

HISTORY

The Orchestral Career Studies (OCS) graduate program was created in 1999 by the former Concertmaster of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Phillip Ruder and is now under the direction of **Stephanie Sant' Ambrogio**.



This special, two-year graduate degree program for violinists, violists and cellists culminates with a Master of Music degree and is designed to train young string players for successful

careers in major symphony orchestras. Special emphasis is placed on training musicians for the rigorous audition process necessary to win a professional orchestra job.

In 2007, Ms. Sant' Ambrogio, former Concertmaster of the San Antonio Symphony (1994-2007) and Assistant Principal Second of The Cleveland Orchestra (1985-1992) was



appointed Director of the OCS program and is currently Assistant Professor of Violin and Viola, and member of the Argenta Trio at the University of Nevada, Reno

(UNR). Besides her distinguished orchestral background, Ms. Sant' Ambrogio is an active chamber music artist and founder and artistic director of the nationally acclaimed Cactus Pear Music Festival based in San Antonio, Texas.

Photo Credits

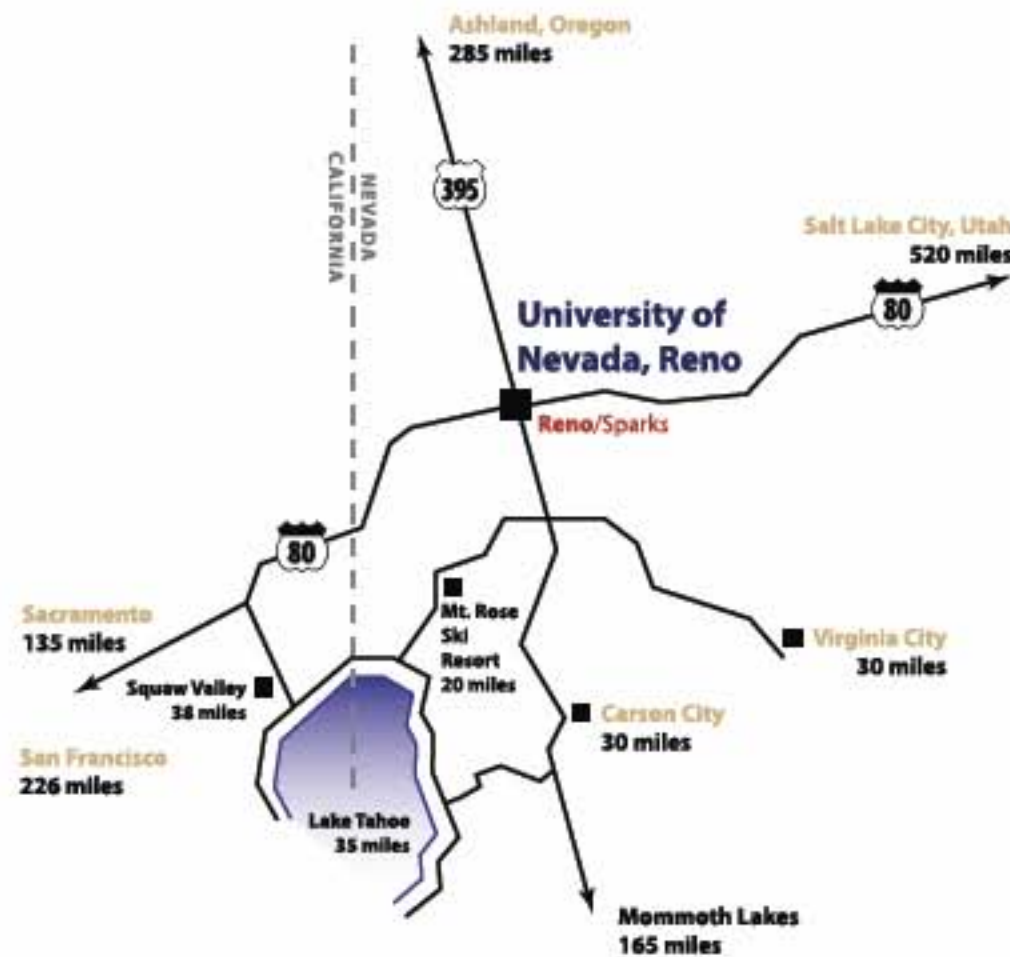
Stephanie Sant' Ambrogio: Liz Garza-Williams
All campus images: Jean Dixon
Cover violinists: Stuart Murtland
Children's concert: Martin Chalifour
Reno Philharmonic Orchestra: Jeff Ross
Stradivarius images: Gary Albright

