



ARTIST HANDBOOK

Disrupting inequity in classical music by mentoring and financially sustaining the musical ambitions of young, promising Philadelphians.



Musicians Mentoring Musicians

Table of Contents

In this handbook, you will learn about The Primavera Fund and The Norman Holland Hull Instrument Library. You will find detailed information such as: relevant contact information, procedures, deadlines and what is and is not included under our sponsorship. As a new or returning Primavera Artist, you will find our code of ethics, our expectations of you, and what you should expect from us. We are very excited to be part of your musical path!

Contact Information & Office Hours	2	Sponsorship Procedures	18
Primavera Fund People	3	Private Lessons	18
Introduction	8	Auxiliary Lessons	18
Purpose of The Primavera Fund	8	Private Lessons at Settlement	19
Overview	9	Youth Orchestra, Chamber Music..	19
The Norman Holland Hull Instrument Library	10	Summer Programs	20
Artist Code of Conduct	11	Application Fees	20
Overall conduct	11	Music Supplies	21
Communications	11	Recording	21
Artist Area	12	Travel	21
Social Media	12	-Public Transit	22
Deadlines & Scheduling	12	-Reimbursement for car or hotel	22
Primavera Events	13	-Lyft	22
Instrument Care	13	Education Programming	23
For Families	14	Seminar Series	23
Mentoring	15	Masterclasses	23
Mentors	15	Learning Arc Support	24
Juries or "check-ins"	15	Chamber Music Outreach Program	24
Recitals	16		
College Visits & Auditions	16		
Special Programming	16		
Discontinuation of Sponsorship	17		

Contact Information

Rachel Segal - CEO, Founder
rachel@primaverafund.org (267) 908-1710

Kenny Bean - Co- Founder, COO, Program Director
Kenny@primaverafund.org (484) 767-0820

Molly Bidlack Bean - CFO, Development Director
molly@primaverafund.org (484) 767-3508

Christopher Jusell - Administrator
chris@primaverafund.org (757) 572-1422

Susanna Loewy - Learning Arc Coordinator
susanna@primaverafund.org (732) 586-5455

Malinda Lisette - Chamber Music Coordinator, Social Media
malinda@primaverafund.org (267) 500-7482

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 10am - 6pm
Closed: Saturday & Sunday
Evening or weekend events as scheduled

The Primavera Fund does not have a brick and mortar office. All Directors and staff work from their homes. Please, do not call or text outside of office hours. Emails are always welcome and in most cases are preferred. The Primavera Fund offices are closed at times throughout the year for holidays and vacation. Closure dates will be announced ahead of time.



PRIMAVERA FUND PEOPLE

Directors

[Rachel Segal](#), Founder, President & CEO, Primavera Mentor

Rachel Segal was first given a violin at age three and took to music immediately. As she grew up in Philadelphia, she took full advantage of the music education that this great city offers, participating in The Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, Temple Music Prep, and the Settlement Music School. At fifteen she performed at Carnegie Hall and The Kennedy Center as a member of the New York String Orchestra, and later attended the Aspen Music Festival and Taos School of Music in the summers.



She performed three times as a young soloist with The Philadelphia Orchestra as a winner of their Albert M. Greenfield Competition and the Fredrick R. Mann Center Competition, as well as with several local orchestras. Her intense love of music and its ability to transform people has inspired her educational work. As Associate Director of The Young Musicians Debut Orchestra, she shares her experience with young musicians in a direct teaching atmosphere every week. She is also a Founding member and Chamber Music Director of Music and Mindfulness, a week-long program in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

Rachel is proud to be back home after more than a decade spent traveling and performing throughout the world. She served as a tenured member of the Colorado Symphony for eleven years, spent three months in Lisbon, Portugal as Guest Concertmaster of the Orquestra Sinfónica Portuguesa, and six months in Finland as Fourth Chair of the Tampere Filharmonia, and enjoyed a twelve-year tenure as Concertmaster of Central City Opera. She performs locally as a member of the Fairmount String Quartet, Pennsylvania Ballet Orchestra and as a substitute with the Philadelphia Orchestra and Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. She performs frequently in Washington, D.C. with PostClassical Ensemble and other groups. Rachel frequently collaborates on new music projects, and is a champion of living composers. She can be heard on recordings with The Fairmount String Quartet on Spring Garden Records.

Rachel is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Yale School of Music, and her major violin teachers include Sidney Harth, Paul Kantor, and Jascha Brodsky. Rachel lives in Brewerytown with her two beagles, Abby and Sam, cats George and Ira (Gershwin), and her Dad. She enjoys cooking, her herb garden, dancing, and experiencing cultural events in the city. She is also committed to civil rights advocacy and equality.

[Kenneth T. Bean](#), Co-Founder, Associate Director, Program Director, Primavera Mentor

Kenneth T. Bean's love of music is evident in all his endeavors. Known for his clear, efficient and elegant conducting style, his artistic vision and commitment to musical integrity brings the best out of his students, earns the respect of fellow musicians and is felt deeply by audiences.



In the 2023-24 season, Maestro Bean will make his debut with the Columbus Symphony Orchestra as well as make return appearances with the Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Symphony in C and American Repertory Ballet, where in 2022, Maestro Bean led the world premiere of Ethan Stiefel's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Bean has shared the stage with many of the country's most prominent musicians and soloists, including David Kim, Billy Hunter, Alexi Kenney and Avery Gagliano.

Maestro Bean currently serves as the Georg and Joyce Albers-Schonberg assistant conductor of the Princeton Symphony, a position that also includes the role of conductor of the Symphonic Orchestra of Youth Orchestra of Central Jersey. Bean also serves as assistant conductor of Symphony in C and conductor of Symphony in C Youth Orchestra. Maestro Bean is Director/Conductor of the Young Musicians Debut Orchestra, which is affiliated with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra Music Institute.

A staunch advocate for youth music access and education, Maestro Bean is co-founder and Associate Director of The Primavera Fund, a non-profit organization committed to disrupting inequity in classical music by mentoring and financially supporting the musical activities of promising students who study in Philadelphia.

In the summers, Maestro Bean serves as Co-Director of the Symphony in C Summer Camp, Music Director of Music and Mindfulness at Graves Mountain Farm in Northern Virginia and Conductor at Kinhaven Music School Junior Session in Vermont.

Bean received a Master's degree in Music Education from Jackson State University and a Bachelor degree in Trumpet Performance from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

Molly M. Bidlack Bean, Chief Financial Officer, Development Director

Molly Bidlack Bean joined the Primavera Fund team in 2018, bringing another perspective to the organization with professional experience that has been rooted equally in academics and project management. Her work in the nonprofit sector began in January of 2013, when she joined the Board of Directors of the Young People's Philharmonic of the Lehigh Valley to help steward that organization through transitions in leadership, program offerings and infrastructure expansion. Though her primary focus for Primavera is in financial management, her job is multifaceted, encompassing areas of development, fundraising, communications and strategic planning.



Molly has a BA in Anthropology from the Gallatin School of Individualized Study at NYU, an MA in Linguistic Anthropology from Hunter College, CUNY, and an MA in Human Development from Lehigh University. Her interdisciplinary background enables her to address complex issues by taking into account a variety of perspectives and develop unique, comprehensive solutions. To better prepare herself for work in the nonprofit sector, Molly completed certificates in marketing and development from the Nonprofit Center and The Lasalle School of Business. She has also completed course work in accounting and professional development in nonprofit financial management.

The daughter of two professional classical musicians, Molly studied cello seriously in her formative years. Although she chose not to pursue music professionally, she sees her music education as invaluable to her personal, social and intellectual development. Molly feels at home working with professional musicians and is thrilled to be involved with The Primavera Fund, which she sees as a truly innovative way to address culture change.

Molly lives in West Philadelphia with her husband, Kenny Bean and her cats, Ashley, Sasha and Wolfie. She still plays her cello for fun from time to time.

Support Personnel

Chris Jusell - Administrative Assistant



Hailed by the Denver Westword for his "acrobatic" and "robust" playing, Chris Jusell is a Philadelphia-based violinist. He is Concertmaster of the Greeley Philharmonic, Principal Second Violin of the Philadelphia Ballet orchestra, and a member of the Colorado Ballet, Opera Colorado, and Central City Opera orchestras. He began his studies on the violin at the age of 11, and holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Colorado State University, where he studied with Dr. Ron Francois; he also attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, studying with Dr. John Fadiel. He plays and has toured with Nathaniel Rateliff, and recently formed an ambient jazz band with three friends called Fuubutsushi, recording and releasing five albums

during the pandemic. Chris also teaches kids and adults how to play the violin and conducted a youth orchestra in the mountains of Colorado for five years.

Chris joined the Primavera Fund team in 2021 to help with administrative efforts, tasks, and lots of behind-the-scenes work. If you need help sourcing supplies, scheduling accompanist rehearsals or transportation plans, Chris will be your man.

Susanna Loewy - Learning Arc Counselor



Flutist Susanna Loewy received a BM and MM from the Cleveland Institute of Music and a DMA from Rutgers University. Susanna is Flute Faculty at Rowan University and Haverford College, and teaches for the Philadelphia Orchestra. Susanna is a Pedagogy Coach and Mentor for the New World Symphony in Miami. From 2014-2023, Susanna was the Program Director and Lead Teaching Artist for Project 440, creating curriculum and implementing programs. In 2012, Susanna founded the Pikes Falls Chamber Music Festival in Jamaica, VT, a 2-week summer festival emphasizing music and visual art. Susanna is the Principal Flutist for Inscape, a chamber music group based in the DC area that was nominated for a Grammy for its debut CD, "Sprung Rhythm."

