

Cellist Lydia Rhea, 19, is currently attending the Cleveland Institute of Music studying under Dr. Melissa Kraut. Formerly a scholarship recipient Fellow at the Music Institute of Chicago Academy, Lydia studied with faculty member Hans Jørgen Jensen. Lydia has soloed with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the Fort Wayne Philharmonic, the Muncie Symphony Orchestra, and the Carmel Symphony Orchestra, among others.

A skilled chamber musician, Lydia garnered international recognition as the cellist of the Kairos String Quartet in the 2017-2018 season. Kairos won the Gold Medal in the Junior Division of the 2018 Fischhoff National Chamber Competition and First Prize in the Junior String Division of the 2018 M-Prize International Chamber Arts Competition. Named the Rembrandt Young Artists for 2018, Kairos was featured on a live broadcast of WFMT's *Introductions*.

In the summer of 2018, Lydia was invited to be a Professional Performance Artist at the Boston Music Institute's 12-Hour Masterclasses with members of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and attended the Festival de Ecoles d'Art Americaines de Fontainebleau in France as the festival's youngest participant. While there, her string quartet was awarded the Premier Prix and the Prix du Château de Fontainebleau in the Prix Ravel, sponsored by the Maurice Ravel Foundation. She has spent previous summers at the Heifetz International Music Institute and the Meadowmount School of Music. Lydia has participated in master classes with Gary Hoffman, Philippe Muller, Robert Levin, Blaise Déjardin, Sharon Robinson, Amir Eldan, Merry Peckham, Jonathan Koh, and Richard Aaron. Lydia plays on a cello made by Lawrence Wilke in 2008.