

## Classical Kid – June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Emily:** Each month, KVNO selects a young person between the ages of 8 and 13 to be the KVNO Classical Kid. And for June, our Classical Kid is Azalea Armendariz.

**Azalea:** My name is Azalea Armendariz, I'm homeschooled, and I'm 10 years old.

**Emily:** Azalea plays several instruments.

**Azalea:** I've been playing violin for almost 8 years with Sprouts and Miss Erin Cosby. I've been playing piano for 2 years with Mrs. Jean Johnson, and I also sing and do handbells with Amal Veragas Choir.

**Emily:** Music has always been a part of Azalea's life.

**Azalea:** I've always loved music for as long as I can remember. I've never remembered a time before I played.

**Emily:** And the best part of playing for Azalea is to bring enjoyment to other people.

**Azalea:** My favorite part about playing violin is sharing my music with other people.

**Emily:** Azalea's favorite musical experience is one she's been to a few times.

**Azalea:** I love Omaha Suzuki Institute. I go there every summer, and it really motivates me.

**Emily:** Azalea knew exactly what she wanted when I asked about her favorite piece.

**Azalea:** I really like Vivaldi and his Four Seasons.

**Emily:** Beyond education and music lessons, Azalea goes old school.

**Azalea:** I like playing volleyball, writing letters, reading, and taking care of our chickens.

**Emily:** Azalea loves how music is a different way of experiencing and interacting with the world.

**Azalea:** It's really fun, and it's like a way of learning. Music is, like, instead of using words, you can just play music.

**Emily:** Azalea, like all of our KVNO Classical Kids, will receive a \$300 scholarship from the Soener Foundation in memory of Mary Bell Soener, and she has a great plan for it.

**Azalea:** I'm gonna buy a new bow and some more sheet music.

**Emily:** KVNO is important to Azalea as she explores classical music.

**Azalea:** It's important to me because I listen to it every day, and I love that KVNO has all the different programs. I especially love the *Spanish Hour*, *Symphonic Connections*, and *Sunday Baroque*.

**Emily:** And here is Azalea performing Bach's Gavotte in G minor.

*Music*

**Emily:** If you know a young person between the ages of 8 and 13 who should also be a Classical Kid, nominate them at [kvno.org](http://kvno.org). You can also listen to this interview again on our website. From the KVNO Arts Desk, I'm Emily McIvor.