

CCM
PREP
PRESENTS

STARLING SHOWCASE

Kurt Sassmannshaus, Director
Xiao Geng, Conductor

Saturday, October 3, 2026
Werner Recital Hall
5:00 p.m.

SOLOISTS



Daniel Xu is an 11-year-old violinist from Liberty Township, Ohio, where he is a seventh-grade student at VanGolden Elementary School. He began studying the violin at age five after being inspired by a local performance. Daniel especially enjoys discovering the stories, emotions, colors within music and sharing his joy of playing with audiences. Daniel performs on a rare 7/8 size violin from Mirecourt, France.

Daniel studies with Kurt Sassmannshaus in CCM's Starling Prep program and with Andrii Isakov.



Violinist Karis Dharmawirya from Philadelphia, PA is currently in her senior year at CCM. As the winner of the 2026 CCM violin concerto competition she performed Florence Price's 1st violin concerto with CCM's Philharmonia Orchestra in April of this year. Karis was awarded the loan of a fine violin as a Primavera Fund artist from 2018-2023. Today she performs on a violin made by George Yu from CCM's fine violin collection. She is passionate about sharing music with the community and especially enjoys teaching violin and playing at church.

Karis studies with Prof. Kurt Sassmannshaus in CCM's Starling class.



Taiwanese violinist Po-Ling Huang earned her Master of Music degree at CCM where she is currently completing her Doctor of Musical Arts degree as a student of Kurt Sassmannshaus in the Starling Class. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, studying with Benny Kim, and previously studied with CCM Starling alumnus Wei-Ming Hwang, Dean of Soochow University in Taiwan.

Huang has participated in the Bowdoin International Music Festival, Taipei Music Academy & Festival (TMAF), and British Isles Music Festival. She performs on a rare violin generously provided by Taiwan's Chimei Foundation.

PROGRAM

Violin Concerto No 2 in D-minor, Op. 22

Henryk Wieniawski

I. Allegro moderato

Daniel Xu, violin

Violin Concerto in D-minor, Op. 47

Jean Sibelius

I. Allegro moderato

Po-Ling Huang, violin

Violin Concerto in A minor, Op. 53

Antonin Dvořák

I. Allegro ma non troppo

II. Adagio ma troppo

III. Finale: Allegro giocoso, ma non troppo

Karis Dharmawirya, violin

STAFF

Starling Prep

Kurt Sassmannshaus, Director

Violin, Viola, and Chamber Music Faculty

Alexander Auer

William Auer

Yu-Ting Chiu

Sarah Jiang

Kurt Sassmannshaus

Gabrielle Sewell

Pianists

Zhisheng Wang

Dasom Kwong

Starling Chamber Orchestra Librarian

Yu-Ting Chiu

CCM Prep Office Administrators

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Lauren Magee, Registrar and Student Accounts Manager

Nicole Ortiz, Program Manager, Summer and Special Programs

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Dr. Joyce Grabell, Performing Arts Specialist - Music

Tricia Sundbeck, Performing Arts Specialist - Dance

Bethany Kerr, Theatre Arts Director

Presley Poe, Graduate Assistant, CCM Prep

Gwen Greber, Student Assistant, CCM Prep

Megan Austin, Graduate Assistant, CCM Prep & Summer Programs

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