



MAY 17, 2025

PROGRAM BOOK

PROGRAM BOOK GENEROUSLY DONATED BY.

KALBLUEGROUP

A MESSAGE

It is with immense joy and gratitude that we, the children of Julius and Esther Stulberg and their spouses, welcome you to the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Stulberg International String Competition.

This 50th year celebration is a testament to both our father's belief in giving young musicians the gift of music making and the love of music appreciation and our mother's passionate and unwavering determination to make this competition a true "living memory" that would recognize and commemorate his life's work.

Over the past five decades we have witnessed the "Stulberg" grow and blassom from an idea in our mother's living room to the premier international competition for string musicians. This milestone anniversary allows us to reflect on the rich history of this competition and how it has evolved. A multitude of people contributed to making fifty years of music happen: our current and former board members, the executive staff, countless volunteers, the Kalamazao community, and our father's siblings Morris, Sam and Esther Pollick. The "Stulberg's" reputation for excellence could not have happened without support of our prestigious judges, collaborative pianists and of course the abundance of talented young musicians who are willing to gift us with their music.

Today we will witness, as we have for the last fifty years, the brilliance of the twelve semifinalists who represent the best of the next generation of classical string musicians. Their extraordinary talents are what has given the "Stulberg" a heritage of preeminence.

As we share together this remarkable milestone celebration, we invite you to delight in these accomplished musicians as they compete to be one of the esteemed prize winners.

Thank you for being a part of the 50th Anniversary Competition celebration.

Jann and David Stulberg
 Midge and Josh Stulberg
 Carolyn and Bernie Stulberg
 Mira (Stulberg) and Mark Halpert



Music speaks, - Unknown



It is a privilege to honor my late parents by sponsoring the Violin Master Class for this year's Stulberg Competition.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

President's Welcome	6
Board of Directors and Staff	8
Board Emeriti	10
History	11
50th Anniversary String Competition	12
2025 Competition Statistics	14
Awards and Prizes	16
Julius and Esther Stulberg Memorial Prize	17
Commissioned Concert	18
Presenting Organizations	20
Past Medalists	24
Past Judges	26
2025 Competition Judges	28
2025 Semifinalists	32
Collaborative Pianists	44
Master Classes	46
Semifinals Program	48
Our Supporters	50
Special Thanks	58
Stulberg 2026 Season Sneak Preview	60
Index of Advertisers	64

Ray Financial Group congratulates the **Stulberg International String Competition** on its 50th Anniversary



STIFEL | Ray Financial Group

Kent Ray

Senior Vice President/Investments

Jeff T. Siefert, CFP®

First Vice President/Investments

Rena Fields

Registered Client Service Associate

Greg Seiler, CFP®

First Vice President/Investments

Tammy Warnicke

Registered Client Service Associate

(269) 384-1122 | (888) 481-0002 www.rayfinancialgroupofstifel.com

> 950 Trade Centre Way, Suite 305 Portage, Michigan 49002

WELCOME TO THE COMPETITION

On behalf of the Stulberg Board of Directors and the Stulberg family we are delighted you have joined us to celebrate our 50th Anniversary - a significant milestone in the life of the Stulberg.

Our 50th Anniversary provides us with an opportunity to honor the founders as well as those who have contributed to the organization's long-term success. We are most grateful for the wisdom and creativity of family and friends who met in 1975 and established the Stulberg International String Competition as a way to honor Julius Stulberg-a highly respected educator and director of the WMU Orchestra and the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony for 28 and 31 years respectively. We're also tremendously grateful for and celebrate the steadfast support of the Stulberg family, sponsors, funding partners, patrons and the hundreds of donors and volunteers throughout our community without whom the Stulberg would not have grown from a regional event to an internationally recognized competition that this year attracted applications from 236 extraordinarily talented string musicians under the age of 20 from around the world.

Our 50th Anniversary is also a perfect time to look forward to the next fifty years and envision the myriad ways we can expand the impact of the Stulberg experience for our young musicians and our community — a community that recognizes and celebrates the importance of music and the arts.

To that end we are partnering with Fontana Chamber Arts in June to welcome 2022 Stulberg Judge cellist Amit Peled to Kalamazoo for a community master class. Praised by The Strad magazine and The New York Times, he's acclaimed as one of the most exciting and virtuosic instrumentalists on the concert stage today. Then in 2026 The Stulberg will partner with Fontana once again when we host prize winning cellist Anthony Ross, a former Kalamazoo resident, 1979 Stulberg Gold Medalist, and currently principal cellist of the Minnesota Orchestra.

Our partnership with the KSO during the 2025-2026 season will assemble performers for our first ever "all-Stulberg Concert" during



which we will be treated to the virtuosity of the Stulberg's 2025 Gold Medalist, the winner of the Julius and Esther Stulberg Memorial Prize, and a well-known Stulberg alum yet to be identified.

And for the young children in our community, we are looking forward to collaborating with the KSO and its Musical Storybook program featuring world-renowned violinist Joshua Bell's book "Dance of the Violin." The book is inspired by his experience as a twelve-year-old when he was selected as one of twelve semifinalists for the Stulberg Competition. His performance started as a disaster but ended as the best day ever. "Dance of the Violin" is a fictionalized account of how Joshua Bell got his start in music and how he lost and found his confidence.

Needless to say, we are excited about all of these "firsts". Yet we know that "what can be done" to strengthen the Stulberg experience in our community and for our competitors is limited only by our imagination. Consequently, we encourage you to stay tuned. We can promise you there's more to come as we begin our journey through the next fifty years.

It's been said that "Music has a poetry of its own, and that poetry is called melody." Now sit back, relax, and be prepared to enjoy some of the most beautiful melodies you'll ever hear played by extraordinarily gifted young string artists.

Ann Fergemann Board President

ann Fergemenn

Kalamazoo Community Foundation

Creating a thriving community where people, resources and expertise are mobilized to advance racial, social and economic justice in Kalamazoo County.



Give Today

To learn more about how your gift can help others, please contact our Philanthropic Services & Development team at psd@kalfound.org or 269.381.4416.



STULBERG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President-Elect President Secretary Treasurer Ann Fergemann Ianet Gover Pamela Walker Kurt Voissem

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alisa Carrel Derl Oberlin Sorina Dodu Camille Riley Kory Heitzig Lisa Rodriguez David Johnson Jane Rooks Ross Helavne Smith Thomas G. King Mira Stulberg-Halpert Josh Koets Keith Kothman Sophie Tang

Sophié van der Westhuizen Sarah Lee Sherie Veramay Audrey Lipsey

Naomi Siegel Morse

STAFF

Executive Director

Megan Yankee

Executive Assistant

Eric Szanto

Grants Manager

Johnny Pherigo

Operations Coordinator

Claire Acheson

PAST DIRECTORS

Scott Estev Sonya Bernard-Hollins Iames Falahee, Jr. Jeffrey Block* Deb Faling Josie Boucher Igor Fedotov Marilyn Brill* Art Feinberg Barbara Brose Grace Field Ben Brot* Kenneth Fisher Robert Brown, Jr. Iovce Flavin* Herbert Butler* Martin Flavin* Ellen Cha Zoe Forsleff* Joyce Chaplin Allyson Gall Daniel Christian* Edward Gasaway* Charles Cowap Alice Gernant* Anders Dahlberg C.I. (Gus) Gianakaris* Celia Davidoff* Nan Harrison* Robert Davis Robert Hegel* Harold Decker Iane Hill Linda Depta Bruce Hood David Doan Sandy Hunt* Carl Doubleday David Johnson Helen Jo Emerson* Ian Iones Pam Enslen Kathleen Iones Gordon Eriksen*

Jayne Jones*

Norman Jung Gail Kasdorf* Thomas Kasdorf* Renata Artman Knific Annie Leong Kristine Lepley Roger Lepley Joy Light Linda Mah Erin Mapes Phil Mason Colleen McBride Mary McCormick Monica Nahm* Theresa Coty O'Neil Delores Philp* Phyllis Rappeport* Robert Ritsema* Thomas Rowe Karen Santamaria Greg Seiler Chris Shook Katherine Shook

Harvey Spivak Elizabeth Start Alan Stulberg Carolyn Stulberg Daniel Stulberg David Stulberg Esther Stulberg* Joseph Stulberg Midge Stulberg Morris Stulberg* Anna Swank-Bothwell Andrew Tang James Thorne* Scott Tribby

Elizabeth Upjohn Mason Terry Vantine

Donna VanWestrienen* William Venema Mary von Schreiner*

Sakhi Vyas Charles Wattles

*Deceased

The mission of the Stulberg International String Competition is to promote excellence in string instrument performance by gifted artists under the age of twenty.

M. Dolores Estes





IndependentFineWine& SpiritsMerchantSince1982 Wine+Spirits+ Fromage+SpecialtyFood



1714 W MAIN ST. KALAMAZOO MI 49006

BOARD EMERITI

The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of a commitment to make a difference in the lives of others" - DeAnn Hollis

In celebration of the Stulberg's 50th Anniversary, the Board of Directors is honoring volunteers who not only served with distinction on the Board during the first fifty years of the Stulberg but also have gone above and beyond as they continued to give generously of their time, talents and/or financial resources when they were no longer board members. It's due in large part to their dedication that the Stulberg has grown from a regional competition to an internationally recognized competition.

Therefore, in honor of their steadfast support, we recognize the following men and women as Board Emeriti:



HISTORY





JULIUS & ESTHER STULBERG

In 1920, Julius Stulberg was brought to Montreal when his parents emigrated from Kieselien, Poland. The family eventually settled in Marshall, Michigan. Julius received degrees from and taught at Michigan State University, where he also met his future wife, Esther Leiberman. The Stulberg bond with Kalamazoo was forged in 1941 when he accepted the post of conductor of the newly established Junior Symphony.

In 1945, the Stulberg family moved to Kalamazoo when Julius joined the faculty of Western Michigan University. Throughout his life, his wife Esther was his support and helpmate. Following Julius' death at the age of 61 in 1974, she was the driving force behind the establishment of the Competition, which memorializes his life's passions. After Esther's death in 2001, a dedicated Board of Directors, a corps of volunteers and the Stulberg family assumed the mantle of responsibility for the competition.

Today, the Stulberg is one of the longeststanding string competitions in the country and is unique among music competitions due to its focus on young string musicians, its strong reputation, and high caliber of judges. Over the years, more than 2,500 musicians have participated in the Stulberg, and more than one hundred have been awarded a medal. Many have gone on to illustrious careers in the fields of music performance and education. Throughout its history, the Stulberg has attracted worldrenowned musicians to Kalamazoo to serve as Competition judges and Master Class instructors. Through its Master Classes and Education Outreach, the Stulberg extends its impact by providing free learning opportunities for local musicians and audiences.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STULBERG INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

The 2025 Stulberg International String Competition marks the 50th competition since the organization's inception in 1975. To honor and celebrate this landmark, numerous special events were held throughout the 2024-2025 season. These events include(d):

- A solo recital featuring past Stulberg medalist and 2025 Stulberg Judge Rachel Barton Pine and pianist Matthew Hagle.
- A celebratory 50th Anniversary Gala featuring entertainment and a sneak preview of a newly commissioned concerto (more details below) by 2025 Stulberg Judge Lucas Richman and violinist Mitchell Newman.
- A commemorative video highlighting the significance of fifty years of the Stulberg's impact—with interviews from past Stulberg medalists, participants, and significant community members.
- "A Step to Greatness" a commemorative booklet written by Stulberg board member Jane Rooks Ross highlighting the past fifty years of Stulberg's history and its lasting impact on musicians internationally.
- "Concerto for [violin/viola/cello/bass]: Legacy" a new composition by Lucas Richman commissioned by the Stulberg to honor the legacy of Julius and Esther Stulberg. The premiere of the concerto will be awarded to one semifinalist who will perform the work with the Kalamazoo Symphony in March of 2026.
 - Learn more about the commissioned concerto prize on pg. 18
- Musical storybook performances of "The Dance of the Violin" performed by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra's Burdick-Thorne String Quartet, with music composed by Eric Szanto, that will take place during their 2025-2026 concert season.

Our gratitude goes out to the supporters and members of our community who have sustained the mission of the Stulberg throughout the past fifty years and have played an instrumental role in enabling the Stulberg to host these wonderful events. Thank you!



Great ideas need great materials.



- Fabrication · Materials Trading
 - Distribution · Recycling

schupan.com



2025 APPLICANT STATISTICS

INSTRUMENTS

110 VIOLIN | 21 VIOLA103 CELLO | 2 DOUBLE BASS

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Australia, Canada, China, Germany, Italy, New Zealand, Poland, Singapore, South Korea, United States

SCHOOLS REPRESENTED

Academy of the Holy Angels, Academy of the Music Institute of Chicago, Affiliated Middle School of Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Affiliated Secondary School of NUA, Amador Valley High School, Archbishop Mitty High School, Archmere Academy, Argyll Centre, Auckland Grammar School, Basis Chandler, Bellevue Digital Discovery, Bergen County Academies, Bergen Technical Teterboro High School, Blue Valley Southwest High School, Bridgewater-Raritan Regional High School, Buffalo Grove High School, California Pacific Charter School, Orange County School of the Arts, California School of the Arts, Castro Valley High School, Caulfield Grammar School, Central Conservatory of Music Middle School, Central Heights High School, Cleveland Institute of Music, Colburn Music Academy, Collingwood School, Columbia University, Conestoga High School, Contrel Conservatory of Music Middle School, Coral Reef Senior High School, Cosumnes Oaks High School, Crimson Global Academy, Curtis Institute of Music, Davidson Academy Online, Deal Middle School/Peabody Preparatory, Depaul University School of Music, District of Columbia International School, East Brunswick High School, East Lansing High School, Edgemont High School, Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler Berlin, Fremont Christian School, Gifted Music School, Glenn Gould School of the Royal Conservatory of Music, Granite Mountain Charter School, Great Valley High School, Greater Atlanta Christian School, Hackley School, Harvard University, Havergal College, Henry M. Gunn High School, Hoffman Estates High School, Home School, Horace Mann School, Interlake High School, Interlochen Arts Academy, International Virtual Learning Academy, Ithaca High School, J.R. Masterman School, Juilliard Pre-College, Juilliard School, Korea National Institute for the Gifted in Arts, Yewon School, Korea National University of Arts, Lakeridge Middle School, Lakeside School, Laurel Springs, Logos Online School, Los Angeles County High School for the Arts, Lycee Francais de Chicago, Magee Secondary School, Manhattan School of Music, Maranatha Christian Academy, Mary Violin Studio, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, McDuffie Center for Strings, Mckinnon Secondary College, Mclean High School, Melbourne Grammar School, Morris Country School of Technology, Academy for Biotechnology, Mount Royal University Conservatory, Mountain View High School, Music Institute of Chicago Academy, Music Middle School Affiliated to Shanghai, Music Middle School Affiliated to Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Musikakademie Liechtenstein, Nesbit School, New England Conservatory of Music, New England Conservatory Preparatory School, New Jersey Academy of Music, New Trier Township High School, Northern Valley Demarest, Northern Valley Regional High School at Old Tappan, Northwestern University, Northwood High School, Oaks Christian School, Oberlin Conservatory, Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Odle Middle School, Okemos High School, Orange County School of the Arts, Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University, Phillips Academy Andover, Piedmont High School, Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School, Plano West Senior High School, Ponte Vedra High School, Poolesville High School, Princeton University, Rangi Ruru Girls' School, Rice University, River Dell High School, Roosevelt High School, Royal Conservatory of Music, Rutgers Preparatory School, Rye Country Day School, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Precollege, San Marino High School, Santa Clarita Valley International, Santa Fe Preparatory School, Saratoga High School, School for Creative & Performing Arts, Secondary Music School Affiliated to the Central Conservatory of Music, Seoul Arts High School, Seoul National University, Shanghai Conservatory of Music, Skyline High School, Special Music School, Special Music School High School, St Cuthberts College, St. Paul's School. Staatliche Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst, Mannheim, Stanford University, Stillwater High School, Stuyvesant High School, The Branson School, The Middle School Affiliated to the Central Conservatory of Music, The Music Middle School Affiliated to Shanghai Conservatory of Music, The Pingry School, The Professional Children's School, The Yehudi Menuhin School Qingdao, Tianjin Juilliard School, Toronto French School, University High School, University of Chicago Laboratory Schools, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, University of Michigan, University of Toronto Schools, Utah State University, Vancouver Academy of Music, Walnut Hill School for the Arts, West Lake High School, Weston High School, Westview High School, Yale College/Yale School of Music, Yewon School



Passionate. Inspired. Driven.

Experience your best years yet in one of our undergraduate and graduate degree programs:

Composition (MM/BM)
Conducting (MM)
Education (BM)
Jazz Studies (MM/BM)
Multimedia Arts Technology (BS)
Music Research and Cultural Studies (BA-M)
Musical Arts (MA/BMA)
Performance (MM/BM/Cert)
Therapy (MM/BM/Cert)

AWARDS AND PRIZES

GOLD MEDAL PRIZE

The first-place contestant is awarded the Gold Medal with a cash prize of \$10,000 and a concerto performance with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra (Julian Kuerti, Music Director).

The Gold Medal is generously supported by:



SILVER MEDAL PRIZE

The second-place contestant is awarded the Silver Medal with a cash prize of \$7,000. The Silver Medalist award includes a return performance with the Western Michigan University Symphony Orchestra (Bruce Uchimura, Music Director). Julius Stulberg was Professor of Violin at WMU and Conductor of the University Symphony Orchestra from 1945 to 1974.

PINEHURST BRONZE MEDAL PRIZE

The third-place contestant is awarded the Pinehurst Bronze Medal with a cash prize of \$5,000. The Bronze Medalist is also awarded a performance with the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra (Andrew Koehler, Music Director). Founded in 1939, the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra is one of the oldest and finest youth symphony orchestras in the United States and has been accorded many national and international honors. It was directed by Julius Stulberg from 1941 through 1974.

The Bronze Medal is generously supported by the Pinehurst Fund.



AWARDS AND PRIZES

JULIUS AND ESTHER STULBERG MEMORIAL PRIZE

In honor of the 50th Anniversary, composer and 2025 Competition Judge Lucas Richman, was commissioned by the Stulberg to create a concerto that will be premiered by one semifinalist selected by the panel of judges. In addition, the selected contestant will receive a \$1,000 cash prize and mentorship with 2025 Stulberg Judge Rachel Barton Pine, over the course of 3-4 sessions conducted over Zoom.

The commissioned piece of approximately 25 minutes in length, titled "Concerto for [violin/viola/cello/bass]: Legacy" will be delivered to the selected contestant in August 2025. Following the delivery of the piece, the contestant will schedule four virtual mentorship sessions with Rachel Barton Pine. The mentorship sessions will focus on the following subjects:

Session 1: Score Study of the Commissioned Concerto

This session will consist of analysis of the piece, developing the performer's understanding of the piece, and creating a plan for preparing the piece.

Session 2: Preparing to Collaborate with a Composer

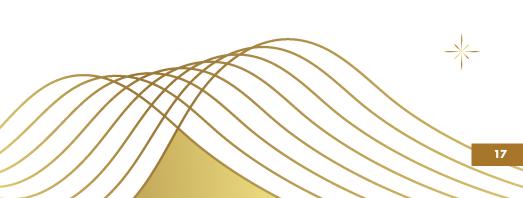
This session will touch on navigating the relationships between a soloist, composer, and various leaders in an orchestra, including conductors and administrators.

Session 3: Lesson on the Commissioned Work*

*For violin or viola soloist only

Session 4: Collaborative Session

Working session with Lucas Richman, Rachel Barton Pine, and the selected performer. The premiere performance will be held with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra in a concert during the 2025 - 2026 season.



COMMISSIONED CONCERTO

semifinalist will begin by performing a brand-International Annual Stulberg Competition.

THE COMMISSION

By incorporating the legacy and history of Julius and Esther Stulberg into a composition, not only can it be incorporated into this year's competition, but it will permanently exist as a fixed piece of art that is representative of Julius Stulberg's life's work—that of sharing music and his love of working with young musicians.

The Stulberg commissioned GRAMMY awardwinning composer Lucas Richman to bring this musical project to life. The process began with a meeting between Mr. Richman and the Stulberg family, who shared many anecdotes and important stories about Julius and Esther Stulberg, and the events leading to the THE PRIZE conception of the Stulberg Competition.

Compiling the stories and their associated remaining pieces. Those scores will be used emotions, Mr. Richman created a three- to determine the winner of a special award movement concerto for "solo string instrument" which can be granted to any of the twelve and orchestra entitled "Concerto for Violin semifinalists. [Viola/Cello/Double Bass] #2: Legacy".

THE MUSIC

Because of the nature of the commission, the piece was created to be adaptable for any competition. Specifically arranged for their Symphony to premiere the full concerto on instrument, the twelve semifinalists will each March 28th, 2026, at Miller Auditorium in perform the 2nd movement of the concerto, Kalamazoo, Michigan. titled "A Teachable Moment".

The title of this movement and the adjacent movements are derived from three specific "Stulberg-isms"—which refers to quotables that Julius Stulberg would often share with his students. The three movements are:

I. My Dear Children II. A Teachable Moment III. Meet You at the End

During today's semifinals performances, each Throughout these movements there are two main musical motifs. The first motif comes new concerto created specifically for the 50th from the word "Legacy" itself in that composer String Lucas Richman has assigned six pitches (DEGAC) that correspond to the six letters of the word. This motif appears as melodic material with several variations in both rhythm and pitch, as well as the harmonic framework supporting the additional musical material.

> The second motif is found as a musical declamation of a quote from the Greek philosopher Pericles: "What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others." The method in which Mr. Richman incorporates this quote is by taking the original Greek words of the quote and composing a miniature aria within the soloist's part. The harmony and bassline of the aria are provided by the pitches from the "Legacy" motif.

The Competition Judges will score the performances of this work separately from the

This award, titled the "Julius and Esther Prize", Stulberg Memorial provides recipient with a \$1,000 cash prize, a mentorship opportunity with Rachel Barton Pine, and a of the four string instruments featured at the performance opportunity with the Kalamazoo





Music instruction for all ages and abilities!

Private Instruction • Group Classes

Chamber Ensembles • Crescendo Fiddlers

Community Voices for teens and adults with intellectual disabilities

Community String Orchestra Music Together® classes for ages 0-5 Epic Broadway Musical Theater camp

Need-based financial aid available for all programs

Epic Center 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 12 www.crescendoacademy.com 269/345-6664



PRESENTING ORGANIZATIONS



KALAMAZOO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra (KSO) has been serving the Kalamazoo community through outstanding listening and learning experiences for over 100 years. With a vision to make symphonic music a part of everyday life throughout our community, the KSO has been reaching out to our community to define what that means and is diligently reforming the organization to meet those goals and realize our vision now. The Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra is the state's third-largest orchestra, with a total of 250 employees from Kalamazoo and surrounding areas. The KSO performs high-quality symphonic music, fosters audiences of tomorrow, and elevates the careers of local musicians.

Today, the KSO seeks to expand their reach and learn from the community so that they can be equitable and inclusive of all people. The KSO is committed to the promises made in its strategic plan and to its mission of serving this community through outstanding musical listening and learning experiences. Under the leadership of Jessica Mallow Gulley, Executive Director and Music Director, Julian Kuerti, what began as one woman's (Leta Snow's) dream 100 years ago has become, through the unwavering support of the Kalamazoo community, an integral part of the cultural and educational life of the region.

PRESENTING ORGANIZATIONS



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Under conductor Bruce Uchimura, the University Symphony performs orchestral masterworks, features internationally recognized and WMU faculty soloists, and collaborates with the WMU Grand Chorus and Department of Dance to present their season in Miller Auditorium and the Dalton Center Recital Hall. Orchestra members perform with WMU opera and musical theatre productions, and the orchestra has performed at high schools, colleges, and various performance venues throughout Michigan.

The University Symphony Orchestra is open by audition to all WMU students. It primarily comprises undergraduate and graduate music majors who take pride in the professional level of the ensemble's rehearsals and performances. Competitive auditions are held each semester, sectional rehearsals involve skilled coaches and teachers, and both individual practice and score study is expected outside of scheduled rehearsals.

The University Symphony Orchestra began in 1945 and has had eight conductors: Julius Stulberg (1945–68), Herbert Butler (1968–83), Anthony Elliott (1983–87), Richard Suddendorf (1987–90), Robert Whaley (1990–95), Eric Shumsky (1995–98), and Bruce Uchimura (1998–2019, 2022-present), and Andrew Koehler (2019–22).

PRESENTING ORGANIZATIONS



KALAMAZOO JUNIOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra (KJSO) is led by Andrew Koehler, who also serves as a professor of music at Kalamazoo College and is the music director of the acclaimed Kalamazoo Philharmonia. The KJSO holds three annual performances in historic Chenery Auditorium, tours internationally, and offers a dynamic chamber music training program coached by area professional musicians.

Preparation for those hoping to one day join the Junior Symphony is provided by the three Prep String Orchestras and the Prep Winds. A distinguished KJSO alumna and former student of Julius Stulberg, Audrey Lipsey, is the director of all three Prep Orchestras. The Prep Winds Ensemble is directed by respected performing and teaching artists Jesse Williams and Luke Conklin.

All KJSO programs are tuition free so that every student, regardless of means, can participate. KJSO's alumni go on to academic and career success at astonishing rates, and some can even be found in major American and international orchestras, devoting their lives to the power of sharing music.



SUPPHOESE STREET THE SUMMER SERIES SUPPHOESE STREET THE SUMMER SERIES SUMMER SUMMER SERIES SUMMER SUMMER SERIES SUMMER SU



Patriotic Pops FREE CONCERT!

THURS | JULY 3 | 7:30 p.m. | Bronson Park Rotary Stage The Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra returns to Bronson Park. Grab a lawn chair or picnic blanket and enjoy an evening of favorite tunes!

