

# strings



## **Commitment to Excellence**

Devoted string students with the drive to succeed will find many opportunities to excel within the UNI School of Music. Pursuing a career in music takes dedication, effort, and an unshakable connection to the joy of making music. Stringed instruments are exceptionally versatile, offering a lifetime of varied opportunities to players. At UNI, students engage in an intensive and comprehensive program of study, working closely with a group of committed faculty.

Members of the string faculty not only perform as soloists, chamber musicians and orchestral musicians around

the state, nation, and world, they also regularly collaborate as soloists and clinicians with the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra.

## **Performance Opportunities**

Each week, string students work individually with members of our outstanding faculty, and they share their work frequently in various settings on campus, including studio classes, string seminar, student recitals, chamber ensembles and performances of the Northern Iowa Symphony Orchestra (NISO). Harpists share in all of these opportunities, as do guitarists, who, like bassists, may choose to emphasize jazz or classical playing.

NISO is one of the premier ensembles of the UNI School of Music and presents works for full orchestra from around the globe, and from 1600 through today. The group also reconfigures itself as a chamber orchestra, or to accompany concertos, operas, and much more. The orchestra tours every three years, and recent destinations have included Brazil, Russia, Costa Rica and New York City.

Advanced students may pursue additional opportunities to perform with a variety of regional ensembles (Orchestra Iowa, wcsymphony, and others) to build their professional experience.

SCHOOL OF MUSIC



### **Music Education and String Pedagogy**

Teaching is an essential part of making a living as a string player. Beyond the outstanding music education program at UNI — which prepares students to work as K-12 music directors — the School of Music offers several opportunities for string players to gain practical experience as private teachers. UNI string students have opportunities to take pedagogy classes that include hands-on teaching experience.

The School of Music has an active student chapter of the American String Teachers Association, and string students have the opportunity to become student teachers or assistants at the UNI Suzuki School, an outstanding program for string players aged

three years to adult. Students may also pursue an internship with the Northern Iowa Junior Orchestra (ages 10-14) or the Northern Iowa Youth Orchestra (ages 14-18).

### **Visiting Artists and Clinicians**

Among the many fine artists who visit the School of music each year are some of the world's most respected string players. UNI string students have had master classes with artists including violinists Elizabeth Adkins and David Perry, violists Patricia McCarty and Helen Callus, cellists Mark Kosower and Zuill Bailey, and bassists Edgar Meyer and Hans Sturm, as well as chamber musicians from the Takacs and Ying quartets, and the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields.

In addition to the exceptional artists hosted at the School of Music, the Gallagher Bluedorn Performing Arts Center hosts world-class soloists, chamber ensembles and orchestras each year, giving students the opportunity to hear some of the very best musicians in the world without leaving campus. Recent performers have included Joshua Bell, Yo-Yo-Ma, Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg, Itzhak Perlman, the Danish String Quartet, and many others.

Learn about our faculty at [music.uni.edu/directory](https://music.uni.edu/directory)

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