



Harmony Across Cultures, Bridging Tradition

Friends of the Conservatory of Music Concert

Thursday, November 2, 2023
2023-2024 Season



Welcome to the 2023-2024 season. Lynn Conservatory of Music takes great pleasure in sharing with you the extraordinary talent of our students who have been mentored by our world-renowned faculty. We believe that you will be inspired and elevated by the excellence of their performances.

We at the Lynn Conservatory of Music deeply appreciate your ongoing support as it ensures our place among the premier conservatories of the world. We hope your enjoyment of each musical experience at this Conservatory will be rewarding and memorable.

Sincerely,
Jon Robertson
Dean of the Lynn Conservatory of Music

There are a number of ways by which you can help us fulfill our mission:

Friends of the Conservatory of Music

You can join donors like the ones listed in supporting scholarships by becoming a member of the Friends of the Conservatory of Music. Giving levels range from \$50-\$2,500+ and can be made by check, credit card, securities, or approved gifts in kind. Contact Lisa Miller at 561-237-7745 for more information or make your gift online today at Give.Lynn.Edu/Support-Music.

Friends of the Conservatory donors enjoy opportunities such as purchasing tickets for the upcoming season before the general public and are invited to special events reserved for donors.

The Leadership Society of Lynn University

The Leadership Society is the premier annual giving society for donors who are committed to ensuring a standard of excellence at Lynn for all students. Leadership Society donors make an annual gift of \$2,500 or more and have the option of directing their gift to support the Conservatory of Music. Leadership Society donors receive invitations to exclusive events throughout the year that offer opportunities to engage with other Leadership Society donors and university administrators.

Planned Giving

Planned gifts provide important support for the future of Lynn University, its colleges and programs. Your legacy lives on at Lynn University in perpetuity - various options include, but are not limited to, bequests by will, charitable gift annuities and life insurance.

Your contribution to the Conservatory is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For additional information, please contact Lisa Miller at 561-237-7745.

Harmony Across Cultures, Bridging Tradition

Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center

Please silence or turn off all electronic devices, including
cell phones, beepers, and watch alarms.
Unauthorized recording or photography is strictly prohibited.

Program

Concerto en Re Majuer
Andante

Giuseppe Tartini
(1692-1770)

Jafet Díaz Martin, trumpet
Darren Matias, organ

Bachianas Brasileiras No. 4
I. *Prelude*

Heitor Villa-Lobos
(1887-1959)

Sol Ochoa Castro, Ruvit Bracho Marquez,
Adriana Fernandez, and Laura Gonzalez, violins
Samuel Dionisio, Rosa Ortega Iannelli, and Astrid Jerez, violas
Jon Cruz, and Anttuan Pelaez, cellos

En Do Pa Que No

Nà-Ernesto Oliva
(b. 1990)

Jon Cruz, cello
Jose Ignacio Diaz and Jerry Grace, percussion
Brenda Lorenzo Sibila, piano

Unfortunately Not You

Fish Leong
(b. 1978)

Yu-Hsuan Feng, piano

Piano Quartet No. 1 in A Minor, op. 67

I. *Lento*

II. *Vivo*

III. *Andante, Allegro molto*

Joaquin Turina

(1882-1949)

Elizabeth Thomashoff, piano

Miriam Smith, violin

Lillian Platte, viola

Megan Hagel, cello

Two dances from the Colombian Suite

Joropo

Porro

Jesus A. Rey

(1956-2009)

Viola I : Astrid Jerez and Lillian Platte

Viola II: Rachel Miner and Nia Morgan

Viola III: Gabrielle Malaniak

Viola IV: Samuel Dionisio and Sarah Conley

Viola V: Lauren Swartz and Jeremy Jefferson

Viola VI: Rosa Ortega Iannelli

Double Bass: Paola García

Cuatro: Juan Fernández

Percussion: Anna Dunford, Steven Halpner, and Jose Ignacio Díaz

Pre-Concert Performance in the Lobby

Andante et Rondo, op. 25

Franz Doppler

(1821-1883)

Yian Liu, flute

Isaiah Obey, flute

Aidan Quintana, piano

Artist Biographies

Hailing from Venezuela, **Ruvit Bracho** is a violinist who grew up in El Sistema, which gave her different opportunities to belong to state and national orchestras, solo performances, violin camps, and even a tour to Italy. Ruvit decided to continue her music studies at the Stetson University School of Music, in the studio of Routa Kroumovitch, graduating summa cum laude in 2022. She received two scholarships at the school as well as the Tuition Assistance Scholarship from the Latin Grammy Cultural Foundation. At Stetson, she was concertmaster for both orchestras and won an honorable mention at Stetson's annual concerto competition.

Additionally, she has played with great musicians such as Gustavo Dudamel, Sir Simon Rattle, Fonseca, Andrea Bocelli, and Sofia Carson. She has participated in masterclasses with Igor Pikayzen, David Kim, and Grigory Kalinovsky. Recently, she has recorded at Arthouse Studio with Latin Grammy and Grammy winning producer Julio Reyes. Ruvit is currently a Scholarship Ambassador of the Latin Grammy Cultural Foundation while continuing her master's degree studies at Lynn University Conservatory of Music in the studio of Carol Cole.

