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MU PHI EPSILON
PRESENTS

MUSICAL MOSAIC

FEBRUARY 5, 2022





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WELCOME TO MUSICAL MOSAIC

Music is the language of the spirit. It opens the secret of life, bringing peace, abolishing strife.

Kahlil Gibran

Greetings and Welcome!!

A year ago, we were in the throes of the pandemic, never dreaming that it would linger on...and on...and on. Although last February, everything was shut down tight, no live performances, no concerts, no music events whatsoever, we were extremely grateful that through the marvels of advanced technology, we could enjoy great performances via Zoom, YouTube, and other online platforms... "great", but with qualifications. We knew the deep heart and soul of the music could not be fully transmitted electronically; but we were, nonetheless, very grateful. We felt certain that we would soon be released from the anguish of closed concert venues, black theaters, empty seats, blank stages. Thankfully, last spring and summer, there was a thawing of the icy rules restricting live performances; outdoor venues were able to open, even though with limited attendance and proper spacing. This fall, more venues received permission to open, but again with regulations in place, and tightly enforced.

For musicians and music-lovers, that prolonged period devoid of live music, was almost too hard to bear. However, it was the music, albeit transmitted electronically, or our own solo performances, that enabled us to survive, to find peace, joy, fulfillment, *raison d'être*, to move forward with expectancy and hope. And this we have done...until suddenly, we find ourselves back in the same situation as last year, with venues shutting down right and left, with many live programs either canceled or reverting to virtual.

As the New Year dawned, we realized it would be necessary to once again present our Musical Mosaic as a virtual concert. Thanks to the willingness and cooperation of our outstanding performers, the technical knowledge, skills, quick actions and dedication of our own members, and to the expertise and availability of our professional video editor, Jeremy Brunson, we were able to transform the live concert into a highly professional online presentation. But, we were extremely disappointed to suddenly learn that Charles Dickerson and his group from the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (ICYOLA) had to cancel due to the suspension of all activities and rehearsals. Thankfully we were able to replace ICYOLA's presence on our program with repeating the excellent performance on last year's concert of Anli Lin Tong, piano, and the other two members of her Trio, Roberto Cani, violin, and Udi Bar-David, cello.

Undeterred by these challenges, the Palos Verdes/South Bay Alumni Chapter, a chapter affiliate of Mu Phi Epsilon, an International Professional Music Fraternity founded in 1903, is pleased to present today's Musical Mosaic. Among Mu Phi's goals are the advancement of music through recognition and promotion of musicianship and scholarship, financial support of music education and service to the community. The proceeds from today's concert will be used to fund grants to qualifying public school music programs in the South Bay area of Los Angeles County. Thanks to the generosity of our performers, the labors of our chapter members and the loyalty of our audiences, we have been able to contribute significantly to the success of hundreds of music programs for over 40 years. In addition to the school grants, we have been able to give awards and donations to other worthy music programs and projects and, primarily through our loyal Patrons' contributions, we have awarded innumerable scholarships to deserving college students enrolled in our local colleges and university. Please see in this booklet the list of grants, awards, donations and scholarship recipients for the academic year 2020-2021. We are grateful for your recognition of the value of excellent music in our society and the need to nurture

the music education programs in our schools. Your generous donations to today's fundraising effort will have a positive impact on the lives of today's young musicians and tomorrow's performers and future audiences.

We welcome you to this year's Musical Mosaic!! We are extremely pleased with our concert, featuring a variety of styles and genres. We are thrilled with our assemblage of performers, and anticipate that you will share our enthusiasm as you hear them pour heart and soul into their performances. They are proof that music is irresistible, irrepressible, indomitable, that music represents the essence of our being, the heartstrings upon which our soul sings.

As you listen to today's concert, may you realize Victor Hugo's assertion that "Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and that which cannot remain silent."

Thank you for watching our concert, for your support of music education, for your desire to be part of that which unifies and harmonizes, uplifts and inspires, that cannot be silenced!

Thank you,
Darlene Vlasek, NCTM
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SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Funded in 2020-2021 · Palos Verdes/South Bay Alumni Chapter

Scholarships

Patrons' Scholarships

- **\$3,500** awarded fall 2020
- **\$4,000** awarded spring 2021

Grants to School Music Programs (up to \$600 each)

A total of \$6,059 was donated to support school music programs. Schools included elementary, middle and high school levels in local and inner city. Grants were given to eighteen schools to support various needs such as musical instruments, music stands, published music, choral accompaniment, sound equipment and online music teaching support.

- **Avalon High School**, Torrance
- **Arts Alive**, South Central to San Pedro
- **El Segundo High School Choirs**, El Segundo
- **El Segundo High School Band**, El Segundo
- **El Segundo Middle School**, El Segundo
- **Inner City Youth Orchestra of LA**, El Segundo
- **Mira Catalina Elementary School**, Palos Verdes
- **Montemalaga Elementary School**, Palos Verdes Estates
- **Rancho Dominguez Prep School**, Los Angeles Unified School District
- **Ridgecrest Intermediate School**, Rancho Palos Verdes
- **Riviera Hickory Carr Elementary School**, Torrance

Total Philanthropy in 2020-2021 fiscal year: \$15,328.98

Total Grants & Scholarships given since 2011: \$169,185.19

If you want to apply for funds for your organization or school, please email Debra Shrader: teach2play@gmail.com and request a grant application. Requests should be received by March 31st, 2022.



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Four part harmony, by Scott Kim.

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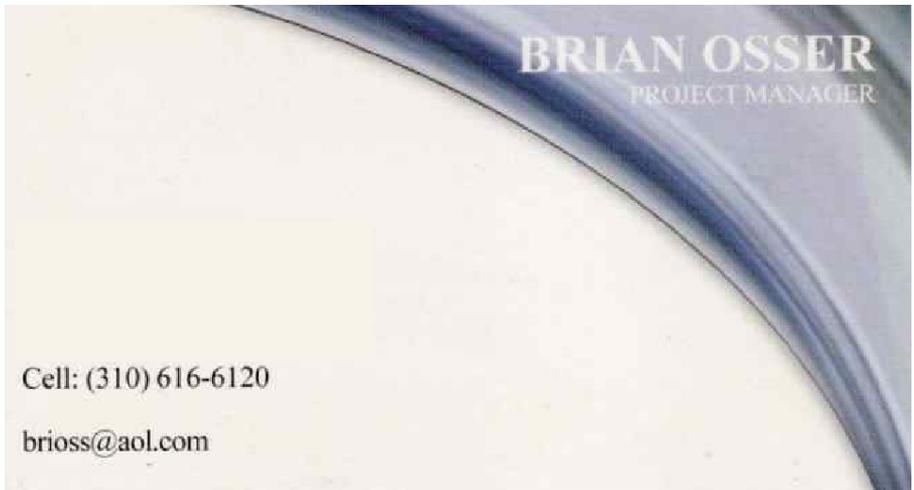
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The Palos Verdes/South Bay Alumni Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon extends its sincere appreciation to Jeremy Brunson, our professional video editor who graciously accepted our last-minute request to assemble all the performers' videos and create another excellent quality virtual concert.



