Festival Artists

Cellist **OLE AKAHOSHI** (Norfolk '92) performs in North and South America, Asia, and Europe in recitals, chamber concerts and as a soloist with orchestras such as the Orchestra of St. Luke's, Symphonisches Orchester Berlin and Czech Radio Orchestra. His performances have been featured on CNN, NPR, BBC, major German radio stations, Korean Broadcasting Station, and WQXR. He has made numerous recordings for labels such as Naxos. Akahoshi has collaborated with the Tokyo, Michelangelo, and Keller string quartets, Syoko Aki, Sarah Chang, Elmar Oliveira, Gil Shaham, Lawrence Dutton, Edgar Meyer, Leon Fleisher, Garrick Ohlsson, and André-Michel Schub among many others. He has performed and taught at festivals in Banff, Norfolk, Aspen, and Korea, and has given master classes most recently at Central Conservatory Beijing, Sichuan Conservatory, and Korean National University of Arts. At age eleven, Akahoshi was the youngest student to be accepted by Pierre Fournier. He studied with Aldo Parisot and Janos Starker. Akahoshi is the principal cellist of the Sejong Soloists and a faculty member at the Manhattan School of Music. He joined the faculty of the Yale School of Music in 1997 where he is Assistant Professor of Cello. | 18th Season at Norfolk

A performer well known to audiences in fifty countries on six continents, **BORIS BERNAN** regularly appears with orchestras, on recital series, and at festivals around the world. He studied at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory with distinguished pianist Lev Oborin. An active recording artist and Grammy Award nominee, Berman was the first pianist to record Prokofiev’s complete solo piano works. Some of Berman’s other acclaimed recordings include all of Scriabin’s piano sonatas and a performance of piano works by Shostakovich that received the Edison Classic Award (the Dutch equivalent of the Grammy). His double CD of Debussy Preludes and other works on Palais des Deugstateurs label has received the Choc mark from the French Classica. His new double CD of Brahms Piano Pieces has just been released by the same label. At the Yale School of Music, Berman teaches a studio of graduate students, coaches chamber groups, and heads the Piano Department. He is the Artistic Director of the School’s Horowitz Piano Series and frequently gives solo and collaborative performances as part of that series and others. Berman regularly performs and coaches at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival — Yale Summer School of Music, teaches master classes throughout the world, and adjudicates national and international competitions. Berman has authored two books published by the Yale University Press: Prokofiev’s Piano Sonatas: A Guide for the Listener and the Performer (2008) and Notes from the Pianist’s Bench (2000; electronically enhanced edition 2017). These books were translated into several languages. He is also the editor of the critical edition of Prokofiev’s piano sonatas (Shanghai Music Publishing House, 2011). | 27th Season at Norfolk

**ROBERT BLOCKER** is internationally regarded as a pianist, for his leadership as an advocate for the arts, and for his extraordinary contributions to music education. A native of Charleston, South Carolina, he debuted at historic Dock Street Theater (now home to the Spoleto Chamber Music Series). He studied under the tutelage of the eminent American pianist, Richard Cass, and later with Jorge Bolet. Today, he concertizes throughout the world. Recent orchestral engagements include the Beijing and Shanghai Symphony orchestras, the Korean and Daejon Symphony orchestras, the Prague and Moscow chamber orchestras, the Monterrey Philharmonic, and the Houston Symphony. His appearances at the Beethoven Festival (Warsaw) and the Great Mountains International Music Festival (Korea, with Sejong) add to his acclaim. These appearances have won him critical praise: as noted in a Los Angeles Times review, he is a pianist of “…great skill and accomplishment, a measurable virtuoso bent and considerable musical sensitivity.” In 1995, Blocker was appointed the Henry and Lucy Moses Dean of Music and Professor of Piano at Yale University, and in 2006 he was named honorary Professor of Piano at the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing. His many contributions to the music community include service on the advisory boards for the Avery Fisher Artist Program, the Stoeger Prize at Lincoln Center, the Gilmore Artist Advisory Board, and the Curatorium of the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in Budapest. Blocker appears regularly on national radio and television as an artist and commentator and is active as a consultant to several major educational institutions and government agencies. In 2000, Steinway and Sons featured him in a film commemorating the tercentennial year of the piano, and his recording of three Mozart concertos appear on the Naxos label. In 2004, Yale University Press published The Robert Shaw Reader, a collection of Shaw’s writings edited by Blocker. The volume received considerable acclaim and is now in its third printing. | 16th Season at Norfolk

continued ↓
Since its inception in 1992, the BRENTHANO QUARTET (Mark Steinberg violin, Serena Canin violin, Misha Amory viola, Nina Lee cello) has appeared throughout the world to popular and critical acclaim. Within a few years of its formation, the Quartet garnered the first Cleveland Quartet Award and the Naumburg Chamber Music Award. In 1996 the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center invited them to be the inaugural members of Chamber Music Society Two (now the Bowers Program), a program which was to become a coveted distinction for chamber groups and individuals. In recent seasons, the Quartet has traveled widely appearing all over the world and had performed in some of the world’s most prestigious venues, including Carnegie Hall (New York), the Concertgebouw (Amsterdam), the Konzerthaus (Vienna), and Suntory Hall (Tokyo). The Quartet has participated in summer festivals such as Aspen, the Edinburgh Festival and the Kuhmo Festival in Finland, and has been privileged to collaborate with such artists as sopranos Jessye Norman and Dawn Upshaw, mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato, and pianists Richard Goode and Mitsuko Uchida. The Quartet has a strong interest in both very old and very new music. It has performed many musical works pre-dating the string quartet as a medium, among them Madrigals of Gesualdo, Fantasias of Purcell, and secular vocal works of Josquin. The Quartet has worked closely with some of the most important composers of our time, among them Elliott Carter, Charles Wuorinen, Steven Mackey, and György Kurtág. The Quartet celebrated its tenth anniversary in 2002 by commissioning ten composers to write companion pieces for selections from Bach’s Art of Fugue, the result of which was an electrifying single concert program. The Quartet has released numerous recordings and most recently can be heard in the 2012 film A Late Quartet. The Quartet began as Quartet-in-Residence at the Yale School of Music, departing from their 15-year residency at Princeton University. The Quartet is named for Antonie Brentano, whom many scholars consider to be Beethoven’s “Immortal Beloved.”

