

Gunes Sunar

Composer and Pianist

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EDUCATION

Class of 2027 **Ward Melville High School**
East Setauket, New York

COMPOSITION PROGRAMS

2026 **Jacobs Composition Academy Summer Intensive**
Indiana University
Completed a 5 week intensive virtual program, mentored by conservatory faculty in advanced portfolio development and technical craft. Professional realization of an original trio for piano, violin, and cello, *We Just Don't Get It*, performed by Indiana University musicians.

2026 to present **Penn State Young Composers Institute**
Participating in a 30 week intensive in advanced orchestration, modern harmony, and digital engraving under faculty mentorship. Finalized a professional studio recording of an original piano and clarinet duo, *Back and Forth*, with ongoing advanced portfolio development.

COMPOSITION AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2026 **First Place with Honor**
International Youth Music Competitions (IYMC)
Back and Forth, piano and clarinet duo

2026 **Second Place**
Global Musical Arts Competition (GMAC)
Unzufrieden, piano solo

2025 **Third Place**
International Youth Music Competitions (IYMC)
Unzufrieden, piano solo

2024 **Honorable Mention**
International Youth Music Competitions (IYMC)
Meine Stimmung, piano solo

2021 **Honorable Mention**
OhioMTA Western District Composition Contest
Trust Yourself, piano solo

2019 **Excellent Rating**
National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC) Ohio Junior Composer Contest
Bogs Mogs, piano solo

2018 **Superior Rating**
International Piano Composition Contest
Jupiter, piano solo

2017	Honorable Mention OhioMTA Western District Composition Contest <i>Number 8</i> , piano solo
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SELECTED COMPOSITION WORKSHOPS AND MASTERCLASSES

2019	Masterclass in Music Composition Dayton Music Club and COCOA <i>Synco</i> , performed by pianist Amanda Roberts
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2019	Student Composers Workshop Piano Preparatory School, Ohio <i>Sukodoo</i> , performed in a workshop led by composer Timothy Brown
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2018	Young Composers Masterclass Dayton Music Club and COCOA <i>Jupiter</i> , performed by pianist Kristen Kosey
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LEADERSHIP AND MUSIC EDUCATION

Feb 2026 to present	Founder and Instructor PieceFoundry Founded a free online music composition platform teaching students in Grades 1 to 8 the fundamentals of composition. Develops original instructional materials and publishes a biweekly composition blog.
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SELECTED ADJUDICATED SUBMISSIONS

2026	<i>Back and Forth</i>, piano and clarinet duo NYSSMA Calls for Creators, Young Composer Showcase
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2026	<i>Whispers in the Mirror</i>, piano solo 13th Annual Youth Composition Competition
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2025	<i>Whispers in the Mirror</i>, piano solo NYSSMA Calls for Creators, Young Composer Showcase
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2025	<i>Fameless</i>, piano solo 12th Annual Youth Composition Competition
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2023	<i>The World Changes</i>, piano solo Sempre Musick Composition Competition
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2019	<i>Sukodoo</i>, piano solo OhioMTA Western District Composition Contest
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2018	<i>Jupiter</i>, piano solo OhioMTA Western District Composition Contest
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SELECTED PERFORMANCES OF ORIGINAL PIANO COMPOSITIONS

2025, 2026	<i>Unzufrieden</i> SigmaNext Camp, chamber concert
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2021	<i>Trust Yourself</i> Jacob Coy Middle School Talent Show
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2018	<i>Jupiter</i> Student recital, studios of Erin Ferdelman and Rosanne Brown
2017	<i>Number 8</i> OhioMTA Western District Honors Recital · Student recital, Piano Preparatory School · Shaw Elementary School Talent Show

PIANO SOLO PERFORMANCE AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

2026	Second Place Global Musical Arts Competition (GMAC)
2024 to 2025	Outstanding New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Levels 4 and 5
2022	Superior NFMCO Ohio Junior Festival Elementary IV, piano solo and theory test
2020	Superior NFMCO Ohio Junior Festival Primary IV
2019 to 2022	First Class Honours The Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) Levels 1 through 4

SELECTED PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

2022 to 2024	Wind Ensemble, percussion Paul J. Gelinas Junior High School Performed in the Winter Showcase, the Annual Showcase concert, and the 2024 NYSSMA Major Festival.
2023 to 2024	Jazz Band, piano Paul J. Gelinas Junior High School Performed in the Winter Showcase and Showcase concerts.
2022 to 2024	Concert Band, percussion Paul J. Gelinas Junior High School Performed in 8th and 9th grade seasonal concerts, including spring and holiday performances.
2017 to 2021	Piano The Piano Preparatory School Performed in six seasonal student recitals.