

MONTEUX

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– 2023 – CONDUCTOR & INSTRUMENTALIST BIOGRAPHIES

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— FLUTE —



Andy Hanks

(1st year) is a passionate young flutist originally from Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Entering his third year at the Eastman School of Music, Andy is pursuing a degree in flute performance, and studies with Bonita Boyd as well as Anne Harrow. At Eastman, he has performed with the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra and Eastman Wind Orchestra, and is a former member of the Mousai Wind Quintet, a performing chamber group. As a soloist, he recently won 3rd prize in the Austin Flute Society Young Artist Competition, and has performed as a First Listen artist at the Mt. Gretna Playhouse. This summer, Andy will attend the Monteux Music Festival as well as the Lake George Music Festival. In the past, he has attended the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, and the Interlochen Arts Camp. His previous teachers include Jocelyn Goranson, flute professor at Messiah University.



Mallory Wood

(1st year) is a first year Master's in Music student at the University of Oregon studying with Dr. Jaqueline Cordova-Arrington. She received her Bachelor's degree at Texas Christian University in 2022, while studying under Dr. Shauna Thompson. She has performed in masterclasses throughout her college career with Christina Jennings (University of Colorado Boulder), Dr. Jacqueline Cordova-Arrington (University of Oregon), Carol Wincenc (Juilliard) and Mr. Bart Feller (Rutgers). Wood currently has a fellowship with Orchestra Next, and has performed with the Eugene Opera during her first year of graduate school. She has sat as the principal flute in the Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble at both TCU and UO. After graduation, she plans to pursue a DMA in hopes of becoming a flute professor, while also performing in an orchestral setting.



Juan Hernandez

(2nd year) holds a Bachelor of Music in Flute Performance from Lawrence Conservatory of Music, where he studied with Erin Lesser. He has played with the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra and Bands. Juan has performed at the National Flute Association Convention, was the winner of the 2020 Lawrence Conservatory Concerto Competition, and was a finalist in the 2022 Wisconsin Flute Festival Collegiate Competition.



Lauren Yeomans

(1st year) is an active solo, chamber and orchestral musician in the Toronto area providing bold and robust interpretations through a genteel instrument. She is Principal Flute of the Etobicoke Philharmonic (with whom she performed the Mozart Flute and Harp Concerto in December 2022), and plays with many ensembles in Southern Ontario including the Windsor Symphony and Orchestra Toronto. She is co-founder of Quintagious!, a wind quintet specializing in thoughtfully-curated concert programming, and has arranged a number of pieces for the ensemble including Ravel's Mother Goose Suite. Lauren is also a conductor and has just formed her own orchestra, the Toronto Alternative Chamber Orchestra, after completing a two-year term as Assistant Conductor of Summerhill Orchestra. Lauren earned her Master of Music from Rutgers University studying with Bart Feller, and her Bachelor of Music from the Glenn Gould School studying with Kathleen Rudolph.

— OBOE —



Charlotte Ruth Harrison

(1st year) is a multi-faceted musician with a presence that inspires and uplifts. Mrs. Harrison has served as principal oboist and English horn player in the top orchestras and bands at BYU and UTA as well as guest principal for the New American Philharmonic. She has also

played in masterclasses with oboists including Alex Klein, Olivier Doise, Robert Walters, Nancy Ambrose King, Erin Hannigan, and Mark Ostoich. Mrs. Harrison has worked as the Assistant Conductor of the UTA Symphony Orchestra, and guest conductor for the Utah Philharmonic Orchestra, the New Texas Symphony Orchestra, the BYU Group for New Music, and Ogden's Next Ensemble. Recently she was selected as a Music Director finalist for the Valley Symphony Orchestra and the Lyceum Concert Orchestra. Mrs. Harrison has also been able to work in masterclasses with conductors including Marin Alsop, Dianne Wittry, John Farrer, Lawrence Golan, Edward Cumming, and Mark Laycock.



Cole Kubesch,

a Cincinnati native, (1st year) is a rising third-year student studying oboe performance with Professor Andrea Jayne Ridilla and biochemistry at Miami University of Ohio. At Miami, Cole is a member of the Miami University Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Dr. Ricardo Averbach. In his first year at Miami, he was a

2022 winner of the Miami University Concerto Competition, performing the Vaughan Williams Oboe Concerto with the university's symphony orchestra. Last summer, Cole attended the Sewanee Summer Music Festival, playing in the Sewanee Symphony and studying with Dr. Robert Stephenson, emeritus principal oboist of the Utah Symphony. Before his time at Miami University, Cole studied with Ms. Julie Fuqua and was a 2021 Cincinnati Overture Awards Finalist. In his free time, he enjoys teaching chemistry, his research, and searching for the perfect reed.



Phillip Larroque

(3rd year, oboe; 2nd year, conductor) is thrilled to return for a third summer at Monteux! He co-founded and conducts the New Orleans Chamber Orchestra, presenting numerous premieres from a diverse array of composers as well as a concert series in prisons. A committed educator, Larroque teaches oboe, music theory, and

musicianship at Tulane University, where he is also assistant orchestra director. Larroque also teaches music for the Lycée Français de la Nouvelle-Orléans and maintains a private piano and oboe studio.

As an oboist, he regularly performs throughout the Gulf Coast region, including with the Acadiana, Rapides, Jefferson, and Lake Charles Symphonies and the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra.

Larroque attended the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts. He studied oboe with Jaren Atherholt at Tulane and with Jack Cozen Harel at the University of Akron. He completed additional studies on English horn with Robert Walters and in conducting with Maxim Samarov, Kenneth Kiesler, Donald Schleicher, Larry Rachleff, Mark Shapiro and Markand Thakar.

— CLARINET —



Antoine T. Clark

Compelling interpretations, inventive performances, and an energetic stage presence are the hallmarks of American conductor Antoine T. Clark (5th year; conductor). The founding Music and Artistic Director of the Worthington Chamber Orchestra in Ohio, Mr. Clark, was

named Assistant Conductor of West Virginia's Wheeling Symphony Orchestra in 2021. A passionate advocate of arts education, he served as Cincinnati Symphony's 2022 MAC Music Innovator. 2022-2023 season highlights include guest engagements with Dayton Philharmonic, Wheeling Symphony Orchestra, Elgin Symphony Orchestra, Spartanburg Philharmonic, Symphony Tacoma, New Jersey Symphony, and Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. Guest appearances include engagements with Chicago Sinfonietta, Vermont Symphony Orchestra, Richmond Symphony (VA), Opera Columbus, and the Chamber Orchestra of New York. A winner in the 2017 International Conductor's Workshop and Competition, he has participated in the Cabrillo Contemporary Festival of Music, the Monteux School and Music Festival, and as a Chicago Sinfonietta Project Inclusion Conducting Freeman Fellow.



