

## Laura Albee, Violin

With the Tampa Bay Symphony since 2015, I became inspired to study violin as a 4th grader by my great uncle and grandfather, who were violinists by virtue of their Eastern European heritage.

Growing up in St. Petersburg, I played in the Pinellas Youth Symphony, the University of Florida Orchestra while attending college and the Gulf Coast Symphony of Ft. Myers during my early career with State Farm Insurance.



After leaving my non-music career to raise children, I became re-inspired to study violin through the Suzuki violin method. Taking lessons alongside my children in the studio of Ruth Klukoff in St.Pete, I fixed some technique issues and set a goal to try out for the Tampa Bay Symphony. My husband, Scott, unwittingly gave me the "go ahead" to try out for TBS by commissioning The Violin Shop of Tampa to create an instrument for me as a Christmas gift!

In the meantime, with encouragement from Jennifer Diedrich of the Florida Music Suzuki Institute, I auditioned to attend Suzuki Teacher Training and now have a small violin studio. I've also been given an opportunity to teach violin part time at Canterbury School of Florida.

I am blessed with 3 teenaged children who are involved in musical performance, and my wonderfully patient husband, Scott, an attorney and music aficionado.