269.250.6984 | KalamazooSymphony.com



















VEA	n .	~ "	~!
TFA	K	L7L	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
		_	

2024 Mio Imai, violin 2023 Amelia Zitoun, cello 2022 Daniel Bae, violin 2021 Keila Wakao, violin 2020 Dongyoung Jake Shim, violin 2019 Daniel Rafimayeri, violin 2018 Charlotte Marckx, violin 2017 William McGregor, double bass 2016 Daniel Hass, cello 2015 Yaegy Park, violin 2014 Zlatomir Fung, cello 2013 Youjin Lee, violin 2012 Matthew Lipman, viola 2011 Austin Huntington, cello 2010 Richard Narroway, cello 2009 Nicholas Schwartz, double bass 2008 Matthew Allen, cello 2007 Benjamin Beilman, violin 2006 Susan Jang, violin 2005 Jinjoo Cho, violin 2004 Amaury Coeytaux, violin 2003 Tien-Hsin Wu, violin 2002 Emilie-Anne Gendron, violin 2001 Yuri Namkung, violin 2000 Deanna Talens, cello 1999 Austin Hartman, violin 1998 Nicholas Crosa, violin 1997 Madeline Adkins, violin Corinne Chapelle, violin 1996 1995 Catherine Basrak, viola 1994 Esther Noh, violin 1993 Merrie Arnold, violin 1992 Jennifer Koh, violin Kirsten Johnson, viola 1991 1990 Wendy Warner, cello 1989 Elizabeth (Lisa) Kim, violin 1988 Sang Mee Lee, violin 1987 Shervl Staples, violin 1986 Elisa Barston, violin 1985 Ivan Chan, violin 1984 Stephanie Arado, violin 1983 Sarah Plum, violin Eunice Lee, violin 1982 1981 Ioshua Bell, violin 1980 Hae-Young Ham, violin 1979 Anthony Ross, cello 1978 Benny Kim, violin Kari-Lise Ravnan, cello 1977

Lucia Lin, violin

SILVER

Ioshua Kováč, cello Esme Arias Kim, violin Jacques Forestier, violin Sean Yu, cello Yeyeong Jin, violin Nathan Le, cello La Li, cello Qing Yu Chen, violin Zevu Victor Li, violin Oliver Herbert, cello Emma Meinrenken, violin Ariel Horowitz, violin Brannon Cho, cello Mayumi Kanagawa, violin Benedicte Lauziere, violin Ran Cheng, violin Ji-Won Song, violin Christel Lee, violin Shannon Lee, violin Nikolaus Leopold, cello Anna Burden, cello Robin Scott, violin Kathrvn Eberle, violin Nicole Kim Hanson, cello Dylana Leung, violin Christine Kim, cello Caroline Campbell, violin Nicholas Crosa, violin Sharon Roffman, violin Soovin Kim, violin Ani Aznavoorian, cello Catherine Basrak, violin Wei-Pin Kuo, violin Mona Knock, violin Jennifer Hyun-Jou Koh, violin Lisa Kim, violin Karen Lee, violin Jennifer Clare Wion, violin Rachel Barton, violin David Perry, violin Lynne Richburg, viola Greg Sauer, cello Adela Pena, violin Eric Kim, cello Se Yon Sandy Kim, violin Hal Grossman, violin Susan Synnestvedt, violin Cheryl House, cello

Cheryl House, cello

BRONZE

Pearl de la Motte, viola Starla Breshears, cello Angeline Kiang, cello Bobby Boogyeom Park, violin Masha Lakisova, violin Sory Park, violin Maya Anjali Buchanan, violin Karisa Chiu, violin Austin Haley Berman, violin Hae Sue Lee, viola Charles Seo, cello Laura Park, violin Vincent Meklis, violin Christine Lim, violin Allan Steele, cello Tony Rymer, cello Rebecca Anderson, violin Yina Tong, cello Hiro Matsuo, cello Bryan Lee, violin Miran Kim, violin D. Joshua Roman, cello Rachel Harding, violin Karina Canellakis, violin Rachel Kim, violin Misha Ovrutsky, violin Zachary DePue, violin Duke Lee, viola Joel Noves, cello Ani Aznavoorian, cello Soovin Kim, violin Mona Knock, violin Marjorie Bagley, violin Brent Samuel, cello Rachel Barton, violin Wendy Warner, cello Ioan Kwon, violin Elizabeth Ann Larson, violin Sheryl Staples, violin Desiree Ruhstrat, violin Eunice Roh, violin Eunice Roh, violin David Ying, cello Se Yon Sandy Kim, violin Joshua Bell, violin Susan Synnestvedt, violin Scott Woolweaver, viola Hee-Soo Kim, violin Margaret Lang, viola

1976



KENNETH WARREN & SON, LTD. VIOLIN DEALERS AND EXPERTS

Congratulations to all of the musicians participating in the 2025 Stulberg International String Competition!



We hope this special event is enjoyed by family, friends, teachers, benefactors and all others who have supported these talented young artists throughout their musical careers.

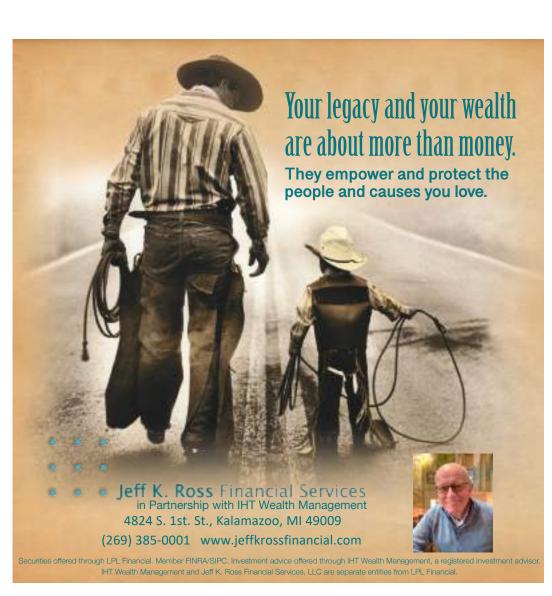


40 North Wells Street, Suite 500 Chicago, IL 60606

(312) 634-5050

info@kwsviolins.com
www.kwsviolins.com
STULBERG INTERNATIONAL STRING COMPETITION

2024	Annalaa Datimatanalaan vialin	Daman Dama aslla	Iamio Daulton miano
2024	Annalee Patipatanakoon, violin	Roman Borys, cello (All members of the Gryphon Trio)	Jamie Parker, piano
2023	Benjamin Beilman, violin	Anthony Elliott, cello	Jessie Montgomery,
			composition/violin
2022	Atar Arad, viola	Amit Peled, cello	Simin Ganatra, violin
2021	Sara Sant'Ambrogio, cello	Mitchell Newman, violin	Cynthia Phelps, viola
2020	Clive Greensmith, cello	Yura Lee, violin/viola	Cho-Liang Lin, violin
2019	Paul Coletti, viola	Emilio Colón, cello	Jennifer Frautschi, violin
2018	Aaron Dworkin, arts leader	Anthony Ross, cello	Scott St. John, viola
2017	David Kim, violin	Yizhak Schotten, viola	Amit Peled, cello
2016	Glenn Dicterow, violin	Steven Tenenbom, viola	Peter Wiley, cello
2015	Heidi Castleman, viola	Sarah Chang, violin	Eric Kim, cello
2014	Karen Dreyfus, viola	John Sant'Ambrogio, cello	Donald Weilerstein, violin
2013	Richard Aaron, cello	Victoria Chiang, viola	Soovin Kim, violin
2012	Matt Haimovitz, cello	Rachel Barton Pine, violin	Roland Vamos, violin/viola
2011	Raymond Harvey, conductor	Paul Katz, cello	Joseph Silverstein, violin
2010	Ronald Copes, violin	Nick Eanet, violin	Joel Krosnick, cello
	Samuel Rhodes, viola	(all members of the Juilliard String Quartet)	
2009	Miriam Fried, violin	Ronald Leonard, cello	Richard Young, viola
2008	Bayla Keyes, Violin	Tom Knific, double bass	Rhonda Rider, cello
2007	Timothy Eddy, cello	Daniel Phillips, violin	Todd Phillips, violin
	Steven Tenenbom, viola	(all members of the Orion String Quartet)	
2006	David Cerone, violin	Linda Cerone, violin	Steven Doane, cello
2005	Anner Bylsma, cello	Ani Kavafian, violin	Ida Kavafian, violin/viola
2004	James O. Buswell IV, violin	Michael Kugel, viola	Marc Johnson, cello
2003	Ivan Chan, violin	Chauncy Patterson, viola	Cathy Meng Robinson, violin
2002	Keith Robinson, cello	(all members of the Miami String Quarte	·
2002	Benedict Goodfriend, violin	Hans Jorgen, cello	Almita Vamos, violin
2001	Emilio Colon, cello	Gerald Fischbach, violin	Marcus Thompson, viola
2000	Benny Kim, violin	Wendy Warner, cello	Max Wilcox, record producer
1999	Owen Carman, cello	Igor Fedotov, viola	Hal Grossman, violin
1998	Karen Buranskas, cello	Myron Kartman, violin	Max Wilcox, record producer
1997	Heidi Castleman, viola	Anthony Elliott, cello	Cyrus Forough, violin
1996	Heidi Castleman, viola	Ross Harbaugh, cello	David Updegraff, violin
1995	Joshua Bell, violin	Lucia Lin, violin	Anthony Ross, cello
1994	Robert Culver, viola	Bernard Greenhouse, cello	Yoshimi Takeda, conductor
1993	Bernard Greenhouse, cello	Stephen Shipps, violin	Marcus Thompson, viola
1992	Nathaniel Rosen, cello	Sergiu Schwartz, violin	Karen Tuttle, viola
1991	Csaba Erdelyi, viola	Winifred Mayes, cello	Edward Shmider, violin
1990 1989	Catherine Comet, conductor Paul Doktor, viola	Csaba Erdelyi, viola Alan Harris, cello	Yehudi Menuhin, violin
1989	Alan Harris, cello	*	Marilyn McDonald, violin
1987		William Preucil, viola	Edward Shmider, violin
1986	Yizhak Schotten, viola Norman Paulu, violin	Neil Stulberg, conductor William Preucil, viola	David Vanderkooi, cello David Vanderkooi, cello
1985	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	*	
1984	Josef Gingold, violin David Cerone, violin	Richard Kapuscinski, cello David Holland, viola	Max Wilcox, record producer Richard Kapuscinski, cello
1983	Raya Garbousova, cello	David Holland, viola David Holland, viola	Leonard Sorkin, violin
1982	Richard Blum, viola	David Cerone, violin	Michael Press Haber, cello
1982	Richard Blum, viola	Michael P. Haber, cello	Iacob Krachmalnick, violin
1980	Alan Harris, cello	Jacob Krachmalnick, violin	Abraham Skernick, viola
1979	James O. Buswell IV, violin	Alan Harris, cello	Abraham Skernick, viola
1979	Urico Rossi, violin	Andor Toth, Jr., cello	Francis Tursi, violin
1977	James O. Buswell IV, violin	Fritz Magg, cello	Yosef Yankeley, violin
1976	Orlando Cole, cello	Nathan Gordon, viola	Paul Rolland
1370	Oriando Coic, cello	radian Gordon, viola	r aur Romanu



COMPETITION JUDGES

LI-WEI QIN, CELLO

An exclusive Universal Music China Artist, **Li-Wei Qin** has appeared all over the world as a soloist and as a chamber musician. After achieving great success at the 11th Tchaikovsky International Competition where he was awarded the Silver Medal, Li-Wei has since won the First Prize in the prestigious 2001 Naumburg Competition in New York.

Two times soloist at the BBC Proms in London's Royal Albert Hall, Li-Wei has enjoyed successful artistic collaborations with many of the world's great orchestras including all the BBC symphony orchestras, the Los Angeles philharmonic, London Philharmonic, the Rundfunk-



Sinfonieorchester Berlin, the NDR-Sinfonierorchester Hamburg, the Konzerthausorchester Berlin, the Basel Symphony, the Prague symphony, the Osaka Philharmonic, Hong Kong Philharmonic, China Philharmonic, the Sydney Symphony and Melbourne Symphony among many others. Leading conductors with whom he has worked include Vladimir Ashkenazy, Sir Andrew Davis, Marek Janowski, Jaap Van Zweden, Jiri Belohlavek, Jan Pascal Totelier, Hans Graf, Yu Long, the late Machello Viotti and the late Lord Menuhin. Li-Wei has also appeared with chamber orchestras such as the Kremerata Baltika, Sinfonia Vasovia, the Munich, the Zurich, the Australian Chamber Orchestras.

In recital and chamber music, Li-Wei is a regular guest at the Wigmore Hall and for the Lincoln Center Chamber Music Society, New York. He has appeared at the BBC Proms, the Rheinghau, the City of London, the Schlewigs-Holstein and the Mecklenburg Festivals. Li-Wei has collaborated with musicians such as Daniel Hope, Nabuko Imai, Misha Maisky, David Finckel, Wu Han, Vladimir Mendelssohn and Peter Frankel, among many others.

