

ROCHESTER BACH FESTIVAL

presents

Johann Sebastian Bach.

ST. JOHN PASSION

Celebrating the lives of Johann Sebastian Bach and Theodore Hollenbach

A gift from the Rochester Bach Festival to the Rochester community

in honor and memory of five decades of performances

offered by Rochester-area musicians

SUNDAY | APRIL 13, 2014 | 7:00 P.M.

REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

111 N. CHESTNUT STREET, ROCHESTER, NEW YORK

FOREWORD

DEAR FRIENDS OF BACH,

A great town deserves great music, and what greater music than that of Johann Sebastian Bach, to enrich our lives and celebrate our artistic heritage. Theodore Hollenbach founded the Rochester Bach Festival in 1956 and served as its music director for over thirty years. Since that time, the Rochester Bach Festival continued with other conductors to carry on the mission to share the beauty of Bach's music and his contemporaries to audiences locally and in other cities.

It is, therefore, my privilege to welcome you to the Rochester Bach Festival's presentation of the Bach's *St. John Passion*. I am especially pleased to welcome the wonderful talent of David Chin as our Music Director for this performance as well as a brilliant ensemble of vocalists, soloists, and instrumentalists. I would like to thank you for your past and present support of the Rochester Bach Festival.

DAVID HOU, *president of Rochester Bach Festival*

MUSICIANS

CONDUCTOR & HARPSICHORD	DAVID CHIN
EVANGELIST	PABLO BUSTOS
JESUS	JOSHUA OOMS
PILATE	JOEL BALZUN
SOPRANO SOLO	YUNJIN KIM
MEZZO SOPRANO SOLO	ASHLEY HIBBARD
MEZZO SOPRANO SOLO	JESSICA ANN BEST
TENOR SOLO	MATTHEW SWENSEN
BARITONE SOLO	CALEB WOO
TENOR SOLO	SANDERS LAU
CHORUS	HANNAH KIM, <i>soprano</i> RENATA DWORAK, <i>soprano</i> RACHEL BRASHIER, <i>alto</i> ALLISON THORP, <i>alto</i> DEAN EKBERG, <i>tenor</i>
ORCHESTRA	ADRIAN DEMIAN, <i>concert master</i> HEE SAGONG, <i>violin</i> HYERI CHOI, <i>violin</i> ANGELA XING, <i>violin</i> JOSEPH STEPEC, <i>violin</i> ALEX TRYGSTAD, <i>viola</i> JEBAT KEE, <i>viola</i> SAMUEL PIERCE-RUHLAND, <i>cello</i> ESTHER ROGER, <i>cello</i> GREGORY WHITTEMORE, <i>bass</i> NAOMI GREGORY, <i>organ</i> JACQUELINE ARRINGTON, <i>flute</i> CASSIE DRIES, <i>flute</i> CARLY GORDON, <i>oboe</i> NOAH KAY, <i>oboe</i> MAXWELL GRUBE, <i>basoon</i>
REHEARSAL PIANIST	ALEXANDER WONG



PABLO BUSTOS
Evangelist

Pablo Bustos is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, where he received both his Bachelor and Master Degrees in Vocal Performance. Highlight of concert appearances include: Handel's *Ode to St. Cecilia*, conducted by Ton Koopman with the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Carnegie Hall, Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* with the Gregory Kunde Chorale, and the Evangelist in Bach's *St. John Passion* with the Voices Ensemble Handel's *Messiah* and Dvorak's *Stabat Mater* with the Fort Street Chorale. Upcoming concert performances include: Britten's *Serenade* and Mozart's *Requiem* with the Fort Street Chorale. Recent operatic engagements include: Alfred in Strauss' *Die Fledermaus*, the Witch in Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, Tamino in Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* with Opera Theatre of Weston. Under the auspices of the early music ensemble La Donna Musicale has participated in two modern premieres, singing the role of Scipione in Maria Teresa Agnesi's *La Sofonisba* and the role of Il Padre in Camilla de Rossi's *Il Figliuolo Prodigio*, opposite Julianne Baird singing the role of La Madre. Upcoming operatic engagements: the role of Dickon in the east coast premiere of Nolan Gassler's new opera *Secret Garden*. His discography includes: The Lutheran Masses and Advent Cantatas of J. S. Bach with the Publick Musick Baroque Orchestra and Chorus (*Musica Omnia*). In 2006, Mr. Bustos was a finalist in the Philadelphia Bach Festival's International Bach Aria Competition. He currently lives in Rochester, NY, where he continues to study with soprano Rita Shane. He is the Organist/Director of Music Ministry for Reformation Lutheran Church, as well as Adjunct Voice Professor for the Liberal Arts College of the Rochester Institute of Technology. www.pablobustos.com