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We are most grateful for the generous donations of the following Mu Phi members and patrons who have contributed the honorariums for today's performers: Sandy Behrens, Linda Cohen, Anne and Ray Destabelle, Teddy Greenwald, Tricia and Tom Paulsen.

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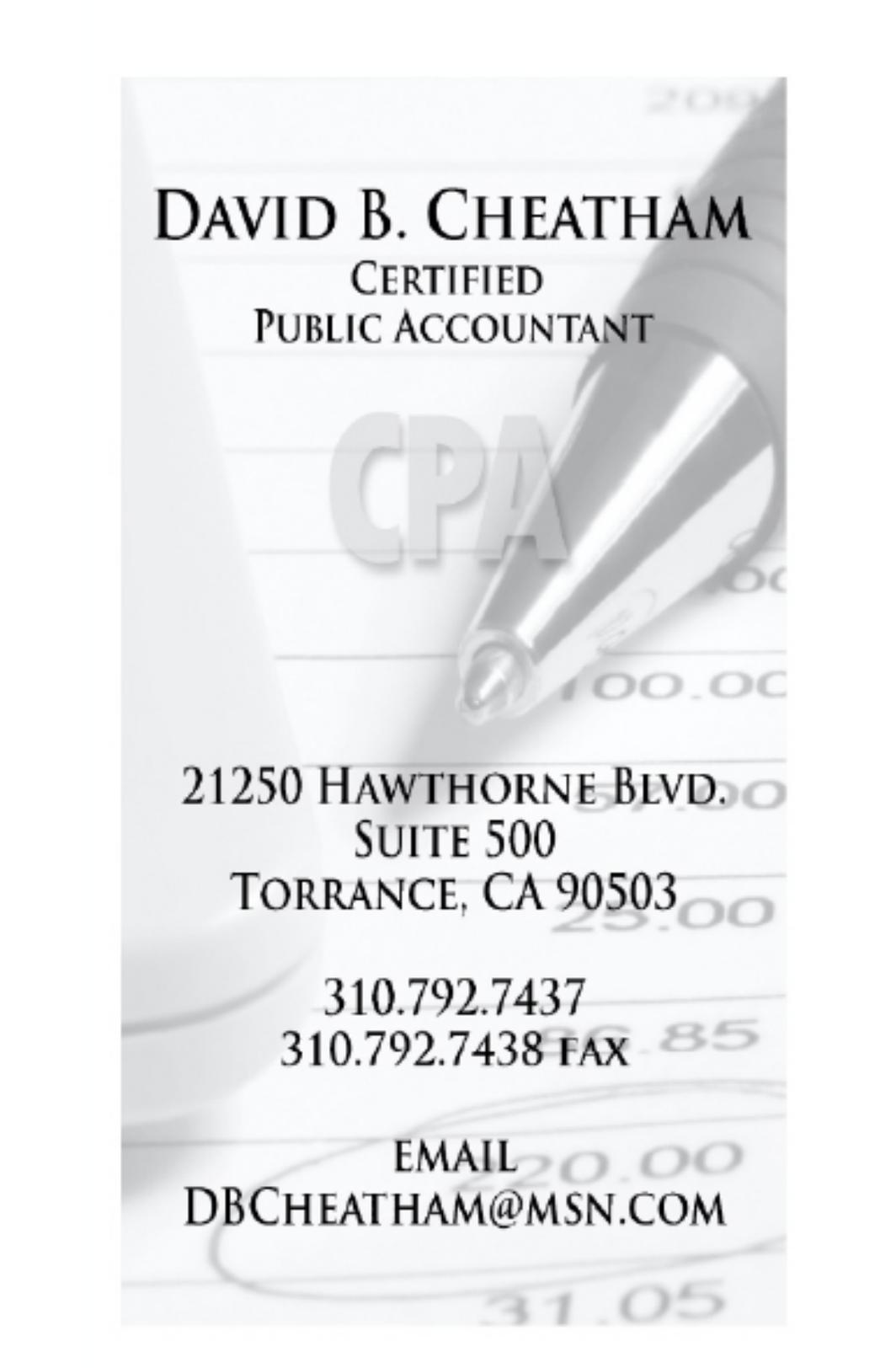
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& Best Wishes to
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Darlene Vlaszk, NCTM

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all you do in the South Bay*

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PROGRAM

Concert Prelude by the Palos Verdes High School Cloyden Quartet

Amber Chen Anthony Yoon Johannes Eberhart Naomi Kao

David Benoit, piano

Four Compositions by David Benoit

- I. Generations
- II. @Home
- III. Kei's Song
- IV. Every Step of the Way

Sponsored by Sandy Behrens

Los Angeles Woodwind Trio

Judith Farmer, bassoon. Sérgio Coelho, clarinet. Jennifer Cullinan, oboe.

Divertimento No. 4 in Bb Major, K. 439b, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

- I. Allegro
- II. Adagio
- III. Rondo Allegretto

Cinq Pieces en Trio, by Jacques Ibert

- I. Allegro vivo
- II. Andantino
- III. Allegro assai
- IV. Andante
- V. Allegro quasi marziale

Sponsored by Teddy Greenwald

Andrew Harrison, saxophone & Jason Lo, piano

Rhapsody on Japanese Folk Songs by Ryota Ishikawa

Sponsored by Anne and Ray Destabelle

Anli and Friends, piano trio

Anli Lin Tong, piano. Roberto Cani, violin. Udi Bar-David, cello.