MARTIN BRESNICK’S compositions, from opera, chamber and symphonic music to film scores and computer music, are performed throughout the world. Bresnick delights in reconciling the seemingly irreconcilable, bringing together repetitive gestures derived from minimalism with a harmonic palette that encompasses both highly chromatic sounds and more open, consonant harmonies and raw power reminiscent of rock. At times his musical ideas spring from hardscrabble sources, often with a very real political import. But his compositions never descend into agitprop; one gains their meaning by the way the music itself unfolds, and always on its own terms. Besides having received many prizes and commissions, the first Charles Ives Living Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, The Rome Prize, The Berlin Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and a Koussevitzky Commission, among many others, Bresnick is also recognized as an influential teacher of composition. Students from every part of the globe and of virtually every musical inclination have been inspired by his critical encouragement. Bresnick’s compositions are published by Carl Fischer Music Publishers, New York; Bote & Bock, Berlin; CommonMuse Music Publishers, New Haven; and have been recorded by Cantaloupe Records, New World Records, Albany Records, Bridge Records, Composers Recordings Incorporated, Centaur, Starkland Records, and Artifact Music. | 25th Season at Norfolk | martinbresnick.com

A native of Tennessee, pianist (as well as violinist and violist) MELVIN CHEN has performed as a soloist and chamber musician at major venues throughout the US, Canada, and Asia. His performances have been featured on radio and television stations around the globe, including KBS television and radio in Korea, NHK television in Japan, and NPR in the US. Recordings include Beethoven’s Diabelli Variations on the Bridge label, praised as “a classic” by the American Record Guide, Joan Tower’s piano music on the Naxos label and recordings of the Shostakovich piano sonatas and Gordon’s Orpheus and Euridice. An enthusiastic chamber musician, Chen has collaborated with such artists as Ida Kavafian, David Shifrin, Pamela Frank (Norfolk ’85) and with the Shanghai, Tokyo and Miró (Norfolk ’98) quartets. He has appeared at numerous festivals including the Bard Music Festival and Music from Angel Fire among others. Chen holds a doctorate in chemistry from Harvard University and a double master’s degree from The Juilliard School in piano and violin. Previously, he attended Yale University.
where he studied with Boris Berman and received a Bachelor of Science in chemistry and physics. Chen was on the piano faculty and served as associate director of the Bard College Conservatory of Music. In 2012, he rejoined the faculty of the Yale School of Music where he serves as Professor in the Practice of Piano and Deputy Dean. In September of 2016, Chen began as Director of the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival.

| 12th Season at Norfolk | melvinchen.com |

TERRENCE CHIN-LOY is an artist who strives to infuse his work with honesty and simplicity. With his “richly colored voice” (Seen and Heard International), he pairs passionate performance with a full, sweet sound. In 2020, Chin-Loy joined the Marion Roose Pullin Opera Studio at Arizona Opera, for which he sang in a series of outdoor concerts and recorded orchestral concerts curated by the company. In the summer of 2021, he will premiere a new piece by Daniel Bernard Roumain at the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival about the shooting of Philando Castile as well as appear in William Grant Still’s Highway 1 as a Gerdine Young Artist at Opera Theatre St. Louis. The 2019-2020 season saw Chin-Loy in his first engagement at the Metropolitan Opera as Mingo (Cover) in Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess and making a debut with the New York Festival of Song as a part of the Vocal Rising Stars series at Porgy and Bess and making a debut with the New York Festival of Song as a part of the Vocal Rising Stars series at Carnegie Hall and Boston’s Jordan Hall, and appears with the Quartet in France, Germany and Austria. Throughout the season, Emerson has embarked on multiple tours in South America, Asia, and Europe. Formed in 1976 and based in New York City, the Emerson was one of the first quartets whose violinists alternated in the first chair position. The Emerson Quartet, which took its name from the American poet and philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson, is Quartet-in-Residence at Stony Brook University. | 9th Season at Norfolk | emersonquartet.com |

The EMERSON STRING QUARTET (Philip Setzer violin, Eugene Drucker violin, Lawrence Dutton viola, Paul Watkins cello) has an unparalleled list of achievements spanning four decades: more than 30 acclaimed recordings, nine Grammys® (including two for Best Classical Album), three Gramophone Awards, the Avery Fisher Prize, and Musical America’s “Ensemble of the Year.” Having celebrated its 40th Anniversary during the 2016-2017 season, Emerson looks towards the future by collaborating with today’s most esteemed composers and premiering new works, thus proving their commitment to keeping the art form of the string quartet alive and more relevant than ever. In 2016, Universal Music Group reissued their entire Deutsche Grammophon discography in a 52-CD boxed set, and in April 2017, the Quartet released its latest album, Chaconnes and Fantasias: Music of Britten and Purcell, the first release on Universal Music Classics’ new US classical record label, Decca Gold. The 2017-2018 season reflects all aspects of the Emerson’s venerable. In Fall 2017, the Emerson continues its series at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC for its 39th season. Other North American highlights of the season include a performance of Shostakovich and The Black Monk: A Russian Fantasy, the new theatrical production co-created by acclaimed theater director James Glossman and the Quartet’s violinist, Philip Setzer; and collaborations with the Calidore and Dover quartets. In April 2018, pianist Evgeny Kissin joined the Emerson for three performances at New York’s Carnegie Hall, Chicago’s Symphony Hall and Boston’s Jordan Hall, and appears with the Quartet in France, Germany and Austria. Throughout the season, Emerson has embarked on multiple tours in South America, Asia, and Europe. Formed in 1976 and based in New York City, the Emerson was one of the first quartets whose violinists alternated in the first chair position. The Emerson Quartet, which took its name from the American poet and philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson, is Quartet-in-Residence at Stony Brook University. | 9th Season at Norfolk | emersonquartet.com |

A winner of the coveted 2002 Grawemeyer Award for Music Composition and one of the youngest composers ever awarded the Pulitzer Prize, AARON JAY KERNIS has taught composition at the Yale School of Music since 2003. His music appears on orchestral, chamber, and recital programs worldwide, and he has been commissioned for many of the world's foremost performing artists and ensembles, including sopranos Renée Fleming and Dawn Upshaw, violinist Joshua Bell, guitarist Sharon Isbin, the New York Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Walt Disney Company, and the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. He was awarded the Nemmers Prize from Northwestern University, the Stoeger Prize from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the Rome Prize. He received a GRAMMY® award for his Violin Concerto as well as nominations for Air and his Second Symphony. Kernis is Workshop Director of the Nashville Symphony Composer Lab. He is a member of the
American Academy of Arts and Letters. His music is available on Nonesuch, Phoenix, New Albion, Argo, New World, CRI, Naxos, Virgin, Arabesque, and other labels. He lives in New York City with his wife and two children. | 13th Season at Norfolk

