

Ben Grube, Violin



Q: What instrument(s) do you play?

A: Violin and Viola

Q: When and how did you get started in music?

A: I started with piano when I was five. I went to the music store when I was ten to pick up a saxophone but my hand was not big enough yet. I saw a bunch of violins on the wall that were different sizes and figured one of those would fit. That day changed the rest of my life.

Q: When did you begin playing with the SOST?

A: I started playing here when I first moved to Houston to do my doctorate in 2011.

Q: Educational background?

A: Undergraduate in violin performance at Furman University, Greenville, SC; Masters in violin performance at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX; Doctorate in violin performance with a minor in viola at University of Houston, TX.

Q: Who has been your greatest influence in music?

A: My parents have by far been the most supportive people in my life, particularly with music. They have gone out of their way to attend as many of my concerts as possible and do everything they can to help me achieve my goals.

Q: What is your "day job?"

A: I am an orchestra director at Johnston Middle School for the Performing and Visual Arts (alongside Dr. Jose Rocha from SOST's cello section).

Q: Hobbies or activities outside of SOST?

A: I love to do anything that will get me outdoors; biking, hiking, running, etc. Miller Outdoor Theater is my favorite place in Houston. I will happily watch anything performed there with a group of good friends out on the lawn and some great food.

Q: Favorite music?

A: My favorites fluctuate often. I try to keep an open mind and will give anything a chance.