

April 26, 2014

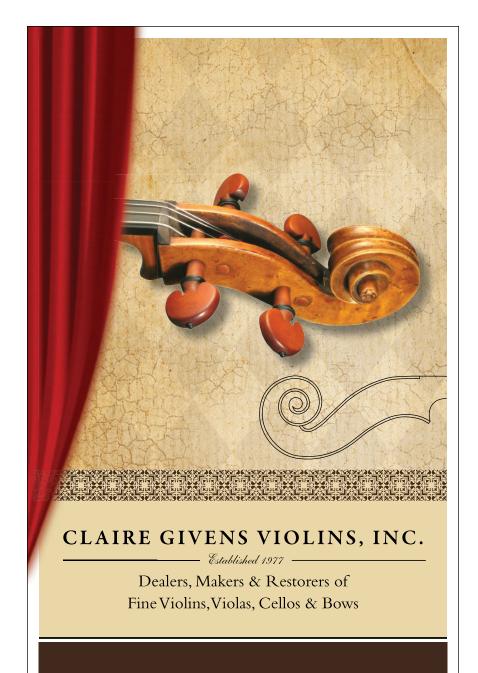
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~ Final Rounds ~

The SPSQC would like thank



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Final Round Jury

Cuarteto Latinoamericano

Saul Bitran, Violin Arón Bitrán, Violin Javier Montiel, Viola Álvaro Bitrán. Cello

Cuarteto Latinoamericano's participation today is made possible by the Schubert Club and Music in the Park Series. They perform Sunday 4/27 at 4pm in St. Anthony Park and at 7:30pm on Monday 4/27 at St. Olaf College.



Preliminary Jury Maureen Nelson, violin

(Enso String Quartet)

Masumi Per-Rostad, viola

(Pacifica Quartet)

Norman Fischer, cello

(Concord String Quartet)

Artistic Director Ray Shows

(Artaria String Quartet)

Master of Ceremonies

Silvester Vicio

Assistants Greg Stewart Jared Brown Haarini Sridhar **Event Manager** Paula Stewart

Photographer Vicki Blazing

The 2014 Saint Paul String Quartet Competition is generously underwritten by the Sewell Family Foundation

CUARTETO LATINOAMERICANO

Cuarteto Latinoamericano, formed in 1982, is known worldwide as the leading proponent of Latin American music for string quartet. This Latin Grammy winning ensemble from Mexico consists of the three Bitrán brothers, violinists Saúl and Arón and cellist Alvaro, along with violist Javier Montiel. The Cuarteto has recorded most of the Latin American repertoire for string quartet, and the sixth volume of their Villa-Lobos 17 quartets cycle, recorded for Dorian, was nominated for a Grammy award in 2002



in the field of Best Chamber Music Recording as well as for a Latin Grammy. Their CD, "Brasileiro, works of Mignone", on the Sono Luminus label, won a Latin Grammy for Best Classical Recording in 2012.

The Cuarteto has performed as soloist with many orchestras, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic under Esa-Pekka Salonen, the Seattle Symphony under Gerard Schwarz, with the National Arts Center Orchestra in Ottawa, the Orquesta Filarmónica de la Ciudad de México, the Dallas Symphony and the Símón Bolívar Orchestra of Venezuela. The Cuarteto has toured extensively around the world including performances in Europe and the Americas, Japan, China, New Zealand and Israel; they have appeared in a wide range of venues and festivals like the Concertgebouw, Milan's La Scala, Esterhazy Palace, the Kennedy Center, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Dartmouth College, Dartington International Summer School and the Ojai Festival. They have collaborated with many artists including cellist Janos Starker, pianists Cyprien Katsaris and Rudolph Buchbinder, tenor Ramon Vargas, and guitarists Narciso Yepes, Sharon Isbin, David Tanenbaum and Manuel Barrueco. With Mr. Barrueco, they have played in some of the most important venues of the USA and Europe, have recorded two cds, and commissioned guitar quintets from American composers Miguel del Aguila, Michael Daugherty and Gabriela Lena Frank.

The Cuarteto was in residence at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh from 1988 until 2008. Under the auspices of the Sistema Nacional de Orquestas Juveniles of Venezuela, the Cuarteto has created the Latin American Academy for String Quartets, based in Caracas, which serves as a training ground for eight select young string quartets from the Sistema. The Cuarteto visits the Academy four times a year. Since 2004, the Cuarteto has been a recipient of the México en Escena grant given by

the Mexican government through FONCA (National Fund for Culture and the Arts).

PRELIMINARY JURY

MAUREEN NELSON Maureen Nelson is a founding member and first violinist of the Grammy-nominated Enso String Quartet, which originated at Yale University in 1999, while she was at Yale earning her master's degree. She keeps a busy touring schedule, with engagements across the United States and abroad, and has led the quartet to award-winning performances at several major competitions, including the Concert Artists Guild International Competition, the Banff International String Quartet Competition, the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition, and Chamber Music Yellow Springs.

A two-time winner of the Greenfield Competition, Maureen was twice a soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, concertmaster of the Detmolder Kammerochester in Detmold, Germany, and is a frequent guest artist for Musiqa, the Houston-based new music series, at which she has premiered many new works. Maureen is also a recipient of an NFAA/Arts award, and was an arts finalist in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

Maureen has participated in music festivals around the world, including Evian, Sarasota, SummerFest La Jolla, Festival d'Aix en Provence, Festival de Inverno Campos do Jordão (Brazil), Prussia Cove, Pacific Music (Japan), Schleswig-Holstein (Germany), and St. Bart's Music Festivals. She is a

former faculty member of Boston University's Tanglewood Institute, a former adjunct professor at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, and is currently on the faculty of the Adult Chamber Music Camp at the Interlochen Arts Academy. She has performed live on numerous radio stations, including Australia's ABC, Canada's CBC, SiriusXM, New York's WQXR, and for National Public Radio's Performance Today.



Japanese-Norwegian violist **MASUMI PER ROSTAD** has been described as an expressive and elegant musician. As a member of the Pacifica Quartet, with whom he performs over 90 concerts a year, he won a 2009 Grammy Award for Best Chamber Music Performance and the Cleveland Quartet Award, in addition to being named Musical America's 2009 Ensemble of the Year.

Masumi has participated in the Marlboro Music Festival and performed as violist for the Spoleto USA and Skaneateles chamber music festivals. Collaborative highlights include performances with



the St Lawrence, Emerson Quartets, Yo-Yo Ma, and Menahem Pressler. He has toured and recorded with the International Sejong Soloists and the Metamorphosen Chamber Orchestra. He can be found on recordings for Cedille Records, Naxos, Tzadik, Windspell Productions, and Musical Observations.

The Third Street Music School Settlement in New York City, where he began his musical studies at age three, presented him with the 'Rising Star Award' for musical achievement in 2008. Mr. Rostad received his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Juilliard School, where he was awarded the Lillian Fuchs Award for outstanding graduating violist. At Juilliard he studied with Karen Tuttle and was her teaching assistant. He has also served

on the faculty of the Northwestern University School of Music. He counts Paul Zukofsky among his great musical mentors.. Currently, Masumi lives in Bloomington, IN, where he is a professor of viola at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music.

