



Carlo  
Balmoria

was born and raised in Fairfax, Virginia. He moved to the Eastern Shore in 2015 and began studying violin and piano with Amy Betit at the Eastern Shore's Own Arts Center in Belle Haven. Since 2019 he has been a piano student of Lee Jordan-Anders. His favorite composers range from Chopin and Rachmaninoff of the Romantic era to modern film composers such as Hans Zimmer and Ludwig Göransson. Carlo is currently a Junior at Nandua High School and a varsity athlete on the Cross Country, Track & Field, and Wrestling teams. After graduation he plans to attend a college of music and study piano performance and music composition.

## Program

Prelude and Fugue in B-flat Major, BWV 866 .....J. S. Bach  
(1685-1750)

Sonata in A Major, Opus 2, No. 2 .....Ludwig v. Beethoven  
(1770-1827)

I. Allegro vivace

Two Études .....Frédéric Chopin  
(1810-1849)

Opus 10, No. 9 in F Minor

Opus 25, No. 2 in F Minor

Three Preludes .....George Gershwin  
(1898-1937)

Allegro ben ritmato e deciso

Andante con moto e poco rubato

Allegro ben ritmato e deciso

Johann Sebastian Bach is widely regarded as one of the greatest composers of all time. By combining the contributions of past composers in Italy, England, and France, he created the foundation for the entirety of western music to the present day. The two books of the Well-Tempered Clavier took Bach most of his lifetime to finish, and are often referred to as the Bible for music. Each book comprises a set of preludes and fugues in all 24 major and minor keys. The nature of each key is established through a variety of moods, tempos, techniques, and boasts an incredible amount of diversity.

While Bach was perhaps the greatest composer, Ludwig van Beethoven was certainly one of the most revolutionary. His works provide a bridge between the Classical and Romantic eras. Beethoven's favorite instrument, the piano, served as the basis for one of his most profound collections, The Thirty-Two Piano Sonatas. The Sonatas are divided into three groups according to the period in Beethoven's life in which they were written. The first group reflects the rules established in the Classical era, the second shows Beethoven's maturity and unique style, and the third presents a rare beauty as Beethoven came to terms with his deafness. The Sonata in A Major is one of three he composed in 1795 and dedicated to his former teacher, Joseph Haydn.

Frédéric Chopin was an outstanding musician of the Romantic era, known as a virtuoso pianist and introspective composer who wrote primarily for the piano. Despite his profound skill, Chopin only gave 30 performances during his lifetime. His works are celebrated for their unique nuance and sensitivity. Rubato, a marking that indicates freedom of tempo in the melodic line, was first developed by Chopin and is one of the most notable characteristics of his style. The Twelve Études Op. 10 and Twelve Études Op. 25 are among Chopin's greatest contributions to piano repertoire. Before Chopin, études served solely as technical studies. Chopin revolutionized this form as each of his études addresses a specific technical challenge but also provides a unique beauty and mood.

George Gershwin was an American pianist and composer of the early 20th century. His unique style, a combination of ragtime, blues, jazz, and classical music, was bizarre at the time, but is now recognized as a distinct American sound. The Three Preludes were written in 1926, two years after the success of "Rhapsody in Blue." The first is a short jazzy exclamation, the second a bluesy lullaby, and the third a concluding flourish.

*Carlo Balmoria, piano*

*in recital*

*Sunday, March 21, 2021*

*4. p.m.*

*Historic Cokesbury Methodist Church  
Onancock, Virginia*