Sarah Conley began her musical life at the age of seven with the violin, which she performed on for several years. In Fall of 2018, Sarah began studies on the viola, which quickly became her primary instrument and the love of her life. Sarah has performed with many ensembles, chamber groups, and collaborations. Some of her notable achievements include serving as principal violist with the Naples Philharmonic Youth Symphonia, the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, the Florida Southwestern State College Orchestra, the Florida Southwestern State College, as well as performing in chamber groups all over southwest Florida. Sarah has also had the opportunity to perform with the Naples Philharmonic.

Sarah is active in community involvement. She mentors the Naples Philharmonic Youth Symphonia and coaches chamber groups with this ensemble. She also loves to perform at different venues including retirement homes and various events for music education. Most recently, Sarah presented a children's concert for the Golisano Children's Museum of Naples.

Outside of music, Sarah enjoys spending time with family, caring for her animals, reading, and gardening.

Born in the city of Sancti Spiritus, Cuba, **Jon Cruz** began cello studies at age eight and entered the National Music School in Havana at age 15,

where he appeared as a soloist in cello concerti of St. Saëns and Elgar. He earned his Bachelor of Music degree from the Universidad de las Artes in Cuba. Jon's extensive performance experience includes the Gran Teatro de la Habana Orchestra, the Irene Rodriguez Flamenco Dance Company, the Liceo Mozartiano de La Habana, and the Cuban European Youth Academy Project. Jon was honored to participate in the Mozart and Mambo Tour with the Berlin Philharmonic's Sarah Willis, where he performed on stages including the Kurhaus Wiesbaden, Konzerthaus Berlin, and the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg. He has performed in masterclasses with Christoph Daniel, Thomas Kaufmann, Karlos Rodriguez, Willem Stam, and has received individual classes with soloist Johannes Moser, and Ludwig Quandt of the Berlin Philharmonic. Jon is currently a Professional Performance Certificate student at Lynn, in the studio of David Cole.

Jose Diaz is a Chilean percussion student with over 10 years of experience. Jose completed his musical studies at the Jorge Peña Hen School of Music in his hometown in Chile. He then pursued his undergraduate studies in percussion at the University of Chile. In 2021, Jose won the main percussion competition in the National Youth Symphony Orchestra of Chile, where he participated until 2023. In 2023, he transferred to Lynn University. Jose has also performed in various countries, including the United States, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile.

Jafet Díaz Martin is a versatile Panamanian trumpet player, teacher, and arranger pursuing a Master of Music in Performance at Lynn Conservatory of Music. He was a trumpet player of the Panama Municipal Symphonic Band. Jafet has participated as a guest with the National Symphony Orchestra of Panama, Palm Beach Symphony, Camerata Panama, and Panama Jazz Festival Big Band. In 2023, he won first prize in the National Society of Arts and Letters Collaborative Piano and Brass Duo Competition. He was a finalist in the 2020 Next Generation Trumpet Competition. This past summer, Jafet attended the Colorado College Summer Music Festival and has previously participated in the International Trumpet Festival in Costa Rica, the Integrated Symphonic Band of the Americas in Colombia, and the Alfredo Saint Malo Festival in Panama. He attended the University of Panama for his Bachelor of Music in trumpet Performance. Jafet enjoys running, playing soccer, going to the beach, and reading books.

Samuel Dionísio, Brazilian violist, began his musical studies at age 12. Samuel has spent a large part of his musical journey pursuing the career of an orchestral musician, and he has performed with orchestras such as the Experimental Repertoire Orchestra, Mozarteum Orchestra,

USP Philharmonic, Orchestra of the Municipal Theater of São Paulo, Columbus Symphony Orchestra, Lagrange Symphony, Albany Symphony and Schwob Philharmonic.

As a chamber musician, he was a member of Camerata Fukuda (of which he was principal for one season) and he also participated in the chamber music series from the Experimental Repertoire Orchestra as a member of some of the string quartets. In 2015, he was invited to perform in a series of chamber music concerts with members of the Berlin Philharmonic at the music festival in Trancoso, Brazil. In 2019, he played his first concert as a soloist with Park University Orchestra. In 2023 Samuel was awarded by Columbus State University with the Schwob School of Music's Senior Performance Honors as result of his senior recital.

As a teacher, since 2023, Samuel is a mentor at Samuel Vargas Foundation where he enjoys guide music students from south of America. Currently Samuel is a first year master student in music performance at Lynn Conservatory under guidance of professor Sheila Browne.

Anna Dunford is a graduate student in percussion performance at the Lynn Conservatory of Music. She received her Master of Music degree from California State University Long Beach and her Bachelor of Music degree from Brigham Young University Provo. While in Los Angeles she was a member of the American Youth Symphony and the California Young Artist Symphony. She has played with the Long Beach Symphony, Boise Philharmonic, McCall Summerfest Orchestra, and Opera Idaho. For two summers she has been a member of the Miami Music Festival opera orchestra.

