Name: Lauren Finn

City/Town of Residence: Bay View, Wisconsin

Instrument: Harp

How long have you been with Concord? It's been about 15 years.

What is your earliest musical memory? Picture a living room with the lights off and a flashlight shining up in the middle of the room. My brother, sister, and I would all dance around the flashlight while singing and dancing to Irish Folk music.

What got you interested in music, and what was your involvement growing up? Started on the piano when I was eight and was then introduced to the harp through my elementary orchestra program. The harp was easy to pick up due to the similar nature of the piano. Starting when I was ten, I studied both harp and piano and participated in school orchestras, jazz band, and the Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra. I truly fell in love with the harp when I started playing with MYSO. I loved playing with a full orchestra because of the full, grand sound and energy you feel playing with a large group.

Why do you perform with Concord? Concord is a fun, talented group to be part of and I like the variety of music we perform.

What has been the high point of your involvement with Concord? I performed *Concert Piece for Harp and Orchestra* composed by Dan Lawitts. It was my first experience as a soloist with an orchestra and it was an exciting piece to play.

What do you do for a living? I work at Outpost Natural Foods, freelance throughout SE Wisconsin, and teach private harp lessons.

Tell us about your family?

What are your hobbies besides practicing and playing? I love to cook (currently obsessed with Asian inspired foods), travel, and spending time with friends and family.

What is your favorite recording?

Who is your favorite composer? It's a tie between Ravel and Debussy.

What is one thing most people don't know about you? I have a dry (sometimes sarcastic) sense of humor.

What is your advice for kids who are interested in music? Don't be afraid of contemporary music, embrace the awkwardness, and always follow your heart.