

Biography | June 2026

Phoenix Avalon | violin

Adrian Steele | violin

Devin Moore | viola

Joshua McClendon | violoncello

"A polished sonority and well-balanced, tightly synchronized ensemble with nearly faultless intonation....it is heartening to know that chamber music is in good hands with such gifted young ensembles as the Isidore Quartet" (Chicago Classical Review)

Winners of a 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant, and the 14th Banff International String Quartet Competition in 2022, the New York City-based Isidore String Quartet was formed in 2019 with a vision to revisit, rediscover, and reinvigorate the repertory. The quartet is heavily influenced by the Juilliard String Quartet and the idea of 'approaching the established as if it were brand new, and the new as if it were firmly established.'

The quartet began as an ensemble at the Juilliard School, and has coached with Joel Krosnick, Joseph Lin, Astrid Schween, Laurie Smukler, Joseph Kalichstein, Roger Tapping, Misha Amory, and numerous others. The ensemble is a Peak Fellowship Ensemble-in-Residence at the Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

In North America, the Isidore Quartet has appeared on major series in Boston, New York, Berkeley, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Seattle, Washington DC, Houston, San Francisco, New Orleans, Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver, and has collaborated with several eminent performers including James Ehnes and Jeremy Denk. Their 25/26 season included performances in Philadelphia, Cleveland, Calgary, Santa Barbara, New York, Washington's Library of Congress, plus return engagements in Montreal, Berkeley, Houston, Phoenix, and Baltimore. First-time collaborations included clarinetist Anthony McGill, cellist Sterling Elliott, and the Miró Quartet.

In Europe they have performed at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, and in Bonn (Beethoven-Haus), Stuttgart, Cologne, and Dresden and made their debuts in Paris (Philharmonie) and London (Wigmore Hall). In 2026/2027 the quartet will perform at the Beethovenfest Bonn, the Rheingau Musikfestival as well as at the Konzerthaus Dortmund and Berlin.

Over the past several years, the quartet has developed a strong connection to the works of composer and pianist Billy Childs, performing his Quartets No. 2 and 3 throughout North America and Europe. In February 2026 they premiered a new Childs quartet written expressly for them. Also in 2026, their debut CD *Adorations* was released on Delos/Outthere.

Both on stage and outside the concert hall, the Isidore Quartet is deeply invested in connecting with youth and elderly populations, and with marginalized communities who otherwise have limited access to high-quality live music performance. They approach music as a "playground" and attempt to break down barriers to encourage collaboration and creativity. The name *Isidore* recognizes the ensemble's musical connection to the Juilliard Quartet and Beaux Art Trio: one of that group's early members was legendary violinist Isidore Cohen.