CLEVELAND
INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

Eun-song Koh

Assistant Professor of Violin

Violinist Eun-song Koh is a seasoned performer and highly accomplished educator, widely recognized for her expertise in nurturing young talent and cultivating musical excellence. A graduate of the Cleveland Institute of Music with a Bachelor of Music degree under David Updegraff and Jan Mark Sloman, she went on to earn a Master of Music degree from Northwestern University, where she was honored with the Eckstein Fund Grant and the Grace Fox Congdon Scholarship for outstanding musical and academic achievement. Koh's pedagogical approach was deeply shaped by her years as a teaching assistant to the esteemed violinist Jan Mark Sloman, where she had the privilege of learning from his expert understanding of both performance and teaching.

Koh has toured internationally, performing as concertmaster of the Orford Music Festival Orchestra, including a tour to South Korea, and as principal second violinist of the Northwestern University Symphony Orchestra, with performances in Beijing, Shanghai, and Hong Kong. Her chamber music experience spans various settings, having worked with members of the Emerson String Quartet, Tokyo String Quartet, Miami String Quartet, Cavani String Quartet, and Dover Quartet, among others.

As a teacher, Koh has held positions at institutions like the Interlochen Summer Arts Academy, where she served on the faculty and coached chamber music, and Bolivia Clásica, where she taught, led workshops, and performed. Her students have achieved notable success, including multiple top finishes in the MTNA National Competition in both junior and senior divisions, first-place prizes in concerto competitions, and invitations to international competitions like the Spohr International Competition. Her students have also received honors at the Chicago International Violin Competition.

Koh's students have been accepted into and gone on to study at prestigious institutions such as the Juilliard School, Colburn School, New England Conservatory, Cleveland Institute of Music, Northwestern University, University of Southern California, and top universities such as Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, and Brown University. With a teaching style that balances rigor and encouragement, Koh emphasizes not only technical skill and musicality but also the resilience, discipline, and dedication needed to excel as a violinist.

Through her years of experience, Koh has become known for her thoughtful and inspiring mentorship, continuing to shape and motivate the next generation of violinists.