

Violinist Naoko Tajima: Résumé

Naoko Tajima was born in Japan and entered The Juilliard School Pre-College as the youngest age at the audition. She has been heard in venues such as the Carnegie Hall, the Lincoln Center, Japan Society, The Musik- und Kongresshalle in Lübeck. She was invited to perform a solo recital at the Bargemusic and Naoko also played for Pope Benedict XVI at the United Nations. Naoko received Tomodachi Suntory Music Scholarship, which was established between U.S.-Japan Council and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo.

Naoko received her Bachelor of Music Degree in 2018 as a full scholarship student at The Juilliard School and received her Master of Music Degree in 2020 as an honored student with a full scholarship at The Juilliard School under Prof. Donald Weilerstein and Prof. Li Lin.

Naoko was the winner of the Juilliard Soloist Competition and performed with the Juilliard Orchestra. She received the Commencement Award for her superior ability in violin performance, orchestra, chamber music, and academic subjects. In the same year, she was the winner of the YoungArts Foundation. Naoko won first prizes in international competitions such as New York International Music Competition, LISMA International Competition, and Romania International Music Competition. In 2020, Naoko received grand prize, 1st prize, as well as Perry special award at the Shimoda International Music Competition and performed as a soloist with the Yokohama Symphony. In the same year, Naoko won gold prize in Moscow International Music Competition.

In 2022, Naoko performed as the guest artist at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo at the “Women’s History Month” Reception. Naoko’s performance was highly praised by Maestro Riccardo Muti, music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

Naoko won Grand Prize at the Singapore International Music Competition. In 2023, she was awarded the Star Grand prize of the Mendelssohn International Music Competition. From April 2023, Naoko was appointed as the special advisor of the Tokyo College of Music.