



**LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA**  
*the future of culture*



# **25th Anniversary**

# **Alumni Book**

**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF THE LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA'S  
MUSICAL IMPACT ON THE YOUTH OF LOS ANGELES**

[losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://losangelesyouthorchestra.org)



## **WHY THE LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA?**

There is no better answer as to "Why a Los Angeles Youth Orchestra" than this 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary LAYO Alum Ebook. Be inspired reading their stories and consider that approximately 1400 of them so far are helping make a better world. Some studied with us only a semester, many continued with us for up to ten years, more than their time at any single school.

As alums, they take creative, inspiring, and unpredictable pathways. They are physicists, fashion editors, novelists, psychologists, biologists, mathematicians, school teachers, early music specialists, lawyers, business entrepreneurs, performing arts administrators, and on and on! More than I ever imagined are now highly regarded professional musicians. They perform and teach all over the U.S., Canada, and Europe. They play in professional symphony orchestras, early music ensembles, and chamber ensembles. They teach in public schools, private schools, and universities. Many compose and conduct.



Tigran Arakeylan has conducted two youth orchestras and is now Music Director of Northwest Mahler Festival, ORS of Tacoma, and the Port Townsend Symphony. Dorian Bandy is a highly regarded musicologist and performer at McGill University. Benjy Fox-Rosen lives in Vienna where he has built a reputation as an expert in Klezmer and Yiddish music. He still performs double bass, but also also sings and composes. Professional violinists Niv Ashkenazi and Ben Bartelt have returned to us and become expert coaches to our current students.

Jaya Nataraj has 20 publications in scientific research on neural stimulation treating children with movement disorders. Yunchao Zhang is finishing his doctorate in theoretical physics at MIT. Not far from MIT, two alums are finishing doctorates at Harvard—Clara Ross in astrophysics studying exo-planets and Katherine Norton studying biological and biomedical sciences.

Kate Perry is completing her doctorate in history at Vanderbilt University. Julia Winokur is in Chicago working at a marketing firm while she finishes her graduate degree in psychology. She just had a baby girl—Myla—on her first wedding anniversary with her wife. Thaïs Miller is now an accomplished novelist, poet, and playwright who recently received her Ph.D. from UC Santa Cruz and is now on the faculty at the University of Central Arkansas.

I heard recently that the great mission of a non-profit organization is to be a ladder, a ladder that helps take people from where they are to a higher place. LAYO can't take credit for the accomplishments of our alums, but we are that ladder. Discipline, working together as a tightly coordinated ensemble, exploring deep musical ideas, and above all, cultivating a love for music that lasts a lifetime—every LAYO student absorbs these skills. And I believe that these skills provide an invaluable emotional and intellectual anchor for all of them as they pursue their individual paths in our increasingly unstable world.

**Russell Steinberg, Ph.D.**  
**Founder and Artistic Director**  
**Los Angeles Youth Orchestra**



# **LAYLA ADELI**

## **Violin 2017-2023**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently a sophomore at Caltech studying bioengineering.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Being a member of LAYO was an extremely fulfilling experience that helped me grow as a person and a musician. I not only learned new skills, such as how to play and communicate with other musicians in my section, but music helped me release the stress of the day. I developed new friendships beyond my high school friends and became more confident as a person; I formed a trio and we performed at local community events. During Covid we were able to bring some joy to isolated elderly neighbors. I will cherish the many experiences I gained as a member of LAYO.



# **MARC AHN**

## **Bass Trombone 2021-2023**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Since LAYO I've been going to school at UCR and studying psychology. I am now a second year and getting closer and closer to achieving my dreams in the psychology field.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

In high school LAYO helped me improve at exponential rates and allowed me to become better at my instrument.





# **GRACE ALEXANDER**

## **Violin 1997-2000**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Grace is a professional violinist, arts administrator, and aspiring pedagogue currently based in Vancouver, BC Canada. Grace is a substitute musician for various professional orchestras and is a freelance soloist and recital artist.

Grace actively performs in a violin/piano duo with collaborator, Will Rand. She is currently commissioning five young composers for a project relating the natural world and musical expression called 'Resilience Sounds.'

Grace began her Master of Music studies at University of British Columbia School of Music in fall 2024. She has Bachelors of Music in Violin Performance from St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. She graduated from Santa Monica High School in 2019.



# **NIV ASHKENAZI**

## **Violin 2000-present**

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

I played violin and was concertmaster in what is now the Ruth Borun Concert Orchestra and worked my way into Symphony Orchestra. Some of my best memories are of making some great friends while I was there and creating memories that have lasted for years.

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Now, in addition to being a coach at LAYO, I work as a soloist and chamber musician. I also run the Oak Hill Music Festival each summer, teach violin at CSUN, have a few other projects like using slow motion technology in teaching with Eye for Technique, and I do a lot of work with Violins of Hope.

*In Concert*



*The Los Angeles  
Jewish Youth Orchestra*

*Conducted by Dr. Russell Steinberg  
with members of the  
Los Angeles Jewish Symphony  
Artistic Director, Dr. Noreen Green*

*May 16, 1999*

*7:00 p.m.*

*Robert Margolis Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School of Stephen Wise Temple  
15800 Zeldins' Way (at Mulholland Drive), Los Angeles*

*Free Admission*

The Los Angeles Jewish Youth Orchestra is made possible  
by a Grant from the the Jewish Community Foundation



# **TIGRAN ARAKELYAN**

## **Conducting Intern 2012-2013**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I received my doctoral degree in conducting from the University of Washington. Currently, I serve as the Music Director of the Northwest Mahler Festival and the Port Townsend Symphony, as well as the Executive Director of Music Works Northwest.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

During my graduate studies in California, Russell provided me with a wonderful opportunity to work with the LAYO. Through this experience, I gained invaluable insights during rehearsals and sectionals, conducted the orchestra numerous times, and learned the intricacies of running a non-profit organization. I am deeply grateful to LAYO and Russell for this incredible opportunity.





# **DORIAN BANDY**

## **Violin 1997-2000**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I'm an associate professor of musicology and baroque violin at McGill University's Schulich School of Music, where I teach private students and coach chamber groups, conduct the baroque orchestra, and lecture in music history and music theory. I'm the author of a new book, *Mozart the Performer: Variations on the Showman's Art* (published in 2023), and I've released five solo or chamber CDs, including, recently, *Lovers and Mourners* (a recording of showpieces from 17th-century Germany) and a recording of Mozart's String Duos. I did my performance degrees at the Royal Academy of Music in London, my undergrad work at Cornell, and my PhD at the University of Glasgow.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

My years in LAYO provided many formative musical experiences. First, there was simply the breadth of music we played. Thanks to LAYO, I grew up with an unusually thorough understanding of the repertoire from the inside. We covered a good 300+ years of music—but, just thinking about the style I now work with every day, it was with LAYO that I first played orchestral works of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven, and I'll always be grateful for this introduction. And it's to Russell's credit that he didn't just stick to the warhorses, but exposed us to lesser-played works like Haydn's 3rd Symphony (a particularly fond memory), something that then inspired further explorations and listening on my own. Even more, my peers and I benefitted hugely from the wonderful teaching LAYO exposed us to, both in full rehearsals and in sectionals.



# **MOHINI PRIYA BANERJEE**

## **Violin 2003-2009**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Mohini graduated from North Hollywood Highly Gifted Magnet in 2009 and completed her undergraduate degree in Philosophy and Logic at Smith College. Mohini then completed a JD at Columbia Law School and an LLM at the London School of Economics. Mohini practiced in big law including Davis Polk and Latham Watkins for over 5 years and now works at a boutique law firm. She is based out of New Haven, CT.



# **VIVEK ANANDA BANERJEE**

## **Violin 2006-2008**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

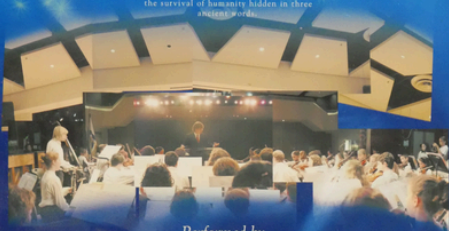
Vivek graduated from North Hollywood Highly Gifted Magnet in 2012 and completed his undergraduate degree at Harvard University in Social Studies. He was awarded the Harvard-Cambridge scholarship and completed his M.Phil. at the University of Cambridge, Pembroke College in Political Thought and Intellectual History.

Vivek then attended Berkeley Law for his JD and practiced for several years at Wilmer Hale in California. In the Fall of 2024, Vivek returned to Harvard University to begin a PhD program at the School of Government in Political Theory.



# WORLD PREMIERE!

Composer/Conductor Russell Steinberg's  
Symphony #2 "What is a Jew?"  
It is an ancient world, a message about  
the survival of humanity hidden in three  
minutes.



Performed by

The Stephen Wise

## Youth Orchestra



Narration performed by:  
Congressman Henry Waxman  
Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin  
Lowell Milken  
Mona Golabek

### Program also includes

Bruckner, Scherzo from Symphony #7  
Copland, Down a Country Lane

Moussorgsky, Copak  
Rimsky-Korsakov, Dance of the Tumbler

**Sunday, February 10, 2002 - 2:30 PM**  
Robert Margolis Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School

**Monday, February 11, 2002 - 7:30 PM**  
Zipper Hall  
Colburn School of Performing Arts

For tickets and more information, please contact (310) 440-3500 x3344  
[www.sswt.org/sswta](http://www.sswt.org/sswta)

# THE STEPHEN WISE YOUTH IN CONCERT ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTED BY  
RUSSELL STEINBERG, Ph.D.

### PROGRAM INCLUDES:

**SYMPHONY #8**  
("UNFINISHED")  
BY FRANZ SHUBERT

**PEER GYNT SUITE**  
BY EDWARD GRIEG

**CAN-CAN**  
BY GIACOMO ROSSINI

**SYMPHONY #7 MOVEMENT 2**  
BY LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

**MARCH MILITARE**  
BY CAMILLE SAINT-SAENS

**MOTHER GINGER**  
BY PETER TCHAIKOVSKY

**THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK**  
BY JOHN WILLIAMS

**THE LORD OF THE RINGS,  
THE FELLOWSHIP  
OF THE RING**  
BY HOWARD SHORE

FOR TICKETS AND  
RESERVATIONS CALL:  
310.440.3500 x3344  
[WWW.SSWT.ORG/SSWMA](http://WWW.SSWT.ORG/SSWMA)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2004 - 2:30 P.M.**  
ROBERT MARGOLIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
MILKEN COMMUNITY-HIGH SCHOOL OF STEPHEN WISE TEMPLE  
15800 ZELDINS WAY, LOS ANGELES  
ADMISSION \$5 GENERAL / \$10 RESERVED

**MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2004 - 7:30 P.M.**  
ZIPPER HALL, THE COLBURN SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS  
200 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE, LOS ANGELES  
ADMISSION \$10 GENERAL / \$20 RESERVED

The Stephen Wise Youth Orchestra  
and Fine Arts Project 2000  
present

## Winter Concert and Art Exhibit

including works by:  
Bach, Borodin, Handel, Haydn,  
Tchaikovsky, and Dr. Russell Steinberg

Conducted by  
Dr. Russell Steinberg

Sunday, January 30, 2000  
7:30 p.m.  
Robert Margolis  
Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School  
of Stephen Wise Temple

\$5.00 per person, suggested donation at the door

For concert information  
or to schedule an audition, call: 310.470.2413



## The Stephen Wise Youth Orchestra Concerts

Conducted by  
Dr. Russell Steinberg

Based at the Milken Community High School  
of Stephen Wise Temple

Featured works include:  
Symphony No. 92 "Oxford" by Joseph Haydn  
and Themes from "Also Sprach Zarathustra"  
("Power") by Richard Strauss

◆ **Sunday, February 11, 2:30 p.m.**  
Robert Margolis Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School  
of Stephen Wise Temple  
15800 Zeldins Way (at Mulholland Drive)  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Admission is \$5 general admission,  
\$20 for reserved seating

◆ **Monday, February 12, 7:30 p.m.**  
Zipper Concert Hall  
at The Colburn School of  
The Performing Arts  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Admission is \$10 general admission,  
\$20 for reserved seating

for more information call:  
Leslie Luciani, Administrative Director  
310-440-3500 ext. 3344





# **BENJAMIN BARTELT**

## **Violin early 2000s**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I make my living doing a combination of performing, recording, and teaching. Every day is different from the next!

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

My best memories from LAYO are learning all sorts of wonderful compositions ranging all the way from Haydn to contemporary music, including the premiere of Russell's 2nd Symphony! Also, getting to know some wonderful friends, some of whom I am still in touch with today.



## **MAXWELL BECK**

### **Double Bass 2017-2023**

#### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am a passionate composer and musician currently pursuing my Doctor of Music Arts (DMA) in composition and music technology at the Thornton School of Music, USC, where I also completed my undergraduate and my master's degrees. In addition to a burgeoning career in music composition for television with currently two shows on Hulu and Peacock, I have scored several films through the USC School of Cinematic Arts, and I work with a variety of musical artists in the pop and indie genres as a writer and producer. I have studied and played both double bass and electric bass extensively in the US and in Europe, and I work as an assistant teacher with Jazz Empowers, whose mission is transforming the lives of underserved youth through jazz education.

#### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

While touring Austria and the Czech Republic with LAYO in 2015, we stopped at Theresienstadt, a former concentration camp on the outskirts of Prague. Thousands of Jews were imprisoned here; many of them famous musicians. Listening to the guide speak about these musicians was a truly profound experience. The musicians were gone but their music remains. That theme played throughout the trip as we performed Dvořák in Dvořák Hall, explored Beethoven's home and played Haydn's symphony number 3 in Haydn Hall. Music's phenomenal ability to sustain through history was a theme on that trip. Longfellow said, 'Music is the universal language of mankind.' In the turbulent world we live in, music is one of the few facets of life that can unite us and even give hope. The lessons learned on that trip, and throughout my two years with LAYO shaped much of my career trajectory and was a powerful motivator for studying music through a global perspective.



# **GRANT BISHOP**

## **Trumpet 2015-2017**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Following high school graduation in 2022, I became a student at Ecole Nationale De Cirque, a professional, full-time circus training college located in Montreal, Canada. I will graduate in June 2025 and then start my career as a circus performer! My major is juggling, with a "minor" concentration in Trampoline Wall. My classes include some academic subjects like French language and philosophy, and I take classes in acrobatics, Russian Swing, flexibility, trampoline (different from trampoline wall), strength training, dance, Russian Barre ... and lots of juggling! I still play trumpet with friends and even performed trumpet in a summer circus act that I was in right out of high school.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was a great preparation for performing with a group and practicing repeatedly until I mastered something. It's also very helpful to be able to read music.



## **JARED BISHOP**

### **Viola 2015 - 2019**

#### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Since graduating LAYO, Jared has gone on to sit as first chair violist in the Haverford Bi-College orchestra, organized several chamber groups, and is now currently playing for Contra and Scottish dances in the greater Philadelphia area. He has a degree with honors in English and is working as a substitute teacher.

#### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO has inspired a deep and lifelong passion for music, and he hopes to continue playing instruments until his fingers give out.



# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

of Stephen Wise Temple

## IN CONCERT

Conducted by  
Russell Steinberg, Ph.D.

### The Three-Legged MONSTER

A delightful children's piece in the spirit of Peter and the Wolf that teaches about the instruments in the orchestra.



Story by Hanna Yaddor-Avni

Illustrations by Lucy Elkivity

Narrated by  
"Star Trek: The Next Generation" Star  
Gates McFadden

Program also includes:

Symphony # 4, 4th Movement  
by Brahms

The Three-Cornered Hat  
by Manuel De Falla

March of Marriage  
by Franz Liszt

Symphony # 5, 1st Movement  
by Joseph Haydn

Egmont Overture  
by Beethoven

Sunday, May 23, 2004 - 2:30 p.m.  
Margolis Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School of Stephen Wise Temple  
15800 Zeldins Way, Los Angeles  
Admission: \$5 General / \$10 Reserved

Monday, May 24, 2004 - 7:30 p.m.  
Zipper Hall, The Colburn School of Performing Arts  
200 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles  
Admission: \$10 General / \$20 Reserved

For tickets and reservations call:  
310.440.3500 ext. 3344  
[www.sswt.org/swma](http://www.sswt.org/swma)

This concert is made possible in part by the  
Art (Sharon Greenblatt Music Fund)  
and the Jewish Center for Culture and Creativity



# Da Da Da DUM!



## BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Los Angeles Youth Orchestra of Stephen Wise Temple presents an **Every People's Concert** featuring a live lecture and performance of **Beethoven's Fifth Symphony**, plus works by **Dvorak, Holst, Liszt, Mendelssohn, Mozart**, and the **James Bond Theme** by **Monty Norman**.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2004  
4:00 PM

Robert Margolis Performing Arts Center,  
Milken Community High School of  
Stephen Wise Temple,  
15800 Zeldins Way, Los Angeles.  
Admission: \$2 Children under 18,  
\$10 General, \$15 Reserved

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2004  
7:30 PM

Zipper Hall, The Colburn School of  
Performing Arts, 200 South  
Grand Avenue, Los Angeles.  
Admission: \$2 Children under 18,  
\$10 General, \$15 Reserved

For tickets and reservations, call: 310.440.3500 x3344  
[www.layouthorchestra.org](http://www.layouthorchestra.org)



# LOS ANGELES Youth Orchestra

## Classical Sabbath



Special Guest Artist:  
Cantor Nathan Lam

Conducted by  
Russell Steinberg, Ph.D.

Program Includes:  
"Shema" - Michael Isaacson  
"Introduction of Cantor" - Aaron Shlager  
"Tachanun" - Elmer Gold  
"Sabbath Cantors Hallel" - David Steinberg  
"Nishmat" - David Steinberg  
"Shema Yisrael" - Joseph Shulman  
"The Shema's Appendix" - Paul Zukav

November 18, 2005 at 8:00 p.m.

Special Shabbat Service with Rabbi Zeldin, Cantor Lam, and  
the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra,  
Westwood Sanctuary, Stephen S. Wise Temple

November 21, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.

Robert Margolis Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School  
of Stephen Wise Temple

For tickets and reservations, call: 310.440.3500 ext. 3344  
[www.layouthorchestra.org](http://www.layouthorchestra.org)

# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director



Beethoven's Piano Concerto #1  
with special guest  
**JOEL FAN**  
concert artist with  
Yo Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble

Also:  
World Premieres by  
Milken Community High School  
Composition Students  
-Max Aragi: Tangent  
-Shalev Netanel: A Poem Heard  
Through Thin Walls  
-Beethoven: Coriolanus Overture  
-Brahms: Academic Festival Overture  
-Tchaikovsky: Capriccio Italien  
and more.

Sunday, March 25, 2007  
4:00 p.m.  
Robert Margolis  
Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School  
15800 Zeldins Way  
at Mulholland Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Wednesday, March 28, 2007  
7:30 p.m.  
Zipper Concert Hall  
at the Colburn School  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90012

General Admission:  
Children (18 and under), \$2 / Adults, \$10  
All Reserved Seats \$15  
For tickets and information call: 310.903.5712  
[www.layouthorchestra.org](http://www.layouthorchestra.org)





# **CAMERON BLY**

## **Cello 2015 - 2017**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently a first year at Brown University studying architecture and economics. While music is not my main focus, I am continuing my studies in cello here at Brown. I am currently in the Brown University Orchestra, and I play in a string quartet as well.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO holds a special place in my heart, as it was the first orchestra I ever performed in. I began playing in LAYO when I was in fourth grade, and it was exciting to play with such talented musicians. While I was only to perform with LAYO for two years because I moved to New York after fifth grade, LAYO certainly inspired me to continue my studies with cello and to join the Norwalk Youth Symphony in Connecticut, which I performed in for six years.



# **MEG BRADLEY**

## **French Horn 2015 - 2016**

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

It was a lovely experience, music is what really helped me cope with a lot of stress and pressure I dealt with as a teenager. I remember being super thankful for the opportunity - we wouldn't have been able to afford it at the time, but my awesome mother volunteered during a lot of rehearsals so that the financial burden would be relieved. Plus we played some pretty sweet pieces from the perspective of a French horn player! I still remember what we played: La Gazza Ladra, Dvorak's Carnival Overture, Tchaikovsky 4 were particularly impressionable for a young musician like me.

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I'm now in my third year of medical school going through all my clinical rotations (yikes), and I do attribute the precision and discipline acquired through years of orchestra practice and marching band to being well trained and prepared for the journey on which I am now.



# ISABEL & FRANCISCA BUGACOV

## Violin 2016 - 2018

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

**Francisca:** Sundays were my favorite days: snacks and great music to play. I used to love playing at the Ambassador. Playing in an orchestra is a very rewarding experience.

**Isabel:** Layo was a big part of my life during those years. I made friends, enjoyed snacks during break and practiced A LOT. I also met my private violin teachers who are the best!





# **LUCCA CAISE**

## **Bassoon 2017-2020**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Lucca Caise is currently pursuing his bachelor of music at The Juilliard School, studying with Kim Laskowski, former associate principal bassoon of the New York Philharmonic.

Originally from Santa Monica, California, he studied at Interlochen Arts Academy for high school under Eric Stomberg. He has spent his summers at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute Young Artist Orchestra, Domaine Forget, and the Clazz international music festival. There, he has participated in masterclasses led by Ole Kristian Dahl, Daniel Matsukawa, Carlo Colombo, Richard Ranti, and more. In his free time, he enjoys cooking and working out.





Los Angeles Youth Orchestra  
in concert

# Pastoral

Performing:

**Beethoven:** Symphony No. 6 ("Pastoral")

**Bartok:** Pieces for Children

**Bock:** Fiddler on the Roof

**Steinberg:** Ruby Building Dedication

**Sunday, December 10, 2006**

**4:00 p.m.**

Robert Margolis Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School  
15800 Zeldins Way at Mulholland Drive  
Los Angeles, California 90049

**Monday, December 11, 2006**

**7:30 p.m.**

Zipper Concert Hall at the Colburn School  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90012

General Admission: Children 18 and under, \$2 / Adults, \$10

All Reserved Seats, \$15

For tickets and reservations call: 310.903.5712



LOS ANGELES  
Youth Orchestra



# **NADIA CETINYAN**

## **Percussion 2018-2022**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am attending UCLA and pursuing a mechanical engineering degree. I am currently in London for a semester abroad program, taking classes about culture and music in London. I have been able to attend many wonderful classical music concerts and the royal opera while abroad. At UCLA I have been able to work with the orchestra in student run musicals through the Hooligan Theatre Company. I have also continued to play the piano in my own time, which serves as a great stress release from classes.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

From my time in LAYO I have learned how to really appreciate talent and live performance. LAYO will always have a special place in my heart for helping me grow as a musician.



# **SOPHIA CETINYAN**

## **Percussion 2018-2021**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am a senior at UCLA studying mechanical engineering. I continue to play classical piano in my spare time and love to attend concerts at the Herb Alpert School of Music.

# **SANDRA ELIZABETH CHAVEZ**

**Flute/Piccolo 2008-2011**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I worked as a freelance makeup artist and hair stylist for about 10 years. Recently I decided I wanted a career change and now I am currently in school for Nursing.



# **CORY CHEN**

## **Cello 2021-2023**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

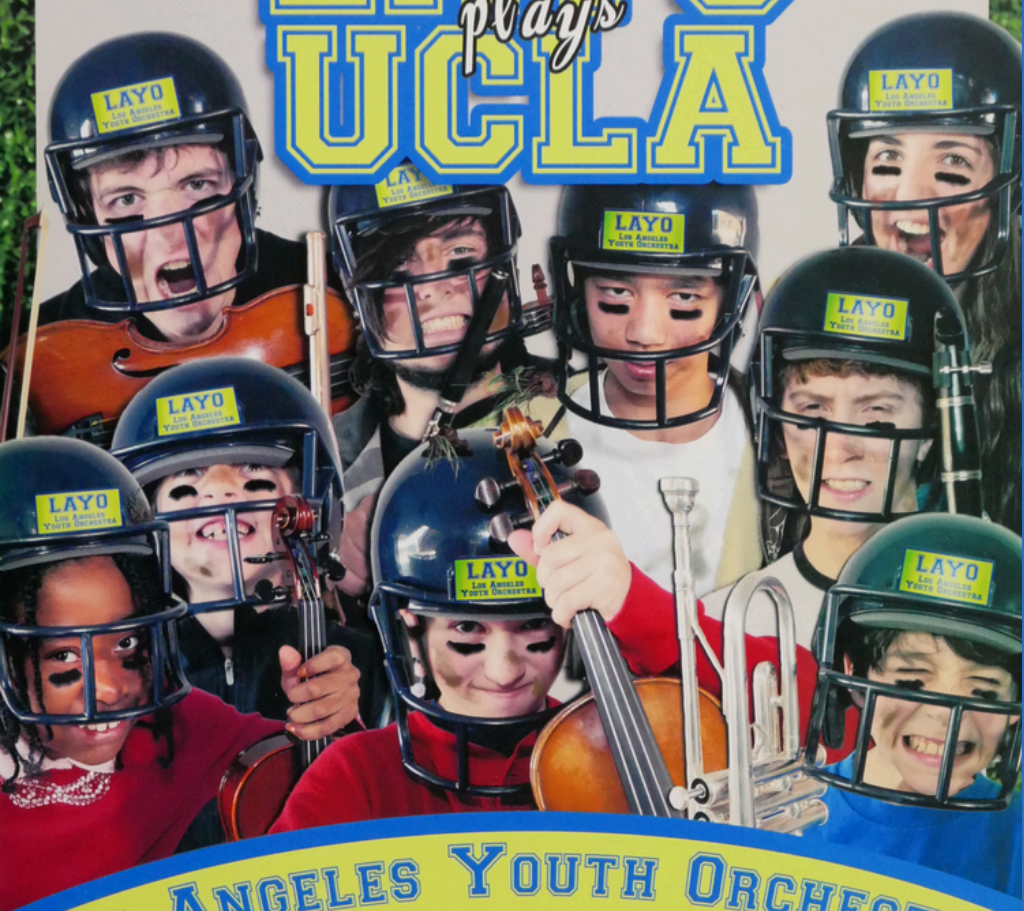
I am currently a sophomore at the University of Washington in Seattle, double-majoring in music and intended neuroscience. My main career path is to become a doctor, but I am still very active as a cellist within UW's School of Music and affiliated organizations. I'm a pre-med by day and musician by night. After taking my STEM classes in the morning, I attend rehearsals every other day for the UW Symphony Orchestra, where I have recently been promoted to principal cellist! Being part of the music community is a great way to get to know other similarly passionate individuals, and creates a strong balance with academic life.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Huge thanks to Russell and all of LAYO for being a part of some of my most fondest memories in my musical career. My experience with LAYO is one of the biggest reasons why I am and will continue to be as involved in music as much as I can. Most importantly, thank you to my coach Stephen Green for being an amazing mentor and recognizing my potential and encouraging me to continue cello.



