



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)



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## LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Russell Steinberg, Founder & Artistic Director

Monday, March 31, 2025 at 7:30pm

Alex Theatre, Glendale, CA

### SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Russell Steinberg, Conductor

Palisades Is Gone

Russell Steinberg  
(World Premiere)

Symphony No. 5 in C Minor

Ludwig van Beethoven

I. Allegro con brio

II. Andante con moto

III. Scherzo: Allegro

IV. Allegro: Presto

Intermission

### RUTH BORUN CONCERT ORCHESTRA

Jorge Padrón, Assistant Conductor

Academic Festival Overture

Johannes Brahms  
(arr. Vernon Leidig)

Zigeunerweisen (Gypsy Airs)

Pablo de Sarasate

Niv Ashkenazi, Solo Violin

The Three-Cornered Hat Suite

Manuel de Falla  
(ed. Steven L. Rosenhaus)

I. Introduction

IV. The Miller's Dance (Farruca)

### COMBINED ORCHESTRAS

The Net of Indra

Russell Steinberg

Cover image: "Big Bang," by Cory Ench, reproduced courtesy of the artist

## LAYO'S 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

This second concert celebrating our 25th anniversary is inevitably tempered by our local trauma from January's unprecedented destructive fires, as well as our national trauma that is calling our democracy and identity into question. In these dramatic times, the arts are a powerful resource for emotional wisdom, meaning, inspiration, and comfort.

Last fall, we explored the dark side of the human drama with Shostakovich's 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony, composed under the duress of the Stalin regime. Tonight we move to the light with the triumph of Beethoven's 5th Symphony. Like Da Vinci's *The Last Supper* and Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Beethoven's 5th is a supreme articulation of the human condition, our struggle with fate and mortality. The concert also features the world premiere of my evocation of the "griefscape" from the fires. The title *Palisades Is Gone* is a phrase I heard repeatedly in shock and disbelief. Our concert concludes with both our combined orchestras joined by LAYO alums playing *The Net of Indra* together, a positive prayer for unity and peace.

Our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary has been an opportunity to come full circle and reconnect with orchestra graduates who now literally live around the world and pursue careers in fields as diverse as physics, literature, education, law, business, arts administration, and biology. Over 100 of our alums will be featured in our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary LAYO Alum E-Book that will be released later this spring. Their stories are simply inspiring. You can read a sampling of four of them in this program.

I heard recently that the great mission of a nonprofit 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 have been that ladder*. The alums let us know. The discipline, the experience working in a coordinated ensemble, the study of deep musical ideas, and above all, cultivating a love for music that lasts a lifetime—every LAYO student absorbs these skills. And I believe they provide an invaluable emotional and intellectual anchor in our increasingly unstable world.

To all of you who have given your time, money, and energy to our orchestra over the years, I hope you can feel a great deal of pride and fulfillment knowing that your support has really made a difference in the world.

—Russell Steinberg



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## RUTH BORUN CONCERT ORCHESTRA

### FLUTE

Calista Rodriguez  
Noa Eisenberg

### OBOE

Ryan Hajmomenian  
*Co-Principal*  
Oliver Shon  
*Co-Principal*

### CLARINET

Ethan Blacker  
*Co-Principal*  
Isabel Noble  
*Co-Principal*  
YuChen Xue  
Alex Zhang  
Jaden Steiglitz  
Chloe Kim

### BASS CLARINET

Hudson Stange

### BASSOON

Daniela Santana  
*Guest*  
Aaron Colon  
*Guest*

### HORN

Naomi Chen  
Julian Dohi  
*Alum*

### TRUMPET

Caleb Chen  
Bella Lee

### TROMBONE

Jack McGinty  
*Alum*  
John Pisaro  
*Alum*  
Noah Chen  
*Guest*

### PERCUSSION

Tom Cheng  
Taidyn Hernandez  
Andre Huaman  
Lilith Humphrey  
Esther Lin

### VIOLIN I

Annika McWhirter  
*Concertmaster*  
Daniel Yang  
Sophy Yang  
Verina Cheng  
Jason Foronda  
Auriana Gharibshahi  
Grace Jenkins  
Lucas Peng

### VIOLIN II

Ethan Pastrana  
*Principal*  
Lyla Brugger  
Jonathan Zibari  
Nicholas Campillo-Clark  
Liam Chao  
Eloise Morovati  
Iva Davidovic  
Vincent Giza  
*Alum*  
Jerimiah Youngblood  
*Alum*

### VIOLA

Joel Zaldivar  
*Co-Principal*  
Daniella Traum  
*Co-Principal*  
Ben Bartelt  
*Alum*  
Alisa Luera  
*Alum*  
David Sage  
*Guest*

### CELLO

Kate Cheung  
*Principal*  
Bono Stevens  
Apollo-Waris Rob  
Danyal Beken  
Ziqian (Ryan) Zhou  
Sander Combs  
Elia Braunlich  
Spencer Sweeney  
Kate Anderson  
Cooper Rieke

### DOUBLE BASS

Abigail Baum  
*Principal*  
Stephen Pfeifer  
*Guest*

## SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

### FLUTE

Alma Miller  
*Principal*  
Sophia Li  
Ellen Su

### PICCOLO

Hanwen Huang  
*Alum*

### OBOE

Qizhen (Jenny) Guo  
*Principal*  
Julia Cunningham  
*Alum*

### CLARINET

Matteo Mazzie  
*Co-Principal*  
Matheus Koo  
*Co-Principal*

### BASSOON

Daniela Santana  
*Guest*  
Aaron Colon  
*Guest*

### HORN

Sofia Madrid  
Julian Dohi  
*Alum*  
Josh Olson  
*Guest*

### TRUMPET

James Ball  
*Principal*  
Peter Dai  
Graham Lemos  
Jacky Li

### TROMBONE

Noah Chen  
Jack McGinty  
*Alum*  
John Pisaro  
*Alum*

### PERCUSSION

Tom Cheng  
Taidyn Hernandez  
Andre Huaman  
Lilith Humphrey  
Esther Lin  
Nadine Cetinyan  
*Alum*

### VIOLIN I

Donghee (Danny) Kim  
*Concertmaster*  
Beatrice Jiang  
Jason Yang  
Audrey Li  
Annalisa Hurd  
Payton Lin  
Maegan Daley  
Milana Resta  
Linus Zhang  
Jasmine Kao  
Mica Erin  
*Alum*  
Vincent Giza  
*Alum*  
Renee Lee  
*Alum*  
Luis Villalobos  
*Alum*

### VIOLIN II

Joshua Golshani  
*Principal*  
Justin Kim  
Jaelen Lee

### VIOLIN II (CONT.)

Ella Weber-Small  
Lucille Jahng  
Jordan Lin  
Haoran Xu  
Inah Chang  
Leena Adeli  
Tong Saralamba  
Monica Lee  
Lucy Harris  
Jerimiah Youngblood  
*Alum*

