

# LIVING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022 | siouxcityjournal.com | SECTION D



PROVIDED

Sioux City native Jordan Dykstra will explore the difference between composing a musical score as a solo artist and as a collaborator during a public workshop at 6 p.m. Friday at Sioux City's Design West. The program is part of the 17th Sioux City International Film Festival, which is taking place Thursday through Oct. 2.

## MUSIC AT THE MOVIES

Sioux City native's musical compositions lend drama to documentaries

EARL HORLYK  
ehorlyk@siouxcityjournal.com

If you're a fan of the PBS documentary series "Frontline," you may already be familiar with the work of Jordan Dykstra.

But the Sioux City native isn't a reporter or a filmmaker. Instead, Dykstra has written musical scores for such films as "Blow the Man Down," "Hail Satan?" and 2019's "Documenting Hate," which was an Emmy Award winner for Outstanding Investigative Documentary.

A 2003 Bishop Heelan Catholic High School graduate, Dykstra will be one of the speakers at the 17th Sioux City International Film Festival.

Showcasing short films from around the world, the film festival is being held Thursday through Oct. 2 at the Promenade Cinema 14, 924 Fourth St.

Dykstra, whose scores can be heard in films which appeared at the Cannes, Sundance and TriBeCa film festivals, will present

Please see **DYKSTRA**, Page D5

## Palestinian farmer discovers rare ancient treasure in Gaza

FARES AKRAM  
Associated Press

BUREIJ, Gaza Strip — Last spring, a Palestinian farmer was planting a new olive tree when his shovel hit a hard object. He called his son, and for three months, the pair slowly excavated an ornate Byzantine-era mosaic that experts say is one of the greatest archaeological treasures ever found in Gaza.

The discovery has set off excitement among archaeologists, and the territory's Hamas rulers are planning a major announcement in coming days.

But it is also drawing calls for better protection of Gaza's antiq-

uities, a collection of fragile sites threatened by a lack of awareness and resources as well as the constant risk of conflict between Israel and local Palestinian militants.

The mosaic was uncovered just a half-mile from the Israeli border. The floor, boasting 17 iconographies of beasts and birds, is well-preserved and its colors are bright.

"These are the most beautiful mosaic floors discovered in Gaza, both in terms of the quality of the graphic representation and the complexity of the geometry," said René Elter, an archaeologist from the French Biblical

and Archaeological School of Jerusalem.

He said the mosaic dates back to a time between the 5th and 7th centuries. But he said a proper excavation must be conducted to determine when exactly it was built and whether it was part of a religious or secular complex.

Elter, who has conducted research in Gaza in the past, has not been able to visit the site but viewed photos and videos taken by local research partners.

The Gaza Strip, a Palestinian coastal enclave sandwiched between Israel and Egypt, was a bustling trade route between Egypt and the Levant in ancient times.



FATIMA SHBAIR, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Palestinians clean Sept. 5 around a Byzantine-era mosaic floor that was uncovered recently by a farmer in Bureij in central Gaza Strip.

### NOW HIRING!

New Pay Rates & Sweet Benefits

**Maintenance**  
\$28.43 - \$29.43/hr

**Line Attendants**  
\$20.52 - \$21.52/hr

**Operators**  
\$24.21 - \$25.21/hr

**Material Handler**  
\$24.21 - \$25.21/hr

**Winder Operator**  
\$24.21/hr

**Mixer Operator**  
\$24.21 - \$25.21/hr

**3rd Shift Supervisor**  
Rate DOE

**3rd Shift – Assistant Supervisor**  
\$27.32/hour

**Packers**  
\$21.05 - \$22.05/hr

We Offer Super Sweet Benefits including Amazing Pay, \$2,750 Referral Bonus, 401k w/ Company Match - you put in 10% & we'll match 6.5%, Amazing Medical Plan, FREE Dental & Vision for all Employees & their Families, Great Tunes & Coworkers & MORE!

Stop In Or Visit Our Website Today! • 1790 21st St. SW Le Mars, IA 51031 • [www.BoDeansCareers.com](http://www.BoDeansCareers.com)

# Treasure

From D1

However, the treasures are rarely protected. In the past, they were looted. In recent years, some were damaged or destroyed by development projects or fighting with Israel. An Israeli-Egyptian blockade imposed after the Hamas militant group took over Gaza in 2007 has ravaged the economy, leaving few resources for the protection of antiquities.

Hamas itself pays little attention to preserving the sites as it struggles to meet the needs of a rapidly growing population. More than 2.3 million people are squeezed in the 115-square-mile strip. In 2017, Hamas bulldozers destroyed large parts of a site containing remains from a 4,500-year-old Bronze Age settlement to make housing projects for its employees.

Early this year, bulldozers digging for an Egyptian-funded housing project in northern Gaza unearthed a Roman-era tomb.

