like I saw him be changed and encouraged through our music. That experience, combined with our previous concerts and experiences with Marta at the conducting seminar, changed me.

I'm going to keep pursuing music and have fun doing it. It feels like a gift to have this joy for music and I want to thank you all for that.

***Lydia Richards, flute***

*To enjoy the journey is to leap into people's lives.  
To enjoy the journey is to give until the stretch is a sacrifice.  
The question always is: what is it in life that will pull you  
out of your seat to be brave, risk and serve?*

*Janie Jasin*

I've been thinking about this a lot since we got home, and I think for me personally, there was no one moment that was special, it was more of the trip as a whole. On the one hand, I loved watching us transform from a band who claimed to be "family" to a group of individuals who truly care for one another. I kept finding myself taking a step back throughout the week, and watching the rest of the group work. At the beginning of the week, there were defined little cliques, but as the trip progressed, there was almost a hum that would be in the air; we were all completely comfortable around one another. To me, that's a huge deal. I'm a very awkward person in general, and so to watch a group of 50 people become so close in such a short period of time was beautiful to me.

On the other hand, I loved all of the performances. Sure, we were tired, worn down physically and emotionally, fine. But the music we produced was so raw and pure, I would become sad after every performance because I knew that I'd never experience anything like this again. Sure, we were all delusionally tired, and there would be a squeak, squawk, and a missed note here and there. But with that much emotion and pure energy being injected into the music, it didn't matter. I loved every second of everything we did, and I'm so happy we had this opportunity to grow together.

Thank you all so much for making this happen, I'm so happy I got to meet and love all of you.

***Aryana Sarvestaney, oboe***

*We all have the power to give away love, to love other people.  
And, if we do so, we change the kind of person we are,  
and we change the kind of world we live in.*

*Harold Kushner*

My favorite memory of the week was all the unexpected friendships that were made with members of this group and the Italians. Music has the ability to break down whatever barriers that may separate us and helps us express ourselves in our true forms. The sights were great but the music that we shared is what I will remember forever. Thank you all for a great trip; I wouldn't have wanted to make this journey with any group of people except you all.

*Jacob Snyder, horn*

It's been so difficult to say what any of my "favorite" memories from Italy might be, but I suppose there's a few that I'll cherish and keep with me for the rest of my life.

Nus stands out very strongly to me. Everyone's emotions were running high with having to leave Seth to fend for himself in Aosta. But even though we were all stressed, angry, and scared, when Lydia asked that we share what we were grateful for that day, there was nothing but love from everyone. After having shared that my Wind Symphony wish for the year, which was to be heartbroken when I had to leave, was already happening, I felt more love and acceptance from the ensemble than I've ever experienced.

And sitting in the sunshine by the lake with friends in Verbania, getting scared by pigeons and almost falling asleep rates pretty high too.

***Elizabeth Schlotfeldt, clarinet***

*Believe in Love and everything that touches*

Before this trip, I focused on playing music more for school instead of for myself. I was really stressed, I was really down on myself, and I was always in a state of constant worry that the music I produced was not "perfect". During the trip as we performed, I started to feel more energy come from me, my fellow musicians, and everyone else in the room every time we performed. Seeing the conductors at the conducting seminar change in those two days was mind blowing because they started expressing themselves more instead of holding back because they didn't want to make mistakes. The reaction of the audience every time after we played was more than I expected and lifted my spirit. By the middle of the trip, I feel like I started expressing more and things while playing with everyone and producing the music started to become more natural and I was not working as hard to produce the music I heard in my head. Performing became more enjoyable instead of stressful. I practiced last night because I didn't have anything else to do, and it was one of the easiest and enjoyable session I had for a while. I am so very thankful for this experience and will continue to remember that music is for me to express the energy I have and for others to feel it. Also I am really happy to be making music with everyone in this ensemble. I got to know more about everyone and you all are fantastic.

