

Faculty

VIOLIN

Ronald Neal's appointment as Director of the International Music Conservatory represents the culmination of a life dedicated to the study, performance and teaching of the universal language of music. IMC, through the international faculty and advisors associated with it, offers a unique learning experience for talented young artists from the North Texas region as well as from diverse regions throughout the world.

Ronald Neal has lived a life in music that has spanned five decades. He has performed as soloist, chamber musician and as an orchestral member or director on many of the world's concert stages. In addition, he has served on the faculties of numerous music schools and has created and developed music festivals throughout the US and abroad.

Mr. Neal's musical education began in Dallas, Texas, where he garnered numerous awards and prizes in regional and national competitions through his early teens. His advanced musical education included studies at noted summer music festivals, eventually earning diplomas and degrees including the Performers Certificate and the Bachelor of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music and the Master of Music degree from the Juilliard School. At both institutions he received a teaching fellowship and was an instructor of violin. His principal teachers were Ivan Galamian, Sally Thomas and Carroll Glenn. His mentors for chamber music were John Celentano, Joseph Gingold, Alexander Schneider and Felix Galimir.

Mr. Neal has been a faculty member and has presented master classes in many institutions around the globe, including the Eastman and Juilliard Schools, State University of New York, SMU, TCU and University of Texas at Dallas, as well as, other music institutions in London, Paris, Quito, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, Gunajuato, San Miguel de Allende, Beijing, Shenyang, Wuhan, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Hiroshima and Seoul. Many of his former students are members of chamber music groups and orchestras throughout the US, Europe, South America and the Far East. Others hold positions in Universities and Conservatories as well as Directors of Suzuki and pre-college programs. Students from his classes have been prize-winners of numerous Regional and National competitions.



RONALD
NEAL

Mr. Neal is available for Master Class, Private Lessons & Chamber Music

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Ronald Neal Cont...

Neal has served as Director-Concertmaster of the Dallas Chamber Orchestra for three and a half decades. In 1977, he created the DCO and under his direction the DCO gained recognition. "A tightly knit, well disciplined ensemble with enormous spirit and projection", writes the Dallas Morning News. The Dallas Observer described the Dallas Chamber Orchestra as "A noteworthy ensemble of virtuosi whose flawless performances are a rare meeting of the minds, not only among players, but among the audience." The Fort Worth Star Telegram described the DCO as "An ensemble that produces a sound equal in richness and depth to what one expects from the string section of a great orchestra." Under Neal's leadership the DCO has recorded for Crystal Records and Digital Masters and is frequently heard throughout the US on National Public Radio "Performance Today". His performance (and live recording) of Vaughan Williams' Lark Ascending with the Dallas Chamber Orchestra was praised as a "miracle of light and sensitivity" by High Fidelity "Musical America". In 1997, the DCO was the first Chamber Orchestra invited to perform at the XIX Festival Internacional de Musica de Camara in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico.

The Austin Chamber Orchestra was created by Neal in the spring of 2000 with Neal leading as Director-Concertmaster for two seasons. The Austin American Statesman praised the debut concert of the ACO saying "There was none of the half-heartedness evident at many orchestral concerts, because the music making was in their collective hands. The tone was more gorgeous and rich than one could have thought would have come from only a dozen or so players. This sort of music making not only fills a void, hearing them once creates a need to hear them again."

Ronald Neal is the Founder and for fourteen seasons served as Artistic Director of the Killington Music Festival, an international music festival held in the summer months in Killington, Vermont. Prior to his tenure at the Killington Festival Mr. Neal was a founding member and served as a director of the Manchester Music Festival for eight years. Following his tenures in Manchester and Killington, Mr. Neal developed and was Music Director of the Stowe International Music School and Festival in Stowe, Vermont for five years.

The Elan International Music Festival was created by Neal in 1996. The Elan program was designed by Mr. Neal as a result of twenty plus years experience as artistic director of music festivals, collaborating with leading performing artists and Artist Teachers from around the world. The mission of Elan International is to develop environments conducive to the study and exchange of musical ideas and techniques for musicians of international stature from diverse regions throughout the world. Master Artist Teachers and emerging young artists work together in the exchange of musical ideas and techniques. Elan International Music Festivals have been held in Taos and Angel Fire, New Mexico, Stowe and Stratton, Vermont as well as in Dallas. Neal was the artistic director of the first Northern China International Chamber Music Festival held in Shenyang, China. In addition, he has served as director of Chamber Music for the Beijing International Music School and on the faculty of International String Festivals in Southern China.

Concert activities have taken Mr. Neal throughout North, Central and South America, Iceland, Europe, China and Japan. Berlin's Der Taagespiegel called Mr. Neal "A leading violinist", the New York Times said "The Shostakovich was graced by the expressive beauty of Ronald Neal's violin

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playing” and the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle recognized him as “A violinist of great sensitivity and extraordinary technical capabilities. His fantastic leaps and double stops were a dazzling display.”

An interest in the music of living composers led Neal to his founding and early development of the contemporary music group "Voices of Change". During his ten year tenure Voices of Change premiered over 200 new works, performed throughout the US and Europe, and recorded numerous new musical creations.

Mr. Neal will also head of IMC's International Program and organizes our Summer Music Festivals. If you would like to schedule an appointment or request a meeting with Ronald Neal please call 972.881.1915 or email info@imusicconservatory.com.