

Keith Hamm is delighted to be returning to Stratford, where he won the Emerging Artists Concerto Competition in 2011.

“I grew up in a much smaller but very vibrant theatre town (Rosebud, Alberta),” Mr. Hamm told Con Spirito a few days ago. “I love seeing small communities making performance art central to the cultural and economic fabric of a town. I feel so excited to share with this amazing organization and (Stratford) community.”



Rosebud is situated in a sheltered valley on the Rosebud River near the edge of the Canadian Badlands, about 100 kilometers northeast of Calgary. This summer Keith will return to Rosebud for the second year of the Rosebud Chamber Music Festival (July 28 – Aug. 3), which he founded last year and where he serves as artistic director.

[\(\[rosebudchambermusic.com\]\(http://rosebudchambermusic.com\)\)](http://rosebudchambermusic.com)

“It’s one of my favourite things to do,” he says. “I get to perform my favourite music with some of my favourite players and get to do it in my favourite place on earth.” While he’s in Rosebud, he may well do some hiking and mountain biking, along with sports, all of which

rank high among his non-music activities.

After winning the SSO concerto competition, Mr. Hamm became a featured player in CBC Radio 2’s music showcase for promising young classical musicians that aired on In Concert. In 2012 he was named principal violist in the Canadian Opera Company orchestra.

In the March 1 SSO concert, Mr. Hamm will be performing Weber’s Andante and Hungarian Rondo and Bruch’s Romance for Viola and Orchestra, two works he says he has been meaning to play “for some time. I remember buying the sheet music to both pieces when I was young (he’s 25 now) but the opportunity to perform them never came until this year! It’s great to be learning them now.”