Li-Wei's recordings on Universal Music/Decca include the complete Beethoven Sonatas, Works of Rachmaninov with pianist Albert Tiu, Dvořák Concerto with Singapore Symphony Orchestra and conductor Lan Shui and Elgar/Walton Concerti with the London Philharmonic. Most recently, courtesy of Universal Music, Li-Wei's 2013 live concert with the Shanghai Symphony and Maestro Yu Long has been released on Sony Classical.

Born in Shanghai Li-Wei moved to Australia at the age of 13, before accepting scholarships to study with Ralph Kirshbaum at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester and with David Takeno at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London. He was invited to join the BBC 'New Generations' scheme in 2001 and in 2002, Li-Wei received the Young Australian of the Year Award. Other major invitations included appearances at both the 2008 Beijing Olympics (New Zealand Symphony), 2012 London Olympics and the Davos World Economics Forum (Basel Symphony Orchestra).

Prior to teaching at the YST Conservatory, Li-Wei was a professor of cello at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. He is also a guest professor at Shanghai and Central Conservatory of Music in China. Li-Wei plays a 1780 Joseph Guadagnini cello, generously loaned by Dr and Mrs Wilson Goh.

COMPETITION JUDGES

LUCAS RICHMAN, COMPOSER/ CONDUCTOR

GRAMMY award-winning conductor **Lucas Richman** has served as Music Director for the Bangor Symphony Orchestra since 2010 and held the position as Music Director for the Knoxville Symphony Orchestra from 2003-2015. Over the course of nearly four decades on the podium, he has garnered an international reputation for his graceful musical leadership in a diverse field of media. In concert halls, orchestral pits and recording studios around the world, Richman earns rave reviews for his artful collaborations



with artists in both the classical and commercial music arenas.

He has appeared as guest conductor with numerous orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Boston Pops, Cleveland Orchestra, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Baltimore Symphony, Indianapolis Symphony, New Jersey Symphony, Canada's National Arts Centre Orchestra and Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Russian National Orchestra, the Oslo Philharmonic, the SWR Radio Orchestra of Kaiserslautern, the Iceland Symphony Orchestra, the Zhejiang Symphony Orchestra, the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional and the Zagreb Philharmonic.

In recent years, he has led performances with notable soloists such as Mstislav Rostropovich, Garrick Ohlsson, Lang Lang, Midori, Gil Shaham, Emanuel Ax, Yefim Bronfman, Frank Peter Zimmerman, Mark O'Connor, Andre Watts, Frederica von Stade and Radu Lupu. Mr. Richman has also conducted for a panoply of commercial artists that includes James Taylor, Michael Jackson, Pat Boone, Michael Feinstein, Gloria Estefan, Megan Hilty, Matthew Morrison, George Benson, Robert Goulet, Anne Murray, the Smothers Brothers, Martin Short, Tony Randall, Victor Borge and Brian Wilson. Mr. Richman's numerous collaborations with film composers as their conductor has yielded recorded scores for such films as the Academy Award-nominated The Village (with violinist, Hilary Hahn) and As Good As It Gets; in 2010, John Williams invited him to lead the three-month national summer tour of Star Wars in Concert.

Also an accomplished composer, Mr. Richman has had his music performed by over two hundred orchestras across the United States including the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Pops and the symphonies of Detroit, Atlanta, New Jersey and Houston. He has fulfilled commissions for numerous organizations including the Pittsburgh Symphony, Knoxville Symphony, Bangor Symphony, Johnstown Symphony, the Debussy Trio, the Seattle Chamber Music Society and the Organ Artists Series of Pittsburgh. His "Symphony: This Will Be Our Reply" was premiered to critical acclaim by a consortium of orchestras in 2019, including the Oak Ridge Symphony Orchestra (TN), the Bemidji Symphony Orchestra (MN) and the Los Angeles Jewish Symphony (CA). March, 2022 saw the premiere of The Warming Sea for the Maine Science Festival/Bangor Symphony Orchestra and Concerto for Violin and Cello: Un Pasto con Luciana e Mario was premiered by the Atlanta Musicians Orchestra in June, 2022. Upcoming commissions include Concerto for Violin: Paths to Dignity written for performances with violinist Mitchell Newman in 2023 and 2024.

COMPETITION JUDGES

RACHEL BARTON PINE, VIOLIN

Heralded as a leading interpreter of the great classical masterworks, violinist **Rachel Barton Pine** thrills audiences with her dazzling technique, lustrous tone, and emotional honesty. With an infectious joy in music-making and a passion for connecting historical research to performance, Pine transforms audiences' experiences of classical music.

Pine performs with the world's leading orchestras including the Philadelphia Orchestra, Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Camerata Salzburg, and the Chicago, Vienna, and Detroit



Symphony Orchestras. She has worked with renowned conductors, including Teddy Abrams, Marin Alsop, Daniel Barenboim, Semyon Bychkov, Neeme Järvi, Christoph Eschenbach, Erich Leinsdorf, Nicholas McGegan, Zubin Mehta, Tito Muñoz, and John Nelson, and has performed chamber music with Jonathan Gilad, Clive Greensmith, Paul Neubauer, Jory Vinikour, William Warfield.

Orion Weiss, and the Pacifica and Parker Quartets.

This summer and 2023/24 season, Pine joins the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Stéphane Denève at the Hollywood Bowl, in addition to highlight performances with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra and recital appearances at the Kennedy Center and Festival Internacional de Música de Guadalajara, among many others performances of repertoire ranging from Early Music to romantic and contemporary.

She has recorded over 40 acclaimed albums, many of which have hit the top of the charts. In August 2023, Cedille Records released Dependent Arising, featuring concertos by Shostakovich and Earl Maneein performed with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra (RSNO) and Tito Muñoz. Other recent records include Violin Concertos by Black Composers Through the Centuries: 25th Anniversary Edition (September 2022) with the RSNO and Jonathon Heyward, and Malek Jandali: Concertos (March 2023) with the Vienna Symphony Orchestra and Marin Alsop.

She frequently performs music by contemporary composers, including major works written for her by Billy Childs, Mohammed Fairouz, Marcus Goddard, Earl Maneein, Shawn Okpebholo, Daniel Bernard Roumain, José Serebrier, and Augusta Read Thomas. In addition to her career as a soloist, she is an avid performer of baroque, renaissance, and medieval music on baroque violin, viola d'amore, renaissance violin, and rebec.

She has appeared on The Today Show, CBS Sunday Morning, CNN, PBS NewsHour, A Prairie Home Companion, and NPR's Tiny Desk. She holds prizes from several of the world's leading competitions, including a gold medal at the 1992 J.S. Bach International Violin Competition in Leipzig, Germany. Her RBP Foundation assists young artists through its Instrument Loan Program and Grants for Education and Career, and since 2001, has run the groundbreaking Music by Black Composers project. She performs on the "ex-Bazzini, ex-Soldat" Joseph Guarnerius "del Gesù" (Cremona 1742), on lifetime loan from her anonymous patron.



FireplaceAndGrill.biz

- Outdoor Ovens
- Gas & Wood Stoves
- Gas & Wood Inserts
- Grills Gas, Wood, & Pellet
- Fireplaces Gas, Wood, & Electric

bos kitchens appliances & cookware



bos-kitchens.com





BERTAZZONI











FIASKO









Calvin Alexander 20 (violin) Louisiana, United States

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – ELGAR

Violin Concerto in B minor, Op. 61 III. Allegro molto

FINALS – ELGAR

Violin Concerto in B minor, Op. 61 I. Allegro 20-year-old violinist **Calvin Alexander** hails from Shreveport, Louisiana, and has performed across the United States, Canada, Brazil, Spain, Switzerland, and South Korea. His orchestral engagements include performances with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, Korean Chamber Orchestra, Canton Symphony Orchestra, and Shreveport Symphony Orchestra. As a chamber musician, Calvin has performed at the Perlman Music Program and Yale's Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, where he collaborated with David Shifrin, Vijay Iyer, Tai Murray, Areta Zhulla, Melvin Chen, and the Parker Quartet.

Calvin is a grand prize winner of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra's Lynn Harrell Concerto Harvard-Radcliffe Competition, Orchestra Concerto Competition, and Louisiana Philharmonic Concerto Competition. He has also won top prizes in the Tibor Varga Junior Violin Competition, International International Violin Competition, and YoungArts National Competition.

Calvin is pursuing a bachelor's in social studies and Comparative Literature at Harvard and a master's in Violin Performance under Donald Weilerstein at the New England Conservatory with a full-tuition scholarship. At Harvard, he serves as a Concertmaster of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra and a Peer Advising Fellow for first-year students. He also directs the Harmony Mentoring Program—which provides one-onone musical education to over 100 low-income students in Boston at no cost —and has served as Assistant Music Director for the Harvard College Opera. Influential artistic mentors include Itzhak Perlman, Catherine Cho, Jan Sloman, Merry Peckham, Katherine Chi, and the Brentano Quartet. Calvin deeply values classical music pedagogy and hopes to teach for the rest of his life. Before performing as a classical musician, Calvin performed across North and South America acting in Broadway touring productions of Billy Elliot, A Christmas Story, and Matilda.

Starla Breshears, cellist, age 17, is a pre-college student and a Joseph Chan Full-Scholarship recipient at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, studying cello with Richard Aaron. She began studying cello at age 3 with Yoshie Muratani and studied with Jean Michel Fonteneau at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music for 10 years. Starla has been coached by Christine Walevska and Sergei Riabtchenko and has performed for masterclasses with Sheku Kanneh Mason, Alisa Weilerstein and Amit Peled.

Starla has soloed with 18 different orchestras since the age of 6 including the California Youth Symphony, Kalamazoo Junior Symphony, Palo Alto Philharmonic, Symphony Parnassus, and the Nova Vista Symphony. Starla is a prize winner of the Stulberg International String Competition and Johansen International Competition and has won 1st prize in over a dozen solo competitions including ASTA State Solo Competition, Pacific Musical Society & Foundation Competition, and Grand Prize in the Diablo Valley College / Holy Names University Young Artist Competition.

Starla's sibling string quartet, the Breshears String Quartet, has been featured twice on the Violin Channel as Rising Star of the Week and on NPR's "From The Top". The Quartet won 1st Prize in the 2023 Piero Farulli International Competition for Young String Quartets and received the silver medal at the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition in 2024.

As one of the youngest Beares International Violin Society Young Artists, Starla was the loan recipient of a 1/2 size 19th century Hill cello and a 3/4 size 1808 Lorenzo Ventapane. Starla has participated in the Yellow Barn Young Artists program, Greenwood music camp, and Accademia Musicale Chigiana. Next year, Starla will begin studying with Clive Greensmith at the Colburn Music Academy.



Starla Breshears 17 (cello) California, United States

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Cello: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS - WALTON

Cello Concerto, Op. 68
I. Moderato
II. Allegro appassionato

FINALS - WALTON

Cello Concerto, Op. 68 III. Tema ed improvvisazioni



Valery Breshears 15 (violin) California, United States

Valery Breshears, a 15-year-old violinist, started violin at the age of 2 with David Mallory. When she was 5, she was accepted to the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, studying under William Barbini. Valery currently studies with Zhao Wei. In March 2025, she won first place in the prestigious Johansen International String Competition. She also earned third place in the 2024 Chicago Violin Competition.

Valery is currently the principal second violinist of the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra. She is also a recipient of the Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Award. In addition to her studies, Valery has attended several esteemed music camps, including the Greenwood Music Camp and the Accademia Musicale de Chigiana, where she had the privilege of learning from Maestro Salvatore Accardo.

Valery plays on a Antoine Nedelec & Jeff Phillips violin, and the Baron von der Leyen, Ex-Klaveness Stradivari, 1705.

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy*II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – WIENIAWSKI

Violin Concerto No. 2, Op. 22 I. Allegro moderato II. Romance

FINALS – SAINT-SAËNS Havanaise in E Major, Op. 83

Zekai Chen, a 15-year-old violinist, began his studies with Professor Xiaocao Sha. He currently studies violin performance with Ming'en Zhou, an Associate Professor at The Music Middle School Affiliated with the Shanghai Conservatory of Music.

Throughout his schooling, Zekai has consistently been awarded the "Renmin Scholarship." His notable achievements include first prize in the China-Korea International Violin Competition, an award in the Philadelphia International Music Festival Concerto Competition, second prize in the China-Spain International Music Competition, the third prize in the Twelfth Hong Kong International Violin Competition, and third prize in Group 2 of the 2023 Leonid Kogan International Violin Competition. He also won first prize in the Professional Youth Group A and the Chinese Piece Prize at the 2024 Khachaturian International Youth Competition.

At the age of 13, he held his debut solo violin recital. From 2021 to 2024, he showcased his artistry in solo recitals and was selected as a candidate for the Shanghai Little Music Angels Talent Cultivation Program. He has performed with the Shanghai Opera Symphony Orchestra, the Wuxi Symphony Orchestra, and the Harbin Symphony Orchestra, all under the baton of Maestro Muhai Tang. In 2024, he performed with the Armenian State Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Maestro Sergey Smbatyan.