Susanna is Executive Director and flutist for Network for New Music. Susanna maintains a private flute studio in the Philadelphia area. This summer, Susanna started Flutes on Locust Walk, a week-long summer camp for high school, college, and adult flutists. Susanna is a Verne Q. Powell Artist and plays Powell instruments.

Susanna is excited to work with the Primavera students to help guide them to realizing their goals -- musical, artistic, and otherwise!

Malinda Lisette - Chamber Music and Social Media Coordinator



Malinda Lisette is a recent graduate from The Boyer School of Music. She has studied with Susanna Loewy, Erica Peel, Mimi Stillman, and Prema Kesselman in the past, and in high school, she was involved in many programs such as All-City Orchestra and Band, The Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, The Primavera Fund, The Philadelphia Orchestra Fellowship, The PMAY Initiative, and Project 440s Youth Advisory Council. She was also a finalist in the PHLLive classical competition, a Sphinx Fellowship recipient, and received the Marian Anderson Grant in 2017. During her undergraduate degree, spoke at Project 440's College Fair's, Primavera's Jazz Soiree, and PMAY's Student Inaugurations. She wishes to find a career that includes a variety of performance opportunities in chamber, solo, and orchestral, and involvement in teaching and administration. Malinda is currently an active freelance musician and teacher in the Philadelphia area, and is interested in exploring her interests in different musical genres and leadership roles in music making.



INTRODUCTION

Congratulations! You are part of a select group that has been chosen to be Primavera Fund Artists. You should be very proud of the hard work you have put into your musical career thus far. We recognize your individual skills and abilities and are now prepared to help you excel in all of your endeavors. Help us help you and do not be afraid to wear your Primavera Fund "banner" loud and proud!

We expect a lot of our Artists. You have been chosen because you demonstrate great potential, drive, and ability. To maintain your status as a Primavera Artist, you will be expected to work hard and participate fully in the opportunities offered through our program. You will also be expected to adhere to the guidelines outlined in the following pages in order to maintain support.

Purpose of The Primavera Fund

Founded in 2014, The Primavera Fund is Philadelphia's premiere merit-based program for young and aspiring musicians in need of financial assistance. The Primavera Fund fully supports your musical endeavors and allows you the freedom to pursue your musical ambitions. Our goal is to prepare each Primavera Artist for acceptance into the top conservatories and university music programs by providing individualized focused support, resources, and access to the best educational opportunities in Philadelphia and beyond.

Our Directors and staff work closely with every Primavera Artist's parents, private instructors, youth orchestras, ensembles, and summer program directors to make sure that our students are afforded every opportunity for growth. With our vast reservoir of educational and professional experience, we designed our program to offer the highest level of support to each young Artist.

Overview

In a city that is full of wonderful arts organizations that support young musicians, know that The Primavera Fund offers unique support that is based on your needs as an individual. By offering our own unique programming and partnering with the many wonderful Philadelphia music organizations, we prepare students thoroughly for the next step in their musical careers.

We provide:

Mentoring

- Individualized support for Artists and families
- Three annual juries to monitor your progress and review goals
- Advice and guidance for applications and the college audition process

Sponsorship

- Weekly private lessons with a world-class teacher
- Tuition for orchestra, chamber music, and summer programs
- Subsidy of recordings, application fees and travel for competitions, conferences, and the college audition process
- Theory & composition lessons
- Professional photos
- The use of an instrument from the Norman Holland-Hull Instrument Library

Education

- College search and preparation classes
- Professional training on a variety of music related topics
- Instrument specific masterclasses with renowned professional musicians
- Introductions to marketing, social media, and self promotion
- Guidance on biographies, resumes, and personal statements
- The option to participate in the Chamber Music Outreach Program, and other performance opportunities.

We do not support:

- Students outside the Philadelphia Area
- College tuition
- Non-music related activities
- Tuition for year-round programs i.e. Interlochen, Juilliard Prep, etc.
- Secondary Instruments



THE NORMAN HOLLAND-HULL INSTRUMENT LIBRARY

One of the bedrocks of our program is our relationship to the Norman Holland Hull Instrument Library. We provide professional, high grade instruments to each Primavera Artist with funds generously donated from the estate of Dr. Norman E. Holland Hull. These instruments allow our students to excel as musicians and provide a competitive edge when auditioning and performing.

Your instrument is on loan to you from The Norman Holland Hull Instrument Library for the duration of your time as a Primavera Artist. We are responsible for maintenance costs, insurance, and supplies needed to keep your instrument in perfect condition (ie strings, valve oil. etc.) Just like you need to change the oil in a car, an instrument must be taken care of, or it won't take care of you. Think of your instrument as a baby. It must be treated with care and you are responsible for it out in the world. Should anything happen to your instrument, please notify us IMMEDIATELY, and DO NOT attempt to fix it on your own.

