

PUSD and CalASTA-SD present

The Villiers Quartet from the UK

Friday, March 15th 2019

11:00am-1:00pm

**Bernardo Heights Middle School
12990 Paseo Lucido, SD 92129**

James Dickenson, violin

Tamaki Higashi, violin

Carmen Flores, viola

Nick Stringfellow, cello

For additional information contact:

ureiner@powayusd.com





Villiers Quartet Biography

James Dickenson, violin
Tamaki Higashi, violin
Carmen Flores, viola
Nick Stringfellow, cello

Named after Villiers Street in London, the Villiers Quartet encompasses the grand and iconic spirit of the extraordinary music tradition in Britain.

Hailed as "Champions of British Music" (*The Observer*), the Villiers Quartet are celebrated for their masterfully sensitive performances and are one of the most charismatic and "adventurous" quartets of the international stage (*The Strad*). The Villiers Quartet have released acclaimed recordings of works by Elgar, Delius, Peter Racine Fricker, and their latest disc of chamber music by the English romantic composer William Sterndale Bennett was released in October 2018 on Naxos. The Villiers have been praised for their "exquisite ensemble playing" (*Seen & Heard International*), and their absolute "commitment and virtuosity" (*The Sunday Times*).

Recently they were featured on BBC One's *The Andrew Marr Show* for the 2018 Armistice Day Centenary in a performance of *The Last Post* with pianist Alexis French. Upcoming highlights include new recordings of music by William Alwyn, and performances of the complete cycles of Alexander Goehr and Dvorak string quartets. The Villiers will make their debut tour of California in March 2019, and they perform the Quartet in E minor by British suffragette Ethel Smyth at St. John's Smith Square, London in March 2019.

The Villiers Quartet are winners of the Radcliffe Chamber Music Competition, and they hold the position of *Quartet-in-Residence* at Oxford University's Faculty of Music. In addition to their work at Oxford University, the Villiers Quartet have presented masterclasses in the UK and abroad at the Royal Academy of Music, the Royal Northern College of Music, Duke University, Dartmouth College, University of Nottingham, Syracuse University, Leeds University, Jacksonville University, and Indiana University South Bend. The VQ are also *Quartet-in-Residence* at Nottingham High School, where they direct an extensive chamber music programme for young students and composers. The broad curiosity of the Villiers Quartet and their passion for teaching have made the VQ a valuable resource for students. Inspiration comes from the heart of the Villiers Quartet's philosophy: To believe in the art of string quartet. www.villiersquartet.com