

MONTEUX

SCHOOL & MUSIC FESTIVAL

Monteux School & Music Festival

Conductor & Instrumentalist Biographies

Summer, 2021

2021 Pierre Monteux School & Music Festival

CONDUCTORS

William Cabison (1st year, percussion) is a conductor from Los Angeles, California, where he has been assistant conductor of the Los Robles Master Chorale, uclaFLUX and the UCLA Chorale. Previous performances of his include the Los Angeles Philharmonic's Noon to Midnight Festival at Walt Disney Concert Hall, as guest supporting conductor in David Lang's *crowd out*. In 2020, he was invited to participate in the Monteux Winter Conducting Workshops, with Michael Jinbo and the Monteux Heritage Orchestra in New York. He has also been trained by Dean Anderson, Charles Bruffy, James Jordan, Sasha Mäkilä and Adrian McDonnell. As a composer, his *Moonrise* was the winning piece in the 2016 Los Angeles Master Chorale Young Composers Contest and was premiered by the LAMC Chamber Singers at Walt Disney Concert Hall. Moreover, the Los Robles Master Chorale with Artistic Director Lesley Leighton has commissioned choral works of his, including *Aileen* (2020), *Sympathy* (2018) and *Loam* (2016). Studying piano with David Kaplan and Walter Ponce, he received the B.A. Music cum laude from UCLA. In fall 2021, he will begin his Master's, studying orchestral conducting with David Hayes at Mannes. ■ williamcabison.com

Samuel Chen (2nd year, piano/violin; 1st year, conductor) is a graduate student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa where he is pursuing a Master of Music degree in Piano Performance. He serves as graduate assistant to the choral department and assistant conductor of the University of Hawaii Symphony Orchestra. Samuel has led the UHSO in rehearsals and conducted them in multiple performances. He participated in conducting masterclasses with Christoph Rehli, Dr. David Jacobs, Dr. Yorgos Kouritas, Dr. Jason Tramm, Allan McMurray, Dr. Mathias Elmer, and Dr. Kevin Sütterlin. Samuel has won numerous piano competitions including the Music Teachers National Association Competition for Young Artists in Hawaii, UHSO Concerto Competition, Morning Music Club Scholarship Competition, and Hawaii Music Teachers Association Competition. In addition to piano and conducting, Samuel serves as principal violinist in the UHSO and has played for the orchestra since 2016. He frequently collaborates with singers and instrumentalists as a pianist, and is involved in the chamber music scene in Hawaii. Samuel thanks his teachers Dr. Thomas Yee and Dr. Joseph Stepec for their wisdom, support, and guidance.

Ryan D. Farris (4th year, cello) is a conductor, composer, and multi-instrumentalist from Nederland, Colorado. Ryan has been conducting local orchestras since middle school and attended the Monteux School from 2016-2018. His conducting mentors include Michael Jinbo, David Rahbee, Gary Lewis, and Nicholas Carthy. Ryan has a Master of Music in cello performance from the University of Washington, and a dual-Bachelor's in performance and composition from the University of Colorado. Recently, he has served as principal cello of the Seattle Philharmonic Strings, the University of Washington Symphony Orchestra, and the University of Colorado Opera Orchestra. He subs regularly with the Boulder Philharmonic and is an avid chamber musician.

Ryan's compositions have been performed across the U.S., as well as in Austria and Australia. He performs regularly on the Viola da Gamba, a renaissance and baroque instrument which he currently studies with Anne Marie Morgan. Ryan is also the lead fiddle player for the Seattle-based Celtic band Cavort, with whom he recorded an album in 2019, and will be recording a new album this fall. In August 2020 he released *healing: a quarantine solo album*, celebrating traditional and contemporary tunes from Scotland and Ireland. Ryan enjoys alpine skiing, frisbee golf, and coffee roasting.

Nicholas Finch (1st year, cello) - Since performing as soloist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra at age 18, cellist Nicholas Finch has established himself as an artist of great depth and diversity, performing a wide variety of repertoire both within and beyond the classical genre. He is Principal Cellist of the Louisville Orchestra, having recently appeared as cello soloist with the orchestra in Strauss's "Don Quixote". He has additionally appeared numerous times with New York's *Jupiter Chamber Players* and with the Boston-based conductorless chamber orchestra *A Far Cry*. Finch recently premiered three new cello concerti written for him with the *NouLou Chamber Players*, all performed in one concert in April of 2019, and will record them during the 21-22 season for his debut recording.

Having attended Harvard, Juilliard, the University of Michigan, and the Mannes College of Music, Finch has recently pursued studies as a conductor, studying with Markand Thakar and Kenneth Kiesler. Finch was scheduled to make his professional conducting debut in March 2020 with the Louisville Orchestra, delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Finch currently splits his residence between Louisville and New York City.

Shane Gillen (2nd year, bassoon) is a Pittsburgh-based bassoonist and conductor returning to the Monteux School for his second year. Shane recently received his Master's degree in bassoon performance from Rice University and also holds a Bachelor's in bassoon performance from Carnegie Mellon University. He began his study of conducting during his time at Carnegie Mellon under the tutelage of Daniel Nesta Curtis. During this time, Shane conducted the Carnegie Mellon University Repertoire Orchestra as well as actively pursued his own conducting projects. As a bassoonist, Shane has performed with numerous ensembles in southwest Pennsylvania including the Westmoreland and Johnstown Symphonies, as well as new music groups NAT28 and Alia Musica. He has also attended the Aspen Music Festival and played in the AIMS in Graz Orchestra (Austria). His primary bassoon teachers are Benjamin Kamins and Nancy Goeres. While not musicking, Shane enjoys reading, writing, and brewing a good cup of coffee.

Yohan Kwon (1st year, violin/piano), born and raised in Connecticut, is currently based in northern Germany at the Schleswig-Holstein State Theater, where he has been working as a Staff Pianist with Conducting Duties since the beginning of the 20/21 season. He made his mainstage debut on the podium with the company in May 2021. Yohan's degrees include a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music in 2018, as well as a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting from the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2020. His notable teachers and mentors include Carl Topilow, Arthur Fagen, and David Neely.

Emmanuelle Lambert-Lemoine (1st year, viola) is a French Canadian musician and teacher. Trained as a pianist and violist, she has been conducting student orchestras since 2016 and teaching highschool students within a specialized artistic public school in Ottawa, Canada, since 2015. Emmanuelle is currently completing her Masters in

Orchestral Conducting at the University of Ottawa, and she will be beginning a Doctorate in Performance in viola at the University of Montreal in the fall. Alongside her musical career, Emmanuelle has completed a MA in Performance Studies at the Tisch School of the Arts, NYU, where she focused her research on popular art education and politically engaged performances in the Americas. She is also cofounder of ASTAWT (Action for Survivors of Torture and War Trauma) as well as leader of a refugee settlement initiative in Ottawa.

