



Nina Bledsoe Knight

Education:

DMA in Viola Performance

Graduate Certificate in Women Studies

University of Houston, Houston, TX

December 2019

MM in Viola Performance

Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

January 2014

Graduate Studies in Violin Performance

Manhattan School of Music (no degree earned)

August 2008

BM in Violin Performance

Florida State University

December 2007

Magna Cum Laude

Honors, Awards, and Scholarships:

Recipient from the Hirsch Scholarship Endowment; Moores School of Music, University of Houston (2014-2017)

Fellowship Artist: Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival 2015: Viola, Beth Newdome Young Artist Fellowship

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Fellowship Recipient: Aspen Music Festival and School 2013: Viola, AACA Orchestral Fellowship

Scholarship Recipient: Aspen Music Festival and School, Violin 2007

Winner Young Artists Concerto Competition at Florida State University 2006: Violin

Current Positions:

Adjunct Instructor: Viola and Chamber Music

Sam Houston State University January 2017-present

- Teaches viola, chamber music, MUSI 1301—Introduction to Music for non-majors (Fall 2017), and FAMC 2301—Creative Arts Seminary (Spring 2018, Fall 2018, and Spring 2019)
- Performs with faculty string quartet

Violin and Viola Teacher

Houston, TX August 2013-present

- Teaches middle and high school students, organizes recitals, regularly prepares students for TMEA region and All-State, and prepares students for college auditions.

2020-2021 Engagements:

SHSU Pedagogy Workshop: June 22-24, 2020, Online

- Presenting a lecture on “Viola Basics” on June 24, 2020 via zoom.

Houston Viola Society Masterclass: August 14, 2020, Online

- Guest artist/teacher for High School Student Master Class via zoom

Texas All-State Strings Camp: August 3-7, 2020, Online

- Viola Faculty
- Assists in organizing and scheduling viola curriculum

Klein ISD Viola ay: January 23, 2021, Houston, TX

- Visiting teacher and performer

Klein Forest HS Pre-UIL Workshop: March 25, 2021, Houston, TX

- Viola clinician

American Viola Society Festival: June 2-5, 2021, Knoxville, TN

- Presenting a lecture recital at the festival: *Embodied Metaphors and their Contribution to a Narrative Reading of Jennifer Higdon's Viola Sonata*

Fall and Spring Engagements 2019-2020

Aperio: September 15, 2019, Houston, TX

- “Onda Nueva” at MATCH in Midtown, Houston
- **AVALON** - *Sextet to Julia de Burgos* for soprano, flute, violin, viola, cello, and piano

Victoria Symphony: September 21, 2019, Victoria, TX

Kolonneh Faculty Quartet Concert: October 8, 2019, Huntsville, TX

- Haydn, Op. 20 no 5
- Brahms Piano Quintet with Dr. Jessica Osborne, piano

Victoria Symphony: October 26, 2019, Victoria, TX

Victoria Symphony: January 25, 2020, Victoria, TX

SHSU Faculty Solo Recital: February 18, 2020, Huntsville, TX

- Collaboration with Saule Garcia, piano

Kolonneh Faculty Quartet Concert: March 2, 2020, Huntsville, TX

Trio Recital: March 13, 2020, Houston, TX

- Collaboration with Sergio Pallottelli, flute, and Kyung-A Yoo, piano

Texas New Music Ensemble: March 20, 2020, Houston, TX—Canceled due to COVID-19

AFA Summer Music Festival: June 8-19, 2020, Houston, TX—Canceled due to COVID-19

- teach music theory courses
- coach chamber ensembles and viola sectionals

Performances in Spring and Summer 2019:

Victoria Symphony: January 26, 2019, Victoria, TX

Victoria Symphony: February 23, 2019, Victoria, TX

Texas New Music Ensemble: March 7, Houston, TX

- String Quartet no 2 "Moth" by Yevgeniy Sharlat

Faculty Duo Recital: April 1, 2019, Huntsville, TX

- Collaboration with Dr. Daniel Saenz, cello
- Premiering five new works for viola and cello commissioned for this concert in addition to performing “American Haiku” by Paul Wiancko
- Each new work is based on haiku written for Bledsoe Knight and Saenz

Kolonneh String Quartet: April 15, 2019, Huntsville, TX

Victoria Symphony Orchestra: April 27, 2019, Victoria, TX

Aperio: June 15, 2019, Houston, TX

AFA Summer Camps: June 10-July 11, 2019, Houston, TX

- Coached chamber music and viola sectionals for both sessions of the AFA Camp (Grades 3-12).