Nocturne No. 2 "Andante Quietto" for Piano, Violin and Cello by Ernest Bloch

"Spring" from Four Seasons of Buenos Aires by Astor Piazzolla

Sponsored by Tom and Tricia Paulsen

Oakwood Brass

Nicolás Bejarano-Isaza, David Pittel, trumpet. Darren Dvoracek, tuba.

Danny Lawlor, Trombone. Aija Mattson-Jovel, horn.

"This Old Man" March by Robert Nagel

7Tu Vives en mi Pensamiento by Eladio Torres

Contrapunctus IX by J.S. Bach

St. Louis Blues by W.C. Handy

That's A Plenty by Lew Pollack

Sponsored by Linda Cohen

Reception

Thank you for attending today's Musical Mosaic. Please join us in a live chat at the conclusion of the program. Please open up the Zoom link sent to you prior to this concert.

Program Notes

David Benoit

I. Generations by David Benoit

This is a brand new piece featured on my new album, "A Midnight Rendezvous." It's a recollection of the concerts I performed with Dave Brubeck and Taylor Eigsti.

II. @Home by David Benoit

This too is a new composition written during my isolation at the beginning of the Corona virus.

III. Kei's Song by David Benoit

My most popular composition composed for my Japanese wife Kei, whom I married 37 years ago.

IV. Every Step Of The Way by David Benoit

This is also the title of my second record for GRP. It was co-written by Russ Freeman and earned me my first Grammy nomination.

Los Angeles Woodwind Trio

Divertimento No. 4 in Bb Major, K. 439b, by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Mozart originally wrote 25 movements which were grouped by the publisher Simrock into five divertimenti. The piece presented today is known as divertimento No. 4. Mozart was good friends with the clarinetist, Anton Stadler, for whom he wrote several compositions. It is likely that this music was intended for Stadler to perform. Mozart's original manuscript calls for three basset-horns, but it has been arranged for a variety of different combinations of woodwind instruments.

Cinq Pieces en Trio, by Jacques Ibert

Jacques Ibert was one of the premiere French composers of the 20th Century. His music, in many genres but especially for winds, remains popular to this day. Ibert's music is considered to be "light" in character, often witty and colorfully orchestrated with attractive melodies. The charming trio presented today is a prime example of his compositional style.

Andrew Harrison & Jason Lo

Rhapsody on Japanese Folk Songs by Ryota Ishikawa

Composer Ryoto Ishikawa was born in Yokohama, Kanagawa Prefecture in 1983. He is an amateur saxophone player since his youth. Due to this experience, he has created many works for wind instruments.

An active composer and arranger, Mr. Ishikawa has made a strong commitment to write "music with a rich emotion unique to live music". He continues to create works that combine high artistry and friendliness by manipulating a variety of musical instrument formations from solo to orchestra.

In addition to his best known work, "Rhapsody on Japanese Folk Songs" commissioned by the saxophonist Nobuya Sugawa, he has provided many scores to Zurassian Brass, Saxo Fox and his friends, and Samurai BRASS. His representative works include "Trumpet Love Letter" and "Fantasia "Kagome".

He is often in charge of musical and theatrical music and has a reputation for his sense of writing "various music according to the scene". All his works represent two aspects, the artistic sense and the entertainment feature. He challenges himself to combine both of these elements and thus deliver the joy of art to any type audience.

Mr. Ishikawa graduated from Tokyo College of Music in 2005, majoring in Composition and Conducting (Art Music Course).

Anli and Friends

Concert Pianist Anli Lin Tong is joined by Roberto Cani, violinist, and Udi Bar-David, cellist, in a virtual musical collaboration. They have chosen two contrasting works rich in poetic beauty and verve to share with our audience: **Nocturne No. 2** (1929) by Swiss-American composer Ernest Bloch, a quietly moving meditation of the night, and the delightfully vibrant **Spring** from Argentine composer Astor Piazzolla's popular **Four Seasons from Buenos Aires**, evocative of the Tango. With their diverse backgrounds — Anli from Taiwan, Roberto from Italy, and Udi from Israel — our three artists bring classical music filtered through their distinct musical sensibilities in showcasing these two captivating works.

Oakwood Brass

“This Old Man” March by Robert Nagel. Robert Nagel (1924-2016) was a New York trumpet player and composer. As a composition student he studied with several prominent composers, including Peter Mennin, Vincent Persichetti, and Aaron Copland. Nagel performed with the New York Brass Ensemble and later the New York Brass Quintet, and also wrote several pieces for these groups.

“This Old Man” March is one such piece. Written in 1960 for the New York Brass Quintet, this piece uses the familiar folk tune “This Old Man” as a way to showcase the bright and warm tones of brass instruments.

Tu Vives en mi Pensamiento (You Live in my Thoughts) is a Puerto Rican danza by singer songwriter Eladio Torres (1950 -). The work has been performed by numerous groups and individuals, perhaps most famously by Danny Rivera. Danzas were traditionally written to serve as accompaniment to social dancing, and this particular arrangement mirrors that purpose through the intimate and intertwining movement of the inner voices of the quintet.

Contrapunctus IX is the 9th composition in Johann Sebastian Bach's (1685–1750) *The Art of Fugue*. Written in the last decade of Bach's life, *The Art of Fugue* is an examination of the compositional and musical possibilities for a single subject. *Contrapunctus IX* is a double fugue interweaving its own subject along with the original from the first *Contrapunctus*.

St. Louis Blues by W.C. Handy. W. C. Handy (1873 - 1958), self-titled Father of the Blues, composed the *St. Louis Blues* in 1914. *St. Louis Blues* quickly became a jazz standard and has been performed by many individuals and groups, perhaps most famously by Louis Armstrong. This arrangement by Arthur Frackenpohl is notable for the changes in the bass - instead of a quick tango feel of the original Frackenpohl instead has the bass adopting a more languid, conversational tone.

That's A Plenty by Lew Pollack. Lew Pollak (1895 - 1946) was an American musician and songwriter best known for his work in the silent film industry as well as a composer of popular music in the 1920s and 30s. His best known work is *That's a Plenty* (1914), a ragtime piano composition that has since become an enduring jazz standard as part of the Dixieland genre.