Joseph Morag (3rd year, violin; 2nd year, conductor), acclaimed by the New York Times for his "gorgeous tone," and "physically expressive cues," has performed extensively as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral violinist. He studied with Aaron Rosand under the prestigious Dolan Prize, awarded by Columbia University. Joseph has also studied conducting under Joshua Gersen at the New York Youth Symphony's Apprentice Conducting Program, Victor Yampolsky at the Wintergreen Music Festival, and Michael Jinbo at the Montaux Festival. In 2019, he was music director of the Columbia New Opera Workshop. As a violinist, Joseph has appeared as soloist and concertmaster with the Vancouver Symphony, Columbia University Orchestra, Empire Chamber Orchestra, New York Youth Symphony, and National Orchestral Institute Festival Orchestra. Currently, Joseph plays with the Chelsea Symphony, Montclair Orchestra, and Symphoria. Joseph holds a Bachelor's degree in physics from Columbia University, magna cum laude, and a Master's degree from New York University in music technology. His thesis OpenStrings, a platform for string players to share fingerings for difficult passages, can be found at open-strings.com.

Savannah Norton (1st year, bassoon) is a New York-based musician and founder of The Norton Sunwood Music Studio, located in Elmira, NY. Savannah completed her degree in Music History & Literature from the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music in 2019, and is currently pursuing a Masters in Intercultural Studies from Fuller Theological Seminary. A native of rural Northeastern Pennsylvania, she began playing the bassoon and later attended the pre-college division of the Mannes School of Music in NYC, studying with Leonard Hindell.

Formal conducting endeavors began at age sixteen, including positions as a drum major and as a conductor at Mannes under Scott Jackson Wiley. 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. Her chamber music experience includes the Poulenc Sextet at Wheaton College and wind quintet music at Mannes. During her free time, Savannah enjoys traveling, hiking, and bird watching.

Neil Rao (3rd year, percussion; 1st year, conductor) is a conductor, composer, percussionist, and producer from Louisville, Kentucky. Neil currently serves as the Assistant Conductor of the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra (Valdosta, GA). Neil made his debut as a solo percussionist and composer at the age of 15, performing a solo percussion recital that included two original works. Neil's compositions have been performed by groups including the Louisville Orchestra, Orchestra Enigmatic, Lineage Percussion Trio, and the University of Louisville Percussion Studio.

Neil is an experienced chamber musician, performing percussion alongside musicians including Nexus Percussion, eighth blackbird, NouLou Chamber Ensemble, and the Aizuri String Quartet, and he has recorded music of Kaija Saariaho with Grammy-winning producer Judith Sherman. Dedicated to breaking boundaries in music as a multi-instrumentalist and producer, Neil's electronic funk music is released under the pseudonym 'Lie Noir'. Neil holds a B.M. from the Curtis Institute of Music.

Vladimir Sagaydo (1st year, cello) is a Russian-born Mexican conductor, cellist, pianist and composer. He is a disciple of Mstislav Rostropovich and his cello school. He is also the laureate of numerous international music competitions in St. Petersburg, Moscow, Dresden and Paris, as well the All-Russian National State Premium "Hope of Russia." Vladimir holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the St. Petersburg State Conservatory and Moscow State University. While at the St. Petersburg State conservatory, he served as assistant conductor in opera, ballet and symphonic orchestra conducting with Vassily Sinaisky.

Vladimir is now Assistant Conductor of the Orchestra of Bellas Artes Theatre in Opera de Bellas Artes, Mexico City with Srba Dinic. He has performed in courses and private lessons with Jorna Panula, Peter Feranec, George Mark and Mariss Jansons in St. Petersburg, Vienna, Moscow and Mexico City. He has also been a guest conductor at Eduardo Mata Youth Symphony Orchestra and made his concert debut in the European Union at the Berliner Philharmonie with the Berliner Kamerata Orchestra.

Kin (Desmond) Siu (2nd year, violin), a Hong Kong-American conductor and violinist, holds the position of Artistic Director and Principal Conductor with Orchestra Northern Arizona. A Master of Music graduate of Northern Arizona University, Desmond served as Assistant Director of the NAU Orchestras while working as guest Music Director with the Lyric Opera and acting Music Director with the Chamber Orchestra. Desmond's past positions include Assistant Conductor positions with Orchestra Northern Arizona, the Skidmore Orchestra, as well as Music Director and founder of the Skidmore Chamber Orchestra. As a violinist, Desmond currently plays with the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra, Arizona Philharmonic, and Verde Valley Sinfonietta.

Uli Speth (1st year, conductor; 2nd year, violin) attended the Pierre Monteux School as an orchestra member. In 1995, just before launching into a career as a violinist. His performance career as a violinist has been centered around New York City Opera, American Symphony Orchestra and as concertmaster for the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra, performing with many well known conductors and soloists, including James Levine, Kurt Masur and many others. In recent years, Uli has also worked as music director of the Little Delaware Youth Ensemble and as director of the orchestra at The College of New Jersey and Hartwick College's Chamber Orchestra. Additionally, he serves on the faculty of Eastern Music Festival both as violinist and coordinator of student chamber music. Uli holds degrees from the Mozarteum in Salzburg/Austria and the Mannes College of Music.

Emma Strub (3rd year, viola; 2nd year, conductor), first attended the Monteux School in 2016 as a violist, joining the festival as a conductor in 2019 and 2021. She received her Bachelor's degree in Viola Performance from the University of Memphis, and her Masters in Viola Performance from Rutgers University. Strub is currently attending Northern Arizona University, where she is one year into pursuing a Masters in Orchestral Conducting. Currently, Strub is a section viola member for the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra. Previously, she held positions as section viola in orchestras such

as the Montclair Orchestra, the Starkville Symphony and the Jackson Symphony, as well as extensive freelancing. Between her masters degrees, she held the position as Assistant Conductor for the Austin Symphony Orchestra. In addition to attending the Monteux School, she has attended festivals such as the Medomak Institute for Conductors and the Hot Springs Music Festival. Strub interned at the Interlochen Arts Camp in the advancement department for three years, and has extensive hands-on arts administration and development experience. Originally from Austin, Texas, Strub lives in Flagstaff, Arizona, with her partner and two cats.

