



Saturday | March 25 | 3pm  
Salvation Army Kroc Center, Upham's Corner

Celebrity Series of Boston presents a Neighborhood Arts performance

## Stringfest

with **Aristides Rivas & Friends**  
and **Boston String Academy**

### Ludwig van Beethoven

*From String Quartet in C minor, Op. 18, no. 4*  
*1. Allegro ma non tanto*

**Boston String Academy**

**Aquiles Báez**  
**Manuel Yáñez**  
**Ricardo Sandobal**

*Mis Hermanos*  
*Viajera del Río*  
*El Cruzao*

**Eduardo Betancourt** harp  
**Carlos Capacho** cuatro  
**Aristides Rivas** cello

### Aristides Rivas

*Suite Boricua* (2019; commissioned by Celebrity Series of Boston for Neighborhood Arts)  
*El Cumbanchero*  
*Lamento Borincano*  
*Companitas de Cristal*  
*A la Verdegue*

**Aristides Rivas** conductor  
**Jorge Arce** bomba, vocals  
**Boston String Academy**

**Juan Vicente Torrealba**  
(arr. Rivas)

*Concierto en la Llanura con Gabán*

**Aristides Rivas** conductor  
**Eduardo Betancourt** harp  
**Carlos Capacho** cuatro  
**Boston String Academy**

Today's program will run approximately 75 minutes with no intermission.

2022/23 Neighborhood Arts Presenting Sponsor **Stephanie L. Brown Foundation**

2022/23 Season Sponsors **Amy & Joshua Boger**

**Neighborhood Arts** is sponsored by the Barr Foundation through its ArtsAmplified initiative, Klarman Family Foundation, Liberty Mutual Foundation, Massachusetts Cultural Council, National Endowment for the Arts, Yawkey Foundation, and other generous supporters.

## **Boston String Academy**

### **Violin 1**

Annabelle Lee  
Gisele Francisco  
Sofia Francisco  
Mika Liu  
Estrella Sanchez  
Annie Yuan

### **Violin 2**

Scarlet Falcón  
Maienna Andersson

### **Violin 2 (cont'd)**

Shuyan Huang  
Angelina Moy  
Nicole Situ  
Fiona Yuan

### **Viola**

Ana Cardona  
Samuel Benaim  
Bonnie Mai  
Camila Martinez

### **Cello**

William Parkes  
Bryan DaCosta  
Jennifer Gamez  
CJ Klinman  
Noah Liu  
Juna Yatsu  
Julia Yuan

### **Bass**

Pablo Kennedy

### **Faculty**

Marielisa Alvarez  
Mariesther Alvarez  
Tony Morales  
Michal Shein

**Boston String Academy (BSA)** is a non-profit organization, inspired by the Venezuelan El Sistema model which believes in music as a vehicle for social change. Rigorous string instrument instruction is provided to children in under-served communities, laying a solid musical foundation and creating a path for young people to become sensitive, responsible, and creative human beings. The program makes mastery of a string instrument reachable by eliminating obstacles that stand in an inner-city family's way. BSA was founded in 2012 by violinists Marielisa and Mariesther Alvarez, graduates from the Boston Conservatory and the El Sistema program in their home country of Venezuela, on which experience they have modeled BSA. Three programs are currently offered in the Chinatown and Allston neighborhoods, serving more than 120 students. The Academy has collaborated with renowned artists including Midori, Gustavo Dudamel, and Sir Simon Rattle. BSA students have performed out of state and internationally and have been selected to participate in festivals such as the Dudamel Foundation's "Encounters/Encuentros" in Mexico City, Orquestra Geração in Lisbon, Portugal, LA Phil's YOLA National Festival in Los Angeles, Boston University Tanglewood Institute, Sphinx Performance Academy, Greenwood Music Camp, Dudamel's residency at Princeton University, among others. In June 2021, the Youth Ensemble by selected by Midori's Orchestra Residency Program to premier "Spring Cadenzas" for violin and strings, performed by Midori herself. In Spring 2016, Marielisa and Mariesther Alvarez were chosen among the 100 most influential people for the Hispanic community in Massachusetts. BSA won the 2019 Commonwealth Awards, which honors exceptional achievement in the arts, humanities, and sciences in the state of Massachusetts.

Grammy-nominated cellist **Aristides Rivas** (*conductor*) has a long association with Celebrity Series' Neighborhood Arts program, as a cellist, a composer, and a conductor for two previous Stringfests. *Suite Boricua* on today's program is a composition of his from 2019. As a cellist, he has performed with Boston's conductorless orchestra A Far Cry, as well as at a wide range of international music venues and festivals such as Caramoor Music Festival, Tanglewood, Carnegie Hall, Newport Jazz Festival, the Barbican in England, Sejong Center in South Korea, and Teatro Colon in Argentina. Rivas is a specialist in El Sistema-inspired youth music programs and has presented at international conferences such as South Korea's state run El Sistema conference, the ITAC4 at Carnegie Hall, and the El Sistema USA Symposium in 2019. Rivas is on the cello faculty at California Baptist University.