### VIOLA

Cynthia Lee  
*Co-Principal*  
Kyle Henderson  
*Co-Principal*

Rebecca Lee  
Ben Bartelt  
*Alum*  
Alisa Luera  
*Alum*  
David Sage  
*Guest*

### CELLO

Samira Shokrian  
*Principal*  
Reanna Lee  
Nathaniel Kim  
Isabella Chiang  
Luke Newman  
Sarah Hajmomenian  
Isaiah Dorado  
William Ellzey  
*Alum*

### DOUBLE BASS

Ari Cosato  
Addison Ma  
Joia Massee  
*Alum*  
Stephen Pfeifer  
*Guest*



## NOTES FROM RUSSELL

### *Palisades Is Gone* by Russell Steinberg (World Premiere)

Even as the fires continued raging, people wrote poignant articles about their loss from the Palisades and Eaton fires. I lived in Pacific Palisades for many years and gave several concerts in the Theater Palisades which burned to the ground the very first day of the fires. This music is about the feelings of dismay, the shock of total loss, expressed repeatedly in the phrase I heard from so many people: “Palisades is gone.” The devastation in Altadena from the Eaton fire was just as complete. But Pacific Palisades had the ethos of mythic fantasy. It’s inconceivable that it could simply vanish.

The music is not complicated to hear. It opens in sadness with strings and solos for the oboe and violin. A middle section conjures the violence, chaos, of the fire. For me, it was the ever-present anxiety just being glued to the constant alerts from the Watch Duty app as the fires erupted all over the city. The concluding section is a feeling of cherishing, a gentle rising of the spirit above the ashes.

### **Symphony No. 5 by Ludwig van Beethoven**

Our orchestra had the opportunity to see the original parts that Beethoven handed out to his musicians when we visited the Lobkowitz Palace in Prague last summer. During that tour, we performed Beethoven’s Symphony No. 6, “Pastoral,” a work he composed at the same time. While both symphonies share some similar materials, it’s difficult to imagine two symphonies more different in design and emotion. The “Pastoral” is a grand evocation of the Romantic view of nature to bring us to the highest level of spirituality. The 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony is a journey of struggle against a fate that continually denies satisfying resolution. In the first movement alone, there are so many famous passages that articulate this struggle. Even the very opening Fate motive, arguably the most famous phrase of classical music, encapsulates this frustration. We hear the motive once, then twice a step lower. We expect a third time, but we don’t get it! That third time would descend to the tonic note C and conclude the piece! In the development section,

## PROGRAM NOTES (CONT.)

time itself seems to stop as the motive reduces from four chords to two chords and then a single chord ghostly alternating between winds and strings. A surprise in the recapitulation is a brief but enchanting solo for the oboe. It too tries to descend to the tonic, but doesn’t make it, suspending on the D just one note above the tonic C.

Seasoned classical listeners tend to take the 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony for granted and forget how many moments of tremendous imagination occur in all the movements. The drama of the first movement continues into the double variations of the second movement. First there is the gorgeous theme played by the cellos and double basses. But the woodwind chords that follow are even more sublime, and they conclude with the Fate motive of the first movement. That motive surfaces over and over again in this slow movement, dominating as much as it did the first movement, especially with the regal second theme. In the third movement, scherzo, the Fate motive appears first heroically and then ghostly, as Beethoven takes us down to the underworld, plucked strings articulating a graveyard of skeletons.

It is from this psychological moment of death that the symphony transcends struggle. Beethoven connects the third movement to his finale in perhaps the most powerful musical transition ever conceived. A hushed timpani intones the Fate motive as the first violins seem to quietly rise from the dead and ascend to the heavens. It’s such a powerful idea that the music seems to penetrate from the abstract to our actual living world. Beethoven achieves this in two ways. First, when the violins reach their destination, the rest of the orchestra crescendo into the final cadence to the tonic we’ve been waiting for in the last three movements. Second, he adds a piccolo and three trombones to the orchestra—one of the first uses of the trombones in a symphony, by the way. Even one trombone is as powerful as the entire string section. Three trombones and the piccolo just lift the sonic effect of the orchestra to an entirely new dimension. Of course this finale is also infused with the Fate motive. And Beethoven’s deep imagination doesn’t quit. Just as he builds towards the recapitulation, the music dramatically collapses (again!) and plunges us back to the underworld of the ghostly third

## PROGRAM NOTES (CONT.)

movement. The effect of all these deflections, all these frustrations, all these moments of delayed gratification, is to create a reservoir of energy that is almost uncontrollable. It takes the coda multiple times to slow down the locomotive of this energy to actually end the symphony. The dominant-tonic chord progressions go on for almost three minutes before we hear the final iteration of the Fate motive in a glorious C major. And then a final chord to affirm the note C and wrap the symphony in white light.

Beethoven's 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony is a work of unlimited imagination that has influenced practically every symphony written by any composer since.

### **Selections from *The Three-Cornered Hat* by Manuel de Falla**

Premiered in 1919, Manuel de Falla's ballet *The Three-Cornered Hat* introduced audiences to the beauty of flamenco music. Our orchestra performs *The Miller's Dance*, a virtuoso tour de force that begins with flamenco cadenzas in the woodwinds. De Falla turns the entire string section into a flamenco guitar strumming its dramatic chords. These chords accelerate into an energetic frenzy that culminates in a final *rasgado* (a rhythmic strumming with the fingernails).

### ***Zigeunerweisen* by Pablo de Sarasate**

Pablo de Sarasate was a famous 19<sup>th</sup>-century violin virtuoso from Spain. His *Gypsy Airs* (*Zigeunerweisen*) was influenced by the same Hungarian music that also influenced Brahms and Liszt. In addition to its rousing melodies, it employs many brilliant violin techniques, including *ricochet* (throwing the bow to bounce it on the strings), artificial harmonics, and left-hand *pizzicato*.

LAYO alum Niv Ashkenazi, now an accomplished concert artist, is the soloist for this performance. He is currently our Violin 1 coach, and he himself was a student in the orchestra when it first began. For our students, this is a marvelous opportunity for them to learn how to accompany a soloist.

### ***Academic Festival Overture* by Johannes Brahms**

The University of Breslau informed Brahms that they were awarding him an honorary doctorate and requested he compose a symphony for them. That was a lot to ask! Brahms played a sophisticated joke on them instead. He composed an overture with a number of student drinking songs and called it *Academic Festival Overture*. Despite the humor, it's also a piece with remarkable counterpoint and brilliant orchestration that make it an audience favorite.

