



## 2026 SUMMER PROGRAM

The Heifetz summer program is an immersive, intensive, and often transformative musical experience for our students, built upon the Institute's decades-long record of leadership and innovation in high-level musical instruction, Performance and Communication Training, practice analytics, personal coaching and mentoring, and industry-leading multimedia production.

The Institute's 2026 Summer Program is open to outstanding string players who generally range in age from 8 to 30. Successful applicants aged 14 or younger are generally assigned to the Junior Division, while those 15 and older are placed in the Senior Division. Students aged 14 or 15 may be considered for both Junior or Senior Divisions, with placement determined by the Artistic Director. Senior Division applicants 18 and above may also apply to the Heifetz Chamber Music Seminar. Successful Chamber Music Seminar applicants will participate in all Senior Division AND Chamber Music Seminar activities.

For both Junior and Senior Division students, the Heifetz Summer Program includes:

- Two private lessons per week
- One studio performance class per week
- A rigorous chamber music component featuring two coachings per week and scheduled performances
- Our signature Heifetz Performance & Communication Training modules
- Seminars, masterclasses, lectures, fine instrument exhibitions, and audition opportunities, including *From The Top*
- A School Fair featuring representatives from the nation's leading conservatories and music schools
- Industry-leading HD audio and video productions, including live streams, studio recordings, and concert videos on the Heifetz Institute's popular YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook pages
- Practice & performance analytics and coaching with professional consultants
- Days of Play: Organized hikes, field trips, and outings for Heifetz students to explore the natural beauty and local attractions of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley
- Daily public concert performance opportunities per week, including:
  - > *Stars of Tomorrow* concerts twice per week
  - > Faculty & student chamber music collaborations
  - > Free afternoon concerts in downtown Staunton venues
  - > Junior Division Solo and Chamber Music Showcases
  - > *Celebrity Series* concerts featuring Heifetz faculty and select students
  - > Private house concerts and Institute Board and fundraising events.
  - > Extensive outreach performance opportunities in area churches, libraries, and civic events

### IMPORTANT DATES

December 31, 2025	Early Application Deadline (\$25 discount on application fee)
February 1, 2026	Final Application Deadline
March 2, 2026	Admissions Notices Begin
March 13, 2026	Final Admissions Notices
June 19, 2026	Arrival for Senior Division & Junior Division Session I
July 11, 2026	Departure for Junior Division Session I
July 12, 2026	Arrival for Junior Division Session II
August 2, 2026	Departure for Senior Division & Junior Division Session II

The 2026 Heifetz Institute will be held on the campus of Mary Baldwin University in Staunton, Virginia. Nestled in the Shenandoah Valley between the Blue Ridge and Allegheny Mountains, Staunton is known for its historic and culturally vibrant downtown and stunning natural beauty. Staunton regularly appears on "Top 10" lists of the nation's best main streets and small cities in such publications as *Vogue*, *Travel & Leisure*, *USA Today*, and *Architectural Digest*.

"At the Heifetz Institute, we have the privilege of welcoming generations of truly gifted young artists into a thrilling arena of discovery. As Artistic Director, I am proud of all that our community has achieved over three decades of summers—through the extraordinary dedication of our faculty, the inspiring artistry of our alumni, and the unforgettable performances of our students. What a joy it is to celebrate 30 years of sharing this music together!"

— Nicholas Kitchen, Artistic Director

VIRGINIA  
IS FOR  
MUSIC  
LOVERS



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
for the  
ARTS  
arts.gov



TOURING THE AREA?  
Visit our Heifetz Music Shop in the heart of historic downtown Staunton at 11 S. New St., conveniently located at the junction of I-81 & I-64.

For lodging, dining, and recreational activities in the area please explore [VisitStaunton.com](http://VisitStaunton.com)



"My time at Heifetz taught me how to communicate not only with my fellow musicians, but also with the audience. It reshaped how I think about performance—as a shared conversation, not a one-way expression."

International Music Institute  
**heifetz**  
at Mary Baldwin University

11 South New Street | Staunton, VA 24401 | 540.907.4446  
admissions@heifetzinstitute.org | www.heifetzinstitute.org  
f Heifetz International Music Institute | Heifetzmusic  
i Heifetz International Music Institute

International Music Institute  
**heifetz**  
at Mary Baldwin University

1996-2026



## THE HEIFETZ INSTITUTE SUMMER PROGRAM

### INTENSIVE SOLO & CHAMBER MUSIC STUDY

June 19 – August 2, 2026

Mary Baldwin University  
Staunton, Virginia

VIOLIN • VIOLA • CELLO  
HEIFETZINSTITUTE.ORG

### 2026 HEIFETZ INSTITUTE STRING FACULTY

NICHOLAS KITCHEN – ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, New England Conservatory; Borromeo Quartet  
BORROMEO STRING QUARTET, Ensemble In Residence

#### CHAMBER MUSIC SEMINAR

SHMUEL ASHKENASI, Curtis Institute of Music; Bard College Conservatory

RALPH KIRSHBAUM, USC Thornton School of Music – Heifetz Institute, New England Conservatory (Nicholas Kitchen, Kristopher Tong, Melissa Reardon, Yeesun Kim)

#### CHAMBER MUSIC: SENIOR DIVISION

BELA HORVATH, Manhattan School of Music Pre-College Division

RALPH KIRSHBAUM, USC Thornton School of Music

MICHAEL KLOTZ, Florida International University; American String Quartet

BORROMEQUARTET, New England Conservatory

#### VIOLIN: SENIOR DIVISION

IVAN CHAN, Hong Kong Academy for the Performing Arts

ARA GREGORIAN, New England Conservatory

JUDITH INGOLFSSON, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

ILYA KALER, Cleveland Institute of Music; Tempest Trio

GRIGORY KALINOVSKY, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

MARK KAPLAN, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

PATINKA KOPEC, Manhattan School of Music

KYUNG-SUN LEE, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

DANIEL PHILLIPS, The Juilliard School; Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center

