



MUSIC FROM
ANGEL FIRE

43rd Season

America 250:

Echoes of Liberty

August 13th-26th, 2026

Angel Fire

Eagle Nest

Raton

Taos

Moments between mesas.




Raton

NM 
TRUE

ExploreRaton.com

Artistic Directors Welcome

Welcome to Music from Angel Fire's 43rd Season!

In celebration of America's 250th anniversary, our season, entitled **America 250: Echoes of Liberty**, invites audiences on a musical journey through the many voices, landscapes, ideas, and traditions that have shaped the American experience. Spanning more than three centuries of music, this season explores liberty, not only as a historical ideal, but as a creative force—one that inspires innovation, welcomes dialogue, and continually reimagines what is possible.

During this season, audiences will encounter pioneering American voices, transatlantic exchanges, beloved masterworks, contemporary perspectives, and vibrant celebrations of cultural heritage. From the groundbreaking artistry of Aaron Copland and John Adams to the visionary music of Charles Ives, George Gershwin, and Elliot Carter, the series traces the evolving sound of a nation. Along the way, works by Bach, Mozart, Haydn, Mendelssohn, Dvořák, Poulenc, Kenji Bunch, Kian Ravaei, Rebecca Clarke, and others reveal the rich international influences that have helped shape American musical identity.

Highlights include a live performance accompanying Buster Keaton's classic film "The General," as well as Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring" and both the "String Quartet" and "String Quintet" that Antonín Dvořák composed during his time in America. Each program reflects the spirit of discovery and reinvention that lies at the heart of the American story.

We are especially delighted to welcome composer, pianist, and artistic visionary Michael Stephen Brown as our Composer-in-Residence. Throughout the season, Brown's artistry will be featured through performances and a newly commissioned world premiere, offering audiences a living connection to the next chapter of America's musical legacy. We welcome back The Dolphins, and we are pleased to introduce new artists, The Candide Quartet from The Juilliard School, cellist Colin Carr, Chelsea Strayer on bass, and Peter Kolkay on bassoon. Join us as we celebrate the enduring power of music to tell stories, bridge cultures, inspire imagination, and reflect the many voices that continue to define America.

As we mark this historic anniversary, **America 250: Echoes of Liberty** honors the past while looking boldly toward the future.



Lara H O'Connor



D. P. H.

Board Welcome

America 250! 100 years of Route 66! Music from Angel Fire 43! It's a great time to celebrate the history of our country and look back at the music and memories from 43 years of MfAF. Our theme this year, **America 250: Echoes of Liberty**, beckons us on a musical history adventure as we soak in the music from American artists as well as the works and influences of international composers who have contributed to America's music legacy.

Tara and Daniel have a beautiful program in store, and don't forget to take advantage of the extra free events – Jonathan Coopersmith's wildly popular Music 101 and 102, as well as Inside the Score.

We hope this will be a time for reflecting on the past and celebrating with our friends, family, and the artists. We hope this will be a time for making new memories to fill your memory vault; here's hoping that your memory bank will always be filled with musical memories and fun from Music from Angel Fire.

Our warmest welcome to you!



Pictured left to right: Amanda Guidry, Laurie Hunt, Dennis Livingston, Deb Cristy, and Whitney Balizan. **Not Pictured:** Trini Bradley

Contents

Welcome.....	3	Concert 1, American Originals.....	22
Board and Staff.....	5	Concert 2, Transatlantic Voices.....	23
Benefactors.....	8	Concert 3, American Originals.....	24
Community Events.....	9	Concert 4, Freedom Reimagined.....	25
Young Artists.....	10	Concert 5, Fiesta 43!.....	26
Music in Schools.....	11	Concert 6, American Soundscapes.....	27
Composer-In-Residence History.....	14	Concert 7, Salon Concert.....	28
2026 Composer-In-Residence.....	15	Concert 8, Horizons.....	29
Visual Artis History.....	16	Concert 9, New World Dreams.....	30
2026 Visual Artist	17	Artist Bios.....	32
Standing Ovation.....	20	Young Artist Bios.....	42
Special Thanks.....	21		

2026 Board & Seasonal Staff

Artistic Directors

Tara Helen O'Connor
Daniel Phillips

Seasonal Staff

Kevin Baca
*Box Office Manager/Social
Media*

Visual Artist

Nathaniel Franklin
nathanielfranklin.com

Board of Directors

Whitney Balizan
Trini Bradley
Deb Cristy
Amanda Guidry
Laurie Hunt
Dennis Livingston

Jonathan Coopersmith
Musicologist/Lecturer

Laura Eberhardt
Education Director

Curtis Mark
Production Manager

Noriko Okabe
Recording Engineer

Graphic Design & Marketing

Tessa Fleming
tessaflemingdesign@gmail.com

Ponce de Leon

CREATIONS

Handcrafted Jewelry, Fine Cigars, Creative Gifts



3375 Mountain View Blvd. #G2
Angel Fire, NM 87710

575-240-6345

P o n c e d e L e o n c r e a t i o n s . c o m

Santa Fe CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL

53RD SEASON // JULY 19–AUGUST 24, 2026



**2026 SEASON
CALENDAR**

“...major league...”

~ *The Dallas Morning News*

Pictured clockwise: Verona Quartet, Will Liverman, Edgar Meyer



Supported by

CITY OF SANTA FE
ARTS & CULTURE

43rd Anniversary | 7

2026 *Benefactors*

Director's Circle

(\$10,000 and Above)

H. Beck Atkinson
William H. Darden and Kathryn T.
Darden Foundation
Karen W. McDonie and J. Patrick
Garrett Charitable Fund
Jean McLaughlin
National Endowment for the Arts
Kathy and John Payne

Sustainer

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Patricia and Bob Parks
Deb and Terry Pierce

Partner

(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Creative West
Gloria and Marvin Fishman
Claudia and Charles Gleeson
Lindsey Land & Home, LLC
Lowe's Market
Maxine and Ron Milam
New Mexico Arts
Patricia and Alfred Smith
Taos Community Foundation
Kathryn M. Zimmer

Patron

(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Deb Cristy
Laurie Hunt

Ida Kavafian
Pamela Kirk
Gail Wheaton
Barbara Zaring and Stephen Rose
Caryle Zorumski and Thomas
Burnham French

Supporter

(\$500 to \$999)

Carolyn and Toby Appel
Lorraine and Edward Beaudette
Joan and Kent Bohls
Lori Holland
Shearer Kimbell
Theresa and Dennis Livingston
Sandra Naylor
Ann and Lauren Trottier

Contributor

(\$250 to \$499)

Barbara and Wesley Alderete
Mary and Brian Arnold
Trini Bradley
CID's
David Craig
Sharon Ferguson
Bette Myerson
Camille Thomason

Friend

(Up to \$249)

America Online Giving Foundation
Whitney Balizan
Andrea Bertozzi and Bradley Koetje

Bette Goette
Amanda Guidry
Kathy and Robert Harris
Michael Harris
Pam and Chuck Hasford
Judie Hass
Beverly Kelman
Sara and Michael Kowalski
Janice Mayer
Sharon McDonald
Yvonne O'Brien
Anne Petrokubi
Jimmie A. Price
June Ryan
G.V. Swan
Cynthia and James Tuite
Margrit and James Wakefield
Marcia Wood

In Memory of Dick Stiles

Music from Angel Fire learned that Dick Stiles, a former supporter and Board member, passed away in 2025. Dick served as treasurer on the MfAF Board of Directors from 2000 - 2005, and on the Advisory Board from 2006 - 2008. His wife Nancy also served on the Board and he and Nancy were members of the MfAF Guild for a number of years.

In Honor of Beck Atkinson

Jimmie Dell Price

Thank You!

2026 *Free Community Events*

Each year Music from Angel Fire extends a special welcome to the communities that so generously support the festival and the education programs. As a token of thanks, Music from Angel Fire presents the following programs without charge.

Open Rehearsal

United Church of Angel Fire
Friday, August 14th
1 p.m.

Concert 3: Romance and Reel

Shuler Theater
Sunday, August 16th
3 p.m.

Music 101 with Jonathan Coopersmith

United Church of Angel Fire
Monday, August 17th
1:30 p.m.

Music 102 with Jonathan Coopersmith

United Church of Angel Fire
Monday, August 24th
1:30 p.m.

Inside the Score

United Church of Angel Fire
Tuesday, August 25th
1:30 p.m.

Young Artists Program



Each year Music from Angel Fire is honored to welcome Young Artists, students from conservatories and universities, to be part of the annual summer festival. Their task is three-fold. First, they perform at most of the main stage concerts where they play with the troupe of professional musicians who gather in Angel Fire every August.

Performing with the other musicians is also a learning experience for the Young Artists. This troupe of professional musicians work with and mentor the Young Artists.

Secondly, the Young Artists come to teach. Some of that teaching involves the troupe of professional musicians they perform with, bringing current ideas and different interpretations of music. Finally, they are also the musicians who participate in the Music in Schools Program. Every August the Young Artists go out into schools in the community to present brief concerts, spend time with K-12 students, and bring equal parts instruction and inspiration to schools across northern New Mexico.

Young Artists 2026

The Dolphins, Juilliard School

Luke Henderson, violin
Ian Maloney, cello
Isaac Park, violin
James Preucil, viola

The Candide Quartet, Juilliard School

Amelia Krinke, viola
Chili Ekman, violin
Henry Rogers, violin
Vanny Hu, cello



Music in Schools



Music from Angel Fire is honored to welcome Young Artists, students from prestigious conservatories and New Mexico universities, who perform in K-12 schools in northern New Mexico throughout the year.

In August of most years, conservatory students, this year from Juilliard, will visit area schools while they participate in the Music from Angel Fire Festival. In the spring, collegiate musicians from New Mexico universities provide a similar service. What do they do? The visiting musicians usually perform a brief concert and talk to students about their instruments and their education. If the school has a music program, they play side-by-side with the K-12 musicians. It is a day of inspiration, a time when K-12 students decide to dedicate themselves to more practice.

Although the programs has been in place since 1999, it has not always included a visit to schools. In 2020 and 2021, the program went virtual. Because education changed during the pandemic, the Young Artists created online programs that helped mentor and teach. Music from Angel Fire was excited to note that in 2022, the Young Artists were back in schools, and today the Music in Schools program is a hybrid education project, with some K-12 schools instruction in person and others able to request educational materials.

Music in Schools sent Young Artists to schools in Angel Fire, Eagle Nest, Cimarron, Española, Pojoaque, Raton, Las Vegas, Los Alamos, and beyond. If you are interested in bringing Music in Schools to your school or would like to receive virtual materials, please contact Music from Angel Fire at education@musicfromangelfire.org.

For high school and middle school musicians, this is often the highlight of their year, opening their minds to new possibilities. Although Music in Schools provides immediate benefits to K-12 students, Music from Angel Fire recognizes that music helps many first-generation college students win scholarships that pay for their education, in any field of interest, in return for performing with a college band or orchestra.