Considered "one of the iconic harpists of this new age," **Eduardo Betancourt** (*harp*) is a Grammy Award-winning Venezuelan musician, producer, arranger, composer, instructor, and multi-instrumentalist with 30 years of experience in traditional and fusion Venezuelan music. His many accomplishments include more than 100 recordings and performances with renowned international artists including Simon Diaz, Oscar D'León, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Danny Rivera, Luis Salinas, Jorge Celedón, and artists from Venezuela. Currently, Betancourt collaborates with the Venezuelan Project, a Latin Jazz group which has performed at the House of Blues and on National Public Radio (NPR); and solo under the name EduardoProject, giving workshops and teaching master classes throughout the world. His courses can also be found online at Harp School. Betancourt plays on Electric Llanera and Camac EC harps, the design and construction of which he helped guide for the French harp company, Les Harpes Camac.

**Carlos Capacho** (*cuatro*) is a pioneer, an innovative and talented Jazz musician whose instrument of choice is the Venezuelan Cuatro, a folk instrument that resembles a downsized classical guitar with four strings. Born in Guyana City in Venezuela's state of Bolivar, Carlos Capacho had an early start on classical and by 15, won his first cuatro competition. After studying computer engineering for two years, Capacho realized that music was both his first love and the way he could make a difference in the world, so he moved to Caracas, started focusing his influences in adapting a traditional instrument to the modern world, and started recording and releasing albums. He was on the faculty at the Conservatory Simon Bolivar in Caracas for five years, and came to the US in 2012 to study at Berklee, eventually earning a Master of Music degree within the Global Jazz Institute. Even with an international performing career, he is now based in Boston, and is working on an instructional method book and online courses for the cuatro.

For more info on **Jorge Arce**, please see digital program or [jorgearcehumano.com](http://jorgearcehumano.com).

Did you enjoy the  
performance?

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Scan for our survey

# 2022/23

  
Celebrity Series of Boston



## FEBRUARY 2023

### Chris Thile

Fri | Feb 3 | 8pm  
Sanders Theatre

### Artemis

Sat | Feb 4 | 8pm  
Berklee Performance Center

### *What Makes It Great?* with Rob Kapilow Copland's *Appalachian Spring* with A Far Cry

Sun | Feb 5 | 3pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

### Jessica Vosk, *My Golden Age*

Sun | Feb 5 | 5pm  
Symphony Hall

### Circa, *Sacre*

Thu – Sat | Feb 9 – 11 | 8pm  
Boch Center Shubert Theatre

### NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS Sandeep Das & Mike Block *Where the soul never dies*

Sat | Feb 11 | 4pm  
Harvard-Epworth Church

### Emi Ferguson and Ruckus

Sat | Feb 11 | 8pm  
GBH's Calderwood Studio

### Jason Moran and the Big Bandwagon *James Reese Europe and the Harlem Hellfighters: From the Dancehall to the Battlefield*

Fri | Feb 17 | 8pm  
Berklee Performance Center

### DEBUT SERIES

### Alexi Kenney, violin *Shifting Ground*

Wed | Feb 22 | 8pm  
Longy's Pickman Hall

### Dreamers' Circus

Fri | Feb 24 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

### NEIGHBORHOOD ARTS Sandeep Das: *Soundscapes of India - Suhail Yusuf Khan*

with Boston City Singers  
Sat | Feb 25 | 3pm  
Multicultural Arts Center,  
Cambridge

### MARCH 2023

Igor Levit, piano  
Sat | Mar 4 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

### Lawrence Brownlee, tenor Kevin Miller, piano *Rising*

Sun | Mar 5 | 3pm  
GBH's Calderwood Studio



Celebrity Series of Boston

### KODŌ, Tsuzumi

### KODŌ, Tsuzumi

Sun | Mar 12 | 5pm  
Symphony Hall

### JAZZ FESTIVAL (Mar 8-11, 7pm)

at Artists For Humanity EpiCenter  
**Melissa Aldana Quartet  
Hiromi  
Nnenna Freelon  
Ambrose Akinmusire**

### Aoife O'Donovan

Fri | Mar 17 | 8pm  
Sanders Theatre

### Chineke! Orchestra

Andrew Grams, conductor  
Stewart Goodyear, piano  
Wed | Mar 22 | 8pm  
NEC's Jordan Hall

### Terri Lyne Carrington + Social Science

Fri | Mar 24 | 8pm  
Berklee Performance Center

### DEBUT SERIES

Fatma Said, soprano  
Rafael Aguirre, guitar  
Thu | Mar 30 | 8pm  
Longy's Pickman Hall

*and many more...*

Visit [celebrityseries.org](http://celebrityseries.org) to view the full season schedule