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# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHRIDGE YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

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## *Gala Concert*

Sunday, May 4th, 2025

### 3 PM Concert

#### Camerata Strings

*Kimberly Blake-Kilgore, Conductor*

#### Symphony

*Elizabeth Blake, Conductor*

#### Philharmonic

*Dr. Dean Anderson, Conductor*



## OUR PROGRAM

The CSUN Youth Orchestras were founded in 1970 to provide a broad and thorough training in orchestral performance to the young people of the greater Los Angeles area. Under the direction of professional conductors, students aged six to eighteen have the opportunity to perform a variety of music in one of three orchestras.

The CAMERATA STRINGS is a string chamber orchestra designed to provide young string players with ensemble playing experience. Students develop basic ensemble skills in preparation for a full orchestra.

The SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA provides a full orchestral experience for students. Performing arrangements of standard symphonic repertoire as well as more contemporary composition, members of this orchestra focus on developing the ability to blend with all the instruments of the orchestra in preparation for entry into the Philharmonic.

The PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA is a highly selective showcase orchestra that performs advanced orchestral literature. Musicians in this orchestra are expected to perform at the highest level, and auditions for entrance are highly competitive.





# CAMERATA

*Director Kimberly Blake-Kilgore*

*Assistant Director / Administrator Jordan Ann Martone*

1. Korean Folk Tune ..... Traditional  
Arr. Richard Meyer
2. Concerto in D ..... Antonio Vivaldi  
Arr. Bob Phillips
3. Above the Clouds ..... Peter Weissman  
*World Premiere* CSUN Music Alum, CSUNYO Alum: Camerata,  
Symphony & Philharmonic
4. Medieval Legend (A Fantasy for Orchestra) ..... Michael Story

\*Brief Intermission\*



# PERSONNEL

## Violin I

Ailita Gevorkyan\*  
Mila Li  
Elijah Fischer  
Rose Neiyer  
Micaela Judkins  
Elizabeth Groberman  
Naomi d'Alessio  
Vehaan Mishra  
Anika Nettare  
Simone Simantob  
Emily Lahiji

## Violin IIB

Stella Kim +  
Anwen Torjussen  
Sunidhi Kulkarni  
Georgiana Daub  
Marcelo Villamor

## Viola

Sullivan Dykstra +  
Naejoo Park  
Bautista F. Gonzalez Waldheim  
Joaquin Monterrosa

## Violin IIA

Sophia Ip +  
Elina Harbourt  
Julian Cruz  
Jeane Kong  
Alexandra Baron  
Joseph Shapiro  
Diego Robledo  
Christopher Terpanjian  
Kali Keem  
Ethan Chang  
Leonardo Linares Campos  
Evelyn Nersisyan  
Goldie Levin  
Thara Mytri Murali  
Andres Giraldo  
Violet Peng  
Serah Angel Shyju Wilson  
Alina Hayden

## Violin/Viola Doublers

Christine Le  
Simone Simantob  
Micaela Judkins  
Andres Giraldo  
Serah Angel Shyju Wilson  
Marcelo Villamor

## Cello

Harrison Gruber +  
Hannah Yang  
Arjun Vijay Mandalam  
Sage Elliott  
Sohum Sambari  
Hanson Yang  
Haylee Jeon  
John Kim


## Bass

Sophie Aleksandrovich #

## Harp

Henry Miller

\* Concertmaster  
+ Principal section leader  
# Symphony Student Volunteer





# SYMPHONY

*Director Elizabeth Blake*

*Assistant Tommy Militello*

1. Symphony No.6, 2nd mvt. .... Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
Arr. Richard Meyer
2. Habañera from “*Carmen*” ..... George Bizet  
Arr. Jerry Brubaker
3. Dancing Waters ..... Sean O’Laughlin
4. The Blue Danube Waltz ..... Johann Strauss II  
Arr. Richard Meyer

