



Amici String Program

*Amici

*Junior Amici

*Amicini

2025-2026

**Student and Parent
Handbook**





Welcome to the Amici String Program. We hope you will find this to be a place where everyone can grow in a positive and nurturing environment, where high standards of playing are expected and all students have access to fine teaching.

Amici students are invited to participate in weekly masterclasses and technique classes, weekly chamber music coaching, workshops with guest clinicians, monthly solo recitals and the summer programs.

Junior Amici offers masterclass/technique, musicianship/ear training, chamber music and 4 recitals to string students playing RCM level 3-5.

Amicini Program offers a variety of violin and cello classes ranging from our class for absolute beginners to those who are playing at approximately an RCM level of 2-3. Classes include skill development, establishing a technical foundation for cello or violin and note reading; all presented in an atmosphere of fun. There will be 2 recitals

This Handbook is intended to provide the basic administrative information you will need for the year. A copy of it is posted on the Amici website at amicistringprogram.com, and you can always look there for up-to-date information about the program. Please be aware that the policies described in this Handbook continue to evolve and are subject to change without notice.

Please advise of absences in advance by emailing to amici.stringprogram@gmail.com or calling

Cecilia Craig (587-575-8169) or Fiona Carnie for Amici (403-805-7360) or Diane Lane (for Junior Amici and Amicini (403-852-4135)

Mission Statement

The Amici String Program was developed to:

- Provide a positive and inclusive atmosphere for string students to develop their skills, their love of music, and their friendships.
- Provide quality musical education in a non-judgmental environment, where all students, parents, and instructors are treated respectfully and equitably.
- Provide opportunities for students to fulfill their full potential, both musically and personally.
- Provide opportunities for students to interact with the community through music.

Expectations Of All Students

In order to make the program a positive, productive and fun experience for all participants, students should be aware of the following expectations.

- **Students must be respectful** of other students and faculty and bring a positive attitude of expecting to learn and to enjoy music.
- **Students and parents should have an email address** which they check regularly. If you are not receiving Amici emails, it is your responsibility to inform us at amici.stringprogram@gmail.com.
- **Students should be on time, tuned, and ready to play** each week at the designated hour of rehearsal or class.
- **Absences must be reported to** amici.stringprogram.com. Last minute illnesses or emergency absences should be reported by phone to Cecilia at 587-575-8169 or Fiona (Amici) 403-805-7360 or Diane (Amicini & Junior Amici) 403-852-4135.
- It is important to make every effort to attend class, recognizing the impact of absences on others. Early notice of absences is important. For Amici students it may be possible to participate via Zoom. Amici Students who miss chamber music without notice and due cause may forfeit their chamber music placement.
- The programs are intended to enrich the musical education of string students currently studying privately. **All students are required to be studying on a regular basis with a private teacher.**
- Students must not bring snacks or any sort of food into the sanctuary.
- Students are responsible to prepare and learn their individual chamber music parts at home and should feel free to ask their Amici program coach or private teacher if they have any questions or need additional guidance.
- **Students are expected to participate in the set-up of rooms** in which they are practicing and performing, and in the clean-up at the end of sessions, under the direction of the instructor of the class. This will involve helping to move music stands and chairs. Students must be respectful of the facility, taking care not to damage or dirty any part of the building.
- **Chamber and group music parts are the responsibility of each student.** In the event of lost music, contact Cecilia at amici.stringprogram@gmail.com. Or Tokie Onoda at tokie@calgaryclassical.ca. A replacement fee may be levied.

A good quartet is like
a good conversation
among friends
interacting to each
other's ideas.
- Stan Getz

How Amici Works ...

Amici

The Amici program accepts violin, viola and cello students playing from an intermediate to an advanced level. Minimum requirements for admission to the program are:

- repertoire level of approximately *RCM Grade 6*
- knowledge of at least one 3 octave scale
- well established skills in shifting and vibrato
- skills in note and rhythm reading

