**Noah Umberto Kelly Bio**

Noah Umberto Kelly was born in Quito, Ecuador. He started his classical violin studies at the age of 6 through Project STEP’s FOCUS program and was one of Mariana Green-Hill’s first students. Noah was chosen as the recipient of the 2016-2017 Eleanor L. Campbell Scholar award which is given to one Project STEP student based on merit, dedication and an outstanding level of community involvement through outreach performances, ambassadorship and good will. Noah believes that being selected as a part of the Project STEP family changed the arc of his life.

Noah attended Walnut Hill School for the Arts and is currently entering his third year at New England Conservatory. He’s earning his Bachelor of Music degree in Contemporary Improvisation and studies with world-renowned composer and multi-instrumentalist, Hankus Netsky, and fiddler, Eden MacAdam-Somer. He spent the summer of 2019 touring Ireland and attending Irish traditional music festivals which culminated in Noah representing the United States in the 2019 All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil in August in Drogheda, County Louth.

He has performed with the Boston POPS String Chamber Orchestra, The Civic Symphony and The Landmarks Orchestra. Noah has benefitted greatly from the feedback he has received from the many masterclasses he has been fortunate to participate in over the past decade. In these masterclasses, he has been coached by amazing musicians such as Dianne Monroe, Owen Young, Victor Romanul, Mark O’Connor, Tai Murray, Rebecca Young, Ralph Farris, Grigory Kalinovsky, and the Harlem String Quartet.

Noah was a finalist in the Fidelity Young Artists competition in 2015 and 2016 and was chosen to perform at the Cape Symphony’s 2016 Opening Night concert with Grammy-award-winning violinist Mark O’Connor. When not playing classical music, Noah can be found playing Celtic fiddle tunes at Irish Sessions throughout Boston or classic rock on his electric violin.