Among the few preserved sites in Gaza are the St. Hilarion monastery, which spans from the late Roman Empire to the Islamic Umayyad period, and the site of



**Left:** A Palestinian on Sept. 5 sweeps dust off parts of a Byzantine-era mosaic floor that was uncovered by a farmer in Bureij in central Gaza Strip. **Right:** A detail of parts of a Byzantine-era mosaic floor that was uncovered recently by a Palestinian farmer in Bureij in central Gaza Strip.



FATIMA SHBAIR PHOTOS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

a Byzantine church that was restored by international aid organizations and opened this year in the northern Gaza Strip.

While these sites also have mosaics, Elter said the latest discovery, in the central Gaza town of Bureij, is "exceptional."

The Hamas-run department of antiquities described the mosaic as "a big archaeological discovery" but refused to comment further, saying there will be a formal announcement later.

The owner of the land, who refused to be identified before the official announcement, has covered the unearthed portion of the mosaic floor with tin sheets. He said he hopes to receive compensation for protecting the unique discovery on his property.

The patch of land holding the mosaic is about 5,400 square feet, and three dug-out spots reveal glimpses of the mosaic.

The largest of the holes in the ground, about 6 by 9 feet, has

the 17 drawings of animals. The other two show intricate patterns of tiles. Roots of an old olive tree have damaged parts of the mosaic, which appears to be about 250 square feet altogether in size.

Elter said the discovery is in "immediate danger" because it is so close to the Israeli separation fence. Such areas along the fence are often the scene of intermittent clashes or Israeli incursions. Just last month, Israel and Gaza's Islamic Jihad militant group

fought a fierce three-day battle that included Israeli shelling of militant posts and the landing of some misfired Palestinian rockets in the area.

Elter also worries that excavations by inexperienced people could damage the site. His hope is a professional team can properly excavate, restore and protect the mosaic.

"It is imperative to quickly organize an emergency rescue intervention," he said.

# Dykstra

From D1

a "Collaborative Creation or Singular Sound" workshop at 6 p.m. Friday at Design West, 1014 1/2 Fourth St.

"Some filmmakers take a hands-on approach to music while others prefer to leave to the musicians," Dykstra, who earned a master of fine arts degree from the Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema, of Brooklyn, explained. "It varies greatly from project to project."

The intent of a musical score may also vary, either adding a dramatic pop to the action or becoming an unobtrusive element of the filmmaker's vision.

Such distinctions didn't matter much to the 37-year-old Dykstra, who began writing movie scores about five years ago.

"I grew up in a family where music was very important," he recalled. "My siblings all played musical instruments and I began playing the violin at age 4."

Indeed, Dykstra spent much of his 20s on the West Coast as a

## The art (and science) of moviemaking

For 17 years, the Sioux City International Film Festival has shown and awarded short movies from across the country and around the world.

Nearly 70 films will be screened at the Promenade Cinema 14, Thursday through Oct. 2.

In addition, several speakers will be on hand to provide a unique perspective on moviemaking.

Following a 7 p.m. Thursday screening of his movie, "Encore: A Film Music Documentary," documentarian Matt Schrader will conduct a Q&A at the Promenade 14 Cinema, beginning at 9 p.m.

professional musician.

"I was totally into chamber music," he explained. "I always liked movies but it wasn't my focus."

That changed after Dykstra moved to the East Coast and began studying under the tutelage of composer Alvin Lucier and astrophysicist Seth Redfield.

"I explored the connections between the microtonality of music and its relationship with the

Composer (and Sioux City native) Jordan Dykstra will discuss the role of music in film during a 6 p.m. Friday workshop at Sioux City's Design West (behind Buffalo Alice).

The Los Angeles-based Bri Holland will explore vocal processing, from recording through mixing, at 11 a.m. Saturday at Design West.

In addition, several of the festival's filmmakers will be on hand for a roundtable discussion at 3 p.m. Saturday.

More information on the film festival's movies and programming may be found at [siouxcityfilmfest.org](http://siouxcityfilmfest.org).

cosmic distance ladder," he said. "There was a lot of art in science and a lot of science in art."

This understanding of composition helped Dykstra when he was asked to score 2022's "Plot to Overturn the Election," a critically acclaimed "Frontline" documentary which showed how a handful of people threw doubt in democracy following the 2020 presidential election.



PROVIDED

"Scoring a documentary is writing music in real time," he said. "Often time, you're working off of an outline instead of a script. In the case of 'Plot to Overturn the Election,' I was literally scoring the film the weekend before it was slated to air."

Which was a major undertaking for Dykstra. His score can be heard for 49 minutes in the 53-minute film.

"I like writing music for documentaries because the timeline is more intense," he said. "I have one to three months to complete a score instead of three to 12 months that I'd have in scoring a narrative film."

Plus documentaries lend themselves to dramatic scoring.

"If I was asked to write 49 minutes of music for a 53-minute

drama, that would be a sign that the movie will be bad," Dykstra said with a chuckle. "If a narrative movie needs that much help from a musical score, something is seriously wrong."

Nothing seems to be wrong with the now Brooklyn-based Dykstra.

"It's been a very busy summer," he admitted. "I'm happy that things will be calming down since nothing is more beautiful than New York in autumn."

