

About Our Teachers

Ms. Hannah Barton: Violinist Hannah Barton moves easily between the worlds of classical, rock, and contemporary music. A native Chicagoan, Ms. Barton is an active performer on violin, viola, and electric “viper” violin. Her many ensembles include the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, Renovo String Orchestra, Fort Wayne Philharmonic, Lost Dog band, and the Hager Quartet. Ms. Barton made her solo debut at age six, playing Vivaldi’s a minor concerto with the Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra. Since then, she has appeared as soloist on numerous occasions, most recently playing viper with the Dubuque Symphony. Ms. Barton began studying violin at age two with her sister Rachel Barton Pine. She earned a Bachelors Degree in Violin Performance from the Peabody Conservatory and a Masters Degree from the Lamont School of Music. Her teachers include Pamela Frank, Desiree Ruhstrat, Yumi Hwang-Williams, Mark Wood, and David Taylor.

Mr. Steve Reichelt: Stephen Reichelt is a Chicago area bassist and music teacher. He received his Bachelors in Music Performance on double bass from DePaul University in 2000. Since then he has become a member of the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra, performed with the Quad City Symphony, Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra,

is principal of the City Wide Symphony of Chicago, as well as performing regularly with the Chicago swing band Bopology. Also an accomplished electric bass player, Stephen has performed with The Tony Ocean Show, his original rock band Lost Dog (bass and vocalist), as well as many other freelance performances. Mr. Reichelt is an in-demand studio musician making many recordings in Chicago and Nashville including national television and radio appearances.

In addition to maintaining a successful private teaching studio, Mr. Reichelt received his Illinois Music Educator Teaching Certification from Northeastern Illinois University in 2012. He also teaches at the Roselle School of Music, Cassandra Strings in Algonquin, is a frequent guest clinician in schools in the Chicago land area, and is a resident sectional coach with the Schaumburg Youth Orchestra.

Mr. Zach Green: Zach Green (Viola, Violin) earned his Bachelors of Music Performance from Northern Illinois University in 2014 while studying with Tony DeVroye, of the Avalon Quartet. He has also studied at the Northwestern University Music Academy with Stacia Spencer and at the Chicago College of Performing Arts with Lawrence Neuman, of the CSO. Additionally, Zach has studied with Roger Chase, former guest-principal violist for the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra, while

attending the CCPA and the Cassal Maggiore music festival in northern Italy. An active musician, Zach has performed as vice-principal violist with the Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra and the Midwestern Philharmonic Orchestra. In addition to his formal music studies, Zach is certified to teach Suzuki Violin 1-6. Currently he works in the repair and restoration department at Cassandra Strings while also giving private lessons.

Ms. Mary McGinty: Mary graduated from the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Music Degree in Cello Performance. As a professional symphony player for 12 years in New Mexico, she played with the New Mexico Symphony and worked with a number of professional organizations including Santa Fe Opera and Dallas Ballet, as well as popular artists that passed through town such as Glen Campbell, Ray Charles, Dolly Parton, etc. She had a string quartet as well with whom she performed at weddings and for other social engagements. She also had her own private teaching studio for many years.

Mr. John Ronai: John's education includes a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance degree from Wayne State University and a Master of Music degree in Violin Performance from University of Michigan. He is also

fully qualified as a Suzuki violin instructor having completed Suzuki teacher training for all ten Suzuki violin books. His private instructors include Carl Austin, Jacob Krachmalnick, Gustave Rosseels, Victor Aitay and Henry K Szeryng. His orchestral experience includes 6 years in Toledo Symphony Orchestra and 2 years in the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and subbing with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. John has played for many of the traveling Broadway shows including Les Miserables, Phantom of the Opera, Miss Saigon, Hello Dolly, Evita, Brigadoon, Oklahoma, Peter Pan, The Sound of Music, and more. His work as a theatre musician has included performing with Susan Boyle on the Oprah Winfrey show and with Sammy Davis, Smokey Robinson, Henry Mancini, The Spinners, Harry Belafonte, Anne Murray, Peter Allen, Wayne Newton, Diana Ross, Bernadette Peters, Kenny Rogers, Chicago, George Benson, John Denver, Julie Andrews, and more. John has over 12 years teaching experience including 7 years as a Suzuki instructor for the Music Institute of Chicago.

Ms. Carolyn Van De Velde: Carolyn Van De Velde started piano at age three and violin at age eight in the Chicago land area. She received her bachelors degree in violin performance with a minor in viola performance from University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign in 2013. There she studied with renowned violinist Stefan

Milenkovich as well as Rudolf Haken. She also worked closely with the Pacifica Quartet and the Jupiter Quartet and took many chamber music master classes throughout her years there.

After college Carolyn had the opportunity to move to Vienna, Austria where she continued her violin performance studies at the Vienna Konservatorium. There she studied with Polish virtuoso Barbara Gorzynska for four years, and took additional lessons with the concertmaster of the Viennese Volksoper, Anne Harvey. While living abroad, Carolyn played as a principle or concertmaster for many chamber orchestras and took master classes throughout Austria, Germany and Slovenia. She also kept up a small violin and viola studio where she taught students with varied musical abilities in both German and English.

Since moving back to America in December 2017, Carolyn has performed with Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra, LaCrosse Symphony Orchestra as well as Heartland Festival Orchestra. She is also an avid musical theatre lover and is continuing her long list of pit orchestra performances throughout the Chicago land area.

Ms. Kim Busic: Kim Busic is a violinist from Libertyville, Illinois. She holds a BM in Music Performance, cum laude, from Butler University. At Butler, she studied under Larry Shapiro, former concertmaster of the Cincinnati Symphony, as well as

viola with Richard Auldon Clark and cello with Dr. William Grubb. She recently completed her MM in Violin Performance from Boston Conservatory at Berklee, studying under Sharan Leventhal, founder of Marimolin and member of the Kelper Quartet. While at Berklee, she studied old time fiddling with Bruce Molsky, founder of Molsky's Mountain Drifters. She has played in orchestras under Ken David Masur, Joann Falletta, Keith Lockhart. She loves traveling and has played chamber music in churches and major concert halls in Austria, Italy, and Slovenia.