**Long Bio:**

Amanda Forest is a Canadian clarinetist residing in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She has recently obtained her Master's Degree in Clarinet Performance and Literature at Western University in London, Ontario. Amanda has received high standing in competitions and recognition for her strong level of musicianship and her stage presence. She was the third prize winner of the 2017 London Music Scholarship Foundation Competition. Amanda also attended the 2017 LIFT Clarinet Academy in Fort Collins Colorado, where she has given her American solo debut at the final concert as one of the student soloists.

Active as both a soloist and a chamber musician, Amanda has been involved in large and chamber ensembles. During her time at Western, she was co-principal clarinet of the Western University Symphony Orchestra under the batons of Maestros Tyrone Patterson and Simone Luti. She also performed with the Western University Wind Ensemble and in the orchestra pit of the Western University Opera Workshop for their productions of Carmen and Pirates of Penzance.

Amanda was a member of The Meadowlark Trio with violinist Maddie Speller and collaborative pianist Olena Bratishko. Together, the trio premiered “Mnemosyne” - a piece written for them by composer Willyn Whiting.  She was also a member of the Brandon University Clarinet Choir, which performed at the 2014 ICA Clarinet Festival in Louisiana.  Other ensembles Amanda has been involved  with  include the National Youth Band of Canada,and the Brandon University Symphonic Band.  With in the clarinet choir and chamber ensembles, Amanda has premiered works by composers Andre McEvenue, Aaron Lee,  Jeff Presslaff and Chris Byman.

Aside from performing, Amanda also has been active as a clinician and teacher, having obtained her Concurrent Bachelor’s degree in Music Education from Brandon University in Manitoba.  She has taught music to children ranging from Kindergarten to High School.

Amanda’s love for theatrics and storytelling not only fuels her love for western classical music, but other genres as well.  Specifically, her musical tastes also include rock music, video game music and musicals. Having taken theatre classes in her hometown of Winnipeg, Amanda aspires to design a project involving the exploration of theatrical contemporary pieces for the clarinet to transfer her theatrical knowledge to her clarinet pedagogy and performance.  Amanda also aspires to further explore the realm of new music, in order to further her appreciation of the genre, expand her limits as a musician and to bring awareness of the clarinet to a modern audience.

Amanda’s principal teachers include Jana Starling, Catherine Wood and H Andrew Wahl. She has performed in masterclasses and private lessons for guest artists such as Lori Freedman, Marie Picard, Fan Lei, Connie Gitlin,  Robert Reisling, Wesley Ferreira and Robert Spring.

**Short Bio:**

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