We have instrument vendors we work with. If your instrument needs repair, we will tell you where to go. You can say you are a PF artist and they'll send us an invoice. Should you need to change instruments during your time as a Primavera Artist, please don't hesitate to communicate that to us, so that we can make sure your instrument is always helping you towards your goals.

In the case a student leaves the Primavera Fund, initiated either by the student or by the Primavera Fund, instruments must be returned to the Instrument Library immediately and absolutely no later than the end of the season in which funding is discontinued.

Once you graduate from high school and head to college you are still entitled to use of the instrument. The Instrument Library will continue to pay for insurance and repair, however you will take over the cost of supplies. As an alum, we still consider you part of the pack and it is your obligation to stay in touch with us on all matters pertaining to your instrument into your college years and beyond.



ARTIST CODE OF CONDUCT

Overall Conduct

Primavera Artists should always represent themselves and The Primavera Fund in a positive manner. Always be respectful of all teachers, conductors, staff, and colleagues. You must be prepared to the best of your ability and on time for all lessons, rehearsals, and performances. As a musician, if you are "on time" you are late. Plan to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the stated time to allow for set up, pre tuning, etc. Repeated lateness, lack of preparation, or absences will result in your support being reviewed. If traveling, make sure to allow plenty of time to arrive at the airport, train station, bus, etc.

You must maintain passing grades in all classes and a passing GPA. Copies of your report card are to be furnished at jury check-ins. You are expected to abide by the code of conduct of your school. Should you be suspended or expelled from school, your status may be reviewed or revoked. Furthermore, if you are arrested, you may face termination of support should the charges be proven criminal or cause The Primavera Fund embarrassment.

Communications

Emails are the main form of communication for The Primavera Fund. If we send you a message, please respond promptly to allow us time to best help you. We will do our best to reply to your emails in a timely manner as well, within business hours. Consider these business emails and therefore they should be in a respectful tone and in complete sentences. Do not send multiple emails the same day regarding the same topic; however, a follow up email is appropriate if you have not received a response after a few days.

Texts or calls are appropriate when the subject is more immediate, (e.g. you are outside St. Patrick Hall and need to be let in). The phone numbers listed in our contact information are our personal cell phone numbers. Unless it is a true emergency, we are not available outside of office hours. *Please, do not call or text at inappropriate times.* Likewise, we expect you to respond to us as soon as possible when we text you.

We may at times arrange phone or video calls for meetings as part of the mentoring and guidance we offer to our Artists. In addition, some of the seminars we offer are online. These calls are also to be treated with professionalism, so please arrange to conduct them in a quiet, well-lit place.

Artists Area

The Artist Area is located on the Primavera Fund website <www.primaverafund.org>. The entry link is located in the footer and the password is **Primavera215**. There you can find a calendar of events, supply order form, and various resources from seminars and presenters.

Social Media

The Primavera Fund has accounts on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Youtube. Many respected teachers and community members, in and outside of Philadelphia, see our posts and will learn your name, face and accomplishments. We get our information about you from you, so please inform us of your success! Requests for content: pics, videos, quotes etc. have to be fulfilled by you. We like to put all your accomplishments in our marketing materials. Examples include

- Prominent seats in orchestra or ensemble
- Acceptance into selective groups (advanced study chamber music, etc.)
- Winning of awards
- Mentions in articles or other publicity
- Placement in competitions
- Acceptances to music schools, colleges, conservatories (even if you don't plan to attend).

We share students' name, age/grade, instrument, and musical activity. We also encourage students and families to *like*, comment, and share Primavera Fund social media content and encourage your communities to do so as well. Telling the world about your part in The Primavera Fund is a great way you can help us!

Artists are expected to use social media responsibly. Inappropriate content, even on your personal social media profiles, will not be tolerated. We define inappropriate content as containing nudity, supporting violence, using excessive foul language, cyber-bullying, and evidence of drug use. We encourage you to use your own voice for good!

Deadlines & Scheduling

Primavera Fund will communicate via email regarding the schedule for our programming, i.e. juries, recitals, classes, seminars, masterclasses, and concert trips. There is also an events calendar in the Artist Area on our website. We will notify Artists as soon as these events are scheduled and we will send out a Monthly Bulletin that includes all our programs (as well as other musical events). Please respond to all sign-ups and rehearsal schedules in a timely manner. All Primavera Artists are expected to attend all Primavera Fund classes.

For Artists participating in college auditions, summer camps, or special projects like a competition or conference, all expenditures must be approved in advance and families should work with Primavera staff to make travel and payment arrangements. All application and participation fees should be requested as soon as possible. **All travel arrangements must be made as far in advance as possible.** Public transit arrangements should be made no later than **30 days** prior to the event. Approval for reimbursement should be obtained **30 days prior to travel**, and Reimbursement Requests should be submitted no later than **30 days after purchase**. See "Sponsorship Procedures" for details.