NORMAN FISCHER first appeared on the international concert stage as cellist with the Concord String Quartet. The Concords won the Naumburg Chamber Music Award, an Emmy and several Grammy nominations, and recorded over 40 works on RCA Red Seal, Vox, Nonesuch, Turnabout and CRI. The New York Times recently said, "During its 16 years, the supervirtuosic Concord String Quartet championed contemporary work while staying rooted in the Western tradition." In addition to performing the major solo concerti, Mr. Fischer has premiered and recorded many new scores for cello and orchestra. Recitals of unaccompanied cello works have received rave reviews such as "Inspiring" [New York Times] for his New York debut recital of the complete Bach Suites in one evening and "Coruscating" [Boston Globe] for his performance of Golijov's Omaramor at the opening of the 1998 Tanglewood festival.

His chamber music expertise has led to guest appearances with the American, Audubon, Blair, Chester, Chiara, Ciompi, Cleveland, Enso, Emerson, Juilliard, Mendelssohn, and Schoenberg string quartets, the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Chamber Music Ann Arbor, Chamber Music International, Context, Maui Classical Music Festival, and Houston's Da Camera Society.



A devoted teacher and mentor to younger players, Mr. Fischer has taught at Dartmouth College, the Oberlin Conservatory of Music,

and currently is Professor of Violoncello at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. In the summer he has taught at the Tanglewood Music Center since 1985 and is currently the coordinator of chamber music and strings.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

"The moment is supreme."

- Franz Schubert

Dear friends of chamber music,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to St. Olaf College for the Final Rounds of the 2014 Saint Paul String

Quartet Competition. This unique event features the best prepared and most passionate high school age string quartets in the country. Since its inception nine years ago, the SPSQC has presented a one-of-a kind annual contest that showcases some of our nation's finest pre-college string players. These superb young players will be performing some of the most challenging and beautiful chamber music repertoire ever penned as they vie for top prizes and awards.

Outstanding young string quartets from across the country auditioned to compete in today's competition. Each applicant ensemble submitted video recordings of three complete string quartet movements. Our distinguished preliminary jury of professional chamber musicians listened to each group and then responded with detailed written comments in the following categories: Tone Quality, Intonation, Ensemble & Balance, and Musical Ideas. The finalists you will be hearing today earned the highest scores and were invited to compete in the two Final Round events.

The 2014 SPSQC begins with the **Haydn Round**. Composer Franz Joseph Haydn, long considered the "father" of the string quartet genre, composed 68 works for string quartet. Most of these quartets have become the mainstay of every professional string quartet and each is a great test of ability for any aspiring ensemble. Following is the **Final Round** event where each Quartet performs works from the Romantic/Nationalist and the 20th/21st century repertoire.

Prepare to hear some of the most intimate and profound music ever written performed by musicians old enough to have begun mastering their instruments, and young enough to play it fresh

Founded in 2006 as a performance forum for outstanding high school chamber musicians, the Saint Paul String Quartet Competition's primary mission is to celebrate excellence in string quartet playing, foster an increased appreciation for the chamber music art form, and enhance the music culture in this country.





2014-15 Auditions

June 10: viola, cello, bass, flute
June 11: viola, cello, bass, oboe, clarinet
June 12: violin, bassoon, horn
June 13: violin, percussion, harp, piano
June 14: violin, trumpet, trombone, tuba

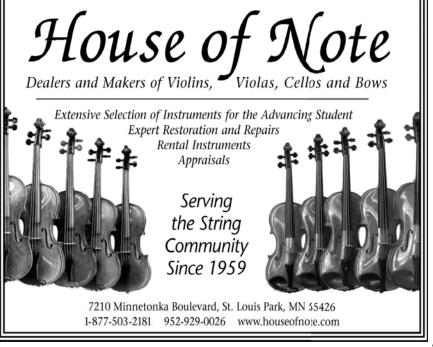
2014 Summer Program



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Congratulations to MYS students Harris Bernstein, Micah Cheng, Michael Chu, Joe Peterson, Emma Richman & Julia Vicic, for competing in the 2014 Saint Paul String Quartet Competition







Anna Clift, Founder & Director



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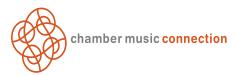
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Cézanne Quartet and Quatuor Alliance



Join us on May 2 & 3 for our Spring Festival with the Cavani Quartet, and in July for our Summer Programming

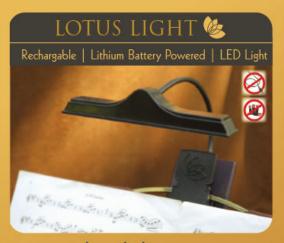
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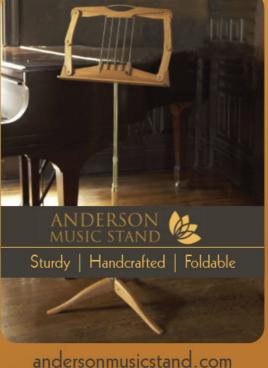
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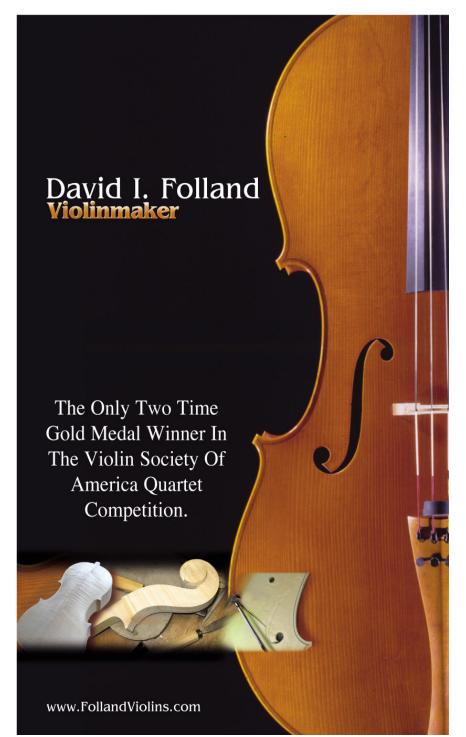
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Photos: Stephen A. Wolfe (2), Cavani (1)





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– Ken Freed, violist, Minnesota Orchestra

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The Awards

1st Prize - \$1000 Gold Medal Award

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2nd Prize - \$800 Silver Medal Award 2nd Prize winner will recieve a set of four Lotus Light Stand lights

3rd Prize - \$600 Bronze Medal Award

Joseph Haydn Prize - \$400 Sponsored by Artaria String Quartet

A special Audience Prize of \$200 will be awarded by popular vote.



HAYDN ROUND PROGRAM

1:30pm Welcome - Master of Ceremonies
Performances begin at 1:35pm

▼ PIKE STREET QUARTET **▼**

Quartet in C major, Op.20 No.2 - I. Moderato

▼ LIGEIA QUARTET ▼

Quartet in G major, Op.64 No.4 - I. Allegro con brio

▼ CEZANNE QUARTET ▼

Quartet in Bb major, Op.64 No.3 - I. Vivace assai

▼ ATARA QUARTET ▼

Quartet in G major, Op.76 No.1 - II. Adagio sostenuto

▼ LUNA QUARTET ▼

Quartet in G major, Op.77 No.1 - IV. Allegro

▼ FABULOUS APPOGGIATURA QUARTET ▼

Quartet in Bb major, Op.76 No.4 "Sunrise" - I. Allegro con spirito

▼ PENDULUM STRING QUARTET ▼

Quartet in D major, Op.76 No.5 "Largo" - I. Allegretto

▼ QUATUOR ALLIANCE **▼**

Quartet in Bb major, Op.76 No.4 "Sunrise" - I. Allegro con spirito

Winner of the <u>Haydn Round</u> will be announced at the Awards Ceremony which follows immediately after the Final Round.











