

Orchestra Iowa School of Music Announces Inaugural “Honors Ensemble In Residence”

HEIRs enhances performance programs at Cedar Rapids' premier music school

Cedar Rapids, IA. - Orchestra Iowa is pleased to announce the inaugural ensemble in its elite performance program HEIRs (Honors Ensemble In Residence). HEIRs is a year-long chamber music residency where area high school students work directly alongside Orchestra Iowa musicians.

Student musicians were selected for this program through competitive audition. Those chosen receive a full scholarship for the program, an award equal to \$1,250 per student.

The students selected this year include violinists Grace Walker and Celia Garner-Prouty, violist Lucy Young, and cellist Rebecca Herron.

These four musicians will participate in chamber music coachings with Lisa Ponton, Principal Viola of Orchestra Iowa and violist of the Orchestra Iowa String Quartet. The ensemble will represent the Symphony School in numerous performance opportunities including educational and outreach events. Students will hone ensemble skills, learn advanced rehearsal techniques, and explore challenging repertoire.

HEIRs is sponsored by the Community Fund of the Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation.

Founded in April 1921, Orchestra Iowa is one of the oldest symphony orchestras in continuous operation west of the Mississippi River. Its 82 professional musicians perform more than 120 public performances throughout Eastern Iowa each year, many of which can be heard on Iowa Public Radio and seen on Iowa Public Television.