

DAVIS-WALDORF
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES | **DWPAAS**
22ND SEASON



RYAN & RYAN

Kickin' the Clouds Away

Thursday, Nov. 3, 2022 | 7:30 p.m.

Alumni Chapel

Welcome to the 22nd Season of the Davis-Waldorf Performing Arts Series. It is our pleasure to continue to provide exceptional entertainment and lead our region in affordable access to professional performing arts events.

The artists this season manipulate time and space, show us history and dreams, and share the world through their eyes. On stage this season will be stories of identity, struggle, growth, grief, celebration, memory, and hope. Behind the scenes, these teaching artists will deliver workshops, outreach performances, and masterclasses designed to inspire and educate. They will challenge young people to engage creatively with the world. They will remind us of how wonderful it is to be together.

I am grateful to the individuals and businesses in our community who support this series because they know the importance of the arts. The performing arts faculty can be better teachers and our students become more engaged learners because of this series. We are a better college because of the series, and Chickasha is a better town because of this series. Thank you for being here tonight and for your ongoing support. Enjoy!

Katie Davis, MFA
Professor of Theatre Arts





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This project was supported in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council,
which receives support from the State of Oklahoma
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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Davis-Waldorf Performing Arts Series is to regularly present professional performing arts events, to facilitate student attendance at these shows as an important part of a liberal arts education, to provide affordable entertainment for our college family and our community, and to lead local arts education by creating access to high-quality, relevant, culturally diverse programming that broadens the aesthetic of each audience member.

STEERING COMMITTEE

Katie Davis, *MFA DWPAS Executive Director*

Christy Clift

Susan Gearhart

Amy Goddard

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Lewis Knisley

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ABOUT RYAN & RYAN

Ryan & Ryan is a dynamic father-son piano duo that draws upon classic and contemporary music to create enthralling concert experiences. From Rachmaninoff to Gershwin to Billy Joel, Donald and Barron Ryan combine their talents to create a dazzling blend of old and new schools.

A native of Trinidad & Tobago, Donald came to the United States to study music, earning degrees from Oral Roberts University and the University of Tulsa. He is well known as a master of diverse styles—evidenced by a diploma from the 9th International Chopin Competition as well as his induction into the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. Donald has also earned the distinction of being among the most accomplished pianists in the world as a Steinway Artist.

Given his father's profession, Barron's choice of playing the piano is no surprise, and he has been no stranger to the stage since the age of four. He distinguished himself in piano studies at the University of Oklahoma and has been a featured soloist at the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame and the Tulsa Performing Arts Center, among many other venues. Barron has also been a prizewinner in numerous piano competitions, including the Oklahoma Israel Exchange Young Artists Competition in 2011.



As a performing team, Donald and Barron amaze audiences with their skill, expressiveness, and love of making music. Their experience in classical, jazz, ragtime, and funk allows them to create exciting new music and give fresh interpretations of old. Audiences everywhere have been thrilled by their renditions of selections from Grusin's *The Firm* soundtrack as well as Rachmaninoff's *Second Suite for Two Pianos*. Their performance of George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue* has always earned a standing ovation.

The pair also emphasizes education. Each pianist has had extensive experience as a featured performer/speaker in the classroom—from earliest grades through university level—and so the duo understands well how to use music as a motivational tool for students.

Ryan & Ryan is a proven hit with audiences of all generations. Their inventiveness, infectiousness, skill and general joy of life make for irresistibly engaging performances. To sum it up, they make music that inspires.



KICKIN' THE CLOUDS AWAY

Enjoy some of the world's best piano music in Ryan & Ryan's Kickin' the Clouds Away program. Including jazz, ragtime, classical, and even gospel song arrangements by members of the duo, this concert is sure strike a chord with any audience. of a community is supported by each member contributing their true selves.

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Hoe-Down from <i>Rodeo</i> | Aaron Copland |
| Ragtime Dance | Scott Joplin |
| Solace | Scott Joplin |
| Kickin' the Clouds Away | George Gershwin |
| Sophisticated Lady | Duke Ellington |
| Sweet and Low-Down | George Gershwin |
| In This Very Room/Still | Ron & Carol Harris/ Reuben Morgan <i>arr. Donald Ryan</i> |
| What a Friend | Charles Crozat Converse <i>arr. Barron Ryan</i> |



INTERMISSION

Suite for Two Pianos
II. Waltz
III. Romance

Sergi Rachmaninoff

Porgy and Bess Fantasy
for Two Pianos

George Gershwin,
Dubose and Dorothy
Heyward, and Ira Gershwin
arr. Percy Aldridge Grainger

