



Pierrot Chamber Music Festival

40th Summer Season

2021 Alumni Newsletter



Schyler Adkins, a native of southern Delaware, attended the University of Delaware from 2012-2016 earning his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education. He attended the LIU Post Chamber Music Festival on a Conducting Fellowship shortly after graduating in the summer of 2016. Schyler then taught instrumental music, including concert bands, jazz band, marching band, steel pans, AP music theory, and music production, at Brandywine High School in Wilmington, DE. In addition to teaching, Schyler founded and organized the first ever New Castle County Honor Band, which included students from over twenty high schools across the county. He also served on the

DMEA board, organizing the DE Solo and Ensemble festival for several years. In the Fall of 2020, Schyler began attending Temple University pursuing a Master's Degree in Wind Conducting, and he serves as a Graduate Teaching Assistant to the Diamond Marching Band.



Brandon Allen is an alum of LIU Post and is working towards his masters at NYU in Music Technology. Brandon was a member of the LIU Post Orchestra, LIU Post String Ensemble, Merriweather Consort, and the bass section leader for the Long Island Sound Vocal Jazz. Brandon was also a member of the LIU Post Chorus where he had the privilege of performing at Carnegie Hall in collaboration with the Cecilia Chorus under the direction of Dr. Mark Shapiro. In the summer of 2018, Brandon had the opportunity to perform at the Sydney Opera House in Australia as a percussionist in the Long Island Honor Band. A year later, he went on tour to Spain to perform with the Long Island Sound Vocal Jazz in San Sebastian, Frias, etc. He has also been a past member of Chamber Singers, the Jazz Ensemble, an alumni of the Chamber Music Festival and LIU Post's Piano Showcase. Outside of LIU, Brandon has played in the Off-Broadway musicals *Songs for a New World*, *13: The Musical* on bass, *Heathers* on violin, and *Spring Awakening* on Guitar. He has also sung in the Community Unitarian Universalist Congregation, under the direction of Lisa Meyer. Recently, Brandon taught Chorus and General Music in the Middle Country district as a leave replacement. Currently, Brandon will be playing in the pit for *Rent* and will be teaching privately while being a part of the Huntington Choral Society under the direction of Dr. Jennifer Scott Miceli while he finishes his master's program.



Born to musical parents, seventeen-year-old violinist Emily Beckner has been surrounded by music her whole life. For over a decade, her musical endeavors have taken her to renowned stages such as Carnegie Hall's Stern Auditorium, Weill Recital Hall and Lincoln Center's Rose Theatre, among others. For its past two seasons, Emily has performed with the New York Youth Symphony, and has served as Associate Concertmaster under conductor Michael Repper. This past year, she recorded an entire album of new works by female composers with the NYYS. Additionally, she appeared as a guest performer at the Tribeca Film Festival in Manhattan and is set to perform on CNN's 4th of July special this year with artist Billy Ray Cyrus.



Emily attended the LIU Post Chamber Music Festival for three years, from 2015-2017, where she met and worked with her current teacher, Anton Polezhayev. She is eager to continue her musical studies this coming fall at the Manhattan School of Music with Professor Todd Phillips.



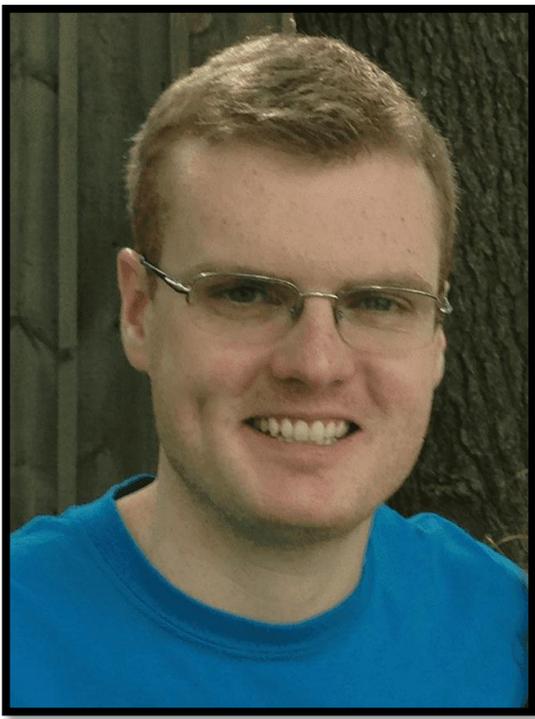
Alexandra Calabro attended the Chamber Music Festival from 2011-2014 as a violinist, violist, and chamber music coach. Since then, she has graduated from LIU Post and gone on to become primarily a Baroque violinist who frequently performs throughout Long Island and New York City. She assists in directing the Hofstra Collegium Musicum and maintains a vigorous studio of private students. In the Fall, she will attend the Aaron Copland School of Music in pursuit of her master's degree in musicology.

