

A professional violist based in Rochester, NY, **Carrie Davids** is an avid performer, collaborator, and teacher. Originally from Connecticut, Carrie began playing the viola at the age of 6. She has studied at the HARTT School of Music, Interlochen Arts Academy, Eastman School of Music (BM '13), and Manhattan School of Music (MM '16). Her primary teachers have included Melinda Daetsch, David Holland, Carol Rodland, and Karen Ritscher.

Carrie has been an attendee of many summer music programs and festivals, including the North American Viola Institute (NAVI), Quartet Program, Bowdoin, Zephyr Chamber Music Festival, and Chautauqua Institute. She has performed in masterclasses for Heidi Castleman, Jutta Puchhammer-Sediolot, Catharine Carroll, Becca Albers, Caroline Coade, Almita and Roland Vamos, Schmul Katz, and Nicholas Cords.

A participant in the 2017 Emerson String Quartet Institute at Stony Brook University and a winner of both the 2010 Eastman Chamber Honors Recital and the 2016 FUCHS Chamber Music Competition, Carrie is an extremely experienced and well-versed chamber music player. Her chamber music coaches have included the Ying Quartet, Kopelman Quartet, Emerson String Quartet, Jodi Levitz, Sam Rhodes, Aaron Berofsky, and Laurie Carney, just to name a few. She was a member of the Chamber Music Faculty at the Manhattan School of Music Precollege Division from 2016-2019 and coaches chamber music at Luzerne Music Center during the summer.

Orchestrally, Carrie has performed as principal violist in the CT Allstate Orchestra, Interlochen Arts Academy Orchestra, Eastman School Symphony Orchestra, and Chautauqua Music Festival Symphony Orchestra. Currently, Carrie is a violist for the Glens Falls Symphony, where she was the finalist for the Principal Violist position in 2018. She also frequently plays with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra and the Cayuga Chamber Orchestra.

An avid collaborator, Carrie has participated in many avant-garde concerts around the city, performing many works by "up and coming" composers in the tri-state area. In 2016, Carrie took part in Chautauqua's first ever "Inter-Arts Collective," and recently performed with a duo of dancers as a part of the Higher Ground Artist Residency at the United Palace Theatre, NYC this past November.

In addition to playing classical viola, Carrie has a strong interest in the Baroque era and early music. She has studied Baroque viola/music with renowned lute player Paul O'Dette and his wife, Christel Thielmann, as well as taken lessons from Baroque violinists Libby Walfish and Cynthia Roberts.

As a teacher, Carrie is on the faculty ROCMusic, Geneseo Central Schools, and frequently teaches at the Hochstein School of Music and Dance. Previously, she was on the faculty at Larchmont Music Academy and the Manhattan School of Music Precollege Division, both as a Viola Professor and Chamber Music Coach. During the summer, Carrie teaches Viola and Chamber Music at Luzerne Music Center.

Outside of performing, Carrie has an extensive background in arts administration. From 2016-2020, she assisted managing world-renowned violinist Augustin Hadelich as an administrator for Schmidt Artists International. Since January 2020, Carrie has joined the Rochester Education Foundation team as their Instrument Donation Coordinator, where she helps make musical instruction possible for all Rochester City School Students. During COVID-19, Carrie began a video series called "Wake Up and Practice" in order to help parents and students find motivation, assistance, and ideas for practicing and playing at home while school instruction was halted.

To Carrie, music is the world's most universal language, and in her continuing musical career, she hopes to spread that idea and help everyone to connect and come together through music!