Stéphanie Lavoie

(1st year) began playing the clarinet at the age of 11. She pursued her studies in music and natural sciences at Cégep de Sainte-Foy and later completed a Bachelor's degree in classical performance at Université Laval with Mélanie Bourassa. In May 2023, she obtained her Master's degree in

classical performance with a distinction of excellence from the University of Montreal, where she studied under André Moisan. Starting next year, she will pursue a specialized graduate diploma in orchestral excerpts at UdeM. Stéphanie continually enhances her skills by participating in clarinet workshops such as Domaine Forget and Orford Musique, where she learned from renowned clarinet masters including James Campbell, Todd Cope, and Yehuda Gilad.

Stéphanie also performs in a clarinet, cello, and piano trio, as well as a clarinet quartet based in Montreal. In addition, she teaches the clarinet and participates in a program that helps democratize music.



Meaghan O'Connor

(1st year) is a professional clarinetist that holds a passionate belief that creating and performing music makes a better world. Born in Chicago, Illinois, to a family with deep Irish roots, Meaghan has always been drawn to

music. Eventually picking up the clarinet, she fell in love with the instrument and has never looked back.

Meaghan is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in clarinet performance from the University of North Texas under the tutelage of Dr. Kimberly Cole Luevano. She is a member of the prestigious North Texas Wind Orchestra which has given her opportunities to work with composers and premiere new works for wind band. In the summer of 2022, Meaghan attended the Rocky Ridge Festival in Estes Park, Colorado. In the summer of 2023, she will attend the Henri Selmer International Clarinet Academy and the Monteux School and Music Festival.



Adam Schay

(2nd year) is a clarinetist, vintage woodwind equipment expert (free appraisals, please reach out!), part-time summer resident of Hancock Point, and a native of Phoenix, Arizona. Adam is nearing completion of his Bachelor of Music in clarinet performance at Arizona

State University under Drs. Joshua Gardner and Robert Spring. He previously studied with Dr. Stefanie Gardner at Glendale Community College and with Steve Hanusofski, associate principal and bass clarinet of The Phoenix Symphony. Following a blind audition last August, Adam was a finalist for principal clarinet of the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra and performed a trial week for their October concert cycle, ¡Celebraciones! Adam is currently principal clarinet of ProMusica Arizona and an active freelancer in both the Valley of the Sun and northern Arizona. He is excited to spend his second consecutive summer as a Monteux School instrumentalist, having previously attended concerts at Forest Studio for over two decades.

— BASSOON —



Zoe Beck

(1st year) is a current undergraduate student at the New England Conservatory where she studies with Suzanne Nelsen. Prior to her study at NEC, she attended the University of Northern Colorado where she studied with Tristan Rennie. Zoe is a current member of the New England Conservatory Philharmonic

under the direction of Hugh Wolff and has played in various chamber groups at both schools she has attended. Zoe has played with the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, and the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra. She also participated in NEC's Community Performances and Partnerships Fellowship program in 2022 where she performed in a woodwind trio as an outreach endeavor at various locations throughout Boston. Zoe attended the Marrowstone Music festival in 2019 and will be attending the Monteux School and Music Festival in 2023. Outside of music, Zoe also has a first-degree black belt in Kempo Karate from the Firestation Branch in Colorado Springs, where she trained for twelve years.



Savannah Norton

(2nd year; conductor) is a New York-based musician pursuing a Master's in Orchestral Conducting from Binghamton University. While working alongside her teacher, Dr. Paul McShee, she serves as the assistant conductor of the Binghamton University Symphony Orchestra and cover conductor for Symphoria Youth

Orchestra, based in Syracuse, New York. Savannah is an alumna of the Monteux School and during the 2021 season, studied conducting under the direction of Michael Jinbo and guest conductor, Ludovic Morlot. In 2019, she completed her degree in Music History & Literature from the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music. During the 2018-19 year, Savannah served as the Conducting Intern & Executive Assistant for the Naperville Youth Symphony Orchestra, as well as the student honors conductor of the Wheaton College Symphony Orchestra and Wheaton College Concert Choir. Over the past few years, Savannah has studied conducting closely under the direction of Dr. Daniel Sommerville and Dr. John William Trotter. Her closest mentor, Dr. Jonathan Saylor, has been an influential part of her development as a bassoonist and music historian. During her free time, Savannah enjoys traveling, hiking, and spending time with her golden retriever named Brahms and African grey parrot named Abbado.



Arekson Sunwood

(2nd year) is a freelance musician hailing from the greater Milwaukee area. He holds his Master of Music from the New England Conservatory, where he studied with Marc Goldberg, and his Bachelor of Music from Wheaton College (IL), studying under Dr. Jonathan Saylor. He also studied with Hunter Thomas of the Huntsville

Symphony Orchestra. Recent musical activities include numerous substitute orchestral positions with regional and local orchestras in Chicagoland and greater Boston, chamber music initiatives including the Beethoven Septet and Schubert Octet, and a guest residency with the Huang He Orchestra in Zhengzhou, China. Outside of musical endeavors, Arekson runs a financial planning/advising practice through Northwestern Mutual. He has lived all over the United States, including California, Texas, Alabama, Chicago, and upstate New York, and hobbies include pickleball, Ultimate frisbee, and cooking. Arekson is a one-time returning veteran of the Monteux Festival.

— HORN —



Daniel Halstead

(1st year), originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, will be starting his fourth year at the Cleveland Institute of Music where he studies with Richard King and Nathaniel Silberschlag, the former and current principal horn of the Cleveland Orchestra respectively. Performing at a sold-out Carnegie Hall, Daniel served as principal horn with the esteemed New York String Orchestra Seminar with conductor

Jaime Laredo. Daniel was part of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra's inaugural Brass Institute, getting the opportunity to perform alongside the CSO, and he has also been a part of the National Symphony Orchestra's Summer Music Institute. Daniel has performed in such venues as Severance Hall, the Kennedy Center, as well as Cincinnati's Music Hall. In addition to the horn, Daniel has played violin for nearly his entire life. Outside of music, Daniel is passionate about politics and loves to spend time with his friends and family.



