

# Amanda Wilton, Viola



Q: What instrument(s) do you play?

A: Viola

Q: When and how did you get started in music?

A: I started playing the violin in the public school orchestra in 6th grade and switched to viola just before my Masters degree.

Q: When did you begin playing with the SOST?

A: 2013

Q: Educational background?

A: I have a Bachelor of Music in violin performance from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Master of Music in viola performance from the University of Maryland, Postgraduate Diploma from the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya in Barcelona, Spain, and very soon will have a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in viola from the University of Houston.

Q: Who has been your greatest influence in music?

A: My teachers, especially the Arianna String Quartet in St. Louis, Cuarteto Casals in Barcelona, and Wayne Brooks of the Houston Symphony.

Q: What is your “day job?”

A: Music is my day job. In addition to playing with the SOST, I play with various groups in Houston and also with the Brazos Valley Symphony in College Station. I also teach many talented young violists after school in Houston, at summer camp in Michigan, and at Lone Star College in Tomball.

Q: Hobbies or activities outside of SOST?

A: Walking, hiking, biking, tennis, and reading.

Q: Favorite music?

A: Mostly music from the 19th and early 20th century, Mendelssohn, Berlioz, Brahms, Wagner, Rachmaninoff, and York Bowen (my dissertation topic!).