

Comprehensive • Inspiring • Challenging • Fun

In-Person Day Camp

OPUS



21ST

ANNUAL

CHAMBER MUSIC CAMP

July 30 – August 5, 2023

North Central College, Naperville, IL 60540

The study of chamber music in small ensembles of two to six players develops teamwork and draws on the individual strengths of each musician. As a result, students who have had such exposure and training are **inspired and strive for excellence while making new friends** through producing beautiful chamber music together.

[napopus.org](http://napopus.org)

OPUS, P.O. Box 495,  
Naperville, IL 60566-0495



## *Develop Your LOVE for Chamber Music!*

# **Come Back Every Year and Enjoy More!**

When we introduce chamber music to OPUS students, whether with strings, piano, or other instruments, we seek to create a positive experience to showcase the joy of playing chamber music together. OPUS helps our musicians to develop an energetic and enthusiastic appreciation for this type of musical performance.



**From a parent** who has moved away after her husband's passing...

*"Let me share with you how my husband's passion for music has pervaded into my five children. Two of them now belong to the highest youth orchestra of the Arkansas Symphony Youth Orchestra. One gets to audition this Sunday for concertmaster and got invited to consider auditioning for the National Youth Orchestra (NYO). The one next to them is growing her engagement with the piano and expanding her repertoire. The 11-year-old now just joined the youngest group of the ASYO orchestra! As for the youngest, he is starting off with the piano."*

*"Monthly, they all prepare some pieces as a group and play at nursing homes! It's amazing how music has brought us many blessings, starting from meeting you and all the music teachers that have guided us throughout it all. Thank you again for everything!"*

**From three other parents...** *"My child truly enjoyed it and she said OPUS was the best camp she has ever had." "It is amazing how you have inspired kids and their parents." "My children now not only look forward to serving as Teaching Assistants, but hope to return one day as faculty."*

# NEW! Co-Ensemble-in-Residence



Yang LIU and I-Hsuan Olivia TSAI 劉揚-蔡宜璇



## Yang & Olivia Duo

Global Music Silver Medalist Yang and Olivia are a violin-piano duo who create unforgettable storytelling programs featuring Chinese and western classical music. This married couple has performed and taught in the US, Canada, China, Taiwan, Portugal, Brazil, amongst other places. They are both faculty of Vandercook College of Music.

Yang Liu (violin) is a prize winner of the Twelfth International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow and a first prize winner of China's National Violin Competition. He has performed with many world-leading orchestras, with repertoire ranging from baroque to the most contemporary works. His award winning album "*Song of Nostalgia*" showcases his virtuosity and musicality.

Dr. Olivia Tsai (piano) is a frequent presenter of MTNA, CMS and other music festivals and conferences. Her book "*Schubert's Piano Trios*" was published by Scholar's Press in Germany in 2014. Both Yang and Olivia are avid advocates of cultural exchange via classical music. To that end, they founded Yang and Olivia Foundation, to embrace diversity, equality and inclusion with presentations highlighting Chinese and Taiwanese influence. Check out their website: [Yangandolivia.com](http://Yangandolivia.com).



## Audition Team's Core Members (also conductors):



**MUSIC DIRECTOR**  
**Violinist-Violist**  
**Mara Gallagher (11)**



**Violinist-Violist**  
**Carl Johnston (21)**



**Acting Piano Coordinator**  
**Dr. Susan Chou (3)**



**Cellist**  
**Ann Griffin (5)**

## ENSEMBLE-IN-RESIDENCE THE Orion Ensemble



From right: **Kathryne Pirtle**, Clarinet  
**Judy Stone**, Cello  
**Dr. Diana Schmück**, Piano  
**Florentina Ramniceanu**, Violin

Recognized as one of Chicago's finest chamber music groups, **ORION ENSEMBLE** is the winner of the prestigious Chamber Music America/ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming. Renowned for their expressive cohesiveness and creativity developed over **30 years** together, Orion's unique dedication to this intimate art form contributes to its preservation and accessibility, inspiring audiences of all ages, as well as composers and young musicians. **2023 will be the 17<sup>th</sup> year Orion has been with the OPUS Camp.**

[www.orionensemble.org](http://www.orionensemble.org)



**Florentina Ramniceanu**,  
**Violin (14)**

**Dr. Diana Schmück**,  
**Piano (16)**



**Judy Stone**,  
**Cello (15)**



**Kathryne Pirtle**,  
**Clarinet (17)**

# VIOLIN-VIOLA FACULTY



**Kuei-Mien (Tina) Chang** 張桂綿 (6)  
**Dr. Kate Carter** (3)  
**Amanda Fenton** (9)  
 Also **Carl Johnston** (see p 3)

**Dana Green** (7)  
**Drew Lecher** (10)  
**Yang Liu** 劉揚 (1)  
**Patrick Gallagher** (4)



**Nina Saito** (6) **Daryl Silberman** (7) **Alessandra West** (2) **Janis Wittig** (5)

# CELLO BASS PIANO HARP FLUTE FACULTY



**Michael Duggan** (15) **William Cernota** (3) Also **Ann Griffin** (see p 3)  
**Catherine Kuna** (19) **Dr. Mark Liu** (10) **Dr. Phillip Serna** (9)



**Patricia Barnes** (10) also Handbells **Ben Nadal** (2) **Dr. Olivia Tsai** 蔡宜璇 (1)  
**Dr. Stephanie Wu** (14) Also **Dr. Susan Chou** (see pg 3)  
**Nichole Young** (4) **Dr. Cate Hummel** (7)

(x): Years with  
 OPUS Camp



So much joy and many miracles happen at the OPUS Chamber Music Camp. Here we highlight camper Miracle Joy A. who has attended OPUS Chamber Music Camp for five years so far!



