

**M** Manhattan  
School of Music

**THE ROBERT MANN  
STRING QUARTET  
INSTITUTE  
Final Concert**

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025 | 2 PM  
GORDON K. AND HARRIET GREENFIELD HALL

This year's performance season has been inspired by a unifying theme: ***Humanity in Harmony: Rituals, Resistance, and Resilience***. We hope during this election year, the biggest in human history with over half the world's population having the opportunity to vote in 72 countries, that this theme reflects the power of the arts to unite us even in moments of discord and differences. The collective experience of collaboration – creating together – reminds us that even in our differences we can find common ground, stand up to tyranny and oppression, and elevate our work as artists to fulfill the hope and promise of a better tomorrow.

**James Gandre**, President

**Joyce Griggs**, Executive Vice President and Provost

Faculty and Administration of the Artistic Planning Committee



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# THE ROBERT MANN STRING QUARTET INSTITUTE

## Final Concert

### PROGRAM

FANNY MENDELSSOHN  
(1805–1847)

String Quartet in E flat Major

- I. *Adagio ma non troppo*
- II. *Allegretto*
- III. *Romanze*
- IV. *Allegro molto vivace*

**Horatio String Quartet**

W. A. MOZART  
(1756–1791)

String Quartet No. 23 in F Major, K.590

- I. *Allegro moderato*
- II. *Andante*
- III. *Menuetto: Allegretto*
- IV. *Allegro*

**Candide String Quartet**

*Intermission*

BELA BARTOK  
(1881–1945)

String Quartet No. 5, Sz. 102

- I. *Allegro*
- II. *Adagio molto*
- III. *Scherzo: alla bulgarese*
- IV. *Andante*
- V. *Finale: Allegro vivace*

**Poiesis String Quartet**

# THE ROBERT MANN STRING QUARTET INSTITUTE

JANUARY 8–12, 2025

## Participating Quartets

### Horatio Quartet

**Justin Saulnier** and  
**Joey Machin**, violin  
**Alex Beggs** viola  
**Gabriel Vincent**, cello

### Poesis Quartet

**Sarah Ma** and  
**Max Ball**, violin  
**Drew Dansby**, viola  
**Jasper de Boor**, cello

### Candide Quartet

**Chili Ekman** and  
**Henry Rogers**, violin  
**Pearl de la Motte**, viola  
**Yin Vanny Hu**, cello

## 2025 Faculty

**Nicholas Mann**, founding member of the Mendelssohn String Quartet and  
Chair of the String Department at Manhattan School of Music

**David Geber**, founding member of the American String Quartet and Faculty  
Advisor to Chamber Music at Manhattan School of Music

**Wolfram Koessel**, member of the American String Quartet,  
MSM Artists in Residence

**Laurie Carney**, Founding member of the American String Quartet

**Samuel Rhodes**, former member of the Juilliard String Quartet

**Mark Steinberg**, founding member of the Brentano Quartet

**Ilmar Gavilán**, founding member of the Harlem String Quartet

**Eugene Drucker**, founding member of the Emerson String Quartet

**Peter Winograd**, member of the American String Quartet,  
MSM Artists in Residence

# ABOUT THE ARTISTS

## Horatio Quartet

The Horatio Quartet was founded in 2023 at McGill's Schulich School of Music. Under the guidance of André Roy, the quartet is establishing itself as a rising force, quickly gaining recognition for its dynamic and impassioned performances. Bringing together a wealth of experience, the members of the Horatio Quartet have performed as soloists, chamber musicians, and orchestral leaders in various programs internationally.

In the summer of 2024, the Horatio Quartet participated in the Montreal International String Quartet Academy. They had the privilege of performing for and working with members of renowned quartets such as Ébène, Dover, Emerson, Ysaÿe, Talich, Calidore, and Jerusalem. The quartet won the 2024-2025 McGill Chamber Music Competition and was a finalist in the 2024 Lyon International Chamber Music Competition.

The quartet's name is inspired by the character Horatio from Shakespeare's Hamlet. Just as Horatio lives to tell Hamlet's tale, the quartet is devoted to carrying forward the legacy of composers who lived before us.

## Candide Quartet

Formed in 2023, the Candide Quartet comprises Juilliard undergraduate violinists Chili Ekman and Henry Rogers, violist Pearl de la Motte, and cellist Vanny Hu. Undergoing their second full year as a quartet, the group is committed to exploring the chamber music repertoire, gaining performing experience, and learning from the artistry of past generations. The quartet strives to bring a fresh perspective to their interpretations, combining tradition with innovation.

During the summer of 2024, the quartet attended residencies at Music in the Vineyards and Madeline Island Chamber Music. After returning to school they had the honor to work with Caroline Shaw and perform the Juilliard premiere of her work Plan and Elevation at Juilliard's first annual Fall Festival. This past November the quartet extended their commitment to Madeline Island Chamber Music through a week-long residency at the MacPhail Center for Music in Minneapolis. During the summer and their residency in the fall, they presented masterclasses, lectures, and performances to communities nationwide.

The Candide Quartet has been coached and mentored by many esteemed musicians including David Finckel, Daniel Phillips, Paul Neubauer, Robert Levin, Joseph Lin, Brian Zeger, and David Kim. They have also worked with many of

today's leading quartets, including the Miro Quartet, American Quartet, Harlem Quartet, and the Pacifica Quartet, among others.

Having a shared love for *Candide* and Voltaire's *Candide, ou l'Optimisme*, the group embodies the sentiments of appreciation for the camaraderie and dedication that they believe are inherent both in Voltaire's novel and string quartet playing.

