

Quartet Davis Bio

Quartet Davis is an ensemble of holistic musicians trained in classical chamber music but with roots in folk and blues-based music. They were drawn together by an excitement for exploring these varied traditions and a love for the string quartet model. Combining original compositions, compelling arrangements, and vocal harmonies, they bring a fresh spirit of creativity to chamber music, while also honoring the many musical traditions they explore. Improvisation is central to their creative process, informing solos, freely improvised pieces, and spontaneous discovery within performance.

Members Camille Vogley-Howes and Molly Tucker, violin, Emily Edelstein, viola, and Karl Henry, cello, met while studying at Oberlin Conservatory. They formed on a US-Embassy sponsored trip to Amman, Jordan in January 2017 where they performed and taught at schools, community centers, and concert halls.

Through the Flint Initiative Grant, they embarked on their first tour in January 2018, performing, holding workshops, and working with renowned creative string musicians. As teachers, they encourage their students to develop strong ears, to learn and compose away from the page, and to explore trust and creativity in ensemble playing. They have worked with such musicians as Chris Thile, Alex Hargreaves, Cedric Easton, Christian Howes, Jamey Haddad, Camila Meza, and Fabian Almazan. In the summer of 2019, they were awarded the String Quartet Fellowship at the Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music and recorded a debut album entitled *Three Lefts Make a Right*, set to be released in spring 2020.

All experienced in teaching and outreach, Quartet Davis is eager to explore musical possibilities with young students and envisions a future where string players will be fluent across a range of musical idioms. Quartet Davis offers educational workshops on improvisation, arranging, and chamber music playing for students of all ages. Prior to forming their ensemble, on the US-Embassy and Oberlin Conservatory-sponsored trip to Amman, Jordan, the members of Quartet Davis spent a week teaching music intensively alongside one another, providing performances and workshops to primarily high school students. On their tours as an ensemble, they have also given workshops, masterclasses, and lessons at schools and music programs with students ranging from elementary to high school.