Sunday Morning Fellowship: 9:20am
Sunday Morning Bible Study: 9:30am
Sunday Worship: 10:45am

“ The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul. ”
- Johann Sebastian Bach



63 South Angel Fire Rd.
P.O. Box 1048
Angel Fire, NM 87710
(575) 377-3107
angelfirebaptistchurch@gmail.com

www.angelfirebaptistchurch.org

United Church of Angel Fire *"The Church with the Red Roof"*



Multi-denominational Christian Congregation

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service 11 a.m.
40 West Ridge Road
Angel Fire, NM 87710
www.unitedchurchofangelfire.com
575-377-1559

Your story deserves a
place as unique as What?Ville.



Contact us to make your
next event unforgettable.



30 Trujillo Ln.
Angel Fire, NM



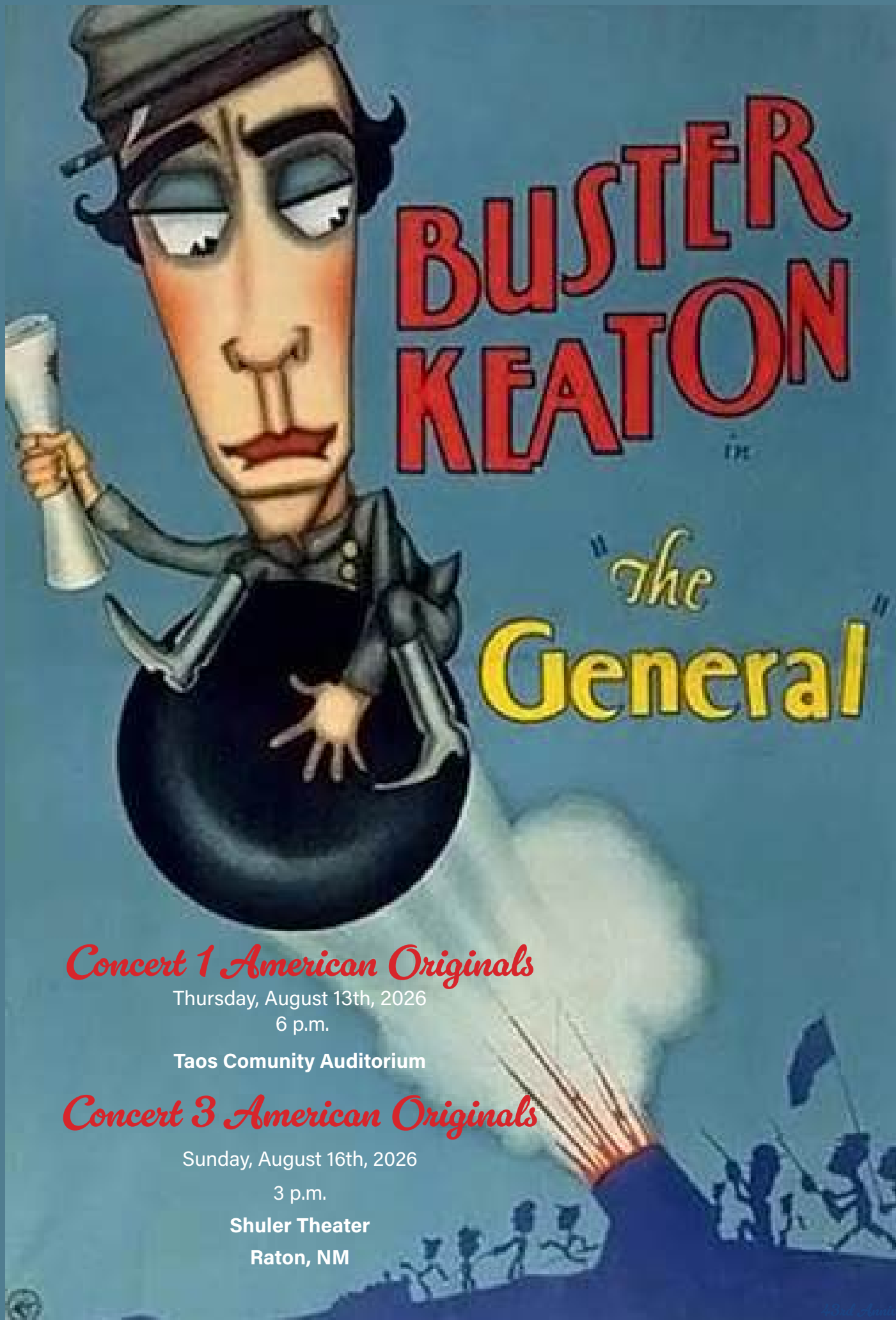
Whatvillenm@gmail.com



Whatvillenm.com



(505) 250-5632



Concert 1 American Originals

Thursday, August 13th, 2026
6 p.m.

Taos Community Auditorium

Concert 3 American Originals

Sunday, August 16th, 2026
3 p.m.

**Shuler Theater
Raton, NM**

Composer History

The Bruce E. and Hilde Howden American Commissioning Project

Through the generosity of Hilde Howden and the Bruce E. Howden American Composers Project, Music from Angel Fire has created an enviable commissioning history that rivals major international festivals. Each year, Music from Angel Fire invites an internationally renowned composer to compose a

work premiered at the festival. The Composer-in-Residence Program began in 1986, and the Young Artist Composer-in-Residence Program was conducted from 2005 through 2022. As a result, Music from Angel Fire has commissioned and presented more than 45 world premieres in its 42-year history. Music from Angel

Fire has received national acclaim for its commissioning history from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. In February of 2016, OPUS ONE presented a special concert at Lincoln Center, performing four major works commissioned by Music from Angel Fire.

Composer-In-Residence History

2025 Reena Esmail
2024 Marc Neikrug
2023 Andy Akiho
2022 Stephen Prutsman
2021 Paul Wiancko
2020 Canceled due to COVID-19
2019 Richard Danielpour
2018 Andrea Clearfield
2017 Kenji Bunch
2016 Gabriela Lena Frank
2015 David Ludwig
2014 Bright Sheng
2013 Chick Corea
2012 Stephen Stucky
2011 Roberto Sierra
2010 Lowell Lieberman
2009 Augusta Read Thomas
2008 Joan Tower
2007 Marc Neikrug
2006 Michael Daugherty
2005 George Tsontakis
2004 Kevin Puts

2003 Previous composers wrote short pieces for anniversary: Adolphe, Fine, Greatbatch, Deak, Kernis, Coleman, Hartke, Singleton, Crockett, Higdon, Larson, Lowry
2002 Douglas Lowry
2001 Libby Larson
2000 Jennifer Higdon
1999 Donald Crockett
1998 Stephen Hartke
1997 Jon Deak
1996 Alvin Singleton
1995 Dan Coleman
1994 Bruce Adolphe
1993 Aaron Jay Kernis
1992 Jon Deak
1991 Timothy Greatbatch
1989 Vivian Fine
1988 Bruce Adolphe

Young Composer-In-Residence History

2022 Elise Arancio
2020 Canceled due to COVID-19
2019 Dai Wei
2017 Nick DiBerardino
2016 Gabriella Smith
2015 Alyssa Weinburg
2014 Andrew Hsu
2013 Thomas Oltarzenski
2012 Daniel Temkin
2011 Michael Djupstrom
2010 Daniel Shapiro
2009 Chris Rogerson
2008 Christopher Weiss
2007 Ke-Chia Chen
2006 Sheridan Seyfried
2005 James Ra

2026 *Composer-In-Residence*

Michael Stephen Brown

Michael Stephen Brown is a composer and pianist hailed by the New York Times as “one of the leading figures in the current renaissance of performer-composers.” Equally active as a performer and creator, Brown has appeared as soloist with the Seattle Symphony, American Symphony Orchestra, The Orchestra Now, Phoenix Symphony, and Poland’s NFM Leopoldinum, and performs at major festivals and concert series throughout the United States and abroad.

The recipient of the 2026 Andrew Wolf Award, Lincoln Center’s Emerging Artist Award, and an Avery Fisher Career Grant, Brown was recently in residence at MacDowell and Yaddo. A longtime member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, he has appeared regularly with CMS in New York and on tour. Recent highlights include a recital at Alice Tully Hall and collaborations with longtime artistic partner Nicholas Canellakis, as well as Pinchas Zukerman, Kristin Lee, and Arnaud Sussmann.

As a composer, Brown has received commissions from organizations including the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, CMS Lincoln Center, and the Bridgehampton and Gilmore Festivals. His first album devoted entirely to his music, “Twelve Blocks,” was praised by Gramophone as “a series of engaging, moving encounters, memories and emotional states.” Current projects include “The Carnival of Endangered Wonders,” a large-scale chamber work commissioned by a consortium led by CMS, the score for filmmaker Angeline Gragasin’s upcoming feature “Look But Don’t Touch,” and an upcoming recording of his “Piano Concerto” with the East Coast Chamber Orchestra.

Brown serves as the 2026 Composer-in-Residence at Music from Angel Fire and lives in New York City with his two nineteenth-century Steinways, Octavia and Daria, and rarely has the house to himself.



Visual Artist History

2025 Maricio Menenses "The Fox Symphony (Let's Dream Together)"

2024 Sharon L. Sorensen "Enchanted Moonlight"

2023 Jennifer Cavan "Taking the Back Roads"

2022 Ramona Bagley "Glory of the Palisades"

2021 Teruko Wilde "Autumn in Northern New Mexico"

2019 Jennifer Cavan "Enchanted Valley"

2018 Ed Sandoval "Sunrise over Angel Fire"

2017 Loretta LaMothe "Summer's Grande Finale"

2016 Inger Jirby "Full Moon over Embudo"

2015 Jennifer Cavan "The Angel's Fire"

2014 Lenny Foster "Otiñol"

2013 Amado M. Peña Jr. "Gouache on Board"

2012 Sylvia Avenius Ford "Summer in Guadalupita"

2011 Ed Sandoval "Trail to Trampas"

2010 Jerry Jordan "Even the Angels Stop to See"

2009 Jennifer Cavan "Evening Colors"

2008 Walt Gonske "Change of Season"

2007 Rick Howell "High in the Sangre de Cristo"

2006 Alyce Frank "Cumbres Pass"

2005 Don Brackett "Springtime Comes to Moreno Valley"

2004 William Hook "Autumn's Prelude"

2003 Doug West "Evening Sonata"

2002 Barbara Zaring "Valley of the Utes"

2001 Teruko Wilde "Monte Verde Lake"

2000 Sherrie McGraw "Low Clouds in the Mountains, Taos Mesa"

1999 Huihan Liu "Celebration"

1998 Ovannes Berberian "Evening Mora Valley"

1997 Kevin Macpherson "Blue and Gold"

1996 William Hook "Autumn Sonata"

1995 Buffalo Kaplinski "Strength"

1994 Teruko Wilde "Southwest Series"

1993 Doug West "Taos and the Source"

1992 J.K. Lamkin "Shadow Dreams"

1991 Barbara Zaring "Fall in the Rio Grande"

1990 Albert Handel "Santa Fe Hills"

1989 James Harril "Midday Shadows, Taos Pueblo"

1988 Doug West "Edge of Light"

1987 Doug West "Seeds of Promise"

1986 Doug West "Taos"

1985 Amanda Peña "Dos Flautas"

1984 Doug West "Taos Silk"

1984: Amado Pena "Untitled"

1984: Marnie Johnson "Window"

*Interested in purchasing
past posters?*

Stop by the Music from Angel Fire office to browse our selection.