Texas All State Strings Camp: July 29-August 1, Katy, TX

- Coached TMEA All-State and Region Etudes and Excerpts

Conference Presentations:

Arts in the Black Press Conference at Yale University, March 11, 2017

- Co-presented “Black Women’s Respectability in Music Criticism of the Black Press, 1930’s and 1940’s” with Dr. Katherine Turner, University of Houston Musicology Professor

College Teaching Positions:

Adjunct Instructor of Violin and Viola

Lonestar College-Tomball, TX, July 2016-December 2016

Chamber Ensemble Director

Lonestar College- Tomball, TX, Fall 2016-December 2016

Studio and Preparatory Teaching Experience:

AFA Summer Music Festival Viola Faculty, Houston, TX June-July 2018

- chamber music coach

All State String Camp Viola Faculty 2017 and 2018:

- Taught viola sectionals and coached students on TMEA Region and All-State etudes and orchestral excerpts in Houston, TX

UST Viola Day Faculty and Performer:

- Taught a session on the 2017-2018 Region Etudes for violists in 8th and 9th grade
- Performed Britten’s “Lachrymae” with Shannon Hesse (pianist)

Private Violin and Viola Instructor

Self-Employed, Houston, TX, and Austell, GA, 2009 - present

- Teaches weekly individual lessons to violin and viola students.
- Develops personalized repertoire to meet individual students’ goals.
- Organizes annual studio recital.

Axiom String Quartet Camp 2016

- Coached string quartets and assisted in Chamber Music Recital at the University of St. Thomas, June 10, 2016.

Private Violin and Viola Instructor

Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District Private Music Instructor, Houston, TX January 2014-July 2015

- Taught violin and viola lessons through the school district at Hamilton Middle School and Truitt Middle School

Violin and Viola Clinician

Independently Contracted Orchestral Clinician in the Cypress Fair Banks ISD and Klein ISD Houston, TX, January 2014 – present

- Violin and viola sectionals at Hamilton Middle School and Cypress Woods High School, Cypress, TX.
- Viola sectionals at Klein High School

Viola Clinician

Viola Coach for the Cy-Fair High School Orchestra Camp October 2014

- Coached viola sectionals

Violin Instructor and Sectional Coach

Florida State University

Summer Music Camps, Tallahassee, FL, June-July 2009, 2011, 2012

- Auditioned violin students for orchestral and chamber group placement for the camps
- Taught weekly private lessons
- Coached string quartets
- Coached orchestral sectionals

Instrument and Chamber Music Coach

Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus, GA Summer String Camp, June 2012

- Taught orchestra sectionals
- Taught private violin lessons

Viola Clinician

Walton High School Orchestra Camp, Reinhardt College, GA, August 2012

- Taught orchestral sectionals for all violists
- Coached a string quartet

Violin and Viola Clinician

Independently Contracted Orchestral Clinician in the Cobb County School District, GA, January 2009-May 2013

- Taught violin and viola sectionals at the following schools: Lassiter High School, Marietta, GA; Walton High School, Marietta, GA; Allatoona High School, Acworth, GA; Durham Middle School, Acworth, GA; McClure Middle School, Acworth, GA; Lovingood Middle School, Acworth, GA; Cooper Middle School, Austell GA

K-12 Teaching Experience:

Assistant Orchestra Teacher: Houston, TX August 2015-January 2017

Strake Jesuit Preparatory School,

- Violin and Viola Sectional Coach
- Conducted the orchestra when needed
- Assisted head director

Orchestra Director, Kennesaw, GA August 2010- May 2011

Director of Orchestras at Mount Paran Christian School

- Taught orchestra for grades 6-12
- Created a small chamber orchestra for advanced students
- Organized concerts throughout the school year

Long Term Substitute: Kennesaw, GA August 2011-November 2011

Long Term Substitute Orchestra Director at Harrison High School, CCSD

- Taught beginning, intermediate, and advanced orchestra classes
- Prepared, organized, and conducted the Fall Orchestra concert (October 2011)
- Facilitated the Fall Orchestra Camp

Kolonneh String Quartet:

Festival of String at SHSU at the Gaertner Performing Arts Center Recital Hall in Huntsville, TX on October 8, 2018