Yu-Hsuan Feng, a native of Taipei, embarked on her piano journey at the age of four. Her career as a young pianist gained recognition when she claimed first prize at the International Asian Music Elite Competition. As a soloist, Yu-Hsuan has gained extensive experience performing piano concerti, including works of Haydn, Mendelssohn, and Poulenc. Beyond her solo performances, she has collaborated with instrumentalists and vocalists and served as the collaborative pianist for several choirs.

After being admitted to the Gifted Music Program in Piano Performance at Fuxing High School, she made her recital debut at age 15. Upon graduation as the top-ranked music student, she continued her training by pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano Performance at National Taiwan Normal University. During her time there, she received Russian piano school training under the guidance of renowned pianist Andrei Yeh, a pupil of the legendary Russian pianist Lev Naumov. A multi-faceted musician, Ms. Feng also studied violin and harp. She was the associate concertmaster of the FHSO Orchestra and later, the principal harpist of the

NTNU Wind Orchestra. In 2023, she graduated with honors, securing the highest score in piano and earning the Academic Excellence Award. She has also played in master classes, including Mei-Hsuan Huang, Christopher Zhong, Pei-Chun Liao, Yi-Chih Lu, Rafael Figueroa, and Kun-Woo Paik. Her former teachers include Eric Chen, Edna Yuan-Yuan Chia, Xing-Hui Chen, and Shannon Shuen Chieh.

Currently, she is pursuing her master of music degree as a full scholarship recipient at the Lynn Conservatory of Music in Boca Raton, Florida, under the mentorship of Lisa Leonard.

From Lansdale, Pennsylvania, **Adriana Fernandez** commenced her violin studies at the age of 10 at ArCoNet. Guided by esteemed professors including Simon Gollo, Netanel Draiblate, Domenic Salerni, and Adriana Linares, her talent flourished.

She is currently pursuing her undergraduate degree at the Lynn Conservatory of Music, under the tutelage of Guillermo Figueroa. She has been an active participant in various chamber and orchestral festivals, including National Orchestral Institute + Festival, Eastern Music Festival, Dali Quartet International Music Festival, and the Sphinx Performance Academy at Curtis Summerfest.

Adriana has had the honor of performing under renowned conductors like Marin Alsop, Gerard Schwarz, and JoAnn Falletta. She's also benefited from masterclasses with accomplished violinists Alexander Kerr, Gary Levinson, and Jennifer Ross.

Adriana is a valued member of Symphony in C and has served as a substitute with orchestras including the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Southwest Florida Symphony, and Brevard Symphony Orchestra. Her dedication and versatility enrich the orchestral community.

Paola Garcia, a native of Valencia, Venezuela, embarked on her musical journey at 13 years old in a local children's Orchestra of El Sistema. Joining the double bass section of the Orquesta Sinfonica Juvenil de Carabobo in 2018, she quickly rose to become the principal. Under the guidance of Maestro Felix Petit at the Academia Latino Americana de Contrabajo, Paola honed her skills and later became the double bass assistant for the Orquesta Sinfonica Infantil de Venezuela, working alongside esteemed conductors Simon Rattle and Daniel Barenboim. Paola has had the privilege of participating in masterclasses with renowned musicians including Klaus Stoll, Ofelia Calva, Jeff Bradettich, Eugene Levinson, Edicson Ruiz, Luis Gomez-Imbert, Dominick Wagner, and Nathaniel West. She has also showcased her talent with Venezuelan orchestras on national and worldwide tours among those, the Simon Bolivar Orchestra, performing with the likes of Gustavo Dudamel, Christian

Vasquez, Domingo Hindoyan, Joshua Dos Santos, Dietrich Paredes, and Diego Matheuz.

Since the age of 17, Paola has been an instructor for children's and youth orchestra double bass sections, conducting workshops during National Festivals organized by La Academia Latino Americana de Contrabajo and El Sistema. She holds a bachelor's degree in music performance from FIU. Currently, Paola serves as the assistant to the double bass section of the Miami Symphony Orchestra, performs with the San Antonio TX Opera, and Classical Music Institute, and actively contributes as a teaching artist in the South Florida community.

Violinist **Laura Gonzalez** began her musical studies at the age of 5 in Boca Raton, Florida. She is currently pursuing her Bachelor's Degree in Violin Performance at the Lynn Conservatory of Music studying under Carol Cole. Throughout her career, she has participated in many music festivals, including Eastern Music Festival, Philadelphia International Music Festival, Killington Music Festival, and Emerald Coast Chamber Music Festival.

Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, **Steven Halpner** is currently a junior at Lynn Conservatory pursuing a Bachelors of Music in percussion performance under the instruction of Professor Ted Atkatz. During his studies at Lynn, Steven performs with the Lynn Conservatory Philharmonia and Wind Ensemble. Outside of Lynn, he has had the opportunity to attend The Eastern Music Festival, The Sewanee Summer Music Festival, Sandbox Percussion Seminar, and Boston University Tanglewood Institute. In the summer of 2022, he traveled to Colombia to participate in the Orquesta Venezolana Americana de Vientos engaging in a cultural exchange through playing and teaching music.