2026 *Visual Artist*



Nathaniel Franklin

Artist, Designer, Builder

Nathaniel Franklin is a self-taught artist, designer, and builder based in northeastern New Mexico, working in large-scale steel, acrylic painting, and watercolor. His work is grounded in the landscape of the American West—wide horizons, volcanic formations, and the remnants of past generations. Using reclaimed steel and salvaged materials, he builds without formal plans, allowing each piece to take shape through direct engagement with the material.

His sculptures are often monumental, carrying both physical and historical weight. His paintings focus on light and atmosphere—western skies in motion. His watercolor works document the fading structures of rural America.

Across all mediums, Franklin reframes overlooked materials and places—holding tension between past and present, permanence and decay.

Through Prairie Punk Gallery and a collection of restored historic properties in Raton, New Mexico, he extends this work into lived spaces—original art, custom furnishings, and turn-of-the-century structures brought back with purpose.

At his family's home in the high desert, this approach moves further into the landscape: custom-built structures designed for immersion in dark skies, open ground, and the raw natural beauty of the West.



You can own the original painting!



Bid on it at the concerts this season
or stop by the MfAF office.



nathanielfranklin.com



MVP

MORENO VALLEY PREP

Charter School

*Middle and Early
College High School*



Why Us?

- ✓ Tuition Free
- ✓ We prepare students for lifelong success as learners, citizens, and leaders through a personalized, future-ready education.
- 🌐 www.morenovalleyprep.org

Pizza | Pastas | Salads | Homemade Garlic Rolls | Beer | Wine



(575) 377-6340 | Angel Fire, NM
Serving the Moreno Valley for 37 years!



Residential & Commercial
Licensed, Insured & Bonded

Chris Balizan
575-447-3844
balizanselectric@gmail.com

Standing Ovation

Once upon a time, a small group of Angel Fire residents with a big idea came together and set the wheels in motion for what became Music from Angel Fire, and it grew and grew! For over four decades, Music from Angel Fire has brought world-class musicians to the mountains of northern New Mexico for its annual festival. A multitude of people and experiences have blended together to create this unique event: musicians, young artists, visual artists, donors, supporters, directors, Board members, volunteers, office staff, sign crews, stage crews, production staff, ticket makers and takers, auction workers, Guild members, clean-up crews, composers, arrangers, lodgers, venue directors, patrons, piano donors and movers, drivers, audiences, grant writers, marketers, advertisers, businesses, graphic designers, decorators, education directors, schools, teachers, students, website builders, technology wizards, food providers, problem-solvers, planners, schemers, dreamers, leaders, followers, fun-makers, and yes, dogs! It is this unique, synergistic mixture of friends working together through the years that we call the MUSIC from ANGEL FIRE FAMILY. There's nothing like it! Whether you have hauled chairs, created a program, performed on stage, or worked behind the scenes, take a bow! To those who came before, to those who will come in the future, and to YOU – thank you for playing your part!



Health and Heart — NATURAL MEDICINE —

RATON, NEW MEXICO

Whole-Person Care.
Natural. Personalized. Proven.

Restoring balance. Optimizing health. Elevating life.

ROOTED IN NATURE.
FOCUSED ON YOU.

Compassionate, individualized care that supports your body's ability to heal and thrive— at every stage of life.

Goat Hill, Raton, NM



Dr. Samantha Pfeiffer, ND

NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR

*Your partner in natural health
and lifelong wellness.*

INTEGRATIVE CARE FOR EVERY STAGE OF LIFE

At Health and Heart Natural Medicine, we combine the best of modern science and natural therapies to help you feel your best— so you can live fully, play hard, and enjoy all that life in Northern New Mexico has to offer.

Our Services Include:



NATUROPATHIC CARE

Personalized, root-cause medicine for prevention, chronic conditions, hormone balance, digestive health, immune support, and overall wellness.



IV NUTRIENT THERAPY

Targeted vitamin, mineral, and hydration therapy to boost energy, support immunity, enhance recovery, and optimize wellness from the inside out.



MEDICAL OZONE THERAPY

A powerful, safe, and natural therapy that supports circulation, oxygen utilization, detoxification, immune function, and overall healing.

Your health. Your journey. Our purpose.

→ NOW WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS ←

RATON, NM
Conveniently serving
Raton and surrounding
communities

(575) 733-0707

healthheartnatmed.com
Call today to schedule or
reach out with questions
on our website.

NATURAL MEDICINE. MODERN SOLUTIONS. LASTING RESULTS.

Proudly caring for our community and guests in Northern New Mexico.

201 Music from Angel Fire 2026

Special Thanks

Angel Fire Baptist Church
Angel Fire Chamber of
Commerce
Angel Fire Computer Guy
Angel Fire Resort
Beck Atkinson
Geri and Monte Barnes
Michael Birdsong, Coldwell
Banker Taos
Eagle Nest Community Center
INBank
The Juilliard School
Moreno Valley Preparatory
School
J&J Tex Mex Taos
Morning Star Restaurant

Pianowerkes
Pizza Stop – Trini and Larry
Bradley
Resort Properties of Angel Fire –
Amber Archuleta
Robertson & Sons
The Sweet Shirt Shop
Taos Center for the Arts
Taos Community Foundation
Taos News
Melisha and Evan Sales
The Shuler Theater
UMB Bank
United Church of Angel Fire
United States Post Office – Angel
Fire

United States Post Office – Eagle
Nest
The Village of Angel Fire
And MANY THANKS to the
numerous VOLUNTEERS who
give of their time, talent, and
energy throughout the year and
during the Festival.

Thank You!



The William H. and
Kathryn T. Darden
Foundation



Concert 1 *American Originals*



Thursday,
August 13th, 2026
at 6 p.m.

Taos Community Auditorium

133 Paseo Del
Pueblo Norte,
Taos, NM 87571

Sponsors:

Taos Community Foundation

Co-Sponsor:

Kathryn Zimmer

This program celebrates the power of American imagination through two pioneering voices — one in music, one in film.

The sweeping "Piano Quintet" by Amy Beach stands as a milestone in American chamber music. At a time when European models dominated concert life, Beach wrote with confidence, emotional depth, and unmistakable individuality, helping to define what an American classical voice could be.

From the concert hall, we move to the silent screen with Buster Keaton's legendary comedy, "The General." Set during the Civil War and renowned for its breathtaking stunts and inventive storytelling, the film embodies the daring, humor, and ingenuity that characterize American artistic spirit. Performed with live music, it becomes a vibrant fusion of past and present.

Together, these works honor artists who forged new paths, trusted their voices, and expanded the boundaries of their art. American Originals invites us to experience liberty, not only as history, but as creative courage — alive in sound, motion, and imagination.

Amy Beach
(1867-1944)

Piano Quintet, op. 67 (1905) (30 minutes)

Adagio - Allegro moderato

Adagio espressivo

Allegro agitato - Adagio come prima - Presto

*Benny Kim • violin, Daniel Phillips • violin, Toby Appel • viola,
Angela Park • cello, and Marina Iwao • piano*

INTERMISSION

Keaton/Pruitsman
(b. 1960)

1926 film "The General" Starring Buster Keaton w/ live film score by Stephen Pruitsman (45-50 minutes)

*Daniel Phillips • violin, Chili Ekman • violin, Toby Appel • viola,
Angela Park • cello, and Marina Iwao • piano*

Open Rehearsal

Friday, August 14th

1 p.m.

United Church of Angel Fire



Concert 2 Transatlantic Voices



**Saturday,
August 15th, 2026
at 6 p.m.**

**Moreno Valley
Preparatory
Auditorium**

**56 Camino Grande
Angel Fire, NM 87710**

Sponsors:

Patricia and Bob Parks

Co-Sponsor:

Lowe's Market
Karen W. McDonie and
J. Patrick Garrett
Charitable Fund

This program traces a musical journey across oceans, generations, and identities — a dialogue between Europe and America that continues to shape our artistic world.

We begin with the luminous elegance of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, whose "Adagio" reflects the refinement and expressive balance at the heart of the Classical tradition. His music represents the European foundations upon which so much of Western art music was built.

From there, we turn to the distinctly American voice of Aaron Copland. His "Duo for Flute and Piano" captures the openness, clarity, and quiet lyricism that came to define a uniquely American sound in the twentieth century.

Contemporary composer and violist Kenji Bunch brings the journey into the present with "The Viola Burns Longer," a work of rhythmic vitality and emotional intensity that reflects today's richly layered musical landscape.

The program culminates with Antonín Dvořák's beloved "American" quartet — a work born of his time in the United States and infused with spirituals, folk influences, and a deep curiosity about American musical identity. Here, a European master absorbs and reimagines the sounds of a new world.

Together, these works reveal music as a living exchange — ideas crossing borders, traditions transforming, and voices responding to one another across time. Transatlantic Voices celebrates the enduring conversation between continents that continues to shape the sound of freedom.

W.A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

**Adagio in E Major, K. 261 for violin and piano
(1776) (7 minutes)**

Benny Kim • violin and Marina Iwao • piano

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Duo for Flute and Piano (15 minutes)

Flowing
Poetic, somewhat mournful
Lively with a bounce

Tara Helen O'Connor • flute and Marina Iwao • piano

Kenji Bunch
(b. 1973)

**The Viola Burns Longer: Four Vignettes for solo
viola, piano, and string quartet (2024)**

Fast and Rhythmic
Flicker
Smolder
Blaze

Toby Appel • solo viola and Marina Iwao • piano

Candide Quartet

*Chili Ekman • violin, Henry Rogers • violin,
Amelia Krinke • viola, Vanny Hu • cello*

INTERMISSION

Antonin Dvořák
(1841-1904)

**String Quartet No. 12 in F, op. 96 "American"
(25 min)**

Allegro ma non troppo
Lento
Molto vivace - Trio
Finale. Vivace ma non troppo

*Daniel Phillips • violin, Benny Kim • violin, Toby Appel • viola,
and Angela Park • cello*

Concert 3 *American Originals*

This program celebrates the power of American imagination through two pioneering voices — one in music, one in film.

The sweeping "Piano Quintet" by Amy Beach stands as a milestone in American chamber music. At a time when European models dominated concert life, Beach wrote with confidence, emotional depth, and unmistakable individuality, helping to define what an American classical voice could be.

