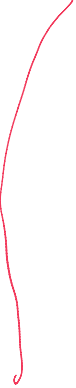
Violist Xi Yu has performed with many orchestra in China and is now studying at the Peabody Institute. She holds a special affection for performing the viola in churches. The vaulted ceilings and vast interiors of these holy places infuse the viola with a deep, resonant warmth, the viola's rich, almost human-like timbre becomes particularly moving within this atmosphere. After each performance, the heartfelt applause from the audience became the moment when she felt the power of music, transforming into the force that powered her forward in her musical journey.



She earned her undergraduate degree from the China Conservatory of Music in 2025 and is currently she studies at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. She has studied under Professor Cao Hai, viola professor at the Central Conservatory of Music; Professor Born Lau, viola professor at the China Conservatory of Music; and Choong Jin Chang, principal violist of the Philadelphia Orchestra and viola professor at the Peabody Institute.



Her experiences in sacred spaces influence her approach to orchestral and chamber music. She served as Associate Principal Viola of the China Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, participating in recordings for many programs of China Media Group during her tenure. In 2021, as a violist with the China Conservatory of Music Symphony Orchestra, she collaborated with numerous famous conductors in many performances such as Alexander Polishchuk, Xiaoying Zheng and so on. In 2022, she participated in a nationwide tour with the China Oriental Performing Arts Group. In 2025, she embarked on a national-level tour with the China Conservatory Symphony Orchestra, performing in major cities across the country. Now at Peabody, Xi Yu is preparing for a career as a professional violist in orchestras and chamber ensembles.



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