

42nd Summer Season
PIERROT
CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL
Alumni Newsletter



ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

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Hyunju Ji, Editor - Festival Alumni Newsletter
Festival Founders - Susan Deaver & Maureen Hynes



Julia Chu

I am honored to be involved in the Festival this year! After the pandemic, I was not entirely sure about who I was and what I liked. It took a little while for me to discover myself, but I'm quite certain now: music is my passion. While I am only 16 now, I hope to someday be a performer and composer. I mainly play violin, but I also enjoy piano, guitar, ukulele, singing, and most recently, cello. I am so grateful for opportunities to play in my school orchestras, LISFA, all-county, youth orchestra, and of course, Pierrot Chamber Music Festival. These opportunities have not only given me a home, but also a family and a community, and I know that everyone will always be welcome!

I attended previously in 2022. My favorite festival memory was hanging out with other participants at lunchtimes and getting to make lasting friends.

Emmett Collins

Emmett Collins is a music teacher at Kellenberg Memorial High School, teaching orchestra and general music. He received his undergraduate and graduate degrees in Music Education from the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam, where he studied cello with Dr. Mathias Wexler. While at Crane, Emmett was principal cellist of the Crane Symphony Orchestra and section cellist for the Orchestra of Northern New York. On Long Island he has performed with various chamber groups and orchestras and is currently a cellist in the South Shore Symphony Orchestra. He has also served as the Division 3 All County chairperson for the Nassau Music Educators Association.

Emmett attended the Festival in 2010 and 2018. In 2010, the orchestra performed the Debussy Nocturnes. It was the first time I had ever performed Impressionist music and it really had an impact on me. I hope to perform it again soon!





Meredith Daly

Meredith Daly is a rising senior at Herricks High School and studies flute with Judith Mendenhall. Meredith loves playing orchestral music and is principal flute with the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra (MYO) of New York's Nassau Principal Orchestra and the Long Island Youth Orchestra. Meredith is a first place winner of the 2022-2023 MYO Concerto and Vocal Competition, a winner of the 2022 New York Flute Club Young Musicians Contest, and she performed with the NYSSMA 2022 All-State Symphonic Band as principal flute. Meredith has performed at summer festivals including Orford Music Academy, Oyster Bay Music Festival, NYSSSA, Kinhaven Music School Junior Session, and the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival. Meredith will be attending the Boston University Tanglewood Institute 2023 Young Artists Orchestra this summer.

Meredith attended the Festival from 2017-2019 and was the recipient of the Nakamura Award in 2018. Meredith discovered her love of playing chamber music at the Festival, and she has many cherished memories of having fun and performing with friends she made at the Festival. Her most memorable performances include performing Vivaldi's Goldfinch Concerto and performing with the Seminar Orchestra.

Paul Elizalde

Paul Elizalde has continued to make music at the Manhattan School of Music Precollege Division, the Catholic University of America, and elsewhere in New York, Baltimore, and around DC. He performed *Quiet City* with DC Strings Workshop, which he first learned at the Festival, and has played at the French Embassy, St. Matthew's Cathedral, and The Music Center at Strathmore with various groups including a brass quintet he helped to lead. He credits his teachers—Angela Gosse, Brad Siroky, Davy DeArmond, and Andrew Balio—as well as conductors, chamber coaches, more experienced colleagues, and his family's guidance and support with his development as a musician. He is currently a Ph.D. student in the NIH-Johns Hopkins Graduate Partnership Program interested in chromatin and gene expression research.

One of my favorite memories from the Festival was the first rehearsal for *Let the Bright Seraphim*, which is an aria for soprano and trumpet by Handel that was conducted by Jonathon Heyward. I remember being intimidated because everyone seemed much older and more experienced—or at least much taller—than 12-year-old me. Dr. Deaver believed in me and knew that I just needed some confidence, so she played my part with me for a few minutes until I felt more comfortable and could realized that I could play the part on my own.





