

Faculty Biographies

Steven Taylor is presently the cello instructor at GCSU. He studied with Harvey Shapiro at The Juilliard School where he earned a bachelor and master degree in music and was a recipient of the Eva Shapiro Memorial Scholarship. He has appeared as a soloist with the Toledo Symphony, Little Orchestra Society of Toledo, Brevard Music Center Orchestra, Savannah Symphony, and the Valdosta Symphony. He performed the American premier of Johan de Meij's "Casanova" in 2001 and the world premier of Arthur Rodriguez "Elegy and Rondo" in 2009 with the Valdosta State University Wind Ensemble. Before teaching at GCSU he was the principal cellist of the Valdosta Symphony Orchestra, the cellist of the Azalea String Quartet, and cello instructor at Valdosta State University.

David Harned Johnson is a composer and violinist currently teaching at Georgia College. He has previously taught at Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls, Texas, the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington and Mercer University's Townsend School of Music in Macon, where he was chair of theory and composition as well as concertmaster of the Macon Symphony Orchestra.

Born and raised in California's High Desert, he completed a Bachelor of Music degree in violin performance and composition at the Thornton School of Music at the University of Southern California. At Yale University, he earned an Masters of Music degree in composition, and went on to receive a Doctor of Music Arts degree in composition from Indiana University.

Johnson's original works for orchestra have been performed by the Macon Symphony Orchestra, the University of Arizona Philharmonic, the Lake Union Civic Orchestra in Seattle, the Claremont Young Musicians Orchestra, the Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra, and the Philharmonic Orchestra of Honduras. Johnson's original chamber music has been performed at many national conferences, including the National Flute Association, the North American Saxophone Alliance, and the International Double Reed Society.

Hailed by Cincinnati City Beat as "extraordinarily evocative" for his performances and reviewed by the Salisbury Post as playing with "great beauty and extraordinary brilliance," for his *Sibelius Violin Concerto*, **Dr. Bryan Emmon Hall** has enjoyed success as both a performer and teacher. Bryan has performed in such venues as the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco, and the Forbidden City Concert Hall in Beijing, China. He has also appeared as a soloist with the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra, Shasta Symphony Orchestra, Balcones Symphony, Salisbury Symphony Orchestra, Winston-Salem Piedmont Triad Symphony Orchestra, Austin Civic Orchestra, Central Texas Orchestra, Juneau String Ensemble, Cincinnati Accent Festival Orchestra, and many others. Dr. Hall has performed extensively in the United States and abroad as a chamber, orchestra, violinist, violist, and conductor.

Most recently Bryan Hall has appeared on stage for guest performances and/or masterclasses at Seattle University, Denison University, Idaho State University, Seattle Pacific University, University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Chatter Chamber Series in New Mexico, University of Houston, Truman State University, Western Washington University, Colburn Performing Arts School, Stanford University, South by Southwest Festival in Austin, University of California at Santa Barbara, Gumi, Korea; Buenos Aires, Argentina; Beirut, Lebanon; Erbil, Iraq; Bali, Indonesia; and Pörtlach, Austria. Bryan Hall has performed in the sections of leading professional orchestras including the Austin Symphony Orchestra, Austin Lyric Opera, Round Rock Symphony, Juneau Symphony Orchestra, Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Boise Baroque, and the Utah Symphony Orchestra.

Bryan attended the University of North Carolina School of the Arts during high school where he studied with Nicholas Mann, Joseph Genualdi, and Kevin Lawrence. He holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Performance from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music where he studied with Kurt Sassmannshaus. He completed both his Masters and Doctoral degrees at The University of Texas at Austin, Butler School of Music, under the tutelage of Brian Lewis. Other significant teachers at Texas include David Kim and Anne Epperson. Bryan Hall has won numerous awards including Starling Scholarship at UT and CCM, Baur Scholarship Competition, and the Young Texas Rising Stars Competition.

Dr. Hall is a deeply committed teacher who began teaching privately while still in high school. In Cincinnati, he taught violin and school orchestra for numerous elementary, middle, and high schools in the area where he started over 200 new violin students. Bryan has a passion for teaching people of all ages and skill levels. Bryan Hall held the position of Violin Teaching Assistant for the totality of his graduate studies at The University of Texas at Austin. In addition to his collegiate teaching duties, he also taught in the famous UT Austin String Project at the pre-college level. Dr. Hall has been on faculty at numerous summer festivals including Fairbanks Summer Arts Festival (where he is artistic director), Seattle-Japan Suzuki Institute, 6th Asian International Suzuki Institute in Bali Indonesia, Honolulu Suzuki Institute, Fairbanks Suzuki Institute, Louisville Suzuki Institute, UAF Summer Academy, UT Austin Longhorn Band Camp, Brian Lewis Young Artist Program in Kansas, American Voices YES Academy (Youth Excellence on Stage) held in Beirut, Lebanon and Erbil, Kurdistan, University of San Jose, Costa Rica Masterclass Series, and the Seattle Young Artist Coleman/ James studio. Bryan also enjoys playing different styles of music in his Persian Classical/ Independent Rock Band called Tehranosaurus that actively tours around the United States and abroad.

Dr. Hall served on the faculty of The University of Alaska Fairbanks as the violin/ viola professor and pedagogy coordinator. He was Concertmaster of the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra, conductor of the Northern Lights Symphony Orchestra, and conductor of the Fairbanks Youth Symphony Orchestra. He was visiting Concertmaster of the Juneau Symphony Orchestra 2018-2019. Dr. Hall was president of the Alaska ASTA Chapter 2015-2016. His articles are published in publications like *String Magazine*. Bryan Hall is currently the Assistant Professor of Upper Strings and Orchestra Conductor at Georgia College and State University.