2021 MCC Creative Writing Contest First Place - Poetry Category "The Trio" by Isabel Schuster

Heart thumping and quivering In my chest. Palpable watching gazes, Staring, judging.

Hands slick against The cool, metal keys.

Deep breath in, hold it.

Two pairs of piercing eyes, knowing. Begin.

Long, firm solid note,
Sets the stage for
The higher voices to dance to.
Melody swirling in waves,
Telling a story,
Commanding attention.

Weaving a tapestry of sound. Leaning on each other, Listening for change. Always together.

Now I begin to sing, My instrument pouring forth My passion. Pulsing and pushing, Molding the notes, I begin to swirl and twirl On the stage.

Slowly, softly sighing one last note, Content and calm. Fingers slacken. Finished.