

Our new Executive Director, Anna Clift comes to the Deanery School of Music with 15 years experience as Artistic/Executive Director of the International Cello Institute, another non-profit organization that also supports the Arts and Arts Education. Passionate about educating young musicians, she teaches and mentors young cellists worldwide and is also a member of the music faculty at St Olaf College. She has taught at Carleton College, Marshall University, and Augsburg University.

Ms. Clift has an extensive orchestral background having played as an extra player with the Minnesota Orchestra since 1989. As a performer, she frequently collaborates in chamber music concerts with other musicians from the Minnesota Orchestra and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra as well as other groups around the Midwest. She is a former member of the Artaria String Quartet and the Artemis Piano Trio and has been a guest performer with the Cavani String Quartet, the Isles Ensemble and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra.

Ms. Clift serves as a juror for various competitions around the United States; including the Seattle Young Artists Festival, the Schubert Club Competition, and the Fischhoff Competition. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from Indiana University where she studied with Janos Starker, her Masters of Music degree is from Stony Brook University where she was a student of Bernard Greenhouse and Timothy Eddy.