

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Announcing the 22nd Annual Long Island Guitar Festival at LIU Post

Event to also feature first Tri-State High School Classical Guitar Competition

Update: Competition deadline extended to March 20, 2014 (from March 10)



Vida Guitar Quartet

The Department of Music of the School of Visual and Performing Arts at LIU Post is pleased to announce the 22nd Annual Long Island Guitar Festival - Eclectic & International, directed by Harris Becker, to be held April 2 - 6, 2014 at Tilles Center's Hillwood Recital Hall. The festival is recognized internationally as a premier event hosting exceptionally talented musicians from the classical guitar world.

The festival will feature concerts including the Vida Guitar Quartet from England, guitarist, lutenist and composer Frederic Hand, South African guitarist Derek Gripper (featuring music of the great Kora player Toumani Diabate), French guitar innovator Thibault Cauvin and Polish-born American guitarist Paul Cesarczyk. High school guitar ensemble concerts feature students from Bishop McGuinness High School in North Carolina, Susan E. Wagner Guitar Ensemble, and Brentwood High School. The annual Emerging Artist Series will feature Yale University doctoral student Koh Kazama.

The festival also hosts workshops and master classes. Festival workshops include: Writing and Arranging for School and Community Guitar Ensemble, with Alan Hirsh; and the Shearer Method - A New Multi-Media Method Approach to Learning the Guitar, with Thomas Kikta and Alan Hirsh. Also scheduled is a master class with Cellist Maureen Hynes on the cello suites of J.S. Bach and a workshop in electric guitar techniques with James Erickson.

Also featured at the event is a **Tri-State High School Classical Guitar Competition**. This competition is open to residents of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut who are attending and matriculated in a public or private high school in the above states through the date of the competition finals. Applicants may not be represented by professional management. The Competition will be

limited to the first thirty (30) applicants who submit all required materials to the Long Island Guitar Festival by March 20, 2014.

For more information and competition rules and guidelines please visit www.liu.edu/gfest.

Festival sponsors include the D'Addario Foundation for the Performing Arts, the Augustine Foundation, Savarez, Murphy's Music, LIU's John P. McGrath Fund, and dedicated individuals. The festival represents LIU's ongoing commitment to reach out to the arts community and continue an established tradition of excellence in guitar performance and pedagogy.

This year's festival musicians have received great critical acclaim:

Vida Guitar Quartet - Described by Gramophone, "exquisite tonal and dynamic control, super-tight ensemble and unerring musical instinct. There's only one word for it: magic."

Fred Hand - Pronounced by the New York Times as "scintillating and brilliant."

Derek Gripper - Tim Panting of Classical Guitar Magazine says, "More than a labour of love has brought a new purity to the dream-like improvisatory nature of these compositions. My recording of the year, so far!"

Thibault Cauvin - Los Angeles Times raves, "He brims with youthful bravura but also understands the importance of restraint and control of color, Thibault Cauvin is decidedly on his way. He affirmed himself with a surprising maturity as a technically adroit and highly musical player who's also blessed with open ears."

Paul Cesarczyk - "artist of uncommon command and maturity, with a broad and singing tone" says Guitar Review Magazine

Artesian Guitar Quartet - "Gave the evening a note of nobility" lauds Quebec Rural University.

Pat Bianculli - Heralded by the New York Times as "...a sensitive musician, juxtaposed workmanlike playing with passages of real inspiration."

Harris Becker - Raymond Tuttle of classical.net. raves, "Becker's performance of this demanding work a depiction of one of Australia's national parks – is lyrical and imaginative"

“Becker and Bianculli have techniques that are beyond reproach. They eschew bright colors and a brash performance style, and they seem most comfortable with being mellow and quietly insinuating” says Fanfare.

The Long Island Guitar Festival offers several ticket options:

All-Event Pass, \$150 (includes all events)

Individual concert tickets \$25 per person (\$20 for students and seniors)

High School Ensemble Concerts tickets are \$15 (\$10 for students and seniors).

Emerging Artist concert and Electric Guitar Techniques workshop cost \$15.

Tickets to audit master classes are \$10

Tickets to select concerts may be purchased in person at the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts box office, by calling 516-299-3100, or online through the Tilles Center Web site. Box office hours are 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday. There are per-ticket fees when ordering online or through TillesCharge.

Tickets to all events are available at the door and can also be purchased by mail through the LIU Post Department of Music. The All-Event Pass can be purchased only through the Department of Music. A mail-in ticket order form can be found on the Festival website www.liu.edu/gfest.

Long Island University

Founded in 1926, Long Island University (LIU) is one of America’s largest and most comprehensive private universities with locations and programs spanning the New York metropolitan area, overseas and online. With more than 193,000 alumni worldwide, the university offers nearly 500 academic programs and educates more than 23,000 students in New York through accredited programs in Brooklyn, Brookville (LIU Post), Brentwood, Riverhead, Rockland and Westchester (LIU Hudson). Its international unit, LIU Global, provides study-abroad options at overseas centers in Australia, China, Costa Rica, South Africa, India, Taiwan and Thailand, with European sites scheduled to open in 2015. In addition to academic excellence, LIU hosts NCAA Division I and II athletics as well as the internationally-acclaimed Tilles Center for the Performing Arts and George Polk Awards in Journalism.

LIU Post

Located in Brookville, N.Y., LIU Post offers more than 200 undergraduate, graduate and doctoral programs at one of Long Island’s most scenic locations along the Gold Coast. Ranked a Best Regional University by U.S. News and World Report, the university features world-class faculty, a vibrant campus life and residence halls for more than 1,600 students. Graduates who earn their degrees from LIU Post have achieved great distinction in the fields of dance, theater, art, television, movies, music, management and finance, health care, education and technology.

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