

Peabody String Sinfonia Member Bios

Joseph Bates, violin

Hi! My name is Joseph Bates, and I'm a violinist and violist from Tulsa, Oklahoma. I started playing violin at 11 and told my parents at the time that I only wanted to play old time fiddle music, never classical music. Well, now I've got a degree in classical violin, so you can see how that worked out. Playing in small groups is what convinced me that music was what I wanted to do for my career. The experience of working hard towards a common goal with my friends is what keeps me playing even today. I love playing new music and I hope to use my career to promote the work of living composers from under represented groups.

Adam Davis, violin

Hello, my name is Adam Davis. I'm from Detroit, MI and I started on the violin at the age of 4. When I was little, I always looked forward to every Saturday where I got to participate at the local orchestra education program for young fiddlers. These long Saturday afternoons are what kept me going on the violin and eventually revealed how passionate I am about making music amongst other people. I believe that music is created by and serves the greater community and has an instinctive ability to bring people together. My future goals involve playing in a major orchestra and teaching younger fiddlers while continuing my own education as a young fiddler myself.

Hayley Camp, violin

My name is Hayley Camp and I am from Seattle, Washington. I started playing the violin in 5th grade at my elementary school orchestra. The thing I love most about music is playing chamber music, especially with my friends, since I want to make a meaningful connection with my peers and the audience. Looking forward, I really hope to continue music as a career either in a chamber group or in an orchestra.

Sophie Chan, violin

Hello! My name is Sophie Chan and I am a violinist from Atlanta, Georgia. I began on piano at age five, but I complained that my hands were too small, so at age eight my parents switched me to the violin. Growing up, I really didn't like music as I felt like it was something that I had to do. Practicing as a young child seemed so boring... until I joined my first orchestra at age twelve! Joining an orchestra was the first time I realized

music could be fun, and playing with others made the experience of performing rewarding in a way I never thought possible. From then, my passion for music only grew. I especially love performing fun pieces that the audience interacts and connects with personally. Finally, I

am looking to be a performer with an emphasis on music outreach in the future. I hope you enjoy the concert!

Teresa Deskur, violin

Hi! My name is Teresa Deskur and I'm a violinist from Upstate NY. At Peabody, my major is French horn and music ed, but I grew up playing violin in school and was excited to get the chance to keep playing with Sinfonia. My favorite thing with music is just how many different, fun styles there are to play! I also play the recorder and love early music- on any given day, you can find me playing classical orchestral pieces, baroque and renaissance dances, or fiddle tunes! My career goal is to be a music educator, hopefully teaching band.

Nathan Hillman, viola

My name is Nathan Hillman, and I'm a violist, composer, and arranger from Monroe, Maine. I began playing violin over 20 years ago, but switched to viola in middle school. My love for harmonies is what originally drew me to viola (and composition), and I still love being an inner voice in chamber music to this day! In addition to music, my interests include hiking, sustainable living, farming, and chickens, and I would like to live off the grid sometime in the future.

Rose Wodarczyk, viola

Hello! My name is Rose Wodarczyk and I'm a violist from Phoenix, Arizona. When I was six years old, I decided I wanted to play the violin, but my mom (also a musician) suggested that I play the viola, since it's a less popular instrument and I would have more opportunities as a viola player. I had no idea what a viola was but I trusted my mom, so I agreed and I've been playing ever since. I enjoy playing in smaller groups because the music feels more personal and I can connect with the audience more. For my career, I'd love to combine music performance with some kind of music business or arts administration role.

Anita-Mae Kahan, cello

My name is Anita-Mae Kahan, and I'm a 19-year-old cellist from Brooklyn, New York. I started playing cello when I was 10 with my dad, who's a bass player. I love playing classical, jazz, and contemporary music on my cello, and I hope to expand my musical horizons in the future by playing as many different styles of music as possible with as

many people as possible.

Abi Koehler, bass

My name is Abi Koehler and I am from Silver Spring, Maryland. I started playing upright and electric bass when I was 11 years old and loved playing in my high school's chamber orchestra, jazz combo, pit orchestra, marching band, and pep band. What I like most about bass is that I can play lots of different

genres of music and be a part of the tight-knit bass community. In the future, I'd love to continue playing music and teaching bass as a career.

Justin Cao, bass

Hi, my name is Justin Cao and I'm from West Windsor, New Jersey and I've been playing for 11 years. I started playing in my elementary school orchestra and I've been in love with orchestra ever since, there's nothing quite like 100 people making the most intricate and elaborate sounds, that kind of teamwork and unified intention is a miracle anywhere else. In the future, I hope people can see the same thing I see, and maybe I won't be the only person in class thinking that orchestra is super cool.