# LAYO *plays* UCLA



## LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Plays

Beethoven Triple Concerto with UCLA Student Soloists:

Hye-Won Kim, piano    Lauren Deutsch, violin    Isaac Melamed, cello

Sunday, April 6, 2008  
4 p.m.

Robert Margolis Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School  
15800 Zeldins' Way at Mulholland Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Monday, April 7, 2008  
7:30 p.m.

Zipper Concert Hall  
at the Colburn School  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Wednesday, April 9, 2008  
8 p.m.  
Schoenberg Hall  
University of California at  
Los Angeles

For tickets and information, call: 310.903.5712  
[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)

STEPHEN WISE TEMPLE



LOS ANGELES  
Youth Orchestra

The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra is a partner in the Los Angeles Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Partners Program



# **RYAN CHU**

## **French Horn 2019-2020**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently finishing up my degree in Pharmacology with a minor in Business, and I plan to pursue medicine once I graduate.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO has given me many great memories and friends, and I'm so happy I was able to pursue my interest in music with them and perform Eroica for my family.



# **AMIRA COHEN**

## **Cello 2019-2022**

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO for me was and still is a big part of my musical career. From the chamber groups (keeping me sane during the pandemic), section sessions, and orchestral experiences at beautiful venues I am left with the best memories and overall skill improvement. It was here that I fully understood that being a musician (in chamber or orchestral setting) really is a team effort- we are all working together to create a bigger picture which is how I see LAYO'S impact on my own career- a vital piece making up my musical story.

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am a second year studying at Azusa Pacific University under the direction of Marek Szpakiewicz, working towards my bachelor's degree in music performance as a cellist. I continue to make improvements to my musicianship and that's my biggest goal these days- to be the best I can be and always seek growth. And with that I would say I'm already living the dream as a musician.

# EMMA COHEN

## Cello 2004-2007

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I have a B.S. in Mathematics from Caltech (where by the end of my senior year I was spending more hours per week on music than academics), and a Ph.D. in Algorithms, Combinatorics, and Optimization from Georgia Tech. I am now on the research staff at the Center for Communications Research, an FFRDC in Princeton, NJ.



# ELLIE CONLEY

## French Horn 2011-2013

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I received a bachelors in music performance from McGill University, where I studied with Denys Derome. I went on to be a member of TÖN "The Orchestra Now" during their 2020-2021 season. Currently I live in Brooklyn where I release music under the name Ellie Shannon. I'm also one of the founding members of the band Kissy Noises, and collaborate with various artists including my fiancé Jamie Weil, The Cradle (Paco Cathcart), Kolb, and Sammy Weissberg.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was the first orchestra I ever played with! Getting the opportunity to play in a small orchestra at a young age really jump started my musical development and playing Schubert's 8th symphony will always stick with me.



# THE ORCHESTRA DANCES

BEETHOVEN	Symphony No. 7
COPLAND	Hoe-Down
ROSSINI	The Barber of Seville Overture
GERSHWIN	Selections from "Porgy and Bess"
DE FALLA	The Three-Cornered Hat
GRIEG	Peer Gynt Suite
HANDEL	Overture to "Samson"

## LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA



**Sunday, December 14, 2008  
at 4 p.m.**

**Milken Community High School  
of Stephen Wise Temple**

**Monday, December 15, 2008  
at 7:30 p.m.**

**Zipper Concert Hall  
at The Colburn School**

*Representing over 50 Los Angeles public and private schools, the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra is proud to be a partner in the Los Angeles Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Partners Program.*



**For more information:**

**[www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org](http://www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org) or 310.903.5712**

**Tickets available at: [www.MilkenSchool.org/LAYO](http://www.MilkenSchool.org/LAYO) or at the door**



# **CHARLOTTE COSTAIN**

## **Violin/Viola 2014-2021**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I'm currently in my final year at McGill University in Montreal studying Psychology with minors in Behavioral Science and Health Geography. Although I don't study music, I continue to play viola in the university's Beethoven Orchestra as well as in an independent chamber group. After graduating in the spring from McGill, I plan to pursue graduate school to study counselling and psychotherapy and keep playing my viola whenever I can!



# **JULIA CUNNINGHAM**

## **Oboe 2017-2019**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After high school, Julia attended the University of California, Berkeley, where she graduated in 2022 with a degree in English and Disability Studies. Since graduation, Julia has been working as a Community Health Educator, serving over 2,000 youth in grades 5-12 throughout the Bay Area and Southern California. She is passionate about fostering curiosity, empathy, and informed decision-making through her work. Outside of work, Julia loves spending time with friends and family, crocheting, and rediscovering LA after recently moving back!





# **AMBER DAUGHTRY**

## **Violin 2006-2013**

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Being a part of LAYO for seven years has nurtured my growth as a musician and as a human being. I feel immensely privileged to have studied orchestral music under the direction of Dr. Russell Steinberg. I learned how to thrive musically and socially in an orchestral setting, as it was one of my first experiences in an orchestra at eight years old. LAYO has provided me with the strongest orchestral and educational foundation possible through the process of auditioning, preparing repertoire with esteemed string coaches, and establishing professionalism, all culminating in performing high quality concerts at prestigious venues with other great musicians in my age group. Now that I am teaching and working with various musical organizations, I carry the values and standards that were set during my time at LAYO and instill them into my own students.

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

In 2019, I obtained my degree in violin performance from DePaul University. I have the privilege of teaching and serving as a mentor for several organizations in my community such as the Inner City Youth Orchestra of Los Angeles (ICYOLA), Musicians At Play, the Watts - Willowbrook Conservatory, and becoming a member of the new Civic Orchestra of Los Angeles. In addition, I am developing my private studio and performing for various occasions throughout the year, living a fulfilled life in music.





# HEATHER DAUGHTRY

## Violin 2004-2007

### What have you been doing since LAYO?

Heather Daughtry has cultivated a diverse career in marketing, events, and partnerships, with experience at Radio Disney, NBCUniversal, and Allied Global Marketing. Most recently, she managed Sponsorships and Partnerships at Final Draft Inc. Currently, Heather holds two freelance roles: Chief of Programming for the Black Boy Writes/Black Girl Writes Mentorship Program and Head of Partnerships at Creatricity, a network dedicated to connecting vetted industry professionals. As a multi-hyphenate, Heather aspires to merge her passions in technology, music, theatre, film, and television. She is also an actor and improviser, honing her craft at The Groundlings. Heather still holds a deep appreciation for classical music, with one of her favorite pieces being Beethoven's 6th "Pastoral" Symphony, which she played during her early years with LAYO. Heather earned a degree in Communication with an emphasis in Performance Studies and a Music minor from California State University, Long Beach (GO BEACH!). In her free time, she enjoys life with her Maltipoo "doghter," Ivory Moon.

# LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director

Celebrates

# Earth Day

Featuring Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons"  
in special arrangements with student soloists.

Plus Beethoven: "Pastoral Symphony, mvt. 1"

Williams: "E.T., Adventures on Earth"

Lefkowitz: "Santa Monica Sunset"

Steinberg: "405: Bam and Alternative Energy"

Sunday, April 26, 2009 - 4 p.m.  
Robert Margolis Performing Arts Center  
Milken Community High School  
15800 Zeldins Way at Mulholland Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Monday, April 27, 2009 - 7:30 p.m.  
Zipper Concert Hall at the Colburn School  
200 S. Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

For tickets and information:  
310.903.5712  
[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)  
Tickets also available at the door.



Los Angeles Youth Orchestra is a Partner in the  
LA Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Partners Program.



Joining all Los Angeles Area Youth Orchestras and dedicated to  
the Los Angeles Philharmonic Education Department that brought us together

# YOUTH Orchestra DAY!

4 L.A. Area Youth Orchestras  
come together in a new spirit of  
cooperation & creativity.

**FEATURING**

- Los Angeles Youth Orchestra, conducted by Russell Steinberg
  - A Night on Bald Mountain by Prokofiev
  - Beethoven's 1st by Sam Gellay
- Olympia Youth Orchestra, conducted by Fung Ho
  - La Suite de ballet Chopin, by Rossini
  - La Traviata: Prelude to Act III, by Verdi
- Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra, conducted by Jo Shoup
  - Carmina Burana, by Franz Schreker
- Verdugo Youth Orchestra, conducted by Samuel Chingman
  - Gairdies, by Hone
  - Rhapsody March, by Johann Strauss the Elder

**A WORLD PREMIERE**  
commissioned for this event:  
The Net of Indra, by Russell Steinberg,  
performed by all four orchestras  
using 1200 musicians!

**EDUCATIONAL PANELS**  
of conductors, professional  
musicians, and students,  
moderated by conductor  
and Los Angeles Philharmonic  
violinist Mitchell Newman

February 28,  
2009 at 3:30 pm  
Season Hall  
Pasadena City College  
1070 East Colorado Blvd.  
Pasadena, California 91106

Tickets available at the door:  
Adults \$15 - Students and Seniors \$5 - Children 12 and under free  
People available in all ticket lots \$2

## Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

with artistic director  
Russell Steinberg, Ph.D. PRESENTS

# Angels & Dragons

Music Exploring Light & Dark, Heaven & Hell

## Beethoven Symphony No. 2

Russell Steinberg, Flag of 9/11

Paul Simon, America

Also Including:

Mozart  
Scores from  
Marriage of  
Figaro  
Winsky, Marner  
Purinton Easter  
Overture  
E.T. Scores  
Dance Measure  
Paul Simon  
Scarborough Fair  
Hans Zimmer  
Pirates of the  
Caribbean  
at midnight

SUNDAY NOV 20, 2011

at 11:00 a.m.

Barnum Hall

at Santa Monica High School

401 Olympic Boulevard

Santa Monica, CA 90405

MONDAY NOV 21, 2011

at 7:30 p.m.

Zipper Concert Hall

at the Colburn School

200 South Grand Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tickets and Information:

[LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org](http://LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org)

(310) 571-LAYO



LOS ANGELES  
Youth Orchestra

## Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director  
Presents



## Symphony No. 35 "Haffner" by Mozart & Academic Festival Overture by Brahms

Also Featuring "Little Suite" by John Biggs  
plus

Symphony No. 4 by Haydn

Intermezzo by Mascagni

Lord of the Rings by Howard Shore



Sunday, April 6, 2014  
4:00 pm

UCLA Schoenberg Hall  
455 Charles E. Young Drive East  
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Monday, April 7, 2014  
7:30 pm

Zipper Hall at the Colburn School  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

For tickets and information: [www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org) • (310) 571-LAYO



# **ARNAV DAVE**

## **Double Bass 2016-2023**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently pursuing degrees in Cognitive Science, Philosophy, and Music Theory at Pomona College. I continue to play double bass in my college orchestra, a pursuit that I enjoy to this very day (plus, our orchestra is quite good!). I am taking tons of music classes, and I consider pursuing a future in cognitive musicology or electroacoustic music composition.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Participating at LAYO from a young age has enriched my life to a level that I cannot emphasize, challenging me to reach great heights intellectually, technically, and emotionally. Playing in LAYO has deeply endowed in me a love of classical music that is experienced beyond the role of a listener, showing me the beauty of engaging and embodying emotions that cannot be explained by mere words alone. LAYO has meant a lot to me, and I wouldn't be the person that I am today without Dr. Steinberg's inspiring approach to classical music.



# **JULIAN DOHI**

## **French Horn 2020-2022**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Julian Dohi is currently a second-year at UCLA where he is pursuing a degree in Music Education. He is on the board for the UCLA collegiate chapter of the National Association for Music Education and writes for the Daily Bruin, UCLA's student newspaper. Julian is currently a Gluck Fellow at UCLA where he plays with his brass quintet at community centers across Los Angeles.





# **WILLIAM ELLZEY**

## **Cello 2013-2016**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently an Elementary School teacher in Santa Monica. Music is still a part of my life in that I love practicing and occasionally play for the children at school and church.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

I loved my time with LAYO and traveled with the orchestra to Vienna and Prague, a life-changing trip that I reflect back on often.