JOSHUA OOMS
Jesus

Baritone Joshua Ooms studies at the Eastman School of Music for the Master of Music degree under Dr. Robert McIver. He completed his undergraduate degree at Colorado State University, where his roles included Baron Zeta in *The Merry Widow*, Geronimo in *Il matrimonio segreto*, Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd*, Don Alhambra in *The Gondoliers*, Bartolo in *Le nozze di Figaro*, Frank in *Die Fledermaus* and Balthazar in *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. He appeared as Uncle Yakuside in *Madama Butterfly* with Opera Fort Collins and sang in the Ralph Opera Center's Inaugural Gala as Raimondo in the sextet from *Lucia di Lammermoor* and as Pangloss in the finale of *Candide*. He first appeared internationally as Don Alfonso in *Così fan tutte* with the Opera Orvieto summer program in Orvieto, Italy and was featured in several concerts at the American Institute of Musical Studies Program in Graz, Austria. His concert performances include *Pontifex II* in Colorado Bach Ensemble's production of *St. Matthew Passion* and the bass soloist in four of J.S. Bach's cantatas in the Eastman Bach Cantata Concert Series. Recently, he performed the role of Raphael as a guest soloist in CSU's production of Haydn's *The Creation* and M. Javelinot in Eastman's production of *Dialogues of the Carmelites*. He will soon sing the role of Faint-Not Tinker in the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra's presentation of Howard Hanson's *Merry Mount* at Carnegie Hall.



JOEL BALZUN
Pilate

Baritone and Composer Joel Balzun is establishing himself as a mature new voice in the future of music. His "haunting and beautiful" music has received international recognition, including winning both the Young Composers Prize & the Grand Prize in the National Broadcast Orchestra's Galaxie Rising Star Composers' Competition. Most recently, he was a guest presenter & composer at the CBDNA 2013 National Conference. His music has been performed across Canada, the United States, and Costa Rica. As a baritone, he has appeared with California International Theatre Festival, Cowtown Opera Company & La Mirada Vocal Arts, among others. His roles include "John Brooke" (*Little Women* – M. Adamo), "Marquis de la Force" and "Le Gaoler" (*Dialogues des Carmélites*), as well as starring in the premiere of Peter Michael von der Nahmer's award-winning opera, *El Canguro*. In concert, Joel has appeared as a soloist for works by Bach, Peter Maxwell Davies, Dvořák, and Haydn. In April 2014, Joel will make his Kennedy Centre debut as a part of the Conservatory Project. Currently, Joel is a Roster Artist with Cowtown Opera Company in his hometown of Calgary, Alberta. Joel holds a Bachelor's of Music Degree in Music Composition from Biola University. He has studied composition with Robert Denham, David Eagle, Laurie Radford, and Christopher Wills; and voice with William Lock and Michelle Minke. He is currently pursuing a Master's of Music Degree in Vocal Performance and Literature at the Eastman School of Music, studying with Jan Opalach. <http://www.joelbalzun.com/>



YUNJIN KIM
Soprano solo

The Grand Prize winner of the LaDue Professional Recital Competition, Winner of the *Mu Phi* International Fraternity Competition, the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), James Madison University's concerto competition and Eastman Concerto Competition, Soprano Yunjin Audrey Kim has made appearances on the opera, concert and recital stage. Concert solo appearances include a performance of *Messiaen's Poèmes pour Mi* with the Eastman Philharmonia and a performance with the Eastman-Rochester Chorus as soprano soloist for Beethoven's *Missa solemnis* at Kodak Hall. In October of 2013, Ms. Kim made her debut at Carnegie Hall performing songs of Nikolai Medtner. On the opera stage, Ms. Kim has appeared as *Elisetta* in *Il Matrimonio Segreto* at Eastman and has performed lead roles in many main productions and scenes including *Così Fan Tutte*, *Dido and Aeneas*, *Don Giovanni*, *The Rake's Progress*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *Merry Widow*, *Mirabelle* and *Street Scene* to name a few. Ms. Kim was featured on the album *A Thousand Burnt Offerings* released in South Korea in April 2013 with a South American tour slated for 2014. Ms. Kim has collaborated with composer Arlene Elizabeth Sierra, culminating in a performance of her composition *Hearing Things* in a guest lecture recital. Ms. Kim has performed in master classes with Maestro Gildo DiNunzio from Metropolitan Opera, Martina Arroyo, Kevin Kennedy, Peter Mark, Wieland Mueller, Sharon Chirstman, Rick Chirstman, and Fabiana Bravo and holds a Master's degree in vocal performance and literature from the Eastman School of Music and a Bachelor's degree from James Madison University. Ms. Kim currently resides in Rochester, NY where she regularly performs and teaches throughout central New York. www.sopranoyunjinaudreykim.weebly.com



**ASHLEY
HIBBARD**
Mezzo-soprano solo

Ashley Hibbard, mezzo-soprano, hails from Miami, FL. She has most recently performed the roles of Siebel from Gounod's Faust, Third Lady from Mozart's Die Zauberflöte, and Orfeo in Gluck's Orfeo ed Euridice. She had her debut with the RPO in October 2011 as the alto soloist in Mahler's Symphony No. 2. She also performed this work with the Asheville Symphony in November 2011, and returned to ASO in April 2013 as the alto soloist in Mozart's Requiem. She has also performed with the Genesee Valley Orchestra and Chorus as the alto soloist in Handel's Messiah in December 2010, as well as Rochester area performances of Saint-Saëns Oratorio de Noël, Ravel's Shéhérazade, and J.S. Bach's Magnificat in D. She enjoys new music and has premiered several works & recordings, some of which include - Carson Cooman's In Beauty Walking with the chamber string ensemble Gibbs and Main, Liza Seigido's Lamentos de un Presidiario and Thomas Benjamin's Chicken Little. She will be performing again with the RPO this April in Hanson's Merry Mount, and will have her debut at Carnegie Hall with this piece in May. She received her Bachelor of Music from FIU under Robert Dundas and her Master of Music from Eastman under Robert Swensen. Ashley currently resides in Rochester, NY with her husband, Trevor.



