

The background of the entire page is a light blue watercolor wash with darker, more saturated blue areas, creating a soft, artistic texture.

The Capitol Symphonic Youth Orchestras

Chamber Music Concert

May 3, 2024

7:00pm

Grace Presbyterian Church

A message from Chamber Music Director
Mr. Kenneth Law



Good evening and welcome to tonight's performance. I'm very sorry that I cannot be with you to enjoy these great performances by these talented young musicians, but I am actually performing my own chamber music concert at the very same time! Although they don't need it, I'm sending positive chamber music vibes through the airways to my wonderful young performers.

We have really had an adventure this semester! Challenging music that broadens technical and artistic horizons; learning the unspoken language of cuing, eye contact and body movement in the absence of a conductor; and as always, bringing our highest level of collegiality and accomplishment to each rehearsal. I'm so proud of how our chamber music program has grown, continues to grow and evolve.

This program would not have been possible had it not been for the expertise of our other chamber music coach, Dr. Laura Kobayashi, and of course our fearless leader, Ms. Diana Chou, to whom I am eternally grateful. In my absence, Ms. Chou puts on yet another hat and becomes a chamber music coach. We are very fortunate to have her at the helm of TCSYO.

I would encourage all of you to join us in the chamber music program! It brings out and nurtures the best in all of us through learning and performing music from a genre that has no equal!

I hope you enjoy the concert, and thank you for your continued support of this program.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Law



Upcoming TCSYO events

May 11: *Spring Concert*

3:00pm. Rachel M. Schlesinger Concert Hall and Arts Center. Final performance of the 2023-24 season! Featuring all five TCSYO orchestras and Percussion Ensemble.

June 7-8: *2024-2025 Auditions*

Symphonic and Chamber Orchestra will audition in-person. String Ensemble, Concert, and Prelude will submit video auditions. Check our website for more information!

June 24-28: *Summer Camp*

Grace Presbyterian Church, Springfield. 8:30am-12:30pm. A week-long, half-day camp where students rehearse with their peers. Concert performance on Friday, June 28 at 11:30am.

September 9: *2024-25 Season Begins!*

Add our calendar (www.tcsyo.org/calendar.php) to stay up to date on TCSYO events:



ABOUT US

The Capitol Symphonic Youth Orchestras (TCSYO) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Fairfax County, Virginia. In 2010, TCSYO's founders Dr. Cheri Collins and her husband, Mr. Michael Czuczor, organized a two-week long strings summer camp which has since grown into our current organization. Our orchestral program includes five orchestras from beginner to advanced levels and offers a place for all young musicians who want to play in an ensemble setting with other young musicians from around the DMV region.

In addition to our orchestras, TCSYO also features a growing chamber music program which focuses on music composed for small ensemble playing (i.e., string quartets). Percussionists in Symphonic Orchestra receive additional training and performance opportunities as members of the Percussion Ensemble. Symphonic Orchestra members are also eligible to participate in our annual Concerto Competition.

Prelude Orchestra (*Mrs. Diana Chou, conductor*) is TCSYO's entry-level string orchestra designed for students who have had limited orchestral experience. This ensemble focuses on building solid, fundamental orchestral skills such as listening and also focuses on improving sight-reading and rhythmic abilities. Recommended for students with 1-2 years of private instruction, VBODA Level 2/Suzuki Book 1-2.

Concert Orchestra (*Mr. Austin Isaac, conductor*) continues expanding on the skills introduced in Prelude Orchestra as the music becomes more challenging. Orchestra members explore all sorts of musical expressions and continue to hone rehearsal skills and ensemble playing techniques. Recommended for students with 2-3 years of private instruction, VBODA Level 3/Suzuki Book 2-3.

String Ensemble (*Mrs. Diana Chou, conductor*) continues pushing young musicians towards a higher level of stylistic expression as the music becomes more technical and challenging. Listening and ensemble skills as well as attention to musical details become the main focus as students dive into what it means to create the orchestral sound. Recommended for students with 3-4 years of private instruction, VBODA Level 4/Suzuki Book 3-4.

Chamber Orchestra (*Mr. Austin Isaac, conductor*) introduces young musicians to the masterpieces of the string orchestra repertoire from the Baroque era to current day. Chamber Orchestra focuses heavily on utilizing listening skills across sections to create the blend and balance in the orchestral sound. Students explore various styles of music as they are challenged to a more detailed oriented and mature level of music making. A variety of bowing techniques and historical styles are introduced. Advanced control of rubato, phrasing, and musicality are implemented as musicians focus on preparing for advancement to Symphonic Orchestra. Recommended for students with 4+ years of private instruction, VBODA Level 5-6/Suzuki Book 5+.

