

Concert Program

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Welcome to NEC!

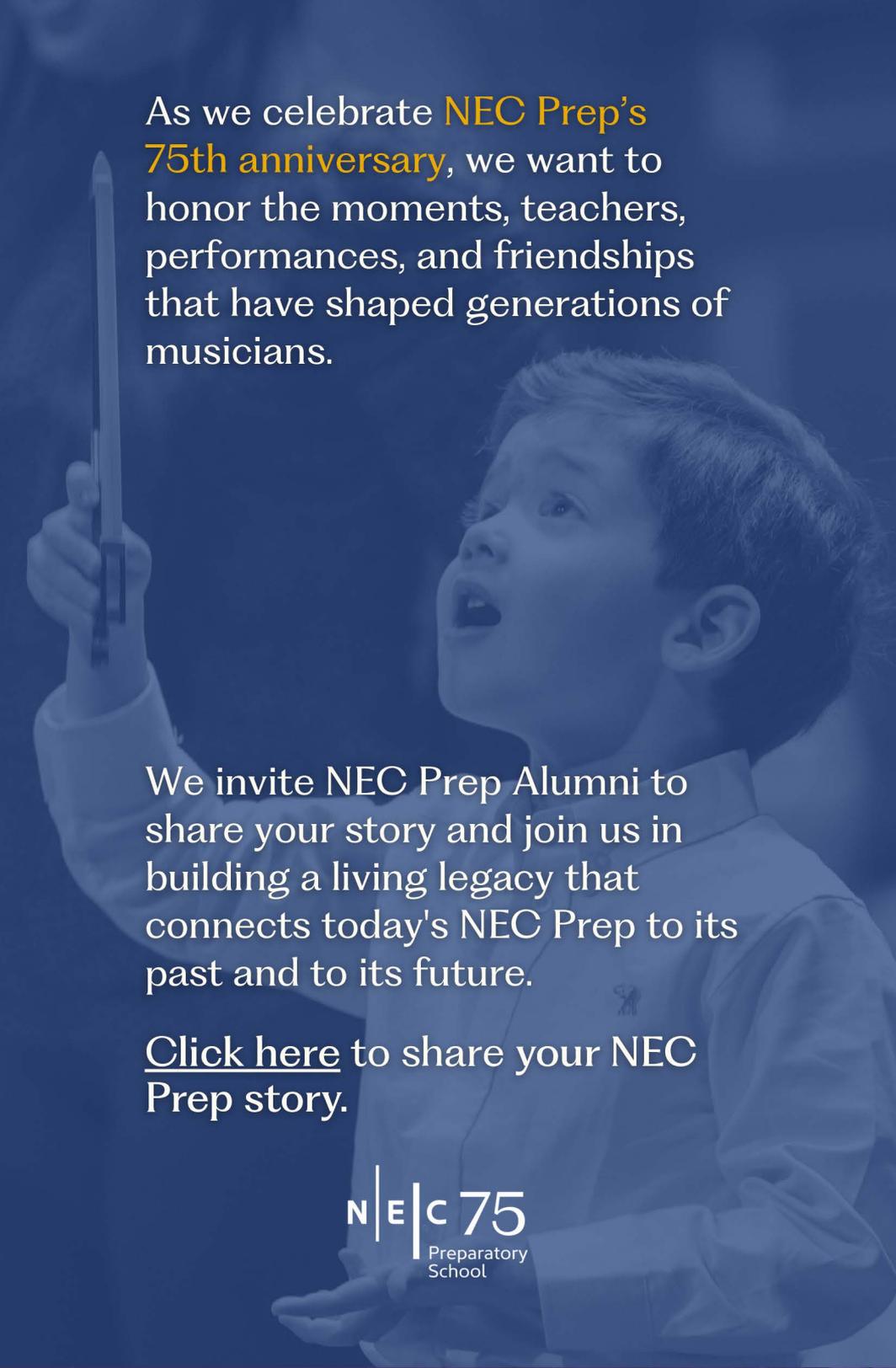
I am thrilled to welcome you to New England Conservatory's 2025–26 concert season — a celebration of the power that music has to inspire and connect us to one another.