**JESSICA
ANN BEST**
Mezzo-soprano solo

Jessica Ann Best (Mezzo-Soprano) is a vivacious and charming Mezzo-Soprano with a skillful musicality and exciting stage presence. Ms. Best has performed with Gotham Chamber Opera (Baden Baden 1927), The Sante Fe Opera (Le Nozze di Figaro), Opera Tampa (Gianni Schicchi and Suor Angelica), The Buffalo Symphony (Funny Girl), The Finger Lakes Opera, the Rochester Lyric Opera, Geva Theatre Center, The Savannah Voice Festival and V.O.I.C.Experience: Sherrill Milnes and friends; with whom she has been an artist with for seven years. Ms. Best frequently performs opera, musical theater, oratorios and recitals as well as teaches her own private studio. Ms. Best has been the faculty at Nazareth College and SUNY Geneseo. Ms. Best is the Education and Outreach for the V.O.I.C.Experience Education and The Savannah Voice Festival- leading teams of international artists to perform and educate in places of need. She obtained Master of Music in Vocal Performance from Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from Nazareth College. You may find more information on Ms. Best by visiting www.facebook.com/jessbestsings and follow her on Twitter at: jessbest7.



**MATTHEW
SWENSEN**
Tenor solo

Tenor Matthew Swensen is completing his undergraduate degree at the Eastman School of Music in voice performance. A native of Rochester, NY, Mr. Swensen has won numerous awards, including 1st prize in the William Schmidt vocal competition, 1st place at the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra Concerto Competition, 3rd Place at the Classical Singer High School Voice Competition, 1st place at the Glenn Miller Voice Competition, 1st place in the inaugural Jonathan B. Angelone Scholarship Competition, 1st place in the National Association of Teachers of Singers Competition, 1st place in the Barbara Starpoli Voice Competition, and 1st Place at the Upstate NY NATS Conventions in 2009 and 2010. He sang the role of Heddle Nash for the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra's recording of Vaughan Williams' "Serenade to Music," recorded on the Harmonia Mundi Record Label. Past performance include several benefit recitals in Rochester and in Boston, MA. Matt was the tenor soloist for the Bach St. Matthew Passion with the Eastman Chorale and Cordancia Chamber Orchestra, Handel's Messiah with the Brookline Orchestra at St. Paul's Church in Boston and with the Genesee Symphony, the Mozart Requiem in Boston Massachusetts with the Brookline Symphony, and the Bach Magnificat with Third Presbyterian Church and soloists from the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra. Past roles with Eastman Opera Theater include Cobweb in Britten's "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in 2003, Lippo Fiorentino in Kurt Weil's Street Scene in 2012, Stephen Kodaly in Jerry Bock's "She Loves Me" in 2013, and Father Confessor in Poulenc's "Dialogues of the Carmelites" in April 2014. Upcoming engagements include the role of Vasili Bokas in the recording of the opera "Eleni," written by Cary Ratcliff this June, a Liederabend celebrating Richard Strauss in September, and Schubert's Die Schöne Müllerin in Spring 2015.



SANDERS LAU
Tenor solo

A native of Hong Kong, Sanders Lau is now pursuing Master of Music in conducting at the Eastman School of Music, where he studies with Dr. William Weinert. At Eastman, Sanders conducts the Eastman Repertory Singers, and the Eastman Chorale Chamber Singers. Sanders is an active chorister and soloist. He sings regularly with professional ensembles including the Voices, and the St. Michael's Singers. His recent appearances as tenor soloist include performances of Bach's *Cantata No. 131*, Handel's *Dixit Dominus*, Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, *Missa Brevis in F Major*, and *Vesperae solennes de confessore*; Schubert's *Mass in G*; and Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. Sanders' voice coaches include Matthew Valverde, Jimmy Chan, Margaret Yim, and Caleb Woo. He studied conducting from Esmond Lim and Felix Yeung and has participated in masterclasses of acclaimed conductors including Stephen Layton, Fred Sjöberg, Dénes Szabó, Theodora Pavlovitch, Stephen Sano, and Steve Zegree. Sanders graduated from The Chinese University of Hong Kong.



CALEB WOO

Baritone solo

Caleb Woo, from Hong Kong, is the District (New York) Winner of the NATSAA Competition as well as the champion of Hong Kong Youth Singing Festival in 2005. He graduated with the Master of Music in Voice Performance and Literature at the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, New York, in (Year) under the tutelage of Prof. Benton Hess and Dr. Russell Miller. The former graduate of Hong Kong Baptist University had obtained his Bachelor of Arts in Voice Performance and Pedagogy with first class honours and Bachelor in Social Science in China-Studies. Thereafter, he went on to obtain the Master of Arts in Christian Studies from the Chung-Chi Divinity School, Chinese University of Hong Kong, before moving on to Eastman School of Music. The years from 2004 to 2012, his performing experiences were further honed at important master classes, conducted by vocalists such as Nicolas Cavallier, Mariastella Di Lorenzo at the Sessione Senese Per la Musica E L'Arte and Mira Zakai and Martina Arroyo at the Eastman School of Music Voice Department.