HAGAI SHAHAM, Buchman-Mehta Academy; Tel Aviv University; Stony Brook University

KYOKO TAKEZAWA, Tokyo Music School; Tokyo College of Music

KRISTOPHER TONG, New England Conservatory; Borromeo Quartet

#### VIOLA: SENIOR DIVISION

ATAR ARAD, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music

CAROLINE COADE, University of Michigan School of Music

LAWRENCE DUTTON, Stony Brook University; Mercer University

PATINKA KOPEC, Manhattan School of Music

MAI MOTOBUCHI, New England Conservatory

#### CELLO: SENIOR DIVISION

MIKI AOKI, Arizona State University

YANDI CHEN, New England Conservatory

ROHAN DE SILVA, The Juilliard School

ALLISON FREEMAN, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

ELIZABETH HILL, Meraki; Balance Campaign; Symphony Number One

TAE KIM, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore School of the Arts

SHENG-YUAN KUAN, Lynn University Conservatory

MINJI LEE, Shenandoah Conservatory

SEONMI LEE, Colburn School; USC Thornton School of Music

YOUNG LEE, SUNY Purchase College; The Juilliard School

#### CELLO: JUNIOR DIVISION

MIKI AOKI, Arizona State University

YANDI CHEN, New England Conservatory

ROHAN DE SILVA, The Juilliard School

ALLISON FREEMAN, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

ELIZABETH HILL, Meraki; Balance Campaign; Symphony Number One

TAE KIM, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore School of the Arts

SHENG-YUAN KUAN, Lynn University Conservatory

MINJI LEE, Shenandoah Conservatory

SEONMI LEE, Colburn School; USC Thornton School of Music

YOUNG LEE, SUNY Purchase College; The Juilliard School

#### CELLO: JUNIOR DIVISION

MIKI AOKI, Arizona State University

YANDI CHEN, New England Conservatory

ROHAN DE SILVA, The Juilliard School

ALLISON FREEMAN, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

ELIZABETH HILL, Meraki; Balance Campaign; Symphony Number One

TAE KIM, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore School of the Arts

SHENG-YUAN KUAN, Lynn University Conservatory

MINJI LEE, Shenandoah Conservatory

SEONMI LEE, Colburn School; USC Thornton School of Music

YOUNG LEE, SUNY Purchase College; The Juilliard School

#### CELLO: JUNIOR DIVISION

MIKI AOKI, Arizona State University

YANDI CHEN, New England Conservatory

ROHAN DE SILVA, The Juilliard School

ALLISON FREEMAN, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

ELIZABETH HILL, Meraki; Balance Campaign; Symphony Number One

TAE KIM, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore School of the Arts

SHENG-YUAN KUAN, Lynn University Conservatory

MINJI LEE, Shenandoah Conservatory

SEONMI LEE, Colburn School; USC Thornton School of Music

YOUNG LEE, SUNY Purchase College; The Juilliard School

#### CELLO: JUNIOR DIVISION

MIKI AOKI, Arizona State University

YANDI CHEN, New England Conservatory

ROHAN DE SILVA, The Juilliard School

ALLISON FREEMAN, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

ELIZABETH HILL, Meraki; Balance Campaign; Symphony Number One

TAE KIM, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore School of the Arts

SHENG-YUAN KUAN, Lynn University Conservatory

MINJI LEE, Shenandoah Conservatory

SEONMI LEE, Colburn School; USC Thornton School of Music

YOUNG LEE, SUNY Purchase College; The Juilliard School

#### CELLO: JUNIOR DIVISION

MIKI AOKI, Arizona State University

YANDI CHEN, New England Conservatory

ROHAN DE SILVA, The Juilliard School

ALLISON FREEMAN, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

ELIZABETH HILL, Meraki; Balance Campaign; Symphony Number One

TAE KIM, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore School of the Arts

SHENG-YUAN KUAN, Lynn University Conservatory

MINJI LEE, Shenandoah Conservatory

SEONMI LEE, Colburn School; USC Thornton School of Music

YOUNG LEE, SUNY Purchase College; The Juilliard School

#### CELLO: JUNIOR DIVISION

MIKI AOKI, Arizona State University

YANDI CHEN, New England Conservatory

ROHAN DE SILVA, The Juilliard School

ALLISON FREEMAN, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University

ELIZABETH HILL, Meraki; Balance Campaign; Symphony Number One

TAE KIM, Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University; Baltimore School of the Arts

SHENG-YUAN KUAN, Lynn University Conservatory

MINJI LEE, Shenandoah Conservatory

SEONMI LEE, Colburn School; USC Thornton School of Music

International Music Institute

**heifetz**

*at Mary Baldwin University*

1996-2026



**“** My time at Heifetz was one of the happiest summers of my life. I learned not only how to play music better, but how to express my heart through it. Playing chamber music and hearing others perform showed me the true joy of music, and I'll always treasure those memories.



## THE HEIFETZ INSTITUTE SUMMER PROGRAM

INTENSIVE SOLO & CHAMBER MUSIC STUDY

**June 19 – August 2, 2026**

Mary Baldwin University, Staunton, Virginia



VIOLIN • VIOLA • CELLO

HEIFETZINSTITUTE.ORG

