The Sun, the Stars, and the Symphony – “Musical Universe” Launches the New NISO Season
by Natalie Dailey

This season for the Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra (NISO) begins in November with the Fall Concert, “Musical Universe.” Featuring everything from the classic work of Mozart and the iconic scores of John Williams (who composed the theme for the *Star Wars Saga*) to the dramatic compositions of Michael Daugherty, this concert promises to take audience members on a *Symphonic Journey* to outer space as they have never before experienced. Music Director Bradley Miedema calls this performance “a wonderfully varied program that is sure to connect on some level with everyone in attendance.”

“The thing about orchestra music,” said NISO’s Principal Conductor, Christopher Stanichar, “is that it’s so old-fashioned it never goes out of style. It’s classic.” “Musical Universe” will combine the tradition of orchestra music with the wonder of the future. This concert will not just create sound. It will tell a story. It will engage imaginations.

Joining NISO for this galactic evening is percussionist John Pennington. Currently a Professor of Music at Augustana University, Sioux Falls, SD, Pennington has played in more than twenty countries and on four continents. He brings his background of experience with numerous instruments and varied musical styles to his performance with NISO in the Fall Concert. Pennington will play the timpani (also known as kettledrums) in Michael Daugherty’s *Raise the Roof*, where his mastery of the instrument will be displayed as a solo rather than a supporting performance. Together with Pennington, NISO will present a stellar performance.

The concert will be held on November 17 at 7:30 PM in Dordt College’s B. J. Haan Auditorium. Concert and season tickets may be purchased at the door the evening of the concert. For more information, go to http://niso.dordt.edu.
A NISO Season’s Symphonic Journey
by Natalie Dailey

“One of the beauties of music is that it’s an international language.” – Christopher Stanichar, NISO Principal Conductor.

“It is important for people to hear and learn about different styles and genres of music. [It] helps us appreciate the incredible gift of music.” – Norma Snyder Jones, NISO Board of Directors Chairperson.

The 2015-2016 NISO season is a musical journey all over the world and beyond. We start with the Fall Concert, “Musical Universe,” featuring music inspired by the great mystery and imaginative exploration of outer space. The orchestra lands back on earth just in time for the Winter Pops Concert, featuring American classics from Rodgers and Hammerstein productions, music that has been composed for numerous musicals and performed by multiple American musicians and singers since the 1950s. In the spring, we move on to Europe’s Czech Republic in the Spring Concert, “Czech-Mates,” joined by the younger musicians of Northwest Iowa Symphony Youth Orchestra (NISYO). There will also be an exciting guest concert by The Rose Ensemble, “Slavic Wonders,” featuring music from ancient Russia, Bohemia, Poland, and more.

Pack your luggage! Hold on to your hats! This season’s Symphonic Journey promises to be a whirlwind of both foreign and familiar fun.

Season Tickets will be available for purchase at the door.

Season and concert tickets to all NISO performances may be purchased by contacting the NISO office at niso@dordt.edu or by calling 712-722-6230. More information about this year's season can be found online at http://niso.dordt.edu.

NISO Establishes Foundation for Symphony
by Brian Van Engen

The Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra board is excited to announce the establishment of the Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra Foundation. Establishing a Foundation has been a goal of the NISO board for several years, and in April the Board formally adopted resolutions creating the NISO Foundation. The initial members of the Foundation board are Yette Te-Paske, Eric Rankin, John Koerselman, Judy Winkel, and Brian Van Engen.

The goal of the Foundation is to establish and manage a permanent fund to support the operations of the symphony. This fund will be managed so that income can be used to supplement the annual budget of the symphony or fund special symphony projects as needed, while the assets of the fund grow to create an endowment that will add financial stability for the symphony in years to come.

The NISO Foundation is qualified as a 501(c)(3) charity, so donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible. The Foundation is able to accept cash contributions, charitable bequests through wills or trusts, and many other forms of support that donors may wish to use. If you have any questions regarding the Foundation, please feel free to contact us through the NISO office at niso@dordt.edu, by calling 712-722-6230, or by contacting one of the NISO Foundation board members.