

Carole Kincaid

City/Town of Residence: East Side Milwaukee

Instrument: Violinist

How long have you played with the CCO? I am an original member of the Concord Chamber Orchestra under its founder John Parfrey back in the 1970s. I returned about four years ago after many years in the Festival City Symphony, the Chicago Academy of Early Music, and the Bach Chamber Choir & Orchestra.



What is your earliest musical memory? Playing piano duets with my father, who was a jazz pianist, when I was about nine years old.

What got you interested in music, and what was your involvement growing up? I started violin when I was 15 after meeting a friend who played both piano and violin at the UMM music camp for high school students. I studied with Taik-ki Kim, Abram Loft, Eriks Klavins, and Vadim Mazo. I graduated from UW-Milwaukee with a BFA in music education, and played with an international youth orchestra in Nice, France. After working in a greenhouse, my first professional job was teaching orchestra for grades 5-12 for 17 years in New Berlin. Then I went back to school and got my masters degree in French Literature at Marquette. I studied music arranging and jazz violin at Berkley School of Music in Boston and Baroque violin at Oberlin College. Then I taught Music and French at St. Mary's Academy and MPS for 20 years. I specialized in teaching French with interactive computer programs.

Who are your favorite musicians? Pianists Lang Lang and Joyce Yang; violinist Nadia Salerno Sonnenberg; soprano sax player Bradford Marsalis. My favorite music is Stravinsky's Petroushka, Putumayo world music, movie scores and French chanson. My favorite instruments are soprano sax, French horn and conga drums.

What are your hobbies besides practicing and playing? I play regularly with the Eastbrook Church Orchestra, a new drumming group of friends, and I give piano lessons. I read a lot of mysteries and French novels and belong to the Alliance Francaise Book Club. In summer I am an avid gardener and specialize in heirloom tomatoes and exotic hydrangeas. I transport my plants in my little Mazda Miata convertible. I belong to the Herb Society of America and the Art Museum Garden Club. My husband is the photographer for Concord and together we enjoy being members of the Urban Ecology Center Camera Club. I also enjoy cooking, especially Moroccan tajines and Mexican moles. I have two cats, a parrot and tropical fish. I love to travel, study foreign languages and watch foreign movies. When I am not busy with all my hobbies, I spend a couple of hours a day practicing my violin.