

Godwin Friesen was born into a home rich with music and quickly realized his own love for composition and performance. He learned a lot as a young singer and multi-instrumentalist in the Friesen Family Band, which recorded three albums and toured across the country. Godwin placed first at the 2015 National Music Festival and received the national Senior Mary Gardiner Award in Canadian contemporary music the same year. In June, Godwin was one of ten pianists selected to compete in the 2018 PianoArts North American Competition in Milwaukee, where he won the Audience Communication Award. His first composition for orchestra, *Pilgrimage*, was premiered by the Saskatoon Youth Orchestra last spring. This season, he will be performing three concertos, each with a different Canadian orchestra. Godwin has been on faculty at Saskatoon's Summer Academy for Voice and Piano for the past two summers, and is currently studying on full-tuition scholarship at The Glenn Gould School in Toronto, under the direction of John O'Conor.