



PROJECT STEP 23/24 SEASON COLLABORATIONS



Midori

Midori is a visionary artist, activist and educator who explores and builds connections between music and the human experience and breaks with traditional boundaries, which makes her one of the most outstanding violinists of our time. She will mark the 40th anniversary of her professional debut this season, celebrating a remarkable career that began in 1982, when she debuted with the New York Philharmonic at age 11.

Midori has performed with, among others, the London, Chicago, and San Francisco Symphony Orchestras; the Sinfonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks; the Berlin and Vienna Philharmonics; the Mahler Chamber Orchestra; and Festival Strings Lucerne.



Masterclass and Workshop

December 2, 2023
Location and Time: TBD

LONGWOOD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Location: Jordan Hall (NEC)

Date: October 28, 2023

Time: 8:00 pm

Project STEP faculty member, Mariana Green-Hill, joins the newly appointed Longwood Symphony Orchestra conductor, Jotaro Nakano, for Chevalier's Violin Concerto No.1 Op.2 . Adding to this exciting piece, STEP students and faculty will perform side by side with Longwood musicians during the concerto.



Mariana Green Hill

Ms. Hill began studying violin at the age of four. She received bachelor's and master's Degrees from the Juilliard School and a Professional Studies Diploma from the Mannes College of Music. She has been a featured guest soloist with the Memphis, New Jersey, and Detroit Symphony Orchestras, the Boston Pops, Symphony Pro Musica, Boston Philharmonic Orchestra, Boston Civic Symphony, Boston Landmarks Orchestra, and the Cape Ann Symphony.

Ms. Green-Hill is the concertmaster of the Soulful Symphony in Baltimore. She also currently teaches at the Boston Arts Academy and Orchard Gardens Pilot School, as well as privately.

Joseph Bologne, Chevalier de Saint-George(s) (25 December 1745 – 9 June 1799) was a French violinist, conductor and composer who left an indelible mark as a versatile artist. His historical significance lies in his distinctive background as a biracial free man of color.[1] His exceptional talents rendered him the first classical composer of African descent to attain widespread acclaim within the realms of European music. He composed an array of violin concertos, string quartets, sinfonia concertantes, violin duets, sonatas, two symphonies and an assortment of stage works, notably opéra comique.[1] His prowess extended beyond music; he demonstrated excellence as a fencer, an athlete and an accomplished dancer.

Jordan Bak

Award-winning Jamaican-American violist Jordan Bak has achieved international acclaim as a trailblazing artist, praised for his radiant stage presence, dynamic interpretations, and fearless power. Critics have described him as "an exciting new voice in Classical performance" (*I Care If You Listen*), "a powerhouse musician, with a strong voice and compelling sound" (*The Whole Note*) and lauded his "haunting lyrical grace" (*Gramophone*). The 2021 YCAT Robey Artist and a top laureate of the 2020 Sphinx Competition, Bak is also a Grand Prize winner and Audience Prize recipient of the 2019 Concert Artists Guild Victor Elmaleh Competition, the recipient of the 2019 Samuel Sanders Tel Aviv Museum Prize and the 2019 John White Special Prize from the Tertis International Viola Competition.



Masterclass

November 11, 2023

Location: Chorus Room
(Symphony Hall)

Time: 12:00 pm

CHELSEY GREEN AND THE GREEN PROJECT

Celebrity Series (Stringfest)

Performance featuring The Chelsey Green Project with students from Boston Music Project, City Strings United, and Project STEP

Location: Kroc Center

Date: December 9, 2023

Time: 3:00 pm

Innovator and jazz virtuoso, Chelsey Green, and her trio share a program of jazz, funk, pop, and more with talented students from local string ensembles.



Chelsey Green

With performances often described as passionate, vivacious, electrifying, and innovative, Billboard-charting international recording artist **Chelsey Green** brings the vibrancy of violin and viola playing and unique, rich vocals to worldwide audiences in a whole new way.

Dr. Chelsey Green and her ensemble, **The Green Project**, tear down stereotypes of the violin and viola by fusing traditional classical technique with popular favorites and enticing original songs in various genres– including R&B, Pop, Soul, Funk, Jazz, Alternative, Hip Hop, Gospel and more!

Dr. Green has been honored to share both stage and screen with renowned, international artists including Stevie Wonder, Lizzo, Regina Carter, Wu-Tang Clan, Maimouna "Mumu Fresh" Youssef, MC Lyte, Terri Lyne Carrington, Kirk Franklin, Charles Lloyd and more. Featured as a soloist with the Boston Pops and Berklee World Strings Orchestras, Chelsey Green and The Green Project were also featured as an ensemble with the internationally acclaimed US Air Force Concert Band, the National Symphony Orchestra and the Prince George's Philharmonic.