Paul Celentano is a freelance horn player who performs regularly throughout the Tri-State area. He has served as a substitute horn for The Orchestra NOW as well as the Glen Falls, New Haven, and Albany Symphonies, and is as a music contractor for wedding orchestras in New York and New Jersey. He has performed internationally in Europe, Asia, and throughout the Americas, and has experience across a variety of genres, performing with Arabic ensembles, Jewish wedding bands, video game orchestras, Korean church groups, and many others. He is an alumnus of the College Light Opera Company and holds a Bachelor of Music from the New England Conservatory of Music. He has also served as a Music Teaching Fellow at New York City's Stuyvesant High School, and is the Treasurer of the Celentano Foundation, which provides scholarships to high school seniors pursuing music performance or education collegiate degrees. He thanks Ms. Deaver for her encouragement while attending the LIU Post Chamber Music Festival himself as a middle school student and in the years afterward while performing with Long Island Youth Orchestra. These experiences had an incredible impact on his musical journey, and he is so grateful.



Aaron Chu started playing violin at the age of 5; since then, he has participated in many festivals such as the Concert Festival, LISFA, All County, LISFA Chamber Festival. He also has been a Metropolitan Youth Orchestra member since 2016, where he served as concertmaster many times. Additionally, Aaron placed 2nd in the 2018 MYO Concerto competition. He has performed at many concert halls, such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and Lincoln Jazz Center. Having completed his freshman year at Herricks High School, Aaron is a member of the Tri-M Music Honor Society.

He participated in LIU Post Chamber Music Festival in the year 2018 and 2019; during the 2019 season, he was selected as one of the Tilles Scholar Award winners. Aaron also plays French horn and went to All County in the from 2015 to 2017. Outside of making music, he enjoys many sports such as basketball, badminton, tennis, and ping-pong.



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 participated in the Pierrot Chamber Music festival in 2010 and 2018.



Audrey J. Edelstein is a passionate conductor with experience directing orchestras, choirs, and ensembles of all sizes. She strives to inspire audiences to build a relationship with classical music and brings authenticity and connection to the podium through every performance. She has worked



with organizations as a guest and cover conductor, including the Oratorio Society of Queens, Northwinds Symphonic Band, the New Conductors Orchestra, the Queens College Orchestra, the Queensboro Symphony Orchestra, the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra of New York, the Yonkers Philharmonic, and the New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra. Audrey is a founding member of the New Conductors Orchestra, an NYC-based civic orchestra committed to showcasing emerging conductors. She completed her Masters of Music in Orchestral Conducting at the Aaron Copland School of Music and studied Music and Religion at Swarthmore College.

Audrey attended the CW Post Chamber Music Festival from 2008-2009, where she played bassoon in chamber ensembles and the orchestra. She credits programs like the Festival for exposing her to the joy of classical music and life-long friendships.