Whether you are seated in one of our concert halls or watching online, we hope the performances of our students, faculty, and guest artists uplift you.

Above all, we thank you for supporting our students as they cultivate their artistry and contribute to the world through music.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Andrea Kalyn
President



As we celebrate **NEC Prep's 75th anniversary**, we want to honor the moments, teachers, performances, and friendships that have shaped generations of musicians.

We invite NEC Prep Alumni to share your story and join us in building a living legacy that connects today's NEC Prep to its past and to its future.

[Click here](#) to share your NEC Prep story.



Resonance: 75 Years of Strings and Chamber Music at NEC Prep

Saturday, November 15, 2025

12:00 PM

New England Conservatory - Jordan Hall

PROGRAM

Welcome Remarks

Anait Arutunian, *String Department Chair*
Carol Ou, *Chamber Music Department Chair*
Laura Blustein, *CHIPS Co-Director and*
Former Chamber Music Department Chair

Faculty Alumni Performance

Suite in G minor, Op. 71

Moritz Moszkowski (1854–1925)

II. Allegro moderato

Ayano Ninomiya, *violin*
Mariana Green-Hill, *violin*
Dina Vainshtein, *piano*

Panel Discussion with NEC Prep Alumni

Peter Zazofsky
Lynn Chang
Ayano Ninomiya
Mariana Green
Arun Asthagiri
Laura Blustein, *moderator*

Video Postcards

Featuring NEC Prep alumni
Zlatomir Fung
Stefan Jackiw
Beth Guterman
Joshua Weilerstein
Emily Bruskin
Julia Bruskin
Melissa Reardon

A Tribute to NEC Prep Distinguished Former Chairs

Happy Birthday, NEC Prep

Prep Students Performance

Polonaise de Concert, Op. 14
(arranged for cello quartet)

David Popper (1843–1913)

Gabriel Jojatu
Sophia Fortuin
Stefan Ladendorf
Cole Katz
Mihail Jojatu, *coach*

We would like to thank our String and Chamber Music Faculty for their dedication and all of their wonderful teaching, care and expertise!

BIOGRAPHIES

Violinist **Peter Zazofsky** has enjoyed a career as soloist, chamber musician and educator that spans twenty years and thirty countries on five continents. He has performed with many of the great orchestras in the US and Europe, including the Boston Symphony, the Berlin Philharmonic, Amsterdam Concertgebouw, and the Philadelphia Orchestra, in collaboration with maestros such as Tennstedt, Ozawa, Ormandy, Kurt Sanderling and Charles Dutoit. As a recitalist, Mr. Zazofsky has given innovative programs in Carnegie Hall, Sala Cecilia Meireles in Rio de Janeiro, Palais des Beaux Arts in Brussels and the Teatro Colon in Buenos Aires. He also tours the world's music centers as first violinist of the Muir String Quartet.

Peter Zazofsky was born in Boston, where his father was assistant concertmaster of the Boston Symphony. Joseph Silverstein was his first teacher, and he later studied with Dorothy Delay, Jaime Laredo and Ivan Galamian at the Curtis Institute.

Since then, Peter Zazofsky has made solo appearances with the orchestras of Atlanta, Baltimore, Leipzig, Santiago, Toronto, Minnesota and Montreal. He has toured Asia as soloist with the San Francisco Symphony, as well as the US with the Danish Radio orchestra. He is a frequent visitor to Israel, where he has given over forty performances of concerti, from Beethoven and Sibelius to Bach, Berg and Brahms.

In recent years Peter Zazofsky has added several new facets to his career. He has given premieres of new works written for him by composers in Holland, Belgium, Denmark and Spain, and he recorded concerti by Robert Chumbley and Frederick Van Rossum in Liege, Belgium and Warsaw, Poland. Mr. Zazofsky holds the position of Associate Professor of Violin and Chamber Music at Boston University, and he occasionally serves as a jury member for the violin competitions in Montreal, Brussels, and Odense, Denmark. As first violinist of the Muir Quartet, he has performed many complete cycles of the Beethoven quartets, and has encouraged creation of new works by American composers Joan Tower, Sheila Silver, and Richard Danielpour.