Families are responsible for scheduling private lessons and tuition based programs (i.e. orchestra, chamber music, summer camp). See the section on "Sponsorship Procedures" for more information.

Either Primavera Fund staff or families may initiate a meeting at any time to discuss topics related to student progress as part of the Mentoring program.

Primavera Events

From time to time The Primavera Fund will hold special events for donors or our broader community. If you are asked to perform at one of these events, we expect that you will do so unless you have a previously scheduled conflict. Primavera Fund will notify Artists well in advance of any performance opportunity and ensure that you have adequate time to prepare.

Instrument Care

You acknowledge that all instruments are on loan from The Norman Holland Hull Instrument Library and shall remain the exclusive property thereof. You are trusted to care for this instrument as its steward. No student shall attempt to sell or trade any instrument owned by The Library. If any damage occurs, you shall contact us immediately and not attempt to fix the problem yourself. Instrument repair is a specialized field and all repairs must be done by an expert. Duct tape, Super Glue, rubber cement, or any other household fix-it material does not belong anywhere near musical instruments. Our instruments are insured and we understand that things happen, within reason. You will only take your instrument to an approved repair person and will discuss any needed modifications with us (such as bass extensions) before proceeding to have the work done. Should you need emergency repairs and pay for the repairs yourself, please submit receipts to us for reimbursement.

Do not leave your instrument in a car. Insurance will not reimburse for instruments stolen from cars.

For Families

We appreciate all that you do for your student! We know traveling to rehearsals, lessons and concerts is a worthy labor of love and we are working hard to make it a little easier for you! We ask that you reply within a timely manner to any Primavera Fund communications and are prompt in requesting sponsorship payments and reimbursements. As our support is need-based you will agree to notify us if your financial situation has changed and you no longer require our support. Of course, you and your Artist will always be part of our Primavera Fund family.



MENTORING

We are all here to help you

The entire Primavera Fund team, Directors, Staff, and Board are all here to support the Primavera Artists and families in their musical journeys. We all contribute to The Primavera Fund in different ways- musical, administrative, or logistical, and we all want to see these amazing students succeed.

Mentors

Co-founders, Rachel Segal and Kenny Bean are the Primavera Fund Mentors. They are here to help you achieve your musical goals. They bring the knowledge and experience of being professional performing musicians, conductors, and educators. They have done many, if not all, of the things asked of you as you further your music career. All musical or programmatic questions should be directed to them. Trust in their judgment, guidance and expertise.

Each Primavera Artist's musical journey is unique, and as such the Primavera Fund provides the individual support that each student needs. Do you have questions about changing teachers, auditioning for new ensembles, or different summer programs? The mentors are there for you. Are you are thinking about trying out for a competition, want to attend a conference, or have a new musical interest or idea and you aren't sure where to start? The Mentors are there for you. You provide the passion and we will help direct it so you can make the most of your interests and achieve your goals.

A mentor is not a teacher. A mentor is someone who is experienced in their field who can help you make good decisions that will move you in the right direction. It is your job to look for opportunities, programs, and projects that will stretch your musical skills. It is our job to discuss with you the pros and cons of participation in these activities and to help you be able to participate. You are ultimately responsible for your musical growth.

Juries or "check-ins"

In order to track your progress, we will hold three juries per year. Participation is **MANDATORY** for all Artists. All Artists must perform one solo selection, an etude or study, and one Major and one minor scale. The first jury, held in October, will either establish a base-line for new Artists or will show us the progress you made over the previous summer. The second, held in January, will help us to determine where you will attend summer camp. For the April jury we will hear the selection you plan to perform on the recital.

These juries also act as a "three strikes" system if needed. If your progress is not adequate throughout the season, your status may be reviewed. Failure to participate in these juries will also be part of our consideration. While we expect that you take these seriously, they are not

meant to be stressful. We are on your side. We want to hear your plans, answer your questions, and talk about your progress. It is a time for us to connect.

Recitals

There are two final Primavera Fund recitals in the spring. The Spring Recital is generally for the younger students and the Showcase Recital is for the more advanced students. About half the students play on each recital but all students are required to attend both. Students should play their recital piece for their third jury, and be ready to give us the piano music. We will arrange for an accompanist for the recital, and students will be asked to sign up for a rehearsal with the pianist in the days before the performances. We invite our community to come see the recitals and we encourage you to tell your friends, family and teachers to join us!

College Visits & Auditions

Junior and Senior year Primavera Artists should consult with their private teacher and their Mentor about colleges or conservatories that they might like to visit, take trial lessons, or audition. These discussions should begin no later than your junior year, but we also expect all families to take advantage of our college preparation curriculum. At the final jury of the Artists junior year, students should be ready to submit a tentative list of schools they would like to visit in the following year.