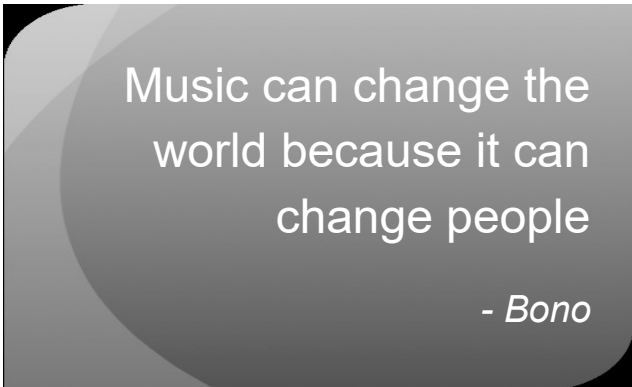
Junior Amici

- repertoire level of approximately *RCM Grade 3 and above*
- *Knowledge of third position*

Amicini

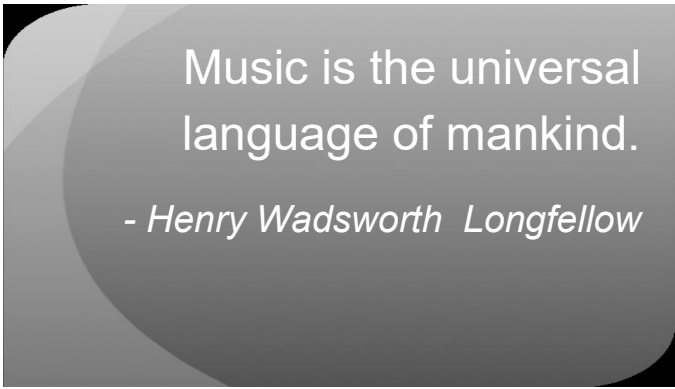
- From absolute beginners to *RCM Level 2 / 3*

Placement in classes will be at the discretion of the directors in consultation with the student's private teacher.



Music can change the
world because it can
change people

- Bono



Music is the universal
language of mankind.

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Collaborative Artist Funding

One of the goals of the Amici String Program is to support students in their study of solo repertoire, by providing weekly masterclasses and access to guest clinicians.

Amici and Junior Amici students registered in weekly masterclasses may take advantage of a subsidy for rehearsal with an approved accompanist.

Amici students: four hours (240 minutes). A minimum of two rehearsals before any performance is strongly recommended. Amici students may work with any collaborative artist listed in the handbook. If you wish to work with an accompanist other than those listed on the form, please contact us at amici.stringprogram@gmail.com.

Junior Amici students: one hour (60 minutes). Hana and Leo are the designated collaborative artist for Junior Amici. Amici will pay for approved accompanists at Amici Solo Recitals or at regular Monday classes.

A **minimum** of two rehearsals before any performance is strongly recommended.

NB: Family members may not be approved as accompanists paid by Amici. Please email with questions.

Technique and Masterclasses (Amici Only)

Students enrolled in the technique/masterclass portion of the Amici program should be ready to play a piece or part of a piece in masterclasses on a weekly basis. Listening critically is an important part of the masterclass experience. Students should have a notebook and pencil at all classes to take notes. Masterclasses will alternate with technique classes at the discretion of the instructors. Students should be prepared to play three octave scales using the Galamian pattern, in various bowings, for the technique classes.

When guest clinicians are invited to Amici, students will be selected to perform based on readiness and equality of opportunity at the discretion of the director. Some clinicians will be available only to the older students. Students selected to perform for guests will be notified a week in advance.

Please see the schedule in this handbook and check the Amici website at www.amicistringprogram.com for updates on guest artists throughout the year.

The most perfect
technique is that which
is not noticed at all.

- Pablo Casals

Students must dress appropriately when playing for guest clinicians (no jeans or running shoes). In most cases this will involve bringing a change of clothes from school. If in doubt about appropriate attire, ask one of the Amici teachers. Students who are not appropriately dressed will not be permitted to play.

Students who are not selected to perform in the masterclass with guest clinicians are expected to listen to the class and take notes.

Parents and the general public are encouraged to attend masterclasses and classes with guest clinicians.



"If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a
Musician. I often think in music. I live my daydreams
In music. I see my life in terms of music."

- Albert Einstein

Recitals

Amici

Playing in public is an important part of becoming a musician, and Amici's public recitals are an important part of our musical outreach to the community.

Amici recitals are held Sundays between 1:00 pm and 4:30 pm at Bethany Chapel of Calgary. Recital participation is done on a sign-up basis, and is encouraged but not mandatory for Amici students. Exact recital time assignments will be sent out via email and scheduling will be arranged according to the needs of the collaborative artists.