***Gage Schmitt, saxophone***

*Believe the best about others*

The Wind Symphony tour in Italy was definitely filled with ups and downs for all of us. We had difficulties with scheduling and accommodations. It seemed many of us were always tired. Despite all of that, I am impressed with each member of this ensemble for stepping up to the plate and giving 100% at every single concert. It took me awhile to get comfortable with the trip, and for the first few days, I was on edge. Something didn't seem quite right for me, but as the trip progressed and I saw what being in Italy was

doing to other people, my feelings of uneasiness began to change. I saw genuine happiness in people from whom I had not seen a sincere smile in months. I heard laughter, saw all of the companionship and bonds that were being formed, and felt warmth in my heart. The last two days in Verbania were my favorite, mostly because of where we were and the people I was with. So many wonderful and unexpected things happened to me on this trip, and I am changed because of those things. Thinking of being with my friends on Lago Maggiore, wandering around the town, eating fantastic food, and making music with them in that beautiful church -- all of that nearly brings me to tears as I write this. I will return to Italy to make new memories, but I will always remember that this experience changed my outlook on life for the better. I am a different person because of this trip, and I want to thank each and every one of you for all the heart that you put into every single minute of last week. You are all wonderful, beautiful people, and being with you in Italy meant the world to me.

***Nicholas Schumacher, clarinet***

*Believe that friendship is an honor and a privilege*

If I had to select any moment from our trip that I was truly touched by the MOST, I'd have to pick that moment in Soresina where we were able to pull out all of our emotions. A long few days of jet lag and culture change were not about to stop us. I think we were all moved in the concert of that evening. Those moments gave me a feeling that is so beyond difficult to describe. This entire tour has changed me so much. I still cannot believe how incredibly blessed I am to have the life I have and be in the ensemble and family I am in.

I want to thank all of you so much for the amazing support you all have me over the tour when I revealed that I have this rare disease. It isn't fatal and I'll be able to live well as I get older. I just was overwhelmed with the



amount of love and support you all gave me when I mentioned it. It was not an easy decision to tell anyone this let alone our little family. But you all were and continue to be very supportive of me through it.

***Emma Schmidt, clarinet***

My favorite memory of the trip has to be the bonds made between us. The conducting seminar was inspirational and emotional, exploring Verona was exciting, and being in the Alps and the town of Aosta was so beautiful I could lose myself there, but nothing will compare to the joy of sharing it with you all. Coming together as a family and working through the good and bad has changed us all, and created memories I know I will hold onto forever. I feel closer to each and every one of you, and just so thankful for everyone's dedication and investment in this group. We have something really special, and I feel very honored to be a part of it with you all.

***Nathaniel Welshons, trombone***

*Believe you can make a difference*

It took me a little bit of thinking before I settled on this being my favorite experience, but after I came to the conclusion it seemed to be the right one. My favorite moment was actually a very simple one. My group and I gathered food items for a picnic, as was suggested, on Thursday in Verbania. We met an extremely happy Italian butcher who spoke no English, but was delighted to help us out with what we needed. This put our group in a very good mood and for me personally set me up for this perfect moment. We sat on a large picnic bench that could seat all of us and made our sandwiches. While we ate, we fed the pigeons, talked about some deep

topics, and just looked at the mountains and the lake with the sun shining. I walked closer to the lake and just started at it for what seemed like an eternity. I realized then that some of the most simplest things are the most beautiful. All of the stress of school, relationships, and every day worries just disappeared. I was able to just look at the lake and only think of how magnificent it really was. I realized that the Italians maybe disorganized, but they really do know how to sit down and enjoy the little things that are around them. I needed to take this idea back with me. I always get into the hustle of American life and tend to ignore my surroundings. I need to enjoy what is around me, what is here, right now at this moment. Waiting until tomorrow is already too late.

Thanks for listening,

***Austin Wright***, clarinet

*Believe that together . . . we are better*

*Do not let your fire go out, spark by irreplaceable spark,  
in the hopeless swamps of the approximate, the not-quite,  
the not-yet, the not-at-all. Do not let the hero in your soul perish,  
in lonely frustration for the life you deserved, but have never been  
able to reach. Check your road and the nature of your battle.*

*The world you desire can be won,*

*it exists,*

*it is real,*

*it is possible,*

*it is Yours.*

*Ayn Rand*