Teddy Froelich

Hailing from northern Virginia, violinist and violist Teddy Froelich is a freelance performer and teacher in the New York metropolitan area. He graduated from the Aaron Copland School of Music and Shenandoah Conservatory with degrees in viola and violin, respectively. Past classical achievements include being awarded second prize in the Queens College Bach Competition, as well as holding positions as concertmaster of the Shenandoah Conservatory Symphony Orchestra and principal violist of the Queens College Symphony. His diverse cross-genre experiences explore pop, rock, country and jazz, and have led him to performing in iconic venues such as the Plaza Hotel and Oheka Castle.

Teddy attended the Festival in 2022. The pre-concert dinners with old and new friends is something I'll always look back on with joy.

Kalin Ivanov

Kalin Ivanov, cellist, is a prominent soloist, recitalist, chamber musician, and recording artist. Compared by the press to Rostropovich, Yo-Yo Ma, Piatigorsky and Jacqueline du Pré he is quickly gaining recognition as an artist whose “dramatic urgency and expressive tone” (The STRAD) is matched by “His deep, emotional, and poetic performing style” (Moscow North). The former music critic of the New York Times, Harris Goldsmith states that “...Ivanov presents himself as a player with a fine grained, luscious tone...” (New York Concert Review). The WORLD PANORAMA (Bulgaria) wrote: “...Kalin Ivanov is a phenomenon in the palette of the most talented musicians” and Musical Opinion (UK) confirmed: “one of the most celebrated cellists of his generation.” A winner of the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival Concerto Competition, he has performed in major performing centers in Bulgaria, Greece, Austria, Switzerland, France, Czech Republic, England, Russia, Brazil, Caribbean Islands and the U.S. Mr. Ivanov solo performances include appearances with the top Bulgarian orchestras including: Sofia Philharmonic, Sinfonietta-Sofia, Plovdiv Philharmonic, Varna Philharmonic, as well as Prague Sinfonietta, Moscow chamber orchestra - “Cantus Firmus”, Brooklyn Symphony Orchestra, Manhattan Virtuosi and Ensemble du Monde - Chamber Orchestras, and others. He is also a founding member of The Forte String Quartet and New York Empire Trio. Mr. Ivanov is currently on the faculty at Brooklyn College/CUNY. He also appears regularly on radio and television programs, leads cello and chamber music master classes and is a judge of international competitions in the US and Europe. Mr. Ivanov records for MSR Classics and Gega New labels and is presented by BV Artists International www.BVArtistsInternational.com More info: www.KalinIvanov.com Attended the Festival in 1999. My favorite moment was winning the Festival Concerto Competition and performing as the soloist with the Festival Orchestra at Tilles Center! Such a great memory at such outstanding festival!





Amanda Izzo

Amanda Izzo is an international musician originally from NY, having played flute professionally in China and the UK. She has held the positions of Associate Principal Flute of the National Center of the Performing Arts Orchestra and Principal Flute of the China National Opera House Orchestra of Beijing; Guest Principal Flute for the China Philharmonic, Beijing Symphony Orchestra, and the Tianjin Symphony Orchestra among others. Amanda is a sought-after recording artist in Beijing, having recorded for TV series, commercials and gala events. Previously, she received a Master's of Arts from the Royal Academy of Music in London and was Co-Principal Flute in the Southbank Sinfonia. Amanda most recently graduated from OAcademy's Artist Diploma program and will be the Second Flute in The Phoenix Symphony for season 2023-2024.

As a participant in the Festival in 1999, my favorite festival memory is the chamber music program and some of my first experiences with master classes.

Timothy Lee

Timothy Lee, 17, is a Paul D. Schreiber High School senior in Port Washington, NY. He is the principal cellist of the Long Island Youth Orchestra (LIYO) and the co-president of Tri-M at his school. Timothy has performed in All County four times, Long Island String Festival Association (LISFA) twice, and performs with his school pit orchestra. In addition to cello, he has also picked up many other instruments, including bass, timpani, and piano. Aside from being a musician, Timothy is considering majoring in Mechanical Engineering and thoroughly enjoys math and science. He also is on the Varsity XC and Track teams at his school.