Any Amici student with a "performance-ready" piece may sign up to play in the recitals, which are held approximately monthly as listed in the calendar. Registration fees are \$20 per student for each recital in which the student wishes to participate. Cash or a cheque made out to the Amici String Program Association should be paid to the assistant by the last Monday before the recital. To ensure that each piece is ready for performance, students may not sign up for recitals more than a month in advance. A fee of \$20 will be charged for NSF cheques.

We encourage Amici students to work with one of our approved accompanists listed on the recital form. Should the student wish to play with an accompanist other than one designated as an Amici accompanist, the student must pay the accompanist for the performance as well as any rehearsals incurred.

All pieces to be performed in recitals must be fluently memorized and polished (except sonatas, which can be played from music). Students must dress appropriately for each recital. Students in jeans or running shoes will not be allowed to participate in the recital.

Students outside the Amici program who are at a Grade 6 standard and above may also participate if there is room, subject to the discretion of the Artistic Director. These students will pay a registration fee of \$30 for each recital.

Amici Solo Recital Dates (subject to change)

October 19, November 16, December 07, 2025

January 18, February 22, March 15, April 12, 2026

Deadline for submissions and payments is the Monday before the recital.

Junior Amici

Playing in public is an important part of becoming a musician.

One of the goals of the Jr. Amici String Program is to support students in their study of solo repertoire, by providing four public recital opportunities.

Students must dress appropriately for each recital. Students in jeans or running shoes will not be allowed to participate in the recital.

Junior Amici Recital Dates

November 03, December 08, 2025; February 09, April 27, 2026

They will be held at Bethany Chapel. Nov & Feb recital will be at 5:30pm; Dec & Apr will be at 5:00pm.

Amicini Recital Dates

December 08, 2025 and April 27, 2026.

They will be held at 5:00 pm at Bethany Chapel.

Parents are welcome to record only the sections of recitals in which their own children are playing. Please do not post group performances on the internet without the explicit permission of all performers.

Faculty BIOS

Fiona Carnie VIOLIN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Fiona Carnie is the Artistic Director of the Amici String Program in Calgary and is much in demand as an adjudicator and clinician. She played for many years with organizations such as the Canadian Opera Company Orchestra, Esprit Orchestra and the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra. Fiona was also a member of the College of Examiners of the Royal Conservatory of Music for 20 years. She holds a B. Mus (with distinction) in Violin Performance from the University of Calgary and a M.M in Violin Performance from Yale. A noted pedagogue, whose current and former students are competition winners, members of many professional orchestras and teach at musical institutions across the continent, she continues to maintain a sizable private studio and to direct the Amici String Program, now established as a leading organization in education for young string players. Fiona is honored to have received the Alberta Music Education Foundation Recognition Award in 2023.

Rachel Baljeu COLLABORATIVE ARTIST

Rachel Baljeu is a sought-after collaborative pianist and piano teacher, residing in Calgary since 2014. She maintains a busy schedule as collaborative artist with the Amici String Program, the One Accord and Western Canada High School choirs, the Firebird Symphony and Chorus, and the University of Calgary, as well as with other students for local festivals, recitals and exams. She also maintains a private piano studio, teaching 15-20 students. Her students have won awards and scholarships for their excellence in piano performance.

Rachel previously worked as a software engineer for GE Aerospace (formerly Smiths Aerospace) for nearly ten years. After returning from a 3-year assignment in France, she left her job to thru-hike the 4300-km long Pacific Crest Trail. Upon completion of the trail she decided to switch careers and return to school for music. She received her Bachelor's degree from Grand Valley State University, where she had the invaluable opportunity to study piano pedagogy with Helen Marlais, and piano with Mark Markham, known in particular for his collaboration in recitals with Jessye Norman.

Rachel graduated from Michigan State University with Master of Music degrees in both Piano Pedagogy and Collaborative Piano. Her teachers included opera conductor and pianist Alan Nathan for collaborative piano, and Deborah Moriarty and Derek Polischuk for solo piano.