Symphonic Orchestra (*Mrs. Anne Rupert, conductor*), TCSYO's most advanced orchestra, is composed of some of the best young musicians in the DMV region. Symphonic Orchestra introduces woodwinds, brass, and percussion sections and is dedicated to performing the greatest and most challenging works in the symphonic repertoire. Students are expected to show strong musicality, advanced technical skills on their instruments, and the discipline necessary to perform at an advanced level. Students will have regular sectional rehearsals with professional coaches who are among the finest performers and teachers in the area. Rehearsals are carried out with high expectations and students are expected to carry themselves in a professional manner. Recommended for students with 6+ years of private instruction, VBODA Level 6.

TCSYO presents

Chamber Music Concert

Mr. Kenneth Law, *Director of Chamber Music*

Dr. Laura Kobayashi, *Chamber Music Coach*

Haydn Sextet

String Quartet Op. 33 No. 3 "The Bird"
IV. Presto

Franz Joseph Haydn
(1732-1809)

Olivia Brelsford, violin
Christina Bethke, viola
Mrs. Diana Chou, cello

Aishani Banerjee, violin
Alexander Bethke, cello
Kassandra Owens, cello

Bloch Trio

Trios for Three Violins, Op.34
III. Allegro Moderato
V: Tempo di Minuetto

József Bloch
(1862-1922)

Samuel Zhang, violin — James O'Connor, violin — Jyothi Thotakura, violin

Mozart Sextet

Grande Sestetto Concertante
in E-flat major, K. 364
II. Andante

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

Dr. Laura Kobayashi, violin — Adriana Bartoe, viola — Emma Howard, cello
Benjamina Bolger, violin — Kerala Ryan, viola — Jack Whiting, cello

TCSYO STRINGS SUMMER CAMP

JUNE 24-28, 2024

8:30AM-12:30PM
GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SPRINGFIELD, VA

OPEN TO STUDENTS IN GRADES 3-12.
(STUDENTS MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE YEAR OF
PLAYING EXPERIENCE ON VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, OR
BASS)

\$250 EARLY REGISTRATION: MARCH 20 - MAY 31

\$275 LATE REGISTRATION: JUNE 1 - JUNE 20

REGISTER AT:
[TCSYO.ORG/CAMP](https://www.tcsyo.org/camp)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US:
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Director of Chamber Music

Mr. Kenneth Law

Although cellist Kenneth Law enjoys a diverse career as performer, teacher and author, he considers himself first and foremost a chamber musician. He is a member of the Main Street Chamber Players and Trio Peridot, and cellist

with the Ritz Chamber Players, Colour of Music Festival and Gateways Music Festival. Abroad, Mr. Law has performed chamber music concerts at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Holland and Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow, as well as concerts in England, France, Scotland, Panama and Puerto Rico. In the US, he has performed at the Washington Performing Arts Club, the Italian and German Embassies in Washington, D.C., the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Jazz at Lincoln Center Concert Series, Library of Congress in Washington, DC, Carnegie Hall and Alice Tully Hall in New York City. He has collaborated with such artists as Earl Carlyss (Juilliard String Quartet), Michael Tree (Guarneri Quartet), Ying String Quartet, Norman Carroll (concertmaster emeritus, Philadelphia Orchestra) and violinist Diane Monroe, and has recorded orchestral and chamber music for Albany Records, and the New Albion and Telarc labels. In March of 2006, Mr. Law was featured on the nationally televised NAACP Image Awards as a member of the Ritz Chamber Players. In his home state of South Carolina, Mr. Law has performed at the Piccolo Spoleto Music Festival in Charleston, SC, as a member of the Converse Trio, and subsequently as a member of Ensemble Argos and the Polaris Piano Trio.

Along with co-author Dr. Christina Placilla, the publication, *We Are The Music Makers: Volume I: A Graded Guide to Chamber Music- String Quartets* was published in 2013, and is the first in a multivolume set that will cover the myriad combinations of chamber music. The guide serves as a resource for chamber music coaches when needing to assign repertoire to an ensemble whose individual members are of varying levels of proficiency.

Chamber Music Coach

Dr. Laura Kobayashi

Laura Kobayashi leads a varied career as a performer and pedagogue. She currently resides in Northern Virginia and performs as a member of the Main Street Chamber Players and the Kobayashi/Gray Duo. She is also a founding member of the Main Street Music Studios where she maintains a private studio.



