

## **THE GRIFFON STRING QUARTET**

ROY MEYER AND VINICIUS SANT'ANA- VIOLINS BLAKELEY MENGHINI- VIOLA RYAN LOUIE - CELLO

Establishing themselves as one of the most vibrant and engaging quartets of their generation, the Griffon String Quartet is the resident string quartet of Midsummer's Music in Door County, Wisconsin. Formed in the fall of 2018, the Quartet was launched as collaboration between Midsummer's Music, the Fine Arts Institute at East High in Green Bay, and St. Norbert College in De Pere, and has been recognized for their "superb playing, palpable chemistry, spirit, and emotional connection. Their youthful vigor is absolutely infectious!" Their inaugural concert took place at the Miller Art Museum in October 2018, and Door County Today has hailed them as "four of the finest young professional musicians in the country."

The Griffon Quartet is a groundbreaking project to enrich the lives of children and adults throughout Northeast Wisconsin through concerts, workshops, and music education outreach. Members of the Quartet include violinists Roy Meyer and Vinicius Sant'Ana, violist Blakeley Menghini, and cellist Ryan Louie. Extraordinary musicians who have performed with orchestras and ensembles around the globe in the finest halls from Carnegie Hall and Brazil's Teatro Municipal de Sao Paulo to Japan's Suntory Hall, and won prestigious music competitions and awards, they are equally dedicated to music education and inspiring the next generation of music lovers. Each member of the Griffon String Quartet has advanced degrees and significant professional experience, both as educators and performers.

While the Quartet carry a diverse array of programs in their repertoire from Beethoven to Joan Tower and Mendelssohn to Philip Glass, they enjoy performing works by underrepresented composers.

The Griffon String Quartet provides concerts, workshops and instruction to all ages in the Door and Brown County communities. The ensemble returns to Kansas State University this summer, performing and teaching as the Quartet-in-Residence in collaboration with the Manhattan (Kansas) Arts Center and Community School for the Performing Arts. Recent and upcoming performances and workshops include Sturgeon Bay's Miller Art Museum Concert Series, the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Ephraim Concert Series, the Sturgeon Bay Library Series, the "Einstein Series" for the Boys & Girls Club of Door County, Sturgeon Bay, "B Double Sharp" for patients with Alzheimer's/Dementia and their caregivers at Scandia, Sister Bay, and concerts and workshops for Green Bay area public school students at St. Norbert College.

Media appearances as an ensemble and as individuals include WBDK Radio, Green Bay's CBS Local 5 TV, and film credits include Amazon Prime's *Mozart in the Jungle*.

Based in Door County, known for its rich sailing traditions, The Griffon String Quartet takes its name from the 17th-century Great Lakes sailing vessel *Le Griffon*.