Andrea Case CELLO

Cellist Andrea Case has a Master's Degree in cello performance from McGill University where she studied on scholarship with Antonio Lysy. Andrea is co-founder and cellist of the Lily String Quartet, a group that has completed multiple tours across Canada, has performed for CBC Radio 2 and released a jazz CD with the award-winning Hutchinson Andrew Trio. Andrea has played with orchestras in Europe, Japan, California, Quebec and Alberta. She records regularly in multiple genres including pop/folk, jazz and classical. Andrea has 17 years of teaching and coaching experience from Mount Royal Conservatory, Amici String Program and Chinook School of Music, all in Calgary, and the Lippert School of Music in Toronto. Andrea adjudicates at festivals throughout Alberta and British Columbia. She is an Artistic Director of Calgary's Kensington Sinfonia and performs regularly with this group along with baroque ensemble String Theory Music Collective and Lily String Quartet.

Faculty BIOS cont.

Christine Chen VIOLIN, (AMICINI, JR AMICI, AMICI COACH)

Christine is a versatile violinist and educator, performing in classical, pop, EDM, and beyond. She plays with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Red Deer Symphony, and is Guest Concertmaster of the Calgary Civic Symphony. She is now on the violin faculty at the Mount Royal University Conservatory.

An alumna of the Mount Royal University Conservatory Academy and Calgary Youth Orchestra, she holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Calgary, where she studied with Edmond Agopian. She refined her artistry at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee with Paul Laraia and Lynn Chang, winning the 2021-22 Honor Chamber Music Competition and making her Carnegie Hall debut as a first-prize winner of the Concert Artists International Competition. She also performed the Sibelius Violin Concerto with the Boston Conservatory Orchestra.

Christine has shared the stage with artists such as Michael Bublé, Richard Clayderman, Chris Hadfield, Kenny Barron, and Silkroad, and recorded for projects including China's TNT (時代少年團). In Los Angeles, she worked with Audiomachine, performed with Led Zepagain, and appeared in the Tony-winning musical Spring Awakening at East West Players. An RCM Gold Medal teacher who believes "Every Child Can," Christine continues to inspire as a dynamic performer and educator.

Jarome Harlea COLLABORATIVE ARTIST

Jarome Harlea obtained a Bachelor of Music with distinction in piano performance at the University of Calgary under the guidance of Professor Marilyn Engle in 2022. Throughout his studies he has participated in piano masterclasses with renowned artists Yael Weiss, Makoto Ueno, Alexander Panizza, James Anagnoson, Antonio Pompa-Baldi, and others. He studied chamber music under Edmond Agopian and Dr. Jani Parsons, including working with Edmond Agopian on violin and piano works. Jarome was able to nurture an interest in collaboration during and after his time at the university and has performed repertoire with violin, viola, cello, saxophone, voice, and flute; as well as in chamber ensembles such as piano duo, piano trio, horn trio, clarinet trio, and piano quartet. Currently, he serves as collaborative pianist for the Amici String Program, Academy Program for Young Artists at Mount Royal University, and students of the University of Calgary music program. He also frequently works with students during local festivals and was on the collaborative piano faculty of the 2024 Vancouver Island Music Academy program. Jarome maintains a teaching studio in Calgary and is an active performer in events and charities throughout the city.

Olena Kilchyk CELLO

Olena Kilchyk, native of Odessa, Ukraine, graduated from the Odessa State Music College and the Odessa State Conservatory. Since the age 14 Olena was the winner of numerous concerto competitions. While in Ukraine, she was a principal cellist and soloist of the Acedemia Odessa Chamber Orchestra and Virtuosi of Odessa Chamber Orchestra.

After immigrating to Canada, Olena received Master of Music Degree in Cello Performance from the University of Calgary. In 2000 she was the winner of the Department of Music Concerto Competition and performed with the U of C String Quartet.

Olena has been a member of the Prince George, Okanagan, Red Deer and Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra as well as Sinfonia Alberta Chamber Orchestra, Baroque Modern Chamber Orchestra, Players Chamber Ensemble and Saint Crispinis Chamber Ensemble.

Ms. Kilchyk toured extensively throughout Russia, Ukraine, Europe, Canada and China. Many of her performances have been broadcast on CBC and other radio and television networks and she had the opportunity to play with such artists as Michael Buble and 2Cellos.

Faculty BIOS cont.

Hana Kyung-Hui Kim COLLABORATIVE ARTIST

Hana Kyung-Hui Kim obtained her bachelor and master's degrees (B.Mus and M.Mus) in piano performance at Université de Montreal with Natalie Pépin and Claude Labelle.

As a pianist she won numerous awards in Canada and Korea such as the Canadian Music Competition and the Young Age Music Competition. Hana was invited to play at the Festival International de Musique de Montréal at Place Bonaventure and at the Open House of La Cinquième Salle in Place des Arts.

She participated in the Orford Arts Center summer camp with Andre Laplante and studied with Maria Clodes-Jaguaribe at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute with the help of the Canadian Club of Boston Tuition Scholarship. Hana also received a scholarship from the Korean-Canadian Scholarship Foundation and Fondation Vincent-d'Indy. She studied accompaniment with Louise-Andrée Baril, one of the premier accompanists in Quebec, and has extensive experience as a vocal and choral accompanist.

Hana is also an active choral conductor and studied at Westminster Choir College Conducting Institute in Princeton, New Jersey, under the instruction of James Jordan and Andrew Magill. She further studied with Timothy Shantz and John Washburn at various workshops and masterclasses.

In 2009, Hana founded the Calgary Korean Canadian Choir (CKCC). Under her direction, the CKCC has had notable performances at the Jack Singer Concert Hall, including a benefit concert to honour Canadian veterans of the Korean War and a performance of Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Calgary Philharmonic Chorus and Cantaré Children's Choir. The CKCC also represented Canada on an invitational tour of South Korea to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of Korean Independence. This event was broadcasted live via KBS TV throughout South Korea. The CKCC continues to perform annually all through Calgary and its surrounding area.

Hana is fluent in English, French and Korean.

Katherine Mihyun Kim COLLABORATIVE ARTIST

A native Korean, Katherine Mihyun Kim is a solo pianist, chamber musician and teacher. After she moved to Calgary, she pursued Bachelor's degree in piano performance at the University of Calgary under Marilyn Engle. She then went on to earn her Master's degree in piano performance at New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, studying under Gabriel Chodos. Her education was enriched by pursuing her Doctoral degree (Dissertation: *Spain and Beyond: Spanish Influence in Piano Music of the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries*) at the University of Minnesota under Alexander Braginsky in 2011.

She gave a lecture-recital on *Spanish Folk Influence on Manuel de Falla's Piezas Españolas* at the College Music Society 25th Pacific Northwest Chapter Conference at Capilano University in North Vancouver. Further, after winning the Masters Concerto and Aria Competition, she was invited to perform Shostakovich Piano Concerto No.2 with Kenwood Symphony Orchestra Minneapolis. Recently, she performed Liszt Piano concerto No.2 with a community orchestra led by Nicholas Choy in Calgary. She has also performed in a number of music festivals as a solo pianist and chamber musician, such as the World Piano

Meeting in Coimbra, Portugal, the International Keyboard Institute and Festival in New York, the Aspen Music Festival in Colorado, the Academie Franco-Americaine/Music Studies Abroad in Vaison-la-Romaine, Provence, France, and Oberlin's summer program in Casalmaggiore, Italy. In addition, she has played at several piano master classes with Anton Kuerti, with André Laplante at the Honens International Piano Competition, with Victor Rosenbaum at the International Keyboard Institute and Festival, and with Aquiles DelleVigne and Makoto Ueno at Coimbra World Piano Meeting.

She is very pleased to move back to Calgary where her family resides and proud to serve as a piano faculty at Mount Royal University Conservatory and a collaborative pianist at Academy for Gifted Youth Program. For additional information and to hear recordings from Katherine, check her website www.katherinekim.ca.

Faculty BIOS cont.

Sora Kim VIOLIN

Sora has enjoyed an active career for the past 11 years as a Calgary-area teacher and performer. In addition to her private studio, she has been a regular clinician via the MRU Conservatory workshop program, strings instructor at Rundle College, and adjudicator for local festivals. Sora is an alumnus of the MRU Conservatory Academy, and is currently pursuing a BSc/BMus with Edmond Agopian at the University of Calgary, where she also serves as co-concertmaster of the University of Calgary orchestra. She holds a special interest in non-profit, accessible, and equitable strings education.

Diane Lane VIOLIN, AMICINI & JUNIOR AMICI COORDINATOR

Born in Claresholm Alberta, Diane began her violin studies in Lethbridge before attending the Mount Royal Conservatory in Calgary. Diane graduated from McGill University with her Bachelor of Music degree under the tutelage of Yehonatan Berick. She continued her studies with Edmond Agopian at the University of Calgary and graduated with a Master's degree in violin performance.