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Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



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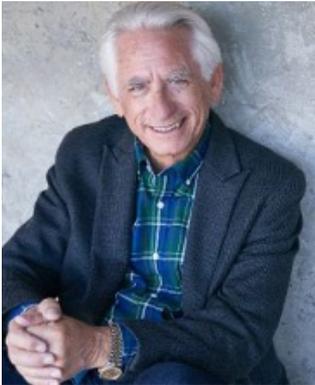


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PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

David Benoit, Piano



For four decades, the GRAMMY®-nominated pianist / composer / arranger **David Benoit** has reigned supreme as one of the founding fathers of contemporary jazz. When he was coming up, Benoit worked with singers Patti Austin, Connie Stevens, Ann-Margaret, and Lainie Kazan as her musical director/conductor. In 1976, Benoit released albums on the AVI label from 1977 to 1984. He later released several

chart-topping recordings for GRP, including *Freedom at Midnight* (1987), *Waiting for Spring* (1989) and *Shadows* (1991), which both topped *Billboard*'s Contemporary Jazz Charts at #5, #1, and #2, respectively. His other noteworthy recordings include *Letter to Evan* (1992), his tribute to another piano influence, Bill Evans, and *Here's to You, Charlie Brown: Fifty Great Years* (2000). Benoit also recorded with Russ Freeman on their album *The Benoit/Freeman Project* (1994), and on their follow-up collaboration, *2* (2004), which was released on Peak Records. His other recordings for the label include *American Landscape* (1997) and *Orchestral Stories* (2005), which featured his first piano concerto, "The Centaur and the Sphinx," and a symphonic work, "Kobe".

David's career as a contemporary jazz pianist began in 1977 and includes 40 solo recordings over the past 40 years. Many of these, including his 1987 GRP Records debut "Freedom at Midnight" and its Grammy nominated 1988 follow-up "Every Step Of The Way", are considered influential classics in the genre, which became known

as “Smooth Jazz.” He has received three GRAMMY® nominations in the categories of Best Contemporary Jazz Performance for “Every Step of the Way” (1989), Best Large Ensemble Performance for *GRP All-Star Big Band* (1996), and Best Instrumental Composition for “Dad’s Room,” the latter from the album *Professional Dreamer* (2000) and in 2010, David Benoit received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Smooth Jazz Awards. He has also worked with an impressive potpourri of musicians including the Rippingtons, Emily Remler, the late Alphonse Mouzon, Dave Koz, Faith Hill, David Sanborn, CeCe Winans, Keiko Matsui, Hiroshima, and Brian McKnight. He was voted “Keyboardist of the Year” in 2000 and 2001 by the Oasis Smooth Jazz Awards, and on Billboard’s Contemporary Jazz Chart. Currently, David is topping the jazz charts with guitarist Marc Antoine with their CD recording, “So Nice” and hit single “Caminando.”

Benoit has also been a popular film and television composer. His most notable film scores are *The Stars Fell on Henrietta*, produced by Clint Eastwood and starring Robert Duvall; and *The Christmas Tree*, produced by Sally Field, voted Best Score of 1996 by Film Score Magazine; His association with Charles Schulz and the famed Peanuts realm led to over 10 years composing music for the Peanuts TV special on CBS. In addition, he has written themes for the long running soap opera *All My Children* (ABC) and *Sisters* (NBC) and scored the “Movies of the Week” *Final Descent* (with the late Robert Urich) and *Cadillac Jack* (Starring Clint Black). In collaboration with lyricist Mark Winkler, David completed his first Broadway musical, *Something’s Got To Give* about the life and times of Marilyn Monroe.

He has served as conductor with a wide range of symphonies including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Francisco Symphony, Atlanta Symphony, Dresden Philharmonic, London Symphony, Nuremberg Symphony, Philippine Philharmonic, Toledo Symphony, New World Symphony Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony, National Symphony Orchestra, Long Beach Symphony “Pops” Orchestra and

of course, the Asia America Symphony Orchestra, to name a few. Piano performances have included Claude Bolling's Suite for Flute & Jazz Piano, Suite for Cello & Piano, Concerto for Guitar & Jazz Piano Trio with Angel Romero, guest soloist with Lalo Schifrin and his orchestra and as a tribute to Charles M. Schultz, performed the Peanuts Piano Concerto and the music of Vince Guaraldi in conjunction with his recording of *Here's To You, Charlie Brown: 50 Great Years*

A long-time guest educator with the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation, he received that organization's Excellence in Music Award in 2001. His musical selections have been featured on The Weather Channel and his version of Vince Guaraldi's "Cast Your Fate to the Wind" is included on compilation *The Weather Channel Presents: Smooth Jazz 11* (2008). At the age of thirteen, Benoit studied privately with pianist Marya Cressy Wright and continued his training with Abraham Fraser, who was the pianist for famed conductor Arturo Toscanini. He also studied music theory and composition, and later studied orchestration with Donald Nelligan at El Camino Junior College and film scoring from Donald Ray at UCLA. He studied conducting from Heiichiro Ohyama, assistant conductor of the L.A. Philharmonic, and furthered his musical education with Jan Robertson, head of the conducting department at UCLA, and UC Santa Barbara symphony orchestra music director Jeffrey Schindler.

David Benoit currently hosts a morning radio show on KKJZ 88.1 FM, CA, and continually tours & records, is composer in residence at Montalvo Arts, the Music Director & Conductor for the Asia America Symphony Association, and resides in Palos Verdes, California with his wife Kei and daughter June Koko.

JUDITH FARMER, Bassoon



2016 GRAMMY® Award nominee Judith Farmer's playing has been described by critics as "impeccable" (American Record Guide), "masterly" (Fanfare Magazine), "absolutely superb" (Classical CD Reviews) and "brilliant" (Kronenzeitung, Austria).

Judith enjoys a rich and varied career as a chamber musician, orchestra musician, soloist and teacher. Formerly principal bassoonist of the Austrian Radio Symphony Orchestra, she performed and toured regularly with the Camerata Academica Salzburg under Sandor Vegh and with numerous chamber music ensembles in Vienna.

In 1996 Ms. Farmer moved to Los Angeles and since then has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, including as guest associate principal in spring of 2009. She has played on the scores of over 200 major motion pictures and recorded with such artists as Daft Punk, Barbra Streisand, Neil Young, Josh Groban and Billy Childs. She is currently a member of the Los Angeles Opera Orchestra, the Pasadena Symphony and the Long Beach Symphony.