In 2019, he participated in the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival and is thrilled to be returning to the Festival.

My favorite festival memory is playing chamber music with others in the small ensembles.





Jadyn Mardy

Jadyn is a junior studying Film and Media Studies at Tufts University. She has continued her violin/viola journey through participating in symphony orchestra and joining a folk-pop-rock band called Honeymoon who just finished recording their single. She also joined pit orchestra and loved the experience so much she played for three straight semesters. Jadyn is extremely excited to be VP of a music service club called Public Harmony. This club accepts musicians of all skill levels and plays concerts at senior homes and pediatric care facilities, all while fostering a community of music loving students who love jam sessions and playing together. She can't wait to see where her musical journey takes her next and is eyeing the Klezmer ensemble.

Jadyn attended the Festival from 2014 to 2019 and has several favorite Festival memories from the Festival. One memory is playing intense card games during the lunch hour – it became a “tradition” passed on year after year. The location of the Festival during those years had a huge hill to roll down and have fun with other Festival participants, and we had Friday afternoons dedicated to performing our chamber pieces for each other. Another memory was playing Handel’s Hornpipe at the final concert with all Festival Participants on stage as the “grand finale”.

Sammy Rafi

Sammy Rafi, 19, has served as concertmaster of the LIU Post Orchestra (2021-2022 season) and is currently a member of the North Shore Symphony Orchestra. He has studied alongside Dr. Dale Stuckenbruck, Anton Polezhayev, and Victoria Schwartzman collectively since 2021. At this moment, he is a Biology major at LIU Post and is immersed in string studies during his free time.

Attended in 2022. Favorite Festival Memory: Being able to collaborate alongside wonderful peers and terrific instructors!





Michael Roberts

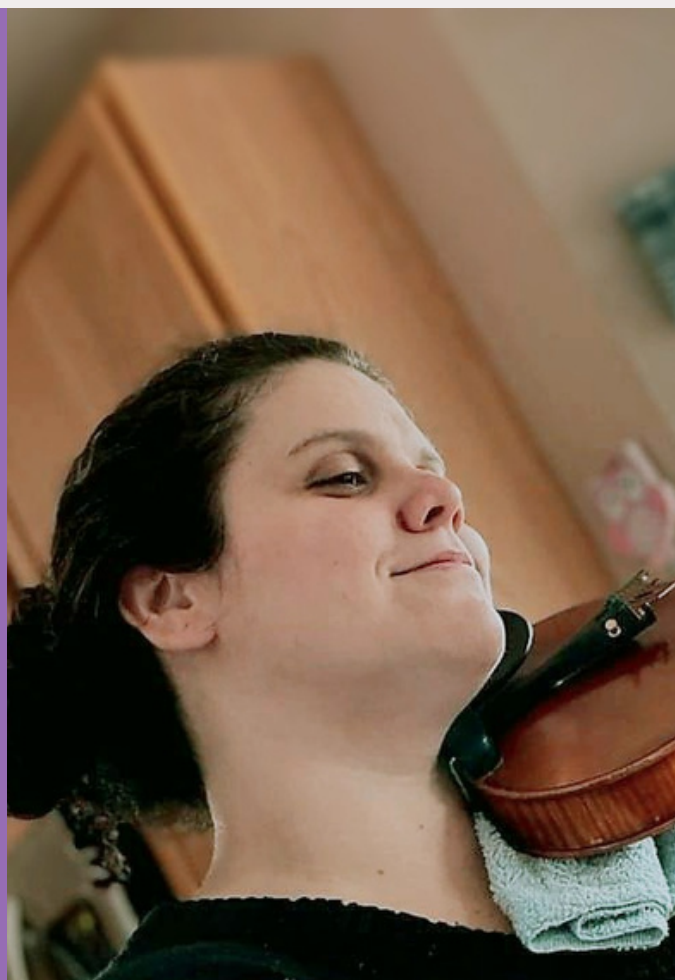
Michael Roberts was Administrative Assistant to the Directors for the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival from 2011-2019. He studied flute with Dr. Susan Deaver from 2010-2015. He graduated from LIU Post in 2015 with a B.M. in Music Education with a focus in flute performance. Since 2018, he has been an elementary music teacher in New York City. In his spare time, Michael enjoys traveling the world and experiencing all that life has to offer.

