



Sea to Sky
CHAMBERFEST

AT VANCOUVER ACADEMY OF MUSIC 

2025

**Adult Summer
Chamber Music Workshop**

July - August

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 1



Welcome to Adult Chamberfest

JOSEPH ELWORTHY & IAN PARKER, CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

Often described as a ‘conversation between friends’, the study of chamber music enables a unique platform for young musicians to come together and play as one; to listen, lead, follow, and respond to one another.

Vancouver Academy of Music’s Adult Sea to Sky Chamberfest is an immersive, month-long program designed for adult musicians looking to refine their artistry in a supportive and collaborative setting. Participants will be placed into chamber groups and enjoy **four weekly 90-minute coaching sessions** with a selected VAM Faculty, tailored to fit their schedule.

As a special highlight, participants will experience **one chamber music masterclass with a Visiting Artist**.

The program culminates in a **final performance** on the last day of Chamberfest, offering a chance to showcase the growth and camaraderie built throughout the month.

Program Fee: \$350

- 4 Weekly 90-minute coachings with a selected VAM Faculty member
- Exclusive masterclasses with Jonathan Crow, Concertmaster of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra
- Final performance on the last day of Chamberfest - August 24, 1:00 PM at VAM (Koerner Recital Hall)

Joseph Elworthy

CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

President & CEO of the Vancouver Academy of Music, Joseph Elworthy has been a featured soloist, recitalist, and chamber music performer on such stages as Alice Tully Hall, Suntory Hall, Carnegie Hall, the Library of Congress, and Sejong Hall. Mr. Elworthy has been named a Fellow of The Royal Conservatory of Music for his extraordinary contribution to Canadian Arts and Culture, an honor he shares with such cultural icons as Oscar Peterson, Robertson Davies, Adrienne Clarkson and Leon Fleisher. His recordings can be heard on EMI, Sony, Archtype, Naxos and Bose record labels.



Ian Parker

CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Magnetic, easy-going, and delightfully articulate, Canadian pianist/conductor Ian Parker captivates audiences wherever he goes. As a pianist, he has appeared with top Canadian orchestras including the symphonies of Toronto, Quebec, Vancouver, Victoria, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Orchestre Métropolitain, and the Calgary Philharmonic. An enthusiastic recitalist, Mr. Parker has performed across the United States, Europe, Israel, and throughout Canada on tours with Debut Atlantic, Jeunesses Musicales du Canada, and Piano Six. At The Juilliard School, he received the 2002 William Petschek Piano Debut Award and, on two occasions, was the winner of the Gina Bachauer Piano Scholarship Competition. Heard regularly on CBC Radio, he has also performed live on WQXR (hosted by Robert Sherman) in New York.



Amanda Chan

VAM FACULTY, PIANO

Amanda Chan, a distinguished concert pianist and educator, has garnered numerous accolades in prestigious competitions across Canada. Graduating top of her class, she holds a Bachelor's from the University of British Columbia (UBC) and a Master's in Piano Performance from the University of Southern California (USC). Ms. Chan's post-graduate pursuits at USC and the Glenn Gould School further honed her skills under luminaries like Marc Durand and Jon Kimura Parker, affirming her as a leading figure in music education and performance. As a passionate advocate for music education, Ms. Chan serves on the faculty of the UBC, School of Music and is the Head of the Piano Department at the Vancouver Academy of Music, teaching piano and chamber music.



Jonathan Crow

VISITING FACULTY, VIOLIN

Jonathan Crow has been Concertmaster of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO) since 2011. He has performed as a soloist with most major Canadian orchestras, including the Montreal, Toronto, and Vancouver Symphony Orchestras; the National Arts Centre and Calgary Philharmonic Orchestras; the Victoria, Nova Scotia, and Kingston Symphonies; and Orchestra London. In 2016, Jonathan was named Artistic Director of Toronto Summer Music, which enjoyed record attendance and rave reviews in his first three seasons. An avid chamber musician, he has performed at chamber music festivals throughout North America, South America, and Europe.



Domagoj Ivanovic

VAM FACULTY, VIOLIN

Domagoj Ivanovic, Professor and Division Chair of Violin at the Vancouver Academy of Music, moved to Canada in 2007 after earning his Doctorate in Violin Performance from the University of Miami. There, he also served as a Teaching Assistant and Assistant Concertmaster for the Miami Symphony Orchestra. Since then, he has quickly established himself as a violinist and an educator in the greater Vancouver area. As a soloist he appeared with several orchestras, most notably with the Zagreb Philharmonic orchestra, and the Miami Symphony orchestra. Described as a player with “clear technique and great sensitivity” he has performed all over Europe and North America, as well as China, Taiwan and Singapore.



