



Announcing The RSC ChamberMusicLab - Program Overview *Intensive Full Scholarship Honors Program for Advanced Pre-College Students*

The Rivers School Conservatory (RSC) is pleased to offer a significantly expanded chamber music program, **The RSC ChamberMusicLab**, beginning in the second semester of 2020-2021. ChamberMusicLab will take place on Saturdays at RSC in Weston, MA. The program will feature intensive chamber music training, a steady diet of master classes, and ample performance opportunities. What is distinctive about the RSC ChamberMusicLab is its focus on teaching in-depth, with an unswerving requirement of attention to detail, quality of execution, and its quasi-professional environment.

There will be both Senior and Junior levels of ChamberMusicLab. The senior program, Honors ChamberMusicLab, designed for very advanced pre-college students (generally in grades 10-12) will provide full scholarships and begin on February 6, 2021. Junior ChamberMusicLab, for serious middle school students, will have a modest tuition fee but provide double the instruction time of the regular RSC chamber music program. It will offer master classes, workshops, and performance opportunities. Auditions for the Junior Program will be held in Spring 2021 for the program beginning in Fall 2021.

In Honors ChamberMusicLab, commencing on February 6, students will be placed through auditions in chamber music groups (initially string quartets and piano trios). Most Saturdays, groups will spend 90 minutes in rehearsal and have 90-minute coaching sessions. Approximately ten times during the academic year, groups will rehearse and coach for an hour each, spending the third hour in master classes with internationally-renowned chamber musicians.

Life Skills Building: Great chamber music playing can be compared to the phenomenon of a basketball team on a fast break. Just as a fast break requires players to execute technically while simultaneously running, passing, catching, reacting, reading the court, and having an awareness of where every player is at all times, chamber music requires that we play our instruments and parts well while simultaneously listening, reacting, adjusting, anticipating, and hearing the other parts. This is what ChamberMusicLab aspires to teach. Learning to navigate differences of opinion and personality and developing the radar to “read the room” are essential goals of this program. These skills, uniquely learned through immersion in chamber music, translate directly into skills young people need to succeed in any field – medicine, law, and many others in which the combination of talent, grit, and collaboration are critical success factors.

Core Faculty: Bruce Coppock (cello, ChamberMusicLab Director), Gabriella Diaz (violin, Co-Artistic Director of Winsor Music), Danny Kim (viola, Boston Symphony Orchestra), Eugene Kim (cello, RSC Faculty), Ronald Lowry (cello, RSC Faculty)

Giving Back: ChamberMusicLab requires that students perform in the community and at special events to promote the study of music at RSC. As ambassadors for RSC and Rivers, all students and faculty are expected to exemplify The Rivers School’s value of *Excellence with Humanity*.

Auditions: Auditions for Spring 2021 Honors ChamberMusicLab will take place in two phases: Preliminary video auditions will take place online through “[Accepted](#)” (December 21, 2020 deadline). Live final auditions will be held at RSC on January 23, 2021. Both individual musicians and pre-formed ensembles are welcome to apply. There is a \$15 fee to audition through “Accepted,” and admitted students will be charged a \$30 registration fee; these are the only fees associated with the senior program.