

JULIA BULLARD

Viola & Alexander Technique

Julia Bullard is Professor of Viola at the University of Northern Iowa. She is an active solo, chamber and orchestral performer both in the US and abroad. Most recently, she has appeared as soloist with the Bogotá Chamber Orchestra (Bogotá, Colombia) and the UCS Symphony Orchestra (Caxias do Sul, Brazil). She is also the violist of Trio 826; since its formation in 2011, the trio has performed throughout the US, as well as in France and Brazil, and released their first CD, entitled “Mosaic,” in 2016.

As a clinician and pedagogue, Dr. Bullard has presented guest performances and master classes at universities across the US, including the University of Iowa, Drake University, State University of New York at Fredonia, Lawrence University in Wisconsin, Ball State University in Indiana, and internationally. Her students have been accepted to prestigious graduate programs and summer festivals, are successful teachers in the public schools and private studios, and hold positions in symphony orchestras. Dr. Bullard was the recipient of the Leopold LaFosse Studio Teacher of the Year award in 2011 from the Iowa String Teachers Association.

Dr. Bullard received Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Temple University in Philadelphia, and the DMA degree from the University of Georgia. Her principal teachers included the legendary violists Joseph dePasquale and Emanuel Vardi. Prior to joining the faculty at UNI, Dr. Bullard was a faculty member at Settlement Music School (Philadelphia), Temple University’s Preparatory Department (Philadelphia), and the University of Georgia Pre-College Program, among others. She has performed with various orchestras, including the Waterloo-Cedar Falls (IA), Cedar Rapids (IA), Greenville (SC), Trenton (NJ), South Jersey, Macon (GA), Schenectady (NY), and Utica (NY) symphonies, and has performed and taught at several summer festivals including the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival and Academy, Cedar Valley Chamber Music Festival, Madeline Island Music Festival, Luzerne Music Center, Ash Lawn-Highland Opera Festival, and the Virginia Waterfront International Arts Festival.

Dr. Bullard is currently completing a three-year, 1600-hour training course to be a certified teacher of the Alexander Technique, a method for working to improve movement and posture as well as to develop greater awareness of physical and mental habits, with an overall goal of improving well-being. Alexander Technique is used by many musicians to prevent and recover from injury, and to find greater ease and freedom in playing/singing. She has studied AT with Brian McCullough, Lauren Hill, Tully Hall, Kathryn Zimmerman, and Harriet Harris. Her study of the Alexander Technique allows her to work with her viola students to develop their most healthy, natural approach to playing, foster good habits, and embrace a spirit of curiosity in learning. She strives to approach each student as a unique individual, meeting each student where they are, and is equally interested in teaching students at all levels, as she believes that a physically and mentally healthy approach to playing is essential for students at every stage of their musical development.