From the concert hall, we move to the silent screen with Buster Keaton's legendary comedy, "The General." Set during the Civil War and renowned for its breathtaking stunts and inventive storytelling, the film embodies the daring, humor, and ingenuity that characterize American artistic spirit. Performed with live music, it becomes a vibrant fusion of past and present.

Together, these works honor artists who forged new paths, trusted their voices, and expanded the boundaries of their art. American Originals invites us to experience liberty not only as history, but as creative courage — alive in sound, motion, and imagination.

Amy Beach
(1867-1944)

Piano Quintet, op. 67 (1905) (30 minutes)

Adagio - Allegro moderato
Adagio espressivo
Allegro agitato - Adagio come prima - Presto

*Benny Kim • violin, Daniel Phillips • violin, Toby Appel • viola,
Angela Park • cello, and Marina Iwao • piano*

INTERMISSION

Keaton/Prutsman
(b. 1960)

1926 film "The General" Starring Buster Keaton w/ live film score by Stephen Prutsman (45-50 minutes)

*Daniel Phillips • violin, Chili Ekman • violin, Toby Appel • viola,
Angela Park • cello, and Marina Iwao • piano*



**Sunday,
August 16th, 2026
3 p.m.**

Shuler Theater

**131 N. 2nd St.
Raton, NM 87740**

Sponsors:

William H. and Kathryn T.
Darden Foundation, Inc.

Music 101

with Jonathan Coopersmith

**Monday, August 17th
1:30 p.m.**

United Church of Angel Fire



Concert 4 *Freedom Reimagined*



Wednesday,
August 19th, 2026
at 6 p.m.

**United Church of
Angel Fire**

40 W Ridge Rd,
Angel Fire, NM 87710

Sponsors:

Kathy & John Payne

Co-Sponsor:

H. Beck Atkinson
Claudia & Charles Gleeson

This program explores how composers across three centuries have claimed creative freedom by reshaping tradition in bold and personal ways.

We begin with Johann Sebastian Bach's "Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major," where elegant dance forms become profound expressions of imagination, revealing how freedom can emerge through discipline, craft, and creativity.

Elliott Carter's "Au Quai for Viola and Bassoon" offers a striking study in contrast and dialogue, allowing each instrument to assert its own rhythmic and expressive identity. The work reflects Carter's uncompromising commitment to individuality and multiple perspectives.

Kian Ravaei's "iPod Variations for Flute, Violin, and Electronics" brings this spirit into the digital age. Blending memory, technology, and personal narrative, the work transforms familiar musical fragments into an evolving sonic landscape that bridges tradition and innovation.

The program concludes with one of Joseph Haydn's groundbreaking Op. 20 "Sun" Quartets, works that redefined chamber music through inventive structures, expressive depth, and a newly democratic interplay among voices.

Together, these works reveal freedom as an evolving creative force. From Bach's timeless ingenuity to Carter's radical independence, Ravaei's contemporary vision, and Haydn's revolutionary reinvention of the quartet, *Freedom Reimagined* celebrates the enduring courage to innovate and speak in one's own voice.

Bach
(1685-1750)

**Cello Suite No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1009
(1717-1723) (22 Minutes)**

Prelude
Allemande
Courante
Sarabande
Bourrée I and II
Gigue

Colin Carr • cello

Elliott Carter
(1908-2012)

**Au Quai for Viola and Bassoon (2002)
(5 minutes)**

Toby Appel • viola and Peter Kolkay • bassoon

Kian Ravaei
(b. 1999)

**iPod Variations for Flute, Violin and Electronics
(2005) (12 minutes)**

Tara Helen O'Connor • flute and Daniel Phillips • violin

Joseph Haydn
(1730-1809)

**String Quartet in F minor, Hob. III: 35, op, 20
No. 5 (1772) (21 minutes)**

Allegro moderato
Menuetto
Adagio
Fuga a 2 soggetti

The Dolphins

*Isaac Park • violin, Luke Henderson • violin,
James Preucil • viola, and Ian Maloney • cello*

*** This concert will be performed
without an intermission***

Concert 5

Fiesta 43!



Friday,
August 21st, 2026
at 6 p.m.

**Eagle Nest
Community Center**

151 Willow
Creek Drive
Eagle Nest, NM 87718

Sponsor:
H. Beck Atkinson

Marsalis
(b.1961)

Folk Songs arr. Komitas
(1869-1935)

Will Grosz
(1894-1939)

Carlos Garden
(1890-1935)

Astor Piazzolla
arr. Candide Quartet

Leonard Bernstein
arr. Amelia Krinke

Ludwig van Beethoven
Jesus Gonzalez Rubio/
arr. Candide Quartet

Pérez Prado
arr. Candide Quartet

**Rampart St. Rowhouse Rag from String
Quartet No. 1(1995)**

Etchmiadzin Dance

Isle of Capri

Por una Cabeza

The Dolphins
Luke Henderson • violin, Isaac Park • violin
James Preucil • viola, and Ian Maloney • cello

Libertango

Mambo from West Side Story

Beethoven Hat Dance

Selection

Candide Quartet
Chili Ekman • violin, Henry Rogers • violin,
Amelia Krinke • viola, and Vanny Hu • cello

Dinner and 2 drinks are included in your ticket purchase



Concert 6 *American Soundscapes*



Saturday,
August 22nd, 2026
at 6 p.m.

**Moreno Valley
Preparatory
Auditorium**

56 Camino Grande
Angel Fire, NM 87710

Sponsors:

Gloria and Marvin Fishman

Co-Sponsor:

Lindsey Land and Home LLC
Tara Helen O'Connor and
Daniel Phillips

This program celebrates the many ways American composers have translated landscape, history, and inner life into sound, tracing a journey through nearly two centuries of the nation's artistic imagination.

The program opens with Louis Moreau Gottschalk's "The Union," a Civil War-era work infused with patriotic fervor and public sentiment. Part concert piece and part political statement, it reflects a moment when music served as a rallying force for national identity and collective purpose.

Rebecca Clarke's "Prelude, Allegro, and Pastorale" for clarinet and viola offers a more intimate perspective. Though English-born, Clarke spent much of her career in the United States, and this evocative work explores a rich emotional landscape through lyricism, warmth, and striking instrumental color.

A world premiere by Michael Brown brings this tradition into the present. Rooted in lyricism, clarity, and emotional immediacy, Brown's music reflects a contemporary American voice—one that honors heritage while reaching toward new possibilities. His work reminds us that the story of American music continues to evolve with each generation.

At the heart of the program is Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring," one of the most beloved works in American music. With its open harmonies, folk-inspired melodies, and sense of spaciousness, the piece evokes both physical landscape and spiritual aspiration—a musical portrait of optimism, community, and renewal. Few works have so powerfully shaped our collective image of the American sound.

Together, these works form a musical map of America: its wide horizons and quiet interiors, its moments of struggle and hope, its shared ideals and creative spirit. Spanning the Civil War, the twentieth century, and today, American Soundscapes invites us to listen not only to places on a map, but to the evolving identity of a nation expressed through sound.

Louis Moreau Gottschalk
(1829-1869)

The Union, Concert, op. 48 (1863)
(7 minutes)

Michael Stephen Brown • piano

Rebecca Clarke
(1886 - 1979)

Prelude, Allegro and Pastorale (1941)
(14 minutes)

Todd Darren Palmer • clarinet and Toby Appel • viola

Michael Stephen Brown

An Impossible Conversation (2026)
World Premiere

*Tara Helen O'Connor • flute, Ian Maloney • cello, and
Michael Stephen Brown • piano*

INTERMISSION

Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Appalachian Spring "Ballet for Martha"
(1944) (27 minutes)

*Ani Kavafian, Luke Henderson • violin 1,
Daniel Phillips, Benny Kim • violin 2,
Toby Appel, James Preucil • viola,
Ian Maloney, Vanny Hu • cello,
Chelsea Strayer • double bass, Marina Iwao • piano
Tara Helen O'Connor • flute,
Todd Darren Palmer • clarinet, and
Peter Kolkay • bassoon*

Concert 7

Salon Inspired by a Continent



Sunday,
August 23rd, 2026
at 2 p.m.

**Moreno Valley
Preparatory
Auditorium**

56 Camino Grande
Angel Fire, NM 87710

Sponsors:

Kathy and John Payne

Co-Sponsor:

Maxine and Ron Milam

This program explores how the idea of America—its rhythms, stories, and spirit—has inspired composers on both sides of the Atlantic. Featuring works by George Gershwin, Francis Poulenc, Antonín Dvořák, John Deak, Stephen Foster, and others, it traces a rich musical dialogue between Europe and the New World.

From Gershwin's vibrant fusion of jazz and classical traditions to Poulenc's wit and elegance, from Dvořák's belief that America's musical future would grow from its diverse cultural roots to John Deak's imaginative B.B. Wolf, the program celebrates the many ways composers have responded to America's creative energy. Stephen Foster's beloved songs remind us of one of the earliest voices to shape the nation's musical identity.

Together, these works—and many more throughout the program—celebrate America not simply as a place, but as a continuing source of artistic inspiration, where traditions meet, evolve, and create something entirely new.

Michael Stephen Brown **Near Collision (2026)**

Michael Brown • piano and Marina Iwao • piano

Francis Poulenc
(1899-1963)

Sonata for Clarinet and Bassoon (1922)
(8 minutes)

Allegro: Très rythmé
Romance: Andante très doux
Finale: Très animé/Andante

Todd Palmer • clarinet, and Michael Brown • piano

John Deak
(b. 1943)

B.B Wolf (1996) (7 minutes)

Chelsea Strayer • bass

Dvořák /Brown

Going Home

Stephen Foster/O'Connor

Selections from the Social Orchestra

Village Quadrille No. 1
My Old Kentucky Home
Jeannie's Own Schottisch
Beautiful Dreamer
Village Quadrille No. 4

*Daniel Phillips, Luke Henderson, Henry Rogers,
Ani Kavafian • violin 1, Benny Kim, Chili Ekman,
Isaac Park • violin 2, Toby Appel, Amelia Krinke,
James Preucil • viola, Colin Carr, Ian Maloney, Vanny Hu • cello
Chelsea Strayer • double bass, Marina Iwao • piano,
Michael Stephen Brown • piano, Tara Helen O'Connor • flute,
Todd Darren Palmer • clarinet, and Peter Kolkay • bassoon*

And MORE!!!

Music 102

with Jonathan Coopersmith

Monday, August 24th
1:30 p.m.

United Church of Angel Fire

Concert 8

Horizons



Tuesday,
August 25th, 2026
at 6 p.m.

Angel Fire Baptist Church

63 S Angel Fire Rd,
Angel Fire, NM 87710

Sponsors:

Deb and Terry Pierce

Co-Sponsor:

Karen W. McDonie and J.
Patrick Garrett
Charitable Fund
Patricia and Al Smith

As part of the **America 250: Echoes of Liberty** series, Horizons explores the spirit of discovery that has shaped musical expression across centuries. From American innovation to Romantic intensity and Classical grandeur, these works reveal composers continually pushing beyond inherited boundaries in search of new artistic possibilities.

