

Krista DeBolt, Violin

Next up: Krista!



Could you tell me a little bit about yourself?

Krista DeBolt is the director of the Grants Pass High School Orchestras and coordinator of the District Strings Program. She grew up in Grants Pass taking part in the Strings Program and traveling with both the middle and high school orchestras. She has a Bachelor's Degree from Southern Oregon University in both Music and Interdisciplinary Studies, as well as a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. She and husband, Bryan, have enjoyed living in Grants Pass and raised three daughters who all continued with orchestra in college and have now started their careers. Krista is in her 25th year of teaching orchestra and started playing with the symphony in 1990. I love violin, music, and teaching.....my favorite thing is taking my students from just knowing the notes and rhythms to creating and presenting something truly unique and special

and wholly us. I love the look on their faces when we can feel and move together and the excitement they bring and have before performances. My favorite quote that I share with all of my classes: "Before you can inspire with emotion, you must be swamped with it yourself. Before you can move them to tears. Your own must flow. To convince them, you must first yourself, believe." Winton S. Churchill

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 saw a high school string quartet play at Redwood Elementary when I was in 4th grade and then knew I wanted to play the violin. Favorite piece is really hard as I love so many pieces that I have played over the years. Two of my favorite memories are playing the Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 by candlelight at the Catholic Church in Medford and the Marriage of Figaro with the Rogue Opera.

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

How powerful music is – together we are strong and can do amazing things that would not be possible alone. It is a completely different way of playing than with a string orchestra or small string ensemble.

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

I love to read and my husband and I enjoy paddle boarding and traveling to visit our daughters.

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

I played an Italian violin for most of my life. One of my daughters plays violin and she now loves and plays that instrument. My current violin was hand made by Michael Klein. I got to be a part of the process and pick out certain things about how I wanted it to look and sound. It has wood from southern Oregon it is gorgeous and I love it.