Judith Farmer has appeared as a soloist in the U.S. and in Europe, including the Salzburg Festival, and has participated in chamber music festivals in Prussia Cove (UK), La Jolla (CA), Oaxaca (Mexico), San Luis Obispo (CA), Mendocino (CA), Martha's Vineyard (MA), Salem (NY), and Garth Newel (VA). She also regularly performs on Southern California chamber music series such as Camerata Pacifica, Pittance Chamber Music, Chamber Music Palisades, South Bay Chamber Music Society and Sundays Live.

Judith is an avid chamber musician, who enjoys collaborating with composers on new works and has had numerous works written and dedicated to her. Her recordings as a soloist and chamber musician are available on Albany, CD Baby, Centaur, Ex-House and Orfeo Records. Together with her husband, composer Gernot Wolfgang, she co-produced four CDs of his chamber music for Albany Records, including *Passing Through* for which she received a 2016 GRAMMY® nomination in the category Best Classical Compendium.

Ms. Farmer received her education at Indiana University and at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna. She currently teaches bassoon at the University of Southern California and has also taught at the International Mozart Academy in Prague, the Chautauqua Music Festival, the Henry Mancini Institute, and has held guest master classes at numerous American universities. For the 1995-96 season, she held the position of visiting professor at the Hochschule für Musik in Graz, Austria.

SÉRGIO COELHO, Clarinet



A native of Portugal, Sérgio was awarded a bachelor's degree in Clarinet and Orchestra Performance by the National Academy of Orchestra studies of Metropolitana (Lisbon). In 2014, Sérgio moved to Los Angeles to attend the University of Southern California where he completed a Graduate Certificate, a Master of Music degree and a prestigious Artist Diploma degree in clarinet performance, under the tutelage of Mr. Yehuda Gilad. During his MM degree he became a Fellow of the Latin Grammy Awards Foundation by being awarded a scholarship.

Sérgio is an active musician collaborating with orchestras from around the world, such as, Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra, Lisbon Metropolitan Orchestra, Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, Santa Barbara Symphony and the Los Angeles Sinfonietta. Sérgio has been featured in several festivals and music series including Chamber Music Palisades, South Bay Chamber Music Society, Sunset ChamberFest, 61st Annual Los Angeles County Holiday Celebration, Mason Home Concert series, Mainly Mozart Festival, Camerata Pacifica and the Ojai Music Festival.

Mr. Coelho has been awarded prizes in competitions such as: Semifinalist, 2018 Jacques Lancelot International Clarinet Competition (Japan), 1st Prize, American Youth Symphony Concerto Competition (CA), 3rd Prize, 8th Saverio Mercadante International Clarinet Competition (Italy); 1st Prize, USC Concerto Competition (CA), 1st Prize, Inatel Prize - National Academy of Orchestra studies of Metropolitana (Portugal).

Sérgio was recently appointed as the principal clarinet of the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra. He is also the principal clarinet of the American Youth Symphony Orchestra and the Opera NEO Festival. In addition, Sérgio maintains clarinet studios in collaboration with the Young Musicians Foundation and the Colburn School of Music (Jumpstart Program).

JENNIFER CULLINAN, Oboe



Originally from Colorado, oboist Jennifer Johnson Cullinan resides in Los Angeles, California. She is Second Oboe/English Horn of the Los Angeles Opera, Principal Oboe of the Santa Barbara Chamber Orchestra, Second Oboe of the Santa Barbara Symphony, and has played with many other orchestras across the state, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic and Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra. She also

performed with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra over a span of seven seasons, and for a few weeks in 2007-08 she made two subsequent trips to Hong Kong, where she served as Guest Principal Oboe of the Hong Kong Sinfonietta. She has degrees from the University of Colorado, the University of Southern California, and The Colburn School Conservatory, and was the fellowship recipient at the Aspen Music Festival and School for three summers. Her teachers include Peter Cooper, Allan Vogel, David Weiss, Elaine Douvas, Richard Woodhams, and Pedro Diaz.

Chamber music is a crucial part of Jennifer's life, and she has performed for series such as Camerata Pacifica, Chamber Music Palisades, and the South Bay Chamber Music Society. She loves being a teacher, and in the Fall of 2013, she received the position of Oboe Lecturer on the faculty at the University of California at Santa Barbara. Ms. Johnson Cullinan is thrilled to be on the faculty of the Pasadena Conservatory of Music.

Aloha and farewell to

The Palos Verdes/South Bay Chapter of
Mu Phi Epsilon

After 44 years I'm saying mahalo and moving to Maui
I'll look forward to reading about
the good work you're doing

When words fail, music speaks.

HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSON

Mahalo ~ Lenita McCallum Witherspoon

Andrew Harrison, Saxophone



Acclaimed as "a virtuoso saxophonist" (Beverly Hills National Auditions), and a "magician showing off his tricks" (www.austin360.com), Dr. Andrew Harrison has emerged as one of today's most unique and engaging musicians, leading him to perform hundreds of concerts throughout the United States and Europe as a chamber musician and soloist. He

has placed in numerous prestigious competitions, including the Berliner International Competition, the U.S. "Pershing's Own" Collegiate Concerto Competition, and most recently the American Prize in Music. Dr. Harrison has been featured with several groups, including the Downey Symphony Orchestra, Music Academy of the West Orchestra, Cal Poly Pomona and La Sierra University Wind Ensembles, and the Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble. His playing has been described as "spectacular" (LA Opus) with a sound that is "broad and rich" (The Instrumentalist).

An advocate for contemporary saxophone music, Dr. Harrison has premiered over 30 new works by emerging and preeminent composers including Joel Love, Jules Pegrarn, Jim Stephenson, and Jennifer Higdon, among others, which range from solo works to large ensemble premieres. His premiere performance of Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Wind Ensemble by Jules Pegrarn was described as "played with Joyful ease, youthful enthusiasm and energy (American Prize Judges Panel)!" He has also recorded on several acclaimed albums, including *Shadow of Sirius* (GRAMMY Nomination, 2016) and *Places in the West* with the University of Texas Wind Ensemble, *Over the Rainbow and Bach Again* with the TexSax Saxophone Ensemble, and has released *In the City: New Works for Saxophone Quartet* under his own label.

As an educator, Dr. Harrison is a frequent presenter of masterclasses and clinics at numerous high schools, universities, and conferences around the country, including the North American Saxophone Alliance, Texas Music Educators Association, and Denison Tutti Festival, along with Residencies at Websters University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Franklin College, to name a few. His students have been accepted to many prestigious schools and organizations, including Cal State Fullerton, University of the Pacific, USC, UT Austin, University of North Texas, the Pacific Symphony Youth Ensemble, and the Riverside Philharmonic.

