

# Violin



## Hyun Jeong Lee

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Hyun Jeong Helen Lee has captivated audiences throughout the United States, Canada and Asia. Leading into her conservatory career, she attended the Interlochen Center of Arts in the summer of 2009. While there, she was concertmaster of the World Youth Symphony Orchestra for two terms. As a soloist, she has performed with the Chichibu Festival Orchestra, Royal Oak Symphony Orchestra, and The Boston Conservatory String Ensemble as winner of the String Ensemble Concerto Competition. She is a graduate of The Boston Conservatory where she studied with Markus Placci, and received an Artist Diploma as part of the John J. Cali School of Music Graduate Quartet in Residence Program where she studied with Weigang Li of the celebrated Shanghai Quartet. Hyun likes to do yoga in her free time and also enjoys just laying in bed and doing nothing!



## Annie Jeong

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Violinist Annie Jeong obtained her Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in Violin Performance from the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University where she was awarded Melissa Tiller Violin Award in 2013 and completed her Performer's Diploma at SMU on a full scholarship where she studied with Emanuel Borok. Ms. Jeong made her solo orchestral debut with the Oskaloosa Symphony at age 15. An active performer and a passionate teacher, Ms. Jeong has been playing the violin over 20 years and teaching students of all ages at different levels since 2008. She believes learning the violin can enrich one's life in many areas and loves helping her students achieve their goals. While encouraging her students to enjoy playing, Ms. Jeong also focuses on developing relative pitch, having a correct posture and producing a great tone in every student. She is thrilled to share her passion of music and love of teaching with the students at Richardson High School. In her spare time, Ms. Jeong enjoys cooking and likes to explore new restaurants with friends.



## Karin Harrell

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Violinist Karin Harrell performs with several symphony orchestras throughout The United States. Besides her engagements in symphony orchestras she also enjoys performing in smaller ensembles, chamber concerts, live bands, country bands, and rock concerts. Ms. Harrell also teaches private violin students in the Dallas area. While growing up she won several prizes and competitions which resulted in solo performances with orchestras including the Columbus Symphony and the Casals Festival Orchestra among others. Ms. Harrell was a participant at The Casals Music Festival, the Texas Music Festival, Kent/Blossom Music Festival, and National Repertory Orchestra. She graduated with both a Bachelors of Music and Masters of Music from The Cleveland Institute of Music, where she studied with David Updegraff and William Preucil. Karin loves dogs and all animals, claims action movies as her favorite kind of movies, and enjoys vacationing at the beach or in the mountains.



## Abi Potts

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Abigail Potts-Lesser is currently an active musician in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex. She performs with various symphony orchestras including those of Tulsa, Plano, Irving and Fort Worth. She plays regularly with String Quartet Dallas, formerly known as European Ensemble Strings, which provides music for weddings, receptions and other events. Apart from performing, Abigail teaches lessons in violin in the Richardson ISD. She also teaches private piano lessons. When she is not teaching or performing, Abigail enjoys running and skydiving. She lives in Dallas with her husband David Lesser, also a musician, and their two cats, Micky and Taiga.



## Sean Burrows

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Sean Burrows is a violinist from Denton, Texas. He began playing at age ten and recently graduated with a degree in music from Southern Methodist University where he studied with Diane Kitzman from the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. In addition to teaching violin in Richardson ISD, Sean has an interest in computer science and math and has taught a variety of subjects to different age groups for four years. Muse is his favorite band, and *Labyrinth* (David Bowie) is his favorite movie. *The Catcher in the Rye* (J. D. Salinger) wins his best book award. His favorite meal is a good plate of spaghetti and meatballs. Favorite punctuation? That would be colons and semi-colons.

