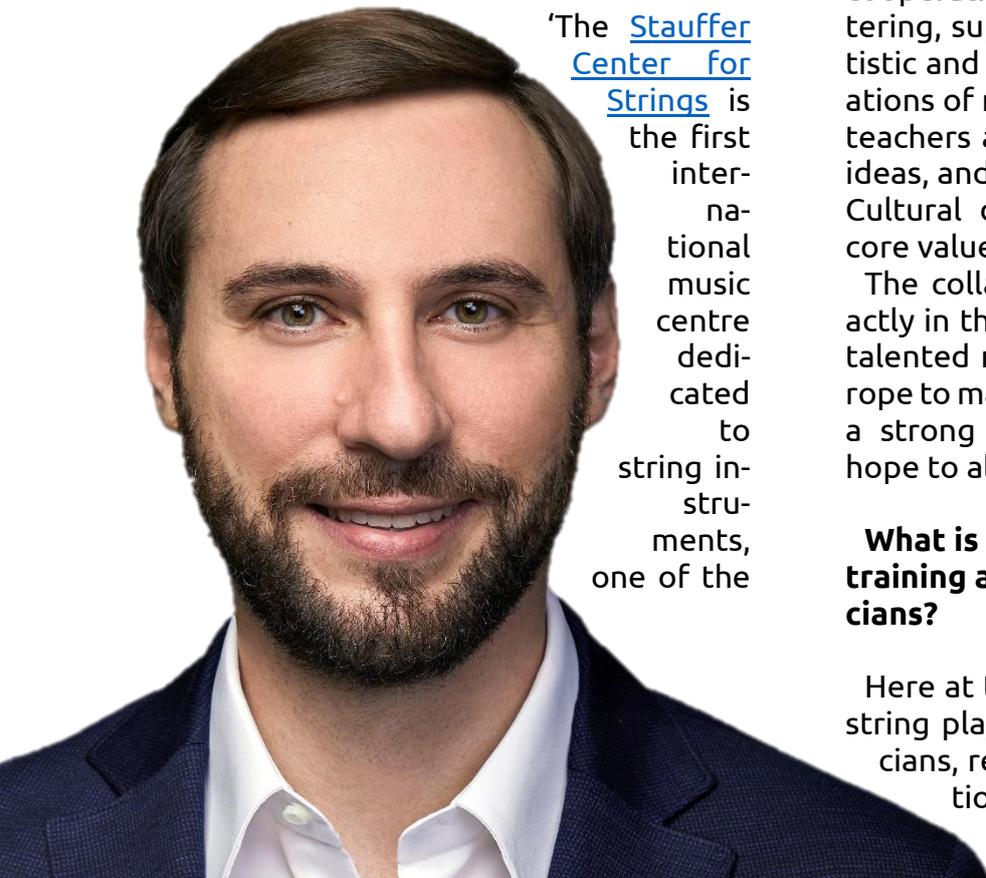


Let music transform you into a better citizen of the world

An interview with cultural manager Paolo Petrocelli on the occasion of the EUYO residency and concert in Cremona at the Stauffer Center for Strings.

EUYO and the Stauffer Center for Strings announced a new partnership in June 2021. December 2021 sees the first fruits of this with a residency of EUYO musicians with Cellist Steven Isserlis, including a culminating final concert on December 9. We asked Stauffer Center for Strings Director Paolo Petrocelli, 'What is the artistic vision that you are pursuing in Cremona?'



'The [Stauffer Center for Strings](#) is the first international music centre dedicated to string instruments, one of the

most advanced and innovative platforms for artistic cooperation on a global level.

The center was founded in 2021 in Cremona, in the headquarters of Palazzo Stauffer, an iconic historic building renovated and converted into a multifunctional campus. Today the building houses the Stauffer Academy (founded in 1985) and the Stauffer Labs.

The Stauffer Center aims to stand out as an advanced and innovative platform of artistic cooperation, a dynamic hub dedicated to fostering, supporting and accompanying the artistic and professional growth of new generations of musicians. It's a place where artists, teachers and students alike can meet, share ideas, and express their talent and creativity. Cultural diversity and gender equality are core values.

The collaboration with the EUYO goes exactly in this direction: let's bring to Cremona talented musicians coming from all over Europe to make music together, while launching a strong message of unity, tolerance and hope to all the world.

What is the importance of chamber music training and performances for young musicians?

Here at the Stauffer Center we train young string players to become professional musicians, ready to share their talent and emotions with the world.

Paolo Petrocelli

Cultural manager, EUYO Advisory Council member and Director-General of the Stauffer Center for Strings.

In order to do so, we give them the opportunity to work with some of the most important international artists.

There is a strong focus on chamber music and solo performance here at Stauffer Center. It's all about understanding how to play at the best levels with the others and with just yourself on stage.

It's about learning, practicing, sharing, playing, listening, feeling, growing. It's about finding your place in the artistic global community and in society at the same time.

Because at the end of the day, we are not just preparing our students to become better musicians, but also to become better citizens of the world.

You are regarded as an expert on cultural diplomacy, and you have spoken numbers of times about the important role of "music diplomacy". In addition to that, you were recently appointed as a member of the EUYO Advisory Council. What's your take on the role of the EUYO as cultural ambassador of the European Union – a role it plays not only through music but also through representing the highest values of the EU?

I am extremely pleased to join the EUYO Advisory Council. It's a unique opportunity for me to help protect and promote the highest European values through music, while supporting future generations of musicians.

As a universal language that breaks down language barriers and cultural differences, music has the power to promote cooperation, understanding and mutual respect among people, communities and nations thus contributing to a culture of peace and social cohesion.

In over 45 years of activity, the EUYO has clearly demonstrated that music can make a difference. Is music able to stop wars, stop wars, conflicts, violence, discrimination? Unfortunately, not completely. But for sure, music can inspire humanity to develop its collective consciousness and aspire to growth intellectually, spiritually and emotionally.

That's why the Orchestra is the ideal ambassador for millions of young European citizens who want to rise and stand up for the fundamental freedoms and rights of a democratic society, for culture, art and education, for a more sustainable future.

I hope the EUYO will have more and more opportunities to bring the voice of Europe into as many theatres, concert halls, institutions as possible around the world. To do so, it will be important to expand strategic partnerships and open new collaborations with a very creative and innovative approach.

From my side, I'll do my best to support with enthusiasm and determination the EUYO team to achieve much more during the upcoming years!

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Want to hear more?
 Stay in touch!



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