So Happy to be back *in-person* in 2021 to deepen OPUS friendship



Her 2022 Highlights



# Making Joy and Miracles - Miracle Joy's OPUS Chamber Music Week



With 5 years OPUS Campers



Sound Effects Project



In Chamber Music Coaching



Arts Connections Project



Chamber Music Mob



In Campers' Concert: Orchestra



Chamber Ensemble Performance



As one participant says, the most interesting part was *“putting it together and getting to know my group members. I also made new friends!”*  
 Pictured with some of the coaches.



## **Participative! Interactive! Comprehensive! Energizing, & FUN!!!**



*“Is your eye okay?”* They met each other at OPUS.

It is the enjoyment of making music together with new friends, rekindling friendships from previous years, and all the camaraderie, character-building, teamwork, cultural appreciation, and chamber musical skill improvements that encourage OPUS Participants to come back year after year.



As one participant says, *“My favorite was meeting super cool people while have a really great time. We even met to trick-’n-trick!”*





The OPUS programs are aimed at encouraging students to improve their musical skills while at the same time growing socially by promoting friendships in an honest and ethical environment.



Teaching Assistants' training on Campus Security helps safeguard campers' safety.



## OPUS TAs are Campers' Best Friends.



The OPUS Teaching Assistant (TA) Team functions cohesively. They are wonderful counselors and role models for campers.

TAs are responsible, energetic, enthusiastic, and focused on creating a positive experience for all campers. They are usually campers' best friends.



OPUS TAs/TIs (instructors) are college students or young teachers. They perform on stage for campers and the community.

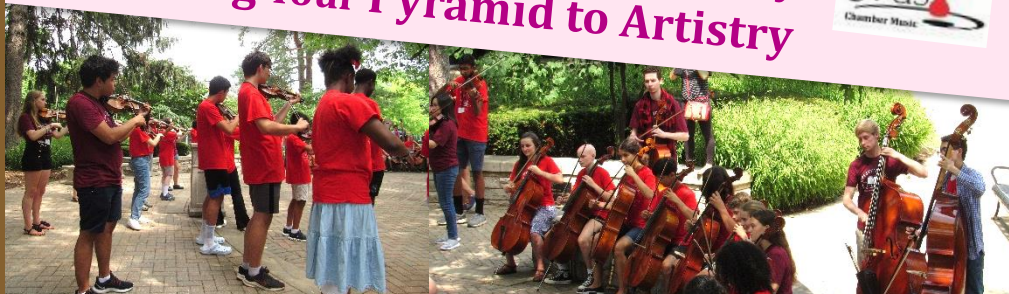




The OPUS **Chamber Music Mob** allows every camper to play outdoors with faculty and TAs. The photos here show them playing Beethoven's Ode to Joy in 2019 and Ravel's Bolero in 2022, complete with strings, drum-timpani, bells, harp/lyre, and rhythm beaters.



## THE OPUS Chamber Music Journey - Building Your Pyramid to Artistry



The Orion Ensemble



### The OPUS Chamber Music Pyramid-Building Process:

Students learn from initially making a signature sound, followed by advancing to memorization and connection, to cueing, movements, articulation, rhythm, dynamics, expression, communication, and finally to the ultimate artistry.

OPUS works to assign participants and their music selections in a thoughtful way. We send music selections to students four weeks in advance of the camp.



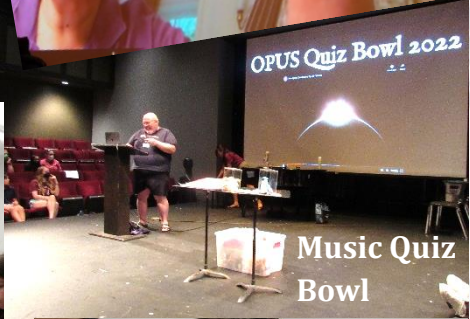
YoYo Ma's  
2022 Camp  
Masterclass



Marvelous Varieties - Masterclass,  
Quiz Bowl, and Culture Workshop



"Constructing Harmony  
Without a Sound" Workshop





Every camper must choose an Arts Connections project to work on.

Project choices may include:

- A. Theory-Composition
- B. Music Arranging
- C. Improvisation
- D. Music Story Videography
- E. Music Story Sound Effects
- F. Fiddle



## Theory-Composition

Campers may elect to work alone or in teams to showcase their own work on created music.