Currently, Dr. Harrison serves on the faculty of Mt. San Antonio College, Cerritos College, and the French Conservatory of Music, and previously served as the Saxophone Mentor Artist at the Colburn School. He holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music, and a Masters degree from the University of Texas at Austin Butler School of Music, and his teachers have included legendary saxophonist Harvey Pittel, and LA Philharmonic Saxophonists Jim Rotter and Douglas Masek. He is the Co-Founder of the Uproar Duo with acclaimed pianist Clare Longendyke and is an Endorsing Artist with Eastman Winds.

JASON LO, Piano

Sponsored by Anne and Ray Destabelle



Pianist, teacher, and chamber musician, Dr. Jason Lo is an in-demand performer whose diverse talents take him around the globe. Audiences enjoy his performances in Strasbourg, London, Chicago, Honolulu, New York, and throughout Southern California, where he is based. He is proud to have performed at Westminster Hall, the 2012 London Olympic Games, and on multiple occasions, Carnegie Hall. Dr. Lo often collaborates and travels for competitions, conferences, and concerts

for various organizations, such as the California Association of Professional Music Teachers (CAPMT), Music Teachers Association of California (MTAC), Music Teachers National Association (MTNA), and the North American Saxophone Alliance (NASA). He also presents guest lectures and recitals at Santa Monica College, Emeritus College, Los Angeles Harbor College, Mount San Antonio College, California Lutheran University, California State University Long Beach and the University of the Pacific.

As an educator, Dr. Lo has taught general music, piano, and choir programs from grades K-12 in public schools. At the college level, he has taught and coached private piano, group piano, private voice, choir, and group voice. Students are often enamored with his musical instincts, kind nature, no-nonsense attitude, an enthusiastic passion for music, and the ability to break down the mechanics of learning. Outside of academia, he enjoys arranging music for his piano trio and weightlifting.

Dr. Lo is a graduate of University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music, where he completed his Doctorate of Musical Arts in Piano Performance studying piano with Antoinette Perry, and

conducting with Larry Livingston, with a Minor's in Theory, Instrumental Conducting, and Arts Leadership. His Master of Music in Piano Performance is also from USC. Previously, he completed his Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance with High Honors, studying piano with Craig Richey from California State University, Long Beach's Bob Cole Conservatory of Music. Other piano teachers include Susan Azaret Davies (Cal Poly), Martin Canin (The Juilliard School), Boris Slutsky (The Peabody Institute), and Edie Orloff (The Pacific Trio). While at USC, he served as a Keyboard Studies Graduate Teaching Assistant, and received the Outstanding Keyboard Studies Teaching Assistant Award for 2015.

Education: DMA, 2016, USC / MM, 2012, USC / BM, 2010, CSULB



ANLI TONG, Piano



Praised by critics for her “pointed grace” (Los Angeles Times) and “exquisite pianism” (Chinese American News), pianist Anli Lin Tong’s concerts have taken her to three continents on the stages of such halls as the Avery Fisher Hall in Lincoln Center, Taipei Symphony Hall in Taiwan, the Bordeaux Opera House in France, and the Getty Center in Los Angeles.

As a concerto soloist, she has appeared with the Taiwan Symphony Orchestra in the Taiwan National Arts Festival, the Chinese Fine Arts Orchestra, the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, the Bratislava Chamber Orchestra, the Civic Chamber Orchestra, the Burbank Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Beach Cities Symphony Orchestra.

Her passion for chamber music is brought to fruition by frequent collaborations with artists of the highest caliber, including members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and, more recently, as the pianist of the newly inaugurated Orpheus Trio. Her performances as soloist and as a chamber musician continue to garner critical acclaim. Of her performance of the Chopin F-minor Piano Concerto, Anli Lin Tong was lauded for her “fluid power and stunning technique” and “crystalline beauty and sparkling dexterity” (Palos Verdes Peninsula News). Her performance of the award-winning Concertino for Piano and String Orchestra by Taiwanese composer Kuo Chi-Yuan was praised as “the best rendition of this work” by Taiwan Symphony Review. Her chamber music performances were noted for “her energy and elation” and singled out for mention by the Beverly Hills Outlook, which reported, “pianist Anli Tong was magnificent, with particular attention to tone....” Ms. Tong has appeared as a guest on WBEZ Chicago Public Radio and classical Radio Philharmonic Taipei. Recent highlights of her concert career include a

performance of George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" with the Burbank Philharmonic in a July 4th All-American program at the Starlight Bowl, and a concert tour of Taiwan that culminated in a reception by President of Taiwan Lee Teng-Hui.

Born in Taiwan, Ms. Tong began piano lessons at age five. At age nine, she entered her first piano competition and emerged out of 200 contestants to capture First Prize in the first nationally-televised piano competition on Taiwan Television. That same year she was invited by the celebrated Polish pianist and pedagogue Mieczyslaw Munz (teacher of pianist Emanuel Ax) to study at the Juilliard School in New York. Under the official sponsorship of Taiwan's Ministry of Education, Anli Lin Tong travelled to New York where she became the youngest pupil in Munz's class at the Juilliard. Tong received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance at Juilliard where her major teacher after Munz's passing was Martin Canin, protégé of the legendary Rosina Lhevinne who was the teacher of Van Cliburn. From Munz to Canin, Tong traces her musical lineage to such musical giants as Ferruccio Busoni and Franz Liszt. Later studies include master classes with Jacob Lateiner, Earl Wild, Sergei Dorensky, and doctoral studies with full scholarship at UCLA under Vitaly Margulis.