# ELIZABETH ERENBERG

## Flute 2001-2004

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After my time in LAYO and the Colburn Orchestra da Camera, I pursued my Bachelor of Music at the University of Oregon. Then, I went to Boston for my Master of Music at the New England Conservatory of Music, where I studied with Fenwick Smith and Paula Robison. I remained in Boston for a few more years to be a freelance musician, build a private teaching studio, and work in arts administration at Tufts University and NPR's From the Top. In 2023, I moved with my family to Charlotte, NC, where I am now an Adjunct Professor of Music at Wingate University. I recently won the "Adjunct of the Year" award for my contributions to their recruiting efforts and curriculum development for their Music Business Certificate program. I teach and play in the area while also working in digital marketing.

# LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA

PRESENTS THE FIRST CONCERTS  
IN OUR INAUGURAL SEASON AT THE  
SABAN THEATRE

Russell Steinberg, Ph.D.  
Artistic Director



Featuring a special performance of the  
**Daniel Pearl** Commission **Stories From  
My Favorite Planet** by **Russell Steinberg**.

Guest Narrator **Theodore Bikel**, star of  
stage, film, and television.

Guest Violin Soloist **Mitchell Newman**  
of the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Theodore Bikel



Mitchell Newman



Tickets & Info: [losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://losangelesyouthorchestra.org) (310)571-LAYO

## ALSO ON THE PROGRAM:

**Mendelssohn:** Overture to  
Midsummer Night's Dream

**Mozart:** Overture to the Magic Flute

**Berlioz:** Hungarian March

**Chopin:** Grande Valse Brillante  
Star Wars And more

November 21, 2010, 4:00 pm  
**Saban Theatre**  
8440 Wilshire Boulevard  
Beverly Hills, CA 90211

November 22, 2010, 7:30 pm  
**Zipper Concert Hall**  
at the Colburn School  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012





# **IAN FLECK**

## **Clarinet 2021-2022**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently a sophomore at the Manhattan School of Music, pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in Classical Clarinet Performance under the guidance of David Krakauer. As part of my studies, I have been actively performing on clarinet, bass clarinet, and saxophones in orchestral settings and musical theatre pit orchestras, which has helped me develop versatility as a performer.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

My time with LAYO was an invaluable part of my musical journey. I had the opportunity to collaborate with other dedicated musicians and perform professional-level repertoire. Playing works like Sibelius' Symphony No. 2 challenged me to grow both technically and musically. Beyond the music, LAYO also helped me build a strong network of fellow musicians—connections that continue to inspire and support me as I move forward in my career.





# **FRANCIS FLORENTINO**

## **Cello 2016-2017**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Frances Florentino graduated from the University of the Pacific with a degree in Music Therapy and a minor in Psychology. She is currently completing her residency/internship for her national board certifications.



# **RONALD FLORENTINO**

## **French Horn 2016-2017**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Ronald Florentino graduated from Willamette University with a BA in Music Performance and Minor in Political Science. He performed for four years in the University Orchestra and Symphonic Band and played football as the starting center for the Bear Cats. Graduating with a 3.9 GPA and is attending Law School.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Playing for LAYO is one of his fondest memories in middle and high school.



# **BENJY FOX-ROSEN**

## **Double Bass 2001- 2002**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I studied jazz performance and liberal arts at the New School, graduating in 2007, and then worked as a freelance musician in New York following graduation, immersing myself in klezmer and Yiddish music. In 2012 I had a Fulbright grant in Moldova researching the overlapping styles of Yiddish and Moldovan vocal music. Following this, I relocated to Vienna and in 2017 became conductor of the historic Vienna Stadttempel Choir, simultaneously completing a masters in Musicology at the University of Vienna. I recently stopped working at the Stadttempel to work as a researcher at the Music and Minorities Research Center, at the University of Performing Art in Vienna. Throughout all this, I have also worked as a freelance musician, arranger, composer, teacher and so forth.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was my first and really my only experience playing orchestral music, a sound world which I love and which continues to inspire me.

**Los Angeles Youth Orchestra**  
*Presents*

# *Fest & Fire*

A Concert Honoring  
**LAYO's Eve Cohen**



**SUNDAY**  
**NOVEMBER 18, 2012**  
**4:00 pm**  
UCLA Schoenberg Hall  
445 Charles E. Young Drive East  
Los Angeles CA 90095

**MONDAY**  
**NOVEMBER 19, 2012**  
**7:30 pm**  
Zipper Concert Hall at the  
Colburn School  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

## **PROGRAM** *includes*

Beethoven — Symphony No. 8 in F Major  
Mozart — Overture to The Marriage of Figaro  
De Falla — Ritual Fire Dance  
Bach — Sleepers Wake  
Vivaldi — Selections from The Four Seasons  
Berlioz — March to the Scaffold

**TICKETS** Available at  
[www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org](http://www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org)

**Presale**  
\$15 adults, and \$3 children 18 and under.

**At the door**  
\$20 adults and \$5 children 18 and under.



The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra is 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, and all donations are deductible as provided by the US Tax Code.





# **JONATHAN GASSER- BRENNAN**

## **Violin 2019-2023**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Bachelors in Computer Science at UC Berkeley (in progress). I'm a sophomore at UC Berkeley studying CS. Musically, I play violin in the UC Berkeley mariachi band, which may seem like quite the departure from LAYO, but in essence, I found another community of enthusiastic and capable musicians! Academically, I'm doing machine learning research into making LLMs better at using tools. Otherwise, I'm working on an app at a startup and having a good old Berkeley time!

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Besides the whole belting out Spanish choruses, LAYO prepared me really well for mariachi, especially in knowing how to make music in a large group.



# VINCENT GIZA

## Violin 2020-2022

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently in my third year of my undergraduate degree at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN. I am a B.M. Music Composition major, and play two of the St. Olaf Ambassador ensembles, the St. Olaf Orchestra (Violin) and the St. Olaf Band (Bb and Eb Clarinet).

In my compositional endeavors, I have studied under Dr. Timothy Mahr, Dr. Justin Merritt, Dr. Abbie Betinis, and most recently Dr. Henry Dorn. Throughout the last two years, I have had live performances for several of my compositions such as my Northfield Overture no. 1, Fanfare to America, and Saxophone Quartet.

I am also studying conducting in hopes to proceed into a graduate program in conducting. I have studied Conducting with Dr. Timothy Mahr, Dr. Chung Park, and Dr. Henry Dorn. This fall, I am conducting the first movement of Mozarts 40th Symphony with a student orchestra group on campus. I am looking forward to what the rest of my time at St. Olaf brings me, and where I end up afterwards!



# **ELYSIA HAN**

## **Viola 2017-2022**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently a senior in high school and busy applying to colleges! I study viola with Paul Coletti and am a member of a PCM chamber group, where we are preparing to submit videos for upcoming competitions.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Participating in LAYO has played a huge role in my development as a musician, helping me learn to play with other instruments in both orchestral and chamber settings. It has enhanced my musicality and rhythm, and I've cherished the memories made while playing the different excerpts each semester and forming new friendships.



# **EVAN HOU**

## **Clarinet 2003-2005**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I graduated from UCLA with degrees in Economics and Psychology. I currently reside in Torrance with my wife and 1 year old daughter. I've been working in the Analytics and Data Science space for the last 12 years. My focus is on consumer start up tech companies. I'm currently leading the Analytics team at a livestream shopping startup called Whatnot.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Playing in LAYO was a really fun and gratifying experience. It further reinforced my love for music and helped me excel in my high school to college years.





November 24 & 25, 2013

# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

*Russell Steinberg, Ph.D., Artistic Director*

**Presents**

**Copland: Fanfare for the Common Man  
& Dvorak: Symphony No. 8**

**Also on the Program:**

**Tchaikovsky:** Capriccio Italien

**Rachmaninoff:** Vocalise

**Stravinsky:** Firebird (Finale)

**Williams:** Harry Potter & the Chamber of Secrets

**• Plus •**

World Premiere by LAYO student

**David Clymer:** March Suite

**November 24, 2013 4:00 pm**  
**UCLA Schoenberg Hall**  
455 Charles E. Young Drive East  
Los Angeles, CA 90095

**November 25, 2013 7:30 pm**  
**Zipper Hall at the Colburn School**  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**For tickets and information:**  
[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)  
(310) 571-LAYO





# **HANWEN HUANG**

## **Flute/Piccolo 2018-2024**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently studying International Studies at UC Irvine. I've been planning to double major in Economics as well.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO has been a vital part of my life and I'm still talking to the people I've met on the tours. I'm still playing piccolo in the orchestra, and I still very much enjoy coming back to see my friends and play music together.



# **MARIEL JACKSON**

## **Violin 2009-2014**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Mariel graduated from Brown University majoring in Economics (BA) in 2021. All through her college years, she played in the Brown Orchestra, and chamber groups. She is currently working as a corporate strategist for an IT company

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was fun!

# EMILY JACOBS

## Violin 2013-2016

### What have you been doing since LAYO?

I am currently a second year PhD Student at the University of Pennsylvania studying Bioengineering! I study immunotherapies for the treatment of cardiovascular disease and specifically utilize protein engineering as a tool to generate fusion proteins. I love research and am passionate about hopefully one day completing a clinical trial with a drug I created. I live in Philly and love living in a city so deeply rooted in history. It is also so fun rooting on all the Philadelphia sports teams.



# ISABEL JACOBS

## Viola 2015-2017

### What have you been doing since LAYO?

I studied at the University of Redlands where I received my Bachelors of Music in Music Education with an emphasis in viola. I fell in love with teaching and decided to bring my passion for music in the Montessori world where I currently run a class of 4th-6th graders. In 2023, I got sponsored by my work to pursue my Montessori (AMI) credential. I am currently getting my Masters in Curriculum and Education.

I still continue to play viola in local chamber groups, get gigs for weddings, teach violin and viola, and am auditioning for the local Orange County orchestra.

# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

*Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director*

## Exploring a New World

November 23 & 24



Dvorak - Symphony No. 9 in E Minor (From the New World)

Brahms - Tragic Overture

Verdi - La Forza del Destino (Sinfonia)

Bizet - Farandole (from L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2)

Borodin - Polovtsian Dances (from Prince Igor)

November 23, 2014, 4:00 pm  
UCLA Schoenberg Hall  
455 Charles E. Young Drive East  
Los Angeles, CA 90095

November 24, 2014, 7:30 pm  
Zipper Hall at the Colburn School  
200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

For Tickets and Information: [www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org](http://www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org) • (310) 571-LAYO



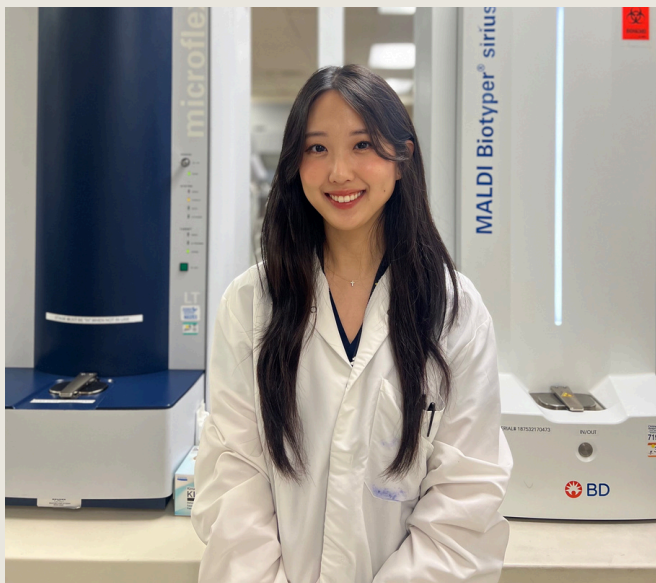


# **ADAM JENG**

## **Violin 2018-2022**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently a junior at Beverly Hills High School and play violin in my school's chamber orchestra; I also am on my school's volleyball team. On weekends, I serve as a piano accompanist at my local church.



# **LEE A JOO**

## **Cello 2010-2015**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I graduated from UC Berkeley in 2020 with a degree in Integrative Biology. Afterward, I pursued a post-baccalaureate program in Clinical Laboratory Science at California State University, Dominguez Hills. I completed my CLS internship at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA) in 2024 and recently passed my board exam. I am about to begin my career as a Clinical Laboratory Scientist in the microbiology lab at Providence St. Joseph Hospital in Orange.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO will always have a special place in my heart.





# **MIKA JUDGE**

## **French Horn 2019-2020**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Mika graduated from Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins with a degree in music education and horn performance ('24). He returned to the West Coast and is now an elementary school orchestra teacher in Los Angeles.



