

From Sainte Marie Foundation
Contact: Patricia Reis, 312-350-0041

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Piano Concert in Sainte Marie

Former Sainte Marie resident, James Litzelman, a member of the piano faculty at The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, returns to his hometown for a lecture/piano concert on Sunday, October 8 at 2 p.m. at St. Mary's Church.

“We are celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the Sainte Marie Foundation and the 180th year since the founding of Ste. Marie,” says Patricia Reis, Foundation president, “so we are very pleased that Jim has agreed to honor us with his music for this occasion. We have rented a large grand piano and will have slides that accompany Jim’s lecture/concert. It will be a special day for all attending.”

Litzelman is a successful pianist, teacher and lecturer, having performed in the US, Mexico, Europe, China and Russia. He presents lectures nationally and internationally to music organizations and has judged competitions throughout the eastern and southern US.

While a student at Newton Community High School, he studied piano with Sandra Clark Nichols. At Eastern Illinois University, he was a student of Catherine A. Smith. During his doctoral studies at The Catholic University, he was diagnosed with focal dystonia, a neuromuscular disorder that afflicts pianists and guitarists. Though he overcame this disorder, he has spent the last 20 years as a passionate advocate for pianistic health, seriously investigating piano techniques and sharing his knowledge with others at conferences and symposiums.

Also appearing at the concert will be the piano duo, Miranda Ochs and Jaclyn Street, who won the 2017 Illinois State Fair Talent Contest, a statewide competition. Both are students at Newton Community High School.



A gala reception will follow the concert in the Parish Center. Tickets are for sale now at the Sainte Marie State Bank or by calling Norma Ochs at 618-455-3684. Tickets in advance: \$10 or at door \$15. Children under 12 free.

Picture Caption: Jim Litzelman, former Ste. Marie resident and now pianist/professor at The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.