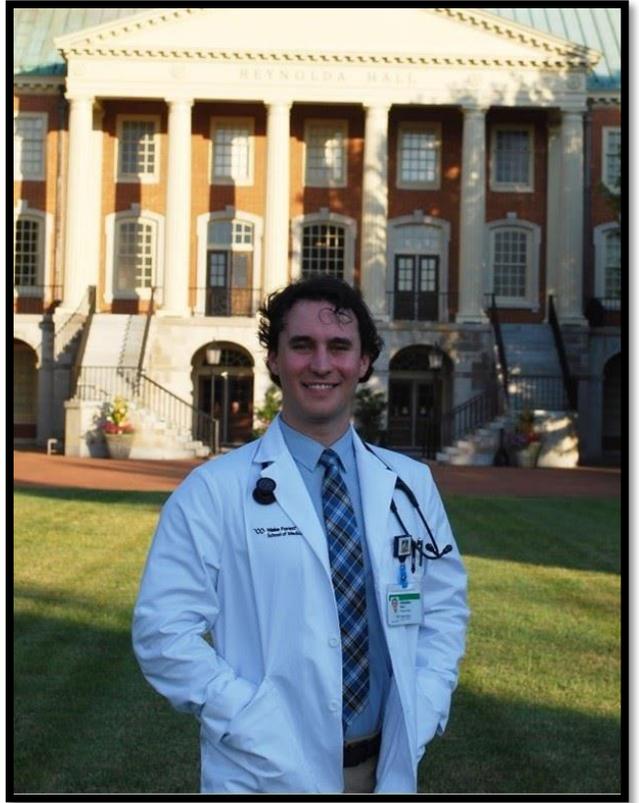
Hannah Fisk is a rising senior at Great Neck South High School. She has been playing the cello for 8 years, currently studying under Grace Wu Hsu. Hannah has also studied the bassoon for 6 years under Cindy Lauda. Hannah was a part of the LIU Post Summer Chamber Music Festival during the summers of 2018 and 2019. She performed in the Great Neck South High pit orchestra for the musical *A Little Night Music* and the opera *Die Fledermaus*. She was selected to participate in the 2020 NMEA All-County Division 4 Symphony Orchestra. During the 2019-2020 season, Hannah played bassoon as a Young Orchestral Artist with the North Shore Symphony Orchestra. Hannah is honored to be the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 NMEA scholarship recipient of the Lawrence Gray Memorial Scholarship to study at USDAN Summer Camp for the Arts for 8 weeks. In addition to music, Hannah enjoys running, cooking, and crocheting. She hopes to continue playing orchestra in college to further her passion in music.



Samuel Fisk is a rising freshman at Great Neck South High School. He plays violin and is currently studying the oboe with Cindy Lauda. Samuel participated in the festival on both instruments, playing the violin and oboe in the LIU Post Chamber Music Festival in 2018 and 2019. Samuel was honored to be selected to participate in the 2020 New York State Band Directors Association Middle School Honor Band and the 2020 NMEA All-County Division 3 Band. From 2018-2021, he played oboe in the Great Neck South Middle School Band and is looking forward to joining the Great Neck South High School Symphonic Band and Great Neck South Opera Pit Orchestra

in the fall. Following a three-generation family music tradition, he and his siblings look forward to the WQXR Classical Countdown at the end of each year and eagerly wait to see if their favorite classical pieces make the top ten. In his free time, Samuel enjoys soccer, mountain biking, and building projects using upcycled materials.

Alexander Horn started playing the viola at age 8 growing up in Port Washington, New York. He is an alumnus of both the Long Island Youth Orchestra (2014-16, co-principal violist) and the LIU Post Chamber Music Festival (2014-16). He attended Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina as a Presidential Scholar for distinguished achievement in the arts. He served as principal violist there for all four years, winning the concerto competition as a senior with the William Walton Viola Concerto. He also performed in a variety of chamber ensembles at Wake Forest including the student-run Reynolda Strings quartet. His last concert before the pandemic was a performance of this concerto with the Wake Forest University Orchestra in February of 2020. Alex graduated in 2020 Summa Cum Laude majoring in Latin with a minor in Neuroscience. He then matriculated at the Wake Forest School of Medicine where he is currently a 2nd year medical student pursuing a MD. Additionally, he is actively engaged in epilepsy neurological surgery research exploring minimally invasive interventions. He continues to play the viola with the Wake Forest University Orchestra, as well as the Triad Area Medical Orchestra (TAMO) – an orchestra comprised of medical professionals in the Piedmont Triad.



Patricia Laurencot attended the LIU Post Chamber Festival as a violinist from 1995-2005 and began turning pages for pianist Heawon Kim in 2001.

Patricia began teaching at St. Martin of Tours School in Amityville as a 3rd grade teacher after receiving her B.A. from St. Joseph's College. As a 4th grade teacher, she began the school's first Recorder Club. She was later appointed as both the music and computer teacher after receiving her M.A. degree in Music from LIU Post, having previously received her M.S. degree in Educational Technology there. She holds FAME certifications in both First Steps in Music and Conversational Solfege. Currently, Patricia teaches general music to grades N-8 and directs the school's chorus and Recorder Club.

