



ENCORE

Chamber
Music
Institute

ENCORE

2026 Summer Academy

May 31 - June 21, 2026

Jinjoo Cho, Artistic Director

www.encorechambermusic.org

From Discipline to Discovery

Summer Academy 2026 May 31 - June 21, 2026



**Pre-formed
String quartets
& Piano trios**



**Solo
Violinists**



**Solo
Violists**



**Solo
Cellists**

ABOUT SUMMER ACADEMY

ENCORE's Summer Academy is a three-week intensive for 4 pre-formed ensembles and 60 exceptional young artists ages 13–26. Designed to build professional stamina and artistry, the Academy prepares students for major milestones—competitions, auditions, performances, and beyond.

Summer Academy Information



All students of Summer Academy receive the following opportunities

9 Private Lessons

9 Coachings

or

Solo Participants

Pre-Formed Ensembles

◇ **Masterclass Participation**

◇ **Formal Performance Opportunity**

◇ **Community Performance Opportunities**

◇ **ENCORE Camerata :**

A student-run conductorless ensemble, ENCORE Camerata's rehearsals and concert are coached by Verona String Quartet

◇ **Daily Wellness Classes**

◇ **Daily Morning Practice**

For students under 18, a 2-hour practice session is supervised by ENCORE fellows

◇ **Workshops:**

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Art of practice workshop | • Mental health workshop | • Acting workshop, and more |
| • Art of engagement workshop | • Peak performance workshop | |

◇ **Social Activities:**

- Open mic night
- Ultimate cabbage
- Chamber music shuffle, and more

◇ **Full access to all performances by our world-renowned artist-teachers and guest artists**

2025 Alumni Achievements

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**First Prize,
Banff International
String Quartet
Competition**

**String Quartet
Poiesis Quartet :
Max Ball ('21)
& Jasper de Boor ('21)**



**Bronze Medal,
Premio Paganini
International Violin
Competition**

**Violinist
Hyun Seo Kim ('23)**



**First Prize,
Lionel Tertis
International Viola
Competition**

**Violist
Sam Rosenthal ('19)**



**Grand Prize,
Gustav Mahler
International Cello
Competition**

**Cellist
Joshua Kováč ('24)**

Alumni Testimonials



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“

ENCORE felt like a summer dream
— a place where everyone grows, explores,
and falls in love with music again.

“

Beyond the world-class faculty and stunning performances,
what makes ENCORE exceptional are the people—the warmth,
camaraderie, and genuine connections that make learning happen
naturally through conversation, laughter, and music.

“

I met peers and educators who transformed my relationship with my
instrument. A thoughtful community led by artists who truly care for
the next generation, ENCORE is a special place for young musicians
to grow and be inspired.

Application Tracks

◆ Solo Young Artist Track

◆ Fellowship Track

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Application Tracks



♦ Solo Young Artist Track

28 violinists, 14 violists, and 14 cellists ages 13-26 are accepted to the Solo Young Artists Track.

Solo Young Artists Receive

- A total of 9 private lessons (55 mins each) with artist-teachers :
at ENCORE's Summer Academy, students do not belong to a specific studio of teachers.
- Cellists & Violists receive lessons with every artist-teacher of their respective instrument
- Violinists are divided into Class 1 & 2 (Class assignments are made before admission)

- Coachings with esteemed collaborative pianists (up to 30 minutes a day)
- Practice coachings with ENCORE Solo Fellows (up to 30 minutes a day)

Class 1	Receives lessons from Class 1 teachers, and masterclasses from Class 2 teachers
Class 2	Receives lessons from Class 2 teachers, and masterclasses from Class 1 teachers

Costs : Total - \$4,050

Tuition, Room & Board : \$3,950 / Campus Fee : \$100

♦ Fellowship Track

4 pre-formed ensembles (string quartets and/or piano trios), 2 solo violinists, 1 solo violist and 1 solo cellist of exceptional caliber are accepted to the Fellowship Track.

Pre-Formed Ensemble Fellowship

Solo String Fellowship

Fellowship Ensembles Receive

Solo Fellows Receive

- A total of 9 coachings (75 minutes each) with artist-teachers
- 2 Weekly Masterclasses with artist-teachers
- Selective chamber music collaborations with artist-teachers (not available for all participants)
- Studio Space — One designated rehearsal space per ensemble

- A total of 9 private lessons (55 minutes each) with artist-teachers
- Chamber music collaborations with artist-teachers
- Weekly Open Lessons
- Studio Space — One designated practicing / teaching space per solo fellow

Costs: Total - \$500

Free Room & Board, Free Tuition / \$500 Campus Fee per person

Costs: Total: \$200

Free Room & Board, Free Tuition / \$200 Campus Fee per person

Financial Aid & Scholarships



80% of our students receive scholarships!