### ***The Net of Indra* by Russell Steinberg**

*The Net of Indra* was commissioned for Youth Orchestra Day Feb. 28, 2010, where it was performed by 400 young musicians from the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra, the Pasadena Young Musicians Orchestra, the Verdugo Youth Orchestra, and the Olympia Youth Orchestra. Tonight it will be performed by our combined orchestras and graduates of the orchestra returning to play with us for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The music reflects the spirit of joyful collaboration, and the idea that by contributing individuality and talent to something larger than ourselves, we can personally experience the sense of unity and interconnectedness that is the essence of fine art. The image of Indra's Net, where every gem reflects and mirrors every other, fits the experience orchestra musicians have playing music as they watch and listen to the conductor, their section leader, and each other. The simple meditative quality of the melody and harmonies in this piece search for this "letting go" and feeling of connectedness with each other.



## SPECIAL THANKS 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EDITION

As we celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we want to take a moment to celebrate the people that made LAYO possible:

**Dr. Noreen Green**  
the Founding Artistic  
Director of the LA  
Jewish Symphony

Noreen with the LA Jewish Symphony founded and administered the Los Angeles Jewish Youth Symphony with a semester grant from the Jewish Federation.

**Dr. Metuka Benjamin**  
formerly Director  
of Education for the  
Stephen Wise Temple  
Schools

**Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin**  
(in memoriam),  
former Rabbi of  
the Stephen Wise  
Temple

**Dr. Rennie Wrubel**  
formerly Head of  
School, Milken  
Community High  
School

Metuka, Rennie, and Rabbi Zeldin had the vision to continue the orchestra as a special program supported by the Stephen Wise Temple and directed by Russell from year 2000 to 2015.

**Dr. Raymond and  
Ruth Borun**

Original Founders and continuous supporters since the founding of the orchestra, naming grant for the Ruth Borun Concert Orchestra

**Lowell Milken**  
Chairman of the Milken  
Family Foundation

Original Founder and continuous supporter since the founding of the orchestra

**Ken and Wendy Ruby**

Continuous supporters since the founding of the orchestra

**Andy Katz**  
CPA

Continuous supporter since the founding of the orchestra

### And our significant staff members:

**Leslie Luciani**, first Program Director of the Stephen Wise Youth Orchestra (2000-2005)  
**Sandi Steinberg** (in memoriam), Director Parent and Media Relations (2003-2015)  
**Eve Cohen** (in memoriam), Program Director of the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra (2005-2012)

**Laura Kay Swanson**, Executive Director, Los Angeles Youth Orchestra (2015-2023)  
**Joyce LaBriola**, Executive Director, Los Angeles Youth Orchestra (2023-2024)



Dr. Noreen Green



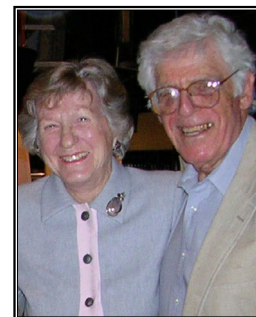
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Russell & Metuka Benjamin



Rabbi Isaiah Zeldin



Dr. Rennie Wrubel



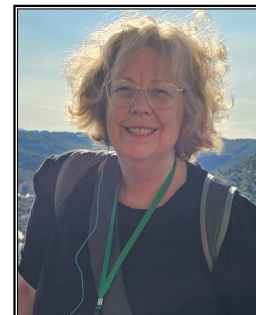
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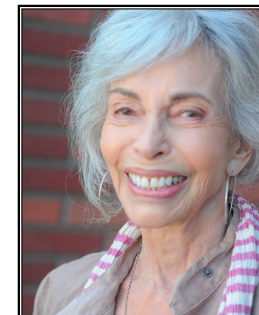
Lowell Milken



Andy Katz



Leslie Luciani



Sandi Steinberg



Eve Cohen



Laura Kay Swanson



Joyce LaBriola

## ALUM SPOTLIGHT



### 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.



### DORIAN BANDY

VIOLIN  
1997-2000

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

I did my performance degrees at the Royal Academy of Music in London, my undergrad work at Cornell, and my Ph.D. at the University of Glasgow. Now 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.

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

My years in LAYO provided many formative musical experiences. 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—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 Third Symphony (a particularly fond memory), something that then inspired further explorations and listening on my own. Even more, my peers and I benefited hugely from the wonderful teaching LAYO exposed us to, both in full rehearsals and in sectionals.

## ALUM SPOTLIGHT



### 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 (with some time in Romania with my wife's research) and in 2017 became conductor of the historic Vienna Stadttempel Choir, simultaneously completing a master's in musicology at the University of Vienna, where I wrote my thesis about the choir, in the field of ethnomusicology. 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 that I love and that continues to inspire me.



### 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 firsthand 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 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. 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.



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

*Congratulations to our LAYO  
students, parents, coaches and staff  
on an outstanding 2024-2025 season!*

## LAYO Board of Directors

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Andrew Katz · Treasurer  
Laura Danly  
Wendey Stanzler



## **RUSSELL STEINBERG**, FOUNDER, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, CONDUCTOR OF SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**Composer Russell Steinberg** was selected for Musical America's Top 30 Professionals of 2024. His music has been described as "floating, luminous" (*Boston Globe*), "freshly lyrical, pulsating, edgy, infectious" (New York Concert Review), and "deeper while maintaining a descriptive surface" (*Fanfare Magazine*). The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra recently premiered his composition *Cirrus Nimbus* and performed it in Vienna and Prague. His piano trio Paleface is available on Albany records, recorded by Trio Accento. Three orchestras—the New West Symphony in Los Angeles, the Bay Atlantic Symphony in New Jersey, and the Hopkins Symphony Orchestra in Baltimore—commissioned and premiered *Cosmic Dust*, a work that *Science News Magazine* featured in its issue celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hubble Space Telescope. A Daniel Pearl Foundation commission, *Stories From My Favorite Planet*, tells the story of *The Wall Street Journal* writer Daniel Pearl, alternating music with readings of Pearl's own brilliant tragicomic articles. Steinberg's Hanukkah fantasy *Lights On!* is being performed this year by the Bay Atlantic Symphony in New Jersey, the Hopkins Symphony in Baltimore, the Lakeview Orchestra in Chicago, and the Southeast Kansas Symphony in Pittsburg, Kansas.

Steinberg's music has received awards and grants from ASCAP (Young Composers Grant and ASCAPLUS), Composers Inc., NACUSA, MacDowell Colony, Aspen Composer Fellowships, First Prize in the New World String Quartet competition, the HEAR NOW Festival, a Gold Medal Jury's Choice at the Park City Film Music Festival, the California Association of Professional Music Teachers (CAPMT), Illumine, and the Jewish Center for Culture and Creativity. Works from his catalog of nearly 100 works of solo, chamber, vocal, and orchestral music have been performed in the United States—Los Angeles, Pasadena, San Francisco, San Diego, San Bernardino, Park City, Boulder, Aspen, Colorado Springs, Appleton, Madison, Eau Claire, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Cummington, Boscawen, New York, Baltimore, Stamford, San Francisco, Stockton, New Cumberland, Atlantic City—and abroad, in Austria, the Czech Republic, Mexico, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, and Israel.

