

# STRING STUDY AT ST. OLAF COLLEGE

The St. Olaf College Music Department provides aspiring musicians with a variety of training and performing opportunities that prepare them for the challenges of this rich artistic pursuit. Private lessons, course work, and ensemble participation are designed to nurture the growth of young performers in an environment of artistry, creativity, cooperation, support, and respect. Music majors and non-majors are welcome to the following:

## LESSONS AND COURSEWORK

Each semester, over 100 St. Olaf students take private lessons from one of the seven professional string faculty who are specialists on their instruments. Instruction in violin, viola, cello, double bass, harp, and Hardanger fiddle for music majors and non-music majors is offered in private weekly half-hour or hour lessons

St. Olaf also offers courses in literature and pedagogy, which focus on methods of teaching and include opportunities to teach. In addition, the January Interim term and the programs of independent study and research provide opportunities to create projects that fulfill individual needs and interest. Music majors may elect an interim or semester abroad, offerings include programs in Milan or Vienna specifically designed for music majors.

## PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

String students have the opportunity to perform as soloists in solo recitals, group recitals, and studio classes. A thriving chamber program usually sees about a dozen quartets rehearsing and performing regularly. The large ensembles frequently feature student soloists on concert programs, tour programs and in the St. Olaf Orchestra's annual Senior Soloists concert in May.

## INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLES:

In addition to solo opportunities and a large chamber music program, St. Olaf offers one of the strongest undergraduate orchestral programs in the country. All ensembles are open to students of any major.

The **ST. OLAF ORCHESTRA**, a 95-piece symphony orchestra which performs throughout the year on campus and takes annual national tours. The St. Olaf Orchestra also tours internationally on a regular basis. Open by audition to all students.

The **PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA**, a 90-piece symphony orchestra which performs on campus throughout the year. Open by audition to all students.

**NAKNEFELER** is a student-directed string orchestra which acts as a lab orchestra for student conductors. No audition is required.

**CHAMBER ENSEMBLES** – about a dozen chamber groups rehearse and perform each semester, either for academic credit or outside the curriculum.

## FACILITIES

Christiansen Hall of Music, completed in 1976, houses Urness Recital Hall, classrooms, teaching studios and practice rooms as well as three large rehearsal halls and the Halvorson Music Library. There are additional practice rooms in Ytterboe Hall, and the adjacent Skifter Hall houses organ practice rooms, studios, and a second recital hall.

## FACULTY

ANDREA EEN, *Associate Professor of Music: Violin, Viola, Hardanger fiddle*. D.M.A. in Violin Performance and Literature from the University of Illinois. She has studied violin with Theodore Brunson, Marilyn Box, Dorothy DeLay, Paul Rolland, Eduard Melkus, and Paul Kantor, and viola with Louis Kievman. Een has also studied chamber music with members of the Hungarian and Walden String quartets. She has a special research interest in the Norwegian folk Hardanger fiddle and has been featured on National Public Radio and on Norwegian National Television, performing and talking about emigrant fiddle traditions. She is a member of the Minnesota Opera Orchestra, the Plymouth Festival Orchestra, and a frequent chamber music performer on violin and viola. Een has performed in Norway, France, Germany, Austria, Puerto Rico and Costa Rica as a solo and chamber musician.

CHARLES GRAY, *Professor of Music: Violin, Viola*. B.M., Wheaton College; M.M., University of Michigan; chamber music certificate and viola performance study at Eastman School of Music. His principal study was with Paul Makanowitzky and Sylvia Rosenberg (violin), with Atar Arad (viola), and with the Cleveland Quartet (in chamber music). Gray was the violist of the Casella String Quartet, winner of the 1981 Cleveland Quartet Competition and the 1983 Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition. He has performed as a solo recitalist at the Ravinia Festival in Chicago and as a chamber musician at the Aspen Music Festival and the Steamboat Springs Festival in Colorado. Previously a member of the Rochester Philharmonic (NY) and the Grand Rapids Symphony (MI), and concertmaster of the Bloomington Symphony (MN), Gray is currently a substitute member of the Minnesota Orchestra and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. He is also on the music staff of St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi, Minn. Gray is a regularly-featured violin and viola soloist with the St. Olaf Choir, St. Olaf Cantorei and St. Olaf Orchestra.