Daren Weissfisch (3rd year, conductor, oboe) is a conductor and oboist currently based in Seattle, Washington. Since 2019, Daren has served as the Assistant Conductor of the University of Washington Symphony Orchestra and Conductor of the Campus Philharmonia Orchestra at the University of Washington where received his master's in Orchestral Conducting in 2021 and will continue as a doctoral candidate in the fall under the tutelage of David Alexander Rahbee. From 2013-2019, Daren was the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Orquesta Sinfónica Esperanza Azteca Sinaloa, an El Sistema-based youth orchestra and choir in Culiacán, Sinaloa, Mexico. In Mexico, Daren was the assistant director for the 2016 production of Charles Gounod's opera *Romeo and Juliet* under Sinaloense conductor Enrique Patrón de Rueda and the same year he collaborated with French guitarist Jean Bruno Dautaner to record the contemporary guitar concerto *Tres en Raya* by Spanish composer Antonio Ruíz Pipó under the AdLib MusicMX record label. In 2017, Daren conducted the Sinaloa premier of *Horizontes*, a work by Mexican composer and Juilliard composition professor Samuel Zyman, with the Orquesta Sinfónica Sinaloa de las Artes, and for the 2017 Sinaloa Cultural Festival, he founded the ensemble Sinaloa Players, which presented Stravinsky's *Histoire du Soldat* with renowned Mexican choreographer Mauricio Nava and the Danza Joven Sinaloa contemporary dance ensemble. As an oboist, Daren was the second/assistant principal oboist and soloist of the Orquesta Sinfónica Sinaloa de las Artes from 2010 to 2019 and in Seattle he has performed with the Bainbridge Symphony Orchestra and the Orchestra Seattle.

Wayland Whitney (3rd year, viola) is a conductor and violist from northern California. He is passionate about education, and has taught publicly and privately since 2008. In 2009, he co-founded the Placer County Youth Orchestra in Roseville, CA, which he administered and conducted while pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Viola at UC Davis. In 2016, he became the conductor of the Music in the Mountains Youth Orchestra in Nevada City, CA. In 2018, he was appointed assistant conductor for Symphony D'Oro, a community orchestra in Rancho Cordova, CA. He also conceived and arranged music for a series of school outreach concerts for the Auburn Civic Symphony in Auburn, CA. Later that year, Whitney moved to West NY to study conducting and free improvisation with Dr. David Rudge at SUNY Fredonia, finishing his Master's degree in Conducting in spring of 2020.

Sunny Xuecong Xia (3rd year, violin) is delighted to be returning to the Monteux Festival this season. Sunny currently serves as Assistant Conductor of Arizona State University Symphony Orchestra while pursuing a doctorate in Orchestral Conducting. In the 2020-21 season, she appeared as guest conductor with the MusicaNova Orchestra (Phoenix, AZ) and was invited to the National Music Festival as Assistant Conductor. In January 2020, she made her successful debut with the Cleveland Women's Orchestra, who celebrated its 85th season shortly before the pandemic. Other highlights of the 2019-20 season include being selected by Marin Alsop as one

of eight Conducting Fellows in the Peabody Conducting Workshop. She was also appointed Apprentice Conductor at the North American New Opera Workshop and served as Cover Conductor for the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra and Firelands Symphony Orchestra. Chosen from a pool of 75 first-round competitors, she was one of ten semifinalists in the 2019 NRTA Conducting Competition in Tirana, Albania. Equally at home in the opera world, Sunny served as Assistant Conductor of Cleveland Institute of Music Opera Theater from 2017 to 2020, where she assisted in productions of *Die Zauberflöte*, *The Juniper Tree*, *Le Rossignol*, and *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*. Please visit sunny-xia.com for more information.

Ryan Zhang (1st year, violin/piano) is a conductor, pianist, violinist, and chamber musician. Ryan began his studies as a conductor with James Jordan, Charles Bruffy, and Vance George at Westminster Choir College. He later became a conducting student of Jonathan Coopersmith at the Curtis Institute of Music. In 2015, Ryan was selected as the Philadelphia International Music Festival's Conducting Fellow, collaborating closely with conductors Cristian Măcelaru and Mark Gagliotti. He also performed extensively with the West Windsor-Plainsboro Philharmonic Orchestra, including conducting a production of Leonard Bernstein's *West Side Story* in 2015. In 2016, following a nationwide search, Ryan was selected as one of two Apprentice Conductors of the National Youth Orchestra of the United States. In that capacity, he received mentorship from James Ross and worked closely with guest artists Christoph Eschenbach, Valery Gergiev, Emanuel Ax, and Denis Matsuev in preparation for the orchestra's tour of Carnegie Hall and Europe. In 2017, as a student at Harvard University, Ryan was appointed as Music Director of the Mozart Society Orchestra. From 2018-2019, Ryan was also Assistant Music Director of the Bach Society Orchestra, where a highlight of his tenure included working with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Harbison to rehearse and perform one of his works. In 2018, Ryan was honored to be invited to perform at the inauguration of Harvard President Lawrence Bacow. Ryan thanks all of his wonderful teachers, friends, and family for all their guidance and support.

CONDUCTING ASSOCIATE

Tiffany Lu (2012-2015, violin; **5th year** Conducting Associate) hails from Tampa, FL. In the 2020-2021 season, she was honored to join the faculty of Sewanee University of the South as Music Director of the Sewanee Symphony Orchestra. In addition to her role as Conducting Associate at the Monteux Festival, she is also assistant conductor with the Prince Georges' Philharmonic (Bowie, MD). During the 2019-2020 season, Lu debuted as guest conductor with the Symphony New Hampshire and the Millikin-Decatur Symphony Orchestra. From 2015-2020, she was Music Director of the Wilmington Community Orchestra and Assistant Conductor with the Capital City Symphony, creating groundbreaking and creative programming. She was also selected as Conducting Fellow for the Allentown Symphony in 2019 and 2020. Lu's diverse skill set includes professional work as a performing violinist (The Florida Orchestra, Annapolis Symphony Orchestra), music librarian (Sewanee Summer Music Festival, National Orchestral Institute, DC Youth Orchestra Program, and the Music School of Delaware), and recording producer (Smithsonian Chamber Players, Virginia Symphony Orchestra).

Lu holds degrees from Princeton University, Ithaca College, and the University of Maryland.

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INSTRUMENTALISTS

FLUTE

Alexander Day (1st year), a native of Northern Virginia and Washington D.C., is a flutist at the Eastman School of Music studying with Professors Bonita Boyd and Anne L. Harrow. His versatile playing takes him across musical boundaries, from classical to baroque to jazz. Alexander's proficiency has brought him many accolades and experiences in a wide variety of settings. This year, he won Eastman's Tallon Perkes Competition and placed as an honorable mention in the Rochester Flute Association's Virtual Competition for College and Emerging Artists. Alexander also performs with the Eastman Wind Ensemble, Eastman School Symphony Orchestra, OSSIA and the Graduate Composers' Sinfonietta. Next year, he will be a Traverso player in Eastman's Baroque Orchestra. Alexander can be heard in recordings with the Eastman Studio Orchestra, the Eastman Jazz Lab Band, and in the premiere of Yi-Ning Lo's composition for solo Bass Flute.