The music of DAVID LANG has been performed by major music, dance, and theater organizations throughout the world and has been performed in the most renowned concert halls and festivals in the United States and Europe. He is the co-founder and co-artistic director of New York’s legendary music festival Bang on a Can. In 2008 Lang was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in Music for The Little Match Girl Passion, commissioned by Carnegie Hall. His many other honors include the Rome Prize, the Revson Fellowship with the New York Philharmonic, and grants from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the American Academy of Arts and Letters. Lang was Musical America’s 2013 Composer of the Year and held Carnegie Hall’s Deb’s Composer Chair for the 2013-2014 season. David Lang holds degrees from Stanford University and the University of Iowa, and received a DMA from the Yale School of Music. His music is published by Red Poppy (ASCAP) and is distributed worldwide by G. Schirmer, Inc. Lang joined the Yale School of Music faculty in 2008. | 9th Season at Norfolk | davidlangmusic.com

A native of the NYC/NJ metro area, ZACHARY MERKOVSKY is a versatile double bassist and musician. He is section bass with the York Symphony Orchestra in York, PA. In addition to symphonic literature, Merkovsky is also devoted to chamber music, contemporary music, electronic music, and improvisation. Merkovsky is a Teaching Artist with the Youth Orchestras of Essex County and has worked as a mentor and sectional coach with other youth orchestras in New Jersey. He also maintains a private studio of bass students. Currently, Merkovsky is at the Yale School of Music as a scholarship recipient where he is working toward a Master of Musical Arts degree. He also holds a Master of Music in orchestral performance from Manhattan School of Music and a Bachelor of Music in double bass performance from Montclair State University in New Jersey. His major teachers include Donald Palma, Orin O’Brien, and Linda McKnight. | First Season at Norfolk

The MAMMOTH TRIO formed for a performance of Martin Bresnick’s masterpiece Trio (1992) at the MoMath Museum of Mathematics in New York City. Its origins began in 2010, as the dynamic commissioning cello and piano duo TwoSense – the “new music equivalent of a special ops team” (New York Magazine). Both Bang on a Can All-Stars alumni, cellist Ashley Bathgate and pianist Lisa Moore commissioned fifteen new works for TwoSense. They began collaborating with the virtuoso violinist Elly Toyouda in 2016. In early 2020, the trio were featured in the debut of Tales of Hopper with the Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance Company at the DiMenna Centre in NYC – a live music and dance representation of Edward Hopper’s paintings. Most recently “The Mammoths” have recorded David Lang’s score shade, written for the NYC Ballet. The trio shares a daring passion for exploring new music while enjoying independent solo and chamber music careers – performing and recording diverse repertoire in a range of settings. | First Season at Norfolk

The MIRÓ QUARTET (Daniel Ching violin, William Fedkenheuer violin, John Largess viola, Joshua Gindele cello) is one of America’s most celebrated and dedicated string quartets. For the past twenty years the Quartet performed on the world’s most prestigious concert stages, earning accolades and audiences alike. Based in Austin, TX, and thriving on the area’s storied music scene, the Miró (Norfolk ’96 and ’98) takes pride in finding new ways to communicate with audiences of all backgrounds while cultivating the tradition of chamber music. Highlights of recent seasons include a sold-out return to Carnegie Hall; a performance at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center as part of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center’s inaugural residency; the world premiere a concerto for string quartet and orchestra by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts; performances of the complete Beethoven Cycle at the Orcas Island Chamber Music Festival and at Tokyo’s Suntory Hall; and debuts in Korea, Singapore, and at the Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival. Recent highlights include

continued ↓
performances at the Phillips Collection, the Green Music Center, Chamber Music Northwest, and the Chamber Music Society, as well as collaborations with David Shifrin, André Watts, and Wu Han. Since 2003, the Miró has served as the quartet-in-residence at the University of Texas at Austin Sarah and Ernest Butler School of Music, and in 2005, the Quartet became the first ensemble ever to be awarded the coveted Avery Fisher Career Grant. The Miró Quartet took its name and its inspiration from the Spanish artist Joan Miró, whose Surrealist works — with subject matter drawn from the realm of memory, dreams, and imaginative fantasy — are some of the most groundbreaking, influential, and admired of the twentieth century.

| 7th Season at Norfolk | miroquartet.com |

**DANIEL BERNARD ROUMAIN**

acclaimed work as a composer, performer, educator, and activist spans more than two decades. Described as “about as omnivorous as a contemporary artist gets” by The New York Times, DBR is perhaps the only composer whose collaborations span Philip Glass, Bill T. Jones, Savion Glover, and Lady Gaga. Known for his signature violin sounds infused with myriad electronic, urban, and African-American music influences, he has composed chamber, orchestral, and operatic works, been featured as keynote performer at technology conferences, and created large scale, site-specific musical events for public spaces. DBR is the first composer of Musical Bridges — a multiyear project of the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival with support from Desai Family Foundation which commissions new works that place classical chamber music within a broader musical and cultural context. Following a week-long residency, DBR’s Twin Stars: Diamond Variations for Dae’Anna will premier during the 2021 summer season. DBR earned his doctorate in music composition from the University of Michigan and is currently Institute Professor and Professor of Practice at Arizona State University. An avid arts industry leader, DBR also serves on the board of directors of the League of American Orchestras, Association of Performing Arts Presenters and Creative Capital, the advisory committee of the Sphinx Organization, and was co-chair of 2015 and 2016 APAP Conferences. DBR’s most recent works include The Just and The Blind, a collaboration with spoken word artist and writer Marc Bamuthi Joseph commissioned by Carnegie Hall, and Falling Black Into The Sky for Washington State University’s Symphonic Band, based on the work of the artist James Turrell. DBR is currently creating Cipher, a new pocket opera for the Philadelphia Boys Choir, with a libretto by Joseph, based on the incarceration of young, Black boys.