- String Quartet no. 1 by Hector Villa Lobos
- "Four for Tango" by Astor Piazzola
- Guitar Quintet No. 4 in D major, G. 448 by Luigi Boccherini
- *Las presencias* no. 6 ("Jeromita Linares") by Carlos Guastavino

Faculty Recital at SHSU at the Gaertner Performing Arts Center Recital Hall in Huntsville, TX on April 23, 2018

- String Quartet Op.18, No. 4 by Ludwig van Beethoven
- String Quartet No 2 in D major by Alexander Borodin

Festival of Strings at SHSU at the Gaertner Performing Arts Center Recital Hall in Huntsville, TX on October 9, 2017

- Opus 96, no. 12 "American String Quartet" by Antonin Dvorak
- String Quartet in F Major by Maurice Ravel

Faculty Recital at SHSU at the Gaertner Performing Arts Center Recital Hall in Huntsville, TX on April 22, 2017

- Opus 76 no. 4, by Joseph Haydn
- Duo for Violin and Viola K423 by W.A. Mozart with Dr. Javier Pinell, violin

Axiom String Quartet:

Axiom String Quartet, Quartet in Residence at the University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX August 2015-August 2018

Violist

Axiom Quartet China Tour with PARMA Recordings and Joy Titan Entertainment, China July 18-August 6, 2018

- performed concerts in eleven cities throughout the People's Republic of China

Axiom Quartet "Silver Linings" at Cullen Recital Hall in Houston, TX on May 26, 2018

Axiom Quartet presents "Breaking Through Boundaries" at Cullen Recital Hall in Houston, TX on November 4, 2017

Axiom Quartet presents a concert at New Hope Church in Missouri City, TX on May 5, 2017

Axiom Quartet presents "Quintessential" at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, TX on February 19, 2017

Axiom Quartet presents "War and Peace" at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, TX on October 23, 2016

Doctoral Chamber Recital for Nicole Kenley, soprano at the Moores School of Music Houston, TX September 12, 2015

- Program: "Il tramonto" by Ottorino Respighi and "Chanson Perpetuelle" by Ernest Chausson

"Women's Voices" with The Houston Girls Chorus and The Axiom Quartet:

Faith Lutheran Church Houston, TX November 1, 2015

- Program included "Returning Souls" by Shih-Hui Chen, Selections from *Anne Frank a Living Voice* by Linda Tutas Haugen, and movements I and II from String Quartet in E flat Major by Fanny Mendelssohn

Texas Master Chorale presents "Luminous Night of the Soul" featuring the Axiom Quartet, at the Centrum in Houston, TX November 7, 2015

- Conducted by Brad Bouley

"Quartet Ex Machina" at Cullen Hall at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, TX, November 8, 2015

- String Quartet Opus 108, no. 7 by Dmitri Shostakovich
- String Quartet No. 3 (Mishima) movements I and VI, by Phillip Glass
- String Quartet in E Flat Major movements I and II, by Fanny Mendelssohn
- "Returning Souls" by Shih-Hui Chen
- String Quartet Opus 18, no. 6 movement IV, by Ludwig van Beethoven

Foundation for Modern Music present the 9th Annual Robert Avalon International Composers Competition Winners, 1st Unitarian Universalist Church, Houston, TX November 22, 2015

- "Niravana" for String Quartet by Wyoung Woo Yoo
- "Friction" by Robert Briggs

"The Spark of Genius" at Cullen Hall at the University of St. Thomas in Houston, TX, February 28, 2016

- Quartet in B flat major, movement I by Jean Sibelius
- Quartet No. 8 in F Major, K. 168, by W.A. Mozart
- "Lansamer Satz" by Anton Webern
- String Quartet Op. 12, no. 1 by Felix Mendelssohn

“New Music, New Works, New Places: Music from Near and Far III” presented by MUSIQA at the Hobby Center, Houston, TX April 9, 2015

- “I Found it By the Sea” by Timo Andres, members of Axiom Quartet and Tali Morgulis, piano
- “Angenieta” (World Premier) by Dr. Rob Smith, collaborated with Caleb Quillen, double bass, and Karol Bennet, soprano.

