

The Viola da Gamba Society of America

# *Young Players' Weekend*

March 28-30, 2025 - Madison, Wisconsin



## *Welcome Viol Players!*

You are invited to the 2025 Viola da Gamba Society of America Young Players' Weekend

We are thrilled to welcome **Joanna Blendulf** of the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music and **Erica Rubis** as guest faculty for the weekend!

The workshop will include a range of activities for viol players of all ability levels including coached consort sessions and special sessions led by our faculty. Evening activities will include a play-in on Friday, a masterclass led by Joanna Blendulf on Saturday, and of course, informal late night consort playing.

There is no upper age limit to attend Young Players' Weekend (participants must be over age 18). If you feel that you are a "young player," you are welcome to attend.



### **About Holy Wisdom Monastery**

“Holy Wisdom Monastery is an ecumenical Benedictine community of communities, located near Madison, Wisconsin. Prayer, hospitality, justice and respect for all of creation form the heart of these communities. Our peaceful setting includes restored prairie, a retreat and guest house and a ‘green’ monastery building. All are welcome.”

### **Getting There**

Conveniently located in Middleton, Wisconsin, only 15 minutes from Madison, less than three hours from Chicago, and less than four hours drive from St. Paul. Flights can be booked to Dane County Regional Airport.

Holy Wisdom Monastery | 4200 Co Hwy M | Middleton, WI 53562

### **Payment and Cancellation Policy**

All-inclusive fee is \$150 for the weekend. This covers all meals, lodging, and tuition. Payment is due in full by February 14, 2025 (late registration, \$175 by February 28, 2025).

#### **To Register**

Go to [www.vdgsa.org/young-players](http://www.vdgsa.org/young-players) and complete the online registration form.

Payment can be completed online at <https://www.vdgsa.org/payment>

Cancellations must be made by February 28, 2025, to receive a refund (minus \$25 fee).

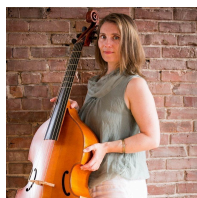
**NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE AFTER February 28, 2023**

# Meet the Faculty



**JOANNA BLENDULF** is Professor of Music (Historical Performance) at the Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. She has performed and recorded with leading period instrument ensembles and is currently co-principal cellist and principal viola da gamba player of the Portland Baroque Orchestra. Ms Blendulf has also performed as principal cellist of Pacific MusicWorks, Pacific Baroque Orchestra, American Bach Soloists, Apollo's Fire Baroque Orchestra, Bach Collegium San Diego, and the

Washington Bach Consort. Joanna performs and records with the Catacoustic Consort, Ensemble Mirable, Music of the Spheres, Nota Bene Viol Consort, Trio Pardessus, and Wildcat Viols. Ms Blendulf's world-premiere recording of the complete cello sonatas of Jean Zewalt Triemer with Ensemble Mirable was released in 2004. Her festival engagements have included performances at Tage Alter Musik Regensburg, Musica Antigua en Villa de Leyva, the Bloomington, Boston and Berkeley Early Music Festivals, the Ojai Music Festival, and the Carmel and Oregon Bach Festivals. Ms Blendulf holds degrees with honors from the Cleveland Institute of Music and the IU Jacobs School of Music where she was awarded the prestigious Performer's Certificate for her accomplishments in early music performance.



**ERICA RUBIS** (Month of Maying and Marginalia) is a versatile performer on the viola da gamba whose work ranges from renaissance viol consort to improvising and co-creating new music. She is a member of Alchymy Viols, Les Ordinaires Trio, and also plays with Bourbon Baroque, Catacoustic Consort, Echoing Air, Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra, and North Carolina Baroque Orchestra. She also collaborates and performs regularly with composer/performer Tomás Lozano in his song project on the poetry of

Juan Ramón Jiménez.

Erica's recordings include Les Ordinaires, Inner Chambers and Montclair: Beloved and Betrayed, contemporary music of Tomas Lozano, Eternal Juan Ramón Jiménez, and The Colorful Telemann with the Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra.

Active in music education, Erica holds regular workshops on the viola da gamba for string students and has pioneered a multi-media program, Shakespeare's Ear, which has been touring regularly since 2009.





**ERIC MILLER (YPW Director)** performs as a viola da gambist and cellist around the Midwest, currently performing with the Wisconsin Baroque Ensemble, Generations Baroque, and frequent solo recitals. Beyond the sphere of classical music, he has recorded several hours of lo-fi electronic music with his electronic duo, Basidium. Eric is a dedicated educator and currently teaches orchestra in the Oregon School District, where he also coaches a youth viol consort. Trained in the Suzuki method, Eric maintains a private cello studio for all ages and abilities at his home in Madison. He has taught at the Madison Early Music Festival, the Blue Lake Family Suzuki Camp, and the Madison Bach Musicians Summer Chamber Music workshop. He holds degrees from Northern Illinois University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

## Testimonial

*"I attended the VdGSA Young Players Weekend at Holy Wisdom Monastery in 2023. It was my favorite VdGSA event that I've been to so far. The food was amazing (unlike any other food I've ever had in a festival/camp setting) and the facility was very clean. Everyone even had their own bedroom and bathroom. Because everyone stayed in the same building, you knew who was playing at all times and it was very easy to make friends. I highly recommend attending and I can't wait to see you there!"*

-Lourdes de la Peña, 2023 YPW Participant

## To Register

Go to [www.vdgsa.org/young-players](http://www.vdgsa.org/young-players) and complete the online registration form.

For any questions, contact Eric Miller, YPW Director, at [emillera@gmail.com](mailto:emillera@gmail.com)