| First Season at Norfolk | danielroumain.com |

**RYAN SUJDAK**

An orchestral and chamber musician, Ryan Sujdak has performed across the United States in locations such as Carnegie Hall and the Gerald Ford Amphitheater in Vail, Colorado. As a member of the National Repertory Orchestra in 2019, he has curated interactive chamber concerts designed to engage modern audiences. Additionally, Sujdak has performed with the Shattered Glass Ensemble, a conductorless chamber orchestra, at the prestigious Schneider Concert Series. As an educator, Sujdak has maintained a private studio in his hometown of Gainesville, Florida and the Tri-State Area, while also teaching in the Yale Music in Schools Initiative. Sujdak earned a Bachelor of Music in performance at the Manhattan School of Music with Timothy Cobb, and is a Master of Music at the Yale School of Music under Don Palma. When not playing double bass, you can find Sujdak attempting to climb a mountain or throwing a frisbee around on the lawn.

| First Season at Norfolk | continued ↓ |
Versatile, dynamic, and mesmerizing, soprano BRANDIE SUTTON has garnered accolades and devoted fans around the globe, thanks to an impressive array of recitals, operatic roles, and concert performances with acclaimed orchestras. Hailed by Opera News for her “sumptuous, mid-weight soprano,” and by The New York Times for her “warm, ample voice,” “ravishing performance” and “distinctive earthy coloring,” Sutton is one of the classical world’s most impressive new stars. Born and raised in Huntsville, Alabama, Sutton made her Lincoln Center debut in Summer 2017. She will sing her dream role of the Fairy Godmother in Cinderella, and an abridged version of Massenet’s Cendrillon, at The Metropolitan Opera during the 2021 holiday season. Dedicated to social justice, Sutton has participated in several events with the Equal Justice Initiative. During the 2018 opening weekend for the National Memorial for Peace and Justice (formerly the National Lynching Memorial) in Montgomery, Alabama, Sutton performed in a concert that also featured John Legend, Andra Day, and BeBe Winans. A hologram of Sutton is a permanent part of the memorial’s Legacy Museum: From Slavery to Mass Incarceration. Portraying an enslaved person, Sutton sings the spiritual Lord, How Come Me Here in a museum exhibit. The Equal Justice Initiative also invited Sutton to perform during their 30th anniversary festivities, held in New York City in 2019.

STEVEN TENENBOM, viola, has enjoyed a widely varying career as a soloist, chamber musician, and teacher of the next generation of talented musicians. He has appeared as a guest artist with the Guarneri and Emerson string quartets and the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson and Beaux Arts trios. He is the violist of the Orion String Quartet, which is quartet-in-residence at Mannes College of Music and the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. He is also a co-founder of the exciting piano quartet OPUS ONE. Tenenbom is a member of the viola faculty of the Juilliard School and the Bard College Conservatory of Music. He is also the coordinator of string chamber music at the Curtis Institute of Music. Among his many recordings are the complete Beethoven and Kirchner quartets with the Orion Quartet and Mozart viola quintets with the Guarneri Quartet. Born in Phoenix, Arizona, Tenenbom’s teachers included Max Mandel, Heidi Castleman, Milton Thomas at USC, and Michael Tree and Karen Tuttle at the Curtis Institute of Music. He and his wife, violinist Ida Kavaian, live in Connecticut where they breed, raise, and show champion Vizsla purebred dogs.

CHRISTOPHER THEOFANIDIS is one of the more widely performed American composers of his generation. He regularly writes for a variety of musical genres, from orchestral and chamber music to opera and ballet. His work, Rainbow Body, loosely based on a melodic fragment of Hildegard of Bingen, has been programmed by over 120 orchestras internationally. Theofanidis’ works have been performed by such groups as the New York Philharmonic, the London Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and the Moscow Soloists. His Symphony No. 1 has been released on disc by the Atlanta Symphony. His large-scale piece The Here and Now was nominated for a GRAMMY® award in 2007. Theofanidis is currently on the faculty of the Yale School of Music and is a fellow of the US-Japan Leadership Program.

Swiss-born American pianist GILLES VONSATTEL is an artist of extraordinary versatility and originality. Comfortable with and seeking out an enormous range of repertoire, Vonsattel displays a musical curiosity and sense of adventure that has gained him many admirers. Recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant and winner of the Naumburg and Geneva competitions, he has performed with major orchestras, in chamber music, and as a soloist in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Europe, and Asia. Deeply committed to the performance of contemporary works, he has premiered numerous works both in the United States and Europe and worked closely with notable composers such as Jörg Widmann, Heinz Holliger, and George Benjamin. His 2011 recording (Honens/Naxos) was named one of Time Out New York's classical albums of the year, while a 2014 release on GENUIN/Artist Consort received international critical praise as well as a 5/5 from Fono Forum. His latest solo release (Honens, 2015) received rave reviews in Gramophone, The New York Times, and the American Record Guide. Recent projects include Mozart concerti with the Vancouver Symphony, performances at Seoul's LG Arts Centre and at the Beijing Modern Music Festival, and numerous appearances internationally and throughout the United States with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Vonsattel received his bachelor’s degree in political science and economics from Columbia University and his master’s degree from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Jerome Lowenthal. He is on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and makes his home in New York City. Vonsattel is a Steinway Artist.

STEVEN TENENBOM, viola, has enjoyed a widely varying career as a soloist, chamber musician, and teacher of the next generation of talented musicians. He has appeared as a guest artist with the Guarneri and Emerson string quartets and the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson and Beaux Arts trios. He is the violist of the Orion String Quartet, which is quartet-in-residence at Mannes College of Music and the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. He is also a co-founder of the exciting piano quartet OPUS ONE. Tenenbom is a member of the viola faculty of the Juilliard School and the Bard College Conservatory of Music. He is also the coordinator of string chamber music at the Curtis Institute of Music. Among his many recordings are the complete Beethoven and Kirchner quartets with the Orion Quartet and Mozart viola quintets with the Guarneri Quartet. Born in Phoenix, Arizona, Tenenbom’s teachers included Max Mandel, Heidi Castleman, Milton Thomas at USC, and Michael Tree and Karen Tuttle at the Curtis Institute of Music. He and his wife, violinist Ida Kavaian, live in Connecticut where they breed, raise, and show champion Vizsla purebred dogs.

