

Hannah Willard, Violin

Up next in our violin spotlights: our Principal Violin 2, Hannah!



Could you tell me a little bit about yourself?

I am originally from Iowa, but I came to the University of Oregon to complete my master's in violin performance. I just graduated in June 2021, and I am enjoying building my freelance violin career in Eugene right now. I have lived in four states in the last five years, but I love Oregon the most!

**What brought or inspired you to pursue violin?
If you'd like to share one of your favorite pieces of music as well, I'd like to know!**

I started playing violin when I was six years old, after begging my parents for a couple years even before that. I had my phases of loving it and hating it (as all kids do), but when I performed the second movement of the Bruch violin concerto my sophomore year of high school, I knew music was something that

needed to stay in my life. That movement remains to be one of my favorite concerto slow movements for violin.

What do you enjoy most about being with the Rogue Valley Symphony?

The camaraderie is so special with RVS. The atmosphere is very warm and friendly during rehearsals and performances. I am still pretty new to the orchestra, so I am looking forward to getting to know everyone better!

What do you do when you're not playing music i.e. what are your hobbies or interests?

I love to get outside and hike when it's nice enough, and on rainy days I love baking banana bread and catching up on the Marvel universe.

Finally, one unusual fact, story, or tidbit about you or your instrument?

My violin has a "cousin" in the orchestra! It's a great violin made by Ted Skreko, and Mitso Floor, a [former] violist in RVS, has a viola made by him as well. We have enjoyed playing some duos together because their sounds blend together so well!