I worked for the Festival from 2011-2019. My favorite festival memory was in 2013 when I played the finale "Hornpipe" on the violin, with the Festival Chamber Orchestra.

Marisol Antonia Rutkowski

Marisol A. Rutkowski is a professional Violinist, as well as an active instructor in Pasadena, California. She has been instructing all age instrumentalists since completing her Bachelor's (2012) and Master's degree in Violin Performance (2017) while maintaining a healthy performance career with local California Symphonies. Many of her students have gone on pursuing their own musical careers at SUNY Purchase, Boston University, and the Peabody Conservatory. Her undying love and passion for music has always lead her to follow her dreams and prepare for the next adventure in her career. Marisol is an Alumni of the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival, as well as the Long Island Youth Orchestra (2004-2008).

Attended the Festival in 2002-2004 and 2011. My most treasured memory will always be my first exposure and performances in a master class. The guidance that Dale Stuckenbruck (Violin) and Heawon Kim (Piano) gave to me as a young 11 year old musician will always be imprinted on my memory, particularly the range of dynamics Haewon encouraged me to explore in my interpretation of "Moonlight Sonata" mvt.1. Thank you to all the faculty for all the dedication and time sacrificed to thousands of students, you are appreciated!





Chelsea Winter

Chelsea Winter studied both modern and Baroque violin with Dr. Dale Stuckenbruck at LIU Post. She holds a B.M. as well as an M.A. in Music Education. From 2011-2021, Chelsea taught orchestra to hundreds of children in various public schools on Long Island. She currently teaches private violin/viola lessons and also performs as a freelance musician. Chelsea is a member of Elemental Quartet as well as violinist at the Beach Catholic Churches in Long Beach/Point Lookout. She plays Baroque violin in Four and Twenty Strings, a historical chamber group based primarily on Long Island. She also coaches/plays with Kammermusik, New York's only early music youth ensemble. Chelsea has been a member of the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival board since 2022.

I participated in the Festival from 2006-2009 as both a musician and festival assistant. My favorite memory was the year I played the Mozart oboe quartet and clarinet quintet. I remember performing in the packed Hillwood Art Gallery and enjoying the energy of being around so many other chamber groups.

Don Yau

Don Yau is an alum of LIU Post. He studied violin performance under Vladimir Zyskind for 10 years and graduated from Purchase College for violin performance studying under Laurie Smukler. Don began learning violin at the age of 4, and continued to study violin playing through school and various teachers around the world with the support from his parents. Don has taught violin playing with passion since high school, and has taught hundreds of students around Long Island. He has a passion for recording his violin playing, and the content from his violin YouTube channel, kopikostar, has reached nearly 10 million views. His fans have donated over \$20,000 in support of his side passion for recording. Don has been sponsored by and worked with several microphone companies for the sale and demonstration of high tech modern microphones, such as techzoneaudioproducts. Don Yau is also the owner and creator of the largest Facebook violin group, "I love Violin" with over 57,000 members.

I can't remember the exact years because it's probably been over 15 years ago, but I loved listening to Dr. Dale Stuckenbruck's stories, and hanging out with my friends from my chamber music group during lunch after our practice. The staff who coached my groups, mainly members of the Pierrot Consort, were always part of favorite memories too because they incredibly kind people, generously shared their knowledge, and even though I was very young at the time, I had this lasting impression from them that they never acted like they were better than the students, and they always were very generous to perform for us and be vulnerable to us, quite the contrary to the usual vibe I get from other music festivals and groups. Wholesome.

