

Violin/Viola Seminar student comments

Jennifer Roe

Attending Music from Salem as a liberal arts student gave me new perspectives on what it means to grow as a musician. Studying music at a university with a small music program has allowed me to experience many valuable opportunities, but I have also experienced moments where I felt a lack of belonging. At the Music from Salem, we are a small community of students from many different musical backgrounds who came together, united by a shared passion for music. The collaborative environment created a space where we could focus not only on our own development but also on learning from and encouraging one another. Working with professors who cared about each student's growth helped me improve my technique, musical expression, and confidence. I especially valued the opportunity to work alongside conservatory students and learn from their approaches to practicing and performing. In just one week, Music from Salem fostered a genuine sense of community where everyone cared about each other's growth and success. I left the seminar with greater confidence, a healthier perspective on my own musicianship, and excited to continue growing as a musician.

Malachi Provenzano

"Being present at Music from Salem is something that I prioritize every summer, and I am lucky enough to have attended seven times. During the short week that we spend together, we are constantly being pushed to explore our musical limits, and it is incredible how much progress can be made in just seven days. The seminar is made to be affordable for everyone, and this is largely in part to Lila Brown's hospitality in welcoming us into her home. The two other professors at the seminar, Marc Ryser and Sharan Leventhal, prepare delicious meals for us for dinner every night. This saves money, but more importantly, makes everyone feel like we are sharing a meal as a family. I look forward to the seminar not only because of how much better of a musician I am at its conclusion, but also because I get to experience the joy of having a musical home away from home every summer."