

# Flowing Water



New Music ≈ Great Falls

Wednesday 21 February 2024  
12:05 pm

**Millie Rios Abam**  
Flute

New Hope Lutheran Church  
3125 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Great Falls, Montana  
(406) 315-1203 • (406) 768-8023  
Bring a Lunch • Beverage – Dessert Provided

## Flowing Water | New Music

### Series Two

February 14, 2024	Alan Johnson, Alto Saxophone
<b>February 21, 2024</b>	<b>Millie Rios Abam, Flute</b>
February 28, 2024	James F. Rickley, Keyboards
	Works of Great Falls Composers
March 6, 2024	Millie Rios Abram, Flute
	Tyler Menzales, Flute
March 13, 2024	Ron Coons, Soprano Saxophone
	Ross Coons, Marimba
March 20, 2024	Cynthia Stevens, Contralto

### Series Three

November 27, 2024	Jean Annau, Clarinet
	Wendy Weissman, Clarinet
December 4, 2024	James F. Rickley, Piano
December 11, 2024	Anne Kittleson, Tenor Saxophone
December 18, 2024	Christopher Kloker, Clarinet

*These concerts follow a protocol of new music  
where each original piece will be played twice  
with a Q & A monitored discussion.*

*Monitored and Facilitated by  
Alan Johnson, Tammy Bull & Marjorie Kohler*

*Videographer—Phil Burton*

## Program

### **A Fissured Seam**

James F. Rickley

*Of Nancy Jane*

*for Unaccompanied Solo Flute*

- 1 – Overview**
- 2 – Fearlessness**
- 3 – Amusement**
- 4 – Compromised**
- 5 – In the Shadow**
- 6 – Defiance**
- 7 – Aggregation**

### **Journeys**

James F. Rickley

*for Unaccompanied Solo Flute*

- 1 – Infancy**
- 2 – The Schoolboy**
- 3 – The Lover**
- 4 – The Soldier**
- 5 – The Justice**
- 6 – The Pantaloon**
- 7 – Old Age**

*Commissioned by the Montana Arts Council*

**Millie Ríos Abam** was born in Mazatlán, México. She began her music studies at the age of 7, her first instrument being the recorder. During her young musical career she also played guitar and piano. At the age of 12 she fell in love with orchestral music and with the solos played by the flute. With this inspiration she decided to pursue a career as a professional flute player.

After finishing her music studies in her hometown, she moved to Mexico City to attend two of the most prestigious universities in the country, The National University of Mexico and Ollin Yoliztli Conservatory. She obtained two bachelor degrees in flute performance simultaneously and a minor in piano while also playing flute and piccolo as an extra musician and soloist with the most important orchestras in Mexico. During these years, she recorded a CD with Mexican pieces for accompanied and solo flute.

After completing two undergraduate degrees, she left Mexico to obtain a masters degree in Music Performance from the University of Houston. After completing their rigorous masters program her education continued as she went on to earn a Graduate Diploma in Performance from McGill University.

During her time in Canada, Millie played principal flute with the Calgary Civic Symphony and was a professor at Mount Royal University.

Besides her experience as a performer, she has taught for more than 10 years, motivating and preparing her students to get accepted into the most prestigious music schools and pursue their own musical dreams.

Currently, Millie lives in Great Falls, Montana where she plays second flute with the Great Falls Symphony and teaches Native American Flute at the middle schools in town. She loves cycling and spending time with her partner and their two cats Sam and Mr. Miyagi.

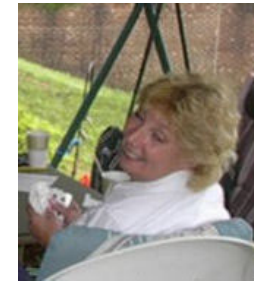
**James F. Rickley** is presently accompanist and organist at New Hope Lutheran Church. Originally from the Pennsylvania area, he chose to live, work and retire in Great Falls. His music composition training was through the University of Cincinnati and Temple University. He served as a music teacher and school administrator in Pennsylvania, Nevada and Montana. He is the owner of the music publishing firm WayWordBound with compositional works available through the online operations of Hal Leonard Corporation.

As Alan Johnson at the first concert of this series said, (rephrasing Aaron Copland from his What to Listen for in Music [1939, 1957]), there are **Three Planes of Listening**: ***Sensuous Plane*** - As a receiver, you are not overly consciously involved listening, such as background music, "elevator" music; ***Expressive Plane*** - The music is expressing something to the listener through melody, rhythm, harmony, or other musical elements which offers an invitation in - with a response to sing or hum, move or dance, or generate an emotional response such as joy, sadness, contemplation, etc.; and, ***Sheerly Musical Plane*** - More is demanded in focusing on what is being conveyed. Of performances in this plane, there are not hummable melodies, nor foot tapping rhythms, nor familiar harmonies in recognized forms. It's a journey into new realms and experiences. This third plane aptly describes the music in this series of new music.

## A Fissured Seam

*Of Nancy Jane Rickley Velnich*

*November 13, 1949 - April 20, 2021*



*for Unaccompanied Solo Flute*

- 1 – Overview**
- 2 – Fearlessness**
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- 5 – In the Shadow**
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# Journeys

*for Unaccompanied Solo Flute*

- 1 – Infancy**
- 2 – The Schoolboy**
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- 4 – The Soldier**
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- 6 – The Pantaloon**
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*Commissioned by the Montana Arts Council*

"All the world's a stage,

And all the men and women merely players.  
They have their exits and their entrances,  
And one man in his time plays many parts,  
His acts being seven ages. At first the infant,  
Mewling and puking in the nurse's arms.  
Then, the whining school-boy with his satchel  
And shining morning face, creeping like snail  
Unwillingly to school. And then the lover,  
Sighing like furnace, with a woeful ballad  
Made to his mistress' eyebrow. Then, a soldier,  
Full of strange oaths, and bearded like the pard,  
Jealous in honour, sudden, and quick in quarrel,  
Seeking the bubble reputation  
Even in the cannon's mouth. And then, the justice,  
In fair round belly, with a good capon lined,  
With eyes severe, and beard of formal cut,  
Full of wise saws, and modern instances,  
And so he plays his part.

The sixth age shifts  
Into the lean and slippered pantaloon,  
With spectacles on nose and pouch on side,  
His youthful hose, well saved, a world too wide  
For his shrunk shank, and his big manly voice,  
Turning again toward childish treble, pipes  
And whistles in his sound. Last scene of all,  
That ends this strange eventful history,  
Is second childishness and mere oblivion,  
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything."

-Act II, Scene VII, Shakespeare's As You Like It

*Many Thanks to Reverend Tammy Bull,*

*Bruce Bull, the Members of New Hope Lutheran Church for  
their assistance, support and facilitation*

*of this concert series.*

*Support Contributions to:*

*New Hope—Concert Series*