## Poiesis Quartet

The Poiesis Quartet is the 2023 Grand Prize winner of the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. Having formed just eight months earlier during Oberlin Conservatory's Advanced String Quartet Seminar, Poiesis also received Fischhoff's Senior Strings Gold Medal and the Lift Every Voice prizes, as well as Gold Medal and BIPOC Prize at the 2023 St. Paul String Quartet Competition. In May 2024, Poiesis joined the Concert Artists Guild roster for North American management as the winner of the Louis & Susan Meisel Competition. Currently, Poiesis is the Graduate String Quartet in Residence at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) under the tutelage of The Ariel Quartet.

For the 2024-25 season, they also serve as the ensemble-in-residence of *concertnova*, a Cincinnati-based collective that presents multi-sensorial and interdisciplinary concert experiences. Other highlights of the 2024-25 season include appearances on chamber music series in Asheville, NC, and San Antonio, TX, as well as the world premiere of two quartets by Brian Raphael Nabors and Kitty Brazelton at CCM. The ensemble released their debut album this past October, as we are, in collaboration with Nancy Maultsby on the Bright Shiny Things label.

Since 2023, the Poiesis Quartet has completed tours in the Midwestern United States, Uruguay, and Italy. The ensemble has premiered works by Alejandro Melo and Rick Stout. In addition to their debut album, the ensemble has recorded Coleridge-Taylor's *Perkinson's Calvary Quartet* and performed on a WFMT (Chicago) live broadcast. For their performance at the Rocky River Chamber Music Society's 65th season opening night concert, they were lauded by Cleveland Classical as "agile collaborators" with an "extraordinary, honeyed group sound."

The name Poiesis is derived from the ancient Greek word ποιῆν, meaning 'to make,' particularly, to create something that has never been made before. As a string quartet comprised of multi-disciplinary young artists, the Poiesis Quartet seeks to program music of all styles and expand the traditional quartet setting by centering works by emerging and underrepresented composers. Poiesis strives to create unique moments of synchronicity, sensitivity, and verve in each performance.

## ABOUT ROBERT MANN

Robert Mann (1920–2018) was a driving force in the world of music for more than 70 years. As founder and first violinist of the Juilliard String Quartet, and as a soloist, composer, teacher, and conductor, Mr. Mann brought a refreshing sense of adventure and discovery to chamber music performances, master classes, and orchestral performances worldwide. His passionate performances and advocacy “helped engender a chamber music revival throughout the United States” (*New York Times*). He was, in the words of Richard Dyer of the *Boston Globe*, “one of the country’s most admired and deeply loved musicians.”

Born in Portland, Oregon in 1920, Mr. Mann began studying violin when he was 8, and at age 13 was accepted into the class of Edouard Hurlimann, concertmaster of the Portland Symphony. In 1938, he enrolled in the Juilliard School, where he studied violin with Edouard Dethier, composition with Bernard Wagenaar and Stephan Wolpe, and conducting with Edgar Schenkman. Mr. Mann won the prestigious Naumburg competition in 1941. In 1946, at the invitation of Juilliard’s president, William Schuman, Robert Mann founded the Juilliard String Quartet, serving as the ensemble’s first violinist for 51 years until his retirement from the Quartet in 1997.

Robert Mann composed more than 30 works for narrator with various instruments that he performed with his wife, Lucy Rowan. He also composed an Orchestral Fantasy, performed by Dimitri Mitropoulos with the New York Philharmonic; a Duo for Violin and Piano that was premiered at Carnegie Hall by Itzhak Perlman; and a String Quartet that was included in the repertoires of both the La Salle and the Concord string quartets. His other works include a Duo for Cello and Piano written for Joel Krosnick and Gilbert Kalish, and *Dream Time*, recorded by violist David Carpenter.

Robert Mann conducted throughout his career, leading ensembles such as the New York Chamber Symphony, MSM Symphony, and ensembles at the Ravinia, Tanglewood, and Aspen music festivals. In addition, at the invitation of Seiji Ozawa, he was in residence at Japan’s Saito Kinen Music Festival as a conductor, teacher, and performer. He was a mentor to younger generations of string quartets, including the Alexander, American, Concord, Emerson, LaSalle, New World, Mendelssohn, Tokyo, Brentano, Lark, St. Lawrence, and Colorado string quartets. In 2012, he began leading the Robert Mann String Quartet Institute at Manhattan School of Music, bringing the country’s most talented young string quartets to the school for intensive coaching.

# ABOUT MANHATTAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Founded as a community music school by Janet Daniels Schenck in 1918, today MSM is recognized for its 1,025 superbly talented undergraduate and graduate students who come from 54 countries and nearly all 50 states; its innovative curricula and world-renowned artist-teacher faculty that includes musicians from the New York Philharmonic, the Met Orchestra, and the top ranks of the jazz and Broadway communities; and a distinguished community of accomplished, award-winning alumni working at the highest levels of the musical, educational, cultural, and professional worlds.

The School is dedicated to the personal, artistic, and intellectual development of aspiring musicians, from its Precollege students through those pursuing doctoral studies. Offering classical, jazz, and musical theatre training, MSM grants a range of undergraduate and graduate degrees. True to MSM's origins as a music school for children, the Precollege Division is a professionally oriented Saturday music program dedicated to the musical and personal growth of talented young musicians ages 5 to 18. The School also serves some 2,000 New York City schoolchildren through its Arts-in-Education Program, and another 2,000 students through its critically acclaimed Distance Learning Program.

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## Land Acknowledgment

We want to acknowledge that we gather as Manhattan School of Music on the traditional land of the Lenape and Wappinger past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout the generations. This calls us to commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit as well.



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