FINAL ROUND PROGRAM

3:00pm Welcome - Master of Ceremonies

3:05pm PIKE STREET QUARTET

Ravel: Quartet in F IV. Vif et agité Schnittke: Quartet No.3 I. Andante



Mendelssohn: Quartet in E minor, Op.44/2 I. Allegro assai appassionato Bartok: Quartet No.4 V. Allegro molto

3:34pm CEZANNE QUARTET

Ravel: Quartet in F I. Allegro moderato - Très doux Piazzolla: Four, for Tango

◀◀◀◀ 3:48pm ATARA STRING QUARTET

Ligeti: Quartet No.1 "Métamorphoses nocturnes" (Part 1) Allegro grazioso - Presto Franck: Quartet IV. Finale: Allegro molto

4:15pm LUNA STRING QUARTET

Mendelssohn: Quartet in a minor, Op. 13 I. Adagio - Allegro vivace Schulhoff: Quartet No. 1 III. Allegro giocoso all Slovacca

4 4 4 2 8 pm FABULOUS APPOGGIATURA QUARTET

Dvorak: Quartet in G major IV. Allegro moderato Shostakovich: Quartet No.3 in F major III. Allegretto

4:46pm PENDULUM STRING QUARTET

Brahms: Quartet in c minor, Op.51/1 III. Romanze: Poco adagio Britten: Quartet No.2 II. Vivace

◄◄◄ 5:00pm QUATUOR ALLIANCE

Brahms: Quartet in a minor, Op.51 No.2 IV. Finale. Allegro non assai Shostakovich: Quartet No.8 II. Allegro molto

Jury selects Final Round Prizewinners Audience Prize votes tallied All Awards Presented









PIKE STREET QUARTET



Alena Hove, violin (Issaquah, WA) Bronwyn James, violin/viola (Seattle, WA) Evan Hjort, violin/viola (Fall City, WA) Olivia Marckx, cello (Bellevue, WA)

The newly formed Pike Street Quartet pursues a variety of interests. In addition to their work as an ensemble, each member of the Pike Street Quartet has become an accomplished soloist, performing with orchestras including the Seattle Symphony, the Coeur d'Alene Symphony, the Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, Cascade Symphony, and the Port Gardner Bay Chamber Orchestra, spending their summers at distinguished music festivals including the Brian Lewis Young Artists Program, Music@Menlo, Music in the Mountains, Pinchus Zukerman's Young Artists Program, and the National Youth Orchestra. Not limited to solo and chamber music, the Pike Street Quartet shares a love for every field of the arts. Members of the PSQ have sung with the Seattle Opera, danced with the Pacific Northwest Ballet, and performed Shakespeare with Studio East. They also enjoy literature and cinema, and have a special interest in Lord of the Rings and BBC's Sherlock. The members of the Pike Street Quartet have known each other for many years and have competed against each other in countless solo competitions. They are enjoying competing together as a quartet and are excited to compete at both the Saint Paul String Quartet Competition and the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition.

Competition Repertoire:
Haydn: Quartet in C major, Op.20 No.2 (mvt. I)
Ravel: Quartet in F (mvt. IV)
Schnittke: Quartet No.3 (mvt. I)

Evan Hjort, violin and viola, was winner of the 2012 Seattle Young Artist Music Festival and is the three-time first place winner of the Simon-Fiset String Competition. He has performed as a soloist with Philharmonia Northwest, The Sammamish Symphony, and the Ottawa Chamber Symphony, was soloist during a Seattle Symphony performance, and performed on Seattle's Classic KING-FM. Evan was a finalist in the Coeur d'Alene Symphony concerto competition, third place winner of the Sammamish Symphony concerto competition, received the Director's Award during the Conservatory Music in the Mountains concerto competition, and was selected twice for the Brian Lewis Young Artists Program. An avid chamber musician, Evan has soloed as part of Elgar's Introduction and Allegro for String Quartet and Orchestra and is a six-time winner of the David Tonkonogui Award for Excellence in Chamber Music. Evan studies with Simon James and enjoys composing music, and playing the piano.

Bronwyn James, violin and viola, was winner of the 2014 Seattle Music Teacher's Association Competition, winner of the 2012 MTNA Washington State Junior Division, was selected to participate in the 2013 Brian Lewis Young Artist Program, and has been selected as a member of the 2014 National Youth Orchestra. As a soloist Bronwyn has performed with the Coeur d'Alene Symphony Orchestra, Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, and the Stradivarius International Advanced String Orchestra. Currently Assistant Concertmaster of Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra, she has also played with the Seattle Young Artists Opera Orchestra and the Auburn Symphony. An enthusiastic chamber musician, Bronwyn has attended Methow Valley and Stringwood Chamber Music Festivals and performed on Seattle's Classic KING-FM and Spokane's KPBX Classical radio. A student of Simon James, Bronwyn previously studied with Elisa Barston and has had lessons with Paul Kantor, Brian Lewis, Gerardo Ribeiro, and Keng Yuen Tseng.

Alena Hove, violin, was honored to be selected to participate in the 2014 Menuhin Competition Junior Division, has performed as soloist with the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, and the Port Gardner Bay Chamber Orchestra with whom she made her debut as soloist at age 9. She was winner of the Seattle Music Teacher's Simon Fiset Competition, the Snohomish Music Teacher's Competition, and received honors at MTNA, Seattle Young Artists competition, and Seattle Symphony Young Artists auditions. She also participated for three summers in the Brian Lewis Young Artists Program. Alena is a member of the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra and will be touring the United States as a member of the 2014 National Youth Orchestra this summer with David Robertson conducting and Gil Shaham as soloist. She joined the Coleman Violin Studio in 2007 and is currently a student of Simon James and piano collaborator and coach Hiro David.

Olivia Marckx, cello, was grand prizewinner of the KING FM Young Artists Awards, received first place in the Washington State MTNA solo competition, and was a featured performer with the Seattle Chamber Music Society after winning their Monika Meyer Clowes Memorial Award. She has performed as soloist with several orchestras including the Seattle Symphony, Sammamish Symphony, Coeur d'Alene Symphony, Cascade Symphony (as winner of their "Rising Star" competition), and Seattle Festival Orchestra, and was selected through the Seattle Symphony Young Artists Auditions to perform Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations with the orchestra this spring. Olivia is a member of the Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra and has participated in Pinchas Zukerman's Young Artists Program and was a full tuition scholarship recipient at Music@Menlo. Olivia studies cello with Leslie Marckx, Ray Davis, Chuck Jacot and Meeka Quan-diLorenzo, and has received coaching from Pinchas Zukerman, David Finckel, James Ehnes, Hans Jorgen Jensen, and Robert Demaine.