With duo partner/pianist, Dr. Susan Keith Gray, Dr. Kobayashi performs regularly through the United States. The Duo has also performed abroad in Wales, Thailand, South Africa, Norway, Brazil, Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad, and St. Lucia and has presented guest artist master classes, workshops and clinics in all of those countries. The Duo recently recorded its third CD of music by women composers which will all be world premieres in addition to two other CDs previously recorded of works by women composers--*Feminissimo! Women Playing Music by Women* (2008) and *Boldly Expressive! Music by Women* (2000) for the Albany Records label. Eight of the works on the two previous CDs are world premiere recordings, including *Grande Sonate, Op. 8* by 19th century French composer Marie Grandval, which the Duo edited for Hildegard Publishing Company. Both of their previous CDs have been broadcast on national public radio throughout North America, in the European Union and Australia and have received rave reviews from *The Strad* magazine, *Strings* magazine and *Fanfare* magazine.

In addition to her Duo partnership, Dr. Kobayashi has appeared as a soloist with a number of professional and university/college orchestras throughout the United States and overseas with the Salta Chamber Orchestra of Argentina and the Chiang Rai Youth Orchestra of Thailand. As an active chamber musician, she has performed abroad in Argentina and Puerto Rico and in the United States, at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina; the National Museum of Women in the Arts, the Embassy of Bulgaria and the Arts Club of Washington, all in Washington, D.C. and the Montpelier Arts Center in Maryland as well as numerous other concert venues throughout the United States.

Throughout her career Dr. Kobayashi has received several awards including the VASTA (Virginia State Chapter of ASTA) Outstanding String Teacher Award and the "Excellence in Teaching" Award by the Division of Music and College of Creative Arts at West Virginia University. Past teaching positions include West Virginia University, University of Nebraska at Omaha, University of Georgia and the Preparatory Department at the San Francisco

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Conservatory of Music. In addition, she has participated and served on the faculties of numerous music festivals in the United States, Norway, Brazil and Argentina. As a dedicated private teacher, Dr. Kobayashi has expanded her pedagogical knowledge by becoming certified in Levels 1 - 3 in the Paul Rolland Pedagogy. Prior to her teaching career, Dr. Kobayashi was a professional orchestral musician and played as a member of the violin section in the San Francisco Opera Orchestra. Outside of her teaching and performing activities, Dr. Kobayashi is also an active member of ASTA (American String Teachers Association) and has served as a National Chair for the ASTA National Solo Competition, the ASTACAP Program (Certificate Advancement Program) and the Potter's Violins Instrument Awards, among others.

Dr. Kobayashi's current and former students have been accepted to participate in ASTA'S National High School Honors Orchestra, the American High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall, All-Virginia Orchestra, Northern Virginia and North Central Virginia Senior Regional Orchestras, West Virginia All-State Orchestra and Nebraska All-State Orchestra. In addition, a number of her students have performed in public master classes for international concert violinists: Jamie Laredo, James Ehnes, Arabella Steinbacher, Oleh Krysa, and Timothy Fain; concertmasters of major symphony orchestras: David Kim (Philadelphia Orchestra) and Valentin Zhuk (Netherlands Radio Symphony Orchestra) and notable pedagogues: Charles Castleman (The University of Miami), Paul Kantor (Rice University), Andrew Jennings (formerly of University of Michigan) and Marilyn McDonald (formerly of Oberlin Conservatory). Dr. Kobayashi's students have also been accepted into undergraduate and graduate music programs pursuing degrees in music performance, music education and composition at The Juilliard School, Jacobs School of Music (Indiana University), The Hartt School (University of Hartford), Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Shepherd School of Music (Rice University), Oberlin Conservatory of Music, Boston University, Ithaca College, Florida State University, University of Georgia and University of South Carolina. In addition, many of her former students have been hired as public school music teachers and professors of violin or directors of orchestral studies on the collegiate level and/or professional orchestra conductors throughout the United States.

Dr. Kobayashi studied violin with Dorothy DeLay, Andrew Jennings, Paul Kantor and Denes Zsigmondy and performed in the master classes for Nathan Milstein, Ruggiero Ricci, Arthur Grumiaux, and Gyorgy Pauk. Chamber music studies have been with members of the Juilliard, Tokyo and American String Quartets as well as with collaborative pianists Robert McDonald and Samuel Sanders. Dr. Kobayashi earned degrees from The Juilliard School and Yale University and the Doctor of Musical Arts from The University of Michigan.

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