

Press Release



Media Contact:

Benjamin Rickert, Director of Communications
Blue Ridge Community College
Office (828) 694-1860
b.rickert@blueridge.edu

For Immediate Release / Public Notice
September 18, 2023

28th Annual Blue Ridge Concert Series Begins with Oct. 10 Piano Performance



Featured photo: The full 2023-2024 series includes pianists Dr. Kevin Ayesh (Oct. 10), Dr. James Helton (Nov. 14), Dr. Kirill Gliadkovsky (March 19, 2024) and Dr. Lino Rivera (April 23, 2024). (Photos courtesy of respective pianists. [Individual photos available here.](#)

HENDERSONVILLE, N.C. – The 28th season of the Blue Ridge Community College Concert Series commences on Tuesday, Oct. 10, with a performance by pianist Dr. Kevin Ayesh. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. in the College's Bo Thomas Auditorium, featuring works by Bach, Beethoven, Chopin, and Rachmaninoff. The ticketed event is open to the general public for \$10, payable at the door; and student admission is only \$5.

"I am grateful to Blue Ridge Community College for continuing to sponsor these popular and truly outstanding classical music concerts," said Dr. Ayesh, founder and artistic director of the series. "I'm sure that I speak for our many patrons as well."

The full 2023-2024 series includes pianists Dr. Kevin Ayesh (Oct. 10), Dr. James Helton (Nov. 14), Dr. Kirill Gliadkovsky (March 19, 2024) and Dr. Lino Rivera (April 23, 2024).

Ayesh has presented recitals and master classes at colleges and universities throughout the United States, as well as in Canada, Europe and Hong Kong. His performances have also reached all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Dr. Ayesh has earned accolades in numerous national and international competitions, and he has appeared as a concerto soloist with orchestras across Western North Carolina. A former 'North Carolina Visiting Artist,' Dr. Ayesh was Blue Ridge Community College's lead music instructor from 1992 until 2021. He received his Bachelor of Music degree with highest honors from the University of Texas; his master's and doctorate degrees are from the University of Maryland.

"Our College and fine arts community is excited for Dr. Ayesh to take the stage on October 10 to lead us into the 28th season of this community tradition," said Benjamin Rickert, marketing and communications director for Blue Ridge Community College. "This year's lineup brings together a distinguished and experienced cast of pianists who are sure to move and thrill their audiences."

A reception follows the concert, with cake provided by Chef Dan Knapp of Lake Pointe Landing Retirement Community. All concerts feature non-reserved seating, and proceeds benefit the College's Personal Enrichment Program.

The Bo Thomas Auditorium is located in the Sink Building on the Henderson County Campus at 130 Eagles Reach Drive, Flat Rock.

For more information, visit the Concert Series webpage at www.blueridge.edu/concert-series. Questions may be directed to Paula Wynn at 828-694-1742 or pe_wynn@blueridge.edu.

###

About Blue Ridge Community College

Blue Ridge Community College is a two-year, post-secondary institution that elevates the educational experience to prepare students for 21st-century success in the workplace or at four-year colleges and universities. Providing real-life, affordable, and accessible education, the College offers more than 200 degrees, diplomas, and certificates; more than 200 online courses; and fast-tracked job training.

blueridge.edu