Steinberg is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra, as well as a popular pre-concert lecturer for the Los Angeles Philharmonic. An enthusiastic fan base from around the world participates in his Zoom music lecture series on various musical topics and composers, as well as his *Classical Listening Hangouts*.

Steinberg holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University, where he studied with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Leon Kirchner; an M.M. from the New England Conservatory, where he studied with Arthur Berger; and a B.A. *summa cum laude* from UCLA, where he studied with Elaine Barkin, Roy Travis, and Paul Reale. His early instrumental and composition teachers were Dorothy Compinsky (piano, classical guitar, violin), Kenneth Klauss (composition), Earle C. Voorhies (piano), Salome Arkatov (piano), and Ron Purcell (classical guitar).

Information about Steinberg's music and music lectures is available at:  
[www.russellsteinberg.com](http://www.russellsteinberg.com)

## **JORGE PADRÓN**, CONDUCTOR OF RUTH BORUN CONCERT ORCHESTRA

**Jorge Padrón** is currently the orchestra director at South Pasadena Middle and High School and a doctoral student at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music. His doctoral work is in music teaching and learning with emphases in instrumental conducting, musical theory, and arts leadership. He has taught teacher preparation courses at USC and Pepperdine, was a site conductor for the Los Angeles Philharmonic's YOLA program, and directed the district-wide honors orchestra for the Harmony Project.

Prior to moving to Los Angeles, Jorge was the orchestra director at Miami Palmetto Senior High School. He taught orchestra classes along with elective guitar courses and AP Music Theory, and he sponsored the high school's competitive mathematics teams. As a result of his work in the educational community, he was recognized by the Village of Palmetto Bay and the Miami-Dade County School District for his "exemplary public service." He has also served on the editorial committee of the *American String Teacher* journal and is preparing publications for both *Action, Criticism, and Theory for Music Education* and the *Music Educators Journal*.

Jorge has worked in various educational settings, including starting after-school strings classes at local elementary schools in South Florida, beginning a band program at Camino Nuevo High School near downtown Los Angeles, and assisting with mentoring and training music teachers through USC's Thornton Community Engagement Program. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Miami's Frost School of Music and a master's degree from Carnegie Mellon University. While at the Frost School, he studied clarinet with Margaret Donaghue, violin with Scott Flavin, and harpsichord with Frank Cooper. At USC Thornton, he currently studies conducting with Larry Livingston.



## ELISE DEWSBERRY GREEN

### ORCHESTRA MANAGER

**Elise Dewsberry Green** has had a varied career as a singer, actor, and director in the musical theatre world; as well as bookkeeper, retail store manager, legal secretary, and website designer in the business world. She is currently also the Artistic Director of New Musicals Inc. in North Hollywood, a nonprofit organization that works with bookwriters, lyricists, and composers in developing new musicals. Elise is married to LAYO Cello Coach Stephen Green, and they are very proud of their daughter, social activist Rebecca Green, and brand new son-in-law, grade school teacher Ihab Gabra.

While living in Toronto, Elise served as the Assistant Artistic Director of the Muskoka Festival, the Coordinator of the festival's annual Musical Theatre Writer's Colony, the Associate Dramaturge of the Canadian Stage Company, and the Resident Dramaturge of the Smile Theatre Company; and she was the co-founder of Toronto's Script Lab. Elise spent many years touring Canada with *Nine Months*—a one-woman musical which she commissioned from writers Carl Ritchie and Stephen Woodjetts. Elise and Carl also co-wrote *Any Body Home?*, which was produced by the Cordova Bay Theatre in Victoria, British Columbia, and published by Dramatic Publishing.

Elise is also the author and evaluator of the Book Lab and the Outlining Lab, offered online through [www.nmi.org](http://www.nmi.org), and she publishes a monthly vlog on the craft of musical theatre available at: <https://nmi.org/elises-video-blog/>.

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Ning Xiaoqian

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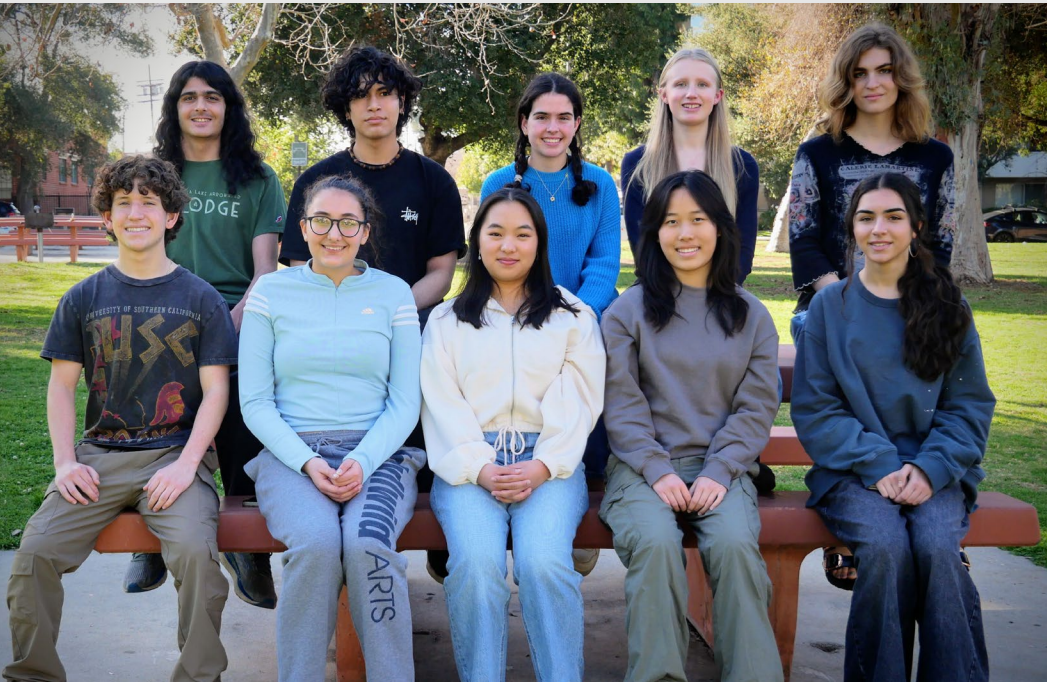
The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra is supported, in part, by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Department of Arts and Culture and the California Arts Council, a state agency.



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING SENIORS

We wish you every success.  
May music always be a meaningful part of your lives!