Throughout the Artist's senior year, it is important to keep the Primavera Mentors updated on your college search progress. Mentors can give you advice, write letters of recommendation, and even reach out to colleagues where appropriate. We want to know where you applied, where you were accepted, and where you are going!

Please see the section on "Travel" before you make plans for auditions and college visits.

Special Programming

Primavera Fund encourages students to seek out any and all opportunities that will offer musical education and growth. This includes applying for competitions, masterclasses, conferences, etc. All special programming is evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and the Mentor may not approve Primavera support for an activity if they feel it will not contribute to the musical education of the Artist. Artists should discuss all Special Programming decisions with their private teacher AND their Primavera Mentors.

Discontinuation of Sponsorship

We want to avoid Artist discontinuation at all costs, but it is important to lay out the expectations for this scenario.

Student Initiated

If the Primavera Artist must discontinue their sponsorship, he or she is responsible for telling the Primavera Directors immediately. We do not take this situation lightly and we expect that the student and the family will take it just as seriously.

Director Initiated

Although juries are the primary way we check in with our Artists, Mentors will note other activities as well. Mentors are constantly evaluating student progress through communication with teachers, conductors, and other relevant professionals. The Primavera Fund will engage in a three step process before a decision is made to discontinue sponsorship:

- 1.) If the Mentor notes questionable student activity he or she will communicate with the student, their family, and their teacher for clarity. The Mentor will have a conversation with the student about expectations. Questionable activity includes:
 - If a student is regularly not showing up to lessons, orchestra, or other ensembles, OR is doing so unprepared
 - If a student has a poor attitude or is disrespecting their teachers and fellow students.
 - If a student is showing disinterest in music, not taking advantage of opportunities, or neglecting his or her own musical progress
 - If a student is not making adequate progress on his or her instrument and the Directors judge that they are unlikely to be accepted into a collegiate music program at their rate of progress
- 2.) If the activity continues, an email will be sent to the student, family, and teacher, placing the Artist on Probationary Status.
- 3.) If after the third jury the student has not shown improvement or correction in the questionable areas, the Directors may decide on expulsion from the program.



SPONSORSHIP PROCEDURES

Private Lessons

Please be on time and prepared for your private lessons. Talk with your teacher about goal setting, repertoire, and their personal policies for rescheduling or cancelations. Their policies take precedence and you should be treated and act as part of their studio.

Missed lessons, lack of preparation, lack of communication, and general dropping of the ball are things we take very seriously, both with each Artist and with each teacher. Should your teacher fail to provide you with regular weekly lessons, fail to communicate, or be uncommitted to your progress, we want to know, just as they will report back to us on you.

Payments for lessons will be made directly from The Primavera Fund. When you receive lessons from a private teacher (rather than through a school), that teacher will submit payment requests to us for completed lessons.

Primavera Fund will subsidize private lessons at the teacher's hourly rate up to \$100 per hour. For example: if a teacher's normal rate is \$80 per hour, we will pay that rate for each hour of instruction. If it is \$100 per hour, Primavera will pay that rate. Students and families should discuss private instruction rates with Primavera Fund Mentors and their teachers.

The Primavera Fund will subsidize up to 50 hours of private instruction annually. We assume that students will have 50 1-hour lessons per year, however, fewer longer lessons are acceptable (and may be a good option if an Artist is spending several weeks at a summer program.) ONE exception to the 50 hour limit may be made for highschool seniors preparing for college auditions. Cases will be evaluated individually, and students must have approval from a Primavera Mentor.

If the student must occasionally take a lesson with a substitute teacher, the rates and hour limits still apply and that teacher's time will also count toward the 50 hour annual limit. Primavera sponsorship is only available for the Artist's primary instrument.

Auxiliary Lessons

From time to time a student may wish to seek instruction on a one-time basis from an outside teacher. This can be from a college professor at a prospective school, from an expert in a specific technique, or when the student is considering changing teachers. Primavera will cover the cost of these lessons. We DO NOT support *regular lessons* with more than one teacher.

Private Lessons at Settlement

Primavera Fund will support Artist's lessons when they study with a teacher through Settlement Music School. The 50-hour private instruction annual limit also applies to lessons at Settlement. Usually, Settlement offers a block of 30-40 lessons per year, which is within the Primavera Fund annual cap.

If students prefer to make special arrangements with Settlement, Primavera Fund will subsidize up until the 50-hour cap. Families are responsible for the remainder of payments incurred beyond that.

Families should arrange with Settlement for all private lessons and make us aware of your registration. We are in contact with Settlement Music School and will remit payment and registration fees directly.

Youth Orchestras, Chamber Music, and other programs

We have close relationships with all of the music education institutions in Philadelphia so please alert these organizations that you are a Primavera Artist. **Please forward all tuition bills to us for payment.** You are expected to attend your Youth Orchestras and Chamber programs according to the attendance and performance guidelines set forth by those programs.

