

## Teenage composer explores the cosmos



Westborough High senior Evan Cadavieco will conduct an original composition this weekend in Milford.

By [Nancy Shohet West](#)

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**Evan Cadavieco** still remembers the specific composition that sparked his interest in music: It was a Vivaldi requiem he heard a symphony orchestra play when he was in seventh grade.

Even though he had already taken trumpet lessons for two years at that point, it was that one performance that changed music from a hobby to a serious pursuit for the Westborough teen.

Now a senior at Westborough High School, Cadavieco is one of a small number of students whose work will be presented at this weekend's Massachusetts Music Educators Association All-State Festival.

And at 3 p.m. Sunday, Cadavieco will conduct the same piece, titled "Cosmos," for a public audience as part of the Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra's Family Symphony Concert in Milford's Town Hall. For the performance, Claflin Hill will join forces with the Metrowest Youth Symphony Orchestra, a group in which Cadavieco has long played principal trombone.

Soon after switching from trumpet to trombone, in eighth grade, Cadavieco started pursuing the idea of conducting and composition more seriously. He bought a software program, Finale, that enabled him to use his computer to compose music, and last summer he studied composition formally for the first time at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. While there, he wrote the piece that will be performed this weekend.

“The piece is based on space,” Cadavieco said of “Cosmos.” “I’ve always been interested in flight and space, and I thought it might be an interesting thing to try to write a piece inspired by the universe. The composition features contemporary compositional techniques such as bitonality, stacked harmonies, and chromaticism, and is done in the style of a tone poem. The goal in using these large chordal structures was to attempt to musically capture the essence of space.”

Cadavieco has been accepted for next fall at Berklee College of Music, where he plans to double major in film scoring and contemporary writing and production.

“Cosmos” will be performed Sunday in Milford Town Hall’s Grand Ballroom, at 52 Main St., as part of a program that will also feature pieces composed by John Williams for the movies “Star Wars” and “Close Encounters of the Third Kind,” as well as several movements from the Holst orchestral set “The Planets.”

Tickets are \$12, or \$8 for students and seniors. They may be purchased in advance by calling 508-478-5924 or at [www.claflinhill.org](http://www.claflinhill.org).