

Winner of the 2016 Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra Concerto competition and UND's 2015 Mozart Piano Concerto competition, runner-up for the 2017 Greater Grand Forks Concerto Competition, and UND's Presser Scholar 2017-2018, Matthew Sebald charms audiences with his passion and attention to musical details. At his performance of the first movement of Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 19 with the UND Chamber Orchestra, Matthew was praised as a "dedicated musician" by maestro Alejandro Drago. He is a recent graduate of the University of North Dakota, earning his Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance under the tutelage of Dr. Nariaki Sugiura.

During his time at UND, Matthew has been an active performer, collaborator, and chamber musician. As a collaborative pianist, Matthew has experience in playing for strings, brass, vocal, and woodwinds, which he acquired through working with students and teachers alike. His most recent engagement was a trip to the XVIII World Saxophone Congress in Croatia where he collaborated with Dr. Scott Sandberg (UND) in the premiere of Catherine McMichael's Duality for tenor saxophone and piano. In fall of 2016, he collaborated with Professor Eric High, a professional bass/contrabass trombonist, on the professor's guest faculty recital. Matthew has also proven himself to be an accomplished soloist. He gave recitals each year of his undergraduate career and soloed with the UND Chamber Orchestra and the Bismarck-Mandan Symphony Orchestra. He competed at the Regional level of the Music Teacher's National Association Young Artist Competition in Wichita Kansas. In addition to his training from Dr. Sugiura, Matthew has performed in master classes conducted by Professor Lydia Artymiw, Dr. Alan Chow, Dr. Siyoun Lin, Professor Mihaela Tomi, Dr. Laura Lowen, Dr. Jihye Chang, and John Clodfelter. As a chamber player, Matthew was a member of a piano trio during his sophomore and junior years. This led to him being selected as the pianist of 2017 UND Red River Trio, a piano trio which performs throughout the school year, culminating in a trip to Japan for performance engagements. Matthew has also shown skill in large ensembles; he was the harpsichordist/pianist for UND chamber orchestra for the 2017-2018 school year and has been a substitute pianist for the Greater Grand Forks Symphony Orchestra on different occasions.

Currently, Matthew is working full-time as an independent collaborative pianist, mostly working with students at UND. He was selected as a member of UND's 2018 Piano Ensemble. This group performed solo/ensemble works in the Grand Forks area in the fall of 2018 and in November visited Shanghai, China, where they performed a unique program featuring 0-8 hands on the piano. In fall of 2020, Matthew plans to pursue his Masters degree in Collaborative Piano.