



Empowering Youth for Change Fund Launch

**Saturday, September 21, 2019
7:00pm
Home of Linda and Jeffrey Bridge**

Daniel Ching, a founding member of the Miró Quartet, spent his childhood years in the San Francisco area, and began playing the violin under the guidance of his father at age 3. At age 5, he entered the San Francisco Conservatory Preparatory Division on a full twelve-year scholarship, where he studied violin with SerbanRusu and ZavenMelikian, and chamber music with Susan Bates. As a student at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music he studied violin with Kathleen Winkler, Roland and AlmitaVamos, and conducting with Robert Spano and Peter Jaffe. He holds his M.M. from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studied with former Cleveland Quartet violinist Donald Weilerstein. He also studied recording engineering and production with Thomas Knab of Telarc, and subsequently engineered the Miró Quartet's first promotional disc. Daniel is a discerning connoisseur of all things electronic, an avid skier and tennis player, and a dedicated reader of science fiction. Daniel serves as Associate Professor of Practice (Violin) at the University of Texas at Austin.



Daniel Ching, violinist and honoree

TESTIMONIALS OF DANIEL CHING

"Daniel is a remarkable violinist and musician, but first and foremost, he is a generous man full of integrity. He always tries to see the glass as half full rather than half empty. I am constantly being challenged and inspired by him both as a person and as a musician. I am truly blessed to be married to him and have a wonderful family with him. He is our sunshine, and we all depend on him so much!"

- *Sandy, wife of Daniel and former 2nd violinist of the Miro Quartet*

"I'm proud of Daddy because he is a good father. He is hard working and plays the violin well. I think we take him for granted, but I really respect him and appreciate all of the work he does for his family".

- *Adrian (13), son of Daniel*



"My Daddy is very loyal to his family, and I like that he is super kind and fun. I'm proud of him because he is a famous violinist! I love him - he is so cool".

- *Brian (age 9), son of Daniel*

"On his own persistence, he continues to be a good musician, a world class chamber music performer".

- *Fei Pang and Cecilia Ching, parents of Daniel*

"Growing up with Daniel as his sister, he has always been generous with his knowledge and to share with others the joys he's earned in life. He is genuinely one of the nicest people I know. From sharing tips in video games to giving out unsolicited advice, he is always wanting to help others succeed. I know the world knows him as a great musician, but I feel most lucky to have him as my brother and occasional personal chef".

- **Eliza Ching, sister of Daniel**



Daniel in 1987



Daniel on tour in China

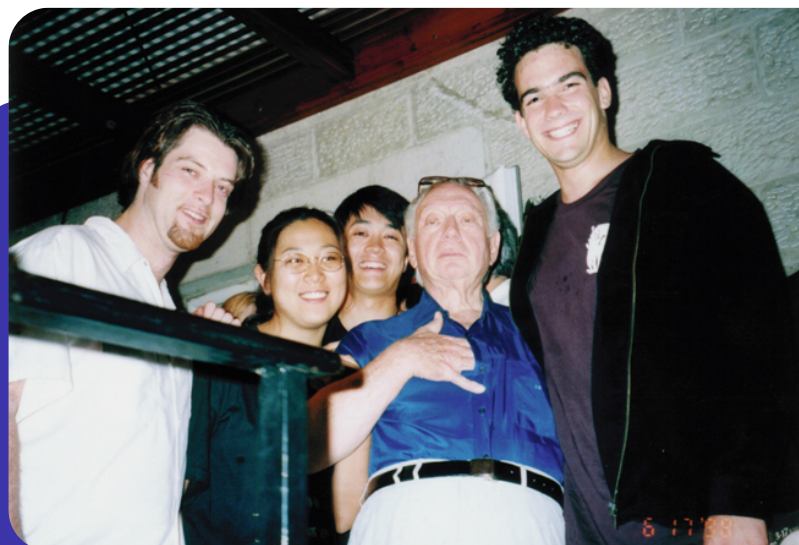
"I have had the great honor of performing and teaching alongside Daniel Ching for twenty-five years and I have learned a humbling amount working alongside him.

As a performer he both plays with great ease and profound depth. Daniel's work ethic is inspiring and he is a considerate, thoughtful colleague. Daniel is highly motivated and dedicated as a pedagogue and is able to explain and demonstrate the most complicated technical and musical issues. His success has been in teaching students how to teach themselves and guide them to make realistic choices in the musical world where they would make the most impact. Congratulations on this wonderful new scholarship Daniel!"

- **Josh Gindele, cellist of Miro Quartet**

"Daniel Ching has been the most outstanding colleague I could ever have hoped to share a string quartet career with. He is a phenomenal musician of tremendous generosity, who shares his love of music unstintingly with everyone: his colleagues, our audiences and his students. He is truly an inspiring human being and artist who makes the world around him a better place".

- **John Largess, violist of the Miro Quartet**



Daniel with members of the Miro Quartet (L-R: John Largess, Sandy Yamamoto, Daniel Ching, Isaac Stern and Josh Gindele in 1998)

"Daniel Ching is a master artist and teacher who continues to reach above and beyond to impact our art form and the role of music in our society. He is an inspiring leader in the art community and continues to grow how we can all engage and cultivate the value of the arts for generations to come. His joy and love of music, violin and string quartets is infectious and imprints his legacy around the globe cultivating a worldwide family of friends, students and audiences".