Diane has attended The Banff Centre for the Arts as a resident and has returned many times, both as a solo performer and chamber musician. Diane is a founding member of Calgary's Lily String Quartet. The quartet participated in seminars at The Julliard School of Music and Stanford University and has performed across Canada.

Diane is a highly sought-after orchestral and chamber performer; playing with various ensembles in and around Calgary. She is currently the Assistant Concertmaster of the Red Deer Symphony Orchestra, a member of Kensington Sinfonia and a member of Rosa Barocca. Diane has adjudicated at numerous music festivals throughout Alberta and British Columbia. Diane is on faculty with the Amici String Program and maintains a violin studio at Mount Royal Conservatory.

Leo Xiaohe Liu COLLABORATIVE ARTIST

A Boston Conservatory at Berklee graduate, Xiaohe Liu is a Calgary-based soloist, chamber musician, and collaborative pianist who accompanies choirs and music programs across the city. He has performed with the Firebird Pops Orchestra, given a solo recital at Cambridge's Swedenborg Chapel, and inspires students as an experienced educator preparing them for exams, recitals, and competitions.

Beginning piano at age 5, Xiaohe quickly earned top prizes in major competitions including Steinway International (China Grand Final), Kawai Asia, Yamaha Scholarship, and the Imola Summer Piano Academy Competition. At fourteen he debuted with the Xi'an Conservatory Orchestra and has since performed across Asia, Europe, and North America, highlighted by a solo recital at Italy's Bolzano Bozan Piano Festival and a Carnegie Hall debut as first-prize winner of the Concert Artists International Competition. He also holds a silver prize from the UK's Virtuoso International Music Competition.

Faculty BIOS cont.

John Lowry VIOLIN (AMICI COACH)

John Lowry has been Associate Concertmaster of the Calgary Philharmonic since 1987, and has also served as guest concertmaster in Edmonton, Winnipeg, and Adelaide, South Australia. As a former freelancer, he appeared frequently with the Toronto Symphony, National Arts Centre Orchestra, Canadian Opera Company, National Ballet, Boston Pops, Opera Company of Boston, Esprit and New Haven Symphony. John was the founder and first artistic director of the Kensington Sinfonia in Calgary, and has appeared as soloist with orchestras in Calgary, Edmonton, Toronto, Halifax and others; with conductors including Mario Bernardi, Hans Graf and James Judd.

He began his violin studies in Edmonton with Ranald Shean, continuing on to graduate from the University of Toronto (BM), and Yale University (MM). His principal teachers included George Neikrug, David Zafer and Oscar Shumsky. Other important mentors included Steven Staryk, Rafael Hillyer, Joseph Silverstein, Szymon Goldberg, and members of the Orford and Tokyo Quartets.

John was the founder and first Artistic Director of the Kensington Sinfonia in Calgary, and was founder and violinist of Land's End Ensemble for 24 years, touring extensively and winning the WCMA for Outstanding Classical Recording in 2005 and 2006, as well as a Juno Award in 2014. He has given premieres of dozens of chamber works by composers such as R. Murray Schafer, Omar Daniel, Alexina Louie, Allan Gordon Bell, Jocelyn Morlock and Peter Maxwell Davies. He performed at the International Society for Contemporary Music World Music Days in Vancouver in 2017. He has collaborated with James Campbell, Evelyn Glennie, Robert Aitken, Barry Shiffman, Joel Sachs, Angela Cheng, Rivka Golani and many others. He has performed with Aventa Ensemble, Athabasca Quartet, Trio Haydn de Montréal, and Yale Contemporary Ensemble. He is currently Artistic Director and first violinist in *Astralis*. His violin was made by Carlo Ferdinando Landolfi in Milan in 1769.

He was previously on the faculty of U of Manitoba and U of Lowell (MA), and has also taught at U of Calgary. He currently teaches at MRU Conservatory and Amici String Program. He has been on the faculty of summer programs at the Banff Centre, Comox Valley Youth Music Centre, Langley Community Music School, SUNY Potsdam, JVL Summer School, Spencer Brook String Program in Massachusetts, and Vancouver Island Music Academy. He is an expert in the Dounis violin method and a frequent audition coach. Recipients of his coaching have won positions in professional orchestras, and his students have earned top prizes in local and national festivals and competitions.

