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2026-27 SEASON

CONCERT SERIES













About the Cleveland Institute of Music

The Cleveland Institute of Music empowers the world's most talented classical music students to fulfill their dreams and potential. Its alumni command hallowed stages across the globe as soloists, opera leads, chamber musicians, and ensemble members; compose meaningful, award-winning music; produce Grammy Award-winning recordings; and are highly sought-after teaching artists, administrators, and thought leaders. CIM's faculty likewise hail from around the country and across the world, giving students "The CIM Advantage" as they embark on professional careers. The school's increasingly diverse collegiate and pre-college student bodies benefit from access to world-renowned visiting artists and abundant performance and outreach opportunities. A leader among its peers, CIM is the largest presenter of free performances, masterclasses, and community concerts in the Midwest, hosting hundreds of events each year on campus and at locations regionwide. Explore **cim.edu** to learn more.



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The **CIM Advantage** prepares students for more than the stage. Through exceptional artistic training, professional performance experiences, and career-focused learning, students develop the skills to lead, innovate, and succeed in music and beyond. Your generosity helps transform potential into opportunity—and today's students into tomorrow's artists.

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CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF MUSIC

PERSPECTIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2026
7:30pm | Mixon Hall

The U.S. Army String Quartet, *Kulas Foundation Visiting Artists*
Patrick Lin (MM '18), violin
Allison Smith, violin
Julia Clancy (BM '14), viola
Benjamin Wensel (BM '99), cello
Charles Paul, double bass

Alice Hong (BM '14) (b. 1993)	Anyone Can Cook! (2025)
Jack Hughes (BM '14) (b. 1992)	Spectrum (2012)
Caroline Shaw (b. 1982)	Entr'acte (2011)
Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)	String Quartet in G minor, Op. 74, No. 3 Allegro Largo assai Minuet: Allegretto Finale: Allegro con brio

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

SFC **Patrick Lin** was born in Buffalo, NY, and grew up in Fargo, ND, where he began studying violin at the age of 7 with Mary Weisser and Jane Linde Capistran. He continued his studies at The Florida State University (Bachelor of Music 2015) with Dr. Benjamin Sung and CIM (Master of Music 2018) with William Preucil. Lin joined The U.S. Army Strings in February of 2019. Previously, he lived in Honolulu, HI, where he was a member of the Hawai'i Symphony Orchestra and performed with Hawai'i Opera Theatre and Ballet Hawai'i. Lin has also performed with the Baltimore Symphony, Charleston Symphony, and Louisiana Philharmonic orchestras, and has attended festivals around the country, including the Britt Music and Arts Festival (OR), Lexington Bach Festival (MI), National Repertory Orchestra (CO), and Spoleto Festival USA (SC).

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Originally from Dublin, Ohio, SSG **Allison Smith** joined The U.S. Army Strings in the fall of 2025 after completing one year as a violin fellow at the New World Symphony. She received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University under the tutelage of Paul Kantor. She has served as concertmaster of the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra and New World Symphony, as well as principal second at the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, Germany, under the baton of Andris Nelsons for the inaugural Shostakovich Festival. She has also performed with the Houston, Atlanta, and Fort Worth symphonies. Passionate about chamber music and connecting with her community, she received funding from New World Symphony to create a performance titled Chocolate and Chamber Music, featuring works by living female composers paired with flavors of chocolate from a Miami-based chocolate shop. While studying at Rice University, she received the Sviatoslav Richter Fund Grant for Music Outreach which she used to perform concerts at Houston senior living facilities. She enjoys teaching young musicians and sharing her love of chamber music with students. She has spent summers as a fellow at Tanglewood, Sarasota, Lancaster, Aspen, and Madeline Island music festivals, and has performed alongside esteemed musicians such as Laufey, Caroline Shaw, Gabriel Kahane, and James Dunham. Outside of music, she enjoys lifting, running, reading, cooking, and exploring DC with her husband Nic.

