Welcome to the 2017-2018 season. The talented students and extraordinary faculty of the Lynn Conservatory of Music take this opportunity to share with you the beautiful world of music. Your ongoing support ensures our place among the premier conservatories of the world and a staple of our community.

- Jon Robertson, dean

There are a number of ways by which you can help us fulfill our mission:

Friends of the Conservatory of Music

Lynn University’s Friends of the Conservatory of Music is a volunteer organization that supports high-quality music education through fundraising and community outreach. Raising more than $2 million since 2003, the Friends support Lynn’s effort to provide free tuition scholarships and room and board to all Conservatory of Music students. The group also raises money for the Dean’s Discretionary Fund, which supports the immediate needs of the university’s music performance students. This is accomplished through annual gifts and special events, such as outreach concerts and the annual Gingerbread Holiday Concert.

To learn more about joining the Friends and its many benefits, such as complimentary concert admission, visit Give.lynn.edu/support-music.

The Leadership Society of Lynn University

The Leadership Society is the premier annual giving society for donors who are committed to ensuring a standard of excellence at Lynn for all students. Leadership Society donors make an annual gift of $2,500 or more and have the option of directing their gift to support the Conservatory of Music. Leadership Society donors receive invitations to exclusive events throughout the year that offer opportunities to engage with other Leadership Society donors and university administrators.

Planned Giving

Planned gifts provide important support for the future of Lynn University, its colleges and programs. Your legacy lives on at Lynn University in perpetuity – various options include, but are not limited to, bequests by will, charitable gift annuities and life insurance.

Your contribution to the Conservatory is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For additional information, please contact Lisa Miller at 561-237-7745.

John Oliveira String Competition

Final Round
Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall
Boca Raton, Florida

The competition was founded by Elmar Oliveira in the memory of his brother, John Oliveira. John was a violinist in the Kansas City Philharmonic and the Houston Symphony and one of the first teachers of Elmar Oliveira. It is the hope that in the future, funding will be added by the generosity of supporters to help expand the goals of the competition. The competition will give the developing young artists of Lynn the opportunity for repertoire development and performance.

There will be three clearly defined rounds in the competition: Preliminary, Semi-Finals and Finals.

1. Competitors were chosen from a preliminary round of YouTube submissions which will included required repertoire plus some repertoire of the contestant's choice.

Semi-Finalists were announced at the beginning of J-Term, no later than Friday, January 5, 2018.

2. Three judges who are not part of the Lynn University Conservatory of Music faculty chose choose eight semi-finalists to take part in the semi-final round of the competition. All sonatas and contemporary works (1980 to the present) to be played from music however short pieces and virtuoso pieces must be played from memory. The competitors will perform before a jury of three and will be prepared to play one movement from each piece plus the virtuoso piece at the discretion of the judges.

3. After the conclusion of the semi-final round, four contestants were announced to proceed to the final round.

4. The final round will be open to the public. The judges will choose the repertoire to be played. The winner will be announced following the final round.

The winner with their collaborating pianist of the John Oliveira String Competition will perform in recital before a live audience on Sunday, April 29, 2018 in the Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall at 4:00 pm.
Artist Biographies

LINDA CERONE is Professor Emeritus of Conservatory Violin and Artistic Director of the Preparatory Department of the Cleveland Institute of Music where she taught for 34 years. She graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music where she was a student of Ivan Galamian. Her early teachers include violinists Paul Katz, Walter Levin, Sylvia Rosenberg, Josef Gingold, and Jascha Brodsky. Ms. Cerone has appeared both in recital and as a soloist with orchestra throughout the U.S. and has served on the faculties of the Oberlin Conservatory, the New School in Philadelphia, and the Meadowmount School of Music. She was a co-founder of the ENCORE School for Strings where she co-directed and taught. She also was on the teaching faculty and led the second violin section at the Dartmouth Festival of the Arts and was a performer in the St. Bart’s Festival. Mrs. Cerone has served as adjudicator and on the advisory boards of numerous national competitions, and has given master classes in the U.S., China, and Korea. She currently serves on the Board of the Artist Series Concerts of Sarasota.

JODI LEVITZ is an active performer of international reputation and a passionate advocate of new music for viola. She was principal viola and soloist with the Italian chamber group I Solisti Venetifor 12 years, a position she won while still a student at The Juilliard School. She has performed as soloist throughout Europe, South America, North America and Asia, and recorded works for the Concerto, Dynamic, Naxos and Erato labels. A passionate pedagogue, she served on the faculties of the Ars Musica Academy at Imola, Progetto Orchestra and numerous European summer festivals, and presently serves as co-artistic director of the Zephyr International Chamber Music Festival in Courmayeur, Italy. Her former students have won first prize awards in the Walter W. Naumburg and Fischoff chamber music competitions, hold positions in major orchestras and teaching institutions, and are musical activists throughout the world. Levitz attended The Juilliard School Pre-College Division from age 12 and received a B.M. and M.M. from Juilliard. Her principal teachers were Margaret Pardee, Paul Doktor, William Lincer and Dorothy DeLay, and she studied chamber music with members of the Juilliard Quartet, Felix Galimir and Josef Gingold. She serves on the board of the San Francisco Friends of Chamber Music and is former violist of the Ives Quartet. Jodi Levitz is the newly appointed viola professor at the University of Miami’s Frost School of Music.

YULIA ZISKEL has established herself as a highly acclaimed solo, chamber, and orchestral musician. A member of the New York Philharmonic’s First Violin section (Friends and Patrons Chair), her activities include numerous international solo and chamber music appearances. Ms. Ziskel has been praised by the Strad Magazine for “The sweetness of her sound.” One of her most recent appearances include: The World Premiere of a piece for solo violin by Michael Hersch, commissioned for Ms. Ziskel by the New York Philharmonic. Born in St. Petersburg, Russia, Yulia Ziskel began her musical training on the violin and piano at age 4. She made her solo debut at the age of 7 at the St. Petersburg Philharmonic Hall and at age 12 as a soloist with St. Petersburg Chamber Orchestra. During her teenage years she has toured extensively, appearing in solo recitals throughout Russia, Germany, Finland, Poland and United States. In 1994, Ms. Ziskel’s family immigrated to the United States, where she completed her Bachelor of Music degree at Indiana University and her Master’s Degree from the Juilliard School. Before her appointment to the New York Philharmonic in 2001, Ms. Ziskel was a member of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra.