

Paul Barna

Viola, Violin, Conducting

Paul Barna, has been seen as soloist, chamber player and orchestral musician throughout the Greater Toronto Area. Highlights of previous performances including performing for an opening game for the Hamilton Tiger Cats, recording for the JUNO's award ceremony with celebrated rock band, *The Arkells*, (He can also be seen and heard on several of their music videos) performing for the closing ceremonies of the Pan Am games of 2015 with Terra Lightfoot and the National Academy Orchestra as well as performances with the Kitchener Waterloo Symphony featuring Inuit throat singer, Tanya Tagaq.

Paul's eclectic and vast repertoire combined with his keen interest in new music had led him to record on various CD's including a premier performance of Abigail Richardson's composition *The Labyrinth* with the Schulte Strings Chamber Orchestra, and recording *Mahler's Ninth Symphony* with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada. (Disc had a JUNO nomination track, *Isomorphia*) Paul was also part of the Inaugural season of one of Canada's newest concert halls, Koerner Hall. Paul's string playing can be heard on a recent release of local folk/ blues artists Andre Bisson's latest new album, *The Ballad of Lucy Stone*. (<https://music.amazon.com/albums/B0B6QH7632>) Stay tuned for another new album release in December.

Paul is currently a highly in demand freelance musician within the Greater Toronto Area, performing with various orchestras and ensembles. He has performed as soloist with the Mississauga Symphony, North York Symphony Orchestra, Symphony on the Bay and regularly appears with with Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, Kitchener Waterloo Symphony, Esprit Orchestra, Thunder Bay Symphony and Sudbury Symphony as to name a few. He formerly studied viola with Mr. Steven Dann, however past teachers include Atis Bankas, and Michael Schulte.

Mr. Barna is a graduate of the Glenn Gould School of Music and Young Artist Performance Academy program at The Royal Conservatory of Music as well as successful apprentice from the National Academy Orchestra; Canada's only professional training orchestra.

Not only a devout performer, Paul is a sought after educator and instructor. He is currently serving on the string faculty at Burlington Suzuki and has a large flourishing private string studio, *Paul Barna Music Studios*. He recently founded and directs the Burlington Chamber Sinfonia; an ensemble comprised of advanced students with a focus on performing solo repertoire with the ensemble. Many of his students are award winning and celebrated young musicians that can be heard in youth orchestras across Ontario. In November 2021, Paul helped to initiate a mentorship program with the Burlington Symphony; where talented and hard working students were able to join the orchestra as a side by side in concert. His students regularly work towards completing Royal Conservatory examinations and participate in local competitions. His teachings have led him to substitute at various music schools and institutions ranging from Hamilton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Oakville Symphony Youth Orchestra, and formerly Axis Music in Toronto; a string program developed for under privileged youth. He has also served as faculty assistant at the Interprovincial Music Camp in Parry Sound. In addition to loving his career and being an avid car nut, real estate enthusiast and horological aficionado, there are few things that bring Paul as much joy as successfully pulling off one of his elaborate, ingenious and oh so witty practical jokes/ pranks on unsuspecting students....