

Murphy Severtson

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EDUCATION

Mannes School of Music at the New School, New York City, NY **Expected Graduation:** May 2024
Master of Music | Major: Music Composition | GPA: 4.0
St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN **Graduation:** May 2022, summa cum laude
Bachelor of Music | Major: Music Composition | GPA: 3.91
Academic Honors/Awards: St. Olaf Faculty Scholarship, Winston Cassler Scholarship, Louis Armstrong Jazz Award, Deans List: Fall '19, '20, '21, Spring '19, '20, '21.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Composer Advancement Intern, American Composers Orchestra *March 2023 – Present*
Administrative Assistant to Paul Pinto *October 2022 – Present*
Founding Member, Mosaic Composers Collective *November 2022 – Present*

- Organized a debut concert at the Dimenna Center of six new works with fifteen individual musicians.
- Managed email invitations to distinguished guests; manage emails, including a quarterly newsletter.

Social Coordinator, Composition Department | Mannes School of Music *September 2022 – Present*

- Organize annual composers' concerts and social events for student composers on campus.

Co-Leader, President, Musika Nova | St. Olaf College *May 2019 – May 2022*

- Led studio classes and improvisational exercises to cultivate community for campus composers.

Teacher's Assistant, Composition 1 | St. Olaf College *September 2021 – May 2022*

- Coordinated and programmed the annual new music concert "Fresh Ink;" independently led class.

Manager, St. Olaf Jazz Bands | St. Olaf College *January 2021 – May 2022*

- Managed and organized the daily set-up, rehearsals, and performances for all St. Olaf Jazz Bands.
- Worked as a liaison between the ensemble, director, music organization offices, and peers.

Student Research, CURI Project | St. Olaf College *June 2021 – August 2021*

- Selected by to participate in St. Olaf's Collaborative Undergraduate Research and Inquiry program composing for the St. Olaf Band.

Score Reader, St. Olaf Christmas Festival | St. Olaf College *December 2021*

Member, Mannes' COBRA Ensemble | Mannes School of Music *September 2022 – January 2023*

Member, St. Olaf Jazz Band, Improvisation Ensemble | St. Olaf College *September 2018 – May 2022*

PRIVATE STUDY

Valerie Coleman | Mannes School of Music at the New School | Composition *August 2022 – Present*
Daniel Felsenfeld | Private Instructor; New York City, NY | Composition *July 2018 – Present*
JC Sanford | St. Olaf College | Jazz, Improvisation, and Composition *April 2021 – Present*
Timothy Mahr | St. Olaf College | Composition *September 2018 – May 2022*

BIO

Murphy Severtson (b. 1999, previously Anna Severtson) is a composer, improviser, and teacher from Delray Beach, Florida, currently based in New York City. Their compositions examine deeply personal topics, including chronic illness, the climate crisis, queerness, and religion. They find the greatest amount of joy in making music that allows the audience, performers, and all those involved to be equal and loved collaborators.

Murphy has written or arranged for the St. Olaf Band, the St. Olaf Orchestra, the Manitou Singers, the St. Olaf Lyric Theater, Synergy Musicians Collective, Spiritus Novus, the International Contemporary Ensemble, the Walden School Players, and ArxDuo. They have attended festivals and camps at the University of Miami, the Walden School, and the Curtis Institute. Notable mentors include Valerie Coleman, Daniel Felsenfeld, Paul Pinto, Sky Macklay, JC Sanford, Yan Pang and Shawn Crouch.

In the summer of 2021, Murphy composed *Standing Upright*, a testament to the strength of those struggling with chronic illness, for the American Prize-winning St. Olaf Band, funded by the St. Olaf CURI Project. Recently, their music has explored Florida nature, specifically mangrove trees and forests.

Murphy is a founding member of Mosaic Composers Collective, a group of fresh collaborators and composers working in New York City. They also co-host the podcast *Classical Schmassical*, with fellow Mosaic Composer Alexa Letourneau. Interested in the administrative sphere of new music, they work as an assistant and stage manager for many different projects as well.

They graduated *summa cum laude* with a Bachelor of Music from St. Olaf College in 2022. Murphy is currently studying with Valerie Coleman at Mannes School of Music at the New School.