Lucas Hamilton

(1st year) is a horn player from Frisco, Texas. He got his undergraduate degree in music performance at Oklahoma State University and now studies with Dr. Kristy Morrell at Baylor University. After he completes his Master's of Music, he aspires to become a full time orchestral musician and teach collegiately. In the summer of 2022, Lucas was named the winner of the

IWBC Solo Horn Category 1 competition. That August, he attended The International Horn Symposium, where he won the High Horn Excerpt competition and was runner up for the Low Horn Excerpt competition. In the same month he was the 2022 Snedeker Prize winner at The International Horn Competition of America.

When he is not playing his horn, Lucas enjoys arranging, composing, and playing disc golf. He is excited to continue to develop his skills at Pierre Monteux Music Festival this summer.



Javier Hernandez

(1st year) is a French Horn player born and raised in the small border town of Laredo, Texas. Shortly after graduating from high school, he attended Texas A&M International University to major in Music Education. He studied under Professor Medrano, Adjunct Professor of Horn. After some consideration, he then transferred to Baylor University, in Waco, Texas,

to major in Music Performance. Currently, he is in the studio of Dr.

Morrell, Associate Professor of Horn. He is an active performer in multiple ensembles in Baylor University, such the Baylor Symphony Orchestra, Baylor Wind Ensemble, etc. After obtaining his Bachelor of Music in Horn Performance at Baylor University, he will continue his studies and look for graduate schools to obtain a Master of Music Performance in Horn.



Henry Nordhorn

Given that by age three Henry Nordhorn (1st year) had the soundtrack to the movie Toy Story memorized and would sing it on repeat in the car (to both the adoration and irritation of his parents), it is no surprise that over twenty years later he is an active performer of orchestral and chamber music and graduated from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music

with his Master's degree in 2023. Henry has performed in a variety of positions with several orchestras across the west coast, including the San Francisco Symphony, the Oakland Symphony, and Symphony San Jose. as well as internationally in Mexico and Germany. Henry also started gaining international attention in December 2021 when a video of him playing the solo from Tchaikovsky's fifth symphony went viral on TikTok and has been viewed over nine million times.

As a soloist and chamber musician, Henry presents multiple recitals and concerts each year. He consistently programs a combination of old classics and contemporary works and enjoys finding and performing music written by living composers and underrepresented minorities. In 2022 Henry joined the Spokane Symphony as Assistant Principal Horn where he regularly performs. In his spare time Henry enjoys studying chess, teaching music theory, and rock climbing.



Ryan Peterson

A current 2023 graduate from The Pennsylvania State University (PSU) with a degree in music performance, Ryan Peterson (1st year) aspires to become a professional French hornist. Ryan knew he wanted to pursue a career in horn performance when he won principal horn for the 2017 National Association for Music Education (NAFME) Symphony Orchestra and the 2019

NAFME All-Eastern Band. Through pursuing his undergrad degree, Ryan has received honors at PSU that include receiving high brass jury recognition four times, he performed in the 2023 edition of the PSU School of Music's Mosaic concert, and he won the 2023 Spring PSU Philharmonic Orchestra Concerto Competition. In his undergrad experience, he studied horn under Lisa Bontrager from 2019-2021, and Dr. Sarah Schouten from 2022-2023. Ryan plans to pursue a Professional Performance Certificate in the 2023-2024 academic year at Penn State and pursue a master's degree in horn performance in 2024.

— TRUMPET —



Audrey Foster

(2nd year) is a Trumpet and Flugelhorn player from Houston, Texas. She is a graduate of the University of Houston, Bachelor's of Music. Audrey has been playing the trumpet for thirteen years and has been teaching in Houston for two years. She played the Flugelhorn chair for the Houston Brass Band for six years prior to her current position as the solo Flugelhorn in the Magnolia City Brass Band, which she has been a member of for two years. This is Audrey's second summer at the Monteux School and she is excited to learn and grow even more this year.



Marco Hernandez-Leal

Trumpet player Marco Hernandez-Leal (1st year) is from Hurst, Texas and attends Tarleton State University as a music education major, where he performs regularly in wind ensemble, jazz orchestra, brass quintet, brass ensemble, and trumpet ensemble. Marco also serves as a Music Representative for the fine arts department at Tarleton State University and has also competed at the National Trumpet Competition with the Tarleton Trumpet Ensemble and as an individual soloist for the past two years.



Danny Rhu

(2nd year) is a trumpeter from Columbia, South Carolina. He holds degrees from the University of South Carolina and Bowling Green State University where he studied with Dr. Matthew White, James Ackley, and Charles Saenz. He lives in South Carolina and performs with the Rock Hill Symphony, the Aiken Symphony, and the South Carolina Philharmonic. He has also performed with regional orchestras in Ohio and Michigan. He also enjoys performing chamber music and has performed with the Charleston Brass, the Sewanee Summer Music Festival Faculty Brass Quintet, the University of South Carolina Faculty Brass Quintet, the Toledo Masterworks Chorale and others. He also is an active teacher, with a private studio in South Carolina. He worked for the Detroit Symphony for two years as the Trumpet mentor for all youth ensembles. His other interests include hiking and the outdoors, and he is an avid fan of basketball.



Sophie Urban

(1st year) is pursuing her Bachelor of Music in Trumpet Performance at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, studying with Professors Barbara Butler and Charles Geyer. In addition to freelancing, Sophie was recently appointed an Associate Artist with the Rodney Marsalis Philadelphia Big Brass, made her solo debut with the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, and is a regular featured guest with the Soli Deo Gloria Choir. She is also very grateful to have performed with the Eastern Festival Orchestra, the PRISMA Festival, and the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America (NYO-USA), and looks forward to the Monteux School & Music Festival this summer. An S.E. Shires Rising Artist, Sophie is honored to have also been named a YoungArts Winner, received the International Trumpet Guild Young Artist Award, and been a finalist in the ICTUS International Music Competition. Sophie is an avid yogi, tennis player, and chef.

— TROMBONE —



Jianlin Sha

Trombonist Jianlin Sha (1st year) is from Yantai, China and began learning the trombone in 2012. In 2020, Sha completed his undergraduate studies at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music studying with Professor Jay Hao (principal trombone of the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra). He subsequently studied at New England Conservatory in Boston with Stephen Lange (2nd trombonist at Boston Symphony Orchestra) and earned his Master's degree in December 2022. Sha will begin doctoral studies at the Frost School of Music at UMiami in August. He is very excited to attend the Monteux School & Music Festival and perform with all his talented fellow musicians!