# Viola



**John Batchelder**

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John Batchelder has captivated audiences across North and South America as a passionate chamber musician and soloist. He has performed as soloist with numerous ensembles such as the Hemenway Strings, Worcester Bach Consort and Plano Senior High Symphony Orchestra, as well as participated in various summer festivals and masterclasses, such as The McGill International String Quartet Academy, the Banff Centre Masterclasses, St. Lawrence String Quartet Seminar, the Meadowmount School of Music and The Boston University Tanglewood Institute. He is a member of the award winning Julius Quartet, currently the Peak Fellowship Ensemble-in-Residence at the Meadows School of Music at Southern Methodist University. John is a graduate of The Boston Conservatory where he studied with Lila Brown, and of the John J. Cali School of Music Graduate String Quartet in Residence program where he studied with Honggang Li of the celebrated Shanghai Quartet. John has a twin brother, Scott, who is also a professional musician (trumpet). It just so happens that they are the only two musicians in the family. Also, at one point John had an alternate identity as a brass player... the trombone!



**Steven Juarez**

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A passionate musician, determined ensemble leader, music administrator and founding member of The Cezanne Quartet, Steven has studied viola since the age of nine. Steven has transformed into an ambitious and enthusiastic ensemble musician. Steven's musical journey, development and experience has been a result of performances with The Cézanne Quartet (2015 Coltman Competition Silver Medalist), The New Conservatory of Dallas (Dallas, New York, Durango, CO and Riga, Latvia), The Institute for Strings (Dallas, TX), Meadows Symphony Orchestra at Southern Methodist University (Dallas, TX), The Peabody Institute's Symphony Orchestra (Baltimore, MD) and The National Symphony Orchestra' Summer Music Institute (Washington, DC). Steven has studied at The Peabody Institute of Music as well as Southern Methodist University under the watchful eye of Victoria Chiang and Ellen Rose, respectively. He graduated from the award winning, Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas where he won the Dallas ISD Concerto Competition and his chamber quartet won Chamber Music International's High School Division. While continuing his studies, Steven lives in Dallas, TX and currently teaches in the Dallas metro area public school systems of Richardson, Highland Park, Garland and Mesquite. In his spare time, he enjoys sports, traveling and spending time with his family.



**Chris Sykora**

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A graduate of RHS, Chris Sykora is a violist at SMU with primary focus in music education. He enjoys performing music, but his true passion lies in teaching music. Students are often wary about having to learn classical music from their music teachers. Chris is convinced that he can teach them in a way where students will actually enjoy classical music as much as he does. One way to do this is to help them make a direct connection of the piece today with the piece when it was originally composed. He also believes in encouraging students to dig deeper into the piece they are playing, so that they eventually identify with the piece musically. His favorite composer is Tchaikovsky. And, among his many talents, he claims that he can play viola while riding a bicycle (but does not recommend it to his students).



**Sarah Walsh**

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Sarah Walsh was born and raised in Dallas, TX. She began her music studies on the violin at the age of 6, began studying voice at 17, and then viola instruction at 18. Mrs. Walsh received her Bachelor of Music (Vocal Performance) from Texas Christian University in 2009, and then went on to Southern Methodist University to earn her Master of Music (Viola Performance) in 2011. Mrs. Walsh is returning to RISD after a 3-year hiatus. She currently lives in Plano, TX with her husband and two sons. Sarah continues to enjoy playing with LEGOs as an adult and mom, and has had the special privilege of visiting Prague on 3 different occasions.

# Cello



## **Tess Crowther**

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Originally from Canada, cellist Tess Crowther is an active performer and teacher in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Some of her accomplishments include touring as principal cellist of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada, as well as performing as a soloist, chamber and orchestral musician across Europe, India, Canada and the United States. She is currently a member of the East Texas Symphony, the Waco Symphony and the Grigori String Quartet. She has a Master's Degree in cello performance from Southern Methodist University, and a Performance Diploma from the Glenn Gould School. Tess loves to read and can ride a unicycle.



## **Byron Hogan**

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Byron Hogan has been teaching and studying the cello since 2002. During that time he earned four graduate degrees and gave featured performances in places like Banff, Hamberg, Montreal, Stanford, and Carnegie Hall. Currently a member of the Julius Quartet, The Peak ensemble in residence at Southern Methodist University, he performs regularly in the Dallas area and around the United States. Along with a lengthy classical education and chamber music experience, Byron has played for movie scores, rock bands, and studio recordings. The choices available to cellists are many, and he believes that the key to unlocking these options is a solid technical foundation. Byron's teaching goal is to develop healthy, efficient, and effective practice habits that prepare musicians to play any kind of music with ease. When he is not teaching or performing, Byron enjoys dance videos on YouTube and baking cheesecake.