Soloist with Boston Symphony Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Philadelphia Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony, Berlin Philharmonic, Rotterdam Philharmonic, and Vienna Symphony. Recitals throughout Europe and United States. Member, Muir String Quartet. Faculty, Boston University College of Fine Arts, since 1987.

Violinist **Lynn Chang** has enjoyed an active and versatile international career as soloist, chamber musician, and educator for over twenty five years.

A native of Boston, Chang is director of the Hemenway Strings at the Boston Conservatory, where he also teaches. His former students now perform in such orchestras as the Chicago Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in New York.

Lynn Chang is a member of the Boston Chamber Music Society. He has also appeared at the Wolf Trap, Great Woods, Marlboro, and Tanglewood Music Festivals, and as soloist with orchestras in Miami, Salt Lake City, Oakland, Seattle, Honolulu, Beijing, Taipei, and Hong Kong. He has performed with members of the Juilliard, Tokyo, Cleveland, Vermeer, Muir, and Orion String Quartets

Chang has collaborated with cellist Yo-Yo Ma on numerous occasions. Their performance of Leon Kirchner's Tryptich has been recorded for *Sony Classical*. Their world premiere performance of Ivan Tcherepin's Double Concerto with the Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra received the Grawmeyer Award for Best New Composition in 1995. In 2004, he participated in Ma's Silk Road Project residency at the Peabody Essex Museum in Massachusetts. He also collaborated with Dawn Upshaw on her Grammy Award-winning CD, *Girl with the Orange Lips*.

Chang is married to pediatrician Dr. Lisa Wong. They make their home in Newton, Massachusetts with their two children, Jennifer and Christopher who also are violinists.

Lynn Chang is faculty at NEC Prep, Boston University, Boston Conservatory, MIT.

Praised by *The New York Times* as "deeply communicative and engrossing," violinist **Ayano Ninomiya** is committed to creating invigorating live performance experiences from concert stages to private homes and public schools. *The Boston Globe* wrote that, "A note from her was never just a note...Whatever project she takes on next, it is sure to be worth a listen."

Equally at home as a soloist, recitalist, and chamber musician, Ayano has performed throughout the United States, as well as in Canada, Puerto Rico, Europe, China, Japan, Singapore, Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand. In addition to recent performances at Weill Hall, Zankel Hall, and Merkin Hall, she made her Carnegie Hall debut in 2016 with the Stravinsky Violin Concerto. Recent performances include solos with A Far Cry and the Jacksonville Symphony, as well as recitals at the Music Mountain Festival, the Sembrich Opera Museum, and the Moab Festival. She will also perform with Beaux Arts Series (FL), Chamber Music International (TX), Boston Chamber Music Series, and Chameleon Ensemble (MA), as well as at the Cooperstown, Orford (Canada), Bowdoin, Morningside Music, Interlochen Arts, and Anchorage chamber music festivals.

As a recording artist, Ayano has released a variety of albums including a solo album of works for violin by Larry Bell and more recently, three albums as the first violinist of the Ying Quartet: an album of the complete quartets by Robert Schumann, an album of the complete quartets by Anton Arensky, and a third album, "American Anthem" (*Sono Luminus*), featuring works by Randall Thompson, Samuel Barber, and Howard Hanson.

In 2012 Ayano gave a TEDx talk at the University of Tokyo. More recently, she has given numerous lecture demonstrations for organizations and festivals on topics ranging from Aikido principles as they pertain to playing the violin to sustaining a varied career. Other past projects include a benefit performance for victims of the 2009 Haiti earthquake, a fundraiser in the aftermath of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake with sumo wrestler Konishiki, and the creation of her own Elderhostel "Day of Adventure" programs in NYC that gave an insider's view of making music. As a recipient of the Frank Huntington Beebe Fellowship, Ayano conducted research of scores at the Bartók Archives in Budapest, Hungary, working with musicologist László Somfai.