Zekai was admitted to the Morningside Music Bridge Program in 2023, 2024, and 2025. He has participated in masterclasses with esteemed teachers including Donald Weilerstein, Midori, Mauricio Fukas, Noah Bendix-Balgley, Ronald Copes, William Vander Sloot, Ian Swensen, and Hu Kun.



Zekai Chen 15 (violin) Shanghai, China

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – MOZART Violin Concerto No. 2 in D Major, K.211 I. Allegro moderato

FINALS - TCHAIKOVSKY

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35 I. Allegro moderato



Matthew Ho 16 (cello) New Jersey, United States

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Cello: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – DVORÁK Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104, B. 191 I. Allegro

FINALS – DVORÁK Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104, B. 191

Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104, B. 191 III. Finale: Allegro moderato

16-year-old cellist **Matthew Ho** studies with Clara Kim at the Juilliard Pre-College. A 2025 YoungArts Winner with Distinction, Matthew recently won the Judges' Commendation in the 2025 Johansen International Competition. He has been awarded top prizes in numerous competitions, including the New York Laureate International Music Competition (2024), the Young Soloist International Music Competition and the Adelphi Young Competition (2023), among others. He was the alternate winner of the 2023 Juilliard Pre-College Cello Concerto Competition and a finalist in the 2023 MTNA National Competition.

Matthew has performed as a soloist with the Camerata New Jersey Orchestra (2023), the Bravura Philharmonic Orchestra (2023), and the New Jersey Intergenerational Orchestra (2024) after winning their concerto competitions. He has also been featured on the Daily Joy series of NPR's "From the Top".

An avid chamber musician, Matthew co-founded AllNote Alliance, a youth organization dedicated to promoting composer diversity in chamber music and won the 2024 Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center Young Musicians Innovation Challenge. His chamber group, Vivere Trio, was a finalist in the 2025 Coltman Chamber Music Competition.

Matthew has served as principal cellist of the Juilliard Pre-College Symphony. He has spent past summers at Morningside Music Bridge and the Perlman Music Program, where he studied solo performance, chamber music, and orchestral music with many renowned musicians, including Itzhak Perlman, Laurence Lesser, Paul Katz, John Kadz, Merry Peckham, Zvi Plesser, Clive Greensmith, and Andrés Díaz.

An active volunteer in his community, Matthew finds joy in bringing music to senior centers and nursing homes, as well as playing for children in local elementary schools to inspire a love of classical music. Outside of music, Matthew enjoys learning science and playing ping-pong.

18 year-old violinist **Kento Hong** was born in New York and began violin at six in California with Aimee Kreston. He debuted with orchestra at seven in Los Angeles and entered Juilliard Pre-College at ten, studying with Dr. Ann Setzer.

Kento is a Grand 4th prize laureate of the 2021 Yehudi Menuhin International Violin Competition, a finalist and audience prize laureate at the 2022 Cooper International Violin Competition, and 3rd prize finalist at the 2024 Arthur Grumiaux International Violin Competition. He also holds first prizes from the Chicago International Competition, Camarata Artists International Competition, and the Chappaqua Competition.

In late 2024, he received the inaugural \$50,000 Gurrena Fellowship from Meadowmount School of Music. A 2025 National YoungArts Finalist with distinction, he was featured on NPR's "From The Top", won Juilliard's 2024–25 Pre-College concerto competition, and frequently serves as concertmaster. He was a Back to Bach Soloist mentor and Meadowmount full scholarship recipient.

Kento has performed in major venues, including Carnegie Hall, Merkin Hall, Lincoln Center, and Alice Tully Hall, appearing with Jaime Laredo, Sharon Robinson, Robert McDuffie, Maxim Vengerov, and the Oxford Philharmonic. In 2023, he was a member of the Kronberg Academy Masterclass and worked with Anne Akiko Meyers, Paul Kantor, Miriam Fried, Almita and Roland Vamos, James Ehnes, and Dmitri Sitkovetsky.

Beyond music, Kento researches osteoarthritis at Columbia Engineering. In 2024, he was a US national finalist at Regeneron's International Science and Engineering Fair, earning the Grand 2nd Prize in Biomedical Engineering along with multiple special award distinctions. He was later named one of Regeneron's Top 300 Young Scientists in the Nation for 2025.

Kento intends to continue his studies at Juilliard-Columbia starting this Fall.



Kento Hong 18 (violin) New York, United States

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – KORNGOLD

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35 I. Moderato nobile

FINALS - KORNGOLD

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35 II. Romance III. Allegro assai vivace



Helen Hyun20 (violin)
Seoul, South Korea

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – SIBELIUS

Violin Concerto in D minor, Op. 47 I. Allegro moderato

FINALS – SIBELIUS

Violin Concerto in D minor, Op. 47 II. Adagio III. Allegro **Helen Hyun** is a 20-year-old violinist who was born in New York and began playing the violin at the age of 5. At the age of 7, she joined the Arts Academy of Gifted Children at the Seoul Arts Center and, at 11, she studied under Prof. Nam-yun Kim at the Korea National University Institute for the Gifted in Arts. After graduating as valedictorian from Yewon School in 2021, she was accepted to Seoul National University to study under Prof. Young-uck Kim and Chang ho Lim.

Helen made her solo debut with the Chungnam Philharmonic Orchestra at the age of 10 and has collaborated with the Gyeongsangbuk-do Philharmonic Orchestra and the Chungju Philharmonic Orchestra. She began her violin recital career at the Kumho Prodigy Concert and Kumho Young Artist Concert. She has held solo concerts at the Elim Arts Center and Shinhan Arts Hall, Herman Arts Hall and The House Concert, 24 Hours Concert and July Festival. She has won first place in several domestic music competitions, including the 13th Shinhan Music Awards, the 1st Dong-A Junior Music Concours, and the TBC Music Concours. She has also been invited to perform by various organizations such as the Heart Foundation, Song Kang Foundation, Korean Mecenat Association, and the National Academy of Arts, Republic of Korea.

Since 2022, she has playing as concertmaster and soloist with the Seoul National University Chamber Ensemble and the Seoul National University Philharmonic Orchestra. She also leads her self-founded Yewon Soloists Chamber Ensemble, which performs annually and has won first place at the Seoul Youth Chamber Music Competition. Helen has made several television appearances, including on the JTBC Classical Music Program, where she performed contemporary pieces by the winner of the Geneva competition, Jae-hyuk Choi. She participated in the Pyeongchang International Music Festival and Tongyeong International Music Foundation Academy as a scholarship student and performer.

Helen has participated in several international competitions including the Menuhin Competition in Geneva, Switzerland, the Spohr Competition in Germany, and the Singapore Festival, Shlomo Mintz Competition, Valsesia Musica Competition. She has been invited to perform at various international music festivals, such as Crans-Montana Classics in Switzerland, Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, China, Nagano International Music Festival in Japan, and the Singapore Music Festival. She participated in masterclasses with Leonidas Kavakos, Shlomo Mintz, Christoph Poppen, Daniel Philips, Koichiro Harada, Svetlin Roussev, Pavel Vernikov, and Felix Ayo.

John Kim is a 19-year-old Korean-American violinist from Seoul, South Korea. He started playing the violin at the age of five at Peabody Preparatory in Baltimore, which is his hometown. After studying with Jinjoo Jeon at the Seoul Central Conservatory, John is currently a student of Alexander Velinzon from the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

John is a 2023 and 2024 National YoungArts Winner and the 1st prize winner of the ENKOR International Music Competition. John is also a prize winner of numerous national competitions in Korea and a winner/scholarship recipient of the Association for Music in International Schools Solo and Ensemble Festival.

John attended Morningside Music Bridge in 2023 and 2024 as a full scholarship student and was selected to perform both solo and chamber in the program's final Highlights Concert (2023) in NEC Jordan Hall. In 2021 and 2022, John attended BU Tanglewood Institute, where he was invited with merit scholarships. Over the years, John participated in masterclasses and had opportunities to study with Midori Goto, Donald Weilerstein, Mauricio Fuks, Ronald Copes, Ani Kavafian, Soovin Kim, Noah Bendix-Balgley, Daniel Stabrawa, Peter Zazofsky, Ian Swensen, Margaret Batjer, William van der Sloot, Agata Szymczewska, Robin Wilson, and more.

John made a successful solo debut in 2022, playing the whole Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with the Yongin Philharmonic Orchestra at the Seongnam Arts Center Concert Hall. John also performed in Carnegie Weill Recital Hall and Sejong Arts Center Chamber Hall and served as the concertmaster of the Seoul International School High School Orchestra.

John currently studies Sociology and Economics at Harvard University. While balancing his academic studies, John is actively involved in Harvard's music community as a member of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra and chamber music ensembles.



John Kim 19 (violin) Seoul, South Korea

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – SHOSTAKOVICH

Violin Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 77 IV. Burlesque

FINALS - KORNGOLD

Violin Concerto in D minor, Op. 47 I. Allegro moderato



Aaron Liu 15 (violin) California, United States

Aaron Liu, 15 years old, has been playing the violin since the age of four. He currently studies with Yuki Mori and Min Jung Park in Los Angeles, California, both former students of Jascha Heifetz.

As a soloist, Aaron has performed with the South Coast Symphony, Orchestra Collective of Orange County, Southern California Philharmonic, and Bellflower Symphony Orchestra. He has won top prizes at numerous competitions, including 1st prize at the 2023 Cecilia International Competition in Tokyo, Japan; Grand Prize at the Southwestern Youth Music Festival Strings Division; 1st Place at the American Protégé International Concerto Competition; and Grand Prize at the Satori Summer Music Festival Strings Contest.

Aaron actively participates in chamber music and won 1st place in both the 2023 and 2024 Junior Chamber Music Competitions as well as 1st place in the 2024 VOCE Chamber Music State Finals. In 2024, his trio was featured on NPR's "From The Top".

Apart from music, Aaron enjoys photography, soccer, and spending time with his family and cats.

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS - WAXMAN

Carmen Fantasie

FINALS - MENDELSSOHN

Violin Concerto in E minor, Op. 64 I. Allegro molto appassionato

Oliver Mar is a 14-year-old New Zealand-born cellist who relocated to New York in 2022 after being accepted into the Juilliard Pre-College program, where he studies with Dr. Clara Minhye Kim.

Oliver is a top prize winner in numerous competitions, including the 2025 Bravura Young Artists Concerto Competition, the Island Symphony Young Performers competition, the 2024 Camerata Artists International Competition, 2024 Young Soloists International Competition, and the 2023 International Grande Music Competition in New York. He has soloed with the Camerata New Jersey Orchestra and will be performing with the Bravura Philharmonic and Island Symphony Orchestras in 2025. Recently, he has been selected as a Fellow with NPR's "From The Top", a platform dedicated to fostering and promoting talented young classical artists.

In 2024, Oliver attended the Morningside Music Bridge summer program at the New England Conservatory and will be attending the Perlman Music Program for the summer of 2025.

Oliver is also a composer. His works have been performed by members of the New York Philharmonic and featured on WQXR, New York's classical music station.



Oliver Mar 14 (cello) Auckland, New Zealand

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Cello: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – TCHAIKOVSKY

Variations on a Rococo Theme, Op. 33

FINALS - HERBERT

Cello Concerto No. 2 in E minor, Op. 30 I. Allegro moderato II. Andante tranquillo



Laurentia Woo 17 (violin) New Jersey, United States

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – BEETHOVEN

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 61 I. Allegro ma non troppo

FINALS - WALTON

Violin Concerto I. Andante tranquillo II. Presto capriccioso alla napolitana **Laurentia Woo** is a 17 year-old violinist currently studying under Professors Itzhak Perlman and Areta Zhulla in the Juilliard School's Pre-College division and Perlman Music Program. She is also mentored by Stella Chen, Yu Jeong Lee, and Jun Cho. She was recently awarded as a Kovner Fellow to further studies at the Juilliard School. Previously, she studied at the Colburn School with Robert Lipsett and began her musical journey at age four at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts under Michael Ma.

At 12, Laurentia made her debut with the Salzburg Chamber Soloists and has since performed with the National Philharmonic, Vancouver Symphony, Juilliard Pre-College Orchestra, and Pannon Philharmonic. A 2019 1st Prize winner at the Zhuhai International Mozart Competition, she later became the youngest 1st Prize and Best Performance of a Commissioned Piece winner of the 2022 Johansen International Competition.

In addition to her solo pursuits, Laurentia has long been passionate about chamber music and humanitarian efforts. Laurentia has been involved in the Doremi Project since 2020, where she teaches children in underserved communities, aiming to enrich their lives through the power of music. In 2023, she established the Sylvan Quartet alongside fellow students from Juilliard Pre-College. Together, they perform at rehabilitation centers, spreading joy and hope through their music. Their endeavors led to them sharing their mission and music on NPR's "From The Top."