Jesse Morrison VIOLA (AMICI COACH)

Canadian born Jesse Morrison enjoys a diverse career as a soloist, chamber musician and orchestral player. Currently in his sixth season as a member of the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Jesse expresses his keen desire to help form the minds of young artists by maintaining a private teaching studio, as well as teaching masterclasses and chamber music at Mount Royal University and through the Amici String Program. Recently awarded a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts, Jesse has recorded his upcoming debut solo viola album, "Transitions", which includes a commission by his friend and composer Derek David for a new solo viola Partita. The album also features a debut recording of "Skizzen für Siegbert" by Brett Dean, as well as works by Telemann and Kurtag.

Faculty BIOS cont.

Jesse Morrison (CON'D)

A devoted chamber musician, he formed both the Neruda Quartet in Boston and Arkadas Quartet in Toronto. He has participated as artist in residence at the Capital City Concerts, Classical Music Institute, Chamberfest West, Concerts in the Barn, Continuum Concerts, Ottawa Chamberfest and NEXUS Chamber Music and is also alumnus of festivals such as the Hindemith Foundation led by Tabea Zimmermann, Yellow Barn, Kneisel Hall, the Banff Centre and Domaine Forget. His music collaborators include Donald Weilerstein, Joel Krosnick, Pekka Kuusisto, the Amici Ensemble, and members of the Arditti, Brentano, Chilingirian and Takács Quartets.

Jesse graduated from the New England Conservatory (NEC) with an M.M. under Kim Kashkashian, the Glenn Gould School with an A.D. under Steven Dann and the University of Toronto with a B.M. under Teng Li. Jesse was awarded first prize for both concerto competitions at NEC, the Borromeo String Quartet Guest Artist Award, as well as the honors award with the Neruda Quartet, all featuring performances in NEC's Jordan Hall. Mr. Morrison has been a representative for "Music for Food" since 2015, a musician-led initiative founded in Boston that has created more than 2 million meals across North America since 2009. Outside of his musical endeavours, Jesse loves exploring his hobbies which includes tea drinking, cooking and travelling. Jesse currently plays on a 1971 Otto Erdesz Viola and a modern bow by Kaspar Pankow.

Andrea Poon VIOLA & EAR TRAINING/MUSICIANSHIP (AMICI/JUNIOR AMICI COACH)

Andrea Poon completed her BMus in performance with honours from the University of Toronto, her MMus in performance, as well as her Pre-Doctorate Diploma (D.E.P.A) from l'Université de Montréal. Andrea has been very fortunate to have studied with Fiona Carnie, Katharine Rapoport, and Jutta Puchhammer-Sédillot.

As an avid ensemble musician, Andrea has had the opportunity to play with many diverse chamber ensembles and orchestras across the country and Europe. In 2019 Andrea, along with Timepoint Ensemble, premiered Ghost Opera as after completing a residency at the prestigious Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity.

Ronelle Schaufele VIOLA & VIOLIN (AMICI COACH)

Canadian violist Ronelle Schaufele is an active solo, chamber and orchestral musician who performs frequently throughout Western Canada as well as performances in Cuba, Brazil, United States, New Zealand and Europe. As an avid lover of new music, Ms Schaufele has been delighted to play works composed for her and looks forward to upcoming collaborations. In addition to performing music being created today, Ronelle greatly enjoys performing on period instruments and exploring the rich baroque tradition.

In addition, she has served as principal violist for the Urban Village Chamber Orchestra, and is currently assistant principal violist in the Red Deer Symphony Orchestra.

Her education includes a Music Performance Diploma from Mount Royal College with William van der Sloot, a Bachelor of Music with distinction from the University of Calgary, with Nicholas Pulos.

Faculty BIOS cont.

