



Musician Profile – Flutist Alexis Evers

Website - <https://www.alexisevers.com>

Instagram - [@alexisevers11](https://www.instagram.com/alexisevers11)

1. Tell us a little bit about yourself and your life as a musician.



I'm originally from the Saint Louis area and grew up playing both flute and piano. My mom had played the flute as a kid and would occasionally get it out to play when I was little. When I was old enough to play in my school band, I really wanted to play flute, partly because of that, and partly because I thought it was so cool that the instrument went sideways!

When I was thirteen, my family went to a Saint Louis Symphony performance of Mozart's *Requiem* that just blew my mind - up to that point, it hadn't occurred to me that playing in an orchestra was a real job, and I really wanted that to be my job someday. I was incredibly fortunate that my parents were (and continue to be) extremely supportive of my musical endeavors. Saint Louis has a great youth orchestra program, and I had the opportunity to study with Saint Louis Symphony flutists, including Jennifer Nitchman and Mark Sparks. I received my undergraduate degree from the University of Illinois, where I studied with Dr. Jonathan Keeble, and my Master of Music degree from the University of Oregon, where I studied with Molly Barth.



Currently, I perform as third flute/piccolo of the Rogue Valley Symphony, second flute/piccolo of Oregon Mozart Players, and as principal flute of the Eugene Concert Choir/Orchestra. I've also performed as guest principal flute of Orchestra Next and Newport Symphony and have performed as a substitute with the Eugene Symphony.



I am the adjunct instructor of flute at [Linfield University](#) in McMinnville.

My partner, fellow flutist Robert Wakeley, and I live in SW Portland with our cat, Maya.

2. What projects are you involved with now that particularly excite you?



I'm part of the newly formed Collaborative Music Ensemble at Linfield University. We just wrapped up recording our first project, which included works by Linfield students and alumni, as well as Andrea Reinkemeyer's "Red Flame" for flute and marimba. New music is a particular interest for me, so being part of this project has been really fun and I'm looking forward to our

public performance of this program, including the premier of "Red Flame," in August.

3. What's on your music stand these days?

Because it's summer, things are a little more relaxed for me for the next couple of months, so I'm looking forward to working on some pieces just for fun - **I've been wanting to learn Eve Beglarian's "I Will Not Be Sad in This World" for a while, and I'm thinking about finally making my own tape for Steve Reich's "Vermont Counterpoint,"** which I have performed with the backing track available from the publisher. We'll see if my audio engineering skills are up to the task!

4. What music have you played recently, or recordings have you listened to that you'd like to share with GPFS members?

Honestly, I've been listening to a lot of non-classical music recently. One of my favorite bands, Nickel Creek, released their new album, *Celebrants*, in March - I've had it on repeat pretty much since the day it came out. It's got some amazing songwriting on it, and the way the musical themes are woven throughout the album is incredible. Highly recommended, even if bluegrass isn't your usual genre!

5. Who is your favorite flutist these days?

It's so hard to pick a favorite, isn't it? Growing up listening to the Saint Louis Symphony, Mark Sparks' tone and phrasing was such a huge influence for me. In the new music sphere, I really love listening to Claire Chase and Nathalie Joachim. Additionally, Ian Anderson (from Jethro Tull) is also one of my favorites - my dad and I actually got to see him live when I was in college! I was the youngest person in the audience, and we had the best time.

6. Why are you a member of GPFS?

GPFS is such a great and important resource in helping connect our flute-playing musical community - I'm so appreciative of the programs GPFS offers! I have gotten a lot out of performing in masterclasses, including a couple sponsored by GPFS during my graduate studies. It's great to be part of a community of such wonderful, enthusiastic people who share your passion.

7. What kind of flute(s) do you play?



Burkart

My flute is a silver Brannen, and I also play a Burkart piccolo.

8. Favorite book you've read or movie you've seen lately? Or, what do you like to do when you are not making music



One of my favorite books that I've read recently was Samantha Shannon's *The Priory of the Orange Tree*. I really love the science fiction and fantasy genres, and I enjoyed reading a more female-forward epic fantasy. When I'm not making music, I am often running - I'm a marathoner and really enjoy being outside and running long distances. I'm planning to run the Portland Marathon for the second time this fall, so training for that is going to be a big part of my summer.

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