

## **Amanda Adams – Violin/Fiddle**

Amanda Adams started playing the violin in 1997 while residing in Kansas. She continued playing throughout her high school career, receiving top scores at regional and state level competitions. In 2003, she attended New Mexico State University, holding a contract with the professional Las Cruces Symphony. During her time in New Mexico, she was also a member of Mariachi Cuerdas De Oro, led by Guillermo Quezada. She shortly thereafter returned back to her home state of California. She gained concert-mistress standing in Rio Hondo's Industrial Orchestra while studying with Adrian Rudnyk. In the summer of 2005 she was accepted to participate in the Starling-DeLay Violin Symposium at the prestigious Julliard School of Music in Manhattan. She received her Associates in Liberal Arts in 2006. For the fall semester of 2007, she attended Stony Brook University in New York to further her studies in violin performance, while assisting David Barg in the production of his conducting manual. She graduated New Mexico State University in December of 2009 with a Bachelor of Arts in English with a Creative Writing option.

Amanda moved to Colorado after graduating and joined the John Adams Band in the summer of 2010. Performing with today's best John Denver Tribute Band in the world was a dream come true for her. She and John got married in the summer of 2012. Amanda, also known as "Fiddle Diddle", is finalizing her Masters of Education in Secondary Education from Grand Canyon University and will go on to complete a Doctorate in Organizational Leadership in Higher Education.

Over her 15 years of playing, Amanda has studied under numerous famous conductors and violinists such as: David Barg, Juan La Manna, Itzhak Perlman, Brian Lewis, and Scott Conklin. She has participated in the music program entitled Sound Encounters in Ottawa, KS for two years, studying conducting under Maestro David Barg while simultaneously playing in the orchestra. She has also been a "guest" in the Azusa Pacific University's Symphony under Barg's baton. She has played the masterpieces of orchestral literature, including Mahler, Tchaikovsky, and Shostakovich in previous encounters with David Barg and Lonnie Klein, conductor of the Las Cruces Symphony.