

Akiko Rivera, Violinist

Akiko Rivera, a native of Japan, is an accomplished violinist who has been actively performing throughout Florida. She has been playing with the Miami City Ballet Orchestra since 2006 and regularly performs with The Symphonia of Boca Raton, as well as in various concerts spanning opera, chamber music, recording sessions, symphonic pop music, and televised music awards and festivals. Ms. Rivera has had the privilege of sharing the stage with renowned artists in various genres such as Sarah Chang, David Kim, Andrea Bocelli, will.i.am, and more.

In addition to her performance career, Ms. Rivera is a dedicated teacher with nearly two decades of experience in providing violin lessons and music education to the younger generation. She has guided her students to win competitions and receive awards as well as to participate in prestigious music festivals throughout the United States and overseas. She is a member of the Florida Federation of Music Club (FFMC) and a faculty member of the Mizner Society of Performing Arts (MSPA) coaching chamber music. In addition to maintaining a private violin studio and coaching chamber music, she has served as the director of the string program at a private school in Pembroke Pines, Florida for over a decade. Currently, she is an assistant instructor at another local private school in Weston teaching string orchestra and private lessons.



Ms. Rivera's musical journey began at the age of 4 when she started her violin studies with Kanae Shiba in Tokyo, Japan. She later studied with Kosaku Yamaoka, a former professor at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music and had a masterclass with Alexander Markov at the age of 12. Her concert debut as a soloist with the Mirabell Chamber Orchestra in Tokyo, Japan, marked a significant milestone in her career. As a chamber musician, she has received The New-Artist-Award for Asia Classical Music Competition.

Ms. Rivera graduated from Florida International University School of Music in violin performance with a full scholarship. She studied under Robert Davidovici and received awards in the FIU School of Music Concerto Competition. During her time at FIU, she served as an assistant concertmaster and the concertmaster of the FIU Symphony Orchestra and had the opportunity to participate in masterclasses with Zvi Zeitlin and Shmuel Ashkenasi, as well as study chamber music with Misha Vitenson, Marcia Litley, Michel Klotz, and Javier Arias.

Beyond her musical pursuits, Ms. Rivera is an advocate for sustainable and compassionate living for our planet, animals, and all living beings.