CHRISTOPHER THEOFANIDIS is one of the more widely performed American composers of his generation. He regularly writes for a variety of musical genres, from orchestral and chamber music to opera and ballet. His work, Rainbow Body, loosely based on a melodic fragment of Hildegard of Bingen, has been programmed by over 120 orchestras internationally. Theofanidis’ works have been performed by such groups as the New York Philharmonic, the London Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and the Moscow Soloists. His Symphony No. 1 has been released on disc by the Atlanta Symphony. His large-scale piece The Here and Now was nominated for a GRAMMY® award in 2007. Theofanidis is currently on the faculty of the Yale School of Music and is a fellow of the US-Japan Leadership Program.

Swiss-born American pianist GILLES VONSATTEL is an artist of extraordinary versatility and originality. Comfortable with and seeking out an enormous range of repertoire, Vonsattel displays a musical curiosity and sense of adventure that has gained him many admirers. Recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant and winner of the Naumburg and Geneva competitions, he has performed with major orchestras, in chamber music, and as a soloist in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Europe, and Asia. Deeply committed to the performance of contemporary works, he has premiered numerous works both in the United States and Europe and worked closely with notable composers such as Jörg Widmann, Heinz Holliger, and George Benjamin. His 2011 recording (Honens/Naxos) was named one of Time Out New York's classical albums of the year, while a 2014 release on GENUIN/Artist Consort received international critical praise as well as a 5/5 from Fono Forum. His latest solo release (Honens, 2015) received rave reviews in Gramophone, The New York Times, and the American Record Guide. Recent projects include Mozart concerti with the Vancouver Symphony, performances at Seoul's LG Arts Centre and at the Beijing Modern Music Festival, and numerous appearances internationally and throughout the United States with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Vonsattel received his bachelor’s degree in political science and economics from Columbia University and his master’s degree from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Jerome Lowenthal. He is on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and makes his home in New York City. Vonsattel is a Steinway Artist.

NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. | 13th Season at Norfolk | theofanidismusic.com

STEVEN TENENBOM, viola, has enjoyed a widely varying career as a soloist, chamber musician, and teacher of the next generation of talented musicians. He has appeared as a guest artist with the Guarneri and Emerson string quartets and the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson and Beaux Arts trios. He is the violist of the Orion String Quartet, which is quartet-in-residence at Mannes College of Music and the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. He is also a co-founder of the exciting piano quartet OPUS ONE. Tenenbom is a member of the viola faculty of the Juilliard School and the Bard College Conservatory of Music. He is also the coordinator of string chamber music at the Curtis Institute of Music. Among his many recordings are the complete Beethoven and Kirchner quartets with the Orion Quartet and Mozart viola quintets with the Guarneri Quartet. Born in Phoenix, Arizona, Tenenbom’s teachers included Max Mandel, Heidi Castleman, Milton Thomas at USC, and Michael Tree and Karen Tuttle at the Curtis Institute of Music. He and his wife, violinist Ida Kavaian, live in Connecticut where they breed, raise, and show champion Vizsla purebred dogs.

CHRISTOPHER THEOFANIDIS is one of the more widely performed American composers of his generation. He regularly writes for a variety of musical genres, from orchestral and chamber music to opera and ballet. His work, Rainbow Body, loosely based on a melodic fragment of Hildegard of Bingen, has been programmed by over 120 orchestras internationally. Theofanidis’ works have been performed by such groups as the New York Philharmonic, the London Symphony, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and the Moscow Soloists. His Symphony No. 1 has been released on disc by the Atlanta Symphony. His large-scale piece The Here and Now was nominated for a GRAMMY® award in 2007. Theofanidis is currently on the faculty of the Yale School of Music and is a fellow of the US-Japan Leadership Program.

Swiss-born American pianist GILLES VONSATTEL is an artist of extraordinary versatility and originality. Comfortable with and seeking out an enormous range of repertoire, Vonsattel displays a musical curiosity and sense of adventure that has gained him many admirers. Recipient of an Avery Fisher Career Grant and winner of the Naumburg and Geneva competitions, he has performed with major orchestras, in chamber music, and as a soloist in the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Europe, and Asia. Deeply committed to the performance of contemporary works, he has premiered numerous works both in the United States and Europe and worked closely with notable composers such as Jörg Widmann, Heinz Holliger, and George Benjamin. His 2011 recording (Honens/Naxos) was named one of Time Out New York's classical albums of the year, while a 2014 release on GENUIN/Artist Consort received international critical praise as well as a 5/5 from Fono Forum. His latest solo release (Honens, 2015) received rave reviews in Gramophone, The New York Times, and the American Record Guide. Recent projects include Mozart concerti with the Vancouver Symphony, performances at Seoul's LG Arts Centre and at the Beijing Modern Music Festival, and numerous appearances internationally and throughout the United States with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Vonsattel received his bachelor’s degree in political science and economics from Columbia University and his master’s degree from The Juilliard School, where he studied with Jerome Lowenthal. He is on the faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and makes his home in New York City. Vonsattel is a Steinway Artist.

NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. | 13th Season at Norfolk | theofanidismusic.com
The **ABEO QUARTET** (Njoma Grevieux *violin*, Rebecca Benamin *violin*, James Jang *viola*, Clara Abel *cello*) is a silver medal winner of the 2019 Fischoff International Chamber Music Competition, has performed at The Kennedy Center, in Oslo, and has been featured in New York with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, at Alice Tuilly Hall, and on WQXR’s *Midday Masterpieces*. Formed at Juilliard in 2018, the quartet also won the Judges Special Recognition Award at the 2019 Plowman Chamber Music Competition. This summer with new members Clara Abel and Rebecca Benjamin, Abeo is thrilled to perform works by Daniel Bernard Roumain, Vaughn Williams, Shostakovich, Haydn and more at the Norforlch Chamber Music Festival. Previously, Abeo won a 2019 Montreal International String Quartet Academy fellowship, studying with members of the Alban Berg Quartet, Quatuor Ebene, Takács String Quartet and the Artemis Quartet. Abeo also has had coachings with pianist Joseph Kalichstein and studied regularly under the tutelage of The Juilliard String Quartet. | Louise Willson Scholarship | abequartet.com

Born into a family of musicians, cellist **CLARA ABELO** has performed at festivals including Kneisel Hall, and Clasclas International Music Festival. Abel made her New York concerto debut in 2015, and is a substitute cellist with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra and New York Classical Players. Abel enjoys playing in a variety of musical languages including improvisation and historical performance. She received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees at The Juilliard School, where she is now pursuing a degree in baroque cello. | claraabel.com

Violinist **REBECCA BENJAMIN**, a native of Warsaw Indiana, is an engaging and versatile musician who has performed across the United States and abroad. A passionate chamber musician, Benjamin has participated in the Perlman Music Program, Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival, and the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival. Internationally, she has performed in the Dominican Republic. She is a graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Yale School of Music. In the fall with Abeo she will be pursuing a string quartet fellowship while also studying viola.