We asked our graduating seniors—the Class of 2024—to tell us a bit about themselves and their plans. Please enjoy their stories over the next few pages.



Front Row (l to r): Andre Huaman, Samira Shokrian, Audrey Li, Beatrice Jiang, Leena Adeli  
Back Row (l to r): Joshua Golshani, Isaiah Dorado, Daniella Traum, Annalisa Hurd, Lilith Humphrey  
Missing: James Ball, Jasmine Kao, Matheus Koo



**LEENA ADELI**  
(SO VIOLIN 2)

### How long have you been in LAYO?

Since August 2016.

### Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?

I have been playing the violin since first grade and was part of the elementary school orchestra. My older sister, Layla, joined LAYO in January 2016, and we traveled to Italy with her for the 10-day Italy tour. I was hooked. I wanted the same experience.

### What are some of your best memories?

There are so many amazing memories from my years at LAYO. Making new friends outside of my school friends is one great experience. But of course performing at concert halls such as Walt Disney Concert Hall and Carnegie Hall are some of the most memorable experiences.

### What's next for you?

So far I have been accepted to three "early action" universities. I will hear from the rest in March and will then make my decision. I plan on pursuing a career in public and global health. I hope to join a chamber group so music can continue to be part of my life.



**JAMES BALL**  
(SO TRUMPET)

### How long have you been in LAYO?

Since seventh grade.

### Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?

I wanted to be a part of a community of musicians that play music at a high caliber. LAYO has given me the opportunity to appreciate and play music that I enjoy with people I enjoy playing it with. It's given me a new perspective on what it means to be a trumpet player, as classical style is different from jazz or band music.

### What are some of your best memories?

Going to Vienna and Prague and playing in fantastic concert halls, walking through history as we did, with great friends along the way. These were not only my favorite experiences in LAYO, but some of the best experiences of my life. The connection I made with the music and the new friends I bonded with was an unmatched experience.

### What's next for you?

I plan to go to college (not decided yet) and study engineering or physics. I'm interested in quantum computing, and I hope to make innovations and progress in that field. I also want to continue my music interests in college by joining an orchestra or band of some sort or perhaps minoring in music.



**ISAIAH-LEONARD DORADO**  
(SO CELLO)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Three semesters.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

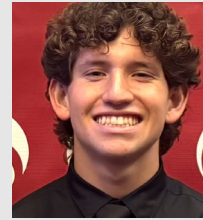
My friend Apollo recommended that I join, and I auditioned. Other people in my school's orchestra were also members of LAYO.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Seeing other musicians and people dedicated to making music. I also really enjoyed learning from the coaches, and the rehearsals when the conductor teaches.

**What's next for you?**

I want to keep music in my life somehow, but I'm not sure what path I'd like to take next. I would like to at least learn more about music in college.



**ANDRE HUAMAN**  
(SO & RBCO PERCUSSION)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Four years.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

I wanted to continue pursuing music into high school, continue to challenge myself, and grow as a musician.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Performing in Carnegie Hall was a life-changing experience. I felt like my whole life and work as a musician had led up to that moment. I also loved walking through Prague and Vienna with my friends as well as performing there.

**What's next for you?**

I am off to college to study chemistry but hopefully also still pursue music. I want music to continue being a part of my life, and I intend to follow that. I would like to at least learn more about music in college.



**JOSHUA GOLSHANI**  
(SO VIOLIN 2)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Two years.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

To get more opportunities to play with others, become better, learn more about music, and to meet new people.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Getting to visit Europe for the first time.

**What's next for you?**

Going to community college probably with a focus on computer engineering, or some other kind of science.



**LILITH HUMPHREY**  
(SO & RBCO PERCUSSION)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Since fall 2022.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

When I transferred schools in 10th grade, my new school didn't have an orchestra. I discovered LAYO, auditioned, and was so happy to have found a new musical community.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Vienna and Prague, mainly! Late hotel room nights, the best bratwurst I've ever had, playing in Esterházy Palace, meeting so many friends. I cherish them all!

**What's next for you?**

In the fall I'll be off to college, likely on the East Coast. I don't know what I want to study, but I hope to publish my novel and keep playing percussion! Here's to 25 more years of LAYO!



**ANNALISA HURD**  
(SO VIOLIN 1)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Three years.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

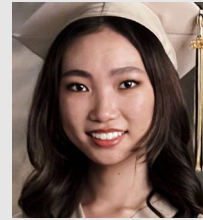
I wanted to be in an orchestra that played advanced repertoire and went on tours, but also had a supportive and nurturing environment. LAYO had all of that and more.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Playing in amazing venues and hanging out with friends on the Vienna/Prague tour, and finding incredible friends through LAYO that I wouldn't have met otherwise.

**What's next for you?**

I'm still waiting on my decisions, but I'll be going to college next year, majoring in biochemistry, and playing in the college orchestra wherever I go.



**JASMINE KAO**  
(SO VIOLIN 1)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Four years.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

I wanted to be a part of LAYO because my best friend, Emily, was initially a part of the symphony ensemble. LAYO provided me an amazing opportunity to create music amongst talented musicians and create lifelong friendships that I will forever treasure.

**What are some of your best memories?**

My favorite memories were made during the New York and Vienna/Prague tours. All the friendships and memories I've made through simple things like sitting together near the back of the bus and playing charades together after dinner—these are ones I will never forget.

**What's next for you?**

I will be going to college pursuing a pre-med track in osteopathic medicine. When I write this, I do not know where I will be committing to, but, hopefully, somewhere I will succeed.



**BEATRICE JIANG**  
(SO VIOLIN 1)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Four years.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

I joined LAYO to be part of a community that shares my love for classical music. It's given me the chance to collaborate with talented musicians, perform incredible orchestral works, and take my musicianship to the next level.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Performing at the legendary Carnegie Hall during LAYO's New York tour was a surreal experience. I also had an amazing time traveling through Europe and playing in historic venues on the Prague/Vienna tour. These concert tours gave me unforgettable musical memories and helped me meet some of my closest friends.

**What's next for you?**

I hope to attend college and pursue a career as an electrical engineer and researcher.



**MATHEUS KOO**  
(SO CLARINET)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Three years.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

I joined LAYO to find a community of people who share my musical interests and passion for performance.

**What are some of your best memories?**

I'll always remember our inspiring pre-concert talks, the thrill of entering new concert halls, and our unforgettable NYC trip, which culminated in a performance at Carnegie Hall.

**What's next for you?**

This fall I'll be attending Cornell to study business. While music won't be my major, I plan to continue playing the clarinet in college through jazz combos and similar ensembles.





**AUDREY LI**  
(SO VIOLIN 1)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Since fall 2023.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

I wanted to join LAYO to gain more experience playing symphonic pieces, further develop my musical skills, and meet new people.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Some of my best memories come from the Vienna and Prague tour. Immersing myself in the culture, music, and environment was an incredible experience, especially sharing it with friends.

