



# MYSO METROPOLITAN YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

## VIOLIN I

Kevin Xu, *Concertmaster*  
*The Nicolette Bellas Memorial Chair*  
Lauren Raimbault  
Lilia Stahr  
Alexandra Rocha  
Emily Formella  
Benjamin Gonzalez  
Matthew Budde

## VIOLIN II

Ben Keene, *principal*  
Lenette May Lee  
Abigail Hogan  
Madison Randle  
Gabe Hawley  
Olivia Tan  
Moiria Kozlowski  
Martin Toledo

## VIOLA

Margaret Randle, *principal*  
Eledy Cisneros  
Ashely Delgado

## CELLO

Mia Melde, *principal*  
Claudia Danowski  
Loralei Summers  
Esme Bryson  
Christian Hawley

## CONTRABASS

Chloe Black  
Clifford Hunt

## FLUTE

Zoe Strange, *principal*  
Inga Astrauskas  
Elena Czerwinski  
Natalie Medina

## OBOE

Adam Kararo, *principal*  
Montgomery Henry

## CLARINET

Kalan Kostal  
Elizabeth Mead

## BASSOON

Lance Bitoy

## HORN

Drew Mohr, *principal*  
Casey Treanor  
Ava Koziarowski

## TRUMPET

Dev Patel, *principal*  
Lauren Lano

## TROMBONE

Lucas Forbear, *principal*  
Eric Radulovich  
Graham Miller

## TUBA

T.J. Countryman

## PERCUSSION

Marek Pedziwater  
Joshua Manchester



## PETER LIPARI MUSIC DIRECTOR

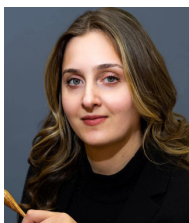
Music Director Peter Lipari is an accomplished conductor of musical groups in the United States and abroad. His lively styles of conducting and audience interaction win the hearts of musicians and concertgoers alike.

Maestro Lipari is the Director of Orchestras at Joliet Township High School. He is also the Music Director of the West Suburban Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Symphony Singers, and Festival Orchestra.

A musical leader of passion, initiative and vision, he has conducted orchestra, choral, opera, and musical theater performances by groups including:

- Chicago's Grant Park Orchestra, Rockford Symphony, L'Opera Piccola, Chicago Musical College & Light Opera Works
- St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, Sioux City Symphony Orchestra, Eugene (Oregon) Opera & Ohio Light Opera
- Spoleto Festivals, both in Italy & the U.S.
- Bournemouth Sinfonietta, City of Southampton Orchestra, & London Mozart Players in England
- Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in Australia

Maestro Lipari is a passionate advocate for a symphony's involvement in the community, an enthusiastic proponent of contemporary music, and has led more than a dozen world and national premieres. He holds a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Illinois and a master's degree in orchestral conducting from Northwestern University. He also studied at the University of London as a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar, earning a post-graduate diploma in music.



## IZABELLA GIERON ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR

Izabella was born and raised in the Chicagoland area. As a child, Gieron displayed advanced skills in violin and piano- she studied piano with Katarzyna Nowak and violin with Joseph Glymph. In 2021, Gieron achieved a Bachelor's degree in Music Education and Violin Performance from Northern Illinois University, where she studied with Blaise Magniere.

Upon obtaining her degree, Gieron has continued to stay active in the music community. She has taught privately for eight years with a specialization in violin and piano, and she is an active chamber coach for high school orchestra programs around the Chicago-land area. Today, she is the Orchestra Director of Prospect Heights School District 23 and the assistant conductor for the Metropolitan Youth Symphony Orchestra.

In addition to performing and teaching locally, Gieron has taken her music abilities abroad and has performed at international events such as the Folklore Music Festival in Paso Fundo, Brazil, in 2016. In 2018, she performed at the CIOFF International Festival in Arequipa, Peru. In 2019, she had the opportunity to perform at The International Folklore Festival in Zamość, Poland, also known as the EUROFOLK – ZAMOŚĆ.

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## SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS!

**Claudia Danowski** (*cello*) has been playing in MYSO during her four years at Lewis University. She is graduating from the College of Nursing, where she has been inducted into the nursing honor society, Sigma Theta Tau. Claudia has enjoyed everyone's presence in MYSO, but her favorite memories are those with the cello section. She looked forward to every rehearsal with them and will miss their silly humor and contagious laughter. We wish her luck as she begins her nursing career!

**Lucas Forbear** (*trombone*) has been a part of MYSO's brass section for three years. He is graduating from Plainfield Central High School and will be attending VanderCook College of Music to study music education, where he has been awarded with a VanderScholar full tuition scholarship. Lucas will remember the embarrassment of playing Bruckner's 8th with his fellow brass friends before the start of MYSO's spring concert and watching everybody turning their heads in shock and awe.

