**Amy Hillis** is currently pursuing a Doctor of Music in Violin Performance at McGill University with the esteemed violin professor, Axel Strauss. A recent graduate of the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, Amy completed her Master of Music in 2014 with renowned pedagogue and performer, Ian Swensen. Amy also holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Violin Performance from McGill University where she studied with former concertmaster of the Orchestre Métropolitain, Denise Lupien. Born and raised in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, Amy studied with the concertmaster of the Regina Symphony Orchestra, Eduard Minevich, before she moved to Montreal in 2008.

A passionate orchestral musician, Amy is currently concertmaster of Montreal's [Pronto Musica](http://prontomusica.org/Home/englishHome.html" \t "_blank) as well as an associate member of Chicago's [Civic Orchestra](http://cso.org/institute/civicorchestra/" \t "_blank). She was concertmaster of the San Francisco Conservatory Orchestra and was also concertmaster of SFCM's New Music Ensemble. In Aldeburgh, England, she has performed on multiple occasions with Aldeburgh Strings and the Britten-Pears Orchestra. Amy was a first violinist in the Regina Symphony Orchestra during her last two years of high school. In addition, she was concertmaster of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada in 2008 under the direction of Sir Andrew Davis and Maestro Jacques Lacombe.  Recognized for her leadership, Amy has won many orchestral awards including the prestigious Stephen Sitarski Leadership Award from the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.

Amy is the recipient of numerous scholarships including a Presidential Scholarship and the Peter and Jacqueline Hoefer Scholarship from SFCM. She was also awarded a Graduate Excellence Fellowship, a Lloyd Carr-Harris scholarship, the Women Associates Scholarship in Music, and the J. W. McConnell Scholarship from McGill University. A recent winner of the Regina Musical Club Recital Competition, Amy will perform a recital with pianist, Meagan Milatz, during the RMC's 2014-2015 season. Amy has attended distinguished summer music festivals such as the Domaine Forget Chamber Music Academy, the Banff Violin Summer Institute, Morningside Music Bridge, the Orford Academy of Music, the Moritzburg Academy Music Festival, the Ritornello Music Festival, the Bowdoin International Music Festival, the Casalmaggiore International Festival, and the Scotia Festival of Music. She has studied with renowned chamber musicians including Kim Kashkashian, Jean-Michel Fonteneau, Mark Sokol, Mack McCray, Masuko Ushioda, Mauricio Fuks, Jonathan Crow, Elizabeth Dolin, Douglas McNabney, André Roy, Yegor Dyachkov, Roger Chase, Janet Ying, and Andre Emelianoff. She has also worked with members of the Kronos Quartet, the New Orford String Quartet, the Miro String Quartet, and the Ying Quartet.

With funding and support from the Saskatchewan Arts Board, Amy is also dedicated to performing school concerts as violinist and manager of the [Horizon String Quartet](http://www.amyhillis.com/hsq) (HSQ). During three different tours, the HSQ has performed approximately 58 concerts for over 10,000 students in eleven different cities across southern Saskatchewan. Please visit amyhillis.com for more information.