College or community orchestras are not acceptable as your sole source of full orchestral experience, nor is The Youtube Symphony Orchestra or the Orchestra Society of Philadelphia. In addition, PMEA States and Regional Orchestra **should not** supersede your regular extracurricular orchestra experience.

The following are a list of organizations where Primavera Artists commonly attend. Because of the quality of these organizations, they should be your main source of large and small ensemble experience. Always check with the Primavera Mentors before auditioning for an ensemble to be sure you are getting the best fit and quality of experience for your level.

- All PYO Music Institute ensembles
- Philadelphia Sinfonia ensembles
- Delaware County Youth Orchestra
- Settlement Music School
- Temple Music Prep
- All-City ensembles

Summer Programs

It is an important experience for Artists to attend festivals during the summer. You will meet new fellow student musicians, professionals, and have the opportunity to participate in a broader musical environment. The Primavera Fund will subsidize application fees and tuition fees for summer programs. We ask that families apply for financial aid for summer camp tuition (unless otherwise indicated) before sending us the invoice. The Primavera Fund has cost sharing partnerships with some camps and families do not have to apply for financial aid if attending those camps. All plans for summer music study should be discussed with and approved by a Primavera Mentor.

The following is a list of high quality programs where Primavera Artists often attend.

Primavera Fund Partner	Families must apply for financial aid
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kinhaven Music School ● Brevard Music Center ● Interlochen Summer Arts Camp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Boston University Tanglewood Institute ● Sphinx Academy+ ● NYO & NYO2+ ● Point Counter Point ● Symphony in C ● Dali International ● Meadowmount ● Curtis Summerfest

Many summer programs are out of the state and we will help with transportation costs for the student to and from the location of the program, see the "Travel" section below. *Primavera Fund does NOT purchase non-musical camp supplies, give spending money, or cash for incidentals for the duration of the summer program.*

Application Fees

Primavera Fund will pay for any application fees for music related activities. This is usually for college applications but may occur at other times, and should be approved by a Mentor. Artists should send the pertinent login info, dollar amounts, and any other necessary information to Chris Jusell <chris@primaverafund.org> who will make the payments on your behalf.

Music Supplies

We are happy to provide all *relevant* supplies and sheet music for our Artists. What this means is that all music assigned by your teacher, supplies necessary for the upkeep and maintenance of your instrument (this includes reed making supplies, etc.), and accessories such as mutes, rock stops, metronomes, instrument stands, and cases. We do not supply exorbitant items loosely related to your musical needs such as overly fancy instrument cases, Swarovski crystal encrusted mutes, exotic wood reed holders, or boutique headphones. Use your common sense and please think about "what" you are requesting. All requests will be subject to review. After all, it is only a request until completed.

TO REQUEST SUPPLIES use the Supplies and Sheet Music Order Form in the Members Area portal on the primaverafund.org website. The password for the Artists Area is **Primavera215**.

Recording

If Artists need to make audio or video recordings for auditions or other projects, The Primavera Fund partners with the following artists for rehearsals and recordings.

- David Pasbrig - pianist and recording <dpasbrig@gmail.com>
- Alexey Alexandrov - recording <idomr.alex@gmail.com>
- Anna Kislitsyna - pianist <kislitsynapiano@gmail.com>

Artists should first have their recording or project approved by a Primavera Mentor and then reach out to schedule their rehearsal & recording sessions with the above individuals. Let them know you are a Primavera Artist and they will invoice us.

Travel

The Primavera Fund will cover the cost of travel for college visits & auditions as well as transportation to summer camp, festivals, competitions, etc according to the following guidelines

- Transportation will be provided to transport the Artist and one chaperone (if the Artist is a minor) to and from the musical activity
- All travel costs must be approved by a Mentor **30 days prior** to the trip
- For public transit, itinerary and links (see below) must be submitted **30 days prior** to the trip
- If families are requesting reimbursements, requests must be submitted **no later than 30 days** after returning from the trip
- All receipts or images of receipts must be submitted for reimbursement
- For multiple college trips, please be economical. If several school visits can be combined, please make attempts to do so

Public Transit

If a Primavera Artist is using public transportation (bus, train, plane) they can forward an itinerary and ticket link to Chris Jusell <chris@primaverafund.org> who handles transit purchasing. Primavera Fund will purchase bus, train, or plane tickets for the student and one parent or guardian (if the student is a minor,) and forward the confirmation information to the student and parent.

Reimbursement for Car or Hotel

In the case that families are traveling by car or staying overnight because of their Artist's music related activity, they may submit a reimbursement request for the following items.

Receipts or images of receipts must be provided for all reimbursements.

- Fuel costs
- Tolls
- Cabs
- Rental cars
- Parking
- Hotels - only subsidized for the duration of transporting the student. Primavera Fund cannot cover the costs of extended stays for families. The hotel room subsidy is **capped at \$180/night**, including taxes & fees.