Ms. Tong has distinguished herself as a teacher of prize-winning students who have received top prizes in prestigious competitions throughout the state and in national competitions, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic Bronislaw Kaper Award, the Los Angeles International Liszt Competition, the Young Musicians Foundation Debut Concerto Competition, the International Institute of Young Musicians Competition, the Los Angeles Music Center Spotlight Award auditions, the Miami International Music Festival Concerto Competition, and the Music Teachers National Association Performance Competitions. Her students have been featured as soloists in orchestras throughout the Los Angeles area, and her chamber music coaching has produced top winners in the state of California VOCE Competition and captured First Place in the 2015 MTNA National Chamber Music Competition. Ms. Tong was featured in teaching demonstrations at the 2005 World Piano

Pedagogy Conference, and she has served as Secretary and Vice-President of the International Rachmaninoff Piano Competition. She has been generous in giving of her time and talents to benefit many worthy causes, including giving concerts to benefit earthquake victims in Taiwan and raising funds for a free medical clinic in Mexico. The Beach Cities Symphony Association is grateful to have her on its board of directors, where she has spearheaded details for the BCSA Instrumentalists Scholarship program and inaugurated the Young Audience Pre-concert Lectures which ran for nine consecutive seasons at Beach Cities Symphony concerts.

A concert in October of 2015 marked Ms. Tong's fourth solo engagement with Beach Cities Symphony Orchestra. The featured work from the program, the Bartok Piano Concerto No. 3, brought special meaning to her personally. The Adagio Movement of the concerto contains a poignant musical quotation of a "Holy Song of Thanksgiving" by Beethoven. Ms. Tong's recent recovery from a debilitating health condition gives particular resonance to her appreciation of Bartok's final work which was written after the composer had just recovered from a serious illness. She dedicated this performance to her late parents to whom she is indebted for instilling in her the love of music at a young age. Ms. Tong credits her father, Dr. En-Kwei Lin, who passed away in May of 2015 for imparting his unshakable belief in the nobility of music and the arts as impetus for the good in humanity.



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ROBERTO CANI, Violin



Acclaimed throughout the music world as not just a performer, but an “artiste”, violinist Roberto Cani has continued to bring his art to the highest of levels, captivating and delighting audiences in the United States and abroad, since his solo debut at the Gaveau Hall in Paris.

Beginning his studies at the age of seven, Mr. Cani has been a first and grand prize winner of numerous competitions, including the Paganini International Competition in Genoa, the Courcillon International Competition, and the Jeunesses Musicales International Competition in Belgrade, where he also captured a special award for the best performance of a contemporary work. In addition, he has been the winner of the Minetti Prize and received honors at the Tchaikovsky Competition.

Throughout his successful career as soloist, chamber musician and concertmaster, he has established himself as a versatile and respected artist worldwide.

Mr. Cani has performed throughout the United States as well as in Italy, Spain, Austria, Germany, Russia, Croatia, Belgium, Poland, Serbia, France, Taiwan, Japan and South Africa. He has appeared as soloist with the Moscow Philharmonic, the RAI Symphony (Italy), the Belgrade Philharmonic, Zagreb Soloists, Orchestra Haydn of Bolzano, the American Youth Symphony, the Oregon Symphony, the Missouri Chamber Orchestra and Symphony of the Americas.

His performances have been televised nationally for PBS, RAI in Italy, RB in Yugoslavia, NHK in Japan, ZDF in Germany and in Taiwan. He has been featured on several occasions in radio broadcasts on both KMZT and KKGQ in Los Angeles. Other notable appearances include his widely acclaimed performance of the first

concerti of Paganini and Szymanowski in Italy and his premiere of a piece by Polish composer, Gorecki, for violin and piano.

Mr. Cani has performed as guest concertmaster for the La Scala Philharmonic in Milan under the baton of Riccardo Muti. He was also invited by Vladimir Jurowski to be a guest concertmaster for the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mr. Cani has been appointed Concertmaster of the Los Angeles Opera Orchestra in May 2011. As concertmaster of Los Angeles Opera Orchestra, Mr. Cani is closely working with Placido Domingo and James Conlon among others.

Actively involved in chamber music, Mr. Cani has had the pleasure of touring with conductor and pianist Justus Frantz. He has also performed alongside Lynn Harrell, Jeffrey Swann, Jason Vieaux. Presently, he is the first violinist of the New Hollywood String Quartet and has an active presence in many west coast chamber music series. He has also participated in Chamber Music Festivals in Berlin, Hamburg, Vienna, and the Canary Islands.

Mr. Cani has given master classes at many California Universities, among them those at the University of Southern California (USC), the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), as well as playing and teaching at Summer Music Festivals in Positano, Italy and Hvar, Croatia, Music Festival in Prague.

Mr. Cani has recorded the Vivaldi "Four Seasons", sonatas by Respighi and Busoni with pianist Jeffrey Swann, and the solo sonatas of Bartok, Ysaye, Bloch, and Prokofiev under the Arkadia and Agora labels. His other recordings include the Tchaikovsky violin concerto, and a CD of favorite encores.

Mr. Cani is a graduate of the Milan Conservatory, the Gnessin Institute in Moscow, and the University of Southern California. He has studied with world-renowned violinists Viktor Tretiakov and Abrahm Shtern.

UDI BAR-DAVID, Cello



ARTolerance Founder and Artistic Director and Cellist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, Udi Bar-David is widely considered one of the most versatile cellists in the world, performing on international stages with both classical and ethnic musicians. Udi studied in Tel-Aviv, with Leonard Rose at the Juilliard School, and Orchestral Conducting at Curtis Institute of Music.

Udi won the International Villa Lobos Competition in Brazil, and appeared as a soloist with numerous orchestras, including the Jerusalem Symphony and Philly Pops. He was featured on the *TODAY* show, and was represented by Astral Artistic Services and the Center for Jewish Culture and Creativity. He has served as principal cellist with many orchestras, and has been a member of the Philadelphia Orchestra since the late 1980s.

As a chamber musician, Udi has collaborated with Christoph Eschenbach, Leon Fleisher, Jaime Laredo, Rudolph Buchbinder, Emanuel Ax and others. As Founder and Artistic Director of Intercultural Journeys, he produced numerous events world-wide. Udi has recently created Artolerance – an important new effort to expand the crucial role music and the arts play in fostering understanding and tolerance.

Udi has toured the US, Europe, Palestine, Israel, Cuba and Asia, with world-renowned artists, including Jie Bing Chen, Nawang Khechog, Hanna Khoury, Wu Man, Diane Monroe, R. Carlos Nakai, Mandy Patinkin, and Simon Shaheen.

Oakwood Brass



Founded in 2009 by Artistic Director Darren Dvoracek as a brass chamber group, Oakwood Brass - Outreach Project (OBOP) expanded to include school concerts beginning in 2015. Each year our school programs were evaluated by the principals

of our partner schools in the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) to develop and refine our current programming: instrument introduction concerts, 50 minute middle school concerts, as well as coaching and side by side mentoring. Beginning with 3 elementary schools and 1 middle school OBOP has developed and expanded our partnerships with schools in the PUSD, adding one to two schools each year, to include 14 schools as of 2021.