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SSG **Julia Clancy** joined The U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" in 2024 after serving as acting section violist in the San Diego Symphony. Prior to this appointment, she performed as a regular substitute in the Nashville Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony, and Dallas Symphony. As a member of the West Eastern Divan Orchestra, she performs across the globe under the direction of Daniel Barenboim. In 2018, she started a two-year contract at the Deutsche Staatsoper in Berlin, performing opera, ballet, symphonic, and chamber music. She can be heard on multiple albums with the Boulez Ensemble, Konzerthaus Orchestra, Staatskapelle Berlin, and Aldeburgh Ensemble. As a soloist, she has performed at 92Y, TheGreene Space, National Sawdust, LACMA, and venues across Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Spain. After winning CIM's concerto competition, she performed with the school's orchestra as a soloist. She has acted as principal violist in Krzysztof Penderecki's festival orchestra, Britten-Pears Orchestra, Yale Philharmonia, Sarasota Festival Orchestra, CityMusic Cleveland, Moritzburg Festival Orchestra, and Lorin Maazel's Castleton Festival Orchestra. Clancy's early musical education began at The Juilliard School's Pre-College program. She holds a degree in medical anthropology from Case Western Reserve University and a degree in music from CIM where she studied with Jeffrey Irvine, Lynne Ramsey, and Robert Vernon. Clancy received her master's and doctoral degrees from Yale University, where she was a two-time winner of the Georgina Lucy Grosvenor Memorial Prize.

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A native of Western New York, MSG **Benjamin Wensel** earned degrees from CIM and the Eastman School of Music, where he served as assistant to renowned pedagogue Alan Harris. Equally important to his musical education were performances in seminars and masterclasses for members of the Cleveland, Guaneri, Juilliard, Miami and Ying quartets; chamber music studies with Peter Salaff and members of the Audubon and Cavani Quartets; and solo masterclasses with David Soyer, Clemens Michael Hagen, Steven Isserlis, and Michel Strauss. Wensel has performed with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, National Symphony Orchestra, ProMusica Chamber Orchestra, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Syracuse Symphony, and has been a member of The U.S. Army Strings, Orchestra, and

String Quartet since 2003. Additionally, Wensel appears with many of the fine local ensembles in the National Capital Region. Dedicated to the creation and promotion of new music, Wensel performed the world premieres of more than 20 works written by established and emerging American composers as a founding member of the Tarab Cello Ensemble and participated in the ensemble's residencies at Princeton University, Stetson University, and the University of South Florida. He currently coaches for the 9th Street Chamber Music, Quartet Intensive program as well as maintaining a private studio in Fairfax, Virginia. Grateful to be an active member of the innovative arts community of the Capital region, Wensel performs regularly as the cellist of the Mellifera Quartet. He can be heard on recordings produced by Bridge, Delos, Harmonia Mundi, RM Records, and Summit.

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Charles Paul is the first assistant principal double bass of The Cleveland Orchestra and is also an active teacher, chamber musician, and musical collaborator. He previously served as a member of the double bass section of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and has appeared in *The Boston Globe*, the *Houston Chronicle*, and American Public Media's *Performance Today*. A graduate of Rice University's Shepherd School of Music, Paul is currently a faculty member at CIM. He has taught masterclasses at the New World Symphony, Peabody Conservatory, Michigan State University, Oberlin College, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, among other institutions. Paul performs a wide variety of repertoire and has premiered works of new music for solo double bass and chamber music by Doug Balliet, Erin Gee, Theo Chandler, and Jon Anderson. In 2023, Paul worked with his mother, Meg Paul, and the Gerald Arpino Foundation on a recreation of *Valentine*, the 1971 work for dance and solo double bass by Gerald Arpino and Jacob Druckman. Paul has performed as a soloist with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, as a featured musician at the Kent Blossom Music Festival and Lake George Music Festival, and as principal double bass of the Strings Music Festival in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. As a fun fact, Paul performed as a solo act on the main stage of Detroit Music Weekend in 2018, opening for the Jackson Five.

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