

UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music

COMMENCEMENT 2024





OUR MISSION

Esteeming all musical traditions as vital cultural expressions of our evolving global society, the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music cultivates models for musical studies that integrate exemplary scholarship and practices, and engage through music with diverse communities on campus, throughout Los Angeles, and beyond.

OUR VISION

We envision a school of music that welcomes students from all backgrounds, and provides individual mentorship to ensure their well-being and prepare them to flourish in an evolving musical landscape. We strive to fulfill the promise of our position at the nexus of practice and scholarship by engaging diverse musical traditions within a city of exceptional cultural vibrancy.

OUR VALUES

VOICE: Through our voices we express our thoughts, passions, and stories in the most immediate way. **VOICE** has come to represent that expressive capability more generally; we voice ourselves through musical performance, composition, scholarship, and teaching, and strive in our teaching to cultivate the individual voice of each student.

COUNTERPOINT: Individual voices have the greatest impact when they engage others in dialogue, discussion, and debate — in a word, **COUNTERPOINT**—whereby they establish the basis for musical and intellectual communities capable of activating the generative power of diversity.

RESONANCE: Resonance provides the space for harmony and rhythm to magnify the impact of the individual. *RESONANCE* starts with people listening to each other as the first step toward community, which enables them to engage the world beyond more powerfully.

VIRTUOSITY: By cultivating voice, counterpoint, and resonance, we allow *VIRTUOSITY*—in its dual sense of virtue and skill—to flourish, with each performer, composer, scholar, and educator striving for the highest level of ethical excellence, responsible stewardship, and commitment.



Message from UC President Michael V. Drake, M.D.

Congratulations, UCLA Class of 2024!

It is my honor to join your family, friends, and the entire University of California community in

celebrating you and your many accomplishments.

I hope you will always take great pride in what you have achieved at the University of California, and in being a part of the UC family for life. I wish you the best of luck in whatever comes next.

When NASA's Lucy mission launched three years ago, it was the first spacecraft sent to explore a population of asteroids orbiting in tandem with Jupiter. A plaque inside the craft bears the bilingual poem, "Sunriders," by former U.S. Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera — an alumnus of UCLA. This poem captures the essence of the discovery and knowledge-creation you have been engaged in during your higher education. It reads:

Lucy carried us

tumbling through planetesimal trails

love saved us

who will we be?

compassion

science

humanity -

Light

Bruins, we are proud of you. I know you will make the world a better, brighter place.

Fiat lux — let there be light!

Michael V. Drake, M.D.

President

Message from UCLA Chancellor Gene D. Block

Members of the Class of 2024, congratulations! You did it!

Graduating from college is an incredible achievement,



and it offers us a special opportunity to reflect on your years of diligence and hard work. Your time here has undoubtedly been filled with challenges, growth, and unforgettable experiences. You faced truly unique circumstances as a class—including navigating the COVID-19 pandemic—and your resilience in the face of adversity and compassion for one another

has been truly inspiring. I hope you are proud of all that you have accomplished, both as learners and as people.

Graduation also offers us a chance to look ahead — with excitement, curiosity and optimism — to the future that is about to unfold. The world urgently needs your creativity and passion. UCLA values of integrity, empathy, open-mindedness and a commitment to excellence will serve you well as you enter this next chapter of your lives.

I want to reassure you that your connection to UCLA does not end here. As alumni, you remain Bruins, and you will always have a home here. Whether you find yourself continuing your education or exploring new paths, know that our community is here to support you every step of the way. Take advantage of the resources and support services available to you as UCLA alumni and remember that you are part of a vast network of Bruins who are making a difference in the world.

On behalf of the entire UCLA community, I extend my heartfelt congratulations. We can't wait to see all that you will accomplish. May your futures be filled with continued success, fulfillment and limitless opportunities. And remember, once a Bruin, always a Bruin.

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Gene D. Block

Chancellor



Message from Inaugural Dean Eileen L. Strempel

Welcome to the 2024 commencement ceremony for The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music. This year we are pleased to extend our warmest greetings to our extraordinary students and their families who have completed this part of their academic journeys with us. Our students have inspired us with their accomplishments during their time at UCLA. Their stories energize and elevate us and fill us with hope. It is our joy to be able to celebrate them today.

The class of 2024 has shown fortitude and resilience. Many entered their college years at the same time a global pandemic gripped the world. Under these circumstances, our students were stretched, and they adapted as they struggled to meet the moment. As creatives, they published scholarship, wrote music, and figured out how to perform on Zoom. With this history, their accomplishments are extraordinary, and we are honored to recognize them.