All requests for travel reimbursement should be submitted via the following form:

<https://forms.gle/eYe7JmPKsht66epEv7>

Families can also email Molly <molly@primaverafund.org> and ask for the form link.

Lyft

Students may request Lyft rides under extenuating circumstances, i.e; a concert finishes late at night and you have your instrument, a parent/guardian has a medical emergency, etc.

Advance notice must be given whenever possible, and all rides are approved on a case-by-case basis. *Generally, if students can take public transit, they are expected to do so. Please, discuss with us if you anticipate needing Lyft rides regularly or at odd hours.*



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

In addition to Mentorship support and financial support, Primavera fund engages in programming geared toward young professional musicians with the aim of saying the quiet parts out loud. Our goal is to expose Primavera Artists to the broader music profession and start you on the path to becoming a well rounded musician. All classes are mandatory for Primavera Artists, unless otherwise specified. Dates, time and location of classes are in the calendar in the Artists Area on the website.

Seminar Series

The Primavera Seminar Series will include an annual class on College Preparation presented by Dr. Audrey Mitchell who has compiled the ultimate guide for music students headed to college. Her course includes a complete guide for students and families starting in 9th grade, including how to evaluate schools, how to think about financial aid, and how to get the most out of your college search.

There will be three to four additional seminars annually giving an overview or “deep-dive” into a variety of topics related to music. Some classes are taught by our Primavera Mentors and sometimes we invite outside clinicians or experts in their field. Classes meet in person or online and all students are expected to attend. Examples of topics include:

- Music Technology
- Practice Techniques
- Managing Performance Anxiety
- Conducting Basics
- Showmanship & Professionalism
- Financial Self-Care for Musicians
- Networking & Self Promotion
- And many more...

Masterclasses

The Primavera Fund will host two masterclasses each year, based on the instrument make-up of students currently in Primavera. The Masterclinicians we invite to work with the Primavera Artists are prominent, well-known professionals, and often have very valuable musical insights. All students are expected to come to the class, even if you don't even play in the same instrument family.

Clinicians who have worked with the Primavera Artists in the past include:

- Billy Hunter, Principal Trumpet, Metropolitan Opera
- David Kim, Concertmaster of the Philadelphia Orchestra
- Dontae Winslow, Trumpet, Composer, Producer
- Demarre McGill, Principal Flute, Seattle Symphony
- Domenic Salerni, Violinist, Attacca Quartet

Learning Arc Support, directed by Susanna Loewy

The purpose of this component is to tie a comprehensive thread through the Mentoring, Artists Juries, private lessons, seminars, and ensemble experience into a cohesive artist philosophy. It will teach students accountability, time management and strategy skills, thereby maximizing their chances for success in auditions and other professional pursuits.

Outcomes

Students will create evolving Artist Statements that portray how they feel about their music, and how that relates to their goals at-large. Students will work on these statements throughout the year, understanding and allowing for change. Students will also craft bios that reflect their personality, along with their accomplishments. Biographies generated through this program will be used on the Primavera Fund website on your personal Artist page.

Beyond these tangible outcomes, the students' work on these statements and bios will enable them to understand where they are, where they want to go, and how to get there, within and beyond a musical context.

Time Commitment

Students will attend a group workshop for 2-hours 3 times a year. In the week following each workshop, students will work with Susanna one-on-one or in small groups to delve further into their ideas and parse through any stumbling blocks. All of the work can be in-person or virtual, depending on scheduling and locale availability. Learning Arc participation is mandatory and students are expected to attend each session with an open mind.

Additionally, Susanna will work with local Primavera Alumni, partnering them with current Artists to offer feedback and advice from the 'young person's' perspective. Participating alumni will attend all workshops and assist in the small group sessions. Alumni will be matched with one or more current Artist/s for additional young adult peer mentoring, facilitated and supervised by Susanna.

Chamber Music Outreach Program (pilot)

The goal of this program is to give Primavera Artists an opportunity to learn and play chamber music, and to provide experience in creating and executing performances. Students will plan the program, practice public speaking, and provide enriching performances to the community.

For the 2024 season, we will pilot this program with one string quartet. Rachel Segal will be coaching four Primavera Artists once a week for about 15-20 weeks. Because it is a pilot

year, Primavera Mentors will invite students to participate, however there may be an audition process in the future.

Performances will include short solo works by each performer and the quartet performance of repertoire prepared with Rachel. Rachel will also coach the group on how to address an audience and talk about the Primavera Fund, themselves, and the music they will perform. There will be 4-6 performances, and students may have to take an absence from school.

Malinda Lisette, (a Primavera Alumna) will serve as the coordinator for this new program for the pilot year. She will help the group find performance venues, schedule and arrange transportation, and prepare the venue for our visit. Please direct all logistical questions to her.



"Whatever you think you can do or believe you can do, begin it. Action has magic, grace and power in it."

– Goethe