THE RENO-SPARKS METRO AREA

The University is located in the Reno-Sparks metropolitan area, home to approximately 400,000. Bounded on the west by the majestic Sierra Nevada range and on the east by the rolling basin and range province, Reno-Sparks benefits from a comfortable climate. Marked by generally cool and dry weather,



the area is a haven for those who love the four seasons. More than 40 ski areas are located within an hour's drive of Reno-Sparks.



University of Nevada, Reno

Orchestral Career Studies

College of Liberal Arts | School of the Arts

Stephanie Sant' Ambrogio
Director





THE ORCHESTRAL CAREER STUDIES PROGRAM

The OCS graduate program includes the following:

- Weekly private lessons and two graduate solo recitals;
- Weekly orchestra excerpt class with several mock auditions per semester;
- Weekly quartet coachings and four quartet recitals during the two years;
- Guest Artist Coachings: each semester an outstanding guest artist coach is invited to conduct a two-day workshop comprising a 30-minute mock audition, a private lesson and chamber music coaching for each graduate student. Artist Coaches have included Frank Almond (Concertmaster of the Milwaukee Symphony) and Ellen de Pasquale (former Associate Concertmaster of The Cleveland Orchestra);
- Principal positions in the University orchestra;
- Opportunities to perform with the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra and the Reno Chamber Orchestra, thus offering additional professional experience as well as additional income;
- The requirement to teach privately and to assist the department in a minimal number of graduate assistantship responsibilities.



The Reno Philharmonic Orchestra is a valuable resource for professional experience.

GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Four Graduate Teaching Assistantships of \$14,000 each will be awarded each year of the two-year program to two violinists, a violist and a cellist. The four OCS Graduate Assistants form UNR's resident quartet, the Nightingale String Quartet, which gives public performances on campus, in public schools and throughout Nevada. These Assistantships also include reduction of the graduate fees per semester credit and a non-residency fee waiver for out-of-state or foreign students. String Scholarship assistance is also available for other qualified OCS students who do not receive a Graduate Teaching Assistantship.



The OCS graduate quartet performs with the Nevada Chamber Music Festival during a narrated children's concert.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If interested in applying, please send a resumé and recent CD or DVD of your playing to Ms. Sant' Ambrogio at the address below. The recording should include: a movement or two of solo Bach, a first movement from a Mozart concerto (violinists), a Haydn concerto (cellists), a standard concerto (violinists) *and* another piece of your choice. **Materials are due by February 1.** Only applicants with an undergraduate degree from a recognized school in the U.S. or abroad will be considered for this program. Send materials to:

Professor Stephanie Sant' Ambrogio
 OCS Director
 University of Nevada, Reno
 Department of Music & Dance/226
 Reno, Nevada 89557-0226

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

The University is a land-grant research university enrolling approximately 17,000 students. The Department of Music and Dance, offering Bachelor and Master degrees, has approximately 60 full- or part-time music faculty and over 200 majors. Class sizes are small and the faculty are extremely accessible. The faculty are encouraged to maintain active performing careers which in turn provide inspiration for their students. The state-of-the-art Nightingale Concert Hall, seating 615, is available for student and faculty recitals.

The beautiful scroll work and pegging is from the University of Nevada, Reno's 1720 Stradivarius violin donated to the school by the late E.L. Wiegand. This fine instrument is made available to exceptional music majors at UNR.



FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please call or e-mail:
 ssantambrogio@unr.edu
 775.682.9024 (studio)
 775.784.6145
 (music department)