LIGEIA QUARTET



Cyril Wang, violin (Chicago, IN) Ursula Steele, violin (Chicago, IL) Alaina Rea, viola (Orland Park, IL) Joshua DeVries, cello (Chesterton, IN)

Formed in the summer of 2013, the Ligeia Quartet, Ursula Steele, violin; Cyril Wang, violin; Alaina Rea, violin; and Joshua DeVries, cello, soon put on a concert in Curtiss Hall in Chicago's historic Fine Arts Building, sponsored by the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra. Their program, featuring the world premiere of Sprechstisambastimme by Michael Schelle, was an offshoot of the Citizen Musician community engagement initiative of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. "What makes [the Ligeia Quartet] unique is why and how they set out to do something more for the future of classical music... [they make music] not only for its aesthetic value, but also for its ability to inspire others by creating a shared experience." (Jonathan McCormick, CSO's Institute for Learning). The Ligeia Quartet has participated in masterclasses with the Orion Ensemble, Kontras Quartet and Omer Quartet and is regularly coached by acclaimed violin soloist, chamber musician and teacher Minghuan Xu. Working with the acclaimed Orion Ensemble, the quartet participated in a mentoring program which culminated in a performance during the Ensemble's fall concert at the Sherwood Community Music Center; "the Ligeia Quartet served up a buoyant and impressively polished account of Haydn's quartet." (Chicago Classical Review) In April, Ligeia will be a featured guest artist at Butler University in Indianapolis, working with string students, chamber groups, and student composers in live masterclass settings. The residency concludes with a concert featuring music by composition professor Michael Schelle and his students, including 5 world premieres. More recent performances include Bartok and Haydn on the webseries Fear No Art and a performance at the Chicago Youth Symphony's annual Chamberpalooza at St. James Cathedral in Chicago.

Competition Repertoire:
Haydn: Quartet in G major, Op.64 No.4 (mvt I)
Mendelssohn: Quartet in E minor, Op.44 No.2 (mvt.I)
Bartok: Quartet No.4 (mvt V)

Jisun Lee, 17, is Violinist Cyril Wang began playing the violin when he was six years old. He has studied primarily with his father, receiving additional guidance by such distinguished violinists as Yang Liu, Nell Flanders, and Minghuan Xu. Cyril has been a member of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras for seven years, and is currently concertmaster of the organization's two premiere ensembles, Symphony Orchestra and Encore Chamber Orchestra. He has participated in the CYSO Chamber Music Program for six of those years, and is currently a member of the Principal Players String Quartet.

Ursula Steele, age 18, is a student of Stacia Spencer at Northwestern University String Academy. She has toured and performed in cities throughout France, Italy, and Spain with the Northwestern Strings and with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra. She has won honors in competitions sponsored by the Chinese Fine Arts Society, the Walgreens National Concerto Competition, and the Society of American Musicians. She has studied with and performed in master classes for renowned pedagogues such as CSO violinist Blair Milton, Mimi Zweig, Alf Richard Kraggerud, Matthew Michelic, Gerardo Ribeiro of Northwestern University, and Hal Grossman of the Interlochen Arts Academy.

Violist Alaina Rea originally began her studies as a violinist at age three. After studying violin for many years with Lamar Blum and Desirée Ruhstrat, she transferred her focus to viola and currently studies with Li-Kuo Chang, Assistant Principal Viola of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. A member of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras for nine years, she has served as Co-Principal Violist of Symphony Orchestra and Encore, CYSO's premiere performing ensembles, for the past two. As violist of CYSO's Principal Players Quartet, she was featured on WFMT's Introductions in 2013. Two years earlier, Alaina was chosen to perform Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 with Yo-Yo Ma at Orchestra Hall in Chicago. Among other distinctions as a soloist, she was awarded Honorable Mention at the 2013 DePaul Concerto Festival Competition and was a finalist at the 2013 CYSO Concerto Competition. Alaina has participated in masterclasses led by Yo-Yo Ma, the Lincoln Trio, and the Beethoven Project Trio.

A multi-faceted performer, cellist **Joshua DeVries** has been a featured soloist in concerts worldwide, embracing both standard and contemporary music with "fiery virtuosity and thoughtful finesse" (Yixing Daily). With South Shore Orchestra, Joshua commissioned and was the dedicatee of a concerto, Sun-Wukong, by composer Michael Schelle. The concerto was premiered in October 2013 and soon thereafter he and SSO took the concerto on a sold-out Western New Year's tour of China, including performances broadcast on national television and a concert at the Yixing Central Gymnasium, a stadium built for the 2008 Olympic Games. He has served as principal cellist in honor ensembles across the United States, and participated in masterclasses with cellists from the Chicago, Cleveland, and Indianapolis Symphonies. He is currently the Co-Principal Cellist of the Chicago Youth Symphony and studies with Richard Hirschl of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Chicago College for the Performing Arts.

CEZANNE QUARTET



Camille Vogley-Howes, violin (Columbus, OH) Jae Suk Bae, violin (Dublin, OH) Sarah McBride, viola (Bexley, OH) Zachariah Reff, cello (Columbus, OH)

The Cézanne String Quartet founded in the fall of 2013 at the Chamber Music Connection in Worthington, Ohio, under the direction of Deborah Price. The Quartet enjoys performing together at local venues including Natalie's Coal Fired Pizza & Live Music, a neighborhood restaurant specializing in great food with live music, at the Ohio State School for the Blind, and at the Dowd Education Center, a facility used by the Homeless Families Foundation to provide enriching activities for homeless and at-risk school age children. Cézanne participated in the 2014 Midwest Young Artists Discover ® National Chamber Music Competitions and at the 2014 OSTA 9th Biennial Chamber Music Competition where they were awarded 2nd Prize. They each enjoy playing jazz together along with classical music. Members of Cézanne have participated in masterclasses and/or side-by-side residencies with renowned musicians including members of the St. Lawrence String Quartet, Cavani Quartet, Pacifica Quartet, Hausmann Quartet, Escher Quartet, and Trio Cavatina, as well as with Peter Salaff (CIM and founding member of the former Cleveland Quartet), David Finckel, and Wu Han.

Competition Repertoire:
Haydn: Quartet in Bb major, Op.64 No.3 (mvt. I)
Ravel: Quartet (mvt. I)
Piazzolla: Four, for Tango

Camille Vogley-Howes (16), started playing the violin when she was three years old. She developed a foundation for music and musical technique on the violin through the Suzuki Method under the direction Ginny Christopherson, but learned how to play jazz and bluegrass on the instrument through coaching from her father and acclaimed rock violinist, Christian Howes. She attended OSU Jazz Camp summer 2013 and Creative String Workshop, a camp for creative string players with coaches from all around the world annually since 2005. She also studied with a private piano and music theory teacher Eric Augis for four years. She also plays in her school jazz band and orchestra and She currently studies violin with Robert Firdman of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra and CMC. Camille is a junior at Columbus Alternative High School and also loves to read and make art when she's not playing music or busy with schoolwork.