In 2015 we became our own non-profit organization. Beginning in 2016 OBOP successfully applied for and was awarded grant funding from the Tournament of Roses Foundation, Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts, and the Recording Industry's Music Performance Trust Fund. In 2019 we were awarded grants from the California Arts Council and the Cultural Affairs Department of the City of Pasadena. All of these grants provided funding for the artists fees for both the concerts and coaching at individual schools.

OBOP's mission is to bring the classical and contemporary brass sound to concerts and educational programming within our community. Concert attendees include, but are not limited to, schools with high numbers of socioeconomically disadvantaged students, classes of special needs students, seniors, and the community at large. Programs are tailored to audiences and include selections which validate their cultural backgrounds as well as introducing them to new brass music. OBOP hosts community concerts which include commissioned works for OBOP and are open and free to the public.

NICOLÁS BEJARANO-ISAZA, Trumpet

Nicolás Bejarano-Isaza is a Colombian trumpet player currently based in Los Angeles, California. He is a contemporary and new-music specialist and advocate, with experience and knowledge of the chamber, solo, and orchestral trumpet literature. He has worked with innovative Los Angeles ensembles including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the experimental opera company The Industry, the Los Angeles Chorale Lab and currently holds the second trumpet chair of the American Youth Symphony. Mr. Bejarano has worked extensively for American composers in projects throughout the United States including LaMont Young, Fredric Rzewski, David Rosenboom, and Ellen Reid. Nicolás holds a bachelor's in music degree with Outstanding Achievement in Trumpet Performance from McGill University under the tutelage of Edward Carroll and Russell Devuyt, and a Master of Arts in Music Performance from the California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) under the tutelage of Edward Carroll and Daniel Rosenboom. He has also received private instruction with notable trumpet virtuosos Håkan Hardenberger, Gabriele Cassone, and Marco Blaauw.

DARREN DVORACEK, Tuba

Darren Dvoracek, tuba, a freelance musician in Los Angeles, is the Artistic Director of Oakwood Brass Outreach Project where he is part of the management and development team, honing the mission statement, brand, and program content for their In-School and Community Concerts programs while arranging music for the group and creating programs for OBOP. His current duties also include the financial management of OBOP, which attained its own 501(c)(3) status in October 2015.

Darren is a proud graduate of Northwestern University where he received his Bachelor's Degree in music performance and was also the recipient of the prestigious Helen Heim Nichols Scholarship Fund Award. Darren's teachers include Dr. Douglas Tornquist and Professor Rex Martin at Northwestern University. Recent studies have included arts management courses at CCI Arts. Darren is

principal tuba with the local 47 Orchestra in Los Angeles. He currently teaches players of all abilities at Cresenta Valley High School and La Canada High School as well as schools in the Pasadena Unified School District. These include middle school students at Eliot Arts Magnet and Wilson Middle School as well as 4th and 5th grade students at Cleveland and Jackson Elementary Schools. Darren's teaching emphasizes sound production and matching pitch. He has taught brass playing techniques to trumpet, trombone and tuba players.

DANNY LAWLOR Trombone

Danny Lawlor, trombone, is a trombonist based in Los Angeles, CA. After graduating from Northwestern University, Daniel returned to California as a freelance musician in the San Diego and Los Angeles areas. He has studied with Michael Mulcahy, Peter Ellefson, Timothy Higgins, and also with Mark Lawrence while obtaining his Master's Degree at the Colburn School in Los Angeles. Daniel has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, San Diego Opera, and San Diego Symphony among others. In addition to orchestral performance, he is extremely active in chamber music and is one of the founding members of the trombone quartet, Skinny Lips and the Sound Malfunction. Daniel also maintains a private studio of young trombonists and enjoys playing disc golf in his free time.

AIJA MATTSON-JOVEL, French horn

Horn player Aija Mattson-Jovel is an active freelance musician in the Los Angeles area. She performs regularly with the American Youth Symphony and Debut Orchestra. With these groups she has performed with film composers Michael Giacchino, Randy Newman, David Newman and international soloists Sarah Chang, Glenn Dicterow, Karen Dreyfus, and Valentina Lisitsa.

Aija is also very involved and devoted to her Latvian heritage and regularly performs in the Latvian cultural community. She has participated in the Latvian Song and Dance Festivals throughout the United States, Canada, and even in Latvia, performing at the Latvian

National Theatre and Daugava Stadium, playing horn as well as singing and dancing. Being very versatile, Aija has also performed and recorded horn for various jazz and film projects. She has recorded and performed songs with neo-soul band Moonchild and the Thelonious Monk Institute for Jazz.

Throughout the years she has also performed at major venues in the USA such as the Walt Disney Concert Hall, Aratani Theatre, Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza, Bovard Auditorium, The Ann and Jerry Moss Theater, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and Royce Hall. She has performed new works by composers such as Eric Zeisl, Paul Dooley, and Paul Chihara. Recently, she was a part of a huge world premiere by composer Ian Krouse's of his "Armenian Requiem". This piece was written and performed to honor the victims of the Armenian Genocide on its 100th anniversary in 2015.

Aija completed her Masters in Horn Performance Degree in Los Angeles at the University of Southern California, Thornton School of Music under the tutelage of Kristy Morrell and Steve Becknell. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of California Los Angeles Herb Alpert School of Music where she studied with Chris Cooper and Amy Sanchez.

DAVID PITTEL, Trumpet

David Pittel, an established trumpet artist residing in Los Angeles, is enjoying an active performing career in a wide variety of musical venues. He has recorded for film and television, played in numerous orchestras, performed with some of Los Angeles' outstanding big bands and small ensembles, and presented solo recitals showing his virtuosity on trumpet, flugelhorn and piccolo trumpet. Mr. Pittel joined the faculty at California State University Fullerton in the spring of 2016 as adjunct professor of trumpet. Mr. Pittel holds a Bachelor of Music in Orchestral Trumpet Performance from the Butler School of Music at the University of Texas at Austin, and a Master of Music degree from the University of California Los Angeles. His primary teachers include Jens Lindemann, Jon Lewis, Ray Sasaki, Raymond Crisara, and Bernie Nero.



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