Miriam Snyder

Trombonist Miriam Snyder (2nd year) lives in San Francisco, California, where she recently completed a master's degree in trombone performance at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Miriam currently teaches private lessons and freelances in several Bay Area orchestras including symphonies in Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Marin, and Monterey. Before moving to San Francisco, Miriam lived in Rochester, New York, where she earned a Bachelor's degree and performer's certificate from the Eastman School of Music. As a passionate solo and chamber musician, Miriam has succeeded in several competitions, with the most recent including being a finalist in the 2023 SFCM Winds, Brass Percussion, and Harp Concerto Competition, runner-up in the 2022 SFCM Wind Ensemble Concerto Competition, placing first in the 2021 American Trombone Workshop's Quartet Competition, and placing third in the national level of the 2017 MTNA Senior Brass Competition. Her primary teachers have included Dr. David Hamilton, Larry Zalkind, and Paul Welcomer.

— BASS TROMBONE —



Ryan Liu

(1st year) is a bass trombone player in the studio of Denson Paul Pollard pursuing his Bachelor's in Music at Indiana University, where he performs regularly with the IU Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra, Trombone Choir, and Trombone Quartet. He also appears as a substitute player with the Madison Symphony Orchestra.

— TUBA —



Yale Rosin

(2nd year) is a tubist based out of New Brunswick, New Jersey. Growing up in the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania, Yale was interested in music from an early age. Yale began playing piano at the age of five, and in fourth grade was introduced to the tuba at his local public school. Following lessons with the school band teacher, he was given a solo performance at the school concert, playing "Hall of the Mountain King" accompanied on piano by his teacher. This was where Yale began to truly fall in love with tuba. Yale worked with multiple teachers throughout high school, culminating in his senior year when he began studying with the principal tubist in the New York Philharmonic, Alan Baer. Currently, Yale continues his studies with Alan Baer at Rutgers University. Outside of his passion for tuba, Yale enjoys EDM and is involved in multiple projects in the scene, writing articles for multiple sites, promoting concerts, and being PR director for an artist management company as well as managing artists.

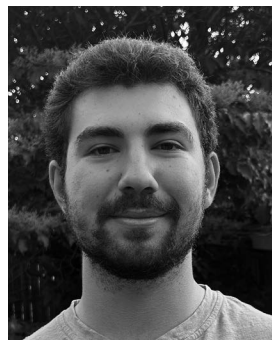
— PERCUSSION —



Torrance Buntyn Jr.

A native of Jackson, Tennessee, Torrance Buntyn Jr. (1st year) began his percussion studies at ten years old. Throughout his middle and high school years of percussion matriculation, he has won many awards through the WTSBOA All-West Tennessee Honor Bands and the TMEA All-State Tennessee Honor Bands. In 2018, he received outstanding

recognition for performing in the Tennessee Bandmasters Association's Honor Recital in Nashville, Tennessee. In addition, he performed with the Jackson Symphony Youth Orchestra, where he was the principal timpanist. Torrance is studying to get a Master of Music degree in Percussion Performance at Southern Methodist University – Meadows School of the Arts, studying with George Nickson (principal percussionist of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra) and Brian Jones (Principal Timpanist of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra). He currently is a protégé in the Alliance of Black Orchestral Percussionists (ABOP), receiving mentorship from Douglas Cardwell (former timpanist of the New Mexico Philharmonic) and Raynor Carroll (retired principal percussionist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic). In Dallas, Torrance serves as an active freelance percussionist and percussion teacher for students in the area.



Gabriel Levy

(1st year) is a 20-year-old percussionist from Toronto, Canada. He is currently an undergraduate student at the Manhattan School of Music, studying with Christopher Lamb, She-e Wu, and Duncan Patton. Gabriel also studies conducting, composition, and classical improvisation, and he has a background in rock and jazz

music. This is his first summer at the Pierre Monteux School and Music Festival.



Guillermo Andrés Mejía Wright

(1st year) was born on August 11, 1998 in Carolina, Puerto Rico. He began to take an interest in music from the age of 6, after his first drum lesson with Wilfredo Torres. During the course of his childhood, he was a member of the youth

choir at Fair View Elementary School, where he began as a tenor and later became a percussionist. Later, Guillermo joined the Ernesto Ramos Antonini Libre de Música School, where he continued his studies in percussion under the direction of teacher Diana Valdés Santos. During his years at the Libre de Música School, he belonged to the Concert Band and Symphony Orchestra, where he participated with popular music artists such as Pirulo, Adlan Cruz, “Lalo” Rodríguez, among others. Guillermo recently completed his Bachelor's Degree in classical percussion at the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of maestro José Alicea Espada. He won a position as acting percussionist in the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, with whom he also had the opportunity to travel to Chicago. During his professional training, Guillermo collaborated with distinguished groups such as the International Chamber Orchestra of Puerto Rico, Orquesta Filarmónica “Arturo Somoano”, Camerata Pops de Puerto Rico, among others.



Neil Rao

(4th year, percussion; 2nd year, conductor) is a conductor, composer, percussionist, and educator. Neil is currently based in Louisville, KY, and has recently served as the Assistant Conductor of the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra (Valdosta, GA). During that time, he directed the Valdosta Symphony Youth Orchestra and conducted

the Valdosta State University String Orchestra.

Neil's compositions have been performed by groups including the Louisville Orchestra, Orchestra Enigmatic, Lineage Percussion Trio, Messiah College Percussion Ensemble and the University of Louisville Percussion Studio. His compositional practice often centers on reflection of narratives and the mental states within them.

An experienced performer, Neil has performed percussion with musicians including the Louisville Orchestra, Nexus Percussion, eighth blackbird, NouLou Chamber Ensemble and the Aizuri String Quartet, and recorded music of Kaija Saariaho with Grammy-Winning producer Judith Sherman. Neil holds a B.M. from the Curtis Institute of Music and a M.M. from Valdosta State University.

— HARP —



Beth Henson

Determined to ensure that audiences receive classical music with appreciation and excitement in the 21st century, Beth Henson (1st year) is committed to a career of collaboration and exploration. Currently, they are pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Harp Performance at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre and Dance, studying with Joan

Holland. There they have founded the Holland trio, maintained the Principal Harp position in the University's Symphony Orchestra, and advanced to the final round of the University's annual concerto competition, among other accomplishments. Recently, Beth was also a finalist in the 2023 Lewisville Lake International concerto competition, and attended the 2022 Eastern Music Festival. As a harpist with a passion for expanding the instrument's repertoire, Beth maintains several working relationships with composers to provide part editing, feedback, and commissions. They are also an advocate for accessible and engaging performances, and give several recitals a year with that goal.



