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Hillsdale College Symphony Orchestra Performs Annual Commencement Eve Concert in Christ Chapel

HILLSDALE, Mich. — The College Symphony Orchestra gave its final performance of the academic year in Christ Chapel on May 10. The orchestra performed Copland's "Appalachian Spring" and Respighi's "Pines of Rome," along with selected winners of the 2024 Student Concerto/Aria Competition. Parents, students, faculty and staff, and members of the community attended the concert.

"I was absolutely thrilled with this performance," said James Holleman, professor of music and music director of the orchestra. "The students really stepped up and tackled difficult repertoire with enthusiasm and precision. The Copland was very well executed, and we brought down the house with the Respighi. The three soloists performed at a professional level and all three received standing ovations from the over 1,200 in attendance."

The 2024 Concerto/Aria Competition winners who performed with the orchestra were Janae Israel, trumpet; Maria-Therese Romanos, soprano; and Emiliya Smyk, mezzo.

The Hillsdale College Symphony Orchestra performs two concerts each semester, primarily featuring an established repertoire of the Western canon. These concerts often feature faculty, students, and guest soloists. The orchestra is open to all students by audition, regardless of academic major.

To stay up to date with Hillsdale College's fine arts and music-related events and news, follow Hillsdale College Music on [Facebook](#) and on the Hillsdale [events calendar](#). For ticket reservations or inquiries, call the Hillsdale College box office at (517) 607-2848 or email boxoffice@hillsdale.edu.

For photos from the concert, click [here](#).

For a high-resolution copy of the Hillsdale College clocktower logo, click [here](#).

About Hillsdale College

Hillsdale College is an independent, nonsectarian, Christian liberal arts college located in southern Michigan. Founded in 1844, the College has built a national reputation through its classical liberal arts core curriculum and its principled refusal to accept federal or state taxpayer subsidies, even indirectly in the form of student grants or loans. It also conducts an outreach effort promoting civil and religious liberty, including a free monthly speech digest, *Imprimis*, with a circulation of more than 6.6 million. For more information, visit hillsdale.edu.

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