Foundation for Modern Music presents “ Music That Should Be Danced” at the Miller Outdoor Theater, Houston, TX April 23, 2016

- “Las Pilas” by Dr. Rob Smith, collaborated with Urban Souls Dance Company

Solo Performances:

Doctoral Solo Recital at Dudley Recital Hall, Houston, TX

March 26, 2017

- Britten “Lachrymae”
- Brahms Opus 120, No. 2
- Bartok *Viola Concerto*
- Performed with Jessica Myers, piano

Viola Soloist with Psophonia Dance Company at The Barn, Houston, TX, November 22, 2015

- Collaborated with choreographer Sophia Torres in creating a non traditional performance where the violist was part of the choreography
- Debuted the Houston premier of “Danza” by Misook Kim
- Additional performance occurred in April 2016 with AURA at the University of Houston

Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival Presents The Young Artists Showcase at Savanna Grand, Amelia Island, Florida, May 19, 2015

- Performed the first movement of the Sonata for Viola and Piano by Rebecca Clarke

Graduate Solo Recital (MM) at Georgia State University, October 6, 2013

- Johannes Brahms Sonata for Viola and Piano, Opus 120 No. 1, performed with Peter Marshall, Piano; J.S. Bach Suite No. 1 in G Major, BWV 1007; Paul Hindemith Sonata for Solo Viola, Opus 25, No. 1.

Community Concert at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, FL July 15, 2009

- Johannes Brahms Sonata for Violin and Piano Opus 100; Cesar Franck Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major
- Performed with Edward Rothmel, piano

Senior Violin Recital at Florida State University, November 16, 2007

- Cesar Franck Sonata for Violin and Piano in A Major; J.S. Bach Sonata in G minor for Solo Violin, BWV 1001; Maurice Ravel *Tzigane*.
- Performed with Matthew Cataldi, piano

Junior Violin Recital at Florida State University, April 16, 2006

- W.A. Mozart Sonata in E-flat Major for piano and violin, K 481, Eugene Ysaye Sonata No. 2 in A minor for solo violin, opus 27; and Johannes Brahms Sonata in G Major for piano and violin, Opus 78
- Performed with Matthew Cataldi, piano

Monday Night Music, The Gallery at Westminster Oaks, Tallahassee, FL November 2004

- Performed Pablo de Sarasate Introduction and Tarantella, violin
- This performances was part of an FSU Community Outreach Concert at Westminster Oaks Retirement Home

Orchestral Performances:

Victoria Symphony Orchestra at the Victoria Fine Arts Center in Victoria, TX on October 27, 2018

Victoria Symphony Orchestra at the Victoria Fine Arts Center in Victoria, TX on September 15, 2018

Classical Music Institute at the Tobin Center in San Antonio, TX on June 15 and 16, 2018

Classical Music Institute at the Tobin Center in San Antonio, TX on February 10, 2018

Victoria Symphony Orchestra at the Victoria Fine Arts Center in Victoria, TX on April 29, 2017

Victoria Symphony Orchestra at the Victoria Fine Arts Center in Victoria, TX on February 25, 2017

Victoria Symphony Orchestra at the Victoria Fine Arts Center in Victoria, TX on January 21, 2017

Victoria Symphony Orchestra at the Victoria Fine Arts Center in Victoria, TX on September 17, 2016

Other Chamber Performances:

AURA Contemporary Ensemble at the University of Houston in Houston, TX on September 26, 2016

AURA Contemporary Ensemble at the University of Houston, in Houston, TX on November 14, 2016.

AURA Contemporary Ensemble Presents: “To the Max” Moores School of Music, Houston, TX September 28, 2015

- Performed solo work: “Tooth and Nail” for viola and electro-acoustic sounds by Missy Mazzoli
- “Throbbing” by Paul Stanhope

Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival presents “The Romantic Age”: Beth Newdome Fellowship Artists, St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, May 26, 2015

- Program included: Quartet in C Major, Op. 50 No 3 by Ludwig van Beethoven and Quintet for Piano in f minor by Cesar Franck
- Performed with Jecoliah Wang and Leah Latorraca, violin, Elaine Shin, cello, and Cecilia Lo-Chien Kao, piano

Chamber Music Course Recital, Moores School Of Music May 6, 2015

- Performed Duo No. 2 in B-flat Major, KV 424, third movement by W. A. Mozart with Roberto Alonso Trillo (violin)

Doctoral Chamber Music Recitals for Rebecca Poole and Abigail Sliva, Moores School of Music, November 12, 2014 and March 27, 2015

- Sonate pour flute, alto, et harpe by Claude Debussy.
- Performed with Abigail Sliva, harp and Rebecca Poole, Flute

Chamber Music Recital for Leticia Lima (piano) Moores School of Music, November 2014

- Fauré Piano Quartet No. 1 in C minor, Opus 15
- Performed with Xin Liu, violin, Leticia Lima, Piano, and Sonya Matoussova

Green Briar Consortium Presents: Moon Madness, Salem Evangelical Church, Houston, TX December 2, 2014

- Performed selections from *Pierrot Lunaire* by Arnold Schoenberg with Isabelle Ganz, voice; Judy Dines, flute; Paul Boyd, piano; Lindsey Baggett violin; Kevin Downs, cello; Roman Cisneros, clarinet
- Conducted by Karl Blench

Monday Night Music, The Gallery at Westminster Oaks, Tallahassee, FL November 2004

- Performed Joseph Haydn Quartet in B Flat, “Sunrise” Opus 76, No. 4 with Stephanie Tropepe, violin 2, Miriam Barfield, viola, and Angela Beidler, cello
- This performance was part of an FSU Community Outreach Concert at Westminster Oaks Retirement Home

Franklin Pond Chamber Music String Quartet Concert, Kellet Chapel, Atlanta Georgia, August 5, 2003

- Performed Joseph Haydn Quartet in C Major, “Emperor” Opus 76, No. 3 with Stephanie Hao, violin 2, Stephen Upshaw, viola, and Grace Lee, cello

Solos with Orchestra:

Benjamin Britten op. 43 “Lachrymae” performed with the SHSU Chamber Orchestra at the Gaertner Performing Arts Center in Huntsville, TX on March 29, 2018

W.A. Mozart Sinfonia Concertante KV 364 for Violin and Viola with the Houston Heights Orchestra in Houston, TX. October 18, 2015

- Conducted by Kris Chapman
- Performed with Roberto Alonso Trillo, violin

Bartok Violin Concerto No. 1 with the Florida State University Philharmonia Orchestra, Tallahassee, FL—April 6, 2007

- Conducted by Sean Linfors

Orchestral Experience:

Victoria Symphony Orchestra Section Violist	Victoria, TX 2014-present
Classical Music Institute	San Antonio, TX 2018
Moores School Symphony Orchestra Principal Violist	Houston, TX 2014-2016
Lake Charles Symphony Orchestra, substitute	Lake Charles, LA. 2014
AACA Orchestra	Aspen, CO 2013
AACA Orchestra Opera Scenes, principal	Aspen, CO 2013
Symphony of Southeast Texas, substitute	Beaumont, TX 2013
Georgia State University Orchestra, principal	Atlanta, GA 2012
Violin	
Georgia Symphony Orchestra, substitute concertmaster	Atlanta, GA 2013
Georgia State University Orchestra, concertmaster	Atlanta, GA 2013
Rome Symphony Orchestra	Rome, GA 2009-2012
Florida State University Symphony, principal 2 nd violin	Tallahassee, FL 2007
Aspen Festival Orchestra	Aspen, CO 2007
Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, substitute violinist	Tallahassee, FL 2005-08

Principal Viola Solos:

Nina Bledsoe Knight

Alberto Ginastera *Variaciones Concertante* Op. 23

- Moores School of Music Chamber Orchestra October 2014
- Conducted by Dr. Michelle Blair

Summer Music Programs:

Franklin Pond Chamber Music Festival, Atlanta, GA --violin 2003

Lyrca Fest, Chatham, NJ --violin June 2006

Aspen Music Festival and School, Aspen, CO --violin 2007, 2008

Aspen Music Festival and School, Aspen, CO --viola 2013

**Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival,
Fernandina Beach, FL --viola 2014, 2015**

MAJOR TEACHERS:

Viola

Wayne Brooks

Tania Maxwell Clements

Victoria Chiang

Violin

Beth Newdome

Naoko Tanaka

Laurie Carney

Professional Associations:

American String Teachers Association, member

American Viola Society, member

Houston Viola Society, founding board member and Treasurer 2019-2020

HVS President 2017-2018

Recordings:

AXIOMS: MOMENTS OF TRUTH

Axiom Quartet

Catalog #: NV6151

Navona Records

PARMA RECORDINGS, April 2018