Sophie Kim

(1st year) is a rising senior at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. She began her harp studies at the age of eight under April Vega, then under Monika Vasey Rhodes. In 2013, she placed first at the Mid-Atlantic Harp Festival Competition, and in 2017 and 2018, she placed second at the Kentlands Young Artist Award Competition. From 2017 to 2020,

she was a National Symphony Orchestra Youth Fellow. She has attended the Young Artist's Harp Seminar, the Greenspring Summer Music Institutes, the Brevard Music Center Summer Institute and Festival, and the Round Top Festival Institute. She has performed in many masterclasses with prestigious artists, such as Nancy Allen, Edmar Castaneda, Isabelle Moretti, Adriana Horne, Allegra Lilly, and Bridget Kibbey.

— KEYBOARDS —



Eduardo de la Vega Garza

(2nd year; conductor), Mexican born pianist and conductor recently completed his Master's degree at The Juilliard School, where he was a proud recipient of the Kovner Fellowship. Eduardo holds a Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance from La Escuela Superior de Musica y Danza de Monterrey. Likewise, his keen interest in entrepreneurship has

led him to earn a Bachelor's degree in Creation and Development of Businesses from the Technological Institute of Superior Studies of Monterrey (ITESM).

Since his orchestral debut as a pianist in 2016, Eduardo has performed with the The Juilliard Orchestra, UANL Symphony Orchestra, ITESM Orchestra, ESMDM Symphony and the Queretaro's Philharmonic. Eduardo has won the First Prize in various piano competitions, some of them being the Esperanza Cabrera National Piano Competition, Parnassos National Piano Competition, and Latin American National Music Competition.

Simultaneously with his activities as a pianist, Eduardo has worked exhaustively in projects as an orchestral conductor, including the foundation of his ensemble in Monterrey, “Détaché Orchestra”, a group of young musicians who bring classical music to primary schools around the state of Nuevo Leon.



Jiaying Ding

(1st year; conductor) as the only Asian conductor, she has won 2023 Carlos Miguel Prieto Conducting Fellowship. Ding is pursuing her Artist Diploma in OAcademy while finishing orchestral conducting studies in SCM under the guidance of Long Yu. In 2012, she entered the Pre-College of Juilliard where she studied with Professor Julian Martin. She received both her

BM and MM from Juilliard, majoring in piano. Ding started her conducting training with Jeffrey Milarsky, and made her conducting debut with Juilliard Chamber Orchestra at Lincoln Center. In recent years, she had been invited to collaborate with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Chamber Orchestra, New York Chamber Orchestra, Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, Guiyang Symphony Orchestra, and Qingdao Symphony Orchestra.

As the founder of GCG, a delicate and flexible chamber music group, Ding and her team are aiming for exploring creative design of repertoire, as well as searching for a diverse blend of different genre in arts.

— VIOLIN —



Harris Han Andersen

(1st year; conductor) is currently a First-Year Master's student studying Orchestra Conducting at the Frost School of Music in Miami, FL under the guidance of Gerard Schwarz. In the past season he served as Assistant Conductor of the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra (NY), Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra (MI), and as Cover Conductor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. He held the position of Assistant Conductor and Repetiteur for the inaugural installation of the 2022 Ithaca College Opera Studio and was invited to attend the Riccardo Muti Opera Academy in Tokyo, Japan in 2023. He has been featured as soloist and section player on both piano and violin in such orchestras as the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Cayuga Chamber Orchestra, and at the Bach and Beyond Baroque Festival. A graduate of the Ithaca College School of Music, Harris studied piano with Charis Dimaras, violin with Calvin Wiersma, and conducting with Grant Cooper.



Juan Florez

(1st year) is a violinist from Miami, Florida. He will complete his Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance at the end of 2023 at the University of Florida School of Music, whilst pursuing a Master's of Science in Management at the Hough Graduate School of Business. He is also an aspiring conductor and arts administrator. Brought up in Miami Music Project, one of the largest El Sistema-Inspired programs in the United States, Juan hopes to leave a positive impact on musicians through involvement with the Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.



Marie Graham

(1st year) is a rising sophomore at Oberlin Conservatory, pursuing a major in Violin Performance and a minor in East Asian Studies. Prior to entering her studies at Oberlin, she was a section member of the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra for three years. A current student of Francesca dePasquale, Marie's former teachers have included Professor James Lyon of the Pennsylvania State University and Suzuki pedagogue Dr. Emily Rolka. At the Oberlin Conservatory, Marie has had the additional privilege of being coached in chamber music by members of the Verona Quartet, as well as supplementary studies in Historical Performance with Edwin Huizinga. As an Oberlin Conservatory student, Marie Graham is the recipient of the Oberlin Commitment Award, the Conservatory Dean's Scholarship, and the Oberlin College Grant, as well as the C. and C. Bacon Scholarship. Currently, Marie plays a 2005 Zdenek Frodl Hradec Kralove violin on temporary loan courtesy of Oberlin Conservatory.



Misaki Hall

(2nd year; conductor) is a conductor, violinist, and oboist from Radcliff, Kentucky. In May, Hall obtained her Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Louisville having studied conducting under Professor Kimcherie Lloyd, and violin under Dr. Geoffrey Herd. There, she served as assistant conductor and teaching assistant for the University Symphony Orchestra, University Opera Theatre Program, Louisville Youth Orchestra, and VOICES of Kentuckiana. She earned her Bachelor of Music also from the University of Louisville, where she studied violin performance under Professor Brittany MacWilliams.

Hall has participated in conducting masterclasses held by conductors such as Carl Topilow and Teddy Abrams, as well as ones held at the Pierre Monteux School and Music Festival last summer. She remains an active instrumentalist as a violinist in regional orchestras of Kentucky, and as a performer of psychedelic rock in her band, DOOM GONG.

— VIOLIN —



Sasha Kandybin

Playing the violin since he was seven, Sasha Kandybin (2nd year; conductor) just received his Master's in violin performance at Rice University studying with Paul Kantor, including tutelage in conducting under Larry Rachleff and Donald Schleicher. He attended Manhattan School of Music Precollege for violin with Grigory Kalinovsky and members of the Escher String Quartet. He studied conducting there with Jonathan Strasser. Sasha received his BM in violin performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music where he studied with William Preucil, then concertmaster of The Cleveland Orchestra followed by Phil Setzer of the Emerson String Quartet and Jessica Lee of TCO. He is a winner of many competitions including the Junior division of the Cremona International Violin Competition, NJYS concerto competition, among others. He attended the Manchester Music Festival as a fellowship performer, and the NAC Young Artists Program several times working and performing extensively with Pinchas Zukerman among others. He also attended Music in the Mountains festival in Colorado as concertmaster of the junior orchestra at age 11, and participated in the Music@Menlo chamber music festival in 2016, where he played with members of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.



