

**Profile of
Erin Aldridge
Professor, Music Department
University of Wisconsin–Superior
2023 Regents Teaching Excellence Individual Award Recipient**

Highlights from nomination materials:

- Doctor of Musical Arts Degree, UW-Madison (Violin Performance, Minor in Conducting); Performance Certificate, UW-Milwaukee (Leonard Sorkin Institute of Chamber Music); Master of Music Degree, UW-Milwaukee (Chamber Music Performance); and Bachelor of Music Degree, Indiana University-Bloomington (Violin Performance).
- Professor of Violin and Director of Orchestra at UW-Superior; Concertmaster of the Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra (professional orchestra); for over 20 years, has served as an accomplished educator, scholar, and public servant for UW-Superior; deeply committed to the role of music in cultivating healthy mindsets in her students, highlighting music's power to inspire and create a sense of community and belonging.
- Classes taught: Applied Violin Lessons, University Orchestra, String Chamber Music, Music Theory I & II, Music History I & II, Music Appreciation, First Year Seminar: Film Music, Ear Training I & II, String Pedagogy and Literature, String Techniques for Music Education Majors.
- COVID pandemic led to exploring online music education; learned how to record, edit, and produce music videos and concerts so students could still have a meaningful performance experience; mastered how to produce and share music in learning settings digitally and helped lead the Music Department toward this skill as well.
- Has made 200+ visits to area elementary, middle, and high school music programs to teach, conduct, perform, and present educational music lectures throughout the Northland region and beyond; spends considerable time outside the classroom to build and foster community for UW-Superior music students, including movie nights with music-specific content and film score analysis.
- Holds several annual events for middle school and high school string students to have a high-level educational music experience on campus; at least 100 pre-college students in the region attend the festivals yearly.
- Has worked to bring internationally acclaimed artists to give masterclasses at UW-Superior, including Midori, Tai Murray, Goldstein-Kaler-Peled Piano Trio, Yevgeny Kutik, and Randy Sabien; recent Jumpstart grant focuses on the work of Afro-Cuban/Spanish violinist Jose White.
- Select Awards: UW-Superior Distinguished Creativity Award (2010, 2015); Community Enrichment Award, Duluth Depot Foundation Annual Artist Awards (2012); "Top 20 Under 40," Duluth News Tribune: 20 people under the age of 40 selected to represent young professionals in the Twin Ports area and serve as role models in their careers, as well as leaders in the community (2007).

In Erin Aldridge's own words:

- "Without reservation, I can say I love and am so grateful for my job, my students, and the chance to bear witness to their excitement and growth as learners, musicians, and people."

In the words of colleagues:

- "I've known Dr. Aldridge for over 20 years as an accomplished educator, scholar and public servant for the university....Erin situates her work in a deep commitment to the role of music in healthy mindsets, greater appreciation of the inspirational power of music in life and a sense of community and belonging with others."
—*Maria Cuzzo, Provost, UW-Superior*
- "Dr. Aldridge is constantly reassessing her own effectiveness and pushing herself to be a better educator for her students. This is especially important at our campus where there are many first-generation students."
—*Brett Jones, Music Department Chair, Professor of Percussion, UW-Superior*