

# HOCHSTEIN

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Violin Instructor and HochStrings Director Pia Liptak Receives 2019 Hochstein Faculty Service Award**

At the Hochstein All-Faculty Meeting on Saturday, September 7, Hochstein President & Executive Director Margaret Quackenbush recognized Hochstein Violin Instructor **Pia Liptak** as the winner of the **2019 Faculty Service Award**. Liptak also directs the HochStrings Adult Chamber Ensemble and is Co-Chair of the Hochstein string department.

Quackenbush said, "Pia joined our Strings faculty in 2007, and it was clear immediately that she was a dedicated teacher for all ages of students, and that she had a wonderful rapport with her students, who consistently win merit scholarships and hold leadership positions in our orchestras. The HochStrings ensemble, which she founded, has developed a strong following and is a great example of the way that making music together connects people."

The Faculty Service Award was first given in 1990 to recognize the contributions of outstanding faculty members to the work of The Hochstein School. Nominations are solicited from the entire faculty, from a list of those who have completed at least five years of teaching at Hochstein.

The faculty member who wrote to nominate Liptak said, "She is an inspiring teacher, mentor, and musician; I find myself inspired by her pedagogy and catch myself using 'Pia-isms' in my own teaching. I aspire to be half the teacher and musician she is!"

Pia Liptak has been encouraging an understanding of music among children and students of all ages for more than three decades. In her native Denmark, she taught at the Odense Music School and served as the concert manager for the Carl Nielsen Academy of Music. She has performed extensively in Europe and the United States and is currently the artistic director and concertmaster for Cordancia Chamber Orchestra. She was previously concertmaster of the UR Symphony Orchestra and the Fynske Sinfonietta, and a member of the Odense Symphony Orchestra. Liptak earned degrees in violin and piano at the Carl Nielsen Academy of Music in Denmark. She came to

the U.S. as a Fulbright student in 1987, receiving her DMA in violin performance and literature from the Eastman School of Music. She and her husband, composer David Liptak, live in Rochester.

**About Hochstein:** The Hochstein School was founded in commemoration of genius and is dedicated to providing access to opportunity regardless of age, level of skill, ethnicity, or ability to pay. Hochstein’s vibrant community of musicians, dancers, and supporters choose to come together to develop the ability to speak and communicate through music, dance, and expressive arts (music, art, and dance therapy). Established in 1920 as The David Hochstein Memorial Music School, today Hochstein serves approximately 3,500 students annually from a 12-county region surrounding Rochester, N.Y. and continues its commitment to the Rochester community by offering a variety of free and low-cost concerts and performances in the Hochstein Performance Hall—and locations around our city—throughout the year. For more information, visit [www.hochstein.org](http://www.hochstein.org).

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