Alexander is a former member of the American Youth Philharmonic and an alumnus of the National Symphony Orchestra Youth Fellowship Program, where he studied with Aaron Goldman. Alexander was also a full-time missionary in Las Vegas for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints from 2017-2019.

Roya Farzaneh (1st year) is a DMA Candidate at The University of South Carolina. Roya is adjunct faculty at Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC and is also director of the Columbia New Horizons adult flute choir, Flute Loops. She has advanced in several competitions including the Central Ohio Flute Association Young Artist, Myrna Brown Artist, Flute Society of Kentucky Young Artist, National Flute Association Masterclass competition, and South Carolina Flute Society Young Artist. She performs often with the Rock Hill Symphony and Long Bay Symphony in South Carolina. Roya holds degrees from The University of Akron and Middle Tennessee State University as well as a certificate from Trevor Wye's flute studio in the United Kingdom. Her primary mentors include Jennifer Parker-Harley, Trevor Wye, George Pope, and Deanna Little.

Daniel Prevost (2nd year) is a freelance flutist currently active in the Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Daniel graduated in 2016 from George Mason University with a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education, studying under the tutelage of Mrs. Julianna Nickel. Most Recently, Daniel has studied with Mrs. Alice Weinreb of the National Symphony Orchestra and Dr. Troy Paulantonio of the United States Army Field Band. Daniel regularly performs with the Washington Sinfonietta and was featured as a quarterfinalist in the National Flute Association's Young Artists competition in 2018.

Aimee Toner (1st year) is a current Master of Music student at the New England Conservatory, where she studies with Cynthia Meyers of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Aimee is dedicated to the accessibility of classical music, and has expressed this passion through her work as faculty at the Rhode Island Philharmonic School, founder of the grant-funded "Virtual School Song" project, and as the Manager of the Brockton Symphony Orchestra's Marketing and Fundraising initiatives. Toner's performance experience includes appearing as a soloist with the Columbia University Orchestra as its 2018 Concerto Competition winner, as the principal flutist of the New York Youth Symphony for two seasons, and as a performing solo artist in a contracted recital series along the East Coast. Toner is a graduate of Barnard College of Columbia University (Phi Beta Kappa) where she majored in Ethnomusicology and Economics. She is also a graduate of the Manhattan School of Music Lesson Exchange, where she studied with Linda Chesis.

OBOE

Kate Bruns (1st year) is currently pursuing her Master of Music degree in oboe performance and literature at the Eastman School of Music, studying with Richard Killmer. She is also an oboe instructor at the Eastman Community Music School and studies the baroque oboe with Geoffrey Burgess. Kate recently graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a BM in oboe performance and a minor in physics while studying under John Dee. Through the UI school of music, she was awarded two Achievement Awards for excellence in playing and the Mark H. Hindsley Award for outstanding musical contribution to the symphonic bands.

Kate is an avid orchestral and chamber musician. She currently performs as part of the Kazaam Wind Quintet which was featured on the 2021 Eastman Honors Recital. Kate has attended the Eastern Music Festival and the Madeline Island Chamber Music Festival, and has been a finalist in the University of Illinois Symphony Orchestra concerto competition, the EMF concerto competition, and the advanced division of the Miami of Ohio Loree Oboe Day competition. She has also performed as a substitute with the Sinfonia da Camera chamber orchestra and the Millikan-Decatur Symphony Orchestra. Kate is a native of Carmel, Indiana. Aside from playing the oboe, she enjoys staying active and spending time outdoors.

Phillip Larroque (1st year) teaches oboe, music theory, and musicianship at Tulane University and maintains a private piano and oboe studio in New Orleans. As an oboist, he regularly performs throughout the Gulf Coast region, including with the Acadiana, Rapides, and Lake Charles Symphonies and the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. In 2016, Larroque co-founded the New Orleans Chamber Orchestra and is co-director, presenting numerous premieres from a diverse array of composers as well as a concert series in prisons. He also coaches chamber music with the Greater New Orleans Youth Orchestras and is assistant conductor of the Tulane 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.

Daren Weissfisch see *Conductor Biographies*.

CLARINET

Lindsey Bos (1st year) is in her senior year at Grand Valley State University studying Music Performance under Dr. Arthur Campbell. Lindsey is a West Michigan native and has participated in several local ensembles including the Grand Rapids Youth Symphony and the Blue Lake International Youth Symphony Orchestra. She enjoys performing in pit orchestras and has worked with the Grand Rapids Civic Theater, Hope College Summer Repertory Theater, and many area schools. Lindsey has been awarded the “Semper Fidelis” Award for Musical Excellence from the United States Marines Youth Foundation, was an honorable mention in the Music Teachers National Association Competition in Michigan last fall, and competed in the International Clarinet Association Competition last spring. Outside of performing, Lindsey enjoys teaching with the Reeths-Puffer Marching Band, and working with her own students from ages 7 to 74. Additionally, Lindsey is in her third year as a Resident Assistant, participates in GVSU Alternative Breaks, and is a Frederik Meijer Honors College Ambassador.

Sandy Marcotte (1st year) recently graduated from *the Conservatoire de Musique de Québec*, studying under Marie Picard and Stéphane Fontaine. She holds masters degrees in both clarinet and bass clarinet. She did numerous masterclasses with distinguished clarinetists, notably with Charles Neidich, Mark Nuccio, Martin Fröst and Lorenzo Coppola as well as new music works alongside Chaya Czernowin, Laurie Radford and the Paramirabo Ensemble. Sandy plays regularly with various ensembles including the Orchestre Symphonique de la Côte-Nord, the Royal 22nd regiment band, the Orchestre Symphonique du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, the Orchestre Symphonique de Québec and the woodwind quintet Les Voiles. Sandy also holds clarinet studios in Québec and Victoriaville and is proud to participate in the development and accessibility of the arts in her community.

Zackary Neville (2nd year, clarinet) has had an enjoyable career as a performing musician. Hailing from the rural coalfields of central West Virginia, Zackary was a member of the West Virginia Youth Symphony, with which he would tour Central and Eastern Europe in 2012. He earned his Bachelor of Music in Clarinet Performance from Alderson Broaddus University in Philippi, West Virginia in 2016, where he won the School of Music's Biannual Honors Recital competition that same year. He earned his Masters of Music in Clarinet Performance from Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 2019. He is currently earning an Advanced Musical Studies diploma in Clarinet Performance at Carnegie Mellon, performing with the CMU Philharmonic, the Wind Ensemble, and numerous chamber groups; he would compete in the school's annual Silberman Chamber Music Competition. A keen advocate of contemporary music, Zackary has also performed with the CMU Contemporary Ensemble under the direction of Monteux alumnus Daniel Curtis, also serving as his assistant. Zackary has also performed with the West Virginia and Youngstown Symphonies as a substitute clarinetist. He was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda Honor Society in 2019.