A Far Cry Concert

“Street Stories”

featuring students

from Project STEP

Location: Jordan Hall (NEC)

Date: January 26, 2024

Time: 8:00 pm

ABOUT THE CRIERS

Called a “world-wide phenomenon” by Boston’s WBUR, A Far Cry has nurtured a distinct approach to music-making since its founding in 2007. The self-conducted orchestra is a democracy in which decisions are made collectively and leadership rotates among the players (“Criers”). This structure has led to consistently thoughtful, innovative programming — and impactful collaborations with celebrated performers and composers. A Far Cry has risen to the top of *Billboard’s* Traditional Classical Chart, been named Boston’s best classical ensemble by *The Improper Bostonian*, and celebrated two Grammy nominations for its *Visions and Variations*. *Boston Musical Intelligencer* sums up the group: “This conductor-free ensemble has earned and sustained a reputation for top-drawer playing, engrossing programming, and outstanding guest artists.”

A note from STEP’s Artistic Director

The partnership of Project STEP and A Far Cry serves as a beautiful union of values and mission. Their dedication to our students is sincere as indicated by the time and dedication they devote to sustaining a significant presence in the lives of our students both in and outside of the classroom. Their eclectic taste, virtuosity, and compassion makes them adept at mentoring the wide interest and ambitions of our students.

- Dr. Saunders
Project STEP Artistic Director



DANIEL

BERNARD

ROUMAIN

Daniel Bernard Roumain (DBR) is a Black, Haitian-American composer who sees composing as collaboration with artists, organizations and communities within the farming and framing of ideas. He is a prolific and endlessly collaborative composer, performer, educator, and social entrepreneur. "About as omnivorous as a contemporary artist gets" (New York Times), Roumain has worked with artists from J'Nai Bridges, Lady Gaga and Philip Glass to Bill T. Jones, Marin Alsop and Anna Deavere Smith.

Workshops and Concert with Daniel Bernard Roumain (DBR)

February 3, 2024
Workshop for K-2nd grade and 3rd-6th grade

February 4, 2024
Workshop for 7th-12th grade

February 11, 2024
Dress Rehearsal K-12
Public Performance and Community
Conversation

Two greater Boston non-profit community music programs (Project STEP and Suzuki Newton) come together in workshops and public performances engaging with the community around DEI in classical music led by Haitian-American artist DBR. Pieces developed in the workshops will be performed at the concert.

LINEAGE: RUSSELL GRAY AND PROJECT STEP

Location: St. Paul's Church

Date: March 10, 2024

Time: 4:00 pm

FEATURING COMPOSERS: Gluck, Salieri, Reicha, Franck, Saint-Saëns, Faure, Boulanger, Copland, Bernstein, Hyla, deVon Gray, (premiere), **Project**

STEP collaboration (premiere)

STEP Composition Seminar with Winsor Music and deVon Russell Gray

Participants must be able to attend all 4 classes (12:00 pm TO 1:00 pm)

STEP Composition Seminar with Winsor Music and deVon Russell Gray

Class 2 of 4 (12:00 pm TO 1:00 pm in Chorus Room)

STEP Composition Seminar with Winsor Music and deVon Russell Gray

Class 3 of 4 (12:00 pm TO 1:00 pm in Chorus Room)

STEP Composition Seminar with Winsor Music and deVon Russell Gray

Class 4 of 4 (12:00 pm TO 1:00 pm in Chorus Room)

Lineage: deVon Russell Gray and Project STEP

World Premiere of STEP compositions from Composition Seminar

St. Paul's Church, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

devon Russell Gray

deVon Russell Gray (dVRG) is a multi-instrumentalist who is classically trained as well as a member of the acclaimed live hip hop band Heiruspecs. Gray is a musical polyglot organically fusing contemporary classical, jazz, hip hop, Afrofuturistic, and popular music performance practices and styles. His music takes listeners on a deeply resonant journey, and he approaches newness with a refreshing and enlightening sense of mystery, wonder, and beauty. This concert will take the audience back in time, step by step linking dVRG with his influences, teachers and those who came before them. The program will trace this musical lineage from contemporary music back to the 18th century. The evening will end with a piece by the next generation - a collaboration with **Project STEP** students, dVRG and Winsor Music that will celebrate the connections between generations of creative artists!



Attacca Quartet

The Grammy award-winning Attacca Quartet "lives in the present aesthetically, without rejecting the virtues of the musical past" (*The Nation*) and it is this dexterity to glide between the music of the 18th through to 21st century living composer's repertoire that has placed them as one of the most versatile and outstanding ensembles of the moment – a quartet for modern times.

Palaver Strings

Palaver Strings is a musician-led string ensemble and nonprofit organization based in Portland, ME. Our mission is to strengthen and inspire community through music. In our musician-led model, Palaver's musicians share artistic and administrative leadership, guided by a passion for engaging new audiences, addressing social justice issues, and amplifying underrepresented voices. Equally committed to performance and education, Palaver presents a full season of live performances and serves over 325 students each year through the Palaver Music Center in Portland.



Palaver Strings and Attacca Quartet

Location: Shalin Liu Performance Center

Date: April 27, 2024

Time: Workshops (All morning and afternoon) | Concert @ 7:00 pm

Two phenomenally talented chamber ensembles, join forces for a stirring collaborative program entitled *Between Us*, including works which explore themes of togetherness and collective vision, in human communities, physical space, and the natural world. Prior to the concert, the two innovative ensembles will work with Project STEP chamber groups in workshops and masterclasses at The Shalin Liu Performance Center.