# **ADAM KARELIN**

## **Trombone & Conducting**

### **2016-2018**

#### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Adam currently serves as the Executive and Artistic Director of the Riverside Arts Academy. Since 2023, Adam has overseen the expansion of RAA's programs to provide music education to over 500 students in orchestra, Mariachi, choir, band, and guitar. Adam's music has been performed from Los Angeles to Helsinki, including premieres by the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, New World Symphony Fellows, the Hear Now Festival, and others. In 2019, his work *f Constructs* received the ASCAP Foundation Morton Gould Award. He is the founding artistic director of the Slava Festival, which debuted in April 2023 with the Thornton Edge ensemble, in partnership with Stand with Ukraine Foundation and the USC Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. Karelin holds an M.S. in Arts Leadership and a B.M. in composition with a minor in linguistics from USC. He graduated valedictorian and was named the USC Thornton School of Music's Outstanding Graduate for both of his degrees. His mentors and teachers have included Larry J. Livingston, Kenneth J. Foster, Donald Crockett, Robert Spano, Andrew Norman, and Brett Banducci. In his spare time, Karelin roasts coffee beans, hikes, reads up on the latest linguistics research, and supports local journalism.

# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

*Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director*

## Two Symphonies

## and the *Stars*

**Haydn:** Symphony No. 3

**Tchaikovsky:** Symphony No. 4

**Steinberg:** Cosmic Dust

*(accompanied with Hubble Space Telescope images)*

*plus*

**Saint-Saëns:** Danse Macabre

**Steinberg:** Ruby Overture

**Mussorgsky:** Gopak



**Sunday, April 19, 2015 4:00 pm** UCLA Schoenberg Hall  
455 Charles E. Young Drive East, Los Angeles, CA 90095

**Monday, April 20, 2015 7:30 pm** Zipper Hall at the Colburn School  
200 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Sunday, June 21, 2015 3:00 pm** Encino Community Center  
4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino, CA 91316

For tickets and information: [www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org) • (310) 571-LAYO





# MAXWELL KARMAZYN

## Violin 2003-2005

### What have you been doing since LAYO?

After graduating from Yale in 2021 with a B.A. in Music, I moved to the Manhattan neighborhood of Washington Heights, where the sound of piano lessons and vocal warmups is always in the air. During the day, I work for the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Live Arts department, programming and coordinating music, dance, performance art, and more in the Museum's many spaces. I moonlight as a classical music journalist – since winning the national Rubin Prize for Music Criticism in 2022, I've covered everything from operatic debuts to fabled string quartets to a modern-day Bach, though I've lately taken the most joy in chronicling my musical life for my own platform, All Ears.

I owe some of my earliest love for orchestral music to LAYO, and there are so many pieces that take me straight back to the rehearsal room. Beethoven's Second Symphony and its "wedge" harmonic progression, which Russell said Tchaikovsky plagiarized to high holy hell. (Can confirm.) Suppé's "Poet and Peasant" Overture, one of whose primary themes sounds just like "I've Been Working on the Railroad." "La Bamba," as made famous by Ritchie Valens and the Belwin Mills Intermediate Orchestra series. And to boot, in the past month alone, I've sightread Schumann lieder, performed Handel's Messiah, and seen concertos performed by (and with) some of my closest friends from LAYO – all in New York, mind you!





# EMERY KEREKES

## Cello 2010-2014

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Maxwell is an ASCAP Award winning composer, multi-instrumentalist, and producer. From blockbuster hit *Sonic the Hedgehog*, to cult slasher horror *Thanksgiving* (Eli Roth), to action thriller *Alita Battle Angel*, his original music has been heard in some of Hollywood's most widely recognized intellectual properties. Large scale feature film credits include *Terminator: Dark Fate*, *Sonic the Hedgehog*, *Alita Battle Angel*, Steven King's *Pet Sematary: Bloodlines*, and *Awkwafina's Quiz Lady*, and *Mortal Engines*.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Maxwell's music can also be found in acclaimed television shows, including *Star Wars: Obi Wan Kenobi*, *Cobra Kai*, *The Snoopy Show*, *Bull*, *Blue Bloods*, *Fox NeXt*, and Guillermo Del Toro's *Netflix Trollhunters*. Maxwell enjoyed his Los Angeles Disney Hall solo violin debut at the age of 20. He's recorded for and shared the stage with artists such as John Williams, Stevie Wonder, Hans Zimmer, Andrea Bocelli, Olivia Rodrigo, Björk, Imagine Dragons, P!NK, James Blake, Earth, Wind, and Fire, Steely Dan, John Legend, and The Beach Boys. He's a voting member of the Recording Academy for The Grammy Awards.



# **CHLOE KIRK**

## **Cello 2017-2018**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

My name is Chloe, and I am a junior at The Archer School for Girls. This is my fifth year playing the cello in my school's orchestra as well as their advanced ensemble. I was fortunate enough to become one of the LA Philharmonic's Composer Fellows last fall to further my passion and skillset for music composition. Some music programs I've loved include the Berklee Composition Intensive and the Stanford Jazz Institute for piano performance.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

I remember being very young when I first joined LAYO, and was so excited to perform on renowned stages and collaborate with other musicians. I sometimes felt intimidated by some of the repertoire, but through this I was able to grow as a musician and refine a multitude of skills. As I look toward applying to colleges next year, I know classical orchestra music performance will remain a part of me. Thank you, LAYO!



# **MARTHA KLEINER**

## **Oboe 2004-2005**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I recieved a bachelors of music from the New England Conservatory of Music, and a Performance Studies Certificate from the Colburn School. I have played with orchestras all over the world, such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, National Symphony, Pittsburgh Symohony, Auckland Philharmonia, Atlanta Symphony, and many others. Currently I am a frequent substitute musician for the LA Phil, and have joined them on international tour.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was a very formative experience for me as a young musician, and set me up for success in the rest of my career. My favorite memory of being in LAYO was playing Beethoven's 5th symphony for the very first time in my life.

# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

*Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director*



**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22, 2015, 4:00PM**

**UCLA Schoenberg Hall**

445 Charles E. Young Drive East  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

**MONDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2015, 7:30pm**

**Zipper Concert Hall at the Colburn School**

200 South Grand Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90012







# **ALEXANDRA KOTEVA**

## **Violin 2017-2018**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Shortly after completing my time with LAYO, I moved to North Carolina where I graduated from UNC Chapel Hill with my double Bachelor's in May 2023. I had signed up to do a capstone year abroad but dropped out as part of a last minute decision to pursue independent travel. I spent 9 months solo backpacking in the Caucasus, North Africa, and Europe, using my leftover savings, to learn more about other countries and cultures. Some memories include hiking 300km on the Transcaucasian Trail and volunteering at an animal shelter in Tunisia. I've based myself now in Sofia, Bulgaria, where I work remotely as an outreach coordinator for a US study abroad organization called SRAS that encourages students to study in less traditionally chosen destinations.



# MARTHA KLEINER

## Oboe 2004-2005

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I recieved a bachelors of music from the New England Conservatory of Music, and a Performance Studies Certificate from the Colburn School. I have played with orchestras all over the world, such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, National Symphony, Pittsburgh Symohony, Auckland Philharmonia, Atlanta Symphony, and many others. Currently I am a frequent substitute musician for the LA Phil, and have joined them on international tour.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was a very formative experience for me as a young musician, and set me up for success in the rest of my career. My favorite memory of being in LAYO was playing Beethoven's 5th symphony for the very first time in my life.



# LYDIA KRESIN

## Violin 2017-2020

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I graduated this year from Tufts University, where I studied mechanical engineering and engineering education at Tufts. I'm currently working at a STEM education nonprofit in northern New Hampshire, where I'm developing the makerspace and creating educational programs for high school students and adults!

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

To me, LAYO was a community of people who were equally excited to dive into fun, complex pieces of music.



# **SAMANTHA KRULIK**

## **Violin 2018-2019**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I graduated valedictorian from my master's in accounting program at NYU Stern in August of this year. Also did my undergrad at Stern, majoring in finance and accounting and graduating cum laude in May. I now work as an investment banker at JPMorgan in Dallas, TX, specializing in mortgage-backed securities. Just finished furnishing my new apartment in Dallas and celebrated my 21st birthday.



# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director

## Free Community Concert

Sunday, May 22, 2016 at 3:00pm

Encino Park, 16953 Ventura Boulevard

*A concert for the whole family to enjoy.*

*Lawn seating so bring a blanket and picnic basket.*

## *A Festival of Overtures*

**WAGNER:** Overture to Rienzi

**ROSSINI:** La Gazza Ladra Overture

**BERLIOZ:** Roman Carnival Overture

**STEINBERG:** The Net of Indra

**SIBELIUS:** Finlandia

**BEACH BOYS** Medley



[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)



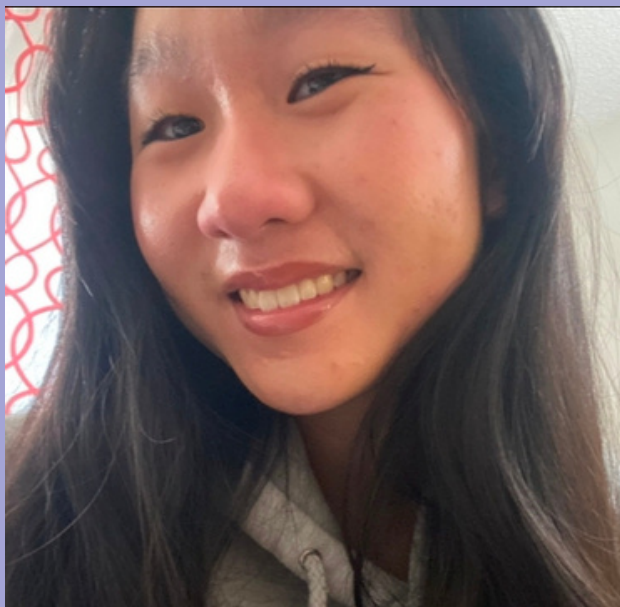
# **REBECCA KYO**

## **Violin 2022-2023**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am an undergraduate student at UC Berkeley, currently in my second year. Currently, I am majoring in Genetics and Plant Biology.

In addition, I am also part of the UC Berkeley Symphony Orchestra! We have six concert sets throughout the school year, covering a wide range of orchestral work, from Rachmaninoff, Strauss, and Berlioz, to Stravinsky and many 21st-century new music written by Bay Area composers!



## **JOYCE LAI**

### **Violin 2021-2024**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After LAYO, I moved from Los Angeles to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for university. I now attend the University of Pittsburgh studying chemistry and health humanities on a pre-medical track.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO reinvigorated my love for music, leading me to actually minor in music at college now. It has made me love all aspects of music, whether performing, theory, or history so much more. I loved my time at LAYO, whether it was those long Sunday rehearsals or touring New York and Vienna.



# **MICHAEL LEE-CHANG**

## **Violin 2013-2014**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am a Political Science major with a minor in Asian Studies at California State University, Sacramento, graduating in May 2026. My work centers on labor rights, economic justice, and public sector governance. As a Student Organizer for the California Faculty Association's Students for Quality Education (SQE), I lead campaigns against tuition hikes, push for stronger workplace protections, and advocate for policy reforms. As a bargaining team member for the California State University I helped organize 20,000+ student assistants into the largest undergraduate labor union in U.S. history. In 2024, I was selected to attend the Harvard Kennedy School's Public Policy Leadership Conference (PPLC).

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

As a cellist with LAYO, I learned the power of discipline, collaboration, and collective action—lessons that now drive my work in labor organizing and public policy. Just as an orchestra unites to create something greater than its individual players, effective organizing depends on bringing people together to push for meaningful change.





# **RENEE LEE**

## **Violin 2019-2023**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I'm currently an undergraduate Biology major with a concentration in Neurobiology and Behavior at Cornell University! A very dear community I've found here is the research lab on campus where I work on a project that aims to discover how simultaneous infections of helminth worms and *Listeria* in mice affect their gut microbiota. Amidst the chaos that is college, I try my hardest to continue to explore the musical bits of myself.

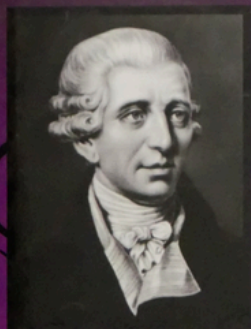
### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Being part of LAYO and learning classical performance under Russell has allowed me to truly appreciate the emotions and intricacies in music, and I hope to carry that influence with me wherever I end up in the future.

# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director

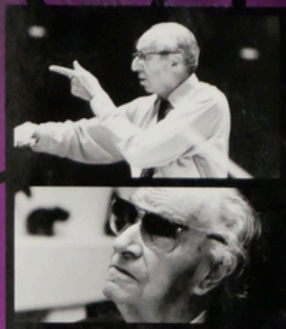
## *Classical Meets Neoclassical*



**HAYDN**  
Symphony No. 92  
in G Major "Oxford"

**COPLAND**  
Appalachian Spring  
&  
Fanfare for the Common Man

**RODRIGO**  
Concierto de Aranjuez



**Sunday, November 20, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.**

**UCLA Schoenberg Hall**

455 Charles E. Young Drive East

Los Angeles, CA 90095

**Monday, November 21, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.**

**Ambassador Auditorium**

131 South St. John Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91123

[www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org](http://www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org)



LOS ANGELES  
*Youth Orchestra*



# AUSTIN LI

## Clarinet 2011-2013

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I received my Bachelor's degree in International Relations from New York University in 2023 and am now finishing my Master's degree in International Relations from the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, in Washington D.C. After I graduate this spring 2025, I will most likely stay in D.C. to work for the federal government as an analyst at the Government Accountability Office.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was a formative part of my childhood in LA. It taught me that perseverance and consistent practice are critical in achieving one's goals. I also met many friends there and was blessed to have an amazing music coach, Dr. Wendy Mazon. Lastly, as someone who grew up in the San Fernando Valley, LAYO gave me a great excuse to see more of LA with my mother after rehearsal, allowing me to get to know my own city a little better despite the long distances between SFV and the rest of the city.