\*Brief Intermission\*



# PERSONNEL

## Violin I

Hannah Lee \*  
Alexandra Balliger  
Luna Garcia  
Naomi Jiang  
Cameron Jingco  
Christine Le  
Olivia Lee  
Celeni Pedraja  
Ethan Villar  
Nathan Wang  
Mia Weiss

## Viola

Parker Harjoto +  
Elia Lee  
Elly Lee  
Krish Maheshwari  
Jack Miller

## Bass

Sophie Aleksandrovich +  
Farah Najjarpour  
Jackson Stevens

## Violin II

Melina Aghili +  
Isabel Avila  
Nora Ball  
Jameson Cowie  
Ella Dancyger  
Avery Dionne  
Mia Hoang  
Eric Perez  
Sky Stubbeman

## Cello

Felix Bossardt +  
Emily Bui  
Joseph Hyon  
Acashti Lopez  
Leah Schachner  
Sasha Sethi  
Deborah Son  
Gracie Underwood

## Clarinet

Yejin Kim +  
Timothy Fang

## Oboe

Jaeden Barreda  
Alec Valencia

## Trumpet

Quinn Chamberlain

## Trombone

Dave Farley #

## French Horn

Hayden Conrath  
Emilia Villalobos

## Tuba

Jonah Maun

## Percussion

Mike Deutsch #  
Brian Cannady

Concertmaster \*

Principal Section Leader +

Professional Musician #





# PHILHARMONIC

*Director Dr. Dean Anderson*

*Assistant Hannah Kruz*

I. Romeo and Juliet ..... Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

*Fantasy Overture*



# PERSONNEL

## Violin I

Joshua Lee \*  
Dikran Melikian  
Ben Margolis  
Kailin Qian  
Leanna Wheeler  
Laura Orozco  
Sarah Bunch #

## Violin II

Clara Friedl +  
Justin Tran  
Linden Sage  
Erisa Takiyama  
Daniel Shin  
Audrey Herrera  
Hannah Kruz #

## Viola

Elisa Hong +  
Prithvi Vengari  
Tyler Edwards  
David Sage #  
Laura Jesson #

## Bass

Jules Levy #  
Brianna Goldberg #

## Harp

Caroline Reyes #

## Cello

Aiden Chung +  
Chloe Le  
Vladyslav Khvalko  
Kiersten Cannella  
Brett Wilner  
Evan Cardenas  
Taylor Jeon  
Jacob Lee  
Tiffany Tung  
Zerric Xue

## Flute

Daniel Kim +  
Carter Calfin  
Lauren Whang  
Shreyas Hingarh

## Piccolo

Adiel Sanchez

## Oboe

Ekrem Afsar +  
Caitlin Perry #

## Bassoon

Alexander Almeida +  
Jorge Ruvalcaba #

## Clarinet

Abigail Chin +  
Evelyn Fang  
Gavin Joshi

## Clarinet

Abigail Chin +  
Evelyn Fang  
Gavin Joshi

## Trumpet

Liam Lecuona +  
Andrew Duncan #

## Trombone

Ryan Lok  
Rebecca Buringrud #  
Robert Todd #

## Horn

Grant Holmquist +  
Jessica Vicente #  
Mila Santos-Brochu #  
Sebastian Merino #

## Tuba

Michele Dweck

## Percussion

Shiraz Melikian  
Mike Deutsch #  
Brian Cannady

## Keyboard

Shiraz Melikian Concertmaster \*  
Principal Section Leader +  
Professional Musician #