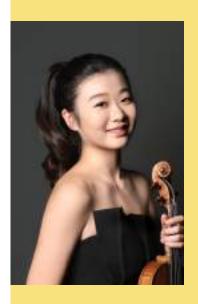
Laurentia is a recipient of the Hong Kong Jockey Club Music and Dance Fund Scholarship and the Davidson Fellows Scholarship for Clexical, her platform dedicated to democratizing contemporary classical music. Passionate about expanding the reach of contemporary music, she strives to enhance accessibility for broader audiences.

Lauren Yoon, a 16-year-old violinist from South Korea, studies with Professor Masao Kawasaki at the Juilliard Pre-College. She previously studied with Paul Arnold of the Philadelphia Orchestra. Her musical education has been further enriched by masterclasses with renowned violinists, including Midori Goto, Zakhar Bron, Paul Roczek, Robin Wilson, and Kirill Troussov.

In 2024, Lauren was named a National YoungArts Winner with Distinction in classical music and received a silver award following her performance at the YoungArts Week. That same year, she won the Carl Flesch Prize, the highest honor awarded at the Carl Flesch Academy in Germany, where she had the privilege of performing with the Baden-Baden Philharmonic under the direction of Maestro Förster.

Over the years, Lauren has earned top prizes in numerous competitions and performed with orchestras at prestigious venues such as Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Geffen Hall, Merkin Hall, and the DiMenna Center.

Looking ahead, Lauren will continue to expand her musical horizons at the Perlman Music Program in the summer of 2025, where she will have the opportunity to study with Itzhak Perlman and Catherine Cho.



Lauren Yoon 16 (violin) New Jersey, United States

PROGRAM

COMMISSIONED CONCERTO – RICHMAN

Concerto for Violin No. 2: *Legacy* II. A Teachable Moment

SEMIFINALS – TCHAIKOVSKY

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35 I. Allegro moderato

FINALS – WAXMAN
Carmen Fantasie

COLLABORATIVE ARTISTS

ALICJA BASINSKA

Alicja Basinska is a Polish-born collaborative pianist, chamber musician and orchestral keyboardist. Ms. Basinska is a Collaborative Piano Coordinator and staff pianist at the Cleveland Institute of Music as well as a Lecturer at Case Western Reserve University. As an orchestral player, she has performed with the Cleveland Orchestra and Chicago Symphony Orchestra.



Ms. Basinska is also an Assistant Director and a score reader for the Cleveland Orchestra video production team at Severance Hall and Blossom Music Center. Every year, the team produces numerous concerts, streamed live on multiple platforms including Adella and European-based Medicity.

Ms. Basinska earned her bachelor's degree from McGill University in Montreal and her master's and doctoral degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music.

ANDREA SWAN

Andrea Swan is a Chicago-area collaborative pianist, chamber musician, orchestral player, soloist and teacher. She was the principal keyboard player with the Grant Park Music Festival for over 40 years and plays regularly with the Lyric Opera orchestra. She also accompanies instrumentalists in their final auditions for positions in these orchestras and serves as the official collaborator for



many competitions around the United States, including 13 years with The Stulberg.

As a founding member of the Evanston Chamber Ensemble, she performed over 200 chamber works. As a champion of new music, she performed with the Contemporary Players at the University of Chicago for many years and later with the Fulcrum New Music Project. She has always enjoyed collaborating with students of all ages in competitions, recitals and master classes.

Ms. Swan holds degrees from Oberlin College and Indiana University. Her mentors include Jack Radunsky, Gygory Sebok, Menahem Pressler, Josef Gingold and Janos Starker.



PLEASE JOIN US!

FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025 · 7:30 pm Dalton Center Recital Hall Western Michigan University

AMIT PELED, cello DANIEL DEL PINO, piano

These internationally renowned musicians present a program of works by Grieg, Kopytman, and Strauss.

CONCERT SPONSOR FRIENDS OF FONTANA



TICKETS ON SALE fontanamusic.org 269/250-6984



Saturday, June 7 9:00 am to Noon Dalton Center Recital Hall, WMU

MASTER CLASSES

Master classes were held on Friday, May 16th with Stulberg judges Li-Wei Qin, Rachel Barton Pine, and Lucas Richman as well as University of Michigan professor and Detroit Symphony violist Caroline Coade. A master class is a music lesson conducted in public, offering a unique opportunity for string students to work with prestigious string players. Participants were selected by audition. These events provide interesting and valuable learning experiences for musicians, teachers, and audiences alike.

LI-WEI QIN CELLO CLASS:

Braden Miesse, 18, St. Joseph, MI cello student of Bruce Uchimura

Min Johnson, 13, Kalamazoo, MI cello student of Grace Field

Philip van der Westhuizen, 9, Kalamazoo, MI

cello student of Grace Field

Cole Davis, 16, Saline, MI cello student of Deborah Pae

Theodore Yasugi, 14, Kentwood, MI cello student of Alicia Sawyers

Alexander Jeng, 11, Kalamazoo, MI cello student of Grace Field

CAROLINE COADE **VIOLA/VIOLIN CLASS:**

Jean-Pierre van der Westhuizen, 15, Kalamazoo, MI viola student of Nicholas Jeffery

Rinzel Arroyo, 17, Vicksburg, MI viola student of Nicholas Jeffery

Emma van der Westhuizen, 14, Kalamazoo, MI violin student of Ann Cirvencic

Qichang Liang, 11, Grand Rapids, MI violin student of Megan Crawford

RACHEL BARTON PINE **VIOLIN CLASS:**

Sponsored by Advancing Lives, LLC



IN SUPPORT OF THE VIOLIN MASTER CLASS!

Tyler Jacobs, 16, St. Joseph, MI violin student of Carla Trynchuk

Ivan Tai, 17, Portage, MI violin student of Audrey Lipsey

Terry Stamp, 14, Kalamazoo, MI violin student of Mark Portolese

Kris Stamp, 17, Kalamazoo, MI violin student of Mark Portolese

Sofia Radovic, 19, St. Charles, MI violin student of Desiree Ruhstrat

Aleksandra Radovic, 17, St. Charles, IL violin student of Desiree Ruhstrat

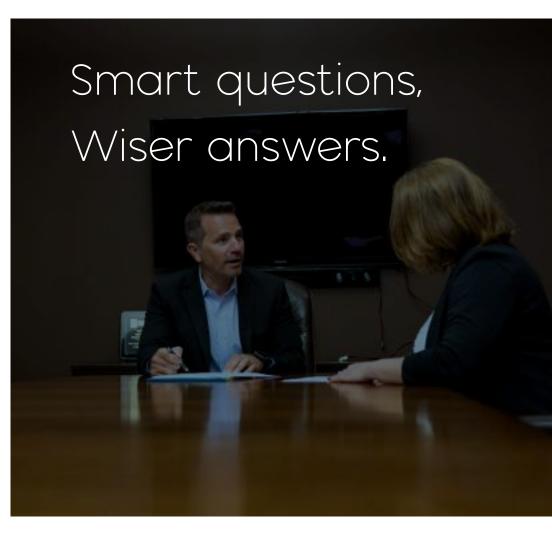
LUCAS RICHMAN COMPOSITION CLASS:

in partnership with the WMU Composition Studio

Maddy Moore, 22, Niles, MI composition student of David Colson

Andrew Homan, 20, Indianapolis, IN composition student of David Colson

The VISER FINANCIAL GROUP



Schedule a Consultation

thewisergroup.com

(269) 372-1430



SEMIFINALS MORNING PROGRAM

Saturday, May 17, 2025

Three consecutive performances per time slot

9:00 a.m.

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy"

II. A Teachable Moment

Carmen Fantasie

Aaron Liu, violin

Andrea Swan, piano

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy" II. A Teachable Moment

Violin Concerto No. 2, Op. 22 I. Allegro moderato

II. Romance

Valery Breshears, violin

Alicja Basinska, piano

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy" II. A Teachable Moment

Violin Concerto No. 1 in A minor, Op. 77

Cadenza – IV. Burlesque

John Kim, violin

Andrea Swan, piano

10:30 a.m.

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy"

II. A Teachable Moment

INTERMISSION

Violin Concerto in D minor, Op. 47 I. Allegro moderato

Helen Hyun, violin

Alicja Basinska, piano

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy" II. A Teachable Moment

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 61

I. Allegro ma non troppo

Jinan Laurentia Woo, violin

Andrea Swan, piano

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy" II. A Teachable Moment

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35

I. Moderato nobile

Kento Hong, violin

Alicja Basinska, piano

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Franz Waxman 1906-1967

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Henryk Wieniawski

1835-1880

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Dmitri Shostakovich

1906-1975

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Iean Sibelius 1865-1957

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Ludwig van Beethoven

1770-1827

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Erich Korngold 1897-1957

AUDIENCE INFORMATION

The Stulberg International String Competition reserves the right to videotape and photograph performances, including the audience. Attendance at these events shall be deemed consent and permission to the Stulberg International String Competition (and its designees and agents) to use your image, likeness, actions and statements, as captured in photograph or on video, in connection with the promotion and marketing of the Stulberg International String Competition and its related events, without further authorization or compensation.

SEMIFINALS AFTERNOON PROGRAM

Saturday, May 17, 2025

Three consecutive performances per time slot

1:00 p.m.

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy"

II. A Teachable Moment

Violin Concerto No. 2 in D Major, K.211

I. Allegro moderato

Lucas Richman (b. 1964) W.A. Mozart

1756-1791

Zekai Chen, violin

Andrea Swan, piano

Concerto for Cello: "Legacy"

II. A Teachable Moment

Cello Concerto, Op. 68

I. Moderato

II. Allegro appassionato

Lucas Richman (b. 1964) William Walton

1902-1983

Starla Breshears, cello

Alicja Basinska, piano

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy"
II. A Teachable Moment
Violin Concerto in B minor, Op. 61
I. Allegro

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Edward Elgar 1857-1934

Calvin Alexander, violin

Andrea Swan, piano

INTERMISSION

2:30 p.m.

Concerto for Cello: "Legacy"

II. A Teachable Moment

Cello Concerto in B minor, Op. 104, B. 191

I. Allegro

Lucas Richman (b. 1964) Antonin Dvořák 1841-1904

Matthew Ho, cello

Alicja Basinska, piano

Concerto for Violin No. 2: "Legacy"

II. A Teachable Moment

Violin Concerto in D Major, Op. 35

I. Allegro moderato

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky 1840-1893

Lauren Yoon, violin

Andrea Swan, piano

Concerto for Cello: "Legacy"

II. A Teachable Moment

Variations on a Rococo Theme, Op. 33

Lucas Richman (b. 1964)

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky 1840-1893

Oliver Mar, cello

Alicja Basinska, piano

AUDIENCE INFORMATION

- Use of cameras and recording devices by audience members is strictly prohibited.
- Please turn off all electronic devices during performances.
- Building emergencies will be indicated by a spoken announcement within the seating area. In any emergency, walk – do not run – to the nearest exit.

Thank You
49

OUR SUPPORTERS





GRANTS

Dorothy U. Dalton Foundation
Gary Sisters Foundation
Harold and Grace Upjohn Foundation
Irving S. Gilmore Foundation
Michigan Arts and Culture Council
National Endowment for the Arts

Rotary Club of Kalamazoo Stephen and Joanne Kirk Foundation Suzanne Upjohn Delano Parish Foundation The Burdick-Thorne Foundation The Marvin and Rosalie Okun Foundation The Pinehurst Fund – in support of the Bronze Medal

CORPORATE SPONSORS

DIAMOND





ELIZABETH UPIOHN MASON

CONCERT PRESENTING SPONSOR: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF STULBERG WITH RACHEL BARTON PINE



PLATINUM



GOLD

COMMITTION MC, RETER OUGAN PRESENTED BY

SARAH LEE, PAM WALKER, AND NANCY PAYNE

SILVER

Wiser Financial Group Zoetis Metro Toyota

BRONZE

Discover Kalamazoo
Zeigler Auto Group
First National Bank of Michigan
DeMent and Marquardt, PLC
Advancing Lives LLC
Heritage Community of Kalamazoo
Stifel | Ray Financial Group
KalBlue Group

COPPER

Consort Display Group
Warner Norcross + Judd LLP
Hamilton Law
Elina Organics
VanderSalms
Morrison Jewelers
NowKalamazoo





- Kalamazoo, MI
- Merrillville, IN
- Downers Grove, IL

- Plainwell, MI
- Fort Wayne, IN
- Orland Park, IL

- Grandville, MI
- Racine, WI
- Gurnee, IL

- Lowell, MI
- Kenosha, WI
- Lincolnwood, IL

- Lansing, MI
- Schaumburg, IL
- North Riverside, IL

- Elkhart, IN
- Hoffman Estate, IL
- Berwyn, IL

The Zeigler Auto Group proudly supports Education and the Performing Arts

Visit <u>www.zeigler.com</u> for a wide selection of new and used automobiles and motorsport vehicles

INDIVIDUALS

This list reflects contributions made between July 1, 2024, and April 30, 2025.