# **WEBER LIN**

## **Clarinet 2019-2022**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I'm currently a student at Stanford University studying bioengineering and CS. I've continued to play clarinet in a Wind Symphony, but also started tenor saxophone in the band and joined a capella!





# **LESLIE LUCIANI**

## **Administrative Director 1999-2004**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I worked as the Administrative Director of LAYO, formerly known as The Stephen Wise Youth Orchestra, from its inception in 1999 until the spring of 2004, and also served as Dr. Steinberg's assistant in the Music Department at Milken Community HS.

I have a B.A. in Music Education from UCLA and a Certificate in Film Scoring from UCLA Extension. I played piano and clarinet, although I'm pretty rusty now! My daughter Rachel, her husband and family, and I moved to Tennessee in 2018 and we live on 10 acres that they own about 30 miles south of Nashville. I am very active in my church, including singing in the choir, and Rachel and I love to work on real estate investing for the family.



# **ALISA LUERA**

## **Violin 2013-2017**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I recently received my Masters Degree in Violin Performance in The UCLA's Herb Alpert School of Music, freelancing in Los Angeles as a hired performer for classical, modern, pop, and historical performances, and I teach in several schools in the Los Angeles area in violin, viola, and piano.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

My best memories from LAYO are the 2017 Italy tour, performing new music that later inspired my current collaboration with local composers, and performing in the house salons! I was glad I had chamber music experience too in the orchestra as a student.

# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director

November 19, 2017 at 4:00pm, UCLA Schoenberg Hall

November 20, 2017 at 7:30pm, Ambassador Auditorium

## *Symphonic Firsts*

**BRAHMS** Symphony No. 1 and **BEETHOVEN** Symphony No. 1

**GRIEG** Prelude from Peer Gynt

**BRAHMS** Variations on a Theme of Haydn

**PONCHIELLI** Dance of the Hours



**UCLA Schoenberg Hall**  
445 Charles E. Young Drive East  
Los Angeles, CA 90095

**Ambassador Auditorium**  
131 South St. John Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91105

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\$15 Adults and \$5 Children (18 and under)

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# JENNA MAH

## French Horn 2020-2021

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

My name is Jenna, and I just graduated in May with a degree in Cell and Molecular Biology! I am now taking a gap year and am working as a medical scribe before attending medical school.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

When I found LAYO, we were still in the midst of a global pandemic. One of the side effects of that pandemic was isolation. Music was and is a big part of my life. Playing and connecting with others is one of the many reasons it's so special. LAYO provided me with an outlet to safely play with talented musicians through chamber music at a time when we were all yearning for connection. I will always be grateful for that beautiful experience.





# OSCAR MARTINEZ

## Violin 2009-2010

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Oscar Martinez is a violinist and teacher in the Los Angeles Area. Oscar maintains a private violin studio with students of all ages. In 2018, Oscar started DOWNBEAT! A Music Enrichment Club. This program offers after-school music classes in various orchestral and band instruments to students K-12 across Los Angeles and San Diego County. Oscar received his Bachelor's of Music, with an emphasis on Violin Performance, from CSUN and his Master's in Music from the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music (CSULB). When Oscar is not playing professionally or teaching, you can find him playing tennis, dancing Salsa or at local dog show with his award winning Standard Longhair Dachshunds, River and Tiky, and lovable Yorkie, Charlie.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra was Oscar's first introduction to symphonic music and the standard repertoire. He attributes his love for orchestral music to his time in LAYO and hopes to bring the same impact to students in his own program.



# SEBASTIAN MARTINEZ

## Violin 2009-2010

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I graduated with my Bachelor's of Music in Trombone Performance from California State University Fullerton in 2022. I've been playing around Los Angeles and Orange County with a variety of groups such as the Los Angeles Brass Alliance, the World Stage Big Band, and Banda Primera Generacion. I'm currently pursuing my Master's of Music in Trombone Performance at UCLA under James Miller.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was my first real introduction into the wider world of orchestral music. I was only able to participate in wind bands while growing up since none of the schools I attended had an orchestral program. Being in this organization is one of the many reasons I wanted to pursue music as my career. While I was only able to participate for a year, the level of musicality and devotion to music stayed with me all these years later.



# **JOIA MASSEE**

## **Double Bass 2022-2024**

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

My name is Jóa Massee and I'm honored to have been in LAYO Symphony from 2022-2024. I appreciated the time spent in rehearsals learning with so many other devoted students and teachers. My favorite memories are the performances especially the final performance of the Vienna/Prague tour.

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently attending Idyllwild Arts Academy for a post-graduate year. I am studying classical bass performance and preparing for conservatory auditions.

# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director

## *Fate and Triumph*

### TCHAIKOVSKY

Symphony No. 5 in E minor and Capriccio Italien

**STEINBERG** Carnegie Overture

**RACHMANINOFF** Vocalise

**OFFENBACH** Ballet Parisien

**GRIEG** Peer Gynt



**Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 4:00 pm at UCLA Schoenberg Hall**

445 Charles E. Young Drive East, Los Angeles, CA 90095

**Monday, April 16, 2018 at 7:30 pm at Ambassador Auditorium**

131 South St. John Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91105

To reserve tickets in advance, email [layoticketinfo@gmail.com](mailto:layoticketinfo@gmail.com)

\$15 Adults and \$5 Children (18 and under)

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# **BRADLEY MINTZ**

## **Trombone 2007-2011**

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

My time at LAYO was absolutely wonderful. It shaped me as a musician and as a person. I would be a lesser person without LAYO. Here are a couple things about LAYO that shaped me:

The first thing it taught me was to be on time. One time, I was two minutes late to a rehearsal and I got chewed out like never before. After that, I was never late again and I apply it in my personal life.

The one thing I vividly remember about LAYO was how it would always come together close to the concert. Often times, as a trombone player, I would sit in the back and wonder how we would be able to perform at an acceptable level 4 weeks away from a concert. Then, in the next two weeks, everyone would seem to get it together and it was magical hearing the progress just come to life. It is indescribable besides the magic of youth orchestra. LAYO changed my life for the better and was one of the best decisions I have ever made.



# **MICA NAFSHUN-BONE**

## **Violin 2011-2015**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I completed my bachelor's degree in Popular Music Performance at the USC Thornton School of Music in 2019. There, I studied privately with jazz violinist Robert Anderson and cultivated interest in arranging, composition and film scoring under the tutelage of the legendary Patrice Rushen. In 2022, I graduated with my Master of Music in Scoring for Film, Television and Video Games at Berklee College of Music's campus in Valencia, Spain. I have now established my career as a violinist, singer-songwriter and film composer here in Los Angeles. Currently, I can be found performing with various groups and artists such as the Americana collective Rah Rah Rabbit and local songstress Maddi Fraser.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Some of my fondest memories took place throughout my time at LAYO. I never thought I would have the opportunity to perform at Carnegie Hall, be featured on a Foo Fighters record, or embark on a tour in Vienna and Prague at such a young age. All the while, we were guided by some of the city's most top notch players, and my technique as a violinist grew tremendously. For that, I am eternally grateful.



# **JAYA NATARAJ**

## **Violin 2007-2015**

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

I can safely say that LAYO was a huge part of my life growing up! As an early entrant to university, LAYO provided me with a sense of community that wouldn't have been available to me anywhere else. Dr. Steinberg and the rest of the LAYO team are unique in that they encourage their students to explore, engage, and be creative. I have fond memories of discussing artistic ideas with my section, pitching those ideas to the coaches and Dr. Steinberg, and enjoying the journey of us interpreting the music as a team each season.

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I have earned a master's degree in biomedical engineering. I'm currently working in pediatric neuroscience research: exploring novel deep brain stimulation targets to treat movement disorders and looking at the effects of general anesthesia on deep brain structures. Although I did not choose to pursue music professionally, I feel that my time in the orchestra and everything I was able to learn from educators and peers has been integral to my current research, and my life.



# KATHERINE NORTON

## Oboe 2016-2020

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I went to NYU for my undergrad and majored in Biology with minors in molecular/cell biology and music. I'm now a first year PhD student in the Biological and Biomedical Sciences program at Harvard Medical School.



# Los Angeles Youth Orchestra

Russell Steinberg, Artistic Director

## *Eroica*

*A Tribute to Ruth Borun*



### **BEETHOVEN**

Symphony N° 3 in Eb Major, "Eroica"

### **MOZART**

Symphony N° 40 in G Minor

### **STEINBERG**

Stories from My Favorite Planet  
*with Violin Soloist & LAYO Alum, Maxwell Karmazyn*

### **DVORAK**

Slavonic Dances

**Sunday, November 18, 2018 at 4:00 pm at UCLA Schoenberg Hall**  
445 Charles E. Young Drive East, Los Angeles, CA 90095

**Monday, November 19, 2018 at 7:30 pm at Ambassador Auditorium**  
131 South St. John Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91105

To reserve tickets in advance, email [layoticketinfo@gmail.com](mailto:layoticketinfo@gmail.com)

\$20 Adults and \$5 Children (18 and under)

At the door: \$25 Adults

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# **THEOPHILUS PAN**

## **Clarinet 2018-2020**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am a third year at UC Berkeley studying data science. I am particularly interested in using data science to improve the healthcare system. Currently, my plan is to go to medical school and residency and possibly pursue research.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Even though I don't pursue music as a career, I still love to play music. During my time in Berkeley, music has been my way of catharsis and expression. I still occasionally play some of the solos I learned on clarinet at LAYO. I hope to continue to incorporate music into my life during college and after.



# **AMBER PARK**

## **Cello 2017-2019**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I attended Duke University and pursued a Global Cultural Studies Major and Psychology Minor. Currently, I am an HR Business Partner at Procter & Gamble.



# **AUDREY PARK**

## **Violin 2017-2019**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I earned my bachelors degree from the Juilliard School and am currently pursuing my masters degree at Juilliard.





## **KATE PERRY**

### **Violin 2009-2016**

#### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I went to Grinnell College for undergrad and am currently getting a PhD in history from Vanderbilt University. My research focuses on the mass-produced musical instruments made in the Musikwinkel, a region on the border between Germany and the Czech Republic, between 1850 and 1950, and follows them to the places they were exported to around the globe.

#### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO (along with chamber music) will always mean a lot to me because it introduced me to music as a social activity. Orchestral playing is a source of community I take with me everywhere I go now and it's one of the main ways I met friends in grad school and while studying abroad in Germany. I'm happy to talk to people about doing history (or humanities grad school more generally), applying for Fulbright ETA and research grants, or studying abroad!



**LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA**

*the future of culture*

**SPRING 2019 CONCERTS**

**Sunday, April 14, 2019 at 4:00pm**

UCLA Schoenberg Hall

445 Charles E Young Dr E, Los Angeles, CA 90095

**Monday, April 15, 2019 at 7:30pm**

Ambassador Auditorium

131 S St John Ave, Pasadena, CA 91105

**BRAHMS**

Symphony No. 4

*Academic Festival Overture*

**HAYDN**

Symphony No. 99, Mvt. 1

**GOUNOD**

*Funeral March for a Marionette*

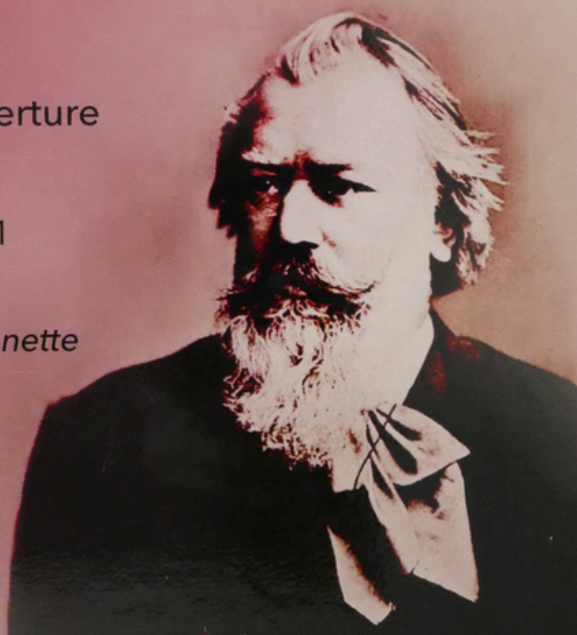
**ALBENIZ**

*Granada and Sevilla*

**STEINBERG**

*Cosmic Dust 2*

*world premiere*



**To reserve tickets in advance, email [layoticketinfo@gmail.com](mailto:layoticketinfo@gmail.com)**

**\$20 Adults and \$5 Children (18 and under)**

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# **PAUL PIAZZA**

## **Orchestra Manager/Librarian 2016-2018**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After working for LAYO I freelanced in the Los Angeles area as a trumpeter and singer, and was the music director of a local community symphony orchestra. During the COVID pandemic I decided to change careers and earned my Juris Doctor from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law in Chicago. After graduating magna cum laude and Order of the Coif, I recently started as an associate in the Washington D.C. office of Wilmer, Cutler, Pickering, Hale, and Dorr LLP.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO gave me my first full-time job and two incredible bosses—Russell Steinberg and Laura Kay Swanson—who taught me invaluable lessons. They taught me to be a better communicator, a better teacher, a better manager, a better team player, a better listener, and a better person. LAYO also gave me great memories of working with wonderful kids and parents. Getting to help make LAYO students' young lives meaningful and educational through high-level musicmaking was a privilege that I'm very grateful to have had.



# JOHN PISARO

## Trombone 2016-2018

### What have you been doing since LAYO?

Following high school and his time with LAYO, John went on to pursue a Bachelor's degree in trombone performance at California Institute of the Arts, which he earned in 2019.

After a truncated, pandemic-interrupted postgraduate study at Arizona State University with trombone professor Dr. Brad Edwards, he returned to LA to begin work on a new independent creative project under the alias, Total Unknown. A multidisciplinary work through which written, visual, and sound art are used to portray a surrealist, dystopian world, and tell its stories.





# **DANIEL RABAN**

## **Flute/Piccolo 2008-2014**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I graduated from UC Berkeley with a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and a minor in Music. As an undergraduate, I was a flutist in the university's Wind Ensemble, and I developed and taught "Video Game Music: Structure and Analysis," a discussion-based course that included an introduction to music theory along with an examination of musical elements and historical trends of video game music.

After graduating, I received a Master's degree in Mathematics from UCLA and returned to Berkeley to pursue my PhD in Statistics. My research is in probability theory and statistics theory, with a focus on optimal transport, combinatorial stochastic processes, and empirical processes. In my free time, I continue to play and compose music, and I aspire to continue growing as both a mathematician and a musician.

# ALLESANDRA RAMOS

## Oboe 2014-2017

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I graduated this past May with a Master of Music degree in Oboe Performance from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and I received my Bachelor of Music degree in 2022 from La Sierra University in Riverside, California. I also spent 6 months during my undergraduate studies at the Conservatorio Luigi Cherubini in Florence, Italy. I am currently freelancing in the San Francisco Bay Area/Northern California—having performed with the Fresno Philharmonic and members of the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra. I am also in my second year as an Artist Fellow with Quinteto Latino, a non-profit in the San Francisco Bay Area.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was a very formative experience for me as a young oboist and it allowed me to get an early start to learning standard repertoire and getting out of our comfort zones. Having opportunities to play principal parts in the youth orchestra taught me the importance of confidence as a player. LAYO also reinforced how much I loved playing with others and how to be a leader—in chamber or orchestral settings. LAYO also gave us the opportunity to travel to Italy and perform in historic sites with colleagues and explore a part of the world I had never been to.



LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA

*the future of culture*

# DOWN a COUNTRY LANE

***Sunday, November 24, 2019 at 7:30 pm***

BARNUM HALL

***Monday, November 25, 2019 at 7:30 pm***

AMBASSADOR AUDITORIUM

**BEETHOVEN** Symphony No. 6 "Pastoral"

**BARTOK** Pieces for Children

**COPLAND** Down a Country Lane

**HAYDN** Symphony No. 5, Mvt 1

**VERDI** Grand March

**SAINT-SAËNS** Marche Militaire

[www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org](http://www.LosAngelesYouthOrchestra.org)



# **JULIAN REINHART**

## **Violin 2019-2021**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Currently I am a senior at UC San Diego, Class of 2025. My major is Environmental Chemistry. I am passionate about working in the lab and conducting work that could lead to positive changes in the environment. In my spare time I enjoy playing guitar, rock climbing and watching new and classic movies.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

My time in LAYO was informative and character building. I am grateful for the experience the LAYO orchestra gave me. Performing at the Disney Concert Hall was a most influential moment in my life.





# **GIULIANA SALGADO**

## **Double Bass 2017-2018**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After graduating high school, I embarked on an entrepreneurial journey by purchasing a franchise business, which I managed for the past three years. Recently, I co-founded a micro bakery with my sisters called Folks Point Breadworks, where we focus on creating artisanal baked pastries and breads that bring joy to our community.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

While I didn't pursue a formal degree in music, the memories and wonderful individuals I encountered during my time in the orchestra have profoundly impacted my life. These experiences have fostered my enduring love for music, and I continue to nurture that passion in my everyday life. Additionally, I love to travel, exploring new places and cultures, which further enriches my perspective and creativity.



# **SHIRA SAMUELS-SHRAGG**

## **Conducting Apprentice 2015-2016**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I attended Swarthmore College where I majored in music, and then I attended The Juilliard School for my masters degree in orchestral conducting. After graduating from Juilliard in 2022, I worked as assistant conductor for the Spokane Symphony in Washington, and this year I started my new position as assistant conductor for the Dallas Symphony.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Being part of LAYO gave me the incredible opportunity to get conducting experience as a high schooler, something that is very difficult to find, Russell's mentorship and the chance to work with amazing musical peers inspired me, helped me recognize how much I had to learn, and gave me a safe space in which to try new things on the podium.



# **MILA SANTOS-BROCHU**

## **French Horn 2019-2020**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I've recently completed my minor in Honors Humanities and am fully dedicated to my Bachelor of Music in French Horn Performance at Azusa Pacific University. Alongside my studies, I perform with the Azusa Pacific Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Groups, and the Wind Ensemble, while also taking on freelance projects, and teaching horn players of all ages! Recently, I've had the privilege of recording soundtracks like Beverly Hills Cop: Axel F and collaborating on projects at some of Los Angeles's renowned studios. Outside of music, I enjoy reading poetry, hiking, and starting to learn how to paint as other creative outlets!



LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
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## SYMPHONIC WAR HORSES SPRING 2020 CONCERTS

**Sunday, April 26 at 3:00pm**

ENCINO PARK

**Monday, April 27 at 7:30pm**

AMBASSADOR AUDITORIUM

**TCHAIKOVSKY** Symphony No. 2 "Little Russian"

**WILLIAMS** Empire Strikes Back Medley

**RESPIGHI** Pines of Rome

**RIMSKY-KORSAKOV** Procession of the Nobles

**VERDI** Nabucco Overture

**ELGAR** Nimrod







# JINING (AURORA) SHEN

## Violin 2016-2017

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

I was fortunate to be accepted into LAYO's Symphony Orchestra and played during the 2016-2017 season under Russell's direction.

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After that, I continued to perform with the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestras and the Hong Kong Youth Orchestra. I also played with the Classical European Music Academy of Los Angeles and led a performance at the White House on December 20, 2017.

In 2024, I earned the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma in Hong Kong and was admitted to the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto. I am currently studying for a Bachelor of Commerce while continuing to perform with the Skule Orchestra.



# **CASSIE SCHMIDT**

## **Cello 2004-2011**

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Playing cello as a hobby and having LAYO as an outlet was a significant part of my childhood and developmental years, and greatly helped shape me into the person I am today.

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After graduating from Milken Community High School in 2011, I moved to Madison, Wisconsin to attend college at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I also joined the All-University String Orchestra. Upon graduation in 2015, I moved to New York City to do the Merchant Buying/Planning Executive Development Program at Macy's, Inc. After almost 6 years of living and working in the Big Apple, I relocated back to Los Angeles in 2021. I worked for the American Girl division of Mattel where I did E-Commerce Merchandising & Product Operations. Most recently, I got married to my husband, Robert, in August 2024 and have been enjoying married life! It has been wonderful being back in my home state!



## **TEREN SHAFFER**

### **Bassoon 2000-2004**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Teren Shaffer is a highly lauded arts manager, music educator, and conductor, winning prestigious awards such as The Kennedy Center's Stephen Sondheim Inspirational Teacher Award, the Arts Schools Network Dr. Denise Davis-Cotton Emerging Leader Award, Stanford University's Exceptional Teaching Award, and Orange County Department of Education's Outstanding Arts Educator. He is president & CEO of the Orange County School of the Arts Foundation. Teren assists in facilitating a Master Artist Series of collaborative performances, master classes, and residencies with internationally acclaimed artists, such as: Wynton Marsalis, Deborah Voigt, Joshua Bell. Teren held the role of General Manager for the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra for 10 years. Teren earned a master's degree in orchestral conducting from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and bachelor's degrees in instrumental conducting, bassoon performance, and music education from Chapman University's Conservatory of Music.



# **HANNAH SHAVIT-WEINER**

## **Violin 2017-2023**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I've been attending the University of Alberta! I'm currently in my second year of a Bachelor of Science in Animal Health, with a focus on companion and performance animals. I've completed two short internships, one at a zoo and one at a wildlife rehabilitation center. Over summer, I'm a camp counselor working with horses!

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

I joined LAYO because I enjoy being in an orchestra and playing music with others. I didn't expect to, but I met some of my closest friends in LAYO! LAYO made me a much better musician and provided me with many experiences I'll never forget.





# LAYO LIVE IN THE BACKYARD 2

*VIRTUAL CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT*

**Sunday, May 23, 2021**  
**at 2:00pm**

**120 STUDENTS**  
**34 ENSEMBLES**  
**12 BACKYARDS**

*Music by:* DVORAK, SCHUBERT,  
NIELSEN, VIVALDI, MOZART,  
TELEMANN, BACH, BEETHOVEN,  
HAYDN, HANDEL, MONTEVERDI,  
GABRIELLI and OSTRANSKY

***TUNE IN VIA FACEBOOK LIVE!***

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**LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA**  
*the future of culture*



# **DANIEL SIMANTOB**

## **Violin 2007-2017**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I attended The University of Chicago, graduating in 2021 with a dual degree in History and Economics. Since graduation, I've been living in Los Angeles and working remotely as a Strategist at John McNeil Studio, a creative agency based in the Bay Area. Music is still a huge part of my life and central to my identity. I am constantly attending shows across the city and digging online for new (and old) music of all sorts.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Being a part of LAYO for close to my entire young life set the groundwork for this ongoing passion and gave me first-hand exposure to a canon of some of the greatest music ever created. While I may not have even realized it at the time, creating unique and thoughtful interpretations of serious music at such a young age trained both my aesthetic sensibility and inducted me into what I feel as a secret club of classical musicians - and lovers of classical music - who can instantly bond over the greatness of Brahms, Sibelius, and so much more. Moreover, the consistency and rigor of weekly rehearsals shaped my work ethic and taught me the importance of hard work (and sacrifice) in exchange for creating something really great. Still, looking back at videos and recordings of our concerts, I'm impressed by what a group of very young people were able to achieve together.



# **NATHAN SIMANTOB**

## **Violin 2004-2015**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Life is fantastic! After LAYO, I moved to Chicago to pursue my degree in Economics at the University of Chicago. After school, I continued to work in Chicago for Kraft Heinz managing the business strategy around their condiments portfolio. Once the pandemic hit, I pivoted careers into the fashion and textile industry, managing the fabric planning department for the well-renowned sustainable women's fashion company: Reformation. After 2 years at Ref, I moved to New York where I am currently pursuing my MBA at Columbia University.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

For a decade, LAYO was where I spent my Sundays learning the intricacies of musicianship – how to play with others, how to create an interpretation, and (of course) how to practice. These skills have helped propel me in all aspects of my personal and professional life. But beyond the skills that LAYO helped cultivate, LAYO offered a unique community of people whose love for music cultivated life-long friendships, unforgettable experiences, and a profound passion for the emotional power of classical music. I would not be the person I am today without LAYO!



# **ANNIE SOKOLICH**

## **Cello 2006-2008**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I went to UC Berkeley to get my BA in Cognitive Science. I was also a cellist in the UC Berkeley Symphony Orchestra for 4 years and spent most of my time hanging around the music department practice rooms where I made most of my college friends. I then went on to do a Dual Masters in Brain and Mind Sciences from University College London and Ecole Normale Supérieure/Sorbonne Universities (Paris VI). I worked as a researcher in Clinical Neuroscience at the University of Oxford, then transitioned to working in Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation here in Los Angeles. I'm currently training as psychotherapist through Pepperdine's Clinical psychology program. I'm hoping to incorporate music appreciation and music therapy in my future work in mental health. Music has meant a lot to me throughout my life and playing cello has always been my first language of emotional expression.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

For a decade, LAYO was where I spent my Sundays learning the intricacies of musicianship – how to play with others, how to create an interpretation, and (how to practice. These skills have helped propel me in all aspects of my personal and professional life. But beyond the skills, LAYO offered a unique community of people whose love for music cultivated life-long friendships, unforgettable experiences, and a profound passion for the emotional power of classical music. I would not be the person I am today without LAYO!