The program begins with Charles Ives's "The Call of the Mountains," a distinctly American vision that looks toward both the landscape and ideals that have shaped the nation. Blending echoes of hymn tunes, nature, memory, and experimentation, Ives creates a musical language that is at once deeply rooted and boldly forward-looking. His music captures the vastness of the American horizon and the restless spirit of exploration that lies at the heart of the American imagination.

From this expansive landscape, the program turns inward with Felix Mendelssohn's "String Quartet in F Minor, Op. 80," one of the composer's most personal and emotionally charged works. Written in the aftermath of his sister Fanny's death, the quartet transforms grief into powerful artistic expression, revealing a horizon of profound human feeling, memory, and resilience.

The journey concludes with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's "String Quintet in C Major, K. 515," a masterpiece of extraordinary breadth and vision. Expansive in scale and rich in invention, it stretches the possibilities of chamber music while embodying the optimism, balance, and intellectual curiosity of the Enlightenment. In Mozart's hands, the horizon becomes one of limitless creativity and possibility.

Together, these works trace a path across landscapes both physical and emotional, celebrating the enduring human desire to look beyond what is known and imagine new worlds. Horizons invites us to reflect on exploration not only as a journey across space, but as an ever-expanding pursuit of artistic freedom, understanding, and vision.

Charles Ives
(1874-1954)

The Call of the Mountains (1907-1913) (12 Minutes)

The Dolphins

Luke Henderson • violin, Isaac Park • violin
James Preucil • viola, and Ian Maloney • cello

Mendelssohn
(1809 - 1847)

String Quartet in F minor, Op. 80 (1847) (25 minutes)

Allegro vivace assai
Allegro assai
Adagio
Finale: Allegro molto

Candide Quartet

Chili Ekman • violin, Henry Rogers • violin,
Amelia Krinke • viola, Vanny Hu • cello

INTERMISSION

Mozart
(1756-1791)

String Quintet C major, K. 515 (1787) (37 Minutes)

Allegro
Menuetto; Allegretto
Andante
Molto Allegro

Ida Kavafian • violin, Daniel Phillips • violin,
Steven Tenenbom • viola, Amelia Krinke • viola, and
Colin Carr • cello

Inside the Score

Tuesday, August 25th
1:30 p.m.
United Church of Angel Fire

Concert 9 *New World Dreams*



Wednesday,
August 26th, 2026
at 6 p.m.

**Angel Fire Baptist
Church**

63 S Angel Fire Rd,
Angel Fire, NM 87710

Sponsors:

Karen W. McDonie and J.
Patrick Garrett
Charitable Fund

Co-Sponsor:

H. Beck Atkinson

This program explores America as a place of movement, imagination, and reinvention—a landscape that has inspired composers to dream boldly and listen deeply.

We begin with "Voyage" by John Corigliano, a work shaped by lyricism, reflection, and emotional searching. Corigliano's music invites us into an inner journey, where memory, discovery, and transformation unfold through sound.

The energy intensifies with "Shaker Loops" by John Adams. Inspired by the ecstatic movement of Shaker worship and driven by pulsing rhythms, the piece embodies both spiritual fervor and modern momentum. It reflects an America in motion—restless, visionary, and alive with possibility.

Antonín Dvořák's "String Quintet in E-flat Major, Op. 97," known as the "American Quintet," offers a European master's affectionate response to the New World. Written during his years in the United States, the work draws inspiration from American spirituals, folk traditions, and the vastness of the American landscape, transforming them into music of warmth, optimism, and expansive beauty. The program concludes with George Gershwin's "Lullaby for Strings", a work of remarkable charm and tenderness. Composed while he was still a student, it reveals the lyrical gift that would later make him one of America's most beloved musical voices. Its gentle melodies and quiet warmth provide a fitting close to a program that celebrates aspiration, discovery, and the enduring power of the American imagination.

Together, these works trace journeys across geography, history, and memory. From introspection to spiritual energy, from cultural exchange to quiet reflection, New World Dreams celebrates America not only as a place on a map, but as a continuing source of artistic wonder and renewal.

John Corigliano
(b. 1938)

Voyage (1983) (9 min)

Tara Helen O'Connor • flute, Daniel Phillips, Isaac Park,
Luke Henderson, Benny Kim • violin 1, Ida Kavafian,
Ani Kavafian, Chili Ekman, Henry Rogers • violin 2,
Toby Appel, James Preucil, Amelia Krinke,
Steven Tenenbom • viola, Colin Carr, Vanny Hu,
Ian Maloney • cello, Chelsea Strayer • bass

John Adams
(b.1947)

**Shaker Loops (1978) (28 min) 3 violins, 1 viola,
2 celli, 1 contrabass**

I. Shaking and Trembling
II. Hymning SLEWS
III. Loops and Verses
IV. A Final Shaking

Luke Henderson • violin, Henry Rogers • violin,
Isaac Park • violin, Amelia Krinke • viola, Vanny Hu • cello,
Ian Maloney • cello, and Chelsea Strayer • double bass

INTERMISSION

Antonin Dvořák
(1841-1904)

**String Quintet No. 3, op. 97 'American' (1893)
(30 min)**

Allegro non tanto
Allegro vivo — Un poco meno mosso
Larghetto with 5 variations
Finale. Allegro giusto

*Ani Kavafian • violin, Benny Kim • violin, Toby Appel • viola
James Preucil • viola, and Colin Carr • cello*

George Gershwin
(1898-1937)

Lullaby for Strings (1919) (9 min)

*Daniel Phillips, Isaac Park, Luke Henderson, Benny Kim • violin 1
Ida Kavafian, Ani Kavafian, Chili Ekman, Henry Rogers • violin 2
Toby Appel, James Preucil, Amelia Krinke, Steven Tenenbom • viola
Colin Carr, Vanny Hu, Ian Maloney • cello,
Chelsea Strayer • bass*

SHULER THEATER
• WHERE THEATER COMES TO LIFE •

Located in Historic
Downtown Raton,
New Mexico

Scan for
more
information



42nd Anniversary / 31

Artist Bios



Toby Appel

Toby Appel has performed throughout North and South America, Europe, and the Far East. He has been a member of TASHI and the Lenox and Audubon Quartets, and a guest artist with the Alexander, Manhattan, and Vermeer quartets, as well as the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center. Festival performances include Mostly Mozart, Santa Fe, Angel Fire, Seattle, Chamber Music Northwest, and Marlboro, as well as festivals in England, France, Korea, Germany, Italy, Finland, and Greece.

A most versatile artist, Mr. Appel has narrated performances including *A Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, *Ferdinand*, *Ode to Napoleon*, *Histoire du Soldat*, *Masque of the Red Death*, and *Facade*. He is a frequent commentator for National Public Radio's Performance Today.

Mr. Appel entered the Curtis Institute at age 13 under the guidance of Max Aronoff. He has been on the faculty at The Juilliard School in New York City since 1990. He has toured for the United States Department of State and performed at the United Nations and the White House. His chamber music and recital recordings can be heard on the Columbia, Delos, Desto, Koch International, Opus 1, and Musical Heritage Society labels.

Toby Appel lives with his wife, Carolyn, and their dog, Morgan, in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Viola



Colin Carr

Colin Carr appears throughout the world as a soloist, chamber musician, recording artist, and teacher. He has played with major orchestras worldwide, including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Philharmonia, the Royal Philharmonic, the BBC Symphony, and the orchestras of Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, Philadelphia, and Montréal, as well as all the major orchestras of Australia and New Zealand. Conductors with whom he has worked include Rattle, Gergiev, Dutoit, Elder, Skrowaczewski, and Marriner. He has been a regular guest at the BBC Proms and has toured Australia and New Zealand frequently.

As a member of the Golub-Kaplan-Carr Trio, he recorded and toured extensively for 20 years. Chamber music plays an important role in his musical life; he is a frequent visitor to international chamber music festivals and has appeared often as a guest with the Guarneri and Emerson string quartets and with New York's Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center.

Mr. Carr is the winner of many prestigious international awards, including First Prize in the *Naumburg Competition*, the *Gregor Piatigorsky Memorial Award*, Second Prize in the *Rostropovich International Cello Competition*, and the *Young Concert Artists competition*.

He studied at the Yehudi Menuhin School with Maurice Gendron and later in London with William Pleeth. He has held teaching positions at the New England Conservatory and the Royal Academy of Music. St John's College, Oxford, created the post of Musician in Residence for him. Since 2002, he has been a professor at Stony Brook University in New York. He plays a Matteo Gofriller cello made in 1730.

Cello



Jonathan Coopersmith

Jonathan Coopersmith, Festival Education Lecturer since 2015, is a renowned teacher, conductor, and lecturer on music theory and analysis, music history, and music's relationship to well-being. He was a member of the Curtis faculty and served as Chair of the Musical Studies Department. He has served as Associate Conductor for The Philadelphia Singers for 12 years and the Artistic Director of Nashirah for seven years, and has been a frequent guest chorus director of the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Pennsylvania Ballet.

Mr. Coopersmith is a sought-after educator and presenter in the Philadelphia area with recent lectures at the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. He has been a regular guest lecturer in the Masters of Applied Positive Psychology program at the University of Pennsylvania, speaking about music and well-being. He recently wrote a chapter for a multi-volume set as part of the Humanities and Human Flourishing Project, titled "Musical Flourishes: Lessons from a Conservatory," published by Oxford University Press in 2023.

Mr. Coopersmith holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Theory and Composition from the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied with George Crumb, and a Master's Degree in Orchestral Conducting from Mannes College of Music, where he studied theory and analysis with Carl Schachter and Edward Aldwell. He has also studied at the Pierre Monteux School for conductors and orchestra musicians.

Lecturer



Marina Iwao

Marina Iwao is a Japanese-born pianist acclaimed for her nuanced artistry, expressive range, and deep commitment to ensemble playing. Praised for her sensitivity, clarity, and versatility, she has collaborated with distinguished artists such as Frank Morelli, David Shifrin, Quatuor Debussy, Tara O'Connor, and Daniel Phillips, among many others.

An avid chamber musician, she performs regularly in recitals and at festivals across the United States. Recent highlights include a fall 2025 tour with clarinetist David Shifrin and appearances at Music from Angel Fire in New Mexico. She gave the world premiere of Margaret Brouwer's "Sonata for Clarinet and Piano" with clarinetist Thomas Piercy at the 2023 International ClarinetFest in Denver.

Ms. Iwao brings the same depth of interpretation and artistic commitment to both classical and contemporary repertoire, building meaningful connections with music of all eras. As a member of Random Access Music, a New York City-based collective of composers and performers, she frequently premieres new works and collaborates closely with living composers.