## STAFF

### ***Kimberly Blake-Kilgore: Camerata Director***

Kimberly Blake-Kilgore received her Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University, Northridge, where she studied violin performance with Kathy Lenski. She has built a reputation as a renowned private teacher for young violinists since 1980. As the founder of the CSUNYO Camerata Strings, Mrs. Kilgore has been conducting the ensemble since 1991. As a professional freelance violinist, she has performed with many orchestras throughout the Los Angeles area, including the Santa Barbara Symphony Orchestra. She was privileged to tour with conductor Kent Nagano throughout the Caribbean and the British Isles. In 1983, Kimberly was a member of the International Philharmonic, performing at the prestigious Edinburgh Music Festival in Scotland. She has toured throughout Europe, Australia, Mexico, Australia, and the Caribbean performing with her violin. Kimberly has enjoyed a diverse career in the LA studios which included recording for TV, commercials, and film. As violin soloist, she toured and recorded with R&B singer Teena Marie. She has performed and recorded with such greats as Jazz artist Ray Charles, Placido Domingo, Michael Bolton, Laurie Anderson, Rod Stewart, Everette Harp, and others. Kimberly is highly motivated to provide opportunities for children to experience music. As a young violinist, she had the opportunity to perform under several great conductors including Kent Nagano, Yehudi Menuhin, Calvin Simmons and Denis de Coteau. These conductors influenced her life and made a huge impact on her approach to teaching music. She has been successful in creating a strong strings program in the elementary schools in Thousand Oaks where she lives with studio percussionist Brian Kilgore

### ***Elizabeth Blake: Symphony Director***

Elizabeth Blake is a Pasadena native who began her violin studies at the age of three. She earned a Bachelor of Music Performance in violin from Northwestern University in 1989, and moved to Tennessee, where she served as Assistant Principal Second Violin in the Knoxville Symphony and Chamber Orchestras for seven years. During that time, Ms. Blake appeared several times as the featured soloist with the Chamber Orchestra, as well as in frequent performances for the Knoxville Symphony Chamber Music Series and on local radio broadcasts. In 1997 Mrs. Blake returned to California, where she pursued a freelance performance career. She has toured with Michael Crawford, Yanni, and other international artists, and has performed as principal second violin for the Thousand Oaks Philharmonic, the California Philharmonic, the Santa Maria Philharmonic, and the West Coast Chamber Orchestra, as well as in the sections of the New West Symphony and other orchestras throughout the Los Angeles area. She can also be heard on soundtracks for Sony, Warner Brothers and Castle Rock Entertainment. Ms. Blake began her teaching career in 1981 at the age of 15, giving private violin and viola instruction. While with the Knoxville Symphony, she was an active member of the KSO Youth Education and Outreach Program, bringing classical music into the Knox County public schools. In 2001 she founded the String program at Los Cerritos Middle School in Thousand Oaks, and in 2007 took over the Orchestra program at Westlake High School. Both schools have thriving orchestras, and have received superior ratings at more than 75 festival appearances over the past twenty years.



## STAFF

### ***Dean Anderson: Philharmonic Director***

Dean Anderson has had a conducting career that has spanned over two decades. He was recently appointed Principal Conductor for the Desert Symphony, a professional pops orchestra based in Palm Desert, California. He is also frequently engaged as a guest conductor with professional orchestras around the globe. He has conducted Rossini's *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* in Pisa, Italy as part of a production by Teatro Goldoni. In addition, he has conducted orchestras such as the Orquesta del Festival Gaudix Clásica in Spain, and the Orchestra Filarmonica Campana in Italy. He has been the Music Director and Artistic Director for the Dana Point Symphony and Symphony Irvine for over thirteen years. He continually strives to champion a diverse blend of repertoire - ranging from the beloved works of Beethoven and Brahms, to newly commissioned works by local and international composers. His international engagements include concerts with professional orchestras in Europe (Italy, Spain), Asia (Hong Kong, Thailand, Vietnam), and South America (Brazil, Argentina). He has served as cover conductor for the San Diego Symphony and has performed with members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. In addition, he has worked with such artists as Cho-Liang Lin, Andres Cardenes, Yizhak Schotten, Smokey Robinson, David Archuleta, Manhattan Transfer, John Tesh, Lincoln Mayorga, Arlo Guthrie, and Dick Dale. A versatile and collaborative conductor, Mr. Anderson's performances include major ballet works such as the Nutcracker, Peter and the Wolf, and La Cigale with ballet companies such as the Anaheim Ballet, Nouveau Chamber Ballet, and the Montage Dance Theater. He has also conducted numerous operas such as *The Magic Flute*, *Il Segreto di Susanna* (Wolf-Ferrari), *Hansel and Gretel*, *I Due Figaro* (Mercadante), Daron Hagen's *Little Nemo in Slumberland* and more. One of the highlights of his career was his Walt Disney Hall debut performance of Marcos Galvany's *O My Son*. He was the first American citizen to conduct the Ho Chi Minh City Ballet Orchestra in Vietnam. He also led the Southern California Chamber Ensemble performance of traditional Chinese and Japanese music for pipa and erhu with Tu Shan Xiang and George Gao in Nagoya, Japan.




