



YOUNG ARTISTS TO OPEN RECITAL SERIES

The 2017 Wednesday Evening Organ Recital Series at the Methuen Memorial Music Hall will open on May 24 with three teenagers giving a joint recital of classical favorites on the world famous 6,088 pipe "Great Organ" - the first concert hall organ in the United States.

"This is our second year of opening the series with young performers" said Music Hall President Ed Sampson. "We want to give local young talent an opportunity to 'show their stuff' in a formal recital setting."

Selected by the Music Hall's Board of Trustees are three young men who have demonstrated great potential as future professional organists. On May 24, they will play works by Johnson, Walther, Brahms, Dupré, Bach, Reger, Franck, Leighton, Ketélbey and Saint-Saëns.

The Music Hall is located at 192 Broadway (Route 28) in Methuen, Massachusetts. The recital is at 8:00 P.M. Doors will open at 7:30 P.M. Tickets at the door are \$12 for adults and \$5 for children.

Marshall Joos, age 13, just completed the eighth grade. He began studying the organ with the Young Organist Collaborative (YOC) just under three years ago. He has thrived under the direction of his teacher, Lorrie Dodson. As both an organist and a pianist, he has enjoyed playing frequently for services at his church, Heritage Baptist Church in Dover, New Hampshire. Marshall was the 2016 winner of the Penn Brown Organ Scholarship, and was invited to participate in a concert featuring former YOC student Katelyn Emerson this past September at St. John's Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He has been studying piano since the second grade, and won first place in the classical piano solo division in both the state of New Hampshire and regionally during the 2016 New England Association of Christian Schools' Annual Competition. Music plays an important part in his life and he takes great delight in filling the home with his organ and piano playing. He would love to eventually pursue a degree in church music with an organ proficiency.

Noah Jacobs, age 17, from Candia, New Hampshire, is currently a junior at the Academy for Science and Design in Nashua. He began studying the piano with Aygün Çamşun in Istanbul, Turkey, with whom he studied for five years. After returning to the United States in 2011, he continued his piano studies with Paul Dykstra. Noah began studying organ with Bruce Adami in August, 2015, on a scholarship from the YOC, and is now in his second year of organ lessons. He recently discontinued serious piano study in order to devote himself entirely to organ. His other passions include Irish fiddle, fly fishing, hiking, and rock climbing.

Seamus Gethicker, age 18, is a senior at Morse High School in Bath, Maine. His interest in pipe organs began at age 8, when he attended a "Magic of Christmas" concert at Merrill Auditorium in Portland, Maine and first witnessed the mighty Kotzschmar Organ played by Ray Cornils. His recent accomplishments include being the winner of the American Theater Organ Society (ATOS) Young Theatre Organist Competition held in Cleveland, Ohio in July 2016. He has performed at the "Rising Stars" concert on the Spreckels Organ in San Diego, California and at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Seamus will be performing at the annual ATOS convention to be held in Tampa, Florida in July. He is studying with Ray Cornils and plays regularly at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Bath, Maine. He is an active member of the Pine Tree and Eastern Massachusetts Chapters of the ATOS and is a docent for the Friends of the Kotzschmar Organ. Seamus was awarded a scholarship through the YOC for the years 2013-2015 and received their Penn Brown Scholarship.

The recital is being sponsored by Richard Kenney. The Methuen Memorial Music Hall fifteen week organ recital series continues, every Wednesday, through August 30.