In 2005, he joined the Siena Summer Session for Music and the Arts program in Italy upon obtaining a departmental scholarship. Caleb has recently given two recitals and appeared in The Heart of Carol and Musica Viva, a world premiere chamber orchestra work commissioned by the Hong Kong Arts Festival, La Traviata, sang in Hadyn's Die Schöpfung with Helmuth Rilling and the Hong Kong Sinfonietta, performed in Orff's Carmina Burana with Ponte Singer, Handel's Israel in Egypt with Die Konzertisten, St. John's Passion with the Hong Kong Voices and Bach's Cantata no. 49 & 82. Currently, Caleb is the voice instructor at the Music Department, Chinese University of Hong Kong and the senior voice trainer at Qin Music Centre. He also serves as a music director at Tuen Mun Alliance Church and had been directing the MusiCall Music Ministries since 2003, serving the churches in Hong Kong and China. 2 Tim. 2:2 www.calebwoo.com



RENATA DWORAK

Soprano

Renata Dworak began her graduate studies at the Eastman School of Music under the guidance of Dr. William Weinert in the fall of 2012. Before attending Eastman, she formally trained as a pianist and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Choral Music Education from DePauw University. She is now pursuing her Masters Degree in Choral Conducting. Since joining the community at Eastman, she began serving as a graduate assistant to the Eastman Chorale, Eastman Repertory Singers, and Eastman Rochester Community Chorus. Renata has most recently joined Lakeville United Church of Christ in Lakeville, New York as the Director of Music. She directs the choir and serves as the church pianist/organist. Renata's passion for choral conducting began when she founded DePauw's only student-run chamber choir, *Les Chanteurs*. She set a goal to establish *Les Chanteurs* as an ensemble with a high-performance standard in which students could develop their conducting skills. After auditioning the ensemble, selecting repertoire, and rehearsing, she directed two successful concerts. Additionally, she led seminars on choral conducting and fostered an atmosphere of engagement and education. Renata's efforts yielded a highly-respected choir that has transcended her time at DePauw. Renata has studied privately with Dr. Gregory Ristow of *DePauw University*, Professor Gabriel Crouch of *Princeton University*, and Dr. Jan Harrington, former choral department chair of *Indiana University*. Through internships and independent studies, Renata has worked with Marguerite L. Brooks of *Yale University's Institute of Sacred Music*, Dr. Paul S. Jones of *Temple University (interim)*, Dr. James Jordan of *Westminster Choir College*, and Henry Leck of the *Indianapolis Children's Choir* and *Butler University*.



HANNAH KIM

Soprano

An active composer, conductor, collaborative pianist and church musician, Hannah Kim was born and raised in Korea. She began her piano studies at the age of four, and since has participated in singing, piano, and composition competitions. Hannah has been awarded composition prizes from renowned competitions in Korea, such as Eumak Chunchu, Eumak Journal, and Eum Yeon. In 2010, she earned her Bachelor of Music in Composition and minored in Organ Performance at Ewha Womans University in Korea. She has also worked as a conductor of the College Student Choir at Sarang Church and an organist at Wansan Church in Korea.

After graduating college, she continued her studies in composition and choral conducting at Carnegie Mellon University under Professor Leonardo Balada and Dr. Robert Page. Hannah completed her Master of Music in Composition in 2013. She is currently a first-year Master of Music: Choral Conducting student at the Eastman School of Music, where she studies with Dr. William Weinert. She also serves as both the Choir Director and Organist at Pultneyville Reformed Church.



RACHEL BRASHIER

Alto

Rachel Brashier, alto, is pleased to be singing Bach's St. John's Passion again. Rachel grew up in Southern Illinois. Before living in Rochester, she sang with various ensembles in Chicago including The Chicago Master Singers, and conducted the Byzantine Choir at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church. In 2012, she came to the Eastman School of Music as a graduate student in Ethnomusicology, focusing on Greek Orthodox Chant. She has performed with the Eastman Chorale and Repertory Singers. Rachel holds degrees from Eastern Illinois University and Southern Illinois University in voice and music history.

**ALLISON THORP** *Alto*

Allison Thorp is a doctoral student in Choral Music Education at the Eastman School of Music, where she serves as the assistant conductor to the Women's Chorus and instructor of Voice Class. Previously she taught secondary choral and instrumental music in the Kentucky public school system and served as adjunct faculty at Marshall and Kentucky Christian universities. An active vocalist and collaborative pianist, Ms. Thorp currently sings in the Eastman Chorale and Schola Cantorum. She co-founded and conducts the Mount Hope World Singers, a community ensemble dedicated to performing diverse repertoire, and serves as the Director of Music at South Presbyterian Church in Rochester, New York.

**DEAN EKBERG** *Tenor*

As a singer, conductor, adjudicator, and administrator, Dean Ekberg's entire career has focused on vocal and choral music. His experience as an ensemble singer has included many choirs including frequent performances with Voices, including a performance of Bach's *Johannespassion* in this sanctuary in 2011. As a conductor, he has worked with choirs of all ages and was recognized by the Theater Association of New York State for "Excellence in Music Direction" for a recent production of *Death Takes a Holiday* presented by First Light Players. He serves as Voice Coordinator on the Adjudication Festival Committee of the New York State School Music Association, overseeing the work of over 300 adjudicators and is regularly found in all corners of New York adjudicating choirs and soloists. He continues to serve the American Choral Directors Association as a moderator and member of the ChoralNet committee. When not making music, he serves on the board of International Sister Cities of Rochester as chair of the Rochester-Würzburg Sister Cities Committee, and on the board for the Association for Teen-Age Diplomats, a group that organizes exchanges for high school students.

