

Jess began learning violin at the age of seven and throughout her school life enjoyed taking part in many orchestras, leading Worcestershire's county orchestral groups and enjoying several years with both the CBSO Youth Orchestra and the National Children's Orchestra. She performed competitively and was a finalist of Worcester Young Musician several times, and was a recipient of the Worcester Competitive Arts Festival's Overall Music Prize.

In 2011 she was awarded an entrance scholarship to study under Darragh Morgan at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. In her last year at



the college, she achieved a student placement with the Welsh National Opera and rehearsed with them for several projects, and also participated in their side-by-side concert scheme. During this time, she also lead several college ensembles including the RWCMD Opera Orchestra & Symphony Orchestra and was nominated

for the Ian Stoutzker Prize. She had regular masterclasses with many esteemed musicians including Danny Phillips, Itzhak Rashkovsky & Rachel Podger.

Jess currently studies under WNO's Lowri Porter and regularly freelances with the English Symphony Orchestra. She is also a member of the recently formed Kidderminster Festival Orchestra, has freelanced locally for Bristol Ensemble and is an extra for Cardiff Sinfonietta; she also frequently leads the Welsh Musical Theatre orchestra. In 2017, she guest-lead the northern Cobwebs Orchestra and performed the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto with them during their Easter course. She also founded the Severn Duo with her cellist partner Tom McCluskey as a wedding and events chamber ensemble.