Violinist **NJIOMA GREVIOUS** of Washington, DC, is a versatile chamber and orchestral musician. In 2018, she won First Prizes for Performance and Interpretation in the *Prix Ravel* chamber music competition in France. She is a winner of a Music Academy of the West Keston-Max Fellowship to study and perform with the London Symphony Orchestra in 2022. Grevious has participated in numerous summer festivals including the Montreal International String Quartet Academy, and the Tanglewood Institute. She completed her undergraduate studies at The Juilliard School.

**JAMES KANG** recently finished his undergraduate studies at The Juilliard School as a proud recipient of a Kovner Fellowship. Kang is a prize winner of ASTA National Solo Competition, Atlanta Federation of Musicians Scholarship, and Bach Competition in Georgia. In 2019, he served as a guest faculty artist with Guri Santa Marcelina to coach young violists in Brazil. Kang has attended the summer programs of the Perlman Chamber Music Workshop, and Aspen Music Festival, and has performed with Itzhak Perlman and Donald Weilerstein.

Armed with a versatility of creative interests, cellist **PETER EOM** (Norfolk ’17) has been recognized for his “lyrical, vibrant sound” and an eclectic musical approach that aims to present a vivid, authentic, and personal rendering of works ranging the gamut of Classical music. Eom is a top prizewinner of the Klein International String Competition, Dover Chamber Competition, Alexander & Buono International String Competition, National YoungArts Foundation, and in 2013 was chosen as one of three Classical musicians representing the United States as a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts. Solo engagements include the National Symphony Orchestra, Phoenix Symphony, MusicaNova Orchestra, Universal Music Group, YoungArts, and Americans for the Arts. Chamber music engagements include Ravinia Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival, Taos School of Music, and Colburn Chamber Music Society. Eom currently pursues a Rebanks Fellowship at the Toronto Royal Conservatory of Music with Barry Shiffman and Hans Jensen. Outside his musical responsibilities, Eom enjoys tea, grilling a good steak, and reading about odd topics like armadillo reproduction and communicating via lucid dreams. | Aldo and Elizabeth Parisot Scholarship | pereom.com

**ERICA GAILING** is a native of New York City. She has performed with various renowned musicians including Robert Remane, Karen Dreyfus, Glenn Dicterow, as well as jazz and pop artists Victor Gould, Cory Henry, Andrea Bocelli, and Kygo. Gailing frequently performs with the New York City Ballet and the New York Philharmonic as well as the Highline String Quartet, of which she is a core member. She has also appeared at the Spoleto Festival USA, Sarasota Music Festival, Domaine Forget de Charlevoix Chamber Music Festival, and Tanglewood Music Festival. When performance venues closed this past year, Gailing began teaching elementary students full time at a school in Woodside, Queens. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from Queens College and her Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School. Besides teaching and performing, Gailing loves the ocean, running, and reading more than one book at a time. | 2006 Centenary Committee Scholarship

**JAMES KANG** recently finished his undergraduate studies at The Juilliard School as a proud recipient of a Kovner Fellowship. Kang is a prize winner of ASTA National Solo Competition, Atlanta Federation of Musicians Scholarship, and Bach Competition in Georgia. In 2019, he served as a guest faculty artist with Guri Santa Marcelina to coach young violists in Brazil. Kang has attended the summer programs of the Perlman Chamber Music Workshop, and Aspen Music Festival, and has performed with Itzhak Perlman and Donald Weilerstein.

Armed with a versatility of creative interests, cellist **PETER EOM** (Norfolk ’17) has been recognized for his “lyrical, vibrant sound” and an eclectic musical approach that aims to present a vivid, authentic, and personal rendering of works ranging the gamut of Classical music. Eom is a top prizewinner of the Klein International String Competition, Dover Chamber Competition, Alexander & Buono International String Competition, National YoungArts Foundation, and in 2013 was chosen as one of three Classical musicians representing the United States as a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts. Solo engagements include the National Symphony Orchestra, Phoenix Symphony, MusicaNova Orchestra, Universal Music Group, YoungArts, and Americans for the Arts. Chamber music engagements include Ravinia Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival, Taos School of Music, and Colburn Chamber Music Society. Eom currently pursues a Rebanks Fellowship at the Toronto Royal Conservatory of Music with Barry Shiffman and Hans Jensen. Outside his musical responsibilities, Eom enjoys tea, grilling a good steak, and reading about odd topics like armadillo reproduction and communicating via lucid dreams. | Aldo and Elizabeth Parisot Scholarship | pereom.com

**ERICA GAILING** is a native of New York City. She has performed with various renowned musicians including Robert Remane, Karen Dreyfus, Glenn Dicterow, as well as jazz and pop artists Victor Gould, Cory Henry, Andrea Bocelli, and Kygo. Gailing frequently performs with the New York City Ballet and the New York Philharmonic as well as the Highline String Quartet, of which she is a core member. She has also appeared at the Spoleto Festival USA, Sarasota Music Festival, Domaine Forget de Charlevoix Chamber Music Festival, and Tanglewood Music Festival. When performance venues closed this past year, Gailing began teaching elementary students full time at a school in Woodside, Queens. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from Queens College and her Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School. Besides teaching and performing, Gailing loves the ocean, running, and reading more than one book at a time. | 2006 Centenary Committee Scholarship

continued ↓
HANNAH GOLDSHICK is an enthusiastic chamber, orchestral, and solo violinist committed to exploring and sharing a diverse array of music. A native of Phoenix, Arizona, she has performed in venues such as the Musical Instrument Museum, the Mesa Arts Center, and the Phoenix Art Museum both as a soloist and as a part of a string quartet. In years past, Goldstick has participated in music festivals across the country, including BUTI Young Artist Orchestra Program, Heifetz Institute, Bowdoin Festival, and Red Rocks Music Festival. Hannah has also participated in a number of recital series as part of her studio at New England Conservatory that has been broadcast and shared through the Harvard Musical Association and The Violin Channel. Goldstick is currently at the New England Conservatory in Boston studying under Miriam Fried. Prominent teachers and mentors include Jing Zeng, James Buswell, and Paul Biss. At NEC, Goldstick is also pursuing a Liberal Arts minor with a focus in poetry. When not playing violin, she enjoys reading, taking long walks, and listening to all kinds of music. | Sponsored by Sukey Wagner

