

## YPPA PERFORMER BIOS

Born and raised in Massachusetts, **Katherine Yang** started playing the violin when she was six years old studying with Bo Youp Hwang for all her music career. At the age of 10, she joined the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra Program, where she has been a member of the YPSO, JRO, REP, and BYS orchestras. She has been participating in the BYSO orchestras for six years in total now, and 3 years in the top orchestra. This past summer, she has embarked on a tour to Germany with the BYS orchestra to attend the Bach Festival, and to perform at world-renowned concert halls, like the Gewandhaus. Also, in 2013 and 2014, she has participated in the Western Festivals. Currently a junior in high school, she has also been a member of the chamber orchestra, string ensemble, and honor's string quartet at Westborough High School since freshman year. The chamber orchestra has earned gold at MICCA for the past couple of years, and the honors string quartet has earned gold last year at the solo ensemble MICCA festival. To add on, she has been actively participating in the volunteering program called Tri-M, where she is constantly providing service to the music community. Additionally, she has played in the Senior District and All State music festivals throughout all her years so far in middle school and high school. She is thankful for all the people who have supported her musical career, and is especially thankful towards her teachers and family.

**Matthew Pearl** is a senior at Marlborough High School and will be graduating this June. He started clarinet in fourth grade and picked up tenor saxophone in sixth grade. In high school, Matt started getting really into playing the saxophone and jazz music. He has been a member of the MHS Wind and Jazz Ensemble, as well as the drum major of the marching band. Matt played in the Claflin Youth Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble and won the concerto competition. He was a member of the Central District Jazz Band sophomore year through senior years and was selected for the Massachusetts All State Jazz Band sophomore and senior years. Matt performed at the Newport Jazz Festival and Symphony Hall with the All State band. At the MAJE (Massachusetts Association of Jazz Education) festival, Matt won the overall MVP junior and senior years. Besides music, Matt likes to play basketball and socialize with friends in his free time. This fall, he will be attending NYU or The University of Hartford for jazz studies.

**Timothy Coffey** is a junior at North Middlesex Regional High School where he plays in the Wind Symphony and the Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Greg Harris. In February 2019 he toured the Czech Republic with the Worcester Youth Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Jonathan Brennand as the Principal Clarinetist. He is also a member of the WYO Honors Chamber Music Quintet. Timothy auditioned for and was accepted into the MMEA All-State Festival this year, received All-State recommendations as a freshman and sophomore and played in the CDMMEA Festivals for the past five years. Additionally, Timothy plays in the Indian Hill Wind Ensemble under the direction of Jason Bielik who is his private tutor. He also has private lessons with Kim Lapointe. He is currently in the Winchendon Winds, a professional concert band for Winchendon and the Monadnock Region. In the summers, Timothy enjoys playing in his hometown with the Townsend Military Band. He plans to major in Music Education and Clarinet Performance and is honored to be a finalist in this festival.

**Justin Wang** is a ninth grader from Northborough. He has been playing piano for ten years and currently studies with Helena Vesterman. He is a winner of the 2018 MTNA Massachusetts Junior Piano Competition, Music Worcester Youth Artist Competition and MMTA Bay State Contest. Justin also plays violin with the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras and participated in this year's All-State Orchestra. Besides music, he enjoys running cross-country, doing math, and playing tennis in his spare time.