

Cameren Williams

Cameren Anai Williams, a native of West Palm Beach, FL, is a third-year bachelor student studying viola performance at The Juilliard School as a recipient of the Jerome L. Greene fellowship. She was principal violist of the Youth Orchestra of Palm Beach County Philharmonic Orchestra, principal violist in the New World Symphony Side-by-Side Orchestra, co-principal violist of the Principal Orchestra of Florida Youth Orchestra, assistant principal violist in the Aspen Philharmonic Orchestra, a member of the New York String Orchestra under the direction of Maestro Jaime Laredo, a member of the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America under the baton of maestro Michael Tilson Thomas and currently plays with The Soulful Symphony and The Juilliard Orchestra. Cameren studies under the tutelage of Professor Carol Rodland.

Williams has been fortunate enough to receive scholarships to summer programs such as The Sphinx Performance Academy, Interlochen Arts Camp, Aspen Music Festival, and the National Youth Orchestra of the United States of America on their tour of Asia. During the summer of 2019, Williams studied with Lynn Ramsey, Sheila Browne, Stephanie Baer, and Caroline Caode at the Chautauqua Institute in New York as well as participated in the Weinberg Chamber Music Festival in Kefermarkt, Austria. During the summer of 2021, she will be participating in the chamber music program Encore. While attending summer programs, she has had lessons and masterclasses with Eric Nowlin (principal viola of Detroit Symphony), Roberto Diaz (Curtis Institute of Music), Matthew Lipman (soloist), Jeffrey Irvine (Cleveland Institute of Music), Heidi Castleman (The Juilliard School), Nokuthula Ngwenyama (soloist and composer) and several other notable musicians.

Williams has competed in a number of different competitions in the nation and has placed in the American Protégé Competition (winner), Sarasota Young Artists Competition (4th place), South Florida Youth Solo Competition (winner), DSOA Concerto Competition (winner) and the Omega Psi Phi Talent Hunt (winner of the district, state and regional levels). As a result of her winnings, she has soloed with the Palm Beach Atlantic Symphony Orchestra, ViolaFest Miami Orchestra, and the DSOA Philharmonic.

Cameren's future goal is to become a professional violist focused on chamber and orchestral performance while maintaining a teaching position at a university or conservatory. She teaches private violin and viola students in Florida and in New York she currently holds a MAP Fellowship where she gets the opportunity to teach and collaborate with Juilliard's Music Advancement Program faculty in classroom and orchestral settings. Cameren's foundation, CamAnai Strings, makes affordable yet high quality instruments for students who have the talent but lack the financial resources to purchase an instrument (www.CamAnaiStrings.org). The most recent project of CamAnai Strings was the children's book, Kinderlute: A Young Musician's Guide to Taking Care of String Instruments, now available on Amazon and in the Juilliard Store. Cameren currently plays on a 1980 "Kinu Inge" Hiroshi Iizuka traditional 16 ½ viola. Mr. Iizuka made this viola paying homage to his oldest daughter, Kinu Inge.

