

Violinist Cecilia O'Malley, a student of Professor Gerardo Ribeiro, is establishing herself as an accomplished performer among the nation's top competitive young artists. As a soloist, she has collaborated with orchestras across the Midwest United States, including the South Dakota Symphony, the Minnesota Sinfonia, the Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Elmhurst Symphony, the Black Hills Symphony, the Oistrakh Symphony, the Lakeview Symphony, and the Highland Park Strings Orchestra. In April, she will perform with the Lincoln Symphony as their 2025-26 Young Artist, and in March 2027, she will perform four concerts with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as the winner of this year's Crain-Maling Competition. A passionate chamber musician, Cecilia was a Bronze Medalist in the 2025 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, and a first prize winner in the Rembrandt Chamber Players Competition, the Glass City Chamber Competition, and Chicago's National Chamber Competition. Cecilia is currently a member of the Valinor Trio with colleagues Gabriel Raviv and Joseph Gallwas. As first prize winners in the American Virtuoso International Competition, they have been invited to perform at Carnegie Hall in the upcoming season. This spring, Cecilia will be featured on NPR's From the Top as a 2025-26 Fellowship nominee. She is privileged to also study with Dr. Tanya Carey on cello and Ms. Tatyana Stepanova on piano. In her free time, Cecilia enjoys reading 1800s British literature, watching Hollywood Golden Age movies, and spending time with her dog, Jack.