



# THE STRING FAMILY

Utah Symphony  
Chamber Orchestra

PRESENTED BY:

UTAH SYMPHONY | UTAH OPERA



# THE ORCHESTRA

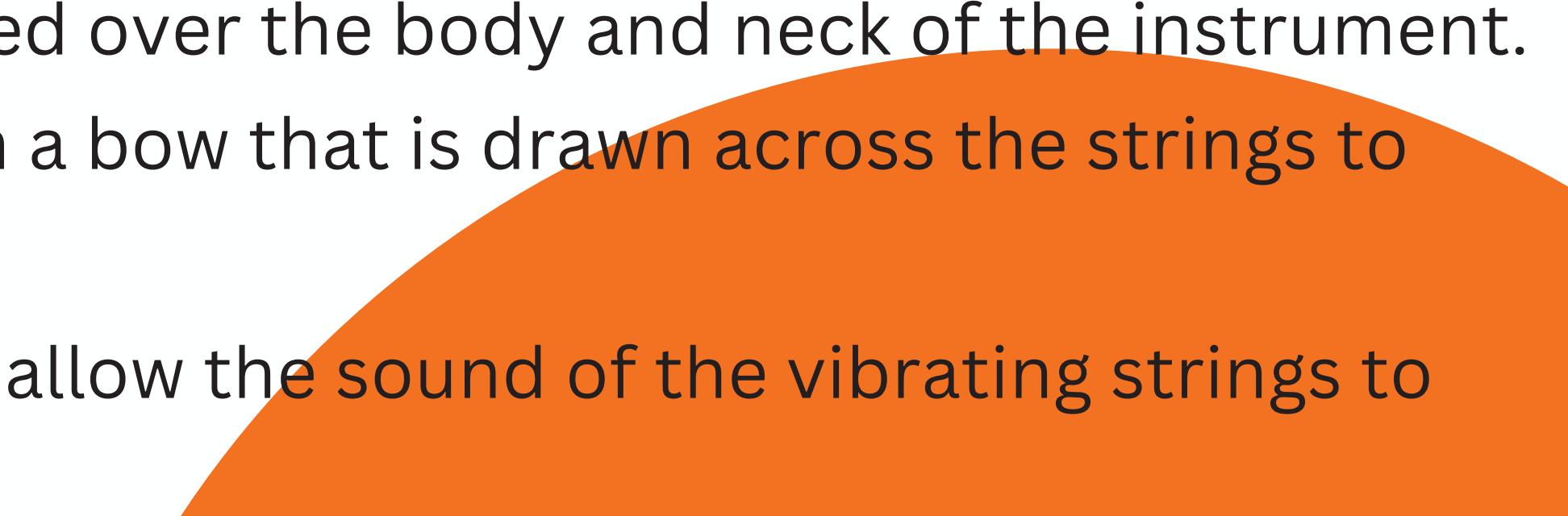
- The orchestra is divided up into four different families
  - Strings
  - Woodwinds
  - Brass
  - Percussion