An avid chamber musician, Ayano has performed at the Marlboro, Ravinia, Kingston, Skaneateles, Caramoor, Bowdoin, and Moab music festivals, as well as at Prussia Cove's International Musicians Seminar, the Canberra International Festival (Australia), and the Adams Festival (New Zealand). She has joined "Musicians from Marlboro" (Marlboro Festival) and "Musicians from the Steans Institute" (Ravinia Festival) in tours of France and the west and east coasts of North America. She is a founding member of the conductorless string orchestra, ECCO (East Coast Chamber Orchestra), which is composed of soloists and leaders of quartets and orchestras from around the United States. Because of her own experience beginning the violin in a public school program in Boston at the age of seven, Ayano has given numerous programs for children across the U.S. from Bethlehem, New Hampshire to Columbia, Missouri, to Denton, Maryland, including many in the greater Philadelphia area.

Ayano, whose principal teachers and mentors include Miriam Fried, Robert Mann, Eszter Perenyi, Michele Auclair, and Robert Levin, graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University. She graduated with her Master's degree from The Juilliard School and then went on to study at the Franz Liszt Academy in Budapest, Hungary. From 2010-2015, Ayano was first violinist of the renowned Ying Quartet and Associate Professor at the Eastman School of Music. In the fall of 2015 she joined the faculty of New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. She has been a volunteer tutor for at-risk high school students at the East Harlem Justice Center and volunteer at the Lighthouse Music School (NYC). In her spare time, she loves to paint and practice Aikido.

Mariana Green-Hill is Project STEP's Artistic Advisor and a member of STEP's violin and chamber music faculty. She has been a long-term member of Project STEP's staff, and has served in many roles including Artistic Director. Mariana is also the Strings Director at Boston Arts Academy where she teaches high school students. She founded and directs Four Strings Academy, an intensive string training summer program, and teaches privately. She received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees from The Juilliard School and a Professional Studies Diploma from the Mannes College of Music.

Mariana is a multi-prize winner of the Sphinx Competition as well as the recipient of the 2009 Sanford Allen Award in recognition of her "artistic merit, persistence, and extraordinary achievement." Mariana has been a featured guest soloist with the New Jersey, Memphis, Detroit, and Boston Symphony Orchestras and the Boston Pops. In addition to her solo performances, she is an experienced chamber and orchestral musician. The Amaryllis String Quartet, of which she was a member, was awarded First Prize in the prestigious Fischhoff Chamber Music Competition (Jr. Division). Mariana has performed with Yo Yo Ma, Pamela Frank, Lynn Chang, Marcus Thompson, and with members of the Houston and Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestras. She was also a member of the Young Eight String Octet for six seasons.

Arun Asthagiri is a scientist and musician. He is interested in how music moves people. His research combines systems neuroscience, music cognition, and affective science to understand how a predictive brain makes meaning from organized sound (music). Specifically, he is interested in how interoception—a brain's inference and control over bodily signals—impacts musical pleasure.

Currently, Arun is pursuing a PhD at Northeastern University in the Music Image and Neural Dynamics lab working with Dr. Psyche Loui. He completed a Bachelor's of Music in violin performance at the New England Conservatory studying with Prof. Nicholas Kitchen. He has been playing violin for just about two decades. His previous mentors include Magdalena Richter and Anait Arutunian.

As an interdisciplinary researcher, Arun finds himself at the intersection of performance studies, systems neuroscience, computational neuroscience, predictive processing, and interoception. His past work investigated how live over recorded music uniquely engages the listening brain. He has worked on health-based applications leveraging rhythms in music to stimulate brain dynamics and promote healthy cognition. His current work takes the perspective that the brain is a predictive organ combining data from the external world (e.g., music) with data from the internal world (e.g., the heart, lungs, etc.). He is interested in how the brain and body together make meaning from complex configurations of sound that we call music.

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Food and drink are not allowed in the concert hall, and photography and audio or video recording are prohibited.

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We thank our generous donors, who remain committed to elevating the NEC experience and who make it possible for our students to continue their artistic pursuits. Every gift to **The NEC Fund** supports the pillars of an NEC education — scholarship, community engagement, and a world-renowned faculty.





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