

Violist and Violinist

JOVANI WILLIAMS

PROFILE

Late by conventional musical standards, Jovani Williams started playing the violin, somewhat fortuitously at age 13. Six months thereafter, he captured 3 trophies at Jamaica's premier performing arts festival and 4 trophies the following year.

Under the tutelage of Mr. Steven Woodham, O.D., Mrs. Paulette Bellamy, O.D., Dr. Lisa Walker and Professor Ralph Fielding, Jovani has racked up well-deserved acclaim for his stage performances and academics.



Sitting his first performance exam in Grade 7, he earned the highest distinction award in Jamaica from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM). Jovani continued on this distinction path in Grade 8 and was awarded the Licentiate of Trinity College London (LTCL) in violin performance.

A two-time scholarship recipient at Interlochen's Summer program, Michigan, USA; Jovani joined the Youth Orchestra of Americas on their 2016 Nordic-Baltic Legacy Tour, visiting Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden, Denmark and Germany; becoming the second Jamaican to accomplish this feat. Jovani was selected from a field of more than 1,300 talented musicians - the highest ever - who auditioned to fill 80 positions on the Youth Orchestra of the Americas.

Locally, Jovani performed with the Immaculate Conception High School Symphony Orchestra and also served as concert master of the chamber group. Additionally, he is a part-time string tutor for the National Youth Orchestra of Jamaica and concert master for the Kingston College Chapel Choir and Chamber Orchestra.

In a milestone contribution of national significance, Jovani's splendid violin arrangement of 'Evening Time' was featured in the 2015 commemorative video in honour of Jamaica's greatest folklorist - Louise Bennett-Coverly O.D. This piece was commissioned at the behest of The Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC).

The young musician studied for two consecutive summers at the Interlochen Summer intensive camp which has contributed greatly to his advancement. Jovani is currently a sophomore at Lynn University, Conservatory of Music majoring in Viola Performance under Professor Ralph Fielding.

Shortly after completing his freshman year, Jovani won a scholarship to the highly selective National Symphony Orchestra's Summer Music Institute at the Kennedy Center. A highlight of that experience was performing at the United States Capitol. Recently, he earned his seat with the South Florida Symphony Orchestra.

Ladies and gentlemen presenting Violist and Violinist Jovani Williams