RAY SHOWS, *Instructor in Music: Violin*. B.M. Florida State University; M.M. Boston University. *magna cum laude*. Principal teachers include Roman Totenberg and Gerardo Ribeiro. Chamber music studies with Eugene Lehner and Raphael Hillyer. Mr. Shows made his solo debut with orchestra in his native Atlanta in 1976. As a founding member of the Artaria String Quartet (now in its 15th season), he has performed solo and chamber music in major concert halls in New York, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Atlanta, across the U.S. and in Europe. An Artist/Teacher in Residence at the Tanglewood Institute and at the Quartet Program 2000, Shows is currently Artistic Director of Stringwood and Winterstrings. Shows has performed as a concerto soloist with the Portland Symphony Orchestra, where he served as acting Concertmaster and Principal Second Violin for five years. He is passionate about 20th century music and has performed and recorded music of today's leading composers, including Gunther Schuller, Augusta Read Thomas, Marjorie Merryman and Thomas Oboe Lee, commissioning several solo and chamber works for his annual New Music Festivals. A 3-time recipient of prestigious grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Shows has held teaching residencies at Boston College, Viterbo College, The Florida State University and Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory. Twice he was awarded the coveted Director's Award from Boston University to complete his Master's Degree in Violin Performance.

DAVID CARTER, *Professor of Music: Cello*. B.F.A., University of Minnesota, M.M., Indiana University, D.M.A., University of Illinois. His cello teachers have included Robert Jamieson, Gary Hoffman, Janos Starker, and Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi. Prior to coming to St. Olaf, Carter was Instructor of Cello at Wichita State University and Principal Cello of the Wichita Symphony. He was a finalist in the First International Emmanuel Feuermann Solo Cello Competition, semifinalist in the 1985 Concert Artist Guild Competition, and semifinalist in the 1989 Erwin Bodky Competition for Early Music. He has performed as soloist with the Minnesota Orchestra under Neville Martinson, the Wichita Symphony, and the Pueblo Symphony, the Kenwood Chamber Orchestra, the Bloomington Symphony and the Northeast Chamber Orchestra. He has served on the faculty at the International Institute of Music in Taos, New Mexico, and participated in the Washington Island Music Festival. Dr. Carter is founder and artistic director of the Bridge Chamber Festival, an annual summer chamber music series in Northfield.

ANNA CLIFT, *Instructor in Music: Cello*. B.M. from Indiana University, where she studied with Janos Starker, and M.M. at SUNY at Stony Brook, where she studied with Bernard Greenhouse. A long-time member of the St. Olaf string faculty, she performs frequently with the Minnesota Orchestra and is active as a free-lance player in the Twin Cities area. Ms. Clift is a former member of the Artaria Quartet, a professional string quartet based in St. Paul and has experience as a high school orchestra director.

PAUL OUSLEY, *Instructor in Music: Double Bass*. M.M., Eastman School of Music. Ousley is an active performer of orchestral, jazz, and chamber music. He has studied with James Clute, Gary Karr, Stuart Sankey and James VanDeMark. He has been on the faculty of Augsburg College and the with Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies and held a visiting professorship at the University of Iowa in 2001-02. As a chamber musician, he has performed with the Audubon String Quartet, the Prospect Park Players, and at the music festivals of Aspen, Eastern, Round Top, Colorado and was for four seasons Program Director of the Madeline Island Music Camp. He has performed with the Eastman Philharmonia, Wichita Symphony, Colorado Music Festival, Eastern Music Festival, St. Paul Symphonietta, the Minnesota Opera, and the Minnesota Orchestra. Alumni of his studio are successful teachers and performers who have won recognition and scholarships at various competitions, including the prestigious Schubert Club. Jonathan Van Dyke '96, won first place at the 2001 Orchestral Competition of the International Society of Bassists. Ousley's studio has also produced scholarship students at the Oberlin Conservatory, Indiana University, Northwestern University, Guildhall School of Music, and the entire class of '93 at the Eastman School of Music.

ELINOR NIEMISTO, *Instructor in Music: Harp*. B.M., M.M., University of Michigan. Student at the National Music Camp, Interlochen. Was harp soloist with several symphonies in the Detroit area while in high school, as well as with the International Youth Symphony in Windsor, Canada. She has attended the Salzedo Harp Colony in Camden, Maine, and has played with the Canadian Broadcasting Company in Halifax, the Las Palmas Opera Festival Orchestra (Spain), the Wisconsin Chamber Symphony and as a free-lance artist and teacher in Finland. She is currently harpist with the Rochester Symphony, the Austin Symphony, the LaCrosse Symphony, and is also on the faculty at Carleton College and Luther College. She has completed five teacher-training sessions in Suzuki Harp instruction and has a private studio of about 15 students.