Jason Moody

(1st year; conductor) is an active violinist, conductor, and teacher based in the Pacific Northwest. He is a member of the Spokane Symphony and has performed regularly as a substitute with the Seattle Symphony, Seattle Opera, Pacific Northwest Ballet, and Houston Symphony. He has appeared as a concerto soloist with orchestras throughout the west and performs with the Selway Piano Trio, and the Cascade Duo (harp and violin). As a conductor, Jason leads the Spokane Falls Community Orchestra, is a frequent high school and youth orchestra clinician, and was director of the University of Idaho Orchestra for a one-year faculty position. Jason holds a D.M.A. from the University of Washington, a M.M. of from Rice University, and a B.A. from Seattle Pacific University and is faculty at Gonzaga University and Spokane Falls Community College.



Katarina Nieminen

(1st year) began her violin studies at age five through the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM) certificate program in Ontario, Canada. She was a member of the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony Youth Orchestra Program (Kitchener, Ontario) and the Pinellas Youth Symphony (Clearwater, Florida), where she participated in string quartet, symphony, and chamber orchestras. Katarina currently studies violin with Routa Kroumovitch-Gomez at Stetson University in Deland, Florida, where she is pursuing a double degree in violin performance and music theory. She is a section first violinist of Stetson University's Symphony and Chamber Orchestras, directed by Anthony Hose, and the first violinist of a string quartet, coached by Dr. Jamie Clark. Besides her university studies, Katarina completed her Level 10 RCM Violin Exam, earning First Class Honours with Distinction, and is now also working towards obtaining her ARCT diploma in violin performance.



Lian Ojakangas

(2nd year), violinist, has attended the University of Michigan and Missouri State University, and studied with David Halen, Yoonshin Song, David Hays and Hal Grossman. He is currently an active performer in the Duluth, MN area.

— VIOLIN —



Sean Radermacher

(2nd year; conductor) earned a Master of Music in orchestral conducting at the Cleveland Institute of Music. He earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in violin performance from Duquesne University. Sean is completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Kentucky, having served as conductor of the UK

Philharmonia and assistant conductor of the UK Symphony Orchestra and UK Opera Theatre.

Sean's recent engagements include conducting with the Pittsburgh Youth Concert Orchestra, Central Kentucky Youth Orchestras, and Sault Ste. Marie Opera. Sean appeared repeatedly as associate conductor at the Sunflower Music Festival and assistant conductor at Buzzards Bay Musicfest.

Sean has participated in international conducting masterclasses and workshops across the United States, Czech Republic, and Bulgaria.

As an orchestral violinist, Sean has performed with the Erie Philharmonic, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Orchestra, Festival Orchestra Napa, Prague Summer Nights Orchestra, and the Wheeling, Youngstown, Firelands, and Westmoreland Symphony Orchestras.



Hannah Reinschmidt

(1st year) began Suzuki violin lessons at the age of four. Since then, her love for the instrument has flourished and she has performed in several orchestras and chamber ensembles. Hannah was a finalist in the 2021 Lauria Concerto Competition at Baldwin Wallace University and recently performed Ernest Bloch's Nigun at a conservatory

convocation. She has performed in masterclasses for Takako Masame, Mark Bjork, and Simon James, and had the opportunity of playing the 3rd movement of J.S. Bach's Concerto for Two Violins in D minor, with violinist Midori Goto. She currently studies with Judith Ingolfsson at the Peabody Conservatory. Past teachers include Dr. Julian Ross of Baldwin Wallace and Michael Sutton of the Minnesota Orchestra. Hannah enjoys waterskiing, exploring the Boundary Waters of Minnesota, and watching Law & Order in her free time.



Allion Salvador

Mr. Allion Salvador (5th year, violin; 4th year, conductor) is the 1st prize winner of the 2021 Music International Grand Prix, concertmaster of Seattle Metropolitan Chamber Orchestra, associate concertmaster of Yakima Symphony, guest concertmaster at Seattle's Paramount Theater, and a member of the Spokane

Symphony and the Missoula-based String Orchestra of the Rockies. He is a regular guest artist with the Yakima-based Sempre Chamber Music series and SMCO Secret Chamber Music, collaborating with artists including Nathan Chan, Maria Larionoff, Jorja Fleezanis, and Denise Dillenbeck. As a conductor, he is the founding music director of the Seattle Philharmonic Strings, a chamber orchestra bringing rarely played string repertoire to new communities. Mr. Salvador graduated with degrees in Violin Performance and Neurobiology from the University of Washington. He is currently completing graduate work with Peter Winograd and Lisa Kim at the Manhattan School of Music. His principal teachers include Hal Grossman and Ronald Patterson in violin, and Michael Jinbo, Adam Stern, and Ludovic Morlot in conducting. Festival appearances include the Aspen Music Festival, Round Top Music Festival, and the Pierre Monteux School.



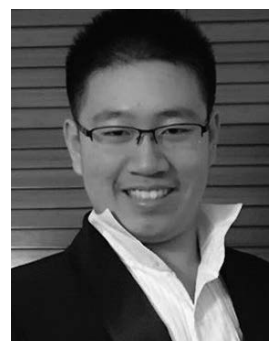
Edith Samuelsson

(3rd year) is a violinist and composer from the greater Boston area, currently residing in Chicagoland. She is completing a BM in both violin performance and composition at Wheaton College, Illinois, studying in the studio of Dr. Soh-Hyun Park Altino. Alongside expanding her skills in composition, Edith enjoys performing both

classical and modern ensemble music; as an instrumentalist at Wheaton, she has served as the concertmaster for the Wheaton College Symphony Orchestra's last two seasons and recently completed a performance cycle with the Hawthorn Quartet. In composition, 2023 marked the premiere of her latest piece, "Psalms: Three Studies in Extended Technique" for viola, cello, and voice.

Notable festival attendances have been the Pierre Monteux Festival, Kinhaven Young Artist Seminar, Elm City Chamber Fest, and Lancaster Piano Festival. Recent awards include the 2022 Lawrence Foster Memorial String Scholarship and the WC President's Honor in Music.

— VIOLIN —



Jiawen "Frank" Song

(2nd year; conductor) is a violinist, composer, conductor, and music educator looking forward to pursuing a career in orchestral conducting. Originally from Ningbo, China, Frank began to study violin at the age of four and has played in student orchestras of all levels since ten. He received his

Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music from the University of Chicago, and his major conducting teachers/mentors include Barbara Schubert, Kenneth Kiesler, Donald Portnoy, etc. As a composer, Frank also studied with composers such as Augusta Read Thomas, Anthony Cheung, and Hans Thomalla, and his works have been performed by Axiom Brass, Spektral Quartet, and musicians from Ensemble Dal Niente and Grossman Ensemble. An avid chamber musician, Frank also performs regularly with his duo and trio ensembles around the UChicago campus. This is the second year Frank attends the Monteux School and Music Festival as a conductor and violinist.



