

Miho Oda Sakon *violin*



Miho Oda Sakon is Principal Second Violin with the Symphony of Northwest Arkansas.

She has been an enthusiastic participant, since its inception, in SoNA's *ImagiMusic* education program, a member of the Artosphere Festival Orchestra, and Artist-in-Residence at the Suzuki Music School of Arkansas (SMSA). In addition, she frequently performs with the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra and the Arkansas Philharmonic Orchestra.

Ms. Sakon has performed with the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra and the Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra. As a soloist, she performed J.S. Bach's *Brandenburg Concerto No.5* with the Ensemble Endless in Tokyo, and Max Bruch's *Violin Concerto* with the Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra in the Czech Republic. She has also performed over 500 educational outreach concerts in Japan. On her own initiative, she plans and executes recitals and concerts for children. Her benefit performances in Japan and the United States include performances

of *Carmen* for the Ozark Literacy Council in Fayetteville, Halloween Concerts for the benefit of the SMSA scholarship fund, and *Miho's Music Restaurant*—a charity concert for children affected by the earthquake and tsunami disaster that struck Japan in 2011. Currently, Ms. Sakon and SoNA's Acting Principal Pianist Tomoko Kashiwagi are performing a series of Beethoven violin sonata concerts at Butterfield Trail Village in Fayetteville.

Ms. Sakon grew up in Japan and moved to the United States in 2008. She holds both a Bachelors degree and a Master of Arts degree in Violin Performance from the Tokyo College of Music. Her master teacher was Yoko Kubo, recipient of the 2nd prize in the Paganini Competition and 1st prize in the Alberto Curci International Violin Competition. At Indiana University, Ms. Sakon pursued additional study with Yuval Yaron, a student of Jascha Heifetz. She has extensive performing and recording experience as a soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral player.

As an educator, Ms. Sakon specializes in teaching by example. Her students learn how to create impressive performances, how to perfect colorful tones, and how to master various violin techniques. Under her guidance, many violin students are inspired to commit to music careers. Previous and current students at SMSA have been awarded first chair at All-Region and All-State Orchestra auditions held by the Arkansas School Band and Orchestra Association (ASBOA). Many students who have musically matured in her violin studio have received music scholarships for advanced study at various universities.