Music can accomplish many things—it can inspire, it can heal, it can bring us joy. Especially during this time, we remember that music fosters community and connections. We write music to be performed by others, and we delve into musical scholarship to share our discoveries with the world. During times of disruption and even crisis, music is something we turn to, as it reminds us of our connections with one another, in our communities and in the larger world.

This year we will celebrate 173 graduates as they proudly represent our school's academic departments and programs of Ethnomusicology, Global Jazz Studies, Music, Musicology, and Music Industry. On behalf of all our School of Music faculty and staff, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to every single one of them.

To our 2024 graduates, I hope you will always stay connected to each other and to our School of Music community. Please stay in touch with us. Share your journey with us. Your stories will inspire the next generation of artists, scholars, and leaders in the musical world to chart new paths. We are excited for you and for the impact of your creative future.

With Appreciation & Gratitude,

Eileen L. Strempel

Inaugural Dean

Commencement Keynote Speaker

Jake Heggie



American composer Jake Heggie is best known for Dead Man Walking, the most widely performed new opera of the 21st century. With a libretto by Terrence McNally, it has been mounted by major theaters in New York, Dresden, Vienna, London, Madrid, Copenhagen, Sydney, Montréal, and Cape Town, in more than 75 international productions. His critically acclaimed operas Moby-Dick, Three Decembers, and It's a Wonderful Life, with libretti by Gene Scheer, have also established themselves in the classical canon. In addition to 10 full-length operas and numerous one-

acts, Heggie has composed more than 300 art songs, as well as concerti, chamber music, choral, and orchestral works, which have been performed on five continents.

Hailed by the Wall Street Journal as "arguably the world's most popular 21st-century opera and art song composer," Heggie actively seeks out projects that invite a wide range of perspectives. Intelligence, based on the true story of two women who infiltrated the Confederate White House, received its world premiere on opening night of Houston Grand Opera's season. Songs for Murdered Sisters, his collaboration with Margaret Atwood, was created in response to the global epidemic of gender-based violence and nominated for Classical Album of the Year at the Juno Awards. Heggie has longstanding creative partnerships with mezzos Frederica von Stade, Joyce DiDonato, Susan Graham, and Jamie Barton, whose Heggie project Unexpected Shadows earned a Grammy nomination for Best Classical Solo Vocal Album. That duo's recent nine-city recital tour showcased What I Miss The Most, a song cycle with new texts by important voices including Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Sister Helen Prejean, and Patti LuPone.

Heggie continues to write all his work by hand, believing that a visceral, physical connection to the score is an essential part of composition. Since 1993, he has made his home in San Francisco, where he lives with his husband. Curt Branom.

Past Keynote Speakers



2023

Martha Gonzalez

Chicana activist, musician, and educator



2022

Dr. Maria Jackson

Chair, National Endowment for the Arts



2021
Regina Carter
Award-winning jazz violinist



2020
Carlos Santana
Grammy-winning
songwriter and guitarist



2019
Jacqueline
Cogdell DjeDje
Ethnomusicologist
and author



2018

Judith Finell

Musicologist and

UCLA alumna



2017

Herb Alpert

Trumpeter, songwriter,

Grammy winner, and
philanthropist





Student Speakers



GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Robby Good

Robby Good is graduating with a master's in Music with an emphasis in Composition for Visual Media. He graduated summa cum laude from UCLA's undergraduate music program in 2022 with a double bachelor's in Composition and Percussion Performance, with a minor in Film. He was previously a Nancy and Barry Sanders Los Angeles Philharmonic Composer Fellow, where he studied under composers Andrew Norman and Sarah Gibson. Good has worked for film/television composer and recording artist Michael A. Levine, and currently serves as acclaimed

composer and songwriter Charles Fox's personal assistant.

Good has scored over 45 films and animations of varying lengths and genres. He has been continuously composing and releasing music for the video game project "Eden's Garden," for which he was able to present as an official panelist at the popular Anime convention "San Japan" in San Antonio, Texas. Good was the principal composer and the orchestrator for the original musical theater production Dis-topia, which the UCLA theatre department presented as a workshop in 2023, and later publicly premiered under his directorship with a 16-person cast and 27-person orchestra of UCLA students and alumni in February 2024. Alongside UCLA alumnus composer Kian Ravaei, Good collaborated with the EDM artist Wooli to arrange, orchestrate, contract, and record the single Crazy in 2021. Good's concert works have been performed by ensembles such as the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the International Contemporary Ensemble, the National Children's Chorus, the Los Angeles Percussion Quartet, the Calder String Quartet, the Kaleidoscope Chamber Orchestra, and the CSUN Wind Ensemble.



UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Ashley Dao