BENEFACTOR - \$5,000 AND UP

Larry and Shannon Bell
Dr. David and Jann Stulberg
Dr. Joseph and Midge Stulberg
Elizabeth Upjohn Mason
Dr. Bill and Carrie Venema

PATRONS \$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous

Dr. Charles Cowap and Rachel Rawson

Dr. David and Susan Doan

Glynis Fenn

Gary and Ann Fergemann

Linda Francis

Carol A. Haenicke

John and Jane Hoogerheide

Heather Ingram

Norman and Barbro Jung

Stephen and Joanne Kirk Foundation

Mary Klenow Karen Knight

Andrew Koehler and Sorina Dodu

Sarah and Chauncey Lee

Dr. Timothy and Joy Light

Nancy Payne

Camille Riley

Dr. William and Melinda Scott

Naomi Siegel Morse and Richard Morse

Dr. Bernard and Carolyn Stulberg

Alan and Sue Stulberg, I. Ian Stulberg, Robert

Berman, Dan and Nancy Stulberg

Randy and Pamela Walker

Bradley Wong

Anne van Giessen

SUPPORTERS \$500 - \$999

Iovce DeNooyer

Magnus Bernhardsson and Margaret

McComish

Dr. Kenneth and Marian Fisher

Dr. Bassam and Veronica Harik

Dr. Garret Jones and Kory Heitzig

Barbara James

Thomas and Sue King

Derl and Heidi Oberlin

Marissa Pollick and Elizabeth Ritt

Anthony Schmidt

Chris and Kathy Shook

Alan and Sue Stulberg

Dr. Jonah and Dana Stulberg

Jonathan Stulberg and Grace Jo

The Morris Stulberg Trust

Christine Valentine

Sherman van Solkema

Sherie Veramay

Kurt and Memory Voissem

Carolyn H. Williams

CONTRIBUTORS - \$250 - \$499

Anonymous

Anonymous

Dr. Elizabeth Burns and Roger Zinser

Frank and Becky Demcovitz

Fred and Susan Einspahr

Drs. Robert and Kathleen Gadwood

Ianet Gover

Bruce and Jeanne Grubb

Karen Halpert

Margaret Hamilton and Rod Carpenter

Roger and Kristy Lepley

Thomas and Pam Mansager

Johnny Pherigo

Barry Ross and Jane Rooks Ross

Sarah Stulberg

David and Susan Thoms

Joshua and Pamela Weiner

FRIENDS - \$100 - \$249

William and Carol Bargar

Brad Allison

David and Heide Boutell

William and Ruth Breyfogle

Ellen Cha

Alden Cowap

Paul and Judy Davidoff

Denise Davidoff

Dr. Robert and Barbara Davis

Robert and Etsuko Dlouhy

Dr. Hans Engelke

John Estes

Dr. Arthur and Marilyn Feinberg

Brian Fergemann

David Fergemann

Richard and Theresa Field

Grace Field

Dr. David and Valerie Flagler

Pat Gasaway

George Guerin

Andrew Halpert and Jane Kanarek

Kevin and Deb Hanley

David Johnson

Judy K. Jolliffe

Ani Kavafian



zoetis.com

zoetis

INDIVIDUALS

This list reflects contributions made between July 1, 2024, and April 30, 2025.

Richard and Patricia Kirschner

Keith and Mary Kothman

Dr. Philip and Coral Mason

William and Jeannette Maxey

Deanna McComish

John and Karen McComish

Drs. Martin and Harriet Ottenheimer

Ann Paulson and Bill Pierce

Franklin and Paula Presler

Arthur and Janet Riley

Stephanie Robinson

Iill Rozanoff

Vivian Skadron

Helavne Smith

Ian Stulberg

Michael Stulberg

John Stulberg

Dr. Debra Stulberg and Andrew Howard

Dr. Lisa Stulberg

Mark Halpert and Mira Stulberg-Halpert

Sophie Tang

Tim and Janet Thieme

Kathleen Whitney

D. Terry and Sharon Williams

Raye Ziring

MEMBERS - UP TO \$99

Anonymous

Bryan Zocher and Alisa Carrel

Heather Cowap

Dr. Patricia Smolenski Crowley

Janet Koestner

Valerie Denghel

Carl Doubleday

Billie Fischer

Julie and Essie Halpert

Michael Halpert

Anne Hickey

Arnold and Debby Johnston

James and Jan Jones

Thomas and Donna Lambert

Cara Lieurance

Elizabeth Maier

Charles Newman

P.E.O Sisterhood - Chapter CN

Mark and Lori Pollick

Kim and Amy Ranger

Joan Robertson

John and Liz Rohs

Mark Stulberg

Donna Stulberg

Gita Stulberg

Dr. Jill Minger and Benjamin Stulberg

Jenny Stulberg

Eric Szanto

Donald and Vivian Weilerstein

Shirley Wise

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THE STULBERG FAMILY FOR THEIR ONGOING FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Anne, Pat, Kya, Cole, and Landon Hickey Deanna and Michael McComish

Martin and Harriet Ottenheimer

Lauren Pollick

Marissa Pollick and Bitsy Ritt

Lisa Stulberg, Evan Rudall, Avery and

Jonah, Dana, Ethan, and Maya Stulberg Michael, Elizabeth, Maxwell, and Charlotte Stulberg

Jenny Stulberg, Justin and Atlas Nixon

J Samuel, Caitlin, Eli, and Henry Stulberg

TRIBUTE GIFTS

This list reflects contributions made between July 1, 2024, and April 30, 2025.

In honor of Ann Fergemann

Valerie Denghel

In honor of my grandparents -Julius and Esther

Julie and Essie Halpert

In honor of the Stulberg's 50th anniversary

Charles Newman

In honor of Ann Fergemann

Brian Fergemann

In honor of Ann Fergemann

David Fergemann

In honor of Megan Yankee

P.E.O. Sisterhood

In honor of Dave and Sue Doan

Ann Paulson and Bill Pierce

In honor of Bernard and Carolyn Stulberg

Sarah Stulberg

In honor of Tim and Joy Light

Carolyn H. Williams

In honor of Yoonie Son's birthday

Ann Fergemann

In memory of Mary von Schreiner

Thomas and Donna Lambert

In memory of Julius Stulberg

Mark Stulberg

In memory of Morris Stulberg

Donna Stulberg

In memory of Delores Gregory Estes Philp

Dr. Joseph and Midge Stulberg

In memory of Morris Stulberg

Jenny Stulberg

In memory of Mary "Delores" Philp

John Estes

In memory of Delores Philp

George Guerin

In memory of my grandparents, Esther and Julius Stulberg

Andrew Halpert and Jane Kanarek

In memory of Julius and Esther Stulberg

Vivian Skadron

In memory of my Uncle Julius and Aunt Esther

Ian Stulberg

In memory of Julius Stulberg

Dr. Lisa Stulberg

In memory of Betty Donaldson

Kathleen Whitney

In memory of Betty & Bill Donaldson and Rosemary & Alden Lepley

Roger and Kristy Lepley

Joanne Bauschke Pherigo

Johnny Pherigo

In memory of Tom Kasdorf

Barbara James

In memory of Esther Stulberg Pollick

Marissa Pollick and Elizabeth Ritt

In memory of Esther and Sidney Pollick

Jonathan Stulberg and Grace Jo

In memory of Professor Paul L. Maier

Carol A. Haenicke

In memory of Esther L. Stulberg

Dr. Joseph and Midge Stulberg

In memory of Morris and Charlotte Stulberg

Alan and Sue Stulberg, I. Ian Stulberg and Robert Berman, Dan and Nancy Stulberg

SUPPORT THE STULBERG

When you donate to the Stulberg International String Competition, you not only donate to a great experience of musical competition, but you also are investing in the future of young musicians. Your tax-deductible donation supports youth and music education that has long-lasting effects on the musical world. We greatly appreciate any donations that we receive as they help us to continue to provide a wonderful opportunity to deepen community engagement with the arts. Thank you!

To give by check, mail to:

Stulberg International String Competition 359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 14 Kalamazoo, MI 49007

Or make a secure donation online at: stulberg.kindful.com



SPONSOR/ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

Promote your company or organization in our beautiful program book which is distributed to audiences and participants during the Stulberg Competition weekend, both in print and digitally.

Our elegant program book design maximizes visibility and ensures that your advertisement stands out.

Your support of The Stulberg is acknowledged with a package that includes a variety of benefits. As a sponsor, your organization's benefit package may include: tickets and invitations to concerts and sponsor-exclusive events, print and digital brand recognition through logo placement on our marketing materials, and brand recognition during future competitions with placement of your organization's logo on our sponsor banner and within our program book, and even more.

Through your sponsorship, you are making a positive and direct impact on the arts and culture of Kalamazoo, and on the lives of young musicians internationally. Our sponsors are the foundation of The Stulberg's continued success, and in turn, they are what have allowed us to uphold our mission for fifty years.

For more information contact: Megan Yankee, Executive Director myankee@stulbergcomp.org | (269 343-2776







WELLSPRINGDANCE.ORG/SUMMER









SPECIAL THANKS

JUDGES AND MASTER CLASS CLINICIANS

Caroline Coade Li-Wei Qin Lucas Richman Rachel Barton Pine

PERFORMANCE PARTNERS

Baltimore Chamber Orchestra
Fontana Chamber Arts
Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra
Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra
Western Michigan University School of Music

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PARTNERS

Crescendo Academy of Music
Code Studio Strings
Suzuki Academy of Kalamazoo
Grace Field Cello Studio
Friendship Village – Kalamazoo
StoryPoint Kalamazoo (Bronson Place)
Friends of Asian Arts and Cultures
Western Michigan University Composition Studio

FRIENDS OF THE STULBERG

The Stulberg 50th Anniversary Committee – Ann Fergemann,
Janet Gover, Sarah Lee, Pam Walker
Norman and Barbro Jung
Josh Koets
Ashley Kraft
Mitchell Newman
Barry Ross and Jane Rooks Ross
The Stulberg Family
Sophie Tang
Pierre and Sophié van der Westhuizen

Jessica Mallow Gulley

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE







Congrats on 50 Years of the Stulberg International String Competition!

NOW - AUG. 31, 2025

COLORFUL COLLECTIONS

This new exhibit features items from the permanent collection of the Kalamazoo Valley Museum displayed in a rainbow of hues. Delve into the color spectrum like never before as you enjoy some of the brightest and boldest examples from the KVM's collection.



Designed by the Kalamazoo Valley Museum

NOW - AUG. 31, 2025

THE ART OF ADVERTISING

Highlighting nostalgic signs and advertisements from local businesses from the permanent collection of the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, "The Art of Advertising" offers up an eclectic mix of advertising paraphernalia from bygone eras.



Created by the Kalamazoo Valley Museum

MAY 17 - AUG. 31, 2025

WALLACE & GROMIT AND SHAUN THE SHEEP: SHEAR GENIUS!

Step into the environments of Wallace & Gromit and Shaun the Sheep to explore their contraptions, antics and escapades through dramatic play and interactive opportunities.



Wallace & Gromit™ and Shaun the Sheep™: Shear Genius! was created by Minnesota Children's Museum and Aardman Animations™ Limited © 2025



For more programming and to sign up for our newsletter, scan the QR code or visit kalamazoomuseum.org.

FREE GENERAL ADMISSION

Tuesday - Saturday | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sunday | Noon - 4 p.m.



230 North Rose St., Kalamazoo, MI 49007 269.373.7990 | 800.772.3370 www.kalamazoomuseum.org



f /KalamazooValleyMuseum 🕺





2026 SNEAK PREVIEW

STULBERG 2026 COMPETITION JUDGES







James Dunham, viola



Suli Xue, violin

STULBERG 2025-26 SEASON SCHEDULE

June 7, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. Dalton Center Recital Hall, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

Cello Masterclass with 2022 Stulberg Judge, Amit Peled

Co-presented by Fontana Chamber Arts

October 5, 2025 | 3:00 p.m. Miller Auditorium, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

2025 Silver Medalist with the WMU Symphony Orchestra

February 15, 2026 | 4:00 p.m. Chenery Auditorium, Kalamazoo, MI **2025 Bronze Medalist with the Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra**

Bookbug, Kalamazoo, MI

Musical Storybook: The Dance of the

Violin - performed by the BurdickThorne String Quartet

March 18, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.

March 28, 2026 | 7:30 p.m. Miller Auditorium, Kalamazoo, MI 2025 Stulberg Gold Medalist, and Stulberg Memorial Prize Winner with the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra April 19, 2026 | 3:00 p.m. Dalton Center Recital Hall, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

Solo recital featuring 1979 Gold Medalist Anthony Ross

Co-presented by Fontana Chamber Arts

May 15, 2026 | 3:00 p.m. Dalton Center, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

51st Annual Stulberg Competition Masterclasses

May 15, 2026 | 7:30 p.m. Dalton Center Recital Hall, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

51st Annual Stulberg Bach Prize Performances

May 16, 2026 Dalton Center Recital Hall, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

51st Annual Stulberg Competition Semifinals/Finals Performances

IRON BY TES STRONG TECHNOLOGY

Managed I.T. Support

Website Design & Hosting

Computer Repair

Cabling

Virus Detection & Removal

Home Automation

Networking

Mobile Phone Repair & Support

Software Development

Online Backup, Disater Recovery

Congratulations & good luck to all of this year's Stulberg artists!

JOSH KOETS

josh@ironbytes.com 888.488.IRON www.ironbytes.com



The Tyler-Little Family Foundation would like to congratulate the 2025 Stulberg competitors! May this success lead to a greater achievement in the years to come.





INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

The Art of Chocolate	81
Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo	66
Jacque Jennings-Carter ADVANCING LIVES, LLC	3
Birch Creek Music Performance Center	73
Code Studio Strings	75
Connecting Chords Music Festival	80
Crescendo Academy of Music	19
CWS Financial Advisors	79
DeMent & Marquardt	71
Discover! Kalamazoo	76
Elina Organics	72
Fireplace & Grill Shoppe	31
First National Bank of Michigan	77
Fontana	45
Friendship Village	82
Gilmore Piano Festival	77
Grand Rapids Violins, LLC	70
Hamilton Law	62
Harding's Friendly Market	75
Heritage Community Of Kalamazoo	74
Howell Parfet Schau, Attorneys & Counselors	71
Hearing Specialists of Kalamazoo	63
Irving S. Gilmore School of Music	15
Iron Bytes	61
Jeff K. Ross Financial Services	27
Kalamazoo Community Foundation	7
Kalamazon Institute of Arts Fair	73
Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra	23
Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestra	67
Kalamazoo Valley Museum	59
Kal-Blue Group	76
Kenneth Warren & Son, Ltd.	25
LaFontaine Automotive Group	72
Mercantile Bank	81
Metro Toyota	79
Midwest Young Artists Conservatory	69
Miedema & Associates	83
Morrison Jewelers	68
Natural Health Center	78
Now Kalamazoo	78
Schupan & Sons, Inc.	13
Stifel Ray Financial Group	5
Tyler-Little Family Foundation	62
University of Michigan	Back Cover
VanderSalm's Flowership & Garden Center	80
Warner Norcross + Judd, LLP	74
Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers	57
The Wiser Financial Group	47
Zeigler Auto Group	51
Zhang Financial	65
Zoetis	53

A NEW STANDARD

OF WEALTH MANAGEMENT



RANKED BY BARRON'S

AMERICA'S #1 INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISOR

FOR 2024°





5931 Oakland Dr. | Portage, MI 49024

T: 269 385 5888 | F: 269 385 5705

 $clients er vices @zhang financial.com \ | \ zhang financial.com \\ |$



Stulberg International inspires future generations of musicians and audiences by connecting our West Michigan community with the highest level of performance at the Stulberg International String Competition. The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo is proud to support them.

BECOME AN ARTS COUNCIL MEMBER & WE CAN

support youtoo!

arts council of greater kalamazoo





Kalamazoo Junior Symphony Orchestras Est. 1939

Through the power of music,
 we instill excellence in youth
 and enrich our community.

Ensembles for Students from Elementary to High School

International Tours | Chamber Ensembles

Professional Level Repertoire

Full Scholarships Available

Sign up for an Audition TODAY!

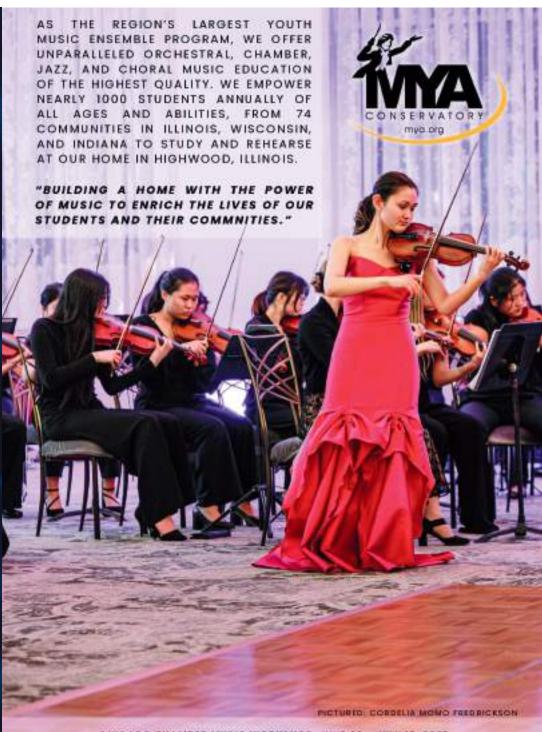
kjso.org | info@kjso.org | 269-349-7557

Celebrating Years 2024

is forever



Downtown Kalamazoo - MorrisonJewelers.net



CHICAGO CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP, JUNE 30 - JULY 18, 2025
O'MALLEY FOUNDATION NATIONAL CONCERTO COMPETITION, DECEMBER 28-30, 2025
CHICAGO NATIONAL CHAMBER MUSIC COMPETITION, FEBRUARY 8, 2026

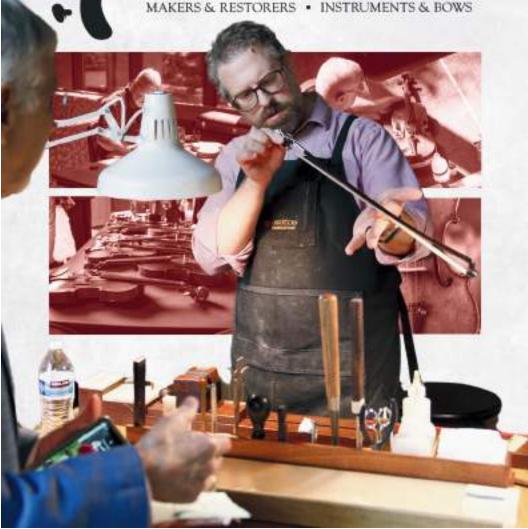
MYA.ORG - 847-928-9898 - 878 LYSTER ROAD, HIGHWOOD, IL





GRAND RAPIDS VIOLINS, LLC

MAKERS & RESTORERS . INSTRUMENTS & BOWS



DeMent & Marquardt

LIVE WELL. PLAN WELL.

A law firm focusing on estate planning, estate settlement, and the transfer of wealth.

> 211 E. Water St. Suite 401 Kalamazoo, MI 49007

(260) 343-2106 www.dementandmarquardt.com



From left to right: Morgan Rogalie Scime, Charles S. Ofidein, Tyler J. Stewart, Olivia Kurajian & William B. Millard

HOWELL PARFET SCHAU Attorneys & Counselors

is proud to support the Stulberg International String Competition!





We proudly support our community!



THE DEAL IS HOW YOU FEEL! . FAMILYDEAL.COM



Stunning luxury is within reach.

Moreothis Hore of Kalamaton recommitted in supporting programs that empower the next given above. We are proved to support Southing International Stong Competition.

Mercedes-Benz





elina organics

holistic clinical skincare & spas

EST. 1997

For over 25 years, Elina has formulated her Elina Organics award-winning holistic skincare line. These deep-delivery products are freshly made at the Elina Organics Laboratory by Elina and her team. Made in the USA.

Proven Results After Just One Application



View service menu and products

Call 269-384-9080 to schedule



In just a 48-hour period, Ambra Lift Elixir is scientifically proven to:

- Stimulate the expression of Sirtuin-1, a key **anti-aging** gene
 - Promote **anti-wrinkle** effects
 - Increase collagen production

74th Annual June 6 & 7, 2025

Kalamazoo Institute of Control of

BRONSON PARK • KALAMAZOO





PERFORMANCE-BASED Education A Life-Changing experience

2025 ACADEMY SESSIONS

Percussion, Steel Pan & World Music

June 15 - 28

Symphony June 29 - July 12

Big Band Jazz Jazz I: July 13 - 26 Jazz II: July 27 - August 9

- Study with a faculty of world-class professional musicians.
- Student-to-faculty ratio of 2:1 for a mentoring, formative environment.
- Live the life of a professional musician with a rigorous schedule of eight public concerts.

LEARN MORE AT BIRCHCREEK.ORG/ACADEMY



JOIN US FOR OUR 50TH SEASON!

Proud Supporter of the 50th Annual Stulberg International String Competition

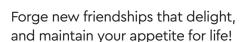
By providing discerning and proactive legal advice, Warner builds a better partnership with clients throughout the world.





carry on

Be the Very Best Version of You at Heritage Community of Kalamazoo



Do more of what you love at the area's only locally owned and operated, nonprofit Life Plan retirement community.



Learn
more
about our
VIBRANT
LIFESTYLE!

HeritageCommunity.com | (269) 348-7018

Celebrating 50 Years of World-Class Talent

Hamilton Law proudly supports the Stulberg International String Competition and its remarkable legacy of elevating young musicians on the global stage.



Viola and violin lessons in Portage



codestudiostrings.com

Karin Loberg Code

- Suzuki & Roland trained
- Fiddle & Summer Camps
- Guest Artist Workshops
- Outreach Concerts with our studio ensemble

"helping to foster a lifelong love & respect for music, musicians, and art"

KALBLUEGROUP

VISUAL COMMUNICATION EXPERTS













OMPLETE BRANDED

WEB-TO-PRINT ONLINE AUTOMATION

COORDINATED PRINT SERVICES

BRANDED PROMOTIONA Products

DESIGN & PREFLIGHT Services

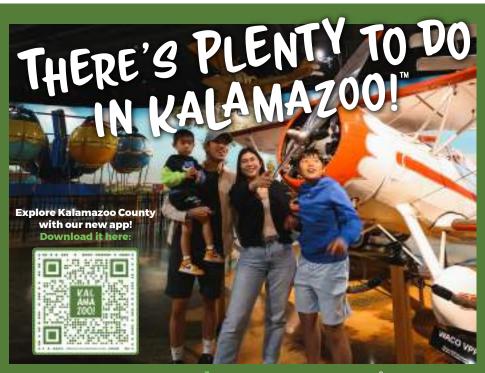
PROJECT MANAGEMEN & Installation

IMAGINE. DESIGN. PRINT. FINISH. DELIVER.

5870 SOUTH SPRINKLE RD, SUITE 1, PORTAGE, MI 49002

KALBLUEGROUP.COM | 800.522.0541 | INFO@KALBLUEGROUP.COM





Discover KALAMAZOO®

Proud to support the **STULBERG**

International String Competition



Local Commercial and Personal Banking | fnbmichigan.bank



SEASON



TICKETS ON SALE thegilmore.org



RICHARD

© KEVIN+KINZLEY



Works by Schubert, Fauré, and Brahms

© VANESSA BRICENO PHOTOGRAPHY



Natural Health Center

"Helping YOU Feel Better"

269-342-9459

4610 West Main Street • Kalamazoo www.naturalhealthfoodcenter.com

Kalamazoo's Family Owned Natural Food Market

Congratulations on

50 years

of music and community!

from

NowKalamazoo

Kalamazoo County's #1 source for arts news and events



NowKalamazoo.org



For over 40 years, CWS and our predecessor firms have provided financial services to help clients build their legacies in Southwest Michigan and beyond.

We are proud to support the Stulberg International String Competition and celebrate these gifted artists.

405 W Michigan Avenue Suite 110, Kalamazoo 269-349-4600

cwsfinancialadvisors.com





Over 100 Years of Growing with Southwest Michigan

Vander Salm's has grown considerably from the planting of celery and pansy seedlings by Jacobus Vander Salm at his home on Wall Street to now, the 4th and 5th generations operating the business. Today you can find just about anything you could ever need for gardening, gifting and floral needs.



Thank you West Michigan for more than 100 years of support and growth. We look forward to 100 more. - John and Ned Vander Salm

1120 South Burdick Street Kalamazoo, MI 49001 269-343-2671 / fax 269-343-2328 www.kalamazooflorist.com





















celebrate the unifying power

world's music











Every September – November + more events throughout the year!

www.ccmusicfest.com



Mercantile Bank®

Where communities come together,

Merc is here.

Celebrating 50 years of excellence in string instrument performance!

mercbank.com





A variety of programs for beginners to advanced:

CELLO | DOUBLE BASS
GUITAR | HARP
VIOLA | VIOLIN









Since 1975, Friendship Village has welcomed hundreds of savvy seniors.

We invite you to experience our:

- Scenic campus
- Friendly staff and residents
- Chef inspired dining
- Educational and entertainment opportunities
- Exceptional amenities including a heated saltwater pool

Schedule your visit today and ask about our major expansion/ renovation, including 76 new Independent Living suites.

(269) 220-6227 | 1400 North Drake Road, Kalamazoo, MI

www.friendshipvillagemi.com | | | like us on Facebook | in follow us on LinkedIn







Miedema & Associates

Ameriprise Private Wealth Advisory Practice 269.329.1683

5991 Venture Park Drive Kalamazoo, MI 49009

Forbes

BEST-IN-STATE

WEALTH MANAGEMENT TEAMS

POWERED BY SHOOK RESEARCH

2025



Miedema & Associates

Congratulates Stulberg

International String Competition

on their 50th Anniversary!

MUSIC, THEATRE & DANCE

Boundless Opportunities.
Extraordinary Education.
Unparalleled Performing Arts.



Look to Michigan

smtd.umich.edu/stulberg