David Lakirovich

VAM FACULTY, VIOLIN

David Lakirovich began his violin studies at the age of three in Brisbane, Australia, under his father, Jacob Lakirovich. He has studied with renowned teachers, including Shmuel Ashkenasi, Vadim Gluzman, and William Preucil, and has performed internationally in venues such as Carnegie Hall’s Weill Recital Hall, the Bronfman Auditorium in Tel Aviv, and the Stradivari Museum in Cremona.

A passionate soloist and chamber musician, David Lakirovich has served as Associate Concertmaster of the ProMusica Chamber Orchestra and is currently Assistant Concertmaster of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. In addition to performing, David is Professor of Violin at the Vancouver Academy of Music and is on faculty at the VSO School of Music. He co-founded the Vancouver Island Music Academy in 2021.



Tawnya Popoff

VAM FACULTY, VIOLA

Canadian violist Tawnya Popoff, celebrated for her dynamic international career, serves as the principal violist with the Vancouver Opera and is a pivotal figure in ensembles like the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra and Microcosmos Quartet. A sought-after chamber musician, she’s performed across North America and Europe, earning accolades including a Lionel Tertis Competition prize. Deeply committed to education, Popoff has taught at prestigious programs and universities, while also championing contemporary music, particularly from young composers at The Walden School. Her discography spans several labels, reflecting her diverse collaborations in dance and interdisciplinary arts. Trained by Gerald Stanick and Martha Katz, Popoff’s life beyond music includes outdoor adventures and creative endeavors in design and volunteering.



Warren Zielinski

VISITING FACULTY, VIOLIN

Warren Zielinski, a violinist from British Columbia, is one of the UK’s most celebrated and versatile musicians. Trained in Vancouver under Gwen Thompson and later at the Royal College of Music with Dr. Felix Andrievsky, Warren blends Russian and Soviet violin traditions with Baroque expertise. A former Concertmaster of Canada’s National Youth Orchestra, he regularly leads top ensembles, including the BBC Scottish Symphony and the John Wilson Orchestra.

An accomplished chamber musician, Warren has performed at festivals in Italy, Denmark, and Germany, collaborating with world-class artists and ensembles. His career spans solo concertos, chamber performances, and Hollywood film recordings, including Prometheus. For over 15 years, he has been the exclusive violin soloist for the BBC’s Strictly Come Dancing, captivating millions of viewers worldwide.



Afiara Quartet

VISITING FACULTY, STRING QUARTET



From its inception in 2006, Afiara was built on the Spanish word *fiar*, meaning trust. A dynamic and award-winning ensemble, the Afiara has been described as “a revelation” (La Presse) with performances balancing “intensity and commitment” and “frequent moments of tenderness” (Montreal Gazette). Afiara has held residencies at The Juilliard School and San Francisco State University, and Fellowship Ensemble at the Royal Conservatory of Music. Afiara is also winner of the Young Canadian Musicians Award and Concert Artist Guild, in addition to 2nd Prizes at Munich ARD, and Banff International String Quartet Competitions, including the latter’s Szekely Prize for the best interpretation of Beethoven. They have performed throughout the Americas, Europe, and Asia, at such venues as Carnegie Hall’s Zankel and Weill Halls, the Kennedy Center, Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center, Library of Congress in DC, Sao Paulo’s Museum of Modern Art, Pro Musica of San Miguel de Allende, London’s Wigmore Hall, Austria’s Esterhazy Palace, Munich’s Prinz Regenten Theatre, Amsterdam’s Muziekgebouw, and the Royal Library in Copenhagen. Their journey is documented in over 30 commissions of new music, new educational outreach initiatives for school children funded by the Ontario Arts Council, and projects with jazz virtuoso Uri Caine, Latin Grammy Award-winning producer Javier Limon, and innovative scratch DJ, Kid Koala.

Repertoire, & Concert Schedule

REPERTOIRE

In an assigned group, students will prepare a multi-movement repertoire selection.

CONCERT SCHEDULE

- Sun, Aug.17, 7:00pm - Festival Commencement Concert with the Afiara Quartet at VAM (Koerner Recital Hall)
- Sun, Aug.24, 1:00pm - Adult Concert at VAM (Koerner Recital Hall)
- Sun, Aug.24, 4:00pm - Festival Faculty Closing Concert (Koerner Recital Hall)

**Exact schedule is subject to change.*

Audition Deadline: May 1

Admissions

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Recommended for intermediate to advanced adult players
- Instrument: strings (violin, viola, cello) and piano

AUDITION PROCESS

- Submit a video recording (max 10 minutes) of two contrasting selections. **Piano accompaniment is not required.*
- Upload the video to a file-sharing platform (e.g., Dropbox, Google Drive, YouTube) with privacy settings allowing access via link.
- Complete the audition form at vam.ca/chamberfest-adultlearning by May 1.

