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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**MORRIS**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## DuHamel to debut *Prayers for a Feverish Planet* in observance of Earth Week 2022

New multi-day music series reflects on climate change

In 2019, Ann DuHamel, associate professor of music and head of keyboard studies at UMN Morris was feeling the weight of the climate crisis. Realizing that climate change was getting worse, she wanted to do something – and she wanted to encourage others to do something. She sent out a global call for pieces that responded to the climate crisis. And she received an overwhelming response.

DuHamel framed her project as ***Prayers for a Feverish Planet*** and invited composers to reflect on “the complicated dynamics that have brought us to this precipice.” Composers in more than 35 countries sent DuHamel more than 170 pieces of music, including movements and larger sets – all together 316 individual pieces of music.

DuHamel reflects, “A prayer can be a plea for mercy and forgiveness. A prayer can be a hopeful appeal to something beyond our human selves. A prayer can be an acknowledgement that individuals need to commit to the diligent, tireless work to create effective change while recognizing the need for external grace for help in effecting such a change. A prayer can have a miraculous impact.”

In celebration of Earth Week, DuHamel will be playing multiple pieces of music grouped along important themes that emerged from the invited compositions. DuHamel has invited guest speakers into her collaborative effort to reflect on several themes, including: anxiety, water, progress, time, trees, hope, and more.

*Prayers for a Feverish Planet* will be a multi-day musical series. The series will launch on April 21, as part of the [Institute for Advanced Studies Thursdays](#) program. Register [here](#).

Additional presentations are scheduled on April 22, 23, and 24. The series is made possible in part by a University of Minnesota Imagine Funds Special Events Grant.

Updated information about DuHamel and the program can be found [here](#).

All the presentations will be presented live in the UMN Morris Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall.

April 21 IAS Thursdays presentation will be available online by registering [here](#).

April 22-24 presentations will be available online here: **[z.umn.edu/prayers](http://z.umn.edu/prayers)**

Upcoming dates and time include:

April 21, 3:30 p.m.

April 22, 7:30 p.m.

April 23, 12 p.m., 4 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

April 24, 12 p.m., 4 p.m., 7:30 p.m.

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