Hailing from Rapid City, South Dakota, **Megan Hagel** commenced her cello journey at the age of 12. Following her graduation from Stevens High School, she embarked on a transformative gap year under the tutelage of Ismar Gomes. Her formal education led her to complete her freshman year at SUNY Purchase College under the guidance of Thomas Mesa, whom she also studied with at the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival in 2022. She since transferred to Lynn Conservatory where she is pursuing her Bachelor's degree in cello performance as a student of Professor David Cole.

Megan has had the privilege of learning from esteemed musicians, participating in masterclasses and studying at a variety of festivals with cellists such as David Geber, Paul Watkins, Alisson Wells, Matthew Zalkind, Alice Yoo, and Minna Rose Chung. Megan has competed in both the SUNY Purchase College Conservatory of Music and the Lynn

Conservatory of Music Concerto Competitions and looks forward to taking advantage of the many opportunities Lynn University will continue to provide as she continues her studies.

Jeremy Jefferson started viola at age 12. He played with GMEA All-State orchestra from sophomore year to senior year. He then attended Columbus State University and received a degree in Viola Performance. Jeremy is currently a 1st Year Master's student. He enjoys composing and cooking.

Astrid Jerez, Colombian violist who has dedicated a significant part of her career to teaching music systems in both Colombia and Mexico. She has worked as a violin and viola instructor at various foundations including Batuta and Tocar y Luchar in Colombia, Esperanza Azteca in Mexico, and the New Orleans String Program in the USA. Currently, she is teaching violin at the Volta Foundation in Pompano Beach.

Her strong interest in creating Latin American music projects has led her to establish ensembles such as Entretierras, aimed at promoting Latin American music composed for string ensembles. She is a musical entrepreneur, she recently organized the first-ever Viola Festival in Puebla, Mexico, bringing together over 35 violists from all over the country. As an orchestral musician, she has participated in different orchestras and festivals in the USA, Colombia and México. Astrid is pursuing a Professional Performance Certificate at the Lynn Conservatory with Professor Sheila Browne.

Flutist **Yian Liu** is currently pursuing her P.P.C at Lynn Conservatory and D.M.A in flute performance at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM). She also received her Master in CCM. Yian also attended multiple music festivals in different countries of Asia and the United States including Aspen Music Festival, Chautauqua Music Festival, Singapore International Music Festival, to name a few. Yian enjoys making music with others, giving support, and being inspired by her colleagues. In her free time, she enjoys baking and going to the beach.

Brenda Lorenzo is a young pianist, originally from Habana (Havana), Cuba. Her journey in the world of music began at the young age of 7 when she started studying piano. Miss Lorenzo's passion for piano performance led her to pursue undergraduate degrees in both piano and music theory at the Escuela Nacional de Artes. In 2018, she graduated with highest honors from the University of the Arts, majoring in Musicology.

Her dedication and passion for contemporary music have allowed her to showcase her skills in various editions of the Contemporary Music Festival of Habana and to collaborate with living composers Ernesto Oliva, Jorge

Amado, Javier Iha, Alexis Rodriguez, Jose Victor Gavilondo, Daniel Toledo, German Carrasco, and Bernardo Olvera. She has also made significant contributions to the music industry, working as a Specialist in Music and Cultural Policy at the Cuban Institute of Music where she was an advocate for social support of living composers. Additionally, Miss Lorenzo has shared her knowledge and expertise as a lecturer at the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Congress in 2019, where she discussed the Cuban Contemporary Composition and Music Production. From 2020 to 2023, she served as a music and programming specialist and screen writer at the National Institute of Radio and Television of Habana.

She has served as faculty collaborative pianist at the National School for Music and the Conservatory Amadeo Roldan of Havana from 2018 to 2023, where she attended the masterclass given by professor Lester Chio. Continuing her professional journey, she was accepted into Lynn Conservatory of Music's Instrumental Collaborative Piano Program in the fall of 2023, under the tutelage of distinguished professor Lisa Leonard, where she holds the Teaching Assistantship for Ear Training Studies. In her time in Lynn, she has collaborated with the studios of clarinetist Jon Manassee, cellist David Cole, and pianist Roberta Rust. Recently she was awarded the Special Jury Prize for Best Orchestral Realization in the 2023 Lynn Concerto Competition. Her former teachers include Miriam Cruz, Vivian Formell, and Moises Santiesteban.

Gabrielle Malaniak is a South Florida-based violist and educator. She earned her B.M. in Viola Performance from the Eastman School of Music and is currently pursuing her M.M. at Lynn Conservatory. Gabrielle has graced stages at the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival, the Kennedy Center's Summer Music Institute, and Italy's Festival Musica Sull'Acqua. She has also performed with the Charleston and Greenville Symphonies. Gabrielle currently maintains a private violin/viola studio and is a teacher with the Volta Music Foundation.