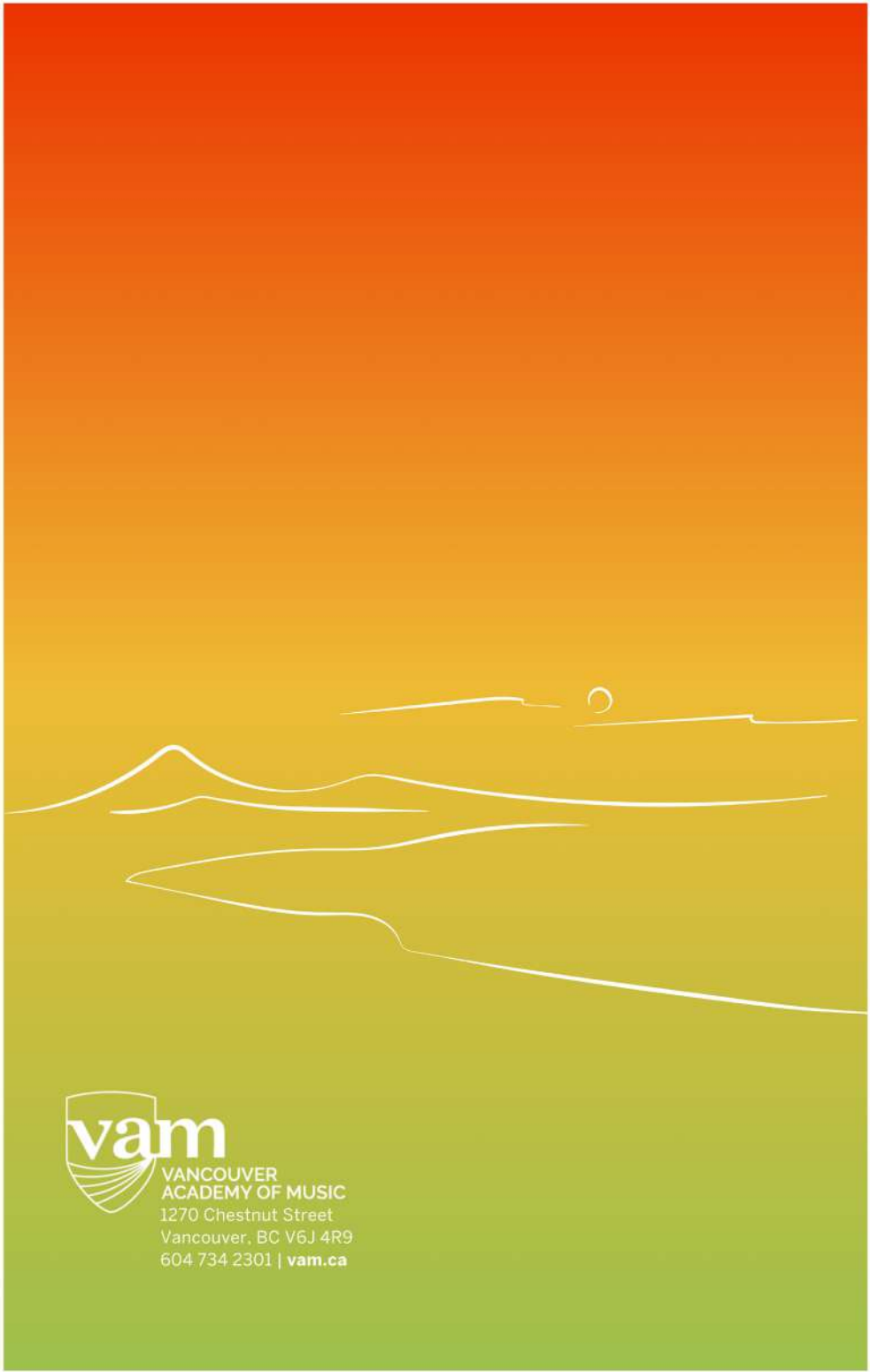
REQUESTS

- Applicants may suggest preferred collaborators or repertoire. While requests will be considered, they cannot be guaranteed.

OFFERS & ACCEPTANCE

- Successful applicants will be issued an offer of admission.
- Once the non-refundable tuition fee is paid in full, participants will receive formal acceptance into the program, followed by repertoire assignments and a copy of the parts.
- Participants are expected to arrive at the first rehearsal with their individual part fully prepared.





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