

OMAHA AREA YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

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UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA
SCHOOL OF MUSIC



Youth Symphony

Fall 2026 Concert

November 1, 2026 | 2:30 PM

Youth Symphony Fall Concert

Sunday, November 1, 2026 | 2:30pm

Youth Symphony String Ensemble

Anna Roberts, violin
Alex Titus, viola
David Dadabaev, cello
Christopher Hake, coach and violin

Minuet in G Major **from Klavier Suite in G minor** — **J.S. Bach (arr. Hake)**

Rondo, Allegro grazioso **from String Quartet No. 6 in B-flat major, K. 159** — **W. A. Mozart**

Youth Symphony

Dr. Matthew Brooks, Conductor

Overture, op. 20 — **Juan Crisótomo de Arriaga**

Piano Concerto in A Minor, op. 16 — **Edvard Grieg**
Allegro molto moderato

Carter Nash, piano

Classical Symphony**, op. 25** — **Sergei Prokofiev**
Allegro
Gavotta: non troppo allegro

Lightspeed — **Kevin Day**

Carter Nash



Carter Nash is a junior at Papillion LaVista South High School. He has played piano for 10 years, currently studying with Mark Dickmeyer. Carter is a two-year member of the Lied Center Piano Academy and has earned finalist in the senior division of the Omaha Music Teacher's Association Young Artist Competition, second place in the Jr. Virtuoso division of the Mid-American Music Association Festival, second place at the Maverick PianoFest competition, and runner-up at the Orchestra Omaha Young Artist Concerto Competition. Beyond piano, Carter enjoys composing, theatre, performing in varsity show choir, and playing oboe in OAYO's Youth Philharmonic. He also leads youth worship at his church, and he aspires to study piano performance after high school.

Youth Symphony Personnel

Violin I
Hailey Mao, *concertmaster*
Anna Roberts, *asst. concertmaster*
Kyler Lakeman
Valentina Escalera
Joslynn Martin
Collin Nickla
Grace Stromquist
Alondra Arteaga-Delgadillo

Violin II
Ananya Neelakanta, *principal*
Olivia Lienemann, *asst. principal*
Colin Kelln
Victoria Zoerb
Evelyn Alexander
Grace Bolton
Eunice Xie
Joanna Xie
Quinn Skiermont

Viola
Gaby Tapia Magaña, *principal*
Bryan Qiao, *asst. principal*
Jameson Conner-Carlisle
Alex Titus

Cello
Rosy Johnson, *principal*
Hanna Jones, *asst. principal*
David Dadabaev
Annnil Mukherjee
Daisy Yentes
Lara Blume
Carson Rayer
Olive Solberg

Bass
Ash Homan, *principal*
Soren Puumala
Eleanor Caughlin

Flute
Mary Curry
Abby Kwon
Lily Zhu

Oboe
Violet Fannin
Shelby Spitznagel
Christian Wang

Clarinet
Ava Hurst
Mitch Vacek

Bassoon
Owen Ciavarella
Kaylee Frederick

French Horn
Annie DeWater
Grant Heaton
Rigley Johnson
Thomas McMahon
Grant Zemunsky

Trumpet
Augie Lacey
Logan Topp

Percussion
Kyle Bergler
Ayden Maher

Piano
Adam Hu

Dr. Matthew Brooks



Dr. Matthew J. Brooks is Associate Professor and Director of Orchestral Activities in Music & Medicine at University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) where he leads the University Orchestra, the Omaha Area Youth Orchestra Youth Symphony, and teaches graduate orchestral conducting in the School of Music. As part of a collaboration between the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and the UNO School of Music, Dr. Brooks was critical in creating the Nebraska Medical Orchestra in 2018, for which he is the founding music director and conductor. He serves on the UNO Medical Humanities faculty and the UNMC College of Medicine where he coordinates Music & Medicine activities with UNMC Campus Wellness. His work at UNMC was recognized by the University awarding him the Valor in Educational Service Award -- one of eight Impact in Education Awards awarded in 2022.

Highlights from his academic conducting include leading annual youth concerts as part of Carnegie Hall's Link Up program and collaborations with Broadway legend Patti Lupone, New York Philharmonic Concertmaster Frank Huang, American bassist Edgar Meyer, celebrated opera singer Samuel Ramey, and the late composer Peter Schickele--also known as P.D.Q. Bach.

Dr. Brooks maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor, clinician, and adjudicator. He often guest conducts the Omaha Symphony Music Mentors program and various honor orchestras. He frequently presents on music and mental health at national and international conferences, and his peer-reviewed research has been published in the American Medical Association (AMA) Journal of Ethics and the Journal of Wellness. Dr. Brooks co-founded the National Association of Medical Orchestras in 2021, is past president of the College Orchestra Directors' Association (CODA) North Central Region, and Assistant Editor of the CODA Peer-Reviewed Journal.

He holds a Bachelor of Music in Music Education, a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting, and a Doctor of Musical Arts in Conducting, Pedagogy, and Literature. Dr. Brooks also holds a Master of Science in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and works as a board-certified clinical therapist, striving to encourage positive mental health within the academic and professional music communities. For more information, visit www.matthewjbrooks.com.

Omaha Area Youth Orchestras Staff

Dr. Karen Fannin - Director of School of Music
Dr. Matthew Brooks - Conductor of Youth Symphony
Debbie Martinez - Conductor of Youth Philharmonic
Rose Rydberg - Conductor of Youth Concert Strings
Sophia Potter - Chamber Music Program Director
Cassie Fritch - Manager of Youth Music Programs and Operations
Julissa Ramirez - Head Operations Assistant
Maryanne Uy - Operations Assistant
Hannah Gammil and Danielle Woods - Librarians