

Brian S. Gaona, Cellist

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USA

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Summary of Qualifications

-Experienced in an orchestral setting

-Extensive performance experience in solo, chamber, recording and lecture recital settings

Orchestral Experience

- 2018-present Southwest Symphony Orchestra: Principal cellist—Palos Heights, IL
- 2004-present Peoria Symphony Orchestra: Section cellist—Peoria, IL
- 2004-05 Peoria Symphony Orchestra: Assistant principal cellist—Peoria, IL
- 2004-present Sugar Creek Symphony and Song Opera Festival: Cellist—Watseka, IL
- 2003 Jun Henry Mancini Institute: Principal cellist—Los Angeles, CA
- 2003 Sep Cellobration music festival (One World Symphony Orchestra): Principal cellist and guest composer —NY, NY
- 2001-present Prairie Ensemble: Section cellist—Champaign, IL
- 2001-02 Memphis Symphony Orchestra: Substitute cellist—Memphis, TN
- 2001 Concerto Urbano (baroque period group): Cellist—Champaign, IL

General Performance Experience

- 2020 Private Event: Performance of the complete cycle of Bach's *6 Suites for Violoncello Solo*—Chicago, IL
- 2018-present Greg Suhar Band: composing and recording all cello tracks
- 2017 Naperville Great Composer Series: Tchaikovsky: Producer and primary soloist of a two-part music festival—Naperville, IL

- 2015-17 Hollywood Palms: Producer and soloist for musical performance on opening nights of *Star Wars* and *Back to the Future*—Naperville, IL
- 2014 Bardic Madness: Soloist for Medieval music festival (Ravenslake)—Lake Villa, IL
- 2011 Blackfinger: Solo cellist on the self-titled album, on the track “As Long as I’m With You”—Geneva, IL
- 2009-10 Illinois Center for Co-Occurring Disorders: Series of recitals/presentations for promotion of classical music as therapy to the state of Illinois—Starved Rock State Park, IL
- 2006 University of Illinois Composition Faculty: Cellist for the CD *Funktasia*—Champaign, IL
- 2004 Jun Cellobration II music festival (One World Symphony Orchestra): Cellist and guest composer—NY, NY
- 2003 International Beethoven Conference: Cello soloist and participant—Urbana, IL
- 2002 Jul Asturian Provincial Government: Recital tour—Province of Asturias, Spain
- 2000-07 Enescu Ensemble Principal and solo cellist —Urbana IL (principal cellist during 2003-07)
- 2000-04 University of Illinois: Graduate assistantship in cello—Urbana, IL
- 1994 May College of Dupage Chamber Orchestra: Concerto Soloist (Haydn D major cello concerto)—Glenn Ellyn, IL

Cello Teachers

1990-95	Edward Moore	1995-98	Gregory Hamilton
1998-2000	Suren Bagratuni	2000-02	Ko Iwasaki
2002-03	Chris Costanza/Emilio Colon	2003-08	Brandon Vamos

Education

- 2010 May University of Illinois: Doctor of Musical Arts in cello performance and literature, with a concentration in composition
- 2003 University of Illinois: Master of Music
- 1998 Illinois State University: Double Bachelor of Music Degree in Cello and Piano