Zackary currently lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania establishing his private studio and freelancing. He is an avid outdoorsman, always walking and hiking in the city's parks

and nearby nature preserves. He also is a dedicated fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers, Penguins, and Pirates, and the West Virginia University Mountaineers football team.

Kristen Pierri (1st year) is a masters student at the University of Colorado Boulder studying under the tutelage of Daniel Silver. At CU Boulder, she serves as a teaching assistant in the clarinet studio, and performs with the graduate woodwind quintet. Prior to her studies in Colorado, she performed with the Norman Philharmonic orchestra and various chamber ensembles and pit orchestras in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. Kristen holds a Bachelor of Musical Arts from the University of Oklahoma, and her former teachers include Jason Shafer, David Shea, and Suzanne Tirk. Throughout her studies, Kristen has performed numerous student compositions and loves exploring new repertoire for the clarinet. She is passionate about using music to benefit the community around her and abroad, and has participated in several benefit concerts at the University of Oklahoma to help raise emergency funds for international students in 2018, and the women's resource center in 2019. Kristen maintains an active clarinet studio, and enjoys seeing her students grow. Outside of music, she enjoys reading, playing video games and board games, and learning about medicine.

BASSOON

Shane Gillen *see Conductor Biographies.*

Savannah Norton *see Conductor Biographies.*

Arekson Sunwood (1st year) is a New York-based musician who recently graduated with a Master's degree from the New England Conservatory, studying under Marc Goldberg. He completed his Bachelor of Music at Wheaton College (IL.) studying under Dr. Jonathan Saylor. Hailing from northern Alabama, Arekson has lived all over the country, from Los Angeles to Washington D.C. and Dallas to Chicago. Aside from academic ensembles, his orchestral endeavors include sub-listing and freelancing with local orchestras, full opera productions, and a guest residency with an orchestra in eastern China. An avid chamber music proponent, he has performed in numerous wind quintets, bassoon-and-strings ensembles, and large works such as the Beethoven Septet and the Schubert Octet. Arekson's interests outside of music include cooking, biking, and computer gaming.

HORN

Jordan Bennett (1st year) is a Doctor of Musical Arts student at West Virginia University, studying Horn Performance. Jordan comes to WVU from Tennessee, where he completed a Master of Music degree in Horn Performance at Austin Peay State University. In his time at Austin Peay, Jordan served as principal horn in the APSU Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra. As a Graduate Teaching Assistant Jordan worked with the Governors Own Marching Band and APSU Pep Band, guest conducted the APSU Concert Band, and mentored the APSU Horn Choir. Jordan's research interests are varied, and his work has been supported by the Virginia Federation of Independent Colleges, the Appalachian College Association, and the Emory & Henry College Project Ampersand initiative. His research on the history of

multiphonics and the horn was presented at the 2021 Northeast Horn Workshop and will be presented at the 2021 International Horn Symposium. Jordan is also a previous winner of the International Horn Society's Barry Tuckwell Scholarship. In addition to his horn performance studies, Jordan holds a B.S. in Biology and a B.A. in Spanish Language and Literature from Emory & Henry College.

Noah Fotis (2nd year) is a freelance hornist from Virginia operating in New York. Now approaching the beginning of a DMA with David Jolley at SUNY Stony Brook, he received his MM from The Hartt School in 2020 under Barbara Hill after graduating cum laude from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2018 with a BM under Patrick G. Smith. His passion for performing is equally divided among the innumerable avenues – orchestral, chamber, theatre, solo, etc. When he is not on (or below) stage, he enjoys reading with his cat, Penelope, fishing, and waking up in the late afternoon (when obligations permit!).

Andre Richter (1st year) is from eastern North Carolina, raised in a family of musicians. Andre enjoyed playing with the East Carolina University orchestra and wind ensemble throughout high school and is now an Undergraduate horn student of the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, awarded the David and Barbara Jacobs Scholarship. Andre has previously attended the National Youth Orchestra of the USA, Boston University Tanglewood institute young artists orchestra, and the Brevard Music Center; he has played with such groups as the North Carolina Symphony, and many other regional orchestras in NC. Andre's other interests include herpetology, cooking, the outdoors and natural mysteries.

Stefan Williams (2nd year) is a graduate student at Rutgers University pursuing an Artist Diploma after completing a Master of Music. He is also a graduate of the University of Georgia, where he completed a Bachelor of Arts in Music with honors. Upon moving to the northeast, he has begun freelancing in the region playing with several local and regional orchestras. In previous summers, he has attended the Brevard Music Center.

Jessica Young (1st year) is a born-and-raised Texan who graduated summa cum laude from the University of North Texas with degrees in both performance and theory. Upon graduation, Jessica held a position with the Sarajevo Philharmonic. She then spent two years with a large private studio in Dallas, Texas before she moved across the country to pursue a Masters at Boston University. She is still at Boston University working towards her Doctorate in Horn. She has spent summers as a participant in the American Wind Symphony, Blossom Music Festival, and a member of the resident wind quintet at the Taneycomo Festival. She currently plays outside of school with the Boston Civic Orchestra. An avid reader, she is always looking for more book suggestions.

TRUMPET

Riley Conley (1st year) recently finished his Master of Music degree at The Colburn School, where he studied with James Wilt. Previously, he received a Bachelor of Music degree, cum laude, from the Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Music where he studied with Jack Sutte. His additional trumpet studies include lessons with Raymond Mase and Kevin Cobb at the Aspen Music Festival, as well as studying privately with Micah

Wilkinson, Lyle Steelman, John Brndiar, and Robert Dolwick. Riley has been fortunate to perform under many esteemed conductors such as Esa-Pekka Salonen, Valery Gergiev, Rossen Milanov, Rafael Payare, Robert Spano, and Patrick Summers. He has performed with the Firelands Symphony Orchestra, the American Youth Symphony, and with members of The Cleveland Orchestra in a sacred music series. During the summer of 2019, Riley was named section trumpet with the Lake Tahoe Music Festival Orchestra and attended the Chosen Vale International Trumpet Seminar. He attended the Aspen Music Festival & School in 2017 and most recently as an orchestral trumpet fellow in 2018 where he performed with numerous ensembles. Riley also received Honorable Mention in the "ages 19-25" category for the 2018 Ictus International Trumpet Competition.

James McAloon, Jr. (3rd year) is currently a master's student at the Shepherd School of Music studying with Barbara Butler and Charlie Geyer. He is from Williamstown, New Jersey, where he was raised by a very musical family and started playing at a young age. James has been recognized by the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra and the Union League of Philadelphia for outstanding leadership and citizenship, as well as being a 2018 recipient of the Mark Lord Trumpet Award at the Hartt School of Music. James was also a member of the 20/20 Chamber Ensemble at Hartt, the highest and most prestigious ensemble at the school while being one of the youngest in the group. He has been accepted into other festivals such as the Lucerne Festival Academy, and the Chosen Vale International Trumpet Seminar among others. He has also participated in master classes with John Wallace, Jeroen Berwaerts, Clément Saunier, Marco Blaauw and many more. Some of his previous teachers include Phil Snedecor, Kevin Cobb and Darin Kelly.

Nicholas Slaggert (2nd year) currently holds a position in the trumpet section of the Helena Symphony Orchestra in Helena Montana, and works as the Orchestra Librarian for the same ensemble. Originally from Evanston IL, he began his undergraduate studies at DePaul University with professors Bill Denton, Matt Lee, and Billy Gerlach, before finishing his degree at Montana State University in the studio of Dr. Sarah Stoneback. Nicholas has previously held principal positions in the DePaul Symphony Orchestra and Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra, and has performed in masterclasses with Mark Inouye, Adam Luffman, Matthew Ernst, and others. In addition to performing, Nicholas enjoyed teaching, both through cultivating an active trumpet studio and by working as a volunteer ski instructor.

Justin Way (2nd year) is currently a Masters student at the University of Delaware under Professor Mark Clodfelter where he holds a Brass Quintet Assistantship. Justin also holds a Bachelors in Music Performance from Florida State University where he studied under Dr. Christopher Moore. Originally from Dauphin Island, Alabama, Justin was an active performer during his time at FSU including time as the principal trumpet in the University Wind Orchestra, University Philharmonia Orchestra, University Symphonic Band, his brass quintet Shades of Brass, and the University Chamber Winds as well as time performing with the FSU Symphony Orchestra. Justin is very passionate about contemporary trumpet repertoire and was the trumpet player for both new music ensembles at FSU. Justin has also performed with the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra and the Columbus (Georgia) Symphony Orchestra as well as other numerous regional ensembles. Justin is also an avid SCUBA diver and has logged dives across the southeast and Central America.

TROMBONE

Michael Martinez (2nd year) is currently attending the Eastman School of Music as a candidate for the DMA degree in Trombone Performance & Literature. An avid performer, Michael was named the winner of the 2018 American Trombone Workshop Division III Tenor Trombone Solo Competition. Additionally, he has performed at conferences and festivals including the Western Jamaica International Music Festival, International Trombone Festival, Texas Music Educators Association Conference, and Big XII Trombone Conference. Michael has also attended music festivals including the Monteux School and Music Festival, the Aspen Music Festival and School, and the Klangspuren Schwaz Tyrolean Festival for New Music (Innsbruck, Austria) as a member of the International Ensemble Modern Academy. A native Texan, Michael received his BM in Music Education from Southwestern University (Georgetown, TX) and his MM in Trombone Performance from Texas State University (San Marcos, TX). His mentors include Mark Kellogg, Larry Zalkind, Dr. Martin McCain, Dr. Eileen Meyer, and Alex Martinez.

Miriam Snyder (1st year), trombonist, is a recent graduate of the Eastman School of Music, where she earned a bachelor's degree and performer's certificate in Trombone Performance. Throughout her career, Miriam has participated in several festivals, master classes, and honors ensembles. As a passionate solo and chamber musician, Miriam has competed in several competitions, with her most recent successes being placing third in the national level of the 2017 MTNA Senior Brass Competition and placing first in the 2021 American Trombone Workshop's National Quartet Competition as a member of the Outer Loop Trombone Quartet. In addition to performing, Miriam is enthusiastic about trombone pedagogy, which has led her to teach both privately and as a member of Through the Staff. Thus far, Dr. David Hamilton And Larry Zalkind. Beginning this fall, Miriam will begin attending the San Francisco Conservatory of Music to pursue her master's degree.

BASS TROMBONE

Clayton Yoshifuku (1st year) recently finished a double Master's in Trombone Performance and Arts Administration under the tutelage of Dr. Lucas Rego Borges. He acquired his undergraduate degree from Texas Woman's University in Music Performance. Mr. Yoshifuku is an active performer who has played in a variety of musical settings, including solo recitals, large ensembles, and chamber groups. During his time at Ohio University, he was principal bass trombonist for both the Ohio University Symphony Orchestra and Ohio University Wind Symphony throughout his degrees. Mr. Yoshifuku has performed in various master classes for several world-renowned trombonists such as Shachar Israel, Megumi Kanda, José Viera, Peter Ellefson, and Jessica Buzbee. Mr. Yoshifuku has seen success in competitions. During his time at Texas Woman's University, he won a spot in the TWU Honors Recital two years in a row, becoming the first brass player to secure a spot in recent years. Mr. Yoshifuku has accepted a Teaching Fellowship to pursue a DMA in Trombone Performance at the University of North Texas.

TUBA

Tyler Woodbury (2nd year) is currently headed into his second year at the Manhattan School of Music, where he is pursuing a master's degree in Orchestral Tuba Performance. While studying with Kyle Turner and Chris Hall (Metropolitan Opera Orchestra), he has performed with numerous ensembles at MSM, such as several brass quintets, brass choirs, orchestras, and a low brass quartet. Prior to the move to New York City, Tyler attended the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where he studied with Dr. John Bottomley, along with bass trombone lessons with Greg Spiridopoulos. Recently, Tyler has had the honor of competing in the semi-finals of the prestigious Leonard Falcone Tuba-Euphonium Conference Solo Competition in both the summers of 2019 and 2020. Additionally, he was chosen as a semifinalist for the Solo Tuba Artist and Mock Orchestral Audition categories at NERTEC 2020 and attended the Monteux School & Music Festival in the summer of 2019.

PERCUSSION

Jesus Leonardo Flores (1st year) is a Pasadena, CA based composer, percussionist, maraquero, and educator that is committed to influencing and expanding the repertoire of contemporary music through commissions and premiere compositions. Jesus has performed with the University of California, Davis Symphony, UC Davis Percussion Ensemble, Pasadena City College Community Orchestra, and PCC Percussion Ensemble. As a graduate of the University of California, Davis School of Music and Pasadena City College Music Department, Jesus has had the privilege of studying under Christopher Froh, Kurt Rohde, Juhi Bansal, Kenneth McGrath, and Nick Stoup, respectively. Jesus will begin his masters degree this fall at the University of California, Los Angeles under the direction of Gregory Goodall and Theresa Dimond.

