

Bridget Kinneary enjoys a career as an orchestral conductor, music director, educator, violist, and collaborative artist.

Present engagements include the position of conductor for the Symphony Orchestra of the Mannes Conservatory for the music prep division in New York City and co-lecturer at the University of Potsdam, Germany, where she leads seminars on teaching methods for instrumental groups. A significant component of Bridget's passion as a conductor is advocating for ensemble-based music education. After winning a Fulbright grant to Germany in 2016 to pursue research in music education, she held positions as music director and site coordinator for Mit Mach Musik e.V, an El-Sistema-inspired initiative in Berlin, Germany from 2016-2022, as well as that of music teacher, head of secondary school music, and orchestra director at Berlin Cosmopolitan School, from which she is currently taking a sabbatical to pursue advanced study. She is the recipient of the 2018 Jürgen Mulert award for mutual understanding for her dedicated work with youth ensembles in Berlin.

Collecting global perspectives on music teaching and learning is important to Bridget. Consequently, she appeared as a guest conductor for the Harare Youth Orchestra in Zimbabwe, the National Youth Orchestra of Belize, El Sistema Sweden in Gothenburg, and the Köpenick Bläserorchester near Berlin. She participated in conducting masterclasses with Kristjan Järvi in Tartu, Estonia, and Sasha Mälakiä in Helsinki, Finland.

As a violist, Bridget has a particular interest in contemporary works and cross-disciplinary projects. She has premiered works for viola at the Hochschule für Musik Freiburg, the Eastman School of Music, and the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland. In 2019, she collaborated with young composers in the OPUS 1 project of the Berlin Philharmonic Education Department and performed in the "Kurt Murks Trash Robot" family concert series alongside members of the Berlin Philharmonic. She maintains a small private studio of motivated students of all ages.

Bridget holds a degree in Music Education and Viola Performance from the Eastman School of Music, where she studied with George Taylor as well as a graduate certificate in Social Entrepreneurship from Oxford University. Currently, Bridget is pursuing a Master of Music in Orchestral Conducting with Dr. Mark Powell at the Aaron Copland School of music in Queens, New York as well as an MBA in arts innovation with the Global Leaders Program.

In her spare time, Bridget likes to learn tunes on the ganjo (guitar/banjo) and visit supermarkets in foreign countries.