**ADRIAN DEMIAN** *Concert master*

Deeply musical, possessing a beautifully rich sound reminiscent of the great violin masters of the past, the Romanian born Adrian Demian began studying the violin at the age of six and made his debut as a soloist with the Arad Symphony Orchestra when he was only twelve years old. At twenty-four he became one of the youngest ever violinists to be offered a position as violin professor with the Bucharest National University of Music. Adrian Demian participated in numerous international music festivals in Romania, Canada and the U.S., as well as on tours of France, Switzerland, Spain, Turkey, and Poland. He has appeared as a soloist with several orchestras in Romania and in the U.S. In 2010 Adrian Demian started his doctoral studies at the prestigious Eastman School of Music where he is studying violin with Professor Lynn Blakeslee. Adrian became Professor Blakeslee's assistant in January 2012. He is the recipient of an Eastman Graduate Award; his teaching assistant duties including coordinating the Strings Techniques class and teaching secondary violin lessons. For more than ten years, Adrian and his wife, Neli - also a highly accomplished musician - are calling Irving, Texas, their home. Their thirteen-year old daughter, Clara Maria, is a budding pianist who wants to become a scientist.

**HEE SAGONG** *Violin*

Korean violinist Hee Sagong began her violin studies at the age of seven, and was accepted into the preparatory program at the Conservatorium van Amsterdam at the age of fifteen. She is a prizewinner at competitions including the Inter Provincial Concours, Prinses Christina Concours, and AMIS International Solo and Ensemble Festival, and has concertized in different regions of the Netherlands, Germany, England, and the United States. Last year, she performed at the Kennedy Center for the Conservatory Project. She also performed in the Concertgebouw last summer, where she led the NJO Symphony Orchestra as concertmaster under the baton of Etienne Siebens. Ms. Sagong holds Bachelor of Music degree with distinction from the Indiana University and Master of Music degree in Violin Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music. In addition to her master's degree, she was awarded the prestigious Performer Certificate and the Orchestral Studies Diploma. Her major teachers include Oleh Krysa, Alexander Kerr, and Alla Kim. Currently, Ms. Sagong is pursuing Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the Eastman School of Music, where she serves as teaching assistant for Oleh Krysa.

**HYERI CHOI** *Violin*

Born in Busan, Korea, Hyeri Choi is pursuing her doctorate degree in Violin Performance and Literature at Eastman School of Music where she earned her MM degree having studied with Prof. Mikhail Kopelman since 2007. She received her Bachelor of Music from Ewha Womans University in Korea, and she earned her Orchestra Performance Certificate as a full scholarship and stipend recipient at TOHO Orchestra Academy where she had studied with Prof. Hamao Fujiwara in Japan. As a scholarship fellow, Hyeri had also internationally participated in the several summer festivals including Kirishima International Music Festival (Japan), Music Alp Festival (France), and the Music Academy of the West (USA) with renowned artists. Ms. Choi is a passionate solo, chamber, and orchestra musician. She gave a solo recital in the Musicales Concert Series at George Eastman House in 2012 and she was invited as full scholarship fellow of the 1st Albuquerque Chamber Music Festival in 2013. She had also served as the principal of the 2nd violin in the Seoul Metropolitan Youth Orchestra (SMYO) in 2005 and as a concertmaster of Eastman Graduate Chamber Orchestra and Ray Wright Jazz Studio Orchestra in Rochester, NY. She is currently an Assistant Concertmaster of the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes (OSFL) in Elmira, NY.



ANGELA XING *Violin*

Angela Xing, violin, was a fellowship recipient at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor while pursuing her specialist degree. She obtained her masters of music from the University of Oklahoma. She also holds a bachelor degree in liberal arts and a bachelor degree in management from the Renmin University of China. Ms. Xing has worked as a violinist in the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, the Oklahoma City Philharmonic Orchestra, and the orchestra of the Chinese National Opera House in Beijing. She has participated in the Festival Orchestra in Aspen where she studied under Paul Kantor and David Halen, as well as served in the Asian Youth Orchestra where she was associate concertmaster. Currently, Ms. Xing is working on her DMA at the Eastman School of Music under Oleh Krysa.



JOSEPH STEPEC *Violin*

Joseph Stepec completed his bachelor's degree in violin performance with Gregory Fulkerson at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in 2010. He has participated in festivals in Maine, Texas, Vermont, and North Carolina. As an active recitalist, he has performed in Cleveland, Nashville, Cincinnati, and abroad in Slovenia. He has performed for William Preucil and Peter Salaff while also working closely with Kenneth Goldsmith and Felicia Moyer at the International Round Top Festival-Institute. Joseph studied conducting with Bridget Reischl while at Oberlin in addition to his studies with Maestro Michael Jinbo at the Pierre Monteux School for Conductors and Orchestral Musicians. While at Oberlin, he conducted a performance of Bernstein's *Trouble in Tahiti* sponsored by the Oberlin Opera Theater program and also gave the Oberlin premiere of Guggenheim recipient Seung-Ah Oh's *Concerto for Piano and Six Instruments* in 2010. In 2011, Joseph was chosen as the music director for the Euclid Symphony Orchestra for the 2011-2012 season – he oversaw successful collaborations with the Lakeshore Ballet and various soloists throughout his brief tenure. Joseph is currently enrolled in the graduate orchestral conducting program at the Eastman School of Music under the tutelage of Maestro Neil Varon and is expected to graduate in May of 2014.