Neil Rao *see Conductor Biographies.*

Sebastião Sheldrick (1st year) is a Portuguese-American from Faro, Portugal, and is currently pursuing his bachelor's degree in percussion at the Cleveland Institute of Music, studying with Marc Damoulakis and Paul Yancich. Sebastião began his percussion studies in 2013 at the Sociedade Filarmónica Artistas de Minerva and soon joined its community band. In Portugal, Sebastião attended the Wind Ensemble Festival BSP Júnio, in 2017; orchestral programs Estágios da Orquestra Sinfónica "Ensemble" from 2017-2019; and the Estágio da Orquestra do Festival in 2019. In the United States, Sebastião attended Camp Encore-Coda (Sweden, Maine) from 2013 until 2018, where he played in the Symphonic Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Big Band, Small Jazz combos, Choir, Musical Theater and studied percussion with Kevin Norton. He also attended the Boston University Tanglewood Institute: Young Artists Wind Ensemble in the summer of 2019 and the Manhattan School of Music Virtual Percussion Summit in the summer of 2020.

HARP

Zane Mallett (2nd year) - Applauded by judges for his “elegantly nuanced playing”, Texas native Zane Mallett is currently pursuing his graduate studies in harp performance at the Shepherd School of Music with a full-tuition scholarship. He studies with Paula Page, former principal harpist of the Houston Symphony.

A finalist of the SMU Meadows Concerto Competition in Dallas, Zane has been a featured performer at the Round Top Music Festival, Pierre Montoux School, and Eastern Music Festival. In the summer of 2018, he was named a Bernard Osher Instrumental Scholar. He has also performed in masterclasses for harpists such as Judy Loman, Emily Levin, and Sasha Boldachev. In addition to harp, Zane spent much of his life studying violin under Dallas violinist/violist Jane Aten and composer Mary Alice Rich. He has performed with the Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra around North Texas from 2010-2015. In 2015, he toured with the GDYO across China’s major cities.

Mia Venezia (1st year) is a harpist based in the Philadelphia area. She began studying music when she was five and is currently pursuing master’s in harp performance from Yale University. Previously, she studied at Northwestern University with the Minnesota Orchestra principal harpist Lynn Williams and Carnegie Mellon University with Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra principal harpist Gretchen Van Hoesen. She has performed with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of Pittsburgh, Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra and Lansdale Symphony Orchestra. In recent years, she has participated in the National Orchestral Institute and Festival, Round Top Festival Institute, Brevard Music Center Summer Institute & Festival, and Bowdoin International Music Festival. Most recently, Ms. Venezia was chosen in the Pittsburgh Concert Society’s Major Auditions in 2019. In 2018, she was a recipient of the Tuesday Musical Club Scholarship and CMU Archer Award. Other acknowledgements include being a finalist for the Grandjany Memorial Competition, Anne Adams Awards, and ASTA Strings Competition. Mia enjoys biking, yoga, and spending time with her snail Gary in Philadelphia.

PIANO

William Cabison *see Conductor Biographies.*

Samuel Chen *see Conductor Biographies.*

Yohan Kwon *see Conductor Biographies.*

Ryan Zhang *see Conductor Biographies.*

VIOLIN

Asher Blackburn (1st year) is a Kentucky native currently pursuing his Bachelor's Degree with Olga Dubossarskaya Kaler at the Cleveland Institute of Music. While in Kentucky, he was a finalist for the The William Tolbert Whittenberg Scholarship, won the Macauley Chamber Competition and the 90.5 Classical Louisville Chamber Competition. He also taught and freelanced as a chamber and orchestral player locally. Asher spent his summers attending Boston University Tanglewood Institute in both the Orchestral Institute and String Quartet Workshop.

Samuel Chen see *Conducting Biographies*.

Ava Figliuzzi (1st year), violinist, is a Northern Minnesota native and has most recently been based on the East Coast where she completed her undergraduate work with Bayla Keyes at Boston University. During her time in Boston, she frequently freelanced with ensembles such as Philharmonia Boston, Boston Chamber Symphony, and as part of her own quartet which collaborated with Minneapolis based hip-hop artist Dessa on her 2019 "Sound the Bells" tour. Ava has spent past summers performing at Round Top Festival Institute, Garth Newel Music Center, and her hometown's own Lakes Area Music Festival. She spent several years helping develop and eventually coordinating Lakes Area Music Festival's community engagement program which strives to make high-level, live classical music socioeconomically accessible to rural and low-income audiences. This fall, Ava will relocate to Boca Raton, Florida to begin her master's degree at Lynn University in the studio of Carol Cole.

Judith Kim (2nd year) is a violinist hailing from Seattle, WA. She is excited to return to Downeast Maine. Kim received her Bachelor of Music from the University of Washington studying with Ronald Patterson and is currently working towards her Master of Music at the Cleveland Institute of Music with Philip Setzer and Amy Lee. In her spare time, she enjoys baking, hiking, and consuming lobster rolls.

Jonathan Kuehn (4th year) was born and raised in the Puget Sound region. He performs regularly with numerous ensembles in the Seattle area. Beyond performing, Jonathan teaches violin to students aged 10-17 on the eastside and throughout Puget Sound. From 2014-2017 he supported the University of Washington music department as the first student orchestral assistant. Additionally, he was a founding member of the UW Baroque Ensemble as Principal Second Violin. During the summers of 2017-21 he attended the Pierre Monteux School in Hancock Maine. He has played in master classes by Nathan Cole, Ming-Feng Hsin, and Gabriel Lefkowitz. Currently he studies with former Seattle Symphony Concertmaster, Maria Larionoff. In August 2021, Jonathan will be pursuing a graduate degree in Violin Performance at Arizona State University with Professor Jonathan Swartz. Beyond music, he holds a B.S. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Washington and enjoys flying recreationally.

Yohan Kwon see *Conducting Biographies*.

Tiffany Lu see *Conducting Associate*.

Joseph Morag see *Conductor Biographies*.

Edith Samuelsson (1st year) is a violinist and composer from the Boston area, with ties to the New England Conservatory Prep and the Rivers School of Music. She is

currently pursuing a B.M. in composition at Wheaton College, Illinois, studying violin in the studio of Dr. Lee Joiner. Besides expanding her skills in composition and orchestration, Edith enjoys performing both classical and modern chamber music. She currently plays with the Iris Quartet at Wheaton College.