Rachel Miner is a passionate violist from Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. She recently received her Master of Music Performance from Western University and is pursuing a Professional Performance Certificate at the Lynn Conservatory with Professor Sheila Browne.

Rachel's commitment to uplifting other artists fuels her support for new music. As a member of the Pickford Ensemble and the Contemporary Music Ensemble at Western University, she premiered numerous chamber works by living composers. She is currently commissioning two chamber works by young composers to be premiered and performed in 2025.

In 2022, her affinity for collaboration and leadership led her to co-found the Toca Chamber Collective to provide more chamber music opportunities to

young artists throughout the community. Additionally, Miner has had the opportunity to coach high school chamber music at the Young Artist Pre-College Academy in London, Ontario, and at the Pioneer High School Orchestra Camp in Ann Arbor, Michigan. As a performer, her love for chamber music has led her to perform with illustrious chamber musicians such as Scott St. John, Thomas Wiebe, Erika Raum, and Angela Park. In addition to her musical endeavors, Miner is a dance fitness trainer at AKT Fitness and a math and writing tutor. She enjoys walking her dog, going to the beach, and spending time with friends and family.

Nia Morgan, a talented violist hailing from Tallahassee, Florida, began her musical journey at the age of 10, through her elementary school's orchestra program. During her time as a student in Tallahassee, Nia was an avid member of the Tallahassee Youth Symphony Orchestras. Here, she not only held the position of principal viola but served as a member of their premier quartet and Camerata. Nia has built deep connections within Tallahassee's community. She actively collaborated with local organizations like the LAMP Chamber Players and Music Bridges Tallahassee, teaching other aspiring musicians and raising money to support the local school systems.

Venturing beyond her hometown, Nia has received invitations to participate in a multitude of esteemed festivals and ensembles. Notable among these were the Green Mountain Chamber Festival, Sphinx Performance Academy, Florida All-State Orchestra, Hilton Head Chamber Music Institute, FAU High School Honors Orchestra, and the Jacksonville University Chamber Music Institute. Along this journey, she had the privilege of learning from esteemed chamber musicians, including composer Charlton Singleton, and the Catalyst, Aizuri, and Balourdet Quartets.

In addition to her rich experiences, Nia has participated in various competitions across the United States, securing commendable placements in renowned events like the Big Bend Young Artist Competition, the NOLA Chamber Music Festival, and the Charleston International Spring Music Competition. Presently, Nia is diligently pursuing an undergraduate degree at the Lynn Conservatory of Music under the mentorship of Professor Sheila Browne.

Flutist **Isaiah Obey** is currently pursuing his Master of Music degree from Lynn University where he studies with Jeffrey Khaner. He received his bachelor's degree in Flute Performance at Eastman School of Music as a student of Bonita Boyd and Anne Harrow. Isaiah is the first prize winner of the Texas Flute Society's Donna Marie Haire Young Artist Competition and the Rochester Flute Association's Emerging Artist Competition. Orchestral

experience includes the Lynn Philharmonia, Eastman Philharmonia, National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America, Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra, and Greater Dallas Youth Orchestra. He is also a substitute musician with the Sarasota Orchestra. He has been studying the flute since the age of 10. Former teachers include Pam Adams and Zart Dombourian-Eby.

Violinist **Sol Ochoa** is pursuing a master's degree in music performance at the Lynn Conservatory of Music in the studio of Maestro Guillermo Figueroa. She began her studies at the National Conservatory of Music, where she studied with Laszlo Benedek in Lima, Peru. She has received fellowships at several international music festivals, including the Internationale Junge Orchesterakademie's Easter Festival in Germany, the Winter Festival of Campos do Jordão in Brazil, and the Orchestra of the Americas. She performs regularly with the South Florida Symphony Orchestra and spends her summers performing at the Endless Mountain Music Festival orchestra in Mansfield, Pennsylvania.

Sol's commitment to excellence is evident in her participation in masterclasses led by Vadim Repin, Lara St. John, Ray Chen, Gil Shaham, Nicola Benedetti, and others. She has further enriched her artistry through chamber music seminars with Philip Setzer and Lawrence Dutton of the Emerson String Quartet, as well as violinist Carlos Johnson. Her dedication has been recognized through awards such as the Interlochen Arts Camp's Fine Arts Award and the Shirlee's Violin and the Boca West Scholarships at Lynn University.

In addition to her performance career, Sol has certifications in Suzuki philosophy, early childhood music education, and violin pedagogy. She has shared her knowledge and passion as an educator at various institutions, including the Lynn Conservatory Preparatory School of Music, the Volta Music Foundation, and the Nat King Cole Generation Hope Foundation. Currently, Sol is an instructor at the North Broward Preparatory School and generously volunteers at the Samuel Vargas International Music Foundation.