Her dedication to ensemble playing began early. In high school, long before encountering the term "collaborative piano," she discovered a deep joy in accompanying her friends—a passion that would shape her artistic identity. She went on to earn her Master of Music degree in Collaborative Piano from The Juilliard School, where she studied with Jonathan Feldman and Dr. Lydia Brown. Her summer festival experience includes the Bowdoin International Music Festival, the Music Academy of the West, and a two-year fellowship at the Yale School of Music from 2022 to 2024.

In addition to her active performing career, Ms. Iwao is a devoted educator. She has served on the faculty of the New England Music Camp and the Philadelphia International Music Festival. She currently holds positions as a staff pianist at The Juilliard School and the Kaufman Music Center, and teaches chamber music at The School for Strings in New York City.

Piano



Violin

Ani Kavafian

Violinist Ani Kavafian enjoys a prolific career as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician. She has performed with virtually all of America's leading orchestras in major venues across the country, has premiered and recorded a number of works written for her, and has been featured on many network and PBS television music specials. Kavafian tours internationally as an artist-member of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and appears frequently in performance with her sister, violinist and violist, Ida Kavafian.

At Yale, Kavafian teaches a studio of graduate-level violin students, coaches chamber ensembles, and frequently performs on Yale's Faculty Artist Series and Yale in New York series. She regularly teaches and performs at several music festivals, including the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival/Yale Summer School of Music, the Heifetz International Institute, Sarasota Music Festival, and the Meadowmount School of Music.

Born in Istanbul, Turkey of Armenian heritage, Kavafian began piano lessons at age 3. At age 9, in the United States, she began studying violin with Ara Zerounian and eventually with Mischa Mischakoff. She went on to study violin at The Juilliard School with Ivan Galamian, eventually earning a master of music degree with highest honors. She plays the 1736 Muir McKenzie Stradivarius violin.



Violin

Ida Kavafian

Internationally acclaimed as both violinist and violist, 2019 marked the versatile Ida Kavafian's 35th year and final year as Artistic Director of the acclaimed festival, Music from Angel Fire in NM. For over fifty years, she has been a frequent performer with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and has been a founder of such groups as Tashi, Opus One and Trio Valtorna, as well as the festival, Bravo! Vail. During her tenure with the renowned Beaux Arts Trio, the group was Musical America's Ensemble of the Year. She has toured and recorded with diverse greats such as Chick Corea, Wynton Marsalis and Mark O'Connor, and was featured on CBS Sunday Morning.

Ms. Kavafian has premiered many new works including a concerto written for her by Toru Takemitsu as well as Michael Daugherty's "Fire and Blood", which she also recorded with the Detroit Symphony. As a violist, she has performed with the Guarneri, Orion, Harlem, Shanghai and American String Quartets. Ms. Kavafian was awarded the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching at the Curtis Institute where she taught generations of the top players in the world.

Born in Istanbul, Turkey of Armenian parentage, she began her studies with Ara Zerounian, continued with Mischa Mischakoff, then graduated with honors from The Juilliard School with Oscar Shumsky. Young Concert Artists presented her debut with pianist Peter Serkin.

Married to violist Steven Tenenbom, Ms. Kavafian has found great success in another field, the breeding, training, hunting and showing of prize-winning Hungarian Vizsla dogs under the prefix, "Opus One".



Benny Kim

Violin

Whether playing in the intimate setting of a string quartet or performing a concerto on the stage of a concert hall, Benny Kim's "emotional depth and musical carriage are his real drawing cards. His is a style that touches the peak of romantic violin playing." (The Washington Post) Known for his versatility as soloist, chamber musician and teacher, Mr. Kim has been described as having "titanium technique" and producing "exquisite, pearly colorations."

Kim is a proud product of the Suzuki Method, which he began at age 10 with Doris Preucil. He continued his violin studies with Almita Vamos and at the age of 15 won the Chicago Symphony Youth Symphony Auditions, making his solo debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. One year later he won the St. Louis Symphony Youth Auditions and the Julius Stulberg Auditions. Kim went on to graduate with a Bachelor and Master of Music degree from The Juilliard School where he studied with legendary pedagogue, Dorothy DeLay. In 1983, Mr. Kim won the Young Concert Artists International Auditions at the age of 20. While at Juilliard, the residents of Macomb, IL, Kim's hometown, heard the news that he was preparing to purchase a violin. This small community, along with faculty members of Western Illinois University, began a fundraising campaign to contribute to the purchase. In 1987 he acquired a 1732 Stradivarius violin.

Kim has performed with the symphony orchestras of Chicago, Boston, St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Detroit, and internationally with the Hong Kong Philharmonic, the Orquesta Sinfonica Nacional de México, BBC National Orchestra of Wales and the major orchestras of South Africa. In recital, Kim has performed in virtually every major city in the United States, including critically acclaimed engagements at New York's 92nd St. Y and at Washington, DC's Kennedy Center.

Mr. Kim is first violinist of the Miami String Quartet, winner of the prestigious Cleveland Quartet Award. Highlights of recent seasons include performances on the Quartets Plus Series at Carnegie Hall and the Fortas Chamber Music Series at the Kennedy Center.

Dedicated to education, the quartet has also enjoyed working with students in residencies in Hong Kong and Bogota, Colombia and also teaching at the Kent/Blossom Festival every summer.

The ensemble's commitment to new music has led to many commissions and premieres, including "Concierto de Cámara" by Roberto Sierra, "Septet" by Ellen Taaffe Zwilich, "Angels" by Joan Tower and "Green Sneakers" by Ricky Ian Gordon.

Kim spends summers playing chamber music with friends at festivals around the world, including the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Music from Angel Fire, Chamber Music Northwest, Mecklenburg and Schleswig-Holstein Festivals in Germany and the Bristol Festival in England.

In his spare time, Kim is a passionate golfer who, over the years, has seen his handicap fluctuate more than the stock market! Benny and his dog, Gogi, make their home outside Kansas City on the Falcon Ridge golf course.



Peter Kolkay

Called “superb” by the Washington Post and “stunningly virtuosic” by the New York Times, Peter Kolkay is the only bassoonist to receive an Avery Fisher Career Grant, and the first bassoonist to win the Concert Artist Guild International Competition. In-demand as a chamber musician, he regularly performs with Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and has appeared in recent seasons at the Music@Menlo, Bridgehampton, Sarasota, and Maverick summer festivals.

Kolkay actively engages with composers in the creation of new works for the bassoon; he has commissioned and premiered solo works by Elliott Carter, Joan Tower, Mark-Anthony Turnage, and Tania León, among others. His most recent record, *Red Maple* (Bridge Records), features music for bassoon and strings by Tower, Turnage, Russell Platt, and Judith Weir performed with the Calidore String Quintet. Other recent recordings include the Christopher Rouse and Michael Torke bassoon concertos with the Albany Symphony.

A dedicated teacher, Mr. Kolkay is Professor of Bassoon at the Vanderbilt University Blair School of Music, where he received the Ellen Gregg Ingalls Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2024, and has offered masterclasses throughout the United States, Mexico, and South Korea. Mr. Kolkay also served as Vice Chair of the Vanderbilt University Faculty Senate and was part of the inaugural class of Vanderbilt Chancellor’s Faculty Fellows. He holds degrees from Lawrence University in Appleton, WI, the Eastman School of Music, and Yale University. A native of Naperville, Illinois, he now resides in Nashville, TN. Mr. Kolkay plays a Fox 601 bassoon.

Bassoon



Flute

Tara Helen O'Connor

Tara Helen O'Connor, who Art Mag has said, “so embodies perfection on the flute that you’ll forget she is human,” is an Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient, a two-time Grammy Award nominee, and, as a member of the New Millennium Ensemble, a recipient of the Walter W. Naumburg Chamber Music Award. A Wm. S. Haynes artist, she was the first flutist selected to participate in the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center’s Bowers Program and is currently a season artist of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, a member of the Windscape Woodwind Quintet and the Bach Aria Group.

O'Connor serves as Professor Adjunct at Yale University. She also serves on the faculty at Bard College Conservatory of Music, and the Contemporary Performance Program at Manhattan School of Music, and is Artistic Director of the Music from Angel Fire festival.

A champion of contemporary music, Ms. O'Connor has premiered hundreds of works and has appeared on numerous recordings and film and television soundtracks such as *Barbie*, *Respect*, *The Joker*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *Only Murders in the Building* and *Schmigadoon*, to name only a few. O'Connor has collaborated with such distinguished artists as vocalists Jennifer Johnson Cano and Dawn Upshaw, violinist Jaime Laredo, clarinetist David Shifrin, guitarist Eliot Fisk, and pianists Jeremy Denk, Peter Serkin, and Stephen Prutsman, and with such revered ensembles as the Emerson, Orion, and St. Lawrence string quartets.

Among the festivals at which O'Connor regularly appears include the Bravo! Vail festival, Chamber Music Northwest, Music@Menlo, Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Chamber Music Festival of the Bluegrass, Spoleto Festival USA, the Banff Centre, Rockport Music, Bay Chamber Concerts, Manchester Music Festival, the Great Mountains Music Festival, Chesapeake Chamber Music Festival and Music from Angel Fire. She has also performed in the New York Philharmonic, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, and Metropolitan Opera Orchestra.

A charismatic performer noted for her artistic depth, brilliant technique and colorful tone spanning every musical era, O'Connor has appeared on A&E's *Breakfast with the Arts* and PBS' *Live from Lincoln Center*. She has recorded for Deutsche Grammophon, EMI Classics, Koch International, CMS Studio Recordings with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and Bridge Records.

She lives with her husband, violinist Daniel Phillips and their two miniature dachshunds, Chloé and Ava on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.



Todd Palmer

Clarinetist Todd Palmer has appeared as soloist, recitalist, chamber music collaborator, educator, arranger, and presenter in a variety of musical endeavors around the world. A three time Grammy nominated artist, he has appeared as soloist with the Atlanta, Houston, and BBC Scotland orchestras; St. Paul, New York, Cincinnati, Montréal, and Metamorphosen chamber orchestras, as well as many others.

He has collaborated with many of the world's finest string ensembles such as the St. Lawrence, Brentano, Borromeo, Pacifica, Daedalus and Ying quartets; and has also shared the stage with sopranos Kathleen Battle, Renée Fleming, Elizabeth Futral, Heidi Grant Murphy and Dawn Upshaw, and many other notable instrumentalists. He has championed Osvaldo Golijov's "Dreams and Prayers of Isaac the Blind" around the world and commissioned the theatre work, "Orpheus and Euridice," by Ricky Ian Gordon which was presented by Great Performers at Lincoln Center in 2005.

He was a winner of the Young Concert Artist International Auditions, and has participated in numerous music festivals in the US and abroad, including 18 years at Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, SC, 5 years at the Marlboro Festival and the Tanglewood Institute, where he was awarded the Leonard Bernstein Fellowship. He has also held principle clarinet positions in the Minnesota Orchestra, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, Orchestra of St. Lukes, the Gotham Chamber Opera and the Grand Teton Festival.