Currently performing on cello with the Sound Symphony and West Islip Symphony Orchestra, Patricia has also performed with the CW Post Orchestra, North Shore Symphony and James Street Players. Additional activities include being a choir member with the Sisters of St. Joseph, the webmaster for the Recorder Society of Long Island, and videographer for the Clare Rose Playhouse. Since 2015, Patricia has been a Co-Chair for SCMEA's Day of Recorder. In addition to the above musical activities, Patricia can also be seen turning pages for pianist Elinor Zayas of Cross Island.



Esther Loring is a rising senior at Northport High School. She studies oboe and English horn with Shane Helfner, and she hopes to pursue a career in oboe performance or biochemistry. Esther is currently principal oboe in the Long Island Youth Orchestra and performs with other groups such as the Port Washington Community Band and Stony Brook University Undergraduate Orchestra. She attended the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival in 2019 and was a Tilles Scholar Award recipient that year. She is also interested in music theory, musicology, and composition, having achieved a 5 on the

AP Music exam and submitted compositions to All State in 2019 and 2020. Esther is also an all-county musician on voice. In school, she sings in the audition Tour and Jazz Choirs and travels with these groups to the local VA and town hall, among other places. Aside from her main instruments, she is learning viola, piano, and guitar for fun!



Jadyn Mardy has attended the Pierrot Chamber Music Festival from 2013 to 2018 and has enjoyed every minute of her experience. Since then, she has immersed herself in other aspects of music. She regularly plays with the Children's Orchestra Society, and is part of the Financial team at Strings4Smiles, a not-for-profit that strives to bring music to schools and communities who may lack musical resources. She has also been exploring music composition and is excited to see where that takes her. Jadyn's latest project, linked to her love for music, has been making an electric violin from scratch for a senior project, with the help of her high school woodshop teacher and Dr. Dale Stuckenbruck. The electric instrument was hand chiseled from a single cherry stump and has a spalted maple fingerboard and customized bridge. The entire experience is one she will never forget, and she credits her passion and interest in craftsmanship thanks to the Pierrot Chamber Festival experience.



Jadyn will be attending Tufts University in Boston this fall and hopes to join the school's Orchestra and continue her musical journey. She can not wait to see where her college experience will take her and is extremely excited to visit the Pierrot Chamber Festival and play with her inspiring peers in the future.

Pyeongkang Park, the president of The Korean American Church Musicians Association of Atlanta, has actively performed as the executive director or conductor in various events such as 50th Anniversary of Korean American Association of Greater Atlanta Festival, 100th Anniversary of The March 1st Independence Movement Day Concert, 250th Anniversary of Beethoven's birthday Concert, and the 2014 Happy New Year's Concert at the Bacolod City Hall, Philippines, among many others.



As one of the winners of the 17th International Conducting Workshop and Competition (ICWC) in Georgia 2020, Mr. Park has been selected as a finalist in the college/university orchestra division of The American Prize in 2021. He has participated in the 23rd Conductors Retreat at Medomak with an unprecedented full scholarship from Kenneth Kiesler 2019 and the 35th LIU Post Chamber Music Festival, awarding the Conducting Award from 2016.

A native Korean, he is contributing to the expansion of music education as the Co-Founder and Judge Panel of the Hwaseong-si Music Competition. In addition, he communicates with the public by serving as a radio host in a classical music instruction segment at Atlanta Radio Korea (AM790) since 2017.

Holding a B.M. in Music education from Konkuk University and an M.M. and Artist Certificate in Conducting from Georgia State University, Mr. Park is currently pursuing a DMA in Conducting at the University of Georgia with Mark Cedel. His mentors include Michael Palmer, Philip Greenberg, and Kynan Johns.

Pyeongkang Park is music director and conductor of Atlanta Sinfonia and Atlanta Christian Men's Choir.



Eric Reilly is 13 and is entering 9th grade at Lynbrook High School. He plays oboe and English horn in his school's wind ensemble and marching band and plays violin in the school orchestra. He attended the LIU Post Pierrot Chamber Music Festival in 2019, where he performed on his oboe and violin and is excited to be back again this year. Eric performed NYSSMA Level VI pieces for all three instruments, achieving exceptional scores. While he has been concertmaster in his school orchestras since fourth grade, he has been selected and performed in All-County and LISFA each year since 5th grade. Eric is returning for his third year as a member of MYO in the Nassau Symphony Orchestra. He is an alumni of the Nassau Suffolk Youth Band and the Children's Orchestra Society. He performed on oboe with his COS orchestra at a Carnegie Hall concert in 2019.