ENCORE offers a variety of merit scholarship, financial aid, and work-study opportunities for Summer Academy's solo young artists.

Resident Assistant Scholarship

ENCORE Resident Assistants serve as supervisors in the residence halls, supporting and guiding fellow students. RA positions are open to solo young artists aged 18 and above, with a \$2,000 scholarship.

Applicants are considered based on experience and demonstrated financial need. To apply, students submit a statement of interest along with a résumé highlighting relevant experience through the online application. RA duties are designed so they do not interfere with scheduled activities or practice time.

Resident Assistant Responsibilities:

- Check in and check out students
- Arrive one day prior to the start of the Academy
- Conduct curfew checks on a rotating basis
- Enforce all Academy policies including concert attendance

The International Violin Competition of Indianapolis Scholarship

A full scholarship awarded to a solo young violinist of Black or Latinx heritage, generously sponsored by the International Violin Competition of Indianapolis.

Merit Scholarship

Partial and full scholarships are awarded to students who demonstrate exceptional musical performance.

Need-Based Financial Aid

A limited number of awards are available to solo young artists with demonstrated financial need.

Work-Study Scholarship

Work-study positions allow students to contribute to the Academy through roles such as ticket services or stage crew. These positions are structured not to conflict with scheduled activities or practice time.

Chris Haff-Paluck Memorial Scholarship

Partial scholarships are offered to students with a strong commitment to community service. Recipients are required to perform in at least one ENCORE in CLE event, part of the Academy's community performance series.

ARTIST-FACULTY / LECTURERS



STRING QUARTETS

Amit Even-Tov, cellist Ariel String Quartet; University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music	Mathieu Herzog, violist Quatuor Ébène (Former)	Mari Sato, violinist Cavani String Quartet (Former); Oberlin College & Conservatory	Peter Salaff, violinist Cleveland Quartet; Cleveland Institute of Music (Former)
* Week 1	* Week 2	* Week 3	* Masterclass Only

VIOLIN

Jinjoo Cho Northwestern University	Min-Jeong Koh The Royal Conservatory of Music	Paul Kantor Rice University	Dorothy Ro Verona Quartet; Oberlin College & Conservatory	Brendan Shea Central Washington University	Sibbi Bernhardsson Oberlin College & Conservatory
* Week 1-3, Class 1	* Week 1-2, Class 1	* Week 3, Class 1	* Week 1-3, Class 1	* Week 1-3, Class 2	* Week 1, Class 2
Stephen Miahky Vanderbilt University	Timmy Chooi University of Ottawa	Jonathan Ong Verona Quartet; Oberlin College & Conservatory	Erin Keefe The Minnesota Orchestra (Concertmaster)		
* Week 2, Class 2	* Week 3, Class 2	* Week 1-3, Class 2	* Masterclass Only		

VIOLA

Ettore Causa Yale University	Eric Wong Vanderbilt University	Kirsten Docter Oberlin College & Conservatory	Lynne Ramsey Cleveland Institute of Music	Jordan Bak Manhattan School of Music	Abby Rojansky Verona Quartet; Oberlin College & Conservatory
* Week 1	* Week 2-3	* Week 1	* Week 2	* Week 3	* Week 1-3

CELLO

Max Geissler Butler University; Latitude 49	Valentin Radusiu Rice University	Brannon Cho Robert McDuffie Center for Strings/Northwestern University	Tommy Mesa Manhattan School of Music	Jonathan Dormand Verona Quartet; Oberlin College & Conservatory	Khari Joyner Baldwin Wallace Conservatory of Performing Arts
* Week 1-3	* Week 1	* Week 2	* Week 3	* Week 1-3	* Masterclass Only

NEW Campus Location!

Baldwin Wallace University

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BALDWIN WALLACE UNIVERSITY



The 2026 ENCORE Summer Academy will take place for the first time on the campus of Baldwin Wallace University's Conservatory of Performing Arts in Berea, OH — a nationally ranked institution with 125 years of history dedicated to inspiring students of all ages to explore, understand, and realize authentic artistic expression.

Since its 2024 expansion into a full Conservatory of Performing Arts, BW has further elevated the performing arts on campus, encompassing its distinctive programs in theatre, dance, and arts management and entrepreneurship.

Students will be housed in air-conditioned, double-occupancy dorms, supervised by student and staff Resident Assistants. Underage students will have a curfew, and all students are expected to adhere to campus guidelines to ensure a safe and supportive environment.