# Arts Connections Workshop - Developing Campers' Creativity



Develop your own creativity and stretch your musicality by making connections with the arts you love!



## Arranging



## Improvisation



Additional performing opportunities -

## Music Story Telling by Instrument Sound



"It was really fun performing my own piece, and I enjoyed listening to other campers' compositions as well."

## Music Story Videography 10





## String Chamber Orchestra



Enjoy being part of a team as you perform large ensemble repertoire.





# Handbell Choir

(for pianists, harpists, and wind players)



**Experience** an invigorating, uplifting, and intriguing Handbell Choir adventure.



## Violin/Viola/Cello/Bass Choirs



Bass Choir



Viola Choir

**At the OPUS Chamber Music Camp, Instrument Choirs are high-energy groups full of instrumental pride and big sound!**



Violin Choir



Cello Choir

# Application Deadlines

- **Scholarship Application** (Special, Outstanding, Merit or Honor)  
**June 4<sup>th</sup>** (Form on website)
  - **Application for Admission (Electronic Audition Required)**  
**June 11<sup>th</sup>** (Only online application accepted)
  - **Tuition Payment Due**  
**July 1<sup>st</sup>** (Amount notified June 24<sup>th</sup>. Online payment is available.)
  - **Tuition: \$850. Pianists pay \$950** (Past camper or sibling discount may apply.) **Special Referral Discount:** \$50 tuition discount to a new referred camper by a past camper. \$50 discount also to the past camper who made the referral; \$100 discount for 2 new camper referrals; and \$150 (cap) discount for three new camper referrals who actually come to participate.
- Options** available by request (7:30-8:30 am or after the Camp):
- **ILMEA-Audition Preparation Class:** 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Grade campers only. Minimum of 3 required. Pay \$60 more upon end of June notification.
  - **Private Lessons:** available by request for \$60/60 minute lesson.

## Lunch & Recreation



Campers learn the joy that comes from performing music together. And this joy shows the way to many things that make life enjoyable –  
**love, teamwork, friendship.**





# Camp Schedule



- **By July 10<sup>th</sup>:** Students receive music and Handbook and Practice Tips and then start practicing. **Campers are expected to learn the music.**
- **Last Two Weeks of July:** One or two “virtual” Progress-Check Lessons, each up to one-hour, will be scheduled by Teaching Assistants with Faculty at mutually agreed times.
- **Sunday July 30<sup>th</sup>:** Handbell Orientation, Meet ‘n Greet Session, 1<sup>st</sup> Chamber Music Coaching, Arts Connections Introduction, Large Ensemble Rehearsals, and Registration. Camper’s selection of Arts Connections Project is due Monday General Assembly at the latest.
- **Camp Week July 30 – August 4:** Various classes and workshops from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM *except Tuesday and Wednesday’s Special Performance/Seminar which end at 5:30 PM.*
- **Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>:** Campers perform in the **“Listen to Our Young Artists”** Concert at Wentz Concert Hall, Naperville. Melody (M) Group Campers concert is planned at 10:30 AM; and Harmony (H) Group Campers at 3:00 PM. There may be a joint all-campers “finale” piece.
- **2 pm on August 7<sup>th</sup> Concert:** Faculty will select camper chamber ensembles to perform in a **special** concert dedicated to veterans and seniors at Wentz Concert Hall.

**Note 1:** The two camps, **Harmony (H)** and **Melody (M)** Camps, have schedules that essentially mirror each other. Faculty will decide placements in H or M Camp based e-Audition evaluation of applicant’s experience level and the balance needed in chamber and orchestra.

**Note 2: Final decisions on** in Arts Connections’ **Projects** will be made 4 weeks before the Camp time for H and M Campers to choose.

**Schedule: Campers will be occupied to the fullest during the 7-day Camp.** Please refer to [www.napopus.com](http://www.napopus.com) /2023 Music Camp for the **GENERAL Schedule, 8:45 to 4:30 or 5:30.** Your **INDIVIDUALIZED CLASSROOM Schedule** will be sent 5 days before the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Camp.



# OPUS



Chamber Music  
napopus.org

## Opus at a Glance:

Our comprehensive 7-day program for musicians ages 8-18, who study violin, viola, cello, contrabass, flute, clarinet, harp, or piano, combines the following classes to challenge and musically inspire our campers:

- Chamber Music Coaching & Rehearsals
- Faculty Chamber Music Demonstrations
- Chamber Music Master Classes
- Arts Connections Workshop & Showcase of Camper's Work  
Choice of Theory-Composition, Arranging, Music Stories  
- Instrument Sound or Videography, Improvisation, etc.
- Music Culture-Genre Workshop and / or
- Music Quiz Bowl
- Violin, Viola, Cello, Contrabass & Clarinet Choirs
- Chamber Orchestra or Handbell Choir
- Individual Pre-Camp Progress-Check Lessons
- Chamber Music Mob Ensemble
- Final Concert and More!

[www.napOPUS.org](http://www.napOPUS.org)

*"There is **nothing like this Camp** program around here.  
The location is literally in our **"own" backyard.**"*

### Contact Us:

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630.983.8902