

Sophia Perez-Monroe

Sophia Perez-Monroe is currently a freshman at the UMKC Conservatory of Music studying under Benny Kim. She has studied violin for 14 years. Her past mentors include Christy Paxton, Rebecca Cutler-Metzger, and Zsolt Eder. She is a current member of the Midwest Chamber Ensemble and an intern for the Youth Symphony of Kansas City. She has participated in masterclasses and lessons with Elizabeth Pitcairn, Simon James, Joseph Genualdi, Chen Zhao, Ian Swenson, Ben Sayevich, Tia Fuller, the Parker Quartet, and the Accidentals.

A past participant in the Arkansas Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, the Ozark Suzuki Institute, the Youth Symphony of Kansas City, the Topeka Symphony, and the Pacific Chamber Music Festival, she is a former Harmony Project student. Recently making her Kauffman Center debut as a winner of the Chatelain Young Artist competition, she led the Youth Symphony of Kansas City as concertmaster for their recent Carnegie Hall debut. She previously debuted as a soloist with the Ozark Festival Orchestra as their young artist concerto competition junior division winner in 2017 and has performed as a soloist with the Fort Smith Symphony as part of their "Earquake" concert series. She is passionate about performing and connecting with different types of people through music and believes everyone should have access to classical music. Her favorite small ensemble music is currently by Mendelssohn and Dohnanyi.