

THE JULIUS QUARTET

As strong advocates for outreach events and educational workshops, we are actively searching to engage various communities in diverse ways. The quartet has presented a wide range of educational workshops for all ages and musical levels focusing on some of the fundamental elements of being a chamber music ensemble: *communication, teamwork, collaboration* and *compromise*.

Listed below are a number of sample interactive workshops:

- 1. Performance Masterclass:** In the style of a "public lesson", masterclasses are designed for music students of various levels to practice performing a piece they have been studying. The instructors aim to aid students by providing insight on healthy practice habits, successful performance techniques and the basic principles of being a performing musician.
- 2. The "Quartet Sandwich":** Designed for children with little musical instruction/experience, this workshop acts as an introduction to the four string instruments in a string quartet and the various roles that they play.
- 3. "Finding the Balance":** In this workshop, we turn the tables by having the audience help fix and refine our ensemble's playing. Using various musical examples, we explore various concepts of how to balance the four voices, expressing creativity and character, and how to achieve effective communication among the group. This workshop can easily be tailored to accommodate music students from the beginning to advanced levels.
- 4. "Repertoire Exploration":** Using a variety of musical selections from various historical time periods, the quartet explores the development of the String Quartet genre and how it became one of the most important and influence mediums for composers. This lecture and demonstration accommodates all audiences.
- 5. "From Sound to Sight":** In this cross-art workshop, the audience is asked to visually draw/create a representation of the piece(s) they just heard. Using various art supplies that can be arranged to be made available beforehand, we explore the connectivity between the elements of creating a beautiful image on paper with how that translates to creating a piece of music.