Jae Suk Bae is a senior at Bishop Watterson High School. He began playing the violin at age 11 in his home country, South Korea. He moved to the United States with his mother and sister, when he was in 8th grade and his father is currently in South Korea, teaching educational sociology at Inha University. Jae started taking private lessons with Erica Donahoe and he currently takes private lessons with Deborah Price. He joined the Chamber Music Connection in 10th grade and is currently a member of the Fellowship Program. Through CMC, he has had many opportunities to perform in masterclasses and with guest artists such as the Cavani String Quartet, Saint Lawrence String Quartet, Trio Cavatina, Hausmann String Quartet, Escher String Quartet, Michael Tree, Gloria Chen, Harumi Rhodes, Soovin Kim, and Jean-Efflam Bavouzet. At CMC, Jae has also participated in numerous activities including community service gigs and Jazz/Improv class. Recently he was featured as a senior fellowship performing and leading the first movement of Mozart's G Major Concerto with CMC's Amadeus Chamber Orchestra. Jae also participated in Columbus Symphony Chamber Orchestra during his freshmen year. Outside of his music world, Jae is a very competitive and active sports player. He plays Ice-Hockey and Tennis for his high school, receiving 4 year Varsity Award for Hockey and 3 year Varsity Award for Tennis. Next year, he plans to go to college, majoring in Civil Engineering.

Sarah McBride is a senior at Bexley High School. She first picked up the viola, switching from the violin, five years ago, and hasn't regretted it since. Her first musical instrument was the piano, on which she began lessons at the age of five. She continues to take piano lessons from Philip Cordell at Capital University. She currently studies the viola under Paula Korak (violinist of Columbus Symphony Orchestra) and Deborah Price. However, the violin was not completely abandoned, as Sarah continues to play as concertmaster of the Bexley High School Sinfonia under direction of Sandra Crandall. Sarah also plays viola for the New Albany Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Luis Biava. Through CMC, Sarah is a member of the fellowship program and has had the amazing opportunity to work and perform with guest artists including the St. Lawrence String Quartet, Hausmann Quartet, Escher Quartet, Cavani Quartet, Trio Cavatina, and many more. She was recently featured as a senior fellow soloist performing and leading the first movement of the Hoffmeister Viola Concerto with CMC's Amadeus Chamber Orchestrs. Outside of music and school, Sarah enjoys drawing, computer-generated graphic design, cuddling with her two adorable dogs, and English saddle riding. She sends her deepest thanks to Deborah Price, her teachers, members of her quartet, her mentors, friends, and family for their loving support. Sarah will be majoring in Viola Performance next year at the Eastman School of Music.

Zachariah Reff is a senior at Upper Arlington (OH) High School. He started playing the cello at the age of five after listening to private lessons for different instruments. He received his cello foundation from the Jefferson Program at the Ohio State University through the Suzuki method. He currently studies with Amir Eldan in Oberlin Ohio and previously studied with Mary Featherston in Columbus. He joined the Chamber Music Connection in Columbus Ohio five years ago and has participated in Ohio Music Educator Association Regional and All State orchestras. Away from the cello, Zach enjoys hanging out with friends and playing sports such as basketball and baseball. He also enjoys hiking and skiing in Colorado where his family often visits. After graduation, he plans to pursue a degree in cello performance.

ATARA STRING QUARTET



Hannah White, violin (Germantown, WI) Karisa Chiu, violin (Palatine, IL) Tess Krope, viola (Chicago, IL) Krystian Chiu, cello (Wilmette IL)

Atara String Quartet is comprised of Hannah White and Karisa Chiu, violin; Tess Krope, viola; and Krystian Chiu, cello. All four students are Fellows at the Music Institute of Chicago Academy, a pre-college training program for gifted musicians. Karisa Chiu is the recipient of the Rachel Barton Pine Scholarship and Hannah White is the recipient of the William Warfield Memorial Scholarship. The quartet is coached by artist faculty member Marko Dreher. Atara String Quartet is the first place winner of the Society of American Musicians 2014 Jules M. Laser Chamber Music Competition and has performed for Music in the Loft's Young Artists Concert. They received honorable mention in the Midwest Young Artists 2014 Discover National Chamber Music Competition. Atara has also recently advanced to the junior division quarterfinal round of the 2014 Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition in May. In addition, the members have individually won numerous competitions and prizes locally, regionally and nationally. A dedicated ensemble, Atara members and coach cross national and state borders weekly to practice. Atara is unique in that every member is a first generation American of mixed ethnicity—Hannah is African-American/Vietnamese, Karisa is Korean/Chinese, Tess is Caucasian/ Korean, and Krystian is Korean/Chinese. This group represents the proud diversity crown of America and is fitting named "Atara" which means crown or royalty in Hebrew.

Competition Repertoire:

Haydn: Quartet in G major, Op.76 No.1 (mvt II)
Franck: String Quartet (mvt. IV)
Ligeti: Quartet No.1 "Métamorphoses nocturnes" (Part I)

Hannah White (14) is a William Warfield Scholarship fellow at Music Institute of Chicago's (MIC) Academy program studying with Hye-Sun Lee and Almita Vamos. Hannah has soloed with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra (MSO), Madison Symphony Orchestra, Sphinx Symphony Orchestra, Oistrach Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Youth Symphony Orchestra (MYSO) Senior Symphony, MIC Academy String Orchestra, MYSO String Orchestra, and Waukesha Area Youth Orchestra. Hannah has won top prizes including 2014 Laureate-Sphinx Competition, 1st Place-National Level at MT NA, 1st Place-Madison Youth Concerto Comp., 1st-MYSO Senior Symphony Concerto Comp., 1st Place-Chinese Fine Arts Comp., 1st Place-Grandquist Music Comp., 1st Place-Sejong Cultural Society Comp., twice, 1st Place-Walgreens National Concerto Comp. as Category and Overall Winner, MIC Academy Concerto Comp., twice, 1st Place-DePaul Concerto Comp., 1st Place-MYSO String Orchestra Concerto Comp., 1st Place-MSO Bach Double Comp., Semi-Finalist-Stradivarius International Violin Comp., and more. Hannah has performed master classes with James Ehnes, Rachel Barton Pine, William Van der Sloot, Christos Galieas, Ilana Setapen, Danielle Belen, Lara St. John, Thomas Rosenberg and David Taylor. Hannah has soloed for Governors, International Generals and Delegates; been featured in various Chicago, Detroit, and Milwaukee area newspapers; and Chicago's WFMT's 98.7frm, MPTV Black Nouveau Program, and documentary mini-series by Spark Media.

Karisa Chiu (14) is a Rachel Barton Pine scholarship Fellow at the Music Institute of Chicago's Academy Program where she studies the violin with Almita Vamos. She has won top prizes from many competitions such as The Society of American Musicians Competition, The Sejong Music Competition, The Chinese Fine Arts Society Music Competition, Walgreens National Concerto Competition, and The DePaul Concerto Competition. She was recently featured as a soloist with the CSA Sinfonia in DeKalb, Illinois and the UIC Symphony Orchestra in Chicago. She had played in master classes given by renowned artists such as Joel Smirnoff, Ilya Kaler and Andrey Baranov.

Tess Krope (16) is an A.D. Johnson Foundation Fellow at the Music Institute of Chicago's Academy Program where she studies violin and viola with MIC artist faculty member Marko Dreher. As assistant concertmistress of the 2013 Chicago Symphony Orchestra's Youth in Music Festival, Tess had the opportunity to be guided by Guest Conductor Carlos Miguel Prieto, Guest Conductor Miguel Harth-Bedoya, and Civic Orchestra Principal Conductor Cliff Colnot. As part of a CYSO ensemble, Tess recently debuted Michael Schelle's Sprechstisambastimme for CSO's Citizen Musician initiative. In 2012, Tess won first place in the 2012 Alton Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competition and performed with the Alton Symphony. She has been honorably mentioned in the violin division of the 2010 DePaul Concerto Festival. Aside from music, Tess enjoys acting and improv. She is a sophomore at Whitney H. Young Magnet High School.

