

FINDING A LIFE'S LOVE AT LMC

LUZERNE Music Center

AND FESTIVAL

CAMP

When Carrie Davids was 12 years, she called her parents after a two-week stay at Luzerne Music Center and begged them to let her stay the final two weeks of Junior Session. That was the summer she had the realization she wanted to pursue music as a career.

"I'd never spent so much time with people who loved music as much as me," said Davids, a violist who teaches, plays part time with Rochester Philharmonic, and is a section player for Glens Falls Symphony and Cayuga Chamber Orchestra.

"I thought that having a daily life in music was exactly what I wanted to do the rest of my life."

Davids attended LMC on a full scholarship, returned the next summer and, starting in 2019, signed on a member of faculty.

"It's such an interesting experience, to be there and having been a camper," she said. "It's great to understand what students are going through."

While the campus looked the same that summer (she said she can't wait to see the new cabins), Davids noticed a big difference from when she attended camp.

"The level I saw the last time and admissions we went through last summer, the level is much higher than I went as a camper," she said. "It blew my mind the talent that's coming through."

"One of the things that's so great is that Luzerne is small," she said. "There are just enough campers to fill an orchestra, so it's a more intimate setting, with more attention and strong musical experience that larger camps can't offer."