American violinist BETHANY HARGREAVES (Norfolk ‘17, ‘19) has performed as a solo, chamber, and orchestral musician throughout North America, Europe, China, and Israel. Notable performances include her solo debut on Millenium Stage at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and two concerto appearances with the Cleveland Institute of Music Orchestra. A passionate chamber musician, Hargreaves has performed with distinguished musicians including Miriam Fried, Ara Gregorian, Ani Kavafian, Itzhak Perlman, and Donald Weilerstein. She is currently a member of the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, and often collaborates with the Center for Musical Excellence, New York Classical Players, Noree Chamber Soloists, and the Verso Ensemble. She holds degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music, The Juilliard School as a recipient of the Kovner Fellowship, and the Yale School of Music, where she studied with Jeffrey Irvine, Lynne Ramsey, Misha Amory, Heidi Castleman, and Ettore Causa. She plays on a viola made by Gabrielle Kuentert.

Hailed by The Washington Post as "sweetly lyrical," violinist ARIEL HOROWITZ has performed as a soloist with orchestras around the world and has premiered her original compositions for violin and voice at Carnegie Hall’s Weill Hall and the Kennedy Center’s Terrace Theater. An avid teacher, she serves on the faculty of Mount Holyoke College and is the Founder and Artistic Director of The Heartbeat Music Project, an tuition-free program providing instruments, music, and Navajo (Diné) cultural knowledge to young people in grades K-12 living in the Navajo Nation. Horowitz is a recipient of numerous prizes and in 2020 was honored with the Concert Artists Guild Ambassador Prize, and joined the Concert Artists Guild roster.

Equally at home in the solo, concerto, chamber, and art song repertoires, 24-year-old pianist CARTER JOHNSON has established himself as one of the most exciting young pianists in Canada and beyond, winning dozens of prizes in national and international competitions. In addition to his musical career, Johnson is an accomplished actor and speaker, and has won many awards particularly for his performances of Shakespeare — combining this experience with his passion for educating audiences, his discussions on music have become a regular highlight of his recitals for many concertgoers. Johnson recently completed a Master of Music at The Juilliard School and will begin a Master of Musical Arts at the Yale School of Music this fall. Perhaps most importantly, Johnson and his wife Hannah have two beautiful young boys, Preston and Ambrose — they currently live in Hamden, where their favorite hobbies consist of cooking together, watching films, and eating fruit snacks and goldfish crackers. | carterjohnsonpiano.com

Known for her genuine performances, Korean violinist JEEIN KIM has appeared on numerous stages worldwide. Recent honors include fourth prize at the Menuhin International Competition, third prize at the Seoul International Competition, and first prize at the Northwest Sinfonietta Youth Competition. KIM is also a winner of the Shinhan Music Award, received first prize at the Ewha & Kyunghyang Competition and the Eumak Chunchu Competition. She received second prize at both the Donga, and Busan Competitions as well as third prize at the Joongang Competition. She has appeared as soloist with orchestras including the Filharmonic Hradec Králové (Czechoslovakia), Northwest Sinfonietta (Washington), JK Chamber Orchestra (Korea), Prime Philharmonic Orchestra (Ukraine) and Yonsei University Orchestra (Korea). She also gave recitals in the Kumho Art Hall, Shinhan Art Hall, Yonsei Kumho Art Hall and Ellum Art Center. Other performances include Chosunilbo Debut Concert, Young Mozart Concert and Mast Summer Academy Rising Star Concert. Kim is currently pursuing her Master of Music degree at the New England Conservatory studying with Soovin Kim. | Sponsored by Katherine C. Moore

continued ↓
Chicago violinist MASHA LAKISOVA currently studies with Miriam Fried at the New England Conservatory, and has taken lessons and masterclasses with Ana Chumachenko, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Pinchas Zukerman, and Augustin Hadelich. She has had the privilege of performing in esteemed concert venues as a soloist and as a chamber musician in collaboration with artists such as Vadim Gluzman, Pavel Vernikov, Svetlin Roussev, and Ilya Kaler. She has taken top prizes at prestigious competitions such as the Stulberg and Klein International String Competitions, the Tibor Junior and Andrea Postacchini International Violin Competitions, and National YoungArts. As a member of string quartets at Midwest Young Artists Conservatory, Lakisova won two consecutive Gold Medals at the Fischoff International Chamber Music Competition and was featured on NPR’s From the Top. Masha has been a student at the Perlman Music Program since 2016. She enjoys reading, singing, and hiking in her spare time.

Sponsored by David Low and Dominique Lahaussois

Violinist GREGORY LEWIS (Norfolk ’19) has established a reputation as an emerging artist possessing “brilliant technique and control” (Chronicle Journal) and “wonderful musical personality” (Winnipeg Free Press). He has appeared as soloist with orchestras including the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra, Consortium Aurora Borealis, University of Manitoba Symphony Orchestra, and the Colburn Academy Virtuosi, and has received top prizes in the American Protagé International Concerto Competition, Canadian National Music Festival, WMC McLellan Competition, Yale Chamber Music Competition, Virtuoso e Belcanto Violin Competition, and the Concours de musique du Canada. Named one of CBC’s “30 Hot Canadian Classical Musicians Under 30,” Lewis has attended festivals including the Toronto Summer Music Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Aspen Music Festival, The Juilliard School Starling-DeLay Violin Symposium, and the National Youth Orchestra of Canada. Lewis is a graduate of the University of Manitoba, Yale University, and the Colburn School, where he studied with Oleg Pokhanovski, Ani Kavafian, and Martin Beaver. This fall, Lewis will begin his Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Yale School of Music with Ani Kavafian.

| Paul and Susan Hawkshaw Scholarship | regorylewisviolin.com

From Shenzhen, China, violist WEILAN LI is a graduate of Bard College where she studied with Steven Tenenbom and Melissa Reardon and received degrees in viola performance and cultural anthropology. A second prize winner in the viola category of the Hong Kong International String Competition in 2014, Li has participated in many summer music festivals including the Young Artists Program of the National Arts Center in Ottawa, where she was selected for the Pinchas Zukerman studio. Li was principal violist of the National Youth Orchestra of China during their 2017 tour of the US, including a performance at Carnegie Hall with the Seattle Symphony’s Ludovic Morlot and pianist Yuja Wang. In 2018, Li attended Taconic Music in Vermont and Keshet Eilon in Israel. As a 2019 fellow at National Orchestral Institute (NOI), Li was principal violist with the NOI Philharmonic Orchestra in a performance of Gershwin’s Piano Concerto with pianist Kevin Cole. The performance was recorded by Naxos Records and released in 2020. Li is a beginner wood crafting enthusiast and has just began learning basic woodworking and furniture restorations. She will start her master’s degree at Rice University in 2021.

Japanese-American cellist MARI NAGAHARA has distinguished herself as a promising young talent. Performing extensively around the United States and Europe, some of her notable performances include her New York recital debut with Charlotte White’s Salon de Virtuosi, and recitals with the Holland Music Sessions. An avid chamber musician, she has spent summers at the Taos School of Music, Yellow Barn Young Artists Program, Music@Menlo, and Kneisel Hall. She has been featured on NPR’s From the Top on two separate occasions — as a soloist and on the 306th episode, Backstage at Fischoff, as a member of Trio Adonais, which was awarded the 2015 Silver Medal at the Fischoff Competition. An accomplished orchestral musician, she has served as a principal cellist of the NEC Symphony and as assistant principal of the New York String Orchestra Seminar. Nagahara is currently finishing her undergraduate studies at New England Conservatory with Paul Katz.

| Clement Clark Moore Scholarship

continued ↓
Fellows

A native of Satu Mare, Romania, Hungarian pianist ALEXA STIER was the recipient of the Silvestri Musical and Academic Scholarship offered by The Mary Erskine School (Edinburgh, UK, 2013-2015). In 2019, she completed her Bachelor of Music at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, studying with Prof. Fali Pavri. In 2019, Stier appeared as a soloist with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, and won First Prize at the Sheepdrove Piano Competition (UK). Currently, Stier is a master's student at the Yale School of Music studying with Prof. Boris Berman. In the fall, she will pursue her Doctorate of Musical Arts at the Yale School of Music. Stier is particularly interested in Eastern European history and culture. She enjoys performing music which connects to her heritage, including the works of Ligeti and Bartók. In her free time Alexa likes travelling, visiting art museums, and playing with her puppy Zuzu. | Sponsored by Nancy and James Remis | alexastierdotcom.wordpress.com

Hailed as "...a spectacular young violinist" by The Seattle Times Music Critic Bernard Jacobson, American-born violinist SOPHIA STOYANOVICEVICH has captivated audiences since her premiere at age ten with the Bremerton Symphony. She has soloed with numerous orchestras and has performed across North America, Europe, Russia, China, and Vietnam. Upcoming engagements for the 2021-2022 season include debuts with the Santa Monica College Symphony performing Beethoven Violin Concerto, appearances on the Crocker Art Museum (CA) and Dame Myra Hess Memorial Concert Series (IL), and the release of her debut album, American Elegy, with Orpheus Classical in January of 2022, featuring the Serbian-American compositions of Patrick Stoyanovich. Stoyanovich received both her Bachelor and Masters of Music from The Juilliard School and has studied under the tutelage of Li Lin, Mark Steinberg, and Sylvia Rosenberg. Stoyanovich is an active educator in the New York area and performs on a 1930 Berger violin made in New York City. | sophiastoyanovich.com | Clement Clark Moore Scholarship

Born in NYC, MACINTYRE TABACK began cello studies at age 11 as a part of his school's strings program. When he was 14, he began at The Juilliard Pre-College with Caroline Stinson. He has also studied the piano since he was five with Donna Friedman. Taback has recently performed at the Aspen, Bowdoin, Heifetz, Skaneateles, and Caroga Lake festivals, where he's worked with cellists such as Desmond Hoebig, Timothy Eddy, Darrett Adkins, Hans Jensen, Colin Carr, and Paul Katz. He is excited to attend the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival this summer (2021). Taback has just finished his undergraduate studies with Steven Doane and Rosemary Elliott at the Eastman School of Music, where he received the Performance Certificate as well as the Glenn and Frances Harris Cello Prize. He will begin his master's degree in the fall at the New England Conservatory under Laurence Lesser. He has previously studied at Yale University. | Sponsored by Anne-Marie Soullière and Lindsey Kiang

Violinist-violist hybrid CHRISTINE WU has been hailed for her "strikingly bold sound" and “technical facility” (Theater Jones), and performs internationally with recent appearances in Dallas, Cleveland, and New York City, as well as Magdeburg and Köthen in Germany. In October 2021, she will be presenting a program of works by women and black composers for solo violin and solo viola as one of six finalists for the Berlin Prize for Young Artists competition. As a chamber musician, Wu has performed and collaborated with Joseph Silverstein, Mark Steinberg, Nicholas Mann, and David Geber. Leadership roles as concertmaster culminated most recently with the New York String Orchestra in their 50th Anniversary celebration at Carnegie Hall. Christine studied at the Manhattan School of Music, The Juilliard School and Cleveland Institute of Music with Sylvia Rosenberg, Nicholas Mann, Masao Kawasaki, and Jaime Laredo. She also holds a minor in business management from Case Western Reserve University. | christinewwu.com

MEGAN YIP, from Portland, Oregon, started playing the cello at age six. She was a member of the Grammy-nominated ensemble, Yale Cellos, and is guest artist with Versoi Ensemble, a collective of American and Finnish artists as agents of cultural diplomacy. Her passion for community outreach extends towards Ashley’s Learning Center in Turks and Caicos and as a Gluck Community Fellow in New York City. Yip has attended summer festivals such as Festival Pablo Casals, Musique de Chambre à Giverny, and Aspen Music Festival, and her masterclass teachers include Wolfgang Emanuel Schmidt, Frans Helmerson, and Ralph Kirshbaum. She studied with Richard Aaron and Paul Watkins, and received her Bachelor of Music from The Juilliard School and her Master of Music and Master of Musical Arts from the Yale School of Music. Yip recently won a Fulbright Scholar Award and will study at the Hochschule für Musik Freiburg with Jean-Guihen Queyras, after which she will pursue her Doctor of Musical Arts at the University of Michigan. She enjoys solo hikes and eating cake for breakfast.