In 2008 he premiered David Bruce's "Gumboots," a Carnegie Hall commission that was written especially for him and the St. Lawrence Quartet, and for two years he appeared in Lincoln Center's revival of "South Pacific." Recently, he appeared as soloist in Robert Lepage's staging of "Stravinsky's, The Nightingale and Other Fables" at BAM — dressed as a Cossack, he performed the Mozart clarinet concerto as a part of Great Performers at Lincoln Center's "What Makes It Great" series.

Clarinet



Angela Park

Cello

Equally at home as a soloist and chamber musician Angela Park has performed throughout the North and South Americas, Europe, and East Asia. Notable appearances are concertos with the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Seoul Philharmonic, chamber music appearances at the Marlboro, Verbier, and Ravinia Festivals, and masterclasses at the New England Conservatory.

In recent seasons, Angela has performed her solo cello program of music by Perkinson - Saariaho - Kodaly - Bach in multiple cities, performed with Helsinki Baroque, Anne-Sophie Mutter on her Virtuosi European Tour, Incheon Philharmonic, and has returned to the Marlboro Music Festival, Prussia Cove Open Chamber Music, Seoul Spring Festival, and Festival de los Siete Lagos in Argentina. She was awarded the Silver Medal at the Isang Yun International Competition, in addition to prizes at the Stulberg International Competition and the Young Tchaikovsky International Competition. She has performed chamber music with the most inspiring musicians, including Leonidas Kavakos, Miriam Fried, Peter Wiley, Bruno Canino, and Kim Kashkashian, and has also performed the concerto repertoire with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Seoul Philharmonic, KBS (Korean Broadcasting System) Orchestra, and the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra.

Angela is increasingly in demand as a baroque cellist. She performs the "Bach Suites" in a baroque setup, and has played continuo at the Pyeongchang Music Festival with Helsinki Baroque, as well as for the Gamut Bach Ensemble Philadelphia. In addition to performing early music, she has a deep interest in the music of our times and is dedicated to playing the works of living composers. Angela has taken part in dozens of world premieres.

Born in California to Korean parents, Angela started playing the cello at age 10 with Sungeun Hong and Kyungmi Lim. Performing from an early age soon thereafter, Angela won virtually every competition in Korea and made her debut with the Seoul Philharmonic at the age of 12. At 14, she started her studies at the renowned Curtis Institute of Music with Peter Wiley and the late Orlando Cole. While at Curtis, she made her debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra and Christoph Eschenbach.

Upon graduation, Angela studied with Laurence Lesser at the New England Conservatory, with Jens Peter Maintz at the Universität der Künste Berlin in the Konzertexamen Program, where she was a DAAD Scholar (German Academic Exchange) graduating with highest distinction, and baroque cello with Kristin von der Goltz and Daniel Rosin. In 2026, she joins the Daedalus Quartet, quartet-in-residence at the University of Pennsylvania.

Her multifaceted performing career has led her to be a sought-after teacher, and has taught at the Korean National Institute for the Gifted in Arts, the Curtis Young Artist Summer Program, and Festival de los Siete Lagos of Argentina.

She currently resides in Pittsburgh, USA, where she is on the cello faculty at the Carnegie Mellon University School of Music.



Violin

Daniel Phillips

Violinist Daniel Phillips is co-founder of the Orion String Quartet which gave its last concert in April 2024, presented by the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln after an illustrious 37 year career. A graduate of Juilliard, his major teachers were his father, Eugene Phillips, Ivan Galamian, Sally Thomas, Nathan Milstein, Sandor Végh, and George Neikrug.

Since winning the 1976 Young Concert Artists Competition, he has performed as a soloist with many orchestras, including the Pittsburgh, Houston, New Jersey, Phoenix, San Antonio symphonies. He appears regularly at the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, St Lawrence String Quartet Seminar, Heifetz Institute, Chesapeake Music Festival, the International Musicians Seminar in England, and Music from Angel Fire, where he is co-artistic director. He was a member of the renowned Bach Aria Group and has toured and recorded in a string quartet for Sony with Gidon Kremer, Kim Kashkashian, and Yo-Yo Ma. He was also a judge in the 2022 Leipzig Bach Competition, 2018 Seoul International Violin Competition, the 2023 World Bartok Competition, and the 2024 Prague Spring Competition.

Phillips is a professor at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College and on the faculties of the Bard College Conservatory, and The Juilliard School. He lives with his wife, flutist Tara Helen O'Connor, and their two dachshunds on Manhattan's Upper West Side.



Double Bass

Chelsea Strayer

Chelsea Strayer is a double bassist from southern California who specializes in contemporary music. In 2018, she received her Bachelor's Degree in Double Bass Performance and Music Education from Peabody Conservatory where she studied under Iram Gold. Chelsea is now completing her Master's Degree at the Yale School of Music and is currently working with Don Palma. Throughout her time playing the bass, Chelsea has performed with many different professional orchestras and chamber ensembles as a freelance musician throughout the United States. She also has had an extensive teaching career as a faculty member at Bassworks for five years, she also worked as an elementary school strings teacher, coached at various middle and high schools, and has helped run the ISB young bassists program, while managing her own teaching studio. Chelsea is extremely passionate about combining her love for performing new works and teaching and is planning on continuing her education to receive her PhD. Her focus for this degree will be on creating resources for young bassists to help them have access and the tools that they need to explore the world of contemporary music.



Steve Tenenbom

Steven Tenenbom's impeccable style and sumptuous tone have combined to make him one of the most respected violists performing today. He has appeared as guest artist with the Guarneri and Emerson String Quartets, the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson and Beaux Arts Trios. As soloist, he has appeared with the Utah Symphony, the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Brandenburg Ensemble.

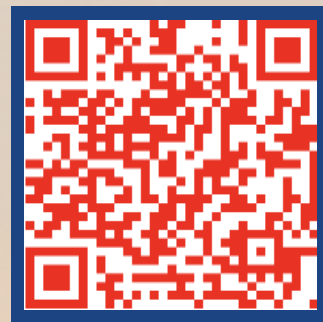
Mr. Tenenbom was the violist of the Orion String Quartet, with their final season being in 2024, and he was a co-founder of the exciting piano quartet, OPUS ONE. He has appeared at many festivals including Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival, Norfolk, Music at Menlo and Music from Angel Fire.

Mr. Tenenbom was a visiting professor at the Yale School of Music, and he taught generations of the top players in the world at the Curtis Institute and as a member of the viola faculty at The Julliard School. His acclaimed recordings of the complete Beethoven quartets with the Orion Quartet are available on Koch International.

Born in Phoenix, Arizona, Mr. Tenenbom's teachers have included Max Mandel, Heidi Castleman, Milton Thomas at USC, and Michael Tree and Karen Tuttle at The Curtis Institute of Music. He currently plays a viola made by Peter and Wendy Moes from 2015. Married to violinist Ida Kavafian, the Tenenboms live in Connecticut where they breed, raise and show champion Vizsla purebred dogs.

Viola

Candide Quartet



Formed in 2023, the Candide Quartet consists of violinists Chili Ekman and Henry Rogers, cellist Vanny Hu, and violist Amelia Krinke.

Now in their third year as an ensemble, the Candide Quartet is deeply committed to exploring the chamber music repertoire and gaining performing experience. Sharing a common love for Voltaire's "Candide" and its philosophies, the group embodies the camaraderie and dedication that they feel are inherent both in the story and in string quartet playing. Their goal is to cultivate their music and share the fruits of their commitment with all of their audiences.



During past summers, the Quartet held the Fellowship String Quartet in Residence at Music in the Vineyards in Napa, Madeline Island Chamber Music in Wisconsin, the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival, and the PRISMA Quartet Fellowship. The quartet had the pleasure of performing alongside faculty at these festivals, coaching high school string quartets, and presenting community outreach concerts at local Boys & Girls Clubs and retirement homes.

This summer, the Quartet will hold fellowships at the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival's Shouse Institute, the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival, and Music from Angel Fire.

The ensemble recently won First Prize at the Frances Walton Chamber Competition, presented by the Ladies Musical Club of Seattle (LMC) this past May. They were also finalists in the 2026 Chesapeake Chamber Music Competition and semi-finalists in the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition.

The Candide Quartet has been coached and mentored by many esteemed musicians, including David Finckel, Daniel Phillips, Paul Neubauer, Zvi Plessner, Samuel Rhodes, Robert Levin, Eugene Drucker, Philip Setzer, Paul Watkins, Nicholas Mann, Joseph Lin, and Areta Zhulla, among others. They have also worked with the American, Calidore, Harlem, Miró, and Pacifica quartets.

In 2025, the Candide Quartet participated in the Robert Mann String Quartet Seminar, and in both 2025 and 2026, the Calidore String Quartet Seminar at the University of Delaware. They also worked with Caroline Shaw to give the Juilliard premiere of her work "Plan and Elevation" at Juilliard's inaugural Fall Festival. They collaborated with Shaw again for the first Juilliard at Zankel Hall concert, where they performed Shaw's "Other Song" alongside the composer.

The Quartet recently made their Alice Tully Hall debut as part of the Honors Chamber Program and was invited to participate in the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center (CMS) masterclass series with Paul Neubauer. This past April, the Candide Quartet presented their Honors Chamber Project for Earth Month in collaboration with The Juilliard School, pairing local art with music.

The Dolphins

QUARTET

The Dolphins Quartet is a string quartet and composer collective united by a belief that chamber music can be vibrant, daring, and deeply human. Trained at The Juilliard School and based in New York City, the quartet has gained recognition for adventurous programming, original compositions, and performances that reimagine the possibilities of quartet playing.

Luke, Ian, and James began playing together at a summer festival in Maine, and their first performance together made quite a splash—resulting in an admonishment for their improvisatory additions to Mendelssohn's "Op. 13." Yet, playing with people bold enough to take such risks was too thrilling to walk away from, and that spirit became the foundation of the ensemble's identity. Upon returning to New York City, their longtime friend and musical partner Isaac joined their ragtag ensemble of chaotic creatives.

Encouraged to channel their creativity into original work, they composed "The Dolphin Miniatures," a piece chronicling the stories and misadventures of their formative summer. Each year since, the quartet has composed works blending humor, nostalgia, and storytelling. In early 2026, they released their debut album, "Dolphins at Play," featuring all-original works.

From performing non-standard repertoire early on in their journey to collaborating with living composers such as John Adams, Andy Akiho, and Jessie Montgomery, the Dolphins are devoted to discovery. This commitment led to the formation of their Young Composers Program, a free initiative empowering pre-college composers to write for string quartet.

Equally important is their work in community engagement. The Dolphins have worked with incarcerated composers in California and taught string players in Nairobi, Kenya, building strong musical communities and sharing a deep sense of connection.

Whether performing at festivals, in schools, or in unconventional spaces, the Dolphins aim to create warmth, joy, and belonging. True to their name, they embody playfulness, intelligence, and a welcoming spirit wherever their music takes them. And yes, they can swim.



