

Kate Francis, Viola



A San Francisco native, Kate Francis recently relocated to the Tampa Bay Area and is excited to be playing viola with the Tampa Bay Symphony. Ms. Francis currently teaches the violin program at Our Lady Lourdes Catholic School in Dunedin where she teaches grades 3-5 violin. In addition to teaching at OLL Kate works as a string clinician throughout Hillsborough County with various orchestra programs such as Alonzo High School, Davidsen Middle School, and H.B. Plant High School.

A graduate from the University of Michigan Kate holds a degree in viola performance and string pedagogy and has a masters in viola performance from San Francisco State University. Before relocating to Tampa Kate taught string orchestra for 17+ years in the California public school system.

In 2016 Kate was named Orchestra Director of the Year by the California Music Educators Association, and was recognized as a Distinguished Employee by the Los Gatos School District in 2018. Kate is passionate about all types of music and traveled throughout Mexico studying Mexican folk music as a Fulbright Hayes Scholarship Recipient in 2010.

When not teaching or playing viola Kate loves exploring Tampa with her son Thomas and husband Nate.