# **ANDREW SPECHT**

## **Oboe 2005-2008**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

Music has continued to be an integral part of my life. My experiences with LAYO have helped me succeed. After I performed at the Disney Concert Hall with LAYO, I was fortunate enough to perform at Carnegie Hall with the UC Santa Cruz Wind Ensemble. These experiences made it possible for me to continue to perform and teach music, both here in the U.S. and abroad.

I currently work at the Museum of Making Music in Carlsbad, CA where I enjoy the privilege of sharing music with the public. Music brings people together, it makes the world a better place and I am so thankful to the people who make LAYO possible.



LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
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# FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT

SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2022 AT 3:00PM

ENCINO PARK  
16953 Ventura Blvd  
Encino, CA 91316

Join us for this preview concert in advance of  
our upcoming performance at Carnegie Hall!

SIBELIUS	Symphony No. 2
BERLIOZ	March to the Scaffold
SCHUMANN	Finale from Symphony No. 4
TCHAIKOVSKY	Intro and Finale from Romeo and Juliet
WILLIAMS	"The Empire Strikes Back" Medley

Lawn seating. Blankets and low chairs recommended.

[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)



# **RANYA STOVER**

## **Violin 2016-2021**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently a senior at UCLA studying economics and working part time in accounting. I also perform with the Santa Monica Symphony regularly, and enjoy playing the piano and violin with friends in my free time.



# **PHILIP SUWANDI**

## **Cello 2014-2019**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I'm currently finishing up my Undergraduate degree at Northwestern University, majoring in European History and Cello Performance under Hans Jørgen Jensen and also minoring in Musicology. I currently work as a private cello instructor and freelance musician, performing with a few local symphony orchestras and individual gigs.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was a huge part of my pre-college career, as it established friendships and professional connections that I still maintain today and nurtured my abilities to lead and play as the principal cellist.





# **KYRA SWEENEY**

## **Flute 2007-2012**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I graduated from Pomona College in 2016 and received my law degree from Boston University in 2022. I still live in Boston and work as an attorney at Health Law Advocates, a public interest law firm providing pro bono legal services to low-income people having difficulty accessing health care or health insurance coverage. I'm involved with the National Federation of the Blind and serve as the legislative director for the NFB of Massachusetts. I run with Achilles International and ski with family and friends.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was a huge part of my pre-college career, as it established friendships and professional connections that I still maintain today and nurtured my abilities to lead and play as the principal cellist.



# MEGAN TRACH

## Flute/Piccolo 2014-2016

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I'm currently a professional pit musician on tour with the national tour of the Broadway musical, *Mean Girls*, for which I play 6 woodwind instruments (flute, piccolo, clarinet, alto sax, soprano sax, and oboe). Previously, I toured for 1.5 years with the national tour of *Fiddler on the Roof*, playing flute, piccolo, alto flute, and clarinet. I played over 250 performances with *Fiddler* and have played 350 and counting with *Mean Girls*. I graduated with my MM in Flute Performance from the New England Conservatory of Music in 2022. I received my BA in Music from Barnard College of Columbia University in 2020.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

I'd love to shout out Michelle Matsumune, who was my woodwind coach at LAYO and who was always so kind and encouraging.



LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
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# THE QUEST FOR FREEDOM

LAYO FALL 2022 CONCERTS

Russell Steinberg and Jorge Padrón, conductors

Beethoven	Leonore Overture No.3
Copland	An Outdoor Overture
Steinberg	Diminished Resistance (World Premiere)
Saint-Saëns	Bacchanale from Samson and Delilah
Borodin	Polovtsian Dances
Handel	Overture to Samson
Haydn	Symphony No. 4, First Movement

Sunday, November 20	Monday, November 21
7:30pm	7:30pm
Barnum Hall	Ambassador Auditorium

[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)



LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
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# TO STIR THE WORLD

LAYO SPRING 2023 CONCERTS

Russell Steinberg and Jorge Padrón, conductors

Dvorak	Symphony No. 7 in D minor
Saint-Saëns	Intro and Royal March of the Lions from <i>Carnival of the Animals</i>
Grieg	Holberg Suite, Sarabande and Gavotte
Rachmaninoff	Vocalise
De Falla	Ritual Fire Dance from <i>El Amor Brujo</i>

Sunday, March 26 at 7:30pm  
Barnum Hall

Monday, March 27 at 7:30pm  
Ambassador Auditorium

[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)



LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
FALL 2023 CONCERTS

# BEETHOVEN & BRAHMS

Russell Steinberg and Jorge Padrón, conductors

Sunday, November 19 at 7:30pm  
Barnum Hall

Monday, November 20 at 7:30pm  
Ambassador Auditorium

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LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
SPRING 2024 CONCERTS

# A PASTORAL CELEBRATION

Russell Steinberg and Jorge Padrón, conductors

Sunday, April 14 at 7:30pm  
Barnum Hall

Monday, April 15 at 7:30pm  
Ambassador Auditorium

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# **MICHAEL TURKELL**

## **Violin 2005-2008**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I attended the San Francisco Conservatory of Music for my BM, and the Cleveland Institute of Music for my MM. From 2018-22, I was a violin fellow at the New World Symphony, which is a training orchestra founded and led at the time by Michael Tilson Thomas. Currently, I'm the Principal Second Violin of the Sarasota Orchestra in Florida, but while we're off for the summer, I return to Southern California where I perform as a substitute with orchestras including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Pacific Symphony, and San Diego Symphony.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was my first serious ensemble opportunity outside of school band/orchestra. Having coachings via sectional, seating auditions, and a conductor who attempted to get the most out of us was an incredibly important and inspiring part of my musical development. Currently, with the youth orchestra infrastructure in the LA area in a period of transition (AYS and YMF Debut closing their doors, for starters), LAYO's role in our community is more important than ever.





# **LUIS VILLALOBOS**

## **Violin 2016-2017**

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Performing with LAYO my senior year of high school was an incredible experience that helped prepare me for a career as an orchestral musician. LAYO was by far the best orchestra I had the opportunity to perform with in high school. It was crucial to my development as an orchestral musician to perform with several high level musicians as well as a highly accomplished conductor. Many of the skills I carry to this day as a musician are attributed to what I learned in LAYO. Being principal 2nd violin was a challenge that gave me so many leadership skills for my career. I still remember my times playing with LAYO as some of the best moments in high school.

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently working as a full time musician, mainly teaching and performing with a few professional orchestras. I work as a string coach for the Pacific Academy Foundation Orchestra and have a few private students of my own. Some of the orchestras I regularly perform with include Opera San Luis Obispo, Symphony of the Vines, San Luis Obispo Master Chorale, and the Lompoc Pops Orchestra. I am currently looking to finish my studies for a bachelor's in music education and doing auditions for orchestras in the near future.



# **MAX VON DER OHE**

## **Trumpet 2019-2023**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am a senior at Palisades Charter High School, where I founded a club that teaches free music lessons to children in the community. I continue to study trumpet at Colburn School and I perform in the summer with the Idyllwild Summer Symphony. I am hoping to continue to play trumpet in college while pursuing a career in International Relations.



# **GRANT WALLENSKY**

## **Violin 2000-2006**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After graduating from the Milken Community Schools in 2006 and having been a part of the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra throughout his Middle and High School years, Grant went on to Emory University in beautiful Atlanta, Georgia, where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics in 2010 before returning home. After many years as a Financial Advisor with Wallensky, Spatz & Associates, Grant is now the owner and CEO of GSW Associates, through which he continues to provide multigenerational financial advice.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Grant has never forgotten those hardworking and enjoyable Sundays with Dr. Russell Steinberg, the LAYO staff and his fellow Orchestra members, and their performances. Here's to the ongoing success of LAYO, Dr. Steinberg, and the many students and staff who have participated in the program throughout the years!

# American Celebration of Music in Austria & the Czech Republic

LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA

June 18 - 26, 2024







# **DAVANNA WEAVER**

## **Double Bass 2010-2014**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I actually don't have any degrees, but I am currently working in network operations. I have Cisco certifications.

**What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

LAYO was an escape for me, it allowed me to be away from the house as well as experience new and incredible things (Carnegie hall is one of those experiences).



## **JULIA WINOKUR**

### **Cello early 2000s**

#### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After earning my undergraduate degree from UCLA, I began my career as a Category Specialist with Walmart eCommerce in New Jersey. I then relocated to Chicago, where I currently reside. I am completing my Master's degree in Integrated Marketing Communications at Northwestern University, all while working full-time as a Commerce Manager at a marketing agency, Spark Foundry. On a personal note, my wife and I recently celebrated the arrival of our first daughter, Myla, born on the one-year anniversary of our wedding.



# **ANDIE YI**

## **Cello 2014-2019**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am in my second year as a UC Berkeley undergraduate as a Global Studies major with a concentration in Peace and Conflict Studies, and a Korean minor. My extracurricular time is mostly spent on my role as Chapter Editor for Berkeley's Global Research and Consulting Club, private tutoring to high school students, and serving in my Christian fellowship on campus. I fell in love with Berkeley and in my free time, I like to cafe-hop, explore SF with my friends, bake new recipes with my apartment housemates, and play the piano.

### **What are some of your best memories from your time in LAYO?**

Even as a college student now, I am proud to say that I am a LAYO alum and know that all LAYO musicians have promising futures ahead of them!



# **JEREMIAH YOUNGBLOOD**

## **Violin 2017-2018**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

I am currently studying Psychobiology at UCLA, where I am also deeply involved in the campus's vibrant music community. I play the violin as part of UCLA's Philharmonia under the esteemed leadership of Neal Stulberg, which allows me to continuously refine my skills and collaborate with fellow musicians. In my final years of college, I've found myself increasingly immersed in music, dedicating more time to my craft to seek advanced education in musical performance. This balance between my academic studies and musical endeavors has not only enriched my personal growth but also sharpened my vision for the future, where I aim to intertwine both my scientific and artistic passions. Through my Psychobiology major, I am learning to explore the intricate connections between the mind, body, and behavior—knowledge that I carry over into my musical studies and artistic abilities. My goal is to pursue postgraduate work in music studies, where I can further explore how these connections manifest in musical expression and performance.





LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
FALL 2024 CONCERT

# 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

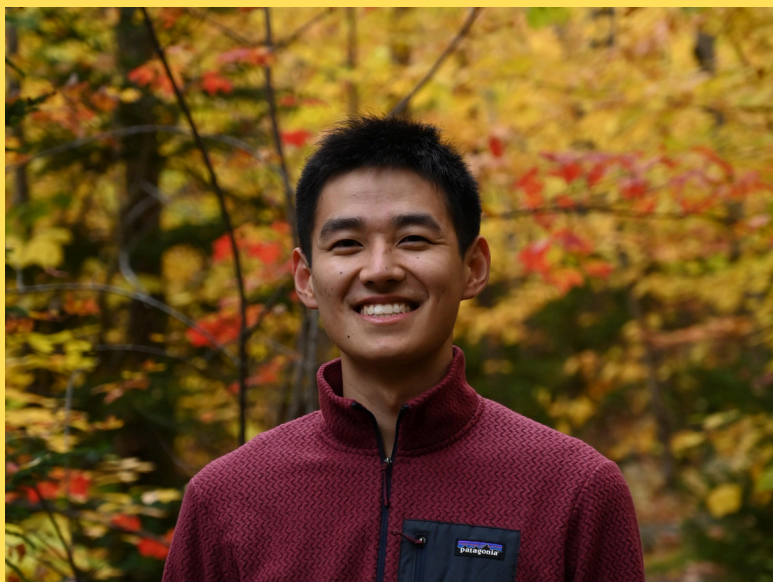
Los Angeles Youth Orchestra  
joined by Alumni from across the country  
*Russell Steinberg and Jorge Padrón, conductors*

Featuring

Shostakovich Symphony No. 5

Monday, November 25 at 7:30pm  
Ambassador Auditorium

[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)  
*the future of culture*



# **YUNCHAO ZHANG**

## **Bassoon 2013-2017**

### **What have you been doing since LAYO?**

After LAYO, I went to Harvard and studied physics and mathematics. I continued playing in the Harvard Bach Society Orchestra. Currently, I am pursuing a PhD at MIT, researching theoretical physics. Besides thinking about physics and math, I also enjoy playing basketball and am involved with my local church and volunteering with a Christian Bible study group at Harvard, the same group I was a part of during my undergraduate.



# **JONATHAN ZUCKERMAN**

## **Flute/Piccolo 1999-2003**

**What have you been doing since LAYO?**

BA in Biophysics from Johns Hopkins University, PhD from Caltech, MD UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine. I am currently an associate professor in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine at UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine where I serve as service chief of renal pathology and program director of the pathology residency program.





LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA  
SPRING 2025 CONCERT

# FULL CIRCLE: CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

Los Angeles Youth Orchestra  
joined by alumni from across the country  
*Russell Steinberg and Jorge Padrón, conductors*

Featuring

Beethoven Symphony No. 5

Monday, March 31, 7:30pm  
Alex Theatre, Glendale, CA

[www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org](http://www.losangelesyouthorchestra.org)