Eric's most recent accomplishment is as a NYS PTA Reflections contest Award of Merit Winner for his original music composition, which he performed on English horn. In May, Eric was also a finalist in the PSEG Em-Power Environmental Competition, as Eric has always achieved the highest honors academically.

An athlete as well, Eric was captain of his school football and baseball teams this year and has been spending his summer playing with his travel baseball team and getting conditioned for football season. As a community service initiative, Eric started a band with his friends to perform music in nursing homes and children's hospitals, an endeavor he hopes to return to soon as the pandemic restrictions start to lift.

Eric studies music theory in his spare time and plans to pursue music performance for his future career.

Joshua Wang, violin and viola, is a rising senior at The Waldorf School of Garden City. He attended the LIU Post Chamber Music Festival between 2015-2019 and is a past recipient of the Tilles Scholar Award and Rex Chao Memorial Scholarship from the Festival. Other music programs in which Josh has participated in include NYSSSA SOS, Oyster Bay Music Festival, Stony Brook Jazz and Chamber Music Camps, Daisy Jopling Global Music Academy Orchestra Awakening concerts in 2016 and 2017, and the Mark O'Connor Method Camp, where he is a past recipient of the Daniel Pearl Memorial Violin in 2016. This summer he is attending BUTI from Anywhere. Josh studies with Dr. Dale Stuckenbruck and is a member of New York Youth Symphony, Kammermusik, and The Children's Orchestra Society, where he was the 26th Discovery Award winner.



During the past year, Josh has had a lot of fun experimenting with home recording, writing his own tunes, participating in virtual projects and camps, and learning new instruments. Outside of music, Josh enjoys photography and videography, running, and hanging out with friends.



Chelsea Winter studied both modern and Baroque violin with Dr. Dale Stuckenbruck at LIU Post. She graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.M. in Music Education in 2011. Chelsea earned her M.A. in Music Education with Distinction from Hofstra University in 2014. She has dedicated the past ten years to teaching orchestra to hundreds of children in various public schools on Long Island. She also teaches private violin, viola, and cello lessons, preparing students for NYSSMA, All County, LISFA, and All State. Chelsea has been an active member of the NMEA and LISFA organizations, serving as the All County Division 1 West Orchestra Co-chair in 2018. She is a member of Elemental Quartet and performs as a freelance violinist. In 2016, she was featured as a soloist with the South Shore Symphony Orchestra. Chelsea has performed in local pit orchestras including ballet, opera, and musical productions. She participated in the LIU Post Chamber Music Festival from 2006-2009 as both a musician and festival assistant.



Tommy Wu was raised in Bay Shore, NY and began playing the double bass at eight years old. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from SUNY Fredonia and studied with Dr. Harry Jacobson. Tommy also holds a Master's degree in Double Bass Performance from Stony Brook University. Remaining at Stony Brook, he is currently pursuing a DMA degree under the guidance of Blake Hinson, member of the New York Philharmonic.

Tommy is actively performing with several Long Island-based ensembles, including The Island Symphony, South Shore Symphony, and The New Inlet Chamber Orchestra. His unique performance experiences include opera, Latin Jazz ensemble, Carnegie Hall performances, video game music, live radio performances, and bass quartet. Tommy also collaborates with musicians in other styles of music, such as jazz, rock, and bluegrass. He was awarded a Fellowship in the LIU Post Chamber Festival and the National Music Festival (Maryland).

Aside from playing bass, Tommy holds the positions of Fellow at the Perlman Music Program, String Teacher at the D'addario Foundation, Teacher at the Music Academy of Garden City, Private Double Bass Teacher at The Stony Brook School, Coach at the Metropolitan Youth Orchestra, and Chamber Music Coach of the Young Artists Program at Stony Brook University. He is also one of the founding members of the Instrument Petting Zoo program established by Staller Center for the Arts. He is a proud PC gamer.

Tommy attended the festival in 2016.