

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CONCERT

Series

JEFFREY
MEEKS
AND THE
CEDARVILLE
QUINTET



201 N. Limestone Street

JAN

28

2024

3:00 PM



Carlos Elias began his musical studies at the National Center of Arts in San Salvador and graduated Magna Cum Laude from Biola University in California, with a Bachelor degree in violin performance. He earned his Master degree from the University of Cincinnati, College- Conservatory of Music and an Artist Diploma from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. He has been Director of Strings and Orchestra at Colorado Mesa University. In addition, he was Concertmaster of the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra and Artistic Director and Conductor of the Symphony in the Valley in Glenwood Springs. He is currently Violin Professor and Conductor of the Symphony Orchestra at Cedarville University and Director of the Springfield Youth Symphony. He and his wife, pianist Andrea Arese-Elias, gave their New York debut at Weill Hall in Carnegie Hall in 2002. Their CD "Let's Tango" was named "Best of the Best" in the International category on eMusic in the US and the United Kingdom.



Mary Jo Johnson is a class of 2024 senior majoring in Music Education at Cedarville University. She began her Suzuki training at the age of 5 with Mrs. Kathy Johnston of Fairborn, Ohio and has studied with Professor Carlos Elias since 2016. Mary Jo has served as a principal player of the Cedarville University Orchestra, Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, and Springfield Youth Symphony. She also greatly enjoys chamber music, and performs with CU string chamber ensembles. In addition to her studies, Mary Jo maintains her own private violin/piano studio and on Sundays professionally answers the call of local churches as worship pianist. Mary Jo's professional memberships include National Association for Music Education, Dayton Music Club (performing member), Greater Dayton Area Suzuki Association (secretary), and Ohio Federation of Music Clubs.



Kenneth Bechtel is from Hilliard, Ohio. He started violin at the age of 6. Kenneth was a member of the Columbus Youth Symphony Orchestra, serving as the concertmaster during the 2020-2021 season, under the direction of Andres Lopera. He was also a member of the "Marquis String Quartet" receiving 3rd place at the Saint Paul String Quartet Competition, honorable mention at Midwest Young Artists Chamber Music Competition, and was a semi-finalist at the Coltman Chamber Music Competition under the direction of Deborah Price at Chamber Music Connection. He also received an honorable mention at the Columbus Young Artists Concerto Competition. Kenneth has studied under Jonquil Thoms, Ryan Meehan, Annie Fullard, and Igor Kalnin. Kenneth is currently pursuing a Bachelors in Music Performance at Cedarville University, studying with Professor Carlos Elias.



Hanna Lacey holds a B.Mus. in cello performance from Cedarville University and a M.M. in cello performance from Wright State University, where she graduated as a graduate teaching assistant with the Outstanding Graduating Graduate Student award and was a 2021 winner of the WSU Concerto/Aria Competition. Hanna plays in the Lima Symphony Orchestra and at Fairhaven church, and has played with other groups in Ohio such as Dayton Theatre Lab, Bluffton University, and Springfield Symphony Orchestra. Hanna currently works with the Springfield Symphony Youth Orchestra program as the conductor of the Youth Chamber Orchestra. She has served as the cello judge for the OMEA Southwest Region Orchestra auditions and is busy with a private studio and as a cello instructor at McCutcheon Music



Grant Brown enjoys a multi-faceted career as an Double Bass orchestral musician, chamber musician, pit musician and musical educator with extensive history and experience as a non-profit program director. A native of Toronto, who grew up in Western New York, Brown completed his bachelor's degree with James VanDemark at the Eastman School of Music and attended graduate school at Duquesne University under the tutelage of Jeff Turner. Currently residing in Tipp City, Brown performs across Ohio.