**Emily Formella** (*violin*) has played with MYSO for two seasons. She is graduating from Lockport Township High School and plans to attend the University of Illinois to major in bioengineering. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar. Her favorite MYSO memory is playing *Swan Lake* at one of our concerts.

**Montgomery Henry** (*oboe*) is graduating from Bolingbrook High School, and has been a part of MYSO's oboe section for four years. He has received the Joseph Madura Memorial Scholarship and will be attending Northern Illinois to major in Composition and Music Education. Montgomery has enjoyed his time in MYSO, where he has made so many new friends and experienced new conductors' unique styles.

**Ben Keene** (*violin*) has played in our violin section for four years. He is graduating from Joliet West and will be attending Illinois State this fall. Ben will be double-majoring in music education and music composition, and hopes to become a high school band or orchestra director. Ben's favorite MYSO memory is when we played Beethoven's *Fifth* and the Saint Saens' *violin concerto* featuring his violin teacher as the soloist, all in the same concert program.

**Kalan Kostal** (*clarinet*) has been playing with MYSO for just a couple short months, but is an asset to our clarinet section. She will be graduating from Lincoln Way Central and wants to pursue music education at Western Michigan University. During her short time with MYSO, she has found everyone to be incredibly nice and welcoming to her!

**Lauren Lano** (*trumpet*) joined MYSO this past January. She graduates as a homeschooled senior and plans to attend Bradley University to major in psychology in hopes of becoming a therapist. She won the Presidential Excellence Scholarship and will be a part of the honors program at Bradley. She is thrilled to be playing *The Phantom of the Opera* at this concert with a great group of musicians, as it is her favorite music with an incredible score.

**Lenette Lee** (*violin*) played in MYSO during her four years as a Lewis University undergraduate. She graduated this past December and is planning to attend Saint Mary's of the Woods in Indiana to pursue a degree in music therapy. She received multiple scholarships, graduated Magnum Cum Laude, and received the Senior Award at Lewis for music. Lenette will always remember the laughter we shared together as an orchestra, as well as Dr. Sisk's history lessons behind the pieces we played.

**Mia Melde** (*cello*) has been a part of MYSO's cello section for three years. She is graduating from Lincoln Way Central with an academic scholarship to pursue engineering at Ohio State University. Mia has enjoyed making a lot of great friends in this orchestra, but especially within her cello section. She will miss being a part of her section's group picture that they always take after every concert.

**Andrew Mohr** (*horn*) had been waiting a full year to play in MYSO, finally playing in the orchestra this past January when COVID restrictions were lifted for brass players. Drew is graduating from Plainfield South High School and will start his journey at Joliet Junior College to study Electrical Engineering. His favorite memory of MYSO was to finally be able to play in our March concert in-person for the first time with a great bunch of musicians.

**Madison Randle** (*violin*) has been a part of MYSO for over three years and will be graduating from Acellus Academy with high honors. She will be studying electrical engineering technology at Northern Illinois University this fall, where she has received the highest merit scholarship. Madison loved playing Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5* with MYSO during the 2019-2020 season.

**Margaret Randle** (*viola*) played in MYSO for three years and will be graduating from Acellus Academy. She will be attending Northern Illinois University to study environmental engineering technology. She is graduating with high honors and has received the highest merit scholarship for NIU. Margaret enjoyed playing at the Joliet Bicentennial Park concert in the summer of 2019.

**Loralei Summers** (*cello*) spent her four years at Lewis playing in MYSO. Loralei was awarded the Lasallian Commencement speaker award and is the only student speaker for graduation. Upon graduation, she hopes to begin her career as a biology research assistant. Loralei will miss listening to Dr. Sisk ramble on about certain composer or Operas. MYSO will miss Loralei's sense of humor and fun energy!

**Kevin Xu** (*concertmaster*) has been a part of MYSO for one season. Kevin is graduating from Naperville North High School and while undecided on a college, he intends to major in computer science. He is a National Merit Scholarship finalist, and especially enjoyed MYSO's first concert with Maestro Lipari this past March.

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## MYSO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pam Nogal, *president*  
Michael Gorcowski, *vice-president*  
Devan Szopinski, *secretary*  
Daniela Broderick, *treasurer*  
Peter Lipari, *music director*

Audra Sybert, *executive director*  
Mel Gray, Jr.  
Heather Godsey  
Mary Jane Johnson  
Rich Moore

Mike McFerron  
Rev. Daniel Torson  
Patrick Wolf

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## MYSO 2021-2022 CONCERT SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 2, 2022 ..... 6:30pm  
Bicentennial Park, Joliet  
201 W. Jefferson St, Joliet, IL  
Free Admission, Outdoors

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## CD RECORDINGS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

To purchase a recording of this program, click [here](https://www.flipcause.com/secure/reward/MTQNTUw) (<https://www.flipcause.com/secure/reward/MTQNTUw>). Proceeds will benefit MYSO. Thank you to Recording Artist Greg Ballak for his donation of time & talent.

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This program is partially sponsored by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council

