

Scaramouche

By Meadow Pike

Saxophones are one of the most unique instruments in traditional concert bands, and have been since their creation in 1846. Adolphe Sax, a Belgian designer of musical instruments, conceived the idea of a perfect instrument: the best qualities of a woodwind brought together with the best qualities of a brass instrument. From this came the birth of the saxophone, a brass instrument that produces sound like a woodwind instrument. Originally, there were fourteen different families, or types, of saxophones. Today, only six of these are known and used across the world. They range from the top of the scale to the bottom, with the sopranino at the very top with the highest pitch, and the bass at the bottom with the lowest voice. The voices of the saxophones fit into virtually any genre of ensemble because of their close similarity to the human vocal chords.

Lukas Rosipko, a senior at Perry High School, has been playing the saxophone since he was around ten years old in the fifth grade. He fell in love with the instrument, and has stuck with it ever since, even playing tenor saxophone for one year in middle school and deciding that the alto saxophone was his pick for life. Today, he owns “four;” “two altos and one soprano, and then I also have a tenor.” His love of music and desire to continue in the field stems from “all of the people who have watched a musical performance [he has] put on and enjoyed it and told that to [him.] It makes [him] happy to share and make music with others.” Rosipko is certainly a performer, and two of his favorite concertos, *Scaramouche* and the *Glazunov Concerto for Alto Saxophone*, help him “make strong connections with [his] peers in my orchestra and even with some of [his] teachers,” which he believes is “incredible.” Throughout the fall of his senior year, Rosipko has begun compiling portfolios and auditions for his college hopes. Several colleges he looked at simply because of their saxophone programs, including Eastman School of Music and

Blair School of Music. He's also looked at Berkeley College's dual-degree program through Harvard. Harvard is his dream school overall, but "only has a Department of Music" rather than the entire college dedicating its funds to a music-centered education. His end goal with this career is "to keep it constant through [his] life" because it is a medium through which he can "feel connected with others and in general makes [him] very happy." Rosipko hopes to always make time for it somewhere in [his] life" and believes that if it was not a part of his life, he would not "be living the life that [he dreams] of... and doing what makes [him] happy."

Rosipko's parents, William and Beverly, have been highly supportive of Rosipko's pursuit of music throughout the course of his life. They describe the years of watching Rosipko's love of music as "a joy to experience... he has put in the work and has the drive that has gotten him to where he is today." Mrs. Rosipko described the main motivator for Rosipko's hot pursuit of music directed by "Lukas[']... hard work... we encourage him to follow what brings him joy," and he practices "6-8 hours a week." They "fund his musical ambitions, but this was not until after he played an old borrowed saxophone the first 5 years from a friend," which once Mr. and Mrs. Rosipko saw he had "never complained, [and] once we [had seen] he was serious... we purchased him a saxophone that should get him through college or beyond." With all of this time and money dedicated to music, Mr. and Mrs. Rosipko hope to see Rosipko "continuing to pursue music because it is one of his passions."

All of Rosipko's years of music training in theory, practice, and his participation across many elite local ensembles such as the Blizzard Youth Wind Symphony, Lake County Honors Band, and one of Cleveland State University's Chamber Ensembles had paid off, and he is an absolutely fantastic performer. His commitment to his craft, and the natural talent with which he was born has resulted in the amazing grades and honors he has received.

<https://jazzfuel.com/different-types-of-saxophones>

<https://recording-history.org/types-of-saxophones/>

https://www.yamaha.com/en/musical_instrument_guide/saxophone/structure/