

Olivia Hodge, 17, is a resident of Indiana and in 12th grade at Christian Academy of Indiana. She is Concertmaster of the LYO Renaissance Orchestra. This is her eighth season as a member in LYO's senior most orchestra since joining in 5th grade.

From her earliest years, Olivia has stood out for her robust sound, mature phrasing, advanced technique, and strong leadership. As a result, she has been invited or selected to play in a number of ensembles where she has held principal positions.

Olivia is the student of Peter McHugh. She began her violin studies at the age of six in the Suzuki program at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville. Her previous instructors include Anita Lin, Anita Kaimal, Rocky DiGeorgio, Judy Wilson, Aleshia Shouse, and Terry Durbin. She has also studied at the University of Louisville String Academy for the past seven years, led by Brittany McWilliams, where Olivia has performed several of the major violin works with orchestral accompaniment.

Olivia has participated in numerous ensembles, festivals, competitions, and masterclasses throughout the United States. She was selected to participate in the Indiana All-State orchestra for the past two years, most recently as Concertmaster. As a member of the Master Chamber Players, her ensemble has won the Louisville Chamber Music Society Macauley competition. She has won highest honors over the past eight years of the Indiana State School Music Association competition.

Music has played an important role in Olivia's growth into adulthood, "God has blessed me with an ability through the loving investment of several people. I have learned key life lessons in discipline, accountability, and collaboration which extend far beyond the concert hall. In return, I seek to love others and honor God in all my playing."

Olivia's other activities and interests include debate, baking, tutoring, and spending time with friends. She has taught violin to beginning students for the past three years.

Olivia will graduate from high school this spring. She has been accepted to Purdue University where she will study business, ultimately in pursuit of a law degree. She will continue to play violin with the Purdue University Orchestra, her church, and local ensembles.