**What's next for you?**

I plan to study English with a pre-law focus in college.



**DANIELLA TRAUM**  
(SO VIOLA)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Three years.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

I wanted to be part of LAYO because I wanted the viola to be a bigger part of my life. Joining a youth orchestra allowed me to play more music and meet other musicians.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Some of my favorite memories are definitely from the Europe tour. The beautiful towns I walked through and palaces we toured were amazing! The rose garden in Vienna was absolutely gorgeous!! I'll never forget Excalibur City upon arriving in Czechia. I am so thankful this group brought me to so many amazing places.

**What's next for you?**

I'm super excited to study public policy at Cornell. I plan to focus on environmental issues and continue playing the viola in college.



**SAMIRA SHOKRIAN**  
(SO CELLO)

**How long have you been in LAYO?**

Five years.

**Why did you want to be a part of LAYO?**

I wanted to be involved in a local orchestra and meet people with similar musical interests as my own.

**What are some of your best memories?**

Some of my best memories are hanging out with my friends before concerts and during dress rehearsals.

**What's next for you?**

I am very excited to play cello in my college's orchestra. While I may not be on track to be a professional musician, I hope to continue playing into adulthood.



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## LAYO ALUM E-BOOK

As part of our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we reached out to our 1,400 alums to ask what they are doing and what kind of impact they feel LAYO has had on their lives. Our goal is to create a LAYO Alum E-Book, connecting alums around the world. They are physicists, fashion editors, novelists, mathematicians, psychologists, school teachers, early music specialists, lawyers, biologists, entrepreneurs, administrators, and on and on! More students than we ever imagined are now highly regarded professional musicians, performing and teaching all over the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

The alums listed here were the first to respond, and we encourage everyone to visit the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary E-Book where you will find out much more about each of them!

<https://losangelesyouthorchestra.org/alum-e-book/>

### FLUTE

Sandra Elizabeth Chavez (2008-2011)  
Elizabeth Erenberg (2001-2004)  
Hanwen Huang (2018-2024)  
Daniel Raban (2008-2014)  
Kyra Sweeney (2007-2012)  
Megan Trach (2014-2016)  
Andie Yi (2021-2023)  
Jonathan Zuckerman (1999-2003)

### OBOE

Martha Kleiner (2004-2005)  
Katherine Norton (2016-2020)  
Alessandra Ramos (2014-2017)  
Andrew Specht (2005-2008)

### CLARINET

Evan Hou (2003-2005)  
Austin Li (2011-2013)  
Weber Lin (2019-2022)  
Theophilus Pan (2018-2020)  
Grant Wallensky (2000-2006)

### BASSOON

Lucca Caise (2017-2020)  
Teren Shaffer (2000-2004)  
Yunchao Zhang (2013-2017)

### FRENCH HORN

Meg Bradley (2015-2016)  
Ryan Chu (2019-2020)  
Ellie Conley (2011-2013)  
Julian Dohi (2020-2022)  
Ronald York Kalieo Florentino (2016-2017)  
Mika Judge (2019-2020)  
Jenna Mah (2020-2021)  
Mila Santos-Brochu (2019-2020)

### TRUMPET

Grant Bishop (2015-2017)  
Max von der Ohe (2019-2023)

### TROMBONE

Adam Karelin (2016-2018)  
Jack McGinty (2021-2022)  
Bradley Mintz (2007-2011)  
John Pisaro (2013-2015)

### BASS TROMBONE

Marc Ahn (2021-2023)  
Sebastian Martinez (2017-2018)

### PERCUSSION

Nadia Cetinyan (2018-2022)  
Sophia Cetinyan (2018-2021)

### VIOLIN

Layla Adeli (2017-2023)  
Grace M. Alexander (2010-2015)  
Niv Ashkenazi (2000-present)  
Dorian Bandy (1997-2000)  
Mohini Priya Banerjee (2003-2009)  
Vivek Ananda Banerjee (2006-2008)  
Benjamin Bartelt (early 2000s)  
Francisca Bugacov (2016-2018)  
Isabel Bugacov (2016-2018)  
Charlotte Costain (2014-2021)  
Amber Daughtry (2006-2013)  
Heather Daughtry (2004-2007)  
Jonathan Gasser-Brennan (2019-2023)  
Vincent Giza (2020-2022)  
Nicole Gorbacheva (2019-2020)  
Mariel Jackson (2009 - 2014)  
Emily Jacobs (2013-2016)  
Adam Jeng (2018-2022)  
Maxwell Karmazyn (2003-2005)  
Alexandra Koreva (2017-18)  
Lydia Kresin (2017-2020)  
Samantha Krulik (2018-2019)  
Rebecca Kyo (2022-2023)  
Joyce Lai (2021-2024)  
Renee Lee (2019-2023)  
Alisa Luera (2013-2017)  
Oscar Martínez (2009-2010)  
Mica Nafshun-Bone (2011-2015)  
Jaya Nataraj (2007 - 2015)  
Audrey Park (2017-2019)  
Kate Perry (2009-2016)  
David Raban (2002-2010)  
Julian Reinhart (2019-2021)  
George Saouaf (2020-2023)  
Hannah Shavit-Weiner (2017-2023)  
Jining (Aurora) Shen (2016-2017)  
Daniel Simantob (2007-2017)  
Nathan Simantob (2004-2015)  
Ranya Stover (2016-2021)  
Michael Turkell (2005-2008)  
Luis Villalobos (2014-2015)  
Jeremiah Calvin Youngblood (2017-2018)

### VIOLA

Jared Bishop (2015-2019)  
Charlotte Costain (2014-2021)  
Elysia Han (2017-2022)  
Isabel Jacobs (2015-2017)

### CELLO

Cameron Bly (2015-2017)  
Cory Chen (2021-2023)  
Amira Cohen (2019-2022)  
Emma Cohen (2004-2007)  
William Ellzey (2013-2016)  
Frances Marie Manulani Florentino (2016-2017)  
Leea Joo (2010-2015)  
Emery Kerekes (2010-2014)  
Chloe Kirk (2017-2018)  
Cassie Leybovich Schmidt (2004-2011)  
Michael Lee-Chang (2013-2014)  
Amber Park (2017-2019)  
Annie Sokolich (2006 - 2008)  
Philip Suwandi (2014-2019)  
Julia Winkour (early 2000s)

### DOUBLE BASS

Maxwell Beck (2014-2015)  
Phoebe Cohen  
Arnav Dave (2016-2023)  
Benjy Fox-Rosen (2001-2002)  
Joia Massee (2022-2024)  
Giuliana Salgado (2017-2018)

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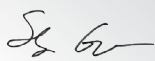