- **Will Fedkenheuer, 2nd violinist of the Miro Quartet**

"When music educators are asked to reflect back on their years of service and dedication, we invariably and rightly mention how much our students have influenced us. We chime eloquently on how much we have learned from them, and how their needs shaped our careers. Looking back, I remember many superbly talented pre college string players and pianists I had the privilege of introducing to the art of chamber music, but none was more remarkable than violinist Daniel Ching who remains my dear friend today.

His dedication and avid interest in the string quartet was strong as a youngster, and he inspired me to work hard as his coach. I knew then that Daniel would pursue music and be highly successful, and it's not surprising that he has led the highly acclaimed Miró Quartet for twenty-five years. I think I am most gratified to know that he has also become a beloved teacher who continues to inspire many young players, while always remembering those who had the pleasure of being his mentor. I am proud and grateful to be counted among them. Congratulations Daniel!"

- **Susan Bates, San Francisco, CA
Founder & Director, Young Chamber Musicians**

"I feel so privileged to call Daniel my dear friend and colleague at UT. Daniel is a quintessential role model for all of our faculty and students, alike: he is a virtuoso violinist, a world-class artist, a dedicated and adored teacher, husband and father. And, to top it all off, he is a fabulous cook and bartender. May this scholarship help Daniel's amazing legacy live on!"

- **Bion Tsang, cellist, Butler School of Music at the University of Texas at Austin String Department Chair**

"Daniel Ching was one of my favorite students as a young boy. There were many reasons for my feelings about Daniel. He was talented, quiet, intelligent and a hard worker. It is rare to find students who are talented and still do practice rather than just play. Daniel was it! His successful career is a deserved reward. A few weeks ago in honor my 90th Birthday Daniel was here in Green Valley speaking and performing with many of my former students. This was the most thrilling and emotional experience of my life. Thank you Daniel. Congratulations on the establishment of the Daniel Ching Scholarship Fund".

- **Zaven Melikian, former violin teacher of Daniel Ching; professor, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, retired; concertmaster, San Francisco Opera Orchestra, retired**

"Dear Professor Ching! I'm so glad that your amazing contributions to performance and pedagogy are recognized in this wonderful way. Warmest congratulations on this honor".

- **Anton Nel, professor of piano, Butler School of Music at the University of Texas at Austin**

"Daniel's approach to the joy of music-making is infectious - he created an incredibly encouraging and collaborative environment in our studio! Daniel's mentorship was a huge inspiration to me, my studio-mates, and my quartet: without his support, we would not have the lives or careers that we are lucky enough have. He is a truly caring and supportive person, and I can't thank him enough for all of his help! Love you Daniel and congratulations!"

- **Nick Montopoli, violinist of Invoke Quartet and former student of Daniel Ching**

"Unconditionally supportive and fully invested are two of the best ways I can think of to describe Daniel as a teacher. Anyone who knows me knows that I have a million ideas on how to fix the world and all that's wrong with it and try to pursue all of those ideas at one time. Daniel is incredibly supportive in all my endeavors and has been instrumental in me coming to the place that I am in today with regards to my career and as a person. Having a teacher who cares deeply about me not only as a student but also as a person has enabled me to thrive and grow at UT. Knowing that I have his full support for whatever direction I choose post-school has given me incredible freedom to pursue what I am really passionate about instead of feeling the need to follow a particular set path. I will be forever grateful for his support and guidance and will cherish our friendship forever".

- **Elizabeth Kilpatrick, current student of Daniel Ching**

"When I first came to UT for a lesson I was very nervous. I had heard so many amazing things from friends that I wanted to make a good first impression. However, the moment I arrived in Daniel's studio everything just felt right and I wasn't so nervous anymore. Daniel's contagious smile and positivity came through and I could tell that he was a very dedicated teacher. During lessons, there was never a shortage of support or helpful critiques from him and I always felt inspired when I left. I treasure the time I had working with him at school and I am still learning from the lessons I had".

- **Antonio Cevallos, former violin student of Daniel Ching**



Daniel Ching performing, 2019

"I consider myself truly blessed to have had the opportunity to study with Daniel Ching. He is by far, one of the most remarkable people I have ever met in my entire life. Studying with Daniel during my doctoral studies at the Butler School of Music at the University of Texas at Austin was life changing for me. I learned life lessons from him, which have served me well in my career. He taught me how to think big; how to work hard and smart, while developing self-discipline and an internal compass to gauge my path towards my own success. I certainly wouldn't be where I am without him.

To be in a position where I can name a scholarship in honor of Daniel Ching, which will now impact a multitude of students across South King County is truly humbling. I am thankful for the lessons he taught me and our friendship of almost 15 years.

- Dr. Quinton Morris, Executive Director & Founder, Key to Change; 1st doctoral violin student of Daniel Ching (2004-2007)



Sandy, Daniel and Quinton, Austin 2005



Daniel visiting Quinton, Seattle University, 2010



Quinton and Daniel at UT Doctoral Graduation, 2008.

For more information about the Empowering Youth for Change Fund, please visit our website at
www.keytochangestudio.org