Rosa Ortega Iannelli is a violist, educator, and juggler from San Juan, Puerto Rico. Born into a family of artists, Rosa began their music studies at home and was eventually enrolled in the Preparatory Program at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico. In 2018, Rosa completed their undergraduate studies at Temple University, where they studied with Dr. Ana Tsinadze and Kerri Ryan, Assistant Principal Violist of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

Rosa has played in masterclasses for renowned musicians including Roberto Diaz, Atar Arad, Karen Ritscher, Nokuthula Ngwenyama, and

Adriana Linares. As an educator, Rosa has taught with the Memphis Music Initiative, Play on Philly!, Philadelphia String Project, Common Time Music School and has worked as a Teaching Fellow at the Interlochen Arts Camp. Rosa is a 2018-2019 alumnus of the Iris Orchestra Artist Fellows Program, during which time they spent a year in Memphis, TN, teaching at local elementary schools, performing outreach concerts, and working closely with the world-class musicians of the Iris Orchestra and ensemble director Michael Stern.

Rosa is a student of Sheila Browne at Lynn Conservatory, and is currently pursuing their Master of Music degree. They are a member of the Palm Beach Symphony and the International Chamber Orchestra of Puerto Rico. Other recent accomplishments include participation in the 2023 Karen Tuttle Workshop, performances in Lynn University's New Music Festival, performing in the Miami Chamber Music Society's Mendelssohn Octet Masterclass with Joshua Bell, and their string quartet was one of the winners in the 2021 Lynn Lyric Chamber Music Competition.

Violist **Lillian Platte** is a first year undergraduate violist at Lynn Conservatory . Originally from New Jersey, Lily pursued studies with Hannah Levinson at Manhattan School of Music In New Jersey, she built a close relationship with the regional orchestras in her area. An avid chamber musician, Lillian has studied at Atlantic Music Festival, Blue Mountain Music Festival, Luzerne Music Center and New England Music Camp. A former student of Harold Levine, Lillian played the New York premier of his duo for cello and viola on her senior recital at Manhattan School of Music. She will be making her solo debut on the Walton Viola Concerto this season with Stephen Culbertson and the Society of Musical Arts Orchestra. The child of professional musicians, Lily's love of music has been center of her life. In her free time, Lillian enjoys studying anatomy and taking care of her animals.

Aidan Quintana is a first year undergraduate piano performance student at Lynn University studying with Dr. Roberta Rust. He is a former student of Dr. Dmitri Shteinberg and graduate of the University Of North Carolina School of the Arts high school piano department. An experienced soloist, he is a prize recipient at Music Teachers National Association competitions, a finalist at the annual University Of North Carolina School Of The Arts Concerto Competition, and has placed numerous times at North Carolina Federation of Music Clubs piano competitions in addition to frequent recital appearances. Alongside his solo piano studies, Aidan is an avid chamber musician, performing alongside distinguished guest artists and faculty, as well as ensembles such as the UNCSA Symphony Orchestra. Aidan has appeared in masterclasses with world renowned

pianists such as Alan Chow, Sara Davis Buechner, Yakov Kasman, Mackenzie Melemed, and Rebecca Penneys, and has given performances at the Rebecca Penneys piano festival, and the Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival.

In addition to classical studies, Aidan is an experienced jazz pianist. Studying with Ronald Rudkin, former director of jazz studies at UNCSA, Aidan has performed numerous times with the UNCSA Jazz ensemble and featured as pianist alongside Grammy award winning trumpeter Bryan Lipps, and world renowned saxophonist John Ellis in Ron Rudkin's final concert celebrating his 45th year as leader of the ensemble. He is a member of the Bocatrain Quartet, a Boca Raton based jazz group, along with trombonist Miguelangel Garcia, bassist Julian Rauh, and drummer Jerry Grace.

When not at the piano, Aidan can often be found composing and arranging from classical to pop and rock. An avid sound engineer, he spends hours experimenting with microphone placement and signal paths to achieve the highest quality recordings of both his own playing and others.

Born in Havana, Cuba, **Anttuan Rios Pelaez** began playing the piano at the age of five and the cello at the age of eight at the Conservatory of Music Guillermo Tomas. Anttuan is an avid soloist and chamber music player with experience performing classical, traditional and pop music. During his fourteen years playing the cello, he won several competitions, performed a lot of concerts, and had multiple master classes with great musicians such as Manuel Capote, Johannes Moser, Rafael Figueroa, Katherine Lee, and Jason Calloway. Also, he recorded a CD album with the jazz pianist Jorge Luis Pacheco. At the age of seventeen years old, he won the competition Cultural Exchange Havana classical music festival under the partnership of the Volta Music Foundation. Having the opportunity to play for his first time as a soloist with an orchestra under the tutelage of Antonio Mendez. Once he finished his high school music degree, he applied to Lynn University in Boca Raton. Where he is currently pursuing his bachelor's degree in Music Performance with Professor David Cole. The last summer 2023 he participated at the Eastern Music Festival taking lessons with the cellist Julian Schwarz.

