

## Musician Bios

**Avery Alexander** (piano) is a graduate of Western Washington University where she received her Master of Music in Piano Performance. She graduated from Humboldt State University in 2020 with a BA in Piano Performance and Music Education. Throughout her college years, Avery's focus has always been on developing her teaching skills along with her musical performance skills. She received several awards at both HSU and WWU including winner of the concerto/aria competition and winner of the Virginia Glover competition. Avery is now living and working in Arcata,

**Cassandra Moulton-Rizzo** ('cello), is director of the ArMack Music program for Northern Humboldt Union High School District. She teaches Choir, Jazz Band, Music Exploration, and Orchestra. She also serves as the State Representative for the Tri M National Music Honor Society and the Treasurer for the Northern California Band and Choir Directors Association. Cassie is a proud product of our local school music programs and Humboldt State University, and is dedicated to those programs - past, present, and future.

**Holly MacDonell** (violin, viola). Holly is a lifelong string player, a music education advocate, and has been a music teacher at Fieldbrook School since 2008. She grew up in Orange County and moved to Humboldt County for college, earning degrees in English Literature and Music Education, as well as her teaching credential, and has been here on the North Coast ever since. Holly is lucky to be able to immerse herself in music at both work and at play, whether it is teaching students, rescuing little dogs, or raising chickens. She performs with the Symphony of the Redwoods, the chamber ensemble Bach On!, she is the principal violist in the Eureka Symphony Orchestra, and the concertmaster of the All Seasons Orchestra. Holly also serves as Vice President of the California Music Educators Association.

**Michael Robertson** (horn), grew up in Ventura County where he developed a passion for playing the horn. In Southern California he studied privately and performed in musicals, opera, drum and bugle corps, and symphony orchestras. Since transplanting to Humboldt County in 2012, Michael has played with the Eureka Symphony, HSU Wind Ensemble, All Seasons Orchestra, and various chamber ensembles. He looks forward to collaborating with many more musicians in the future.

**Jonathan Webster** (piano). A graduate in piano performance from Humboldt State University in 2013, Jonathan has performed as piano accompanist to many local performers.

**Terri Strachan** (flute). Upon moving to Eureka, taught flute at HSU and flute and piano for the HSU Academy. As a young adult she played piccolo and third flute with the St. Louis Philharmonic. She continues to have an active private studio in Eureka, sharing the joy of music to all ages.

**Ellen Weiss** (oboe). Ellen plays oboe and piano, She is a member of Eureka Symphony and the Lyric Trio. She's been a physician at the Open Door Clinic for 30 years, but is looking forward to retiring this year and playing more music. She enjoys leading dance classes at Redwood Raks and Healthsport.

**Felicia Oldfather** (piano). moved to Humboldt County in 1972 and returned to a childhood interest in music. She enjoys playing chamber music and working as an accompanist, spending time with her grandchildren, and volunteering with Humboldt Open Door Clinic, Food for People, and the Humboldt Community Breast Health Project.