

Sheena Henri

2016-2017

Biography

Sheena Henri is a first generation Haitian American, who was born and raised in North Miami, in a family of six. Growing up in her household, she was constantly surrounded by Haitian music, other Caribbean music, and the urban culture. Despite growing in an environment where sports was the passion of those that surrounded her, she was inspired to play the violin after watching a fellow Haitian American play a solo on the violin during a concert. Her parents immediately bought her a violin and found her a teacher. She began playing the violin at the age of six, under Archange Michele, a blind violinist and Romel Joseph, the founder of the first and only music school in Haiti. Two years later, she began studying piano with Nona Topolinski. She attended South Florida Youth Symphony and remained there for six years. During this time, she began studying violin with Judy Freishman and attended the Miami Children's Chorus for three years. Sheena was also accepted into the Florida Youth Orchestra but did not attend. Her passion to learn as much as she could in music could not be satisfied.

She attended Miami Arts Charter School for her middle school years. There she made tremendous improvements as she gained experience playing in orchestras, quartets, performing solos and learned music theory. As a middle schooler, she was assigned to play in the high school orchestra and was concert mistress for her middle school orchestra. She joined Miami Music Project her seventh grade year and played with them until the end of her sophomore year in high school. During the summer of eighth grade year, she went to the University of Miami summer camp on scholarship. Her eighth grade year, she joined the high school orchestra full time and also joined the jazz band where she played the piano, and gained knowledge of jazz theory. During her lunch time, she would teach her fellow middle schoolers, and was an assistant for their conductor.

Sheena attended high school at New World School of the Arts and studied violin under Michael Klotz and is currently studying with Huifang Chen and Charles Castleman. Sheena has been accepted to Interlochen Summer Arts Camp but was not able to attend. She has also attended Florida All-State Orchestra her freshman, sophomore, and junior years. During the summer of senior year, she attended Harvard Secondary Summer School. Throughout the years, Sheena has been played in many churches, weddings, and special events. On her free time, she performs in concerts hosted by her former teacher Archange Michele, and occasionally gives lessons to his students. Sheena's knowledge of music has deepened as she took music theory classes, music appreciation, and learned about music history. As she gains more experience, she continues to grow and mature in her knowledge and abilities and will continue to grow and reach her full potential in every new experience and environment she encounters