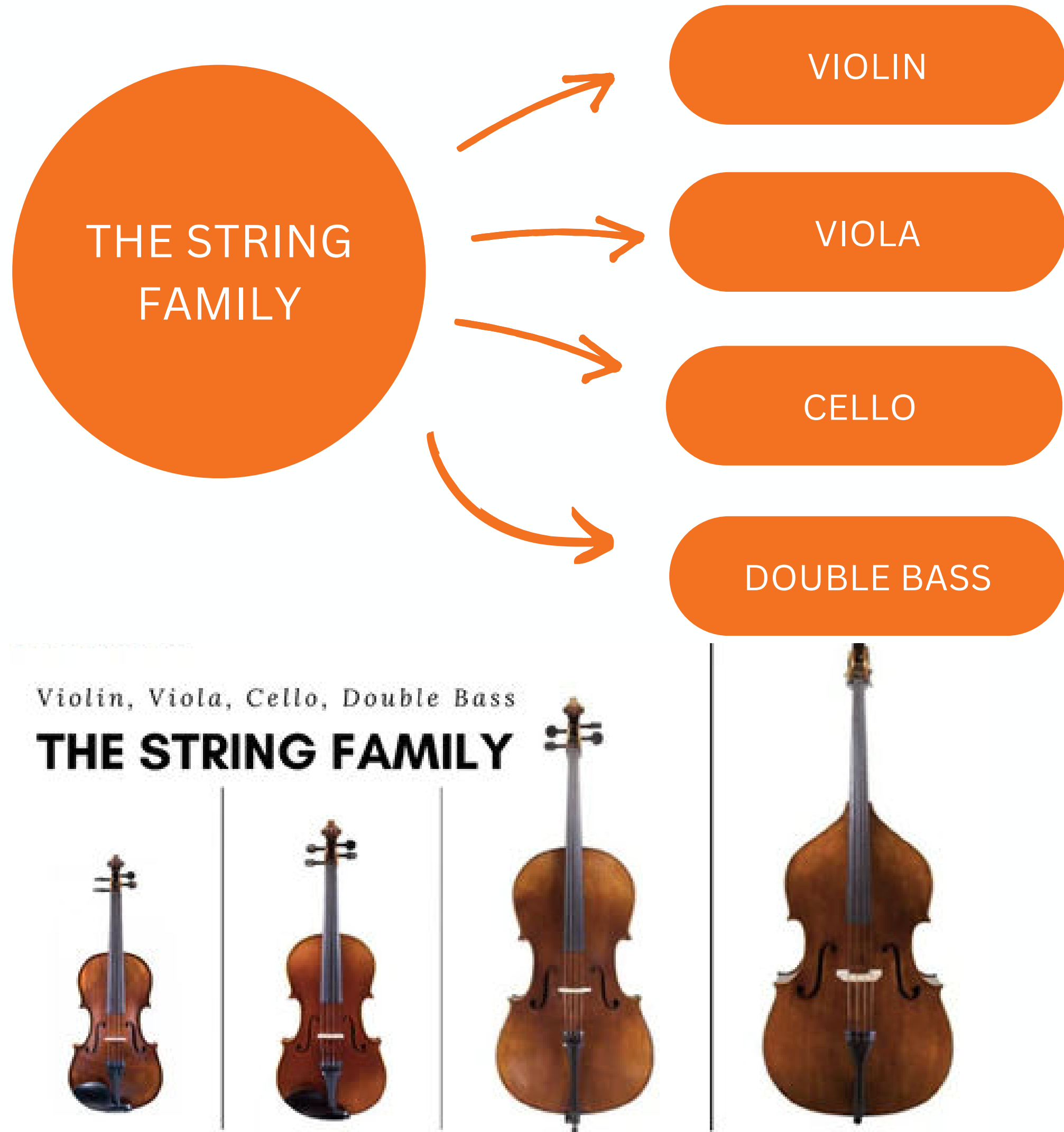




## The String Family

- The string family is the largest family in the entire orchestra with around 50 players in the ensemble.
  - The instruments are made of wood carved into a curvy wooden body shape.
  - They have strings that are stretched over the body and neck of the instrument.
  - These instruments are played with a bow that is drawn across the strings to make a sound.
  - The instrument is hollow inside to allow the sound of the vibrating strings to resonate.
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There are five instruments in the string family, one being the harp that we will not discuss today. The other four string instruments all look very similar in shape but they are very different in size.



# THE VIOLIN

The modern violin was invented in the 16th century in Italy by Andrea Amati.

The violin is the smallest instrument in the string family and the most popular.

The word *violin* comes from the Latin word *vitula* or *vitulare* meaning to “sing or rejoice.”

In an orchestra the violins are broken up into two groups, 1st violin and 2nd violin.

Click [here](#) to listen to a violin.

Watch a [video](#) about our Concert Master, Madeline Adkins.



# THE VIOLA

The viola looks very similar to the violin and is played the same way but is a little larger.

Because the viola is larger than the violin it has a darker and lower sound. It is the alto voice of the string family

The viola was also invented in the 16th century by Andrea Amati.

Click [here](#) to listen to a viola.

Watch a [video](#) about our principal violist, Brant Bayless.

VIOLIN

14"



VIOLA

15" TO 18"





# THE CELLO

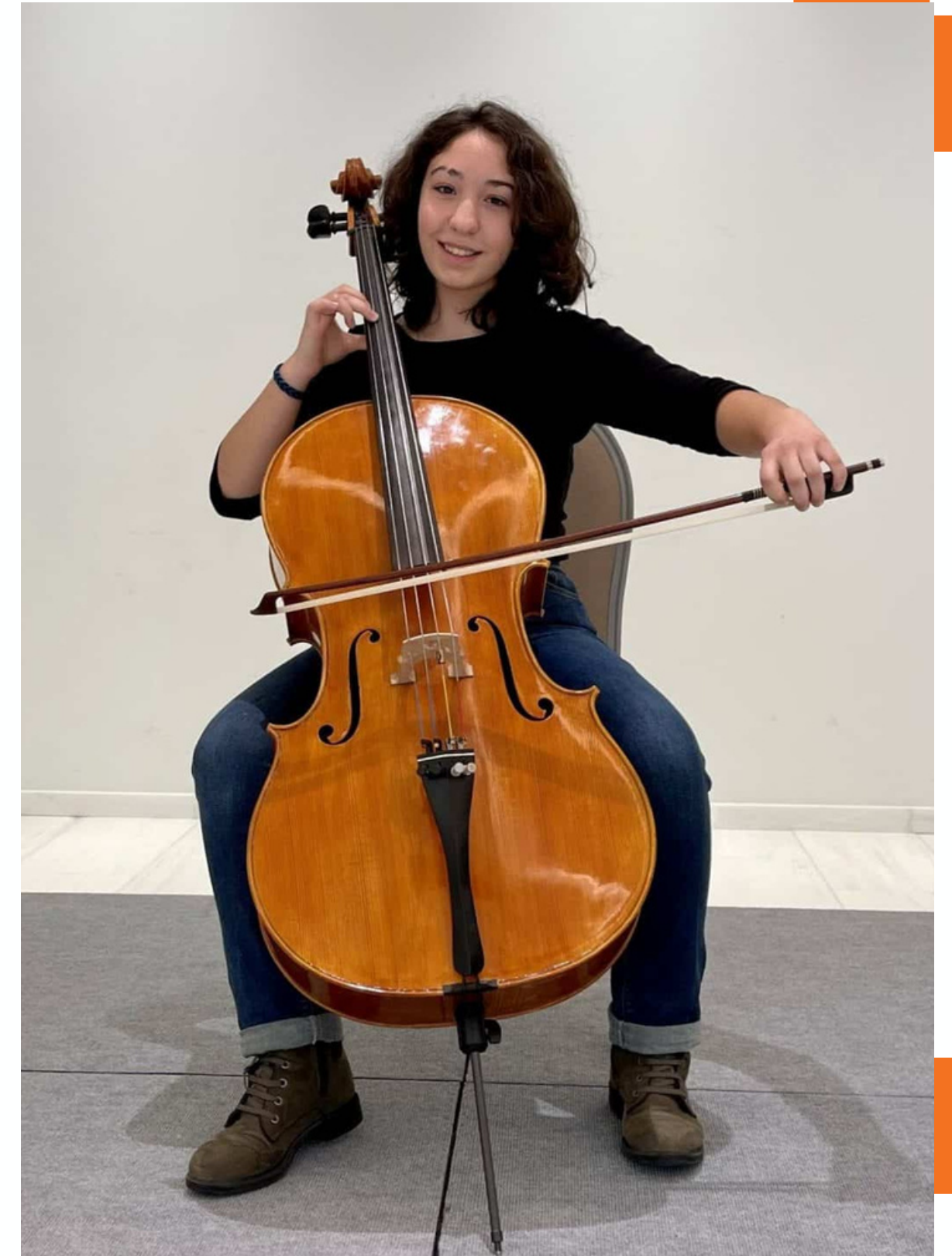
The cello is the second largest bowed string instrument in the world.

*Cello* is a shortened form of the Italian word *violoncello* which means “small large violin.”

The cello has a lower sound than the violin and viola.

Click [here](#) to listen to a cello.

Watch a [video](#) about our past principal cellist, Rainer Eudeikis.



# THE DOUBLE BASS

The double bass is called bass for short.

The bass was invented in 1685 in Venice by Matteo Gofriller.

The bass is the largest of the bowed string instruments and weighs 20-25 pounds.

The bass is the only string instrument played while standing. Some players sit on a stool.

Click [here](#) to listen to a double bass.

Watch a [video](#) about our principal bassist, David Yavornitzky.