Even though he was back in his native Sioux City for Saturday in the Park, Dykstra is excited about attending the Sioux City International Film Festival.

"Music and movies go together," he said. "I'm looking forward to discussing my process in scoring a film."

# CENTURY 21 ProLink



1114 4th Street, Sioux City, IA 51101

Dedicated to Customer Service  
Like us on Facebook

[www.BarbMaxon.com](http://www.BarbMaxon.com)

**BARB MAXON**  
712-253-3647  
[bmaxon@c21prolink.com](mailto:bmaxon@c21prolink.com)  
Licensed in IA, SD, & NE

**TIFFANY PECH-WILLIAMS**  
712-898-3638  
[tiffany@c21prolink.com](mailto:tiffany@c21prolink.com)  
Licensed in IA, SD, & NE

**KELSEY HOWARD**  
712-898-4606  
[khoward@c21prolink.com](mailto:khoward@c21prolink.com)  
Licensed in IA

**LEEDS • \$275,000**

**4605 VAN BUREN STREET**

**NEW LISTING BY BARB**

In town acreage on 1.95 acres with 3 bedrooms, an office, 2 bathrooms, eat in kitchen and formal dining room and an oversized 2 car garage.

**DAKOTA DUNES • \$1,150,000**

**961 QUAIL HOLLOW**

**CALL BARB**

This lovingly cared for home has 6 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms and a 4 car garage. It has a walkout basement. Main floor has master BR, office, living room, family room and formal dining.

**ACREAGE • \$675,000**

**33240 GLEN DRIVE #11**

**CALL BARB**

Lots of formal and casual living and entertaining spaces with this ranch home plus a 6 car garage and shop.

**MORNINGSIDE • \$491,000**

**4567 WHITETAIL COURT**

**CALL BARB**

New construction home with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a 3 car garage in a new development in Morningside. Area will feature a club house and private pond.

**NEW CONSTRUCTION**

**NORTH SIOUX CITY • \$475,000**

**179 NORTH CANTERBURY CIRCLE**

**CALL BARB**

New construction 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 car garage home with open floor plan and covered deck on a cul de sac. Appliance allowance.

**WHISPERING CREEK • \$470,000**

**6820 PRAIRIE VIEW DRIVE**

**CALL BARB**

New construction walkout ranch home with 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a 3 car garage. Lower level will be roughed in for a family room, 2 more bedrooms and a bathroom. Tax abatement.

**NORTHSIDE • \$475,000**

**1384 FOX RIDGE TRAIL**

**CALL BARB**

This 4 bedroom, 4 bathroom walkout ranch home with an oversized 2 car garage sits on a cul de sac street with great views.

**WHISPERING CREEK • \$550,000**

**2710 CASTLES GATE DRIVE**

**CALL BARB**

Custom built single family home with 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, oversized 3 car garage plus golf cart garage all on the 14th hole.

**NORTHSIDE • \$515,000**

**4115 COUNTRY CLUB BLVD**

**CALL KELSEY**

5 bedroom, 5 bathroom, 5 car garage, Colonial style home on 2.15 acres in Country Club.

**SALIX • \$285,000**

**512 TALBOT STREET**

**CALL TIFFANY**

Lots of charm and updates in this 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 story home on a .5 acre lot. 30 x 45 Morton building.

**DAKOTA DUNES • \$1,800,000**

**PENDING**

**904 EAST PINEHURST TRAIL**

New construction home with 5 bedrooms, a 20 x 40 inground pool, upgraded interior finishes, all on a golf course lot.

**DAKOTA DUNES • \$550,000**

**PENDING**

**562 EAST DEERFIELD CIRCLE**

New construction home with zero entry, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and view of #9 fairway.

**NORTH SIOUX CITY • \$350,000**

**PENDING**

**909 CAMPBELL STREET**

3 bedroom, 3 bathroom ranch home with a flat yard. Easy access to I29.

**BUILDING LOTS-CALL BARB**

**685 ARROWHEAD COURT, DAKOTA DUNES • \$300,000**  
.86 acre building lot on cul de sac street

**33177 480TH AVENUE, JEFFERSON • \$175,000**  
Building lot on 2.29 acres

**1213 TUCKER HILL, HINTON • \$70,000**  
.64 acre lot. One of the best building lots with great views to the east.

**LAND FOR SALE**

**COMMERCIAL LOTS: 1800 BLK OF HWY 20 LAWTON, IA**  
East of Midwest Equipment. • 22.27 acres  
1/2 miles east of Charles north side of road • 29.04 acres  
1/4-1/2 mile, east of Midwest Equipment N side of road. GC zoning • 34.5 acres  
Property surrounds Hobart sales. S side of Hwy 20. GC land • approx. 70 acres

**FARM LAND FOR SALE**  
1700 HWY 20, LAWTON: 43.25 acres  
Currently cash rent, approved for commercial sites.  
1800 HWY 20, LAWTON: Approx. 86 acres, most tillable except windbreak