A native of Buffalo, New York, **Miriam Smith** began her violin studies at the age of 4. As winner of the 2023 John Oliviera String Competition, she has given several solo recitals in South Florida, including at the Boca Raton Museum of Art, the Friends of the Classics series at St. Andrews, and the Amarnick-Goldstein Hall at Lynn University. She has also given performances around the Buffalo area, including as part of the Vision

Possible Charity concert series and other volunteer opportunities. Smith has been in several orchestras such as the Greater Buffalo Youth String Orchestra and Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra, serving as a substitute violinist with the Houghton Symphony Orchestra during high school, and more recently participating in the Endless Mountain Music Festival Orchestra. In recognition of her passion for chamber music, she was awarded the Silverman Scholarship from the Buffalo Chamber Music Society. Smith was a member of the Sapphire Quintet which was named alternate winner in the 2022 Lyric Chamber Music Competition. She has participated in several chamber music festivals that she considers to have been influential in inspiring her to pursue music performance, including BRAVO International Workshop, Apple Hill Chamber Music, and Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival. In the summer 2023, Smith received a full tuition fellowship to the Sarasota Music Festival, where she performed music by Fanny Mendelssohn in the Rising Stars concert series. Her chamber music mentors include Chauncey Patterson, Sheila Browne and Lisa Leonard. At the 2023 New Music Festival held by Lynn Conservatory of Music, Smith had the opportunity to work with composer Marti Epstein and perform her string quartet "Hidden Flowers". She has been able to learn with distinguished teachers such as Janet Sung, Ann Setzer, and Margaret Batjer, and has played in masterclasses for Elmar Oliveira, Grigory Kalinovsky, Ani Kavafian, David Halen, the Calisto String Quartet and others. When she is not practicing violin, you can find her working in the music library. Currently she is in her third year completing her bachelor's degree studying with Guillermo Figueroa at the Lynn Conservatory of Music.

Lauren Swartz is a violist who grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. She started her orchestral career in the Cleveland Orchestra Youth Orchestra where she was a member for 2 seasons. Swartz then moved her studies to the Eastman School of Music, studying with Phil Ying, where she graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Viola Performance in the spring of 2021. She has attended the Bowdoin International Music Festival as well as the Virtual Viola Masterclass, hosted by members of the Cleveland Orchestra. She enjoys participating in various ensembles including chamber, pit orchestras, film scoring and new music ensembles, to perform a wide variety of works. She is also an educator who strives to share her passion for music with others. She is currently in her second year of studies with Sheila Browne, pursuing a Master's Degree in Viola Performance at Lynn University and hopes to perform with professional orchestras in the future.

Elisabeth Thomashoff started piano at age four. She has concertized in the USA, Austria, Germany, Netherlands, and Estonia.

Recently, she performed Shostakovich Concerto No. 2 with Tampa Bay Symphony and Ocala Symphony Orchestra and Grieg Concerto with PBA Symphony Orchestra. She is laureate of the III Teresa Carreño International Piano Competition. Her competitions include 1st Prize Jack Heller Young Artist Competition, 1st Prize Ocala Young Artist Competition; Honorable Mention Odysiad Competition; Prize at Medici International Music Competition; Honorable Mention at FSMTA Concerto Competition; 1st Prize PBA Concerto Competition; 1st Prize at Grand Prize Virtuoso International Music Competition in Salzburg, Austria; prizes at International Competitions "Citta Barletta," "Euterpe" in Italy; finalist at Alhambra Concerto Competition; Honorable Mention at FSMTA Concerto Competition. Elisabeth's teachers include Professor Margarita Shevchenko, Kristina Miller, Professor Stanislaw Tichonow, Professor Vladimir Genin, Professor Johannes Kropfisch and she currently studies with Dr. Roberta Rust at Lynn Conservatory of Music.

Faculty Biographies



Lisa Leonard

Professor - Instrumental Collaborative Piano

Hailed as a pianist who “communicates deep artistic understanding through a powerful and virtuosic technique,” pianist Lisa Leonard enjoys a diverse career as chamber musician, soloist, and educator. Born in Washington, D.C., Lisa made her debut in 1982 at the age of 10 with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra. Since then, she has appeared across four continents as soloist with orchestras including the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center and the Simon

Bolivar Orchestra of Venezuela under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel. In the 2022-23 season, Ms. Leonard performed Brahms’ Piano Concerto No.1, gave three world premieres including performances in Venice, Italy, and was awarded the lifetime achievement award in music and education from the National Society of Arts and Letters of Florida.