SCAN TO SIGN UP FOR OUR MAILING LIST  
AND RECEIVE PROGRAM UPDATES AND DEADLINES


**AFM LOCAL 47**

American Federation of Musicians Local 47  
proudly supports

**Los Angeles Youth Orchestra**

  
Stephanie O'Keefe  
President

  
Marc Sazer  
Vice President

  
Gail Kruvand  
Secretary/Treasurer

## ALUM QUOTES

*"When I found LAYO, we were still in the midst of a global pandemic. 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."*

—Jenna Mah, French Horn, 2020-2021

*"As a cellist with the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra (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."*

—Michael Lee-Chang, Cello, 2013-2014

*"My time at LAYO was absolutely wonderful. It shaped me as a musician and as a person. LAYO changed my life for the better and was one of the best decisions I have ever made."*

—Bradley Mintz, Trombone 2007-2011

*"My time with LAYO was an invaluable part of my musical journey. It provided a supportive and inspiring environment where I had the opportunity to collaborate with other dedicated musicians and perform professional-level repertoire. 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."*

—Ian Fleck, Clarinet, 2021-2022

*"Beyond the skills that LAYO helped cultivate, LAYO offered a unique community of people whose love for music cultivated lifelong 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!"*

—Nathan Simantob, Violin, 2004-2015

# We Celebrate

the Los Angeles Youth Orchestra as they continue to enrich the lives of young musicians across the country.

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## THANKS TO THE PRIVATE TEACHERS

The Los Angeles Youth Orchestra requires all of its members to work weekly with private instrumental teachers. We express gratitude to these teachers for developing the technique of our students, taking the time in lessons to practice our orchestra music, and for understanding the value of orchestral experience for young musicians.

### FLUTE

Jingmin Chai  
Michelle Huang  
Jennifer Jo  
Sierra Schmeltzer

### OBOE

Fredric Beerstein  
Osvaldo Gonzalez  
Jason Kennedy

### CLARINET

Melissa Frisch  
He Li  
Steve Park  
Shannon Thomas  
Amanda Walker  
William Wellwood

### HORN

Caster Teoh

### TRUMPET

Dave Etterbeek  
Caster Teoh  
Cameron Wilkins

### TROMBONE

Caster Teoh

### PERCUSSION

Tina Curtis  
Kai Gu  
Enrique Lara  
Yang Xu

### VIOLIN

Armando Anto  
Niv Ashkenazi  
Benjamin Bartelt  
Sherry Cadow  
Lauren Deutsch  
Kristin Fife  
Nelly Guevera  
Simon Itskovich  
Sharon Jackson  
Sara Jin

Michelle Kim  
Anna Lee  
Paul Lee  
Shuwei Liu  
Xiaoshan Liu  
Margaret Lysy  
Michael McLean  
Johnny Nam

Corinne Olsen  
Madalyn Parnas Möller  
Audrey Solomon  
Hillary Thomas  
Dr. Hailey Walterman  
Edmund Wu  
An Ji Young  
Chan Ho Yun

### VIOLA

Xenia Deviatkina-Loh  
Beth Elliott  
Diane Gilbert  
Hillary Thomas

### CELLO

Munir Beken  
Henry Chen  
Amayah Gabriel  
Mahsa Ghassemi  
Stephen Green  
Sohyun Jang  
Elisa Kohanski  
Armen Ksajikian  
Karl McConas Reicht  
Alexa Ramirez  
John Redfield  
Stephen Reiss  
Amanda Shokrian  
Garik Terzian  
Wendy Velasco

### BASS

Phoebe Cohen  
Stephen Pfeifer  
Adrian Rosen

## THANKS TO THE SCHOOLS

LAYO student musicians hail from public and private schools throughout the greater Los Angeles area. We acknowledge these schools, their music directors, and their ongoing partnership with LAYO.

### **AGOURA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL**

**ALEXANDER HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
Stephen McDonough

**ARCHER SCHOOL**  
Hannah Murray

### **ARNOLD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**BEVERLY HILLS HIGH SCHOOL**  
Bill Bradbury

**BRENTWOOD SCHOOL**  
Charlie Kim, Jonah Blumstein

**THE BUCKLEY SCHOOL**  
John Touchton, Vincent Hauser

### **BURBANK HIGH SCHOOL**

**CALABASAS HIGH SCHOOL**  
Aaron Kohen

**CALLE MAYOR MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Gabriel Perez

### **CHATSWORTH CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**

### **CROSSROADS SCHOOL**

**CULVER CITY HIGH SCHOOL**  
Tony Spano

### **DA VINCI CONNECT**

**DAY CREEK INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**  
Carly Miller

**EL CAMINO CHARTER ACADEMY**  
Kevin Thurow

### **GASPAR DE PORTOLA HIGHLY GIFTED MAGNET**

**GEFFEN ACADEMY AT UCLA**  
Michael Albertson

### **GOLDEN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

**GRANADA HILLS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
Bailey Knowles, Joseph Cooper

**GROVER CLEVELAND CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
Cameron Yassaman

**HARVARD WESTLAKE SCHOOL**  
Emily Reola, Neli Nikolaeva

### **HILLEL HEBREW ACADEMY**

### **ILEAD EXPLORATION**

**JOHN BURROUGHS HIGH SCHOOL**  
David Espana

### **JOHN F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL**

**LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
John Redfield

### **LOUIS ARMSTRONG MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**MAYFIELD JUNIOR SCHOOL**  
Sierra Dee Rankin

### **NEW WEST CHARTER SCHOOL**

**NORTH HOLLYWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**  
Robin Sharp

### **NOTRE DAME ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS**

**OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL**  
Zachary Borquez

**OAKS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**  
Naomi Mandojana

**PACIFIC PALISADES CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL**  
Elizabeth Stoyanovich

**PAUL REVERE CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Gregory Samuel, Dave Tautkus

**POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL**  
Megan Foley, Eric Lifland

### **PORTER RANCH COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

**PORTOLA HIGHLY GIFTED MAGNET MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Scott Peters

### **PRESSMAN ACADEMY**

**ROBERT FROST MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Tina Curtis, Juan Rodriguez

### **SANTA MONICA HIGH SCHOOL**

**SCIENCE ACADEMY STEM MAGNET SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL**  
Caitlin Brock

**SOUTH PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL**  
Tim Orindgreff

**SOUTH PASADENA MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Trey Farrell, Jorge Padrón

### **SOUTH POINTE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**TEMPLE CITY HIGH SCHOOL**  
Reginald Cordero

**THOUSAND OAKS HIGH SCHOOL**  
Benjamin Roberts

**TOLL MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Brad de la Garza

**TRINITY CLASSICAL ACADEMY**  
Tom Brown

### **VENICE HIGH SCHOOL**

**VIEWPOINT SCHOOL**  
Kim Gonzalez, Kristin Herkstroeter

**WALTER REED MIDDLE SCHOOL IHP**  
Stewart Rosen

**THE WEBB SCHOOL**  
Kyle Champion

**WEST RANCH HIGH SCHOOL**  
Rodney C. Schueller

**WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL**  
Elizabeth Blake, Kenneth Karlin



## LAYO'S 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SHOSTAKOVICH FUND

LAYO honors the donors to our Shostakovich Fund that have helped make this special 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert possible.

