

## **Kostia Lukyniuk Full Biography**

Ukrainian-born Kostia Lukyniuk is a world-renowned musician and a true rebel in the world of strings. Kostia revolutionizes the violin by blending genres, breaking stereotypes, and always wowing his audiences with unmatched energy and love for his craft. Kostia made his solo debut at 9 with the Chernivtsi Philharmonic Orchestra after winning 1st Prize in the International Youth Music Competition. Since then, he has won various prestigious musical competitions and given solo performances all around the world at various venues, festivals, and events.

At the age of 18, after a solo performance at the National Philharmonic Hall of Ukraine in Kyiv, Kostia came to the United States to pursue his dream and study with Professor Oleh Krysa at the Eastman School of Music. He graduated in December 2021 with a bachelor's degree in Music and a Performer's Certificate. In between his studies, he went home to Ukraine just as the war began. He used this experience, along with his brother Markiiian (the second half of The LuckyBrothers) to perform benefit concerts both in Ukraine and over zoom in America to help raise money for his people and soldiers fighting for his country and to lift the spirits of those suffering from the war. After being accepted to an American Master's Program, he was able to escape Ukraine and continued to perform in Berlin and France to continue raising funds for Ukrainian people in need until he was able to return to the USA. Since August 2022 he's pursuing a Master of Music degree at Frost School of Music at the University of Miami in the studio of Professor Charles Castleman. He has since taken Miami by storm, performing all over the city and surrounding areas from private events to Art Basel and PBS benefits.

Kostia maintains an active performing schedule, having played in cities throughout the world such as Kyiv, Lviv, Chernivtsi, Poltava, Ternopil, Mariupol, Zaporizhia (Ukraine); Paris, Metz (France); Berlin, Kempten (Germany); Seoul (South Korea); New York City, Miami, Nashville, Washington, Charleston, Boise, Rochester, Buffalo (USA); Toronto, Waterloo (Canada); and San Jose (Costa Rica). In 2019 Kostia received the 2nd Prize and the Audience Prize at the 3rd Oleh Krysa International Violin Competition in Lviv, Ukraine. He has performed on stage with various well-known artists such as Oleh Krysa (classical), Arturo Sandoval, Judah Sealy, Jimmie Highsmith Jr, Todd East (jazz), Oleh Skrypka, Jerry Heil, Tina Karol, Alyosha, Vlad Yama (Ukrainian pop/rock stars) and Mike la Funk (DJ). All of them hold Kostia in high regard, describing him as an extremely professional, dedicated, and energetic musician with a unique voice.

In parallel with studying classical music, Kostia experiments with many kinds of contemporary genres on the violin and has developed his own unique musical voice and style. He has performed at various places around the world - from street corners, bars, and restaurants to clubs, festivals, music halls, and luxury event venues. Kostia finds that the diverse palette of sounds the violin is able to produce is perfect for playing all types of genres from rock to jazz to pop. He has been a member of a couple of Rochester-based bands like ZBTB (Zac Brown Tribute Band) and Big City. He is currently the band leader of an instrumental funk/RnB band - Positive VibeZ.

Kostia is the ambassador for musical hardware companies Myers Pickups and 3Dvarius Violins.