Ashley Wu

(1st year) is a violinist from Pensacola, Florida. She began studying piano and violin at ages 5 and 7, respectively, and has performed with orchestras in the United States and Europe as a soloist and ensemble member. She has since focused on violin performance at the University of Florida. She is currently pursuing a Bachelor of

Music in Combination with an Outside Field under Dr. Janna Lower along with a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience and a minor in Statistics. Ashley regularly performs in ensembles such as the Ocala Symphony Orchestra, UF Symphony Orchestra, UF New Music Ensemble, and more. She also currently acts as a School of Music Ambassador, bridging the gap between students, advisors, donors, and teachers at UF.



Halilu Zhang

Chinese-born violinist Halilu Zhang (1st year) boasts a distinguished orchestral background, performing with prominent conductors including Muhai Tang and Guoyong Zhang, at esteemed venues like the National Center for Performing Arts. Beginning her musical journey at Germany's Mannheim Musik Hochschule, she further

honed her craft at the Tianjin Conservatory of Music and California Baptist University, fulfilling roles such as associate concertmaster and concertmaster respectively. Currently, she enriches her expertise as a Doctor of Music candidate at the University of Oklahoma, serving as concertmaster of the OU Symphony Orchestra and first violinist of the Crouse Graduate Quartet. Halilu's professional history includes roles with the Tianjin Symphony and Guiyang Symphony Orchestras in China. She will be joining the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra starting from the '23-'24 season. Additionally, she holds a Graduate Teaching Assistant position at the University of Oklahoma. Committed to ongoing development, Halilu has engaged in masterclasses with esteemed musicians like Peter Zazofsky, Alexander Kerr and Paul Kantor, earning praise for her skill and versatility.

— VIOLA —



Christopher Beckett

Mr. Christopher Beckett (1st year) is a graduate of the Mason Gross School of Arts at Rutgers University, with a B.M. in Music Education and a concentration in violin and viola. He is currently a candidate for an M.M. in Conducting at Mason Gross under the guidance of Maestro Kynan Johns. Mr. Beckett served as the Preparatory Strings and

Concert Orchestra director for the Greater Princeton Youth Orchestra from 2016 to 2021. He has conducted numerous other ensembles including the Harlem Quartet Workshop Orchestra, NJ Arco Youth Orchestra, and as a guest conductor for the NJ High School Region II Orchestra. Mr. Beckett has performed and conducted at a variety of venues including the Kimmel Center, Carnegie Hall, and Gordon Hall.

In 2019, Mr. Beckett was invited to lead an international viola masterclass at Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Bogotá, Colombia. Mr. Becket is in his tenth year of teaching elementary strings in the East Brunswick school district and is excited to be a part of the Monteux Music Festival.



James T. Chang

(1st year, conductor) is an American conductor and musician of Chinese descent. He has led ensembles in Chicago, Jacksonville, Miami, Tallahassee, Atlanta, Berlin, and Paris, performing a diverse variety of works classic and new, Western and Eastern. James began his musical studies in piano and violin in his

hometown of Jacksonville, Florida. He later studied piano with Sylvia Wang at Northwestern University and with David Kalhous at Florida State University, where he received his Master's of Music in Orchestral Conducting under the tutelage of Alexander Jimenez. James will begin doctoral studies at the University of Minnesota with Mark Russell Smith this fall.

Aside from playing piano, violin, and viola, James also dabbles in playing the guqin and erhu.



Benjamin Petree

(2nd year) is a fifth-year student at the University of Houston majoring in Music Composition and Music Education at the Moores School of Music. He currently studies composition under Dr. Rob Smith, as well as the viola under Professor Wayne Brooks. In addition to regularly performing with the university's orchestra under the direction of

Maestro Franz Krager, Ben is also a member of Symphony Inspira, a newly forming orchestra focusing on music from gaming, anime, current film and TV, and other contemporary sources under the direction of Heath Vercher. While at the University of Houston, Ben has premiered nine new original compositions including *Coalesce*, which was written for and performed by the award-winning ensemble "What Is Noise". Once graduated, Ben plans to pursue a graduate degree in Music Performance as well as begin his career as an educator.



Noah Stevens

(1st year) is a violist, composer and multi-instrumentalist currently studying with Kathryn Lockwood at Montclair State University. He is a member of the NYC based underStaffed Chamber Orchestra, and a founding member of "le maines a deux", a bass/viola duo. He performs frequently as a vocalist in his church choir, and plays the electric bass in his

band, THE INDECISIONS. He writes a lot of music, ranging from solo viola showpieces, to chamber works, to music for dance performances, pop rock songs, and much more. He is fortunate enough to collaborate with many artists in many different ways - and hopes to continue diversifying and learning from his peers in the future. Noah believes that everything is intertwined, and that learning anything about anything impacts everything. Outside of the classical/contemporary sphere, he enjoys indie music, rock climbing, studying the German language, and philosophy.



Mica Weiland

(1st year) is currently a music student at the University of Washington in Seattle, and has just finished her freshman year pursuing a Bachelor's of Music in Viola Performance. Mica has studied the viola since the age of thirteen; her principal teachers include Melia Watras and Mara Gearman. In her spare time she enjoys exploring the Pacific Northwest, reading, and painting.

— CELLO —



Xiadani Yamilet Alejos Romero

Highlights in the career of cellist Xiadani Yamilet Alejos Romero (1st year) include her participation as a soloist in the Cervantino 2016 with the Baroque Chamber Orchestra of the University of Guanajuato and the 2012-2014 OSEAN national tour with Joshua Bell

and Plácido Domingo. Xiadani has participated in ensembles such as the Sinfonietta FAMUS, FIV Cello Ensemble, Queretaro's International Festival Orchestra, Festival de Música Viva at Moscú Rusia, and Cuatro Quartet. She has also participated as a soloist with the Orquesta de Cámara de la UANL, Sinfonietta at FAMUS, Universidad Renacentista de Guanajuato and the Universidad at Guadalajara.

Xiadani is currently a member of the Orquesta Sinfónica de la Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León (OSUANL). She has taken masterclasses with Alvaro Bitran, David Cohen, Boris Chalakov, Asier Polo, Maria Cassado, Rafael Jezarski, Roeland Duijne, Jacob Shaw, William Molina and Santiago Cañón.

