

## String Intensive Faculty and Coach Bios:



**Giancarlo Latta (Lead Teacher)** is interested in the intersection and convergence of music old and new. Fiercely committed to the music of our time and equally at home performing Mozart or Carter, Beethoven or Berio, Giancarlo has been involved in dozens of commissions and premieres, collaborating extensively with numerous composers both young and established. He has worked with Marcos Balter, Mario Davidovsky, Pierre Jalbert, George Lewis, Aaron Jay Kernis, Steven Stucky, Augusta Read Thomas, Anna Thorvaldsdottir, and Erik Ulman, among many others, and has performed in venues as diverse as the Rothko Chapel and Cy Twombly Gallery in Houston, Mariinsky II in St. Petersburg, National Sawdust in Brooklyn, London's Royal Albert Hall as part of the BBC Proms, and Lucerne's Neubad, a multipurpose performance space in a former public swimming pool. He has performed with the International Contemporary Ensemble (ICE), JACK Quartet,

and members of New York's Talea Ensemble and counter)induction. Recent highlights include duo performances with flutist Claire Chase as part of Houston's Da Camera series, the U.S. premiere of Liza Lim's opera *Tree of Codes* at the Spoleto Festival, Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire* on Nantucket Island, and residencies at the Avaloch Farm Music Institute (with pianist Robert Fleitz) and the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia. In spring 2016, Giancarlo curated and premiered "16x16: The Rice Encores Project," a large-scale commissioning endeavor featuring sixteen new short works for violin and piano and showcasing the entire Rice University composition studio; a recording of all sixteen pieces was released in early 2018. He is now embarking on a multi-year project, "24/21 [24 Caprices for the Twenty-First Century]," a commissioning mechanism for a new body of violin repertoire exploring the ever-broadening meaning of virtuosity. A founding member of KINETIC, a conductorless ensemble in Houston, Giancarlo is passionate about music-making on a small scale, and particularly interested in the creative and collaborative possibilities of performing without a conductor. As an orchestral musician, he was a member of the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America in 2013, and has attended the Lucerne Festival Academy and the Aspen Music Festival. Additional festival credits include the Banff Centre's Ensemble Evolution, the New York String Orchestra Seminar, the Contemporary Performance Institute at Wellesley College/Brandeis University, and the Next Festival for Emerging Artists. As a composer, Giancarlo strives to blur the boundaries between pitch and sound, between notation and improvisation, and between composer and performer. His works have been heard in concert and on the radio in Houston, New York, and Aspen. Giancarlo is currently pursuing graduate studies at Rice University, where he studies violin with Paul Kantor and composition with Anthony Brandt. He is a Da Camera Young Artist, performing and teaching in the Houston area through Da Camera Chamber Music and Jazz. He previously studied with Almita and Roland Vamos at the Music Institute of Chicago.



**Zuill Bailey (Coach)**, widely considered one of the premiere cellists in the world, is a Grammy Award winning, internationally renowned soloist, recitalist, Artistic Director and teacher. His rare combination of celebrated artistry, technical wizardry and engaging personality has secured his place as one of the most sought after and active cellists today. A consummate concerto soloist, Mr. Bailey has been featured with symphony orchestras worldwide, including Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, Detroit, Indianapolis, Dallas, Louisville, Honolulu, Milwaukee, Nashville, Toronto, Colorado, Minnesota, Utah, Israel, Cape Town, and the Bruchner Orchestra in Linz, Austria. He has collaborated with such conductors as Itzhak Perlman, Alan Gilbert, Andrew Litton, Neeme Jarvi, Giancarlo Guerrero, James DePriest, Jun Markl, Carlos Kalmar, Andrey Boreyko, Krzysztof Urbanski, Jacques Lacombe, Grant Llewellyn and Stanislaw Skrowaczewski. He also has been featured with musical luminaries Leon Fleisher,

Jaime Laredo, the Juilliard String Quartet, Lynn Harrell and Janos Starker. Mr. Bailey received his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from the Peabody Conservatory and the Juilliard School. His primary teachers include Loran Stephenson, Stephen Kates and Joel Krosnick. Mr. Bailey performs on the "rosette" 1693 Matteo Goffriller Cello, formerly owned by Mischa Schneider of the Budapest String Quartet. In addition to his extensive touring engagements, he is the Artistic Director of El Paso Pro-Musica (Texas), the Sitka Summer Music Festival/Series and Cello Seminar, (Alaska), the Northwest Bach Festival (Washington), Classical

Inside and Out Series- Mesa Arts Center(Arizona) and Director of the Center for Arts Entrepreneurship at the University of Texas at El Paso.