Ms. Leonard has amassed an extensive and varied repertoire from decades of recital and recording projects with remembers of the American String Quartet, Empire Brass, Metropolitan Opera, Concertgebouw, Berlin, Vienna, New York, Cleveland, and Minnesota orchestras. In recent seasons, she has collaborated with renowned trumpeters Reinhold Friedrich and Eric Aubier, singer Elizabeth von Trapp, and Grammy-nominated artists Martin Kuuskmann and Elmar Oliveira. Many of these performances have been featured on National Public Radios’ “Performance Today,” and “Command Performance” programs. Her love and commitment to contemporary music has resulted in dozens of premieres. Lisa and her husband, trumpeter Marc Reese, have commissioned solo and chamber works featuring piano and trumpet from some of the most celebrated composers of the day including Kenneth Frazelle, Yevgeniy Sharlat, and James Stephenson whose Concerto for Trumpet and Piano was premiered by the duo with the Lynn Philharmonia and was noted as one of South Florida’s Top 10 performances of 2007. Ms. Leonard’s eclectic taste embraces all styles of modern music including avant-garde, electronic, film, and gaming music. She has worked with Gunther Schuller, George Crumb, and John Adams and produced a visualization of the electronic tape voice in a video recording of Mario Davidovsky’s Synchronisms No.6. Other recordings include James Aikman’s Sonata No.3 for violin and piano with American violinist, Alexander Kerr.

Committed to the South Florida community, she frequently concertizes with Trio Paradigm, co-founded with violinist Dina Kostic and cellist Susan Bergeron, who are in residency at the Pettinger Center of St. Mary's in Stuart, Florida. She serves as a member of the non-profit, Healing Sounds of Music, bringing live performances to those who cannot travel to the concert hall and leads outreach to schools serving the autistic and underprivileged communities. Lisa received her M.M. and B.M. from the Manhattan School of Music and has served on the faculties of the North Carolina School of the Arts and Luzerne Music Center. Currently, Ms. Leonard is Professor of Collaborative Piano at the Lynn University Conservatory of Music.



Darren Matias

Darren Matias is a Filipino concert pianist who has performed throughout Russia, Europe, the United States, and the Philippines. He started playing the piano at the age of 14 and has made a debut with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra three years later. From then on, he appeared as soloist of the Charlotte Symphony, Philippine Philharmonic, New York Festival Orchestra, Lynn Philharmia, Distant Worlds Philharmonic, Florida Atlantic Orchestra, and was orchestral pianist to the New World Symphony and South Florida Symphony.

Mr. Matias was the 1st prize winner of the 2017 Liszt-Garrison International Competition (Collaborative Division) in Ohio State University and 1st prize at International Ultimate Piano Competition in Manila. He earned five music degrees including his Masters In Piano Performance. He collaborated with Frankie Grande, Linda Eder, violinist Yasa Poletaeva, cellist Yehuda Hanani, and with musicians from the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, New York Philharmonic, and Philadelphia Orchestra.

As a musical theatre musician, he music directed shows such as Urinetown, the Company, Chicago, Book of Mormon, Anything Goes, West Side Story, 42nd Street, the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, the Head and the Load, and has produced several cabaret concerts across South Florida. He is also a specialist in the Gregorian Chant music and liturgy.

He is currently an adjunct professor at Lynn University Musical Theatre Department, serves as a part-time collaborative pianist at the Wick Theatre and the Lynn University Conservatory of Music. He appeared in the masterclasses of Gary Graffman, Phillip Evans, Leon Fleisher, Philippe Entremont, Arie Vardi, and Alexander Toradze. His great mentors were Lisa Leonard, Dr. Roberta Rust, Dr. Jon Robertson, and Elmer Oliveira.

Upcoming Events

Live at Lynn features concerts and performances by Lynn University's Conservatory of Music, drama students and special guests who stage dozens of productions annually, including classical and pop music, Broadway favorites, variety shows and more. See the schedule at lynn.edu/liveatlynn.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall is located inside the de Hoernle International Center.

November 2023

Philharmonia No. 3

Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November. 5, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center

\$35 - \$50

Violin Master Class with Andrés Cárdenes

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center

Free

Fifth Annual Alumni Recital, featuring Jeffrey Adkins, conducting the Dreyfoos Philharmonic

Friday, November 10, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center

Free

From the Studio of Lisa Leonard: Musical Origins

Sunday, November. 12, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

\$10

Junior Recital - Daniel Meneses Leal (Trumpet)

Thursday, November 20, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

Junior Recital - Luis Pulido Orjuela (Trumpet)

Thursday, November 20, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

December 2023

2023 Lyric Chamber Music Competition, Final Round

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

January 2024

Senior Recital - William Penn (Double Bass)

Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

Roger Voisin Memorial Trumpet Competition

Judge's recital

Friday, January 12, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center

Free

Judge's Master Class

Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

Final Round & Closing Ceremony

Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Keith C. and Elaine Johnson Wold Performing Arts Center

Free

Junior Recital - Olivia Oakland (Oboe)

Thursday, January 16, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

Junior Recital - Kari Jenks (Oboe)

Thursday, January 16, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

18th Annual New Music Festival

Spotlight No. 1: Emerging Composers

Friday, January 19, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

Master Class & Workshop with Katherine Balch

Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

Read & Record Project

Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

Spotlight No. 2: The Art of Katherine Balch

Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

Lynn Conservatory Faculty Series No. 2

Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

\$20

Junior Recital - Miguelangel Garcia Marquez (Trombone)

Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

PPC Recital - Kenton Campbell (Trombone)

Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Free

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