Candide Quartet



Violin

Chili Ekman

A recent graduate of The Juilliard School, violinist Chili Ekman will be continuing his studies in the Master of Music program with Professors Daniel Phillips and Stella Chen. Originally from Berkeley, California, Mr. Ekman attended the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Pre-College division and performed with organizations including the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra and Young Chamber Musicians.

He makes frequent returns to the Bay Area to perform concerts, appearing last season at the San Francisco International Piano Festival in collaboration with Jeffrey LaDeur. In 2022, he made his solo debut with the Stockton Symphony, performing Tchaikovsky's *Violin Concerto*.

An active chamber musician, Mr. Ekman has worked with many of the world's leading chamber musicians, performing alongside greats such as Paul Watkins, Philip Setzer, Julie Albers, and David Shifrin.

He has also been coached and mentored by many esteemed artists including David Finckel, Paul Neubauer, Robert Levin, and Eugene Drucker, among others. In 2023, he co-founded the Candide Quartet, which has attended major chamber music residencies, won national competitions, and performed in notable venues including Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall.



Cello

Vanny Hu

Canadian cellist Vanny Hu will be starting her master's degree this fall at The Juilliard School. She attended the Phil and Eli Taylor Academy at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, where she studied with David Hetherington and Andrés Díaz.

Ms. Hu currently serves as principal cellist of the Juilliard Orchestra, performing in Alice Tully Hall and Carnegie Hall. She previously performed as principal with the Juilliard Chamber Orchestra and the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

She has played in masterclasses for distinguished artists including Zuill Bailey and Zlatomir Fung, and has studied chamber music with David Finckel, Daniel Phillips, among others. Ms. Hu and her quartet have worked with the Miró, American, and Pacifica quartets.

In 2017, Ms. Hu received the RCM Gold Medal for piano, along with several theory distinctions, and placed second in the Provincial Finals for lower strings the following year. She gave her first solo performance with the Kitchener-Waterloo Youth Orchestra in 2019, receiving the Demonstrating Strong Leadership Award. She recently performed Haydn's "Cello Concerto in C Major" with the Stratford Symphony Orchestra.

Her ensemble, the Candide Quartet, won the 2026 LMC Frances Walton Competition, and were finalists in the 2026 Chesapeake Chamber Music Competition and semi-finalists in the 2026 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. At Juilliard, Ms. Hu is an active mentor and coach in the Pre-College Chamber and Orchestral divisions. She is a Gluck and Morse Fellow, presenting performances to various communities and mentoring young children in public programs and charter schools across New York City.

Ms. Hu previously studied with Richard Aaron and continues her studies with Zvi Plessner.



Amelia Krinke

Amelia Krinke is a violist and conductor from New York City studying with Steven Tenenbom and Misha Amory at The Juilliard School, where she is a proud recipient of a Kovner Fellowship. She won the Juilliard Viola Concerto Competition in 2022, performing Michael White's "Viola Concerto," and was an Honorable Mention winner of the 2022 National YoungArts Competition. She performed Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante with the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra in March 2024 and was a member of the Classical Tahoe Festival Orchestra in July 2024. Ms. Krinke has also attended the Kneisel Hall Young Artists Program, the Castleman Quartet Program, and the Heifetz International Music Institute.

Violin

She was an Apprentice Conductor with the Philadelphia Ballet for two seasons and conducted select performances of "The Nutcracker" in 2022 and 2023. As a conductor, Ms. Krinke also completed four years as a New York Youth Symphony Conducting Apprentice and attended the National Orchestral Institute and the Conductors Institute of South Carolina. She acted as a cover conductor for the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra in 2025 and conducted the Juilliard Music Advancement Program's composers' concerts in 2024 and 2025. She graduated from the Juilliard Pre-College division in 2022 with distinction for outstanding work in music theory and ear training, having studied viola under the tutelage of Molly Carr and Yi-Fang Huang.



Henry Rogers

Violinist Henry Rogers, 22, is pursuing his Master of Music degree at The Juilliard School under the tutelage of Joel Smirnoff. A native of Princeton, New Jersey, he first studied locally with Katarzyna Powichrowska and with Sally Thomas in New York City. He relocated to Cleveland at age 15 to pursue intensive training and undergraduate coursework through the Cleveland Institute of Music's Young Artist Program, graduating in 2021 under Joan Kwuon.

Mr. Rogers received his Bachelor of Music degree from Juilliard in 2025 with academic honors, completing additional studies in German at Columbia University. Prior to joining the Candide Quartet, he attended prestigious summer festivals including Aspen, Sarasota, Brevard, Heifetz, and Meadowmount, working with mentors Alexander Kerr, David Halen, Jan Mark Sloman, and Gerardo Ribeiro. In 2022, he gave a solo performance with the Brevard Music Center Orchestra under longtime Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart after winning the festival's annual Jan and Beattie Wood Concerto Competition.

He has performed with the Princeton Symphony Orchestra and the New World Symphony, and has held principal positions with the Juilliard Chamber Orchestra, the Juilliard Opera Orchestra, and the Aspen Festival Orchestra.

Mr. Rogers has given chamber performances in many prominent venues across New York City, including Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Hall, Bohemian National Hall, Lincoln Center's Rose Studio, and St. Paul's Chapel at Columbia University. An accomplished violist as well, his past ensembles won top prizes at the Chicago National Chamber Music Competition and the Coltman Chamber Music Competition (2021), as well as Second Prize at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition (Junior Division, 2021).

Violin

The Dolphins



Violin

Luke Henderson

Gold Medal Winner in the Fischhoff and the Coltman National Chamber Music Competitions, Luke Henderson is from Raleigh, North Carolina, and currently studies with Li Lin at The Juilliard School. In 2021, Luke won The American Prize in Instrumental Performance and the Grand Prize at the World Classical Music Awards.

Henderson was a member of the Chamber Music Intensive Performance Seminar at the New England Conservatory Preparatory School led by Merry Peckham and the Boston Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, conducted by Benjamin Zander. He has performed internationally in Berlin, Salzburg, Budapest, Pecs, Vienna, Amsterdam, and Jihlava. Luke was awarded the New England Conservatory Eugene Lehrer Chamber Music Award and is featured on National Public Radio's "From The Top" (Show 392).

Henderson's musical interests extend beyond European classical repertoire – namely Bluegrass, Jazz, R&B, and South Indian Classical. Luke was featured in the Juilliard Jazz Orchestra during their residency at Dizzy's Club at Jazz at Lincoln Center, performing the music of Duke Ellington. Henderson is dedicated to the study and performance of contemporary classical music. In 2023, he was featured in celebration performances for contemporary composers John Corigliano, Samuel Adler, and Reena Esmail.

When not playing violin, Luke enjoys hiking and listening to John Coltrane.



Cello

Ian Maloney

Ian Maloney is a cellist, composer, and chamber musician studying with Joel Krosnick at The Juilliard School where he is currently pursuing a Master of Music Degree. Maloney has appeared on WQXR's Young Artists Showcase, NPR's "From the Top," and in music videos with Brooklyn's Project Trio and violinist Joshua Bell. He has performed in master classes for Carter Brey, Philippe Muller, Clive Greensmith, Paul Katz, David Finckel, Bonnie Hampton and Colin Carr.

As a cellist, he has earned first prize in numerous music competitions and has appeared as a featured orchestral soloist. Over the past four years at Juilliard, ten of his works, mainly for chamber configurations, have been premiered. As an orchestral player, he has served as principal cellist of the Juilliard Jazz Orchestra. He also performs with the New York Arabic Orchestra, appearing in David Geffen Hall at GlobalFest 2023, as well as in the video game, Assassin's Creed: Mirage.

Maloney is an active chamber musician, mainly as the cellist of the award-winning Dolphins Quartet.



Violin

Isaac Park

Isaac Park is a dedicated violinist and chamber musician based in NYC. Recently, he completed his Master's Degree at The Juilliard School, marking 6 years working with his teacher, Joseph Lin. Isaac began his studies at age five with Sunny Kang, and his principal teachers have also included Li Lin, Wei He, Helen Kim, and Chen Zhao.

An enthusiastic advocate for chamber music, Isaac performs as a member of The Dolphins Quartet. The ensemble has appeared at prestigious venues, including Alice Tully Hall, and has collaborated with leading contemporary composers such as John Corigliano and Andy Akiho. In 2024, The Dolphins Quartet performed John Adams' quartet concerto, "Absolute Jest," in David Geffen Hall with the Juilliard Orchestra, conducted by the composer.

Committed to using music for social good, Isaac and The Dolphins Quartet have partnered with Project Music Heals Us, performing for inmates on Rikers Island and helping to launch an educational program initiative in prisons across California. He maintains this commitment through regular performances in hospitals, nursing homes, and schools throughout New York.

Isaac's chamber music experience is further enriched by his participation in many major festivals, including the Taos School of Music, Kneisel Hall, the Juilliard String Quartet Seminar, the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival, Music from Angel Fire, the Saint Lawrence String Quartet Seminar, and more.

Outside of his musical pursuits, Isaac enjoys playing video games and cooking Korean stews.



Viola

James Preucil

James Preucil, violist and composer, is passionate about exploring the possibilities of music through the viola. He aims to evoke exploration and freedom through his performances and compositions in service of connecting with and inspiring audiences and fellow musicians alike. In 2026, he graduated with a Master's Degree from The Juilliard School of Music, where he also earned his Bachelor's Degree 2 years prior. He studied with Molly Carr and Samuel Rhodes and was a member of the Kovner Fellowship program. He previously studied with Peter Slowik and his mother, Stephanie Preucil.

An avid chamber music musician, James is the founding violist of The Dolphins Quartet, which formed in the summer of 2022. Now a prize-winning group, they regularly perform concerts around the U.S.

James is also dedicated to composition, especially centered around the viola. His compositional style ranges from the natural, idiomatic sounds of strings to ideas typical of pop, country, and jazz. He has completed numerous works for himself and his friends to perform, including extensive works for solo viola, lots of chamber music, and a viola octet. Last November, he premiered his own viola concerto on commission from the Iowa City Community String Orchestra.

Since January 2021, James has created videos for his YouTube channel called "Viola King", aimed at forming a community of violists and viola supporters. Now with an audience of more than 35,000 followers across multiple platforms, he regularly posts arrangements, covers, vlogs, comedy videos, and discussions about the viola.



BOLD TEX-MEX FLAVOR IN TAOS, NM

At J&J Tex Mex Restaurant, every meal is meant to be enjoyed. From sizzling fajitas and hearty burritos to tacos, chimichangas, quesadillas, and combo plates, we bring bold flavor and a warm, welcoming experience to every table.



DINE-IN • TAKEOUT • GROUP ORDERS

830 Paseo del Pueblo Sur, Taos, NM 87571

(575) 224-2939

Open from 11AM to 8PM