



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Kate Blair, kblair@nfaonline.org 312-332-6682

The National Flute Association is pleased to announce that Eva Kingma has received the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award, presented to an individual who has inspired and contributed to the advancement and knowledge of the flute and flute playing. The award will be presented at the 46th Annual National Flute Association Convention, August 9–12, 2018, in Orlando. Visit nfaonline.org/Annual-Convention.

Eva Kingma is a world-renowned instrument maker who specializes in low flutes, such as the alto, bass, and contrabass. Her numerous innovations on these instruments have enabled a growing number of flutists to adopt and utilize them for solo and ensemble work. Her most famous product is the Kingma System, which has two key benefits: the regularization of quartertone scales and enhancement of the flute's capacity for multiphonics, or the ability to play multiple notes at once.

"I am totally overwhelmed and incredibly honored to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award," said Eva Kingma. "This honor gives me the fuel to continue what I have been doing. Thanks to all the people at the NFA who made this possible!"

"Eva Kingma has revolutionized the world of low flutes with her innovative designs and careful craftsmanship," said Kyle Dzapo, NFA President. "Her work has fueled the imagination of performers and composers throughout the world, and the National Flute Association is thrilled to award a Lifetime Achievement Award to her at our 2018 convention in Orlando."

The Kingma System is based on the Boehm-system flute but utilizes additional keys, including a C# trill key, and her patented key-on-key system, to enable flutists to play all twelve quartertones with consistency and clarity. The ability to vent previously closed-hole keys also leads to greater pitch control by enhancing the player's ability to alter intonation. These developments have opened up new avenues for flutists and composers alike.

The Kingma Company originated in Holland in the early 1950s, shortly after World War II. A shortage of wind instruments led Dirk Kuiper, the second flutist in the Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, to found a small company to meet the demand for new flutes. In 1975, Eva Kingma joined Kuiper, later taking over the company in 1981. Since 1988, the company has been located in the village of Grolloo in the north of the Netherlands.

The first Kingma System alto flute was created in 1991. In 1993, Kingma also created a Kingma System C-flute in collaboration with Bickford Brannen, but has since chosen to focus on low flutes, all of which are available on the Kingma System. Through her work, Kingma has frequently collaborated with other flutemakers and customers, gaining inspiration and ideas for her flutemaking in the process.



“I had the great privilege to work with some wonderful flutemakers like Albert Cooper and Bickford Brannen and flutists who gave me endless inspiration to continue my innovations,” Kingma said. “To open doors for flutists and composers is a wonderful process. I never realized that it had such a great impact worldwide.”

This collaborative and personal approach has also helped her take special care with regard to the ergonomics of her instruments. Kingma has worked hard to position keys so that the hand positions are as comfortable as possible, allowing flutists greater agility and stamina during performance.

Kingma plans to continue her focus on low flutes and will soon begin work on her first double-contrabass flute.

“I need at least another three re-incarnations to accomplish all of my ideas,” she said.

About the NFA

Since its inception 1972, the NFA has grown to be the largest flute organization in the world, with more than 4,000 members from 50 countries. Its annual convention includes 19 competitions, many with cash prizes. The NFA has commissioned dozens of major works for flute, piccolo, and chamber ensemble and awards scholarships and outreach prizes for flutists of all ages and from countries worldwide. Its 40-year-old member magazine is *The Flutist Quarterly*. Visit nfaonline.org.