



Name: Lisa Freigang

City/Town of Residence: Bayside

Instrument: Violin

How long have you been with Concord? Three years or so

What is your earliest musical memory? Standing on our middle school auditorium stage (with my classmates) with our music teacher declaring that violin was the instrument I wanted to learn.

What got you interested in music, and what was your involvement

growing up? I was always drawn to music. Music was soothing and allowed expression of emotion. I was lucky enough to have two music teachers live on my street growing up and they became like second parents. So perhaps it was fate, but I also sang in choir and had private lessons in both violin and voice.

Why do you perform with Concord? Classical music is such a unique experience. Playing with a large group in unison, as one, is truly beautiful. And classical music keeps the musical brain sharp and dusted off!

What has been the high point of your involvement with Concord? Playing in the cathedrals. It mentally takes me right back to Europe and is so special.

What do you do for a living? I have an M.A. in speech and language pathology and worked in the school system until we moved to Germany. Now I compose violin and perform with two different local bands.

Tell us about your family? I have three children. My eldest daughter is a singer/songwriter in Milwaukee (@anjaelisemusic.com) with whom I write and perform. My second daughter is a videographer and artist. My youngest son is a company ballet dancer with the Milwaukee Ballet. My husband is a finance director but in his "spare time" supports all his artists!

What are your hobbies besides practicing and playing? Composing violin music for indie/pop genres, cooking (I am a health nut "hippie"), gardening and travel.

What is your favorite recording? Wow - it has to be my daughter's album Salt & Sugar by Anja Elise Music. It sounds like a shameless plug, but it is beautiful and do we love anything more than what our children create?

Who is your favorite composer? Not sure I have one. My interests cross many genres.

What is one thing most people don't know about you? I play in two different local bands (search hard enough and there are music videos out there). Also, our family lived in Germany for three years and my childhood exchange sister also lives there. It is my happy place.

What is your advice for kids who are interested in music? Don't wait for the school systems to be the only thing that exposes you to the world of music. Immerse yourself in the arts. Take in as much as you possibly can in all of the arts. Go to museums, the ballet, concerts of *all* types of music, etc. The world needs artists. It is the universal language of the expression of the soul. And don't let someone tell you that you "can't make it in music." It is just a different path than the norm.