Liza Scriggins VIOLA (AMICINI, JR AMICI, AMICI COACH)

Violist Liza Scriggins is a graduate of the New England Conservatory and Williams College. An active freelance musician, she is a member of Kensington Sinfonia and has performed with Calgary Philharmonic, Red Deer Symphony, the National Ballet, Mountain View Festival and Theatre Calgary. Liza also teaches both violin and viola at Mount Royal University Conservatory. In recent years, she has ventured into writing as the founder of StoryMusic, which presents storytelling chamber music concerts, and has performed for thousands of children at immigrant service centres, libraries and schools, thanks to grants from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Calgary Foundation and the National Arts Centre. Calgary Philharmonic selected Liza's version of Little Red Riding Hood, set to Beethoven's Quartet Op. 95, for their 2021 Education Concerts. StoryMusic's second recording is in the works and will be released in 2026.

Christine Sul COLLABORATIVE ARTIST

She began playing the piano at the age of 6 and started formal lessons at the age of 10 under Prof. Taehui Park until completing her first year of the Busan Arts High School. She then moved to Canada and completed her Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Calgary, studying with Prof. Marilyn Engle.

Christine has earned numerous distinguished accolades in Korea, including top prizes at the Busan Joongang and the Changwon International Meister Piano Competitions. She made her orchestral debut in 2008 when she performed Mozart Piano Concerto No. 21 in C Major, K. 467 with the Soloists of Volgograd Orchestra. In 2021, Christine became the Prairies Favourite for the 19-25 years old division of the Canadian Music Competition. In 2023, Christine performed with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra as an RBC Concerto Competition winner.

Christine has been a regular attendee of international piano festivals held in Portugal, such as the 2018 and 2020 editions of the Coimbra World Piano Meeting and the 2019 edition of the Sardoal International Piano Meeting, where she performed in local concerts and participated in masterclasses with renowned professors among which were Aquiles Delle Vigne, Makoto Ueno and Niklas Pokki.

In addition to her pursuits in solo performance, Christine is also an experienced chamber musician and accompanist. She has performed as a member of Peaks and Prairies Ensemble in Calgary, Banff and Canmore and has served as the principal pianist for the Calgary Korean Baptist Church from 2013 to the present.

She is currently a faculty member of the Mount Royal University Conservatory. As a teacher, Christine aims to teach her students by utilizing the strengths and advantages of the various teaching and playing styles she has experienced in Korea, Canada and Europe. She helps her students express a wide range of emotions and stories through playing piano. She also emphasizes the importance of proper technique that aligns with the music and strives to inspire her students to appreciate the beauty and joy of life through the gift of music.

Amici (only) at a glance ...

Please cut these pages and
post for reference during year

Absences

Please let us know: in advance: amici.stringprogram@gmail.com
on Mondays: 587-575-8169 (Cecilia)

Masterclasses with Guest Artists

- You must email amici.stringprogram@gmail.com in advance with your piece, composer and requested time to play. NB: Students who are flexible (i.e., being available at 4:15 pm) will have a greater chance of playing.
- There is NO charge to play for a guest artist in a regular Monday masterclass. Lessons during a residency will have an extra charge.
- Recital dress (no jeans or running shoes) is required to play for a guest artist or in a Sunday solo recital. There is no dress requirement for regular classes.
- Students will be selected to perform based on readiness and equality of opportunity at the discretion of the Artistic Director.

Lost Music

- In the event of lost music, contact Tokie Onoda immediately at 403-828-7158 or email her at tokie@nucleus.com. Replacement pages will cost \$2.00 per page.

Music is the universal language of mankind.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
• *Longfellow*

Recital

Oct 19 Nov 16, Dec 07, Jan 18, Feb 22, Mar 15, Apr 12 - 1:30 to 5 pm at Scarboro United Church

- Forms and \$20 payment must be in to Amici the Monday BEFORE the recital.
- Pieces must be memorized. (*Sonatas are the only exception.*)
- If using an Amici Collaborative Artist, a minimum of TWO rehearsals is required beforehand.
- If you are registered in Amici Masterclass, you receive **four FREE hours** with an Amici Collaborative Artist to rehearse. Their information is below. Email them to schedule as soon as possible.

Name	Email	Area of City
Rachel Baljeu	rbaljeu@amicistringprogram.com	SW, Signal Hill
Jarome Harlea	jaromeharlea@gmail.com	NE, Saddleridge
Hana Kim	kimk32@hotmail.com	SW, Currie Barracks
Katherine Kim	kmkim@mtroyal.ca	SW, Cougar Ridge
Leo Liu	xiahepiano@gmail.com	NW
Christine Sul	chrsul777@gmail.com	SW, Kingsland



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