ALEX TRYGSTAD *Viola*

Violist Alex Trygstad is a performer and educator whose passionate pursuits have driven him to forge a diverse career that has taken him through the United States, Canada, and Europe. As a soloist he was a national finalist in the Music Teachers National Association Young Artist Competition and won second prize in the Mid-Texas Symphony Young Artist Competition. During the summers he has attended the Karen Tuttle Coordination Workshop, the Eastman Viola Workshop, and the North American Viola Institute at the Orford Arts Centre in Quebec, Canada. Recently, he has participated in a chamber music series titled "If Music Be the Food...?". In this innovative project, Eastman School of Music faculty and students and members of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra join together to benefit Foodlink, a local food bank in Rochester, NY. Trygstad's chamber music experience encompasses a variety of styles. In addition to his classical music experience in the Eastman chamber music program and the Lake George Music Festival, from 2007-2010 he was a member of the Baylor Jazz String Quartet, who performed its own rendition of Miles Davis' album *The Birth of the Cool*. In various orchestras, Trygstad has distinguished himself as a leader. He served as principal of the Baylor Chamber Orchestra during its Belgian tour in fall 2011, as rotating principal of the Eastman Philharmonia and Baylor Symphony Orchestra, and as a section member of the Waco Symphony Orchestra. He has also played in several student-organized ensembles at the Eastman School of Music. Currently, he is earning a Doctorate of Musical Arts in viola performance and literature from the Eastman School of Music where he studies with Carol Rodland. Trygstad holds a Master of Music degree from Eastman and a Bachelor of Music degree from Baylor University where he graduated Summa Cum Laude. While at Baylor, he studied with Dr. Kathryn Steely.



JEBAT ARJUNA KEE *Viola*

A native of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Jebat Kee has performed with the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, Schleswig-Holstein Festival Orchestra and Aspen Festival Orchestra. He was a winner of the YouTube Symphony Orchestra in 2011, and performed at the Sydney Opera House under the direction of Michael Tilson Thomas. He was selected as the co-principal violist of the Youth Orchestra of the World, in conjunction with the first Youth Olympic Games held in Singapore in 2010, and played in a string quartet for world leaders at the APEC Summit held in Singapore. He is one of the pioneering members of the Malaysian Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, where he served as the principal violist from 2009 to 2011. Jebat has attended summer music festivals such as Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Aspen Music Festival and School and Bowdoin International Music Festival. This summer, he has been selected as a member of the Pacific Music Festival Orchestra Academy. Jebat has performed in masterclasses conducted by Kim Kashkashian, Nobuko Imai, Roberto Diaz, Wolfram Christ, Sabina Thatcher and the Shanghai and Ying Quartets. Jebat is currently a senior pursuing a Bachelor of Music in Viola Performance at the Eastman School of Music under the tutelage of Carol Rodland. He serves as the principal violist at the Eastman School Symphony Orchestra and the Eastman Philharmonia. This season, he was selected as a recipient of the Messinger Ambassadors Grant. Together with the Windsor String Quartet, Jebat participated in a series of community outreach presentations and performances in the area of Keuka Lake, NY in March 2014. Prior to his studies at Eastman, Jebat received full scholarship to study at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore. Jebat currently plays on a 2009 Paolo Vettori on generous loan from the Rin Collection.



SAMUEL PIERCE-RUHLAND *Cello*

23-year-old cellist Samuel Pierce-Ruhland frequently appears with various ensembles in the Rochester, New York area. A recent graduate of the Eastman School of Music (May 2013), he studied with Steven Doane and Rosemary Elliott. His previous teachers include Hans Jensen of Northwestern University and Joseph Johnson, principal cellist of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. In August 2013, he began his graduate studies at Mannes College of the New School with Timothy Eddy, and in October 2013, he became the youngest full-time musician in the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra for the 2013-14 season. He has played in masterclasses given by Janos Starker, Lynn Harrell, Timothy Eddy, Colin Carr, Desmond Hoebig, Clive Greensmith, Natasha Brofsky, and Amir Eldan, as well as the Guarneri and Pacifica Quartets.



ESTHER ROGERS *Cello*

Esther Rogers, a Rochester native, has been playing cello since the age of six. Esther earned a Bachelor of Music from the Hartt School, University of Hartford and a Master of Music from San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Esther also spent one year studying Collaborative Leadership at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, England. Esther is an innovative leader who asks questions about process, intent and progress, and collaborates with artists in different genres including dance, theatre, visual arts, and writing. She works as a freelance cellist, teaches cello and chamber music and guides group composition and collaboration as a teacher/facilitator including upcoming summer programs 'Imagination Collaboration' and the 'Musical Sandbox' with Writers and Books. Esther loves to work in her garden and hike in the Adirondack Mountains. www.erogerscello.com.