Notable festival attendances have been Kinhaven Young Artist Seminar, Elm City Chamber Festival, Lancaster Piano Festival, and American Music Abroad. This year, she was awarded the Alfred Greene Student Prize for outstanding work in string performance; in addition, 2021 marked the premier of her waltz for solo piano, "Reminisce."

Kin (Desmond) Siu *see Conductor Biographies.*

Uli Speth *see Conductor Biographies.*

Rylan Virnig (1st year) is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Orchestral Conducting under the direction of David Alexander Rahbee. A passionate educator, Rylan began his formal conducting studies with Robert Spittal and Timothy Westerhaus at Gonzaga University, where he received degrees in Violin Performance and Economics. In addition to winning the University's Concerto Competition during his third year, Rylan was awarded the Undergraduate Music Award as well as the Jo Merwin Music Award for outstanding musical accomplishments and contributions. Rylan served as concertmaster of the Gonzaga Symphony Orchestra, which hosted internationally recognized soloists such as Midori Goto and Lynn Harrell. Rylan was appointed violin instructor at the Classical Christian Academy in Rathdrum, ID, where he continues to teach virtually. Originally from Portland, OR, Rylan was a substitute first violinist for the Portland Columbia Symphony Orchestra and an active instructor of music at various institutions, such as the Community Music Center and the Chamber Music Camp of Portland.

Sunny Xuecong Xia *see Conductor Biographies.*

Ryan Zhang *see Conductor Biographies.*

VIOLA

Jackson Bailey (1st year) is a violist from Tucson, Arizona. He is currently a senior at the University of Northern Arizona, studying an undergraduate degree in viola performance. Serving as principal violist at NAU, Jackson also juggles his time playing in the Flagstaff Symphony Orchestra and Orchestra Northern Arizona. He has hopes of pursuing a graduate degree in viola/violin pedagogy. Jackson's mentors include Andrea Jameson, Dennis Bourret and Jacquelyn Schwandt. He has received instruction from prominent figures like Tien-Hsin Cindy Wu, Schmucl Ashkenasi, Masumi per Rostad, Katharine Kang, amongst many others.

Founder of JB Desert Studio and past faculty member of Allegro School of Music, Jackson has a passion for teaching, having served as sectional coach and mentor at local public middle and high schools, along with extensive training as a sectional coach for youth orchestra programs. Jackson's hobbies include board games, fishing and

traveling. He also prides himself as a connoisseur of TV, as he's constantly expanding his knowledge through Netflix, Hulu and Prime Video.

Morgan Ballard-Wheeler (1st year) hails from Tucson, Arizona, and is midway through his master's at the Hartt School studying with Rita Porfiris. When not playing viola he is singing a Mozart aria or Schubert lied. Morgan has also played at Eastern Music Festival and worked as an intern for the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and New York Youth Symphony. Morgan studied philosophy and the history of science at St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland. His other interests include photography and memorizing Shakespeare.

Emmanuelle Lambert-Lemoine *see Conductor Biographies.*

Emma Strub *see Conductor Biographies.*

Wayland Whitney *see Conductor Biographies.*

CELLO

Ryan Farris *see Conductor Biographies.*

Nicholas Finch *see Conductor Biographies.*

Isabella Kodama (2nd year) is a cellist currently freelancing and teaching privately in Seattle, Washington. In 2019, she graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Music in cello performance; there, she studied with international performer and teaching artist, Sæunn Thorsteinsdottir. Isabella played in the UW Symphony Orchestra and Baroque Ensemble during her undergraduate studies. In her junior year, her piano trio was named one of the Scholarship Chamber ensembles. Isabella continues to pursue her interest in Early Music and Historical Performance. She has studied Baroque cello with Joanna Blendulf and Phoebe Carrai. This is her second year at the Monteux festival, and she has also participated twice in the Decoda Summer Chamber Music Institute. In her spare time, Isabella enjoys long walks, baking, and spending time with her sweet animals.

Yael Meza Xolalpa (1st year), cellist, graduated from the Higher School of Music of the National Institute of Fine Arts in Mexico City, under the chair of maestro Vladimir Sagaydo. He has taken master classes with Oleg Sendetski, Alban Gerhart, Asier Polo, Lev Klichkov, Deniss Parker and Leonard Elchenbrois. Sound, bow control, and expression are part of his greatest ambitions on the instrument, which is why the repertoire Yael performs includes solo works and chamber music by Bach, Brahms, Haydn, Beethoven, Robert Schumann, Strauss, Cesar Frank, Schubert, and contemporary music. Yael has played in the most important museums and concert halls of Mexico City such as the Main Hall of the Palacio de Bellas Artes, the Nezahualcoyotl Hall in the UNAM University City, the National Government Palace, and the National Museum of Art and Literature. He will also perform at the headquarters of the United Nations National Organization in New York as cellist with the Eduardo Mata University Youth Orchestra, where he currently works.

Vladimir Sagaydo *see Conductor Biographies.*

CONTRABASS

Sharon Montes (1st year) is a recent graduate from the University of Texas at Arlington under Dr. Jack Unzicker's studio with a Bachelor's in Music Performance. While at UT Arlington, Sharon has participated in several masterclasses with Brandon McLean, Dennis Roy, Max Zeugner, and more. While she has enjoyed her time here, she will be continuing her studies in Houston with Shawn Conley for a masters. Sharon enjoys trying new vegan restaurants and collecting succulents.

Daniel Ryan (1st year) is a double bassist turned electric bassist turned double bassist. After early music education learning the bass, voice, and trumpet, he became active in DIY Emo scenes in Birmingham, Chicago, and Asheville as an bassist, synth player, songwriter and sound designer. Daniel rediscovered the double bass from participating in old-time jams with fellow members of the punk scene. Reuniting with the bass, he saw that performing with an orchestra is something worth holding onto. Daniel also enjoys playing new music and working with composers as well as experimenting with transcriptions and creating with electronic instruments. He finds the interdisciplinary explorations of timbre are equally as thrilling as explorations of technique. Daniel holds Bachelor's Degrees in Global Studies and Bass Performance from Warren Wilson College and UNC Greensboro and is beginning a Master's in Bass Performance at Carnegie Mellon University in the fall.

Levee Stadel (1st year) was born and raised in Slinger, Wisconsin. He holds a Bachelor's degree in music composition from the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, and a Masters in Double Bass Performance from Carnegie Mellon University. While at UWEC, he studied composition with Chia-yu Hsu and bass with Josh Schwalbach. Levee continues to study the bass with an emphasis on orchestral performance with Micah Howard at Carnegie Mellon University. He has participated in double bass masterclasses with Michael Klinghoffer, Lauren Pierce, and twice with Scott Pingel, in addition to having original composition reading sessions with yMusic and Eighth Blackbird.