### ***Jordan Ann Martone: Orchestra Administrator, Camerata Assistant Director***

Jordan Ann Martone is a professional violinist and educator native to the Los Angeles area. In her 11 years assisting Kim Kilgore with Camerata Strings, Jordan started as a student-hire when she was a CSUN student studying under Michael Ferril, and now she runs the program as Orchestra Administrator. In addition to her extensive experience as a studio violinist and freelancer, Jordan is the orchestra director at Milken Community School after teaching music programs for 8 years in the Conejo Valley Unified School District. You can hear Jordan's playing on movies like *Transformers: Rise of the Beasts*, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3*, and *Haunted Mansion*. Some notable freelance performances include playing in the orchestra for Björk at Coachella and *The Barbie Movie* live to picture at the Hollywood Bowl. In addition to playing and teaching, Jordan loves being a mom to 4 year-old Giada.

### ***Tommy Militello: Symphony Assistant***

Tommy Militello is a Thousand Oaks native and dedicated musician who brings his passion for the arts and community into his everyday life. An experienced horn player and music educator, Tommy finds immense joy in performing and mentoring aspiring musicians, sharing his love for music—and, as a REALTOR® in LA and Ventura counties, helping people find home. With degrees from the University of Southern California and the University of Michigan, he is now pursuing a teaching credential at California State University, Northridge, with plans to become a public school music educator. Tommy's diverse interests bring a unique energy to his work and his community connections.





### ***Hannah Kruz: Philharmonic Assistant***

Hannah Kruz is a skilled violinist who began playing at the age of 10. She honed her craft at the LA County High School for the Arts and later earned an associate's degree in music from Pasadena City College, where she served as the concertmaster, librarian, and orchestra manager. Currently, she is pursuing a degree in Music Industry Studies at CSUN and performs as a core member of the 818 String Quartet, known for their versatile and modern event performances.

### ***Peter Weissman: Guest Composer & Conductor***

Peter Weissman is a multi-faceted musician, media arranger, songwriter, violinist and teacher. His musical journey began at the age of 11 at Lindero Middle School playing violin in the school orchestra. Later that year, he joined the CSUN Youth Orchestra Camerata group under Kimberly Kilgore, and then went on to the CSUN Youth Symphony and Philharmonic. Having gone through the CSUN Youth Orchestra Program, Peter decided to study music at the University level, to which he attended Moorpark College earning multiple Associates degrees including an Associates of Arts in Music and a Music Technology Certificate. He then transferred to Cal State Northridge to earn his Bachelors in Commercial/Media Composition- earning high honors from both institutions. As a recent CSUN graduate, Peter has composed live works for groups such as the Unheard of Quartet, as well the Aperture Duo- playing his piece Fake Dance featuring a duet for violin and viola. After graduating, Peter realized he wanted to go back to the roots of his musicality, immediately thinking of the CSUN Youth Orchestra program he'd been a part of- to which began his journey of teaching violin and composing his piece Above The Clouds for the Camerata Orchestra.

Peter gives a special thanks to Kimberly Kilgore and Jordan Martone for the opportunity to work with such a great program.



## SPECIAL THANKS

CSUN Music Department

Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the  
Performing Arts

Professional Musician Ringers

Our Parent Volunteers!

Snack Cart Moms!



**Fall Season 2025-2026 Auditions  
will be announced in July on our  
new website: [https://  
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orchestras](https://www.csun.edu/csun-youth-orchestras)**



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