



## **Esme Arias-Kim**

Esme Arias-Kim, 15, is a Merit Scholarship Fellow at the Music Institute of Chicago's Academy, a training center for advanced pre-college students and studies violin with Almita Vamos. She is also a fellow of the Chicago Musical Pathways Initiative.

Esme made her solo orchestral debut at the age of ten with the Oistrakh Symphony. Other solo appearances include performances with the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra, Sinfonia da Camera, Ottawa Chamber Orchestra, Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra, Accademia d'Archi Arrigoni Orchestra as well as solo recitals at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Chicago Cultural Center, 92Y New York and Musikferien am Starnberger See, Germany. Esme is a first-place winner in many competitions including the Enkor International Competition, New York International Artist Association, Sejong, Confucius, DePaul Concerto Festival, Sinfonia da Camera Competition, Center Stage Concerto Competition, Lisker Young Artists Scholarship Competition, and the Fox Valley Orchestra Youth Concerto Competition. Esme has received masterclasses from Julia Fischer, Vadim Gluzman, Kirill Troussov, Grigory Kalinovsky, Mihaela Martin and Ilya Kaler as well as the Borromeo Quartet. Chamber music accolades include advancing to the semi-finals of the Fischhoff Competition.

In 2020, Esme received Grand Prize in the Junior division of the Sphinx Competition and performed a recital on Chicago's classical radio station WFMT's "Introductions". She also soloed with the Civic Orchestra of Chicago at Orchestra Hall, Symphony Center after participating as one of four finalists and receiving first alternate in The Crain-Maling Foundation CSO Young Artists Competition. Later that year Esme was featured on NPR's "From the Top" and awarded Overall Open Division Grand Winner and Open Senior Division Overall Winner for the 2020 Walgreens National Concerto Competition. Most recently she soloed with the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.