Krystian Chiu (17) is a merit scholarship Fellow at the Music Institute of Chicago's Academy Program where he studies cello with Hans Jensen. He has won many prizes from competitions including the Society of American Musicians Competition, the Chinese Fine Arts Society Music Competition, Walgreens National Concerto Competition, and DePaul Concerto Competition. As an orchestra player, he was selected as principal cello for the 2012 IMEA District Orchestra, and also was third chair for 2012 and 2013 IMEA State Honor's Orchestra. He has performed in master classes for Tamas Vargas, Emir Alden and Richard Hirschl. He is a junior at the W. Fremd High School in Palatine, Illinois.

LUNA QUARTET



Anna Humphrey, violin (Rogers, MN) Emma Richman, violin (Minneapolis, MN) Alexandra Sophocleus, viola (Minneapolis, MN) Nora Doyle, cello (Minneapolis, MN)

The Luna String Quartet is one of Artaria Chamber Music School's senior level string quartets, coached by Nancy Oliveros. The group had their first rehearsal on the night of a blue moon, August 31, 2012, and chose "luna" as their name. In September 2013 the Luna String Quartet was featured on National Public Radio's "From the Top," the preeminent showcase for young musicians hosted by pianist Christopher O'Riley. Last year they won the Silver Medal, the Haydn Prize and the audience award at the Saint Paul String Quartet Competition. They won first prize in the 2013 St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Youth Chamber Music Competition. They were also recorded by and featured on Classical Minnesota Public Radio (MPR), performing for a live broadcast at the Fitzgerald Theater as winners of MPR's Minnesota Varsity Competition, winning the audience favorite and performing an encore. The "Lunatics" have performed in conjunction with concerts of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Bakken Trio, the Artaria String Quartet and the Young Musicians of Minnesota on behalf of the musicians of the Minnesota Orchestra during their 16-month lockout. They have participated in master classes with Erin Keefe, concert-master of the Minnesota Orchestra, and members of the Elias String Quartet, the St. Lawrence Quartet, the Jasper Quartet and the Miro Quartet.

Competition Repertoire:
Haydn: Quartet in G major, Op.77 No.1 (mvt IV)
Mendelssohn: Quartet in a minor, Op.13 (mvt. I)
Schulhoff: Quartet No.1 (mvt. III)

Anna Humphrey, 18, of Rogers, MN is a senior at Buffalo High School. She has been playing violin since the age of three and has been involved in the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies (GTCYS) since the 4th grade. She has recently served as concertmaster for the GTCYS Symphony and the 2012-2013 Minnesota All-State Orchestra, as well as co-concertmaster for the GTCYS Symphony and the 2013-2014 Minnesota All-State Orchestra. She was a co-winner in the 2012-2013 GTCYS Concerto Competition. She was also a finalist in the 2011 GTCYS Concerto Competition and a 2011 Jr. Division co-winner of the Mary West Solo Competition. She has performed solos with the Northern Symphony Orchestra and the GTCYS Symphony Orchestra. She is looking forward to soloing with the GTCYS Symphony Orchestra on a tour to Spain in June of 2014 and being a member of the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America in July of 2014. Anna is a member of the Artaria Chamber Music School, where she is the first violinist in the Luna String Quartet. Anna previously studied violin with Steve Stenson, and now studies privately with Mary Sorlie. She has also studied piano with Gregory Theisen at MacPhail. She plays oboe, sings in choir, and sings in an auditioned vocal jazz/chamber choir at school. In addition to her musical endeavors, Anna also enjoys dance, theatre, conducting, baking, and eating food. This year, she is president of the Tri-M Music Society and Co-President of the Arts Magnet Student Council.

Emma Richman, 16, declared herself a violinist at an early age and has vigorously pursued its study in the studio of Susan Crawford, part of the Northern Lights School for Strings, directed by Ellen Kim. She has sought orchestral experience through Minnesota Youth Symphonies and Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies and chamber music study with Artaria Chamber Music School as a member of the Luna String Quartet. Emma has spent her summers attending violin institutes and chamber music camps including Stringwood (with the Artaria String Quartet), Sound Encounters (in the studio of Brian Lewis), Green Lake Chamber Music Camp (directed by Tom Rosenberg) and the Northern Lights Chamber Music Institute (directed by Young-Nam Kim). She has played with the Minnesota Sinfonia and Flying Forms, performed as soloist with the St. Paul JCC Symphony and the Lyra Baroque Orchestra and participated in numerous master classes. In 2012 she performed as one of six upper level soloists at the Suzuki Association of Minnesota's Statewide Graduation at Orchestra Hall and recently earned honorable mention the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies Concerto Competition. This summer Emma will tour the United States as a member of the National Youth Orchestra, sponsored by Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute. Emma is a sophomore at Southwest High School in Minneapolis.

Alexandra Sophocleus, 18, is a senior at DeLaSalle High School in Minneapolis. She studies with Richard Marshall, Co-Principal violist of the Minnesota Orchestra. Alexandra has served as principal violist of the Minnesota Youth Symphonies highest-level orchestra. She attended Stringwood Chamber Music Camp (recently as a member of an honors quartet), the Green Lake Chamber Music Festival, and Madeline Island Music Camp. She is a 5-year student of the Artaria Chamber Music School where she discovered her passion for string quartets. Alexandra has performed as a soloist in master classes for Nobuko Imai, David Holland, Masumi Per Rostad and Jonathon Sturm. Alexandra participates in her high school music program where she has been selected to play in the Tri-Metro Honors Orchestra for four years. In addition to studying viola, Alexandra is a vocal student in the studio of Manon Gimlett and has been an avid participant in the Young Musicians of Minnesota, a group of students concerned about ending the Minnesota Orchestra lockout and supporting the Orchestra's musicians.

Nora Doyle, 18, is senior at Southwest High School in Minneapolis. She has been playing the cello since she was 5 years old, and currently studies with Mina Fisher. Nora is also a member of the Symphony Orchestra of the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, the Luna String Quartet, a part of the Artaria Chamber Music School, and the Cartesian Piano Trio, part of the Chamber Music Studio of Tom Rosenberg. Both of her chamber groups actively compete in local and national competitions. She has appeared with both groups on Classical Minnesota Public Radio's Minnesota Varsity and National Public Radio's From the Top. In the summer of 2013 Nora became a member of the first-ever National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America, sponsored by Carnegie Hall's Weill Music Institute. With this orchestra she performed in Moscow, St. Petersburg, and at the British Proms in London. In addition to music Nora enjoys hiking, camping, Nordic skiing, and doing yoga, as well as watching soccer vines.

FABULOUS APPOGGIATURA QUARTET



Magdiell Antiquera, violin (Fariboult,MN) Michael Chu, violin (Woodbury, MN) Julia Vicic, viola (St. Paul, MN) Thom Ingram, cello (Minneapolis, MN)

The Fabulous Appoggiatura Quartet, coached by Ray Shows of the Artaria Chamber Music School, has been together as a group since September, 2013. Individually, members of this newly minted ensemble are prizewinners in their own right in both regional and national events and the two graduating seniors are heading to superb music programs next Fall. As a quartet, FAQ won 1st prize in the prestigious St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Young Chamber Music Competition in February. They performed for a full house in an SPCO pre-concert Young Artist showcase in March.

Competition Repertoire:
Haydn: Quartet in Bb major, Op.76 No.4 "Sunrise" (mvt. I)
Dvorak: Quartet in G major, Op.106 (mvt. IV)
Shostakovich: Quartet No.8 (mvt. III)

Magdiell Antequera was born in Coro, Venezuala in 1996. At the age of 8 he began attending the internationally recognized program of music, El Sistema. He has had the opportunity to participate in many chamber music ensembles and master classes with Claudio Abbado. Magdiell has also played in orchestras under the direction of Gustavo Dudamel and Daniel Barenboim. He began his experience as a soloist with the Falcon Symphony Orchestra at the age of 10 and has continued to develop his expertise as a solo musician. He has participated in multiple master classes with professors from the Academia Latinoamericana de Violin, New England Conservatory of Music, Royal Academy of Music, and Haute Ecole de Musique in Geneva. Magdiell has participated in many music summer camps including Academia Latinoamericana de Violin, Bravo! In Minneapolis Minnesota, and the Northern Lights String Camp in Duluth Minnesota. Magdiell Antequera was the recipient of the Bach Prize in the solo competition at the Academia Latinoamericana de Violin. Magdiell currently attends Shattuck St. Mary's School as a member of the Pre-Conservatory Program, is a member of the Artaria Chamber Music Program, and studies violin with Prof. Sally O'Reilly at the University of Minnesota.

Michael Chu (17). Michael Chu is a senior at Woodbury High School and currently studies with Aaron Janse. He began violin lessons with Blaine Barnes at St. Joseph's School of Music at the age of seven and continued studies with Shane Kim until 2012. Michael has been a part of MYS since 2009, currently a first violinist and former concertmaster of the Symphony Orchestra. He was recently selected as a finalist in the MYS Symphony Solo Competition. This past summer, Michael has spent his time participating in various music organizations such as the All State Orchestra and the Sid and Mary Foulger International Music Festival. In addition to violin, Michael also enjoys playing the trumpet in his high school band. He is an active participant in the Marching Band, Jazz Band, Pep Band, Pit Orchestra, and Movie Music Ensemble at his school. Next year, Michael plans to attend college, majoring in math and music.

Julia Vicic (17), a Senior at St. Paul Central High School, is a student of Sabina Thatcher. She is a member of the Artaria Chamber Music School, Minnesota Youth Symphonies, and the Central High School Orchestra. Past ensembles include Minnesota All-State Orchestra and the St. Olaf College summer youth orchestra. Julia has been Concertmaster of her school orchestra and the all-city Ordway Honors Orchestra for the past two years. She spent last summer at Meadowmount Music School and will participate in the Castleman Quartet Program this summer in Fredonia, NY. Julia was the "Coda Bow" prize winner in the 2013 MNSOTA Mary West Competition last fall. A 2012 and 2013 finalist in the MYS Symphony Solo Competition, Julia also studies piano and has a passion for singing. She plans to be a viola performance major this fall.

Thom Ingram, (17) is a PSEO student at the University of Minnesota, where he studies in the studio of Tanya Remenikova. He also studies privately with Mina Fisher, and has been studying the cello for seven years. He is a member of the GTCYS Symphony orchestra for his second year, and he received an honorable mention in the finals of the GTCYS Concerto Competition. He is also a member of the Artaria Chamber Music School, and recently won first prize at the SPCO Chamber Competion with the Fabulous Appoggiatura Quartet, coached by Ray Shows. He has attended Stringwood and Cello: An American Experience, run by the Artaria String Quartet and Anna Clift, respectively. Outside of these, Thom founded the Aerios String Quartet, with whom he performs gigs throughout the Twin Cities.

PENDULUM STRING QUARTET



Jason Shu, violin (Corcoran, MN)
Harris Bernstein, violin (Minneapolis, MN)
Joe Peterson, viola (Saint Paul, MN)
Micah Cheng, cello (Woodbury, MN)

Pendulum String Quartet (previously Take 4 and the Apollo String Quartet) was formed through the Artaria Chamber Music School in 2011 and has been mentored by Ray Shows, of the Artaria String Quartet. The group includes three out of four of its founding members, namely violinists Harris Bernstein and Jason Shu, and cellist Micah Cheng. Pendulum's violist, Joe Peterson, is new as of the 2013-14 season. The Pendulum String Quartet has been a finalist in the Saint Paul String Quartet Competition, and has won a bronze and two silver medals in the SPCO Youth Chamber Music Competion. Recently, Pendulum has participated in masterclasses with the esteemed Jasper and Miro Quartets. Interested in new works, Pendulum gave the first reading and recording of Venetian Dreams by composer Luke Simonson late last fall.

Competition Repertoire:
Haydn: Quartet in D major, op.76 no.5 "Largo" (mvt. I)
Brahms: Quartet in c minor, Op51 No.1 (mvt. II)
Britten: Quartet No.2 (mvt. II)

Jason Shu (17) studies violin with Sally O'Reilly, Professor at the University of Minnesota. He made his debut as orchestral soloist with the St.Paul Chamber Orchestra at the age of 8 and has been the winner of the Allegro! Orchestra Camp Concerto Competition, the Minnesota Sinfonia Concerto Competition, and the MNSOTA Mary West Solo Competition's Givens Prize and Coda Bow Prize. Besides being a national finalist in MTNA competitions twice, he also has received awards in the Schubert Club and recently won first prize in the Thursday Musical scholarship competition. Jason is in the eleventh grade at the Blake School.

Harris Bernstein (17), violin, is a junior at South High School in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is a member of his high school orchestra, as well as the Minnesota Youth Symphonies where he plays in the Symphony orchestra. Harris has studied chamber music at the Artaria Chamber Music School for the past four years under the tutelage of Nancy Oliveros and Ray Shows. He is also a member of the MacPhail String Quartet for the 2012-2013 school year, which is coached by the Parker String Quartet. Harris has participated and placed in the finals of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Chamber Music Competition for the past two years. Last summer he attended several summer chamber music programs including Stringwood, the Chicago Chamber Music Workshop, and the Northern Lights Chamber Music Institute. Harris currently studies with Ellen Kim at the Northern Lights School for Strings, and Erin Keefe, Concertmaster of the Minnesota Orchestra. Harris enjoys spending time with family and friends as well as time in the great outdoors.

Joe Peterson (18) began his musical studies on violin on his 6th birthday. He has performed a variety of solo, chamber, and orchestral music, as well as bluegrass, jazz, and contemporary improvisation. Joseph has been a student of Carolyn Axt, Dragan Stojkovic, and Gerardo Ribeiro, and currently studies with Ray Shows. He has been playing chamber music regularly since middle school, getting his feet wet in a summer youth program at the MacPhail Center for Music. This is how he came in contact with the Artaria Chamber Music School, which he has been a part of for four years. Both of the string quartet's Joseph has participated in, namely Kromatique and Pendulum Quartet, have won medals in the SPCO Chamber Music Competition. In past summers, Joseph has attended the Stringwood Music Festival, the Madeline Island Chamber Music Camp (twice), and the Meadowmount School of Music, where he studied with Gerardo Ribeiro. Last winter, Joseph won the Minnesota Youth Symphonies Solo Competition, and made his orchestral debut with the first movement of the Brahms Violin Concerto. In addition to performing, he enjoys writing and composing, and has had the opportunity to have several of his pieces performed. Joe is a Senior at the Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists.

Micah Cheng (18) is a senior at Woodbury High School of Woodbury, Minnesota. He is a member of both the National Honor Society and the National Society of High School Scholars. In 2013, he has received the AP Scholar with Distinction Award. Micah has been involved in classical music training since the age of five, playing both the piano and the cello. He is the principal cellist of the Symphony Orchestra of the Minnesota Youth Symphonies. Recently he has been invited to play as a solo artist in Salon se Leve, a "salon concert" that identify and encourage the most gifted of Minnesota's emerging young artists. Micah has soloed with the La Crosse Symphony Orchestra of Wisconsin as winner of 2014 Rising Stars Concerto Competition. He was the First Place winner of the senior high strings of Thursday Musical, Honorable Mention of the Schubert Club, and Featured Round Artist of MPR Varsity Competition in 2013. He received Second Place in the Senior Division of the Young Artist Competition held by the Minnesota Sinfonia, Third Place in the SPPTA Piano Concerto Competition in 2012. Besides school and music, Micah enjoys snowboarding, basketball, and fishing.

QUATUOR ALLIANCE



Dawing Welliver, violin (Columbus, OH) Delaney Meyers, violin (Columbus, OH) Alexander Locke, viola (Bexley, OH) Jesse Hsu, cello (Dublin, OH)

Quatuor Alliance is comprised of violinists Dawning Welliver (18) and Delaney Meyers (18), violist Alexander Locke (18) and cellist Jesse Hsu (18). The quartet was founded at the Chamber Music Connection (CMC) in the fall of 2012, where all four musicians are part of the fellowship program. Under the direction of Deborah Price, Quatuor Alliance has participated in masterclasses and side-by-side residencies with renowned musicians including members of the St. Lawrence String Quartet, Cavani Quartet, Pacifica Quartet, Hausmann Quartet, Escher Quartet, and Trio Cavatina, as well as with Peter Salaff (CIM and former Cleveland Quartet), David Finckel, and Wu Han.

Quatuor Alliance has represented CMC in featured performances at the McConnell Arts Center (Worthington, Ohio), Natalie's Coal Fired Pizza & Live Music, Ohio State School for the Blind, and at the Dowd Education Center, a facility used by the Homeless Families Foundation to provide enriching activities for homeless and at-risk school age children. They participated in the 2013 and 2014 Midwest Young Artists Discover ® National Chamber Music Competitions receiving Honorable Mention awards consecutively, and in the 2013 Saint Paul String Quartet Competition receiving the Bronze medal. They also performed in the 2013 quarterfinals of the Fischoff National Chamber Music Competition. Most recently, they participated in the 2014 Ohio String Teachers Association 9th Biennial Chamber Music Competition winning 1st Prize.

Competition Repertoire:

Haydn: Quartet in Bb major, Op.76 No.4 "Sunrise" (mvt. I) Brahms: Quartet in a minor, Op51 No.2 (mvt. IV) Shostakovich: Quartet No.8 (mvt. II) Dawning Welliver, a senior at the Wellington School, has played the violin for 12 years. She currently studies with Leonid Polonsky and her previous instructors include Kurt Sassmannshaus, Leah Kim, and Connie Heim Stambaugh. She joined CMC two years ago, and this past year performed the Vieuxtemps Concerto No. 5 with CMC's Dell'arte Chamber Orchestra. She previously was a member of the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra, the Philadelphia Sinfonia, and the Starling Preparatory String Program of the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. At Wellington, she participates in the music program under Karen Butler and founded a performance series to give her peers the opportunity to perform and also to listen and learn about different kinds of music. In chamber music, in addition to CMC, Dawning has worked with the faculty of the Illinois Chamber Music Festival and the Kimmel Center Chamber Music Camp, as well as members of the Philadelphia and Cleveland orchestras. In her spare time, Dawning likes to run, befriend trees, and explore all genres and styles of music. Dawning is extremely passionate about world cultures and languages and hopes to one day combine her loves of music and the world. In college, Dawning hopes to pursue Dual Degrees in Violin Performance and International Relations.

Delaney Meyers started playing violin at age 4 through the Suzuki method. Her prominent teachers have included Mary Irwin and current teacher Robert Firdman. In 7th grade, Delaney became involved in the CMC where, this past year, she performed the Saint-Saëns Violin Concerto with CMC's d'Amore Chamber Orchestra. Also through CMC, Delaney has had the opportunity to play alongside and be coached by many esteemed chamber groups and musicians including the Cavani String Quartet, Saint Lawrence String Quartet, Trio Cavatina, David Finckel, Wu Han, and Peter Salaff. She has also had the opportunity to work with the Jupiter, Ariel, and Arianna String Quartets at Madeline Island Music Camp. Delaney is a senior at Upper Arlington High School and plans to pursue philosophy and violin performance in college. She enjoys experimenting with non-classical styles, playing music with new people and jamming with her homies. In addition to music, Delaney is active in her church community. She enjoys reading and writing poetry, thinking, sitting in trees, and adventuring.

Alexander (Aky) Locke is a violist born and raised in the city of Bexley, Ohio. Starting violin at the age of three, he grew to love it, but eventually traded the violin for the viola. Aky is an avid chamber musician currently in the string quartet, Quatuor Alliance. Under the direction of Deborah Price and CMC, Aky has worked with such artists as the Guarneri, Jupiter, Ying, St. Lawrence, and Cavani String quartets. Through these various master classes and performances, music began to become a major part of Aky's Life. Aky's previous teachers include: Linda Steig, Roger Steig, Rebecca White, and Debbie Price. Currently Aky studies with Kirsten Doctor (CIM, and violist of Cavani). Additionally Aky studies voice under Dr. Andrew Blosser (OSU). As a soloist, Aky performed Hindemith's Der Schwanendreher with the CMC Dell'arte Chamber Orchestra. Aky has just finished all eight of his college auditions and by the time this gets printed should know where he is going to attend. In addition to his high school academic schedule, Aky takes classes at The Ohio State University. On top of all his music activities he also finds great joy in theatre. Currently he can be found playing the role of Bobby Strong in the hit musical "Urinetown".

Jesse Hsu is a senior at Dublin Jerome High School. He started playing the cello at age nine with Jill Crist and currently studies with Pei-An Chao. Jesse has participated in CMC for six years where, as a member of their fellowship program, he is responsible for social media outreach. In February, Jesse was a featured soloist with CMC, performing the Elgar cello concerto. In addition to being a member of Quatuor Alliance, he also is a member of the New Albany Symphony Orchestra and Columbus Symphony Youth Orchestra. Jesse has participated several times in the Ohio Music Educators Association Regional and All-State Orchestras. Last summer, he attended the Green Lake Chamber Music Festival in Ripon, Wisconsin, studying with artists Tom Rosenberg, Karen Kim, Andrew Armstrong, Jim Howsmon, and the Ariel String Quartet. As a soloist, Jesse received an Honorable Mention in the Columbus Symphony Concerto Competition and performed the finale movement of the Elgar Cello Concerto with the CMC Romantico Chamber Orchestra. At his high school, Jesse is a member of the Jerome Chamber Orchestra, led by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by Michelle Adair, and has performed in the pit orchestra for Beauty and the Beast, conducted by M

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