
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY NORTHRIDGE YOUTH ORCHESTRAS

Sunday, March 9th, 2025

1 PM Concert

Camerata Strings

Kimberly Blake-Kilgore, Conductor

Symphony

Elizabeth Blake, Conductor

4 PM Concert

Philharmonic

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.





SYMPHONY

1pm Concert

Director Elizabeth Blake

Assistant Tommy Militello

1. Coronation Fanfare Zach Wallmark

2. American Landscape Soon Hee Newbold

3. Slavonic Dance No. 7 Antonin Dvorak
Arr. Richard Meyer



PERSONNEL

Violin I

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

Viola

Krish Maheshwari+
Parker Harjoto
Jack Miller
Elia Lee
Elly Lee

Bass

Sophie Aleksandrovich +
Jackson Stevens
Farah Najjarpour

Violin II

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

Cello

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

Flute

Juliana Baioni #

Clarinet

Ian Moon +
Yejin Kim
Timothy Fang

Oboe

Jaeden Barreda

Alec Valencia

Trumpet

Quinn Chamberlain

Lily Saul

Trombone

Cal Apigo #

Tuba

Emilia Villalobos
Hayden Conrath

Tuba

Jonah Maun

Percussion

Victoria Mitchell #

Concertmaster *

Principal Section Leader +

Professional Musician #





PHILHARMONIC

4pm Concert

Director Dean Anderson

Assistant Hannah Cruz

1. Concerto for Clarinet in A-Major, K622 Mozart (1756-1791)

Abigail Chin, Clarinet

2. Overture to the Barber of Seville G. Rossini (1792-1868)

3. Symphony No. 7 Prokofiev (1891-1953)
in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 131

4. Finale from *The Firebird* Stravinsky (1882-1971)



PERSONNEL

Violin I

Joshua Lee *

Dikran Melikian

Ben Margolis

Kailin Qian

Leanna Wheeler

Laura Orozco

Lily Fang #

Frank Fang#

Violin II

Clara Friedl +

Justin Tran

Linden Sage

Erisa Takiyama

Daniel Shin

Audrey Herrera

Hannah Cruz #

Viola

Elisa Hong +

I-Ting Huang#

David Sage#

Keyboard

Shiraz Melikian

Harp

Caroline Reyes

Cello

Aiden Chung +

Chloe Le

Vladyslav Khvalko

Kiersten Cannella

Brett Wilner

Evan Cardenas

Taylor Jeon

Jacob Lee

Tiffany Tung

Zerric Xue

Bass

Christian Gonzalez +

Shanrong Li

Harp

Caroline Reyes #

Flute

Daniel Kim +

Lauren Whang

Carter Calfin

Shreyas Hingarh

Piccolo

Adiel Sanchez

Oboe

Ekrem Afsar +

Bom An#

Bassoon

Alexander Almeida +

Jorge Ruvalcaba #

Clarinet

Abigail Chin +

Evelyn Fang

Gavin Joshi

Bass Clarinet

Steve Park#

Trumpet

Liam Lecuona +

Andrew Duncan #

Carlos Gonzalez-Santiago #

Trombone

Wilfrido Cruz-Solano #

Fernando Cortez-Osuna #

Horn

Grant Holmquist +

Sebastian Merino #

Evi Lopez-Campbell #

Daniela Palomino #

Percussion

Victoria Mitchell #

Garrett Juretic #

Trini Rojas

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 10 years assisting Kim Kilgore with Camera 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*. She also plays regularly with San Bernardino Symphony and Redlands Symphony. In addition to playing and teaching, Jordan is 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 Cruz: Philharmonic Assistant

Hannah Cruz 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.



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