She obtained her Bachelor's degree in music with emphasis in Cello Performance under the mentorship of maestro José María López at the Facultad de Música UANL.



Zach Banks

(2nd year; conductor) is a dedicated cellist, conductor, and educator, who resides in Pendleton, Oregon. As a cellist, he performs with numerous regional symphonies and chamber music festivals in the Pacific Northwest, and currently sits as principal cellist for the Oregon East Symphony. Outside of the concert hall, he has

performed for many years in bluegrass folk bands, chamber music collectives, and has performed and recorded with various non-classical artists throughout the region.

Since 2018, Banks has been the music director of the Grande Ronde Symphony where he programs and conducts classical, pops, and educational programs. Zach is also the education director and assistant conductor for the Oregon East Symphony where he assists in maintaining a multi-faceted music education initiative for K-12 youth in Eastern Oregon.

Banks received Bachelor's and Master's degrees in music from Portland State University.



Heidi Cahyadi

Born and raised in Indonesia, Heidi Cahyadi (1st year; conductor) began piano and violin studies at the age of four and took up the cello when she was seven. At the age of thirteen, she passed a 'blind audition' with the Jakarta City Philharmonic and was accepted into the cello section, becoming the youngest member ever

accepted. In 2019, Heidi entered the Biola Conservatory of Music, was appointed as the principal cellist in the Biola Symphony Orchestra, and performed with the Biola Honors String Quartet.

Heidi currently studies with Leonardo Altino and has performed in cello masterclasses given by internationally renowned artists including Natasha Brofsky and Robert DeMaine. As an aspiring conductor, Heidi has received instruction from Budi Utomo Prabowo, Marlin Owen, and Dr. Elliott Bark. She is currently the assistant conductor for the Biola Symphony Orchestra.

— CELLO —



Matthew McCahan

Cellist Matthew McCahan (1st year) grew up in Wayland, Massachusetts where he started playing the cello at age 8. He studied with cellist Steve Laven, and played in the Rivers Youth orchestras, performing in Jordan hall and Symphony hall. Matthew graduated from Boston College, majoring in economics and minoring in math and music. He studied with Cellist Leo Eguchi, and played in the Boston College Symphony Orchestra and in the Boston College Chamber Music Society. Here, he won the Kia Rozier Award for outstanding dedication to excellence in the performance of music, and the Laetitia M Blain Award for outstanding contribution to musical life on campus. In his free time, Matthew likes to compose music, and is currently working on a set of string quartets.



Laura Salgado

Cellist Laura Salgado (1st year) born in Mexico City, began her cello studies at an early age before studying with Monica Del Aguila and graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Performance with Mastery in Cello. From an early age, Laura was introduced to chamber and orchestral music. She was part of the Carlos Chavez Youth Orchestra and the Eduardo Mata University Youth Orchestra of UNAM. As part of the Eduardo Mata Youth Orchestra she performed at the Auditorium Parco della Musica of the National Academy of Santa Cecilia in Rome and participated in the Emilia Romagna festivals in Imola and Music Weeks in Merano Italy, also performing with the violinist Massimo Quarta (winner of the 1991 Paganini Prize).

Laura has appeared in masterclasses with Denis Parker, Jesus Castro Balbi, Steve Doane, Hans Jensen, Alan Rafferty, Sarah Kim, Johannes Moser, and Alban Gerhardt, among others. She has actively participated in national and international festivals such as Morelia Music Festival, SA'Oaxaca, Cello Fest in Dallas Ft. Worth, and the Santa Catarina Brazil Music Festival, performing actively as a chamber, orchestral, and solo musician.

Laura now performs as a guest musician in the major orchestras of Mexico City, and is a cello instructor in the Delegation Orchestras of Mexico City Program.

— DOUBLE BASS —

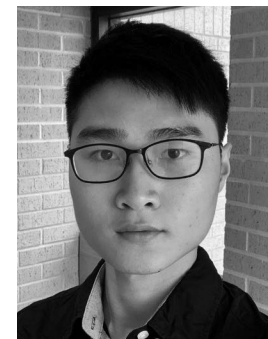


Rachel Kost

(1st year) is a Double Bassist for the Firelands Symphony Orchestra in Ohio. She begins her first season with them in the fall. For the 2022/23 season, Rachel was a substitute for the New World Symphony Orchestra in Florida and Chicago Civic Orchestra in Illinois.

She has also been a regular substitute Bassist for the Canton Symphony Orchestra, the Mansfield Symphony Orchestra, the Maryland Symphony Orchestra, and the Akron Symphony Orchestra.

Rachel graduated with her Bachelor's in Music at the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2020 studying with Scott Dixon, section bassist of the Cleveland Orchestra. In 2022, Rachel received her Master's in Music at Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University studying with Ira Gold, section bassist of the National Symphony Orchestra.



Kuan-Chieh Lo

(1st year) is currently studying in his Bachelor's degree of Double Bass performance in the studio of Prof. Jeffrey Bradetich & Dr. Gudrun Raschen at the University of North Texas. He has been awarded first prize winner in the Taipei International Youth Music Competition 2020 and was invited to perform in the winners' concert. Kuan-Chieh comes from Taipei and started playing double bass at the age of 9. He studied double bass in Taipei with Prof. DaHo Rau for six years, and decided to keep on pursuing a career as a professional double bassist in the United States when he was 18. Lo has worked with multiple internationally renowned masters such as Thierry Barbe, Catalin Rotaru, Alberto Bocini, Petru Iuga, Artem Chirkov, Dominik Wagner and Daxun Zhang. It is his dream to become a double bass soloist and principal bass in major orchestras.



Johannes Visser

Winner of the Jan Royce Foundation Prize and the Peter Klatzow Prize, Johannes Visser (2nd year, double bass; 1st year, conductor) received his Bachelor of Music degree in Composition and Piano Summa Cum Laude and completed his Master of Music Composition degree on the prestigious Bornhard Fellowship. He also obtained a Master's degree in Orchestral Conducting and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Composition on a Flagship Fellowship at the University of Maryland. Recently, Johannes was appointed as assistant conductor of the Prince George's Philharmonic Orchestra and was awarded a conducting internship with the Capital City Symphony.

Johannes' endeavours in orchestral conducting strive for balanced exposure to standard repertoire and contemporary music. Furthermore, Johannes' undiluted energy and expressive conducting language offer a unique and refreshing take on modern conducting. He recently had the opportunity to conduct the premiere reading of his new orchestral work "vyf afrikaanse danse" with the University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra.

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