GREG WHITTEMORE *Double bass*

Greg Whittemore is a versatile and multifaceted musician from Penfield New York who plays double bass, electric bass, piano, and hand percussion, and also enjoys the opportunity to sing, conduct, and arrange music whenever possible. He completed his Bachelor of Music at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music at Oberlin College, where he studied double bass with Thomas Sperl and Peter Dominguez. Greg's other bass instructors include Gaelen McCormick, Paul Bresciani, Jeffrey Turner, James VanDemark, Colin Corner, and Nicholas Walker. His interests cover the whole spectrum of Classical Music, with a particular interest in Contemporary Music. Other musical interests include Rock, Jazz, Bluegrass, and World Music. Mr. Whittemore has appeared at several of the United States' great performance venues including Carnegie Hall, Heinz Hall in Pittsburgh, and Rochester's Kodak Hall, and has also performed in Austria, Canada, and Italy. He is currently in his fourth season with the University of Rochester Symphony Orchestra where he serves as Principal, and he regularly appears with the Cordancia Chamber Orchestra.



JACQUELINE CORDOVA-ARRINGTON *Flute*

Jacqueline Cordova-Arrington is a currently pursuing a doctoral degree at the Eastman School of Music with Bonita Boyd. In 2010-2011, Jacqueline received the William D. Ford Fulbright grant to study with Andreas Blau, principal flutist in the Berlin Philharmonic. Her former teachers include Bradley Garner, Amy Porter and David Cramer. As a soloist with the Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra and Philadelphia Sinfonia, Jacqueline has performed Karl Reinecke's in D Major, Howard Hanson's Serenade and Mozart's Concerto in G Major. In 2011, Jacqueline performed with Los Angeles Philharmonic as the 2nd flutist with maestro Gustavo Dudamel. Her past performances include collaborations with music directors Alan Gilbert, Nicholas McGegan, Leonard Slatkin and David Zinmann. Most recently, Jacqueline performed in the Eastman Conservatory Project with her Debussy Sextet at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC. Currently, Jacqueline resides in Rochester, NY where she performs regionally with the Erie Philharmonic and Buffalo Philharmonic.



CASSIE DRIES *Flute*

Cassie Dries received her B.S. in Music Education from Roberts Wesleyan College and her M.M. in Flute Performance from The University of Akron where she performed with the graduate woodwind quintet, Lunaris. She won Roberts Wesleyan College's concerto competition in 2007, was honorable mention in the Rochester Flute Association's 2009 Flute Fair competition, and won the Tuesday Musical Association's Woodwind Competition Scholarship in 2011. Her teachers have included Diane Smith, George Pope, and Katherine DeJongh. Currently, Cassie works at Sibley Music Library as an Acquisitions and Serials Assistant and as a nanny. She also teaches flute for the Roberts Community Music School, coordinates the RFA-Hochstein Flute Camp, and performs with the Roberts Wesleyan College Community Orchestra. Ephesians 3:20



CARLY GORDON *Oboe*

Carly Gordon, recipient of the 2014 Presser Undergraduate Award, is currently completing her third year of undergraduate study in oboe performance at the Eastman School of Music, and is pursuing an additional degree in Brain & Cognitive Sciences at the University of Rochester. She is a member of the Eastman Wind Ensemble and Eastman Philharmonia, and has performed with the Eastman Opera Orchestra, Eastman School Symphony Orchestra, Eastman Wind Orchestra, Eastman Cantata Ensemble, University of Rochester Klezmer Ensemble, and Ars Flores Symphony Orchestra. A native of South Florida, Carly can be heard on the Florida Youth Orchestra's 2010 album, *Emotion*. Carly has attended summer festivals including Interlochen Arts Camp, Eastern Music Festival, and Siena Summer Music, and has performed in venues ranging from Chicago's Orchestra Hall to the Piazza Pio II, a UNESCO World Heritage site in Pienza, Tuscany. A member of the Carly's Angels and Azzimato woodwind quintets, Carly enjoys community outreach through chamber music. Her primary teacher is Richard Killmer.



NOAH KAY *Oboe*

Oboist Noah Kay, 20, is in his second year at the Eastman School of Music, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree under Richard Killmer. Noah attended the Kinhaven Music School in Weston, VT for two summers (2011-2012) and the Eastern Music Festival in Greensboro, NC in 2013. This summer, he will attend the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival and Sarasota Music Festival. When he is not making reeds, he can be found playing duets with his wonderful studiomates, abusing Spotify, and reading Murakami.



MAXWELL GRUBE *Bassoon*

Maxwell Grube is a doctoral student at the Eastman School of Music, working toward a Doctor of Musical Arts in Bassoon Performance and Literature degree. He serves as teaching assistant for bassoon methods courses at ESM. Grube is currently the substitute principal bassoonist for the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes in Corning, NY, while performing on various occasions as assistant principal bassoon with Symphoria in Syracuse, NY. He has also had the pleasure of appearing with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra as substitute assistant principal bassoon on several spring and summer concerts. He continues to perform with BassooNova, a bassoon quartet formed in Phoenix, AZ, enjoying performances at the International Double Reed Society 2012 and 2013 conferences, as well as recitals in the Greater Phoenix Area. Grube holds degrees from Arizona State University (MM), and Mansfield University of Pennsylvania (BM). His teachers include Dr. Albie Micklich, Dr. Susan Laib, and he currently enjoys ongoing studies with Eastman bassoon instructor, Professor John Hunt.



ALEXANDER WONG *Rehearsal pianist*

Alexander Wong, a native of Hong Kong, is an active and versatile collaborative keyboardist. Recent engagement features collaboration with soprano Jeffie Leung in the vocal album "Treasurable Gift" and performance of Handel's Te Deum/Jubilate as organist. He has also collaborated with Eastman School of Music Repertory Singers, Robert Westleyan College Chorale, the Chinese Choral Society of Rochester, Chinese University Chorus, Hong Kong Oratorio Society, to name a few. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music (first class honor) from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Licentiate Diploma in Piano Performance from Trinity College London. Started learning piano at age of five, Alexander's major mentors include pianist Mary Wu, soprano Jeffie Leung and organist Wong Kin Yu. He is currently a second year master student in Eastman School of Music, where he studies with Dr. Jean Barr.

NAOMI GREGORY *Organ*

Naomi Gregory holds degrees in music (B.A. Hons) and musicology (M. Phil.) from the University of Cambridge where she was Organ Scholar at Sidney Sussex College. After graduation, Naomi was appointed Organist and Head of Academic Music at Sherborne School for Girls, Dorset, UK. She moved to Rochester in 2006 to begin a joint program in musicology (PhD) and organ performance and literature (DMA) at the Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY in the studio of Professor David Higgs. Naomi is currently working with visiting Professor of Organ, Edoardo Bellotti, on a reconstruction of Vespers from mid-17th century Rome for her DMA lecture recital. Her PhD research centres on the motet at French royal court in the early sixteenth century. Naomi has also studied organ improvisation, harpsichord and theatre organ with Professor William Porter at ESM. She is currently Organist and Director of Music at First Baptist Church of Penfield, NY.



DAVID CHIN

Conductor & Harpsichord

Known for his energetic conducting and charismatic personality, David Chin has swiftly emerged as one of the rising conductors and musical leaders of his generation. He is the Director of Choral Activities at Roberts Wesleyan College in New York, where he conducts the Roberts Wesleyan Chorale and teaches Choral Conducting and Music History. In addition, appointments as the Music Director of the Chinese Choral Society of Rochester and guest conductor of the International Christian Choral Conductor Society, invitations to conduct the opening concert of the new Eastman School Bach Cantata Series and the Hong Kong Bach Cantata Lecture Concert series, invitations to teach at the World Sacred Music Conferences in Auckland, New Zealand and Medan, Indonesia, and selection as one of the conductors to attend both the Sarteano Chamber Music Workshop in Italy and Helmuth Rilling's Masterclass in Hong Kong have solidly placed David as a leader in the next generation of globe-trotting musicians. Recent highlights include conducting performances of Bach's *Orchestral Suite No. 2 in D (BWV 1068)*, *Magnificat in D (BWV 243)*, *Jesu, Meine Freude, Lobet den Herrn*, *Cantatas No. 17, 45, 47, 80, 81, 82, 117, 164, 180, and 191*; Handel's *Utrecht Te Deum (HWV 278)* and *Jubilate (HWV 279)* and *Messiah*; Vivaldi's *Gloria (RV 589)*, Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, Albinoni's *Concerto Op. 7 No. 3*, Haydn's *Te Deum in C*, *Symphony No. 94 'Surprise'* and *Theresienmesse*, Mozart's *Vesperae Solemnes de Confessore*, Schubert's *Mass No. 2 in G*, Saint-Saëns's *Christmas Oratorio*, Vaughan Williams's *Fantasia on Greensleeves*, and selections by Palestrina, Giovanni Gabrieli, Telemann, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Duruflé, Sibelius, Samuel Barber, and other American composers; he also recently performed piano works by Bach, Haydn, Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt, and Debussy.

Over the years, David had directed numerous choirs and orchestras, and collaborated with outstanding musicians from all around the world. An enthusiastic church musician, he has served Presbyterian, Lutheran, Methodist, Baptist, and Congregational churches in Asia and North America. David had also won awards in original compositions for chorus and orchestra, piano solo, and piano concerto. His original sacred piano arrangements have been broadcast on the International Television Program in the United States. David has been mentored by conductors William Weinert, Brad Lubman, Helmuth Rilling, Simon Carrington, and Cleusia Goncalves. His piano coaches included world-renowned pianist Daisy de Lucca Jaffé (pupil of Magda Tagliaferro, Friedrich Gulda, Richard Hauser, and Guido Agosti) and David Ehrman; and his voice coaches included Raymond Gibbs (former Metropolitan Opera House tenor), Kathryn Cowdrick, and Wayne Kompelien.

David is currently a member of the renowned Christ Church Schola Cantorum in Rochester, New York. He also sings with the Voices ensemble, Eastman Chorale, and Eastman-Rochester Chorus. He was awarded the Charles W. Kennett Scholarship and the Herman Genhart Choral Conducting Scholar Award by the Eastman School of Music, and completed his Master of Music Degree in Conducting. While at Eastman, he conducted the Eastman Repertory Singers and Eastman Chorale, and served as the accompanist of the Eastman Women's Chorus. David has recently been awarded full scholarship by the Eastman School of Music to pursue Doctoral degree in conducting. He holds Bachelor of Music degree (Summa Cum Laude) in Choral and Piano Performance from Liberty University and was awarded both Outstanding Music Student and Keyboard Student of the Year. David began his music education at the age of nine and successfully completed Piano Associate Diploma (ATCL) examinations of Trinity College London in 2004. Phil. 4:13. www.davidchinmusic.com