

Curriculum Vitae

Kukkamari Gröndahl

Profession: Musician (violin, viola, piano, voice), writer, educator, actress, mental healthcare reform activist

Birthplace: Born in Oulu, Finland on 09/19/1993.

Citizenship: Finland/USA

Languages: fluent Finnish, fluent English, good French and Spanish, intermediate Swedish, basic Japanese, Catalan, Italian and Russian

Education

2023: The New School, School of Drama (NYC, USA)

2017 – 2020: several electives in dramaturgy and acting at Theater Academy

2016 - present: Sibelius Academy. Teachers: Jaakko Ilves and Tero Latvala

2015 : Savonia University of Applied Sciences, Kuopio, Finland. Violin teacher: Zoja Istomina

2011 - 2013 : Manhattan School of Music, New York, USA. Violin teacher: Grigory Kalinovsky. Chamber music teachers: Laurie Carney (violin), Daniel Avshalomov (viola), Javier Gándara (horn). Ruth Chatfield String Instrument Scholarship

2008 - 2011 : Manhattan School of Music Precollege, New York, USA. Violin teacher: Grigory Kalinovsky. Chamber music teacher: Nicholas Canellakis. Concertmaster of Philharmonic Orchestra; Concerto Competition Winner; Kate Bamberger Scholarship

2008: Brief studies with Renee Jolles and Lewis Kaplan, New York, USA

1997 - 2008 : Hoff-Barthelson Music School, New York, USA. Violin teachers: Anca Nicolau (1997 – 2004), Peggy Klinger (2004 – 2008), Chamber music teachers: Gerald Robbins, Karen Dreyfus and Gena Raps. Honors Program

Writing and teaching employment

2021 - present: remote music theory teacher for elementary and middle school students

2021: Summer resident musician, social media manager and blogger for Sydän Suomi Kampanja in Karstula, Finland

2020 - present: screenwriter, multiple projects in Finland and USA

2020: high school English literature teacher in Kuopio Lyceo, Finland – IB Diploma Program

2018 - 2019: writer for Freelance Scandinavia in Finnish

2018 – present: English tutor and mentor

2017 – present: blogger

2017 – 2019: elementary and middle school substitute teacher (Helsinki)

2014 - 2016: English teacher & private tutor at Kuopio Multicultural center Kompassi

2010 - 2011: academic tutor for middle school student in Eastchester, New York

Musical employment

2023: Joensuun Kaupunginorkesteri (substitute violinist)

2021: string quartet member at Meri-Lappi Jousikvartetti (substitute)

2019: keyboardist for rock band in Helsinki (UnderDocs)

employed as musician for Lincoln Center Stage – Holland America Line cruise ship

2019: concertmaster for Helsinki Metropolitan Orchestra

2014 – 2017: Kuopion Kaupunginorkesteri (substitute violinist)

2014: Garden State Philharmonic (substitute assist. concertmaster & assist. principle 2nd)

2008 - 2009: assistant to Chamber Orchestra at Hoff-Barthelson Music School, New York

2007 - 2012: violin soloist at Scarsdale Community Baptist Church, New York

2004 - present: solo, chamber music and orchestral performer and educator

Other employment

- 2019: theater improvisation group coordinator at Julkula Mental Hospital
door to door fundraiser for UNICEF
- 2015: personal assistant for mother and son with disabilities
- 2011 - 2012: recording assistant at Myers Recording Studio, Manhattan School of Music
stage technician at Manhattan School of Music Production Department

Theater and film (highlights)

- 2023: Tokmanni commercial (department store commercial)
- 2023: Special Kinda Bad Feeling (extra)
- 2022: Häät ennen Hautajaisia (extra)
Pohjantähti - role: cashier
- 2020: Olipa Kerran Kyllikki (film) – role: landlord
Duus (film) – role: violinist
Tove (film) – extra
Pohjolan Laki (tv show) - extra

Scholarship Awards

- 2012 – 2013: Ruth Chatfield String Instrument Scholarship Award
- 2012: New York Times Guild-Times Scholarship Award
- 2010 – 2013: Gordon-Bennett Memorial Award
- 2010 –2013: Children's Foundation for the Arts Grant
- 2008 – 2013: Finlandia Foundation Scholarship Grant
- 2011: Chaminade Club Scholarship Award
- 2011: Williams Chorale Bacardi Fallon Performing Arts Scholarship
- 2009 – 2010: Kate Bamberger Scholarship Award
- 2008: American Scandinavian Society Cultural Grant

Competitions

- 2016: Stockholm International Music Competition, Violin Category E – 2nd place
- 2011: Adelphi Chamber Orchestra Young Artist Competition – 2nd place
- 2011: Friday Woodmere Music Club Competition – 3rd place
- 2011: Chaminade Club Competition – Winner
- 2011: Williams Chorale Bacardi Fallon Performing Arts Competition – Finalist – Featured on WARL
radio's America's Classical Idol
- 2011: Yonkers Philharmonic Young Artists Competition – 1st place
- 2010: 2nd place
- 2010: Manhattan School of Music Precollege Concerto Competition – Winner Performance aired on
WQXR's McGraw-Hill Young Artist Showcase
- 2010: Hudson Valley Music Club Competition – 1st place Solo and Chamber Music

Performances (highlights)

- 2016: Solo performances in Petrozavodsk and Kondopoga, Russia
- 2015: Soloist with AmKo-Sinfonia and Nuorisosinfoniaorkesteri, Kuopio, Finland
- 2011: Soloist with Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra, New York
Soloist with Manhattan School of Music Precollege Philharmonic, New York
Soloist with World Youth Alliance Chamber Orchestra, Connecticut
String quartet performance at US Embassy in Ottawa, ON, Canada
Duo performance at UN Church Center, Manhattan, New York

2010: Soloist with Yonkers Philharmonic Orchestra, New York

2006: Piano trio performance at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, New York

Orchestral experience (highlights)

2019: accepted to Orkester Norden as concertmaster and Baltic Sea Philharmonic

2019: Helsinki Metropolitan Orchestra (concertmaster), Helsinki, Finland

2014 - 2017: Kuopion Kaupunginorkesteri (substitute violinist and intern), Kuopio, Finland

2015: Yphil International Youth Orchestra, Carnegie Hall, New York

2012: Kurt Masur Conducting Seminar Orchestra, New York

Pacific Music Festival Orchestra, Japan, China

MSM Symphony and Chamber Sinfonia, Manhattan, New York

2010 - 2012: MSM Philharmonia, Manhattan, New York

MSM Jazz Philharmonic, Manhattan, New York / Concertmaster

World Youth Alliance Chamber Orchestra, Manhattan, New York & Connecticut

2010 - 2011: MSM Precollege Philharmonic, Manhattan, New York / Concertmaster

2009, 2010: New York Youth Symphony, Carnegie Hall (a leading US youth orchestra)

link to a short story, writing sample:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/101ruPTzKHypLRFJu8QFRKspoUxq_TjB5ZAlwQ3AT_58/edit?usp=sharing link to essay, writing sample: