

# Carter Medina

Carter Medina (cello), 18, is a Senior at Blue Springs South High School in Kansas City, Missouri, and he has played cello since the age of three. He currently studies with Susie Yang, Associate Principal Cellist of the Kansas City Symphony. Carter is the co-principal cellist of the Youth Symphony of Kansas City and the Missouri All State Orchestra. In 2022, he was named an NPR From the Top Learning Media Fellow and appeared on episode 434 of the show, performing Seven by Andrea Cassarrubios.

Carter is a member of the Sphinx Organization and attended the Sphinx Performance Academy at the Juilliard School in 2022 and 2023, where he studied solo performance with Sterling Elliot, historical performance, and chamber orchestra. In addition to Sphinx, Carter also has traveled to Ascent Cello Festival at CCM-Cincinnati and Philadelphia International Music Festival. He has performed in live master classes for Hans Jorgen Jenson, Zlatomir Fung, Nancy Heir, and Tanya Carey.

Carter won the KC Federation of Music Teachers Concerto Competition in 2022 and was runner up in the Missouri Federation of Music Teachers Concerto Competition in 2022.

For the past four years, Carter has enjoyed spending the end of each summer playing chamber music with the Heartland Chamber Festival in Kansas City and is delighted to join their year-round program this year.

Carter plans to attend a music conservatory after high school to continue his cello studies. Outside of music, he loves to be in nature, grow plants, and collect vinyl records.