**Allison Bailey (Coach)** began violin studies at the age of four, developed a love for orchestral playing, and became the youngest member of the Prince William Symphony Orchestra at age ten. Ms. Bailey attended Peabody Conservatory of Music, the University of Oregon, and the Manhattan School of Music, earning a Bachelor's degree, Graduate Performance Diploma, and two Master's degrees. Violin teachers include Erick Friedman, Aaron Rosand, Herbert Greenberg, and Glenn Dicterow. Prior to returning to Virginia in 1999, Ms. Bailey lived and worked in New York City where she had a variety of performing engagements including frequent orchestral performances at Carnegie Hall, recording at Sony studios for Quincy Jones Productions, performing on the soundtrack to the A&E Biography of Irving Berlin, and coaching The Good Wife actress Juliana Margulies in violin for a character role in the NBC hit drama Homicide. In addition to her post as Associate Concertmaster of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, Ms. Bailey serves as

Concertmaster of the Manassas Ballet Theatre Orchestra, Associate Concertmaster of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra, maintains a private violin studio, and is an active freelance musician in the Washington area. In recent years Ms. Bailey has been a featured soloist with the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra and the Fairfax Choral Society. In addition, she has served on the faculty of the Virginia Governor's School for the Arts and as guest conductor and adjudicator in Virginia and New York City. Ms. Bailey is currently in her seventeenth year as orchestra director at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Fairfax County, VA, where she has also served as Summer School Principal for six years and was named Teacher of the Year in 2017.



**Ledah Finck (Coach)** is a violinist, violist, improviser, and composer residing in Baltimore, Maryland. A passionate performer, creator, and curator of contemporary classical music, she is an active member of experimental duo The Witches, the Bergamot String Quartet, Atlantic Extraction (jazz quintet led by bassist Nick Dunston) and earspace ensemble. In addition to music for those ensembles, she has been commissioned by Imani Winds, Alarm Will Sound/Now Hear This, the Bridge Ensemble, and The Peabody Community Chorus among others. Her music embodies a desire to create and share a sound-world in which the classical tradition, the folk music with which she grew up in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and extensive improvisatory elements can be in productive dialogue. This summer, she was a member of the Banff Evolution of the String Quartet program and the Lucerne Festival Academy in Switzerland, and was featured on the Sitka Summer Music

Series with Trio Jinx soon after the trio's participation in the semifinals of the Fischhoff Competition. She has also been selected to participate in Ensemble Modern's Klangspuren Academy, the Bang on a Can summer institute at MASS MoCA, Kneisel Hall, the Aspen Music Festival and School, and the Yellow Barn Young Artists Program. She holds undergraduate and master's degrees in violin performance and composition from the Peabody Conservatory, where she studied with Herbert Greenberg, Oscar Bettison, and Judah Adashi, and studied at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill on a Kenan Scholarship, a full fellowship for musical and academic merit.



**Helen Kim (Coach)** joined the San Francisco Symphony as Associate Principal Second Violin in the 2016-17 season. She enjoys a versatile career as teacher and performer. A member of the Saint Louis Symphony from 2011 to 2016, she made solo appearances with that orchestra in both the 2013 and 2014 seasons. She has spent her summers teaching and performing at festivals including Aspen, Yellow Barn, Luzerne, and the Innsbrook Institute. Ms. Kim received a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California, where she was Presidential Scholar, and a master's degree from the Yale School of Music.



**Dr. Melissa Kraut (Coach)** is recognized as a leading pedagogue. Having developed and trained some of the outstanding young musicians of today, Dr. Kraut has demonstrated a unique ability to teach all ages and stages of dedicated students, helping them reach their highest potential both at and away from the cello. Also an active performer, Dr. Kraut has led a diverse career on stage, with solo and chamber performances throughout the United States and Europe.