

Jinwoo Lee, Concertmaster
Charles and Marie Caestecker Concertmaster Chair

Jinwoo Lee, a native of South Korea, began playing the violin at the age of four. He is an international concert violinist with recitals and concerts with orchestras in USA, Korea, Germany, Switzerland, Slovenia, France, Italy, Netherlands, and Austria, to name a few.

He is a frequent prize winner of international competitions, including 1st prize at the Sorantin Competition San Angelo, Texas (2007), 2nd & special prizes at the 20th International Rodolfo Lipizer Violin Competition in Gorizia, Italy(2001), special prize at the International Georg Kulenkampff Violin Competition in Cologne, Germany (1999), 2nd prize (1st prize not awarded), Audience & Bach prizes at the 33rd International Tibor Varga Violin Competition in Sion, Switzerland(1999), 1st & special prizes at the 2nd International Lois Spohr Violin Competition for young violinists in Weimar, Germany (1998), 1st prize at the National German Competition "Jugend Musiziert" Categories solo violin & chamber music (1998), Special prize at the 7th International Yfrah Neaman Competition in Mainz, Germany (1997). He was the winner of the MSM school concerto competition (2008) and the Waldo Mayo Memorial Violin Competition(2009). Most recently, he and his duo partner Eunice Kim were awarded the prize for Best Duo at the 20th International Violin & Piano Masterclasses of the Music Academy of Lausanne, Switzerland (2010).

Mr. Lee graduated from the Humboldt Grammar School in Cologne, Germany in 2001. He studied with Stephen Clapp and Donald Weilerstein at The Juilliard School, where he received his bachelor's degree in 2006. Two years later Mr. Lee received his master's Degree from The Juilliard School under the tutelage of Robert and Nicholas Mann. He continued his studies with them at the Manhattan School of Music, where he received his Artist Diploma at in 2009 and Doctorate in 2016.

His former teachers include Michael Davis, Maria Giesy, Christiane Hutcap, Hyo Kang, Jongsuk Li, Igor Ozim, Jaegwang Song and Viktor Tretjakov. He has had masterclasses with Pierre Amoyal, Bruno Canino, Pamela Frank, Miriam Fried, Leonidas Kavakos, Masao Kawasaki, Herman Krebbers, Cho-Liang Lin, Martin Lovett, Yfrah Neaman and Sylvia Rosenberg.

He is currently the first concertmaster of the Neue Philharmonie Westfalen. He was a violin faculty at the Robert Schumann Musikhochschule in Düsseldorf from 2018 until 2022. In 2023, he was appointed concertmaster of the Milwaukee Symphony.