## **Jason Mooney**

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Jason Mooney began playing the cello at the age of nine in his elementary school's music program. Jason earned his bachelor's degree from Carnegie Mellon University and his master's degree from Southern Methodist University where he studied with Christopher Adkins, principal cellist of the Dallas Symphony. Jason has attended some of the country's most prestigious music festivals for young musicians including the National Orchestral Institute, Meadowmount, and Garth Newel, and was featured on Pittsburgh's WQED 89.3 fm where he played J.S. Bach's Cello Suite No. 1. Jason is currently a member of the Abilene Philharmonic and a substitute with the Fort Worth Symphony. In addition to performing, Jason maintains an active teaching studio of over thirty cello students in Dallas, Texas. As a teacher, Jason aims to inspire his students with a love of music that will last their entire lifetime. In his free time, Jason enjoys cooking and playing with his cat, Jackie.



## **Aniko Juhasz**

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Aniko Juhasz graduated from RHS and is now a private lesson teacher for cello. She attended school at Belmont University where she studied Classical Cello Performance and minored in Asian Studies. While at Belmont, she performed with many of her fellow musicians in a variety of ensembles, including the annual "Christmas at Belmont" concert as part of the Belmont Symphony and is featured on PBS biannually. She enjoyed some cool gigs with friends, such as recording film scores at Oceanway Studios, and playing for singer Jaimee Paul in the James Bond show, *Bonded*. As part of her minor, she studied abroad in Japan and grew to love the culture and atmosphere there. She is bilingual in English and Spanish, knows a little Japanese, and is currently studying Russian. Aniko loves playing cello, writing, the Japanese culture, and enjoys sharing her home with two cats and a dog.

# Bass



## **Troy Tippawang**

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Troy Tippawang completed an undergraduate degree in Double Bass performance at Southern Methodist University, and is currently pursuing a Master's degree in the same field. Most recently at the annual SMU "Meadows at the Meyerson" concert, Scott Cantrell (Dallas Morning News's music critic) reviewed his playing as "flawless." Troy has studied with the Co-Principal bass player of the Dallas Symphony for several years, and emphasizes a mechanical understanding of the instrument to facilitate expressive music-making. Troy likes fountain pens and quality stationery and is looking forward to getting married in October of 2018.



## **Ryan Wang**

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Ryan (Qiran) Wang is a double bassist and teacher in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, where he is a double bass Masters' student at SMU Meadows School of the Arts. Currently, he studies with Brian Perry. Ryan has served as principal bass of the New Northern Symphony Orchestra (China), Shenyang Symphony, and the Shenyang Conservatory Orchestra, and regularly performs with the Meadows Symphony and Las Colinas Symphony in Dallas. A violinist from the age of six, and a double bassist from the age of 16, music has always been Ryan's passion - both performing and teaching. He currently maintains a teaching studio in Dallas. Ryan enjoys swimming (swimming champion in Shenyang, China), playing chess, and dreams of opening his own music academy in China.



## **Christopher Arcy**

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Christopher Arcy is a bassist and teacher originally from Houston. Christopher attended Texas Tech University for his undergrad, and served as Principal Bass of the Opera and Chamber Orchestras all four years. While at Tech, he also performed in jazz, tango, Balkan, zydeco, and Irish music ensembles. He is currently in the process of working on a Performance Diploma from SMU while working as a private lessons teacher and playing with several regional orchestras throughout Texas. His teachers include Robin Kesselman, Brian Perry, and Dr. Mark Morton. When approaching the bass, Christopher brings a focus on body awareness and performance psychology. Outside of music, Christopher is an avid distance runner (having completed his first marathon in January), reader of neurological studies, and podcast binge-listener.

*Access contact information online!*

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