Thank you to the following donors:

Elaine Albert  
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Beam Foundation  
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# HAPPY HOUR

## THE MUSIC AND MAGIC OF TUMBLE LEAF

**Saturday, May 24 @ 11AM**  
**Fine Arts Auditorium at the**  
**The Ebell of Los Angeles**

*something new is in the hiding place...*

**Sing along** to the theme song with its creator, Lisbeth Scott. Meet *Tumble Leaf*'s Drew Hodges and Kelli Bixler. **Create stop-motion animation** with show puppets and equipment. **Build instruments** like Fig and the Beetle Band Bus. Try kid-sized classical instruments and write your own music!

Oh, and yes: there will be snacks. Lots of snacks.

Don't miss this whimsical, creative, and memorable event — **Salastina's first for kids!**

**Saturday, June 7 @ 1PM**  
**Virginia Robinson Gardens**  
**in Beverly Hills**

The Robinson Gardens in Beverly Hills hosts Salastina for an ***Alice in Wonderland*-themed High Tea**. With checkerboard floors, lush gardens, and whimsical signage, it's an ideal setting for Lewis Carroll's tale. Inside, a **tea room, library, and music salon** enhance the experience. Chef Becky Brown and Experience Designer Mercedes Curran bring their talents to this immersive event. Celebrate summer and Salastina's 15th Anniversary Season in style.



# SOUNDS DELICIOUS

## ALICE IN WONDERLAND TEA PARTY



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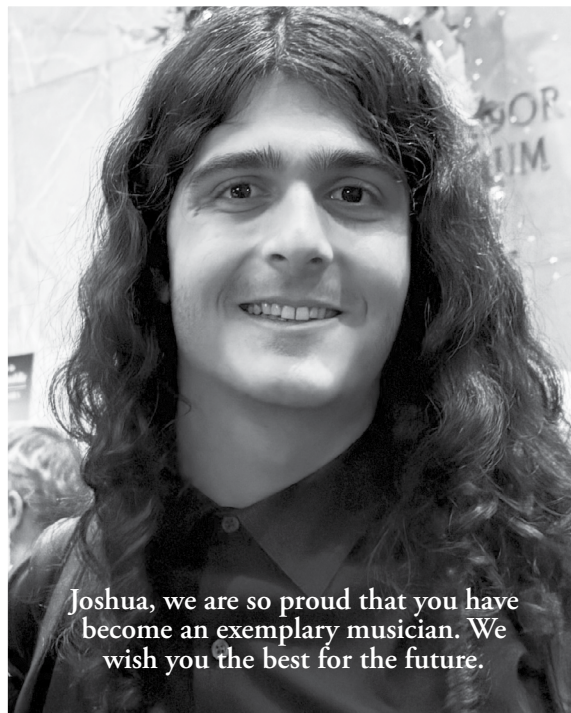


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APPLICATION DEADLINE  
**DECEMBER 1**







Joshua, we are so proud that you have become an exemplary musician. We wish you the best for the future.



Daniella Traum

You picked up the viola in 6th grade and your commitment led you first to your teacher, Hillary Thomas, and then to LAYO. LAYO and Hillary have given you a love and appreciation of music you'll have and hold in your heart! We always enjoy your performances, the most memorable in Vienna and Prague last summer.

We love you and are very proud of you!

Mom, Dad and Gabi.



Congratulations to Leena for an amazing 8 years with LAYO! We are so proud of all your accomplishments and for sticking with LAYO through many difficult times in the last few years (Covid and now the LA fires). Wishing you the best for the next chapter of your life.

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy, Layla (and of course Jackson)



Congratulations Lilith! The house will be quiet next year when it's not vibrating from percussion practice. We are so proud of all that you have accomplished and know that you will continue to shine next year in college! Love, Mom, Dad and Danny





Dear Andre:

Your journey at LAYO has been like a beautiful melody, inspiring you to drum away with so much passion and dedication. As you transition to college, embrace the wonderful opportunities ahead, and remember that your incredible talent and hard work will help create a future filled with endless possibilities and purpose.

With all our love, Mom, Dad, and Family from near and far!

## SPECIAL THANKS

LOS ANGELES YOUTH ORCHESTRA SALUTES ALL OF OUR PARENTS FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR REHEARSALS AND CONCERTS. BRAVI TUTTI!!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY PARENT COMMITTEE:

**Esther Chen, Bijaya Eaton (alum), Jennifer Lee, Margie Mintz, Naifeng Sun, Monika Wagenberg**

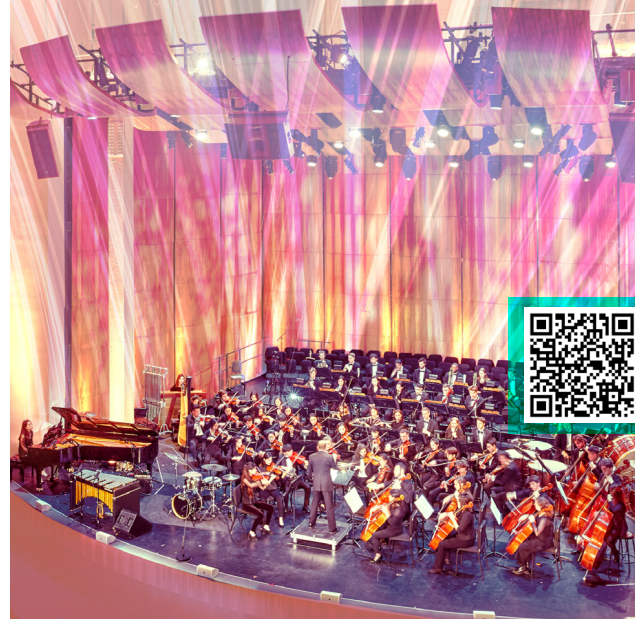
LAYO THANKS THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS:

**Fati Adeli**, *Family Giving Campaign Coordinator*, **Jane Matusovskaya**, *Concert Program Graphic Design*, **Aisha Cabanillas**, **Kate Romo** and **Oscar Zenteno** (students) and **Aaron Lemos** (teacher), *John F. Kennedy HS Video Production*

EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS:

**Andrew Katz and Angel Ghodoushim**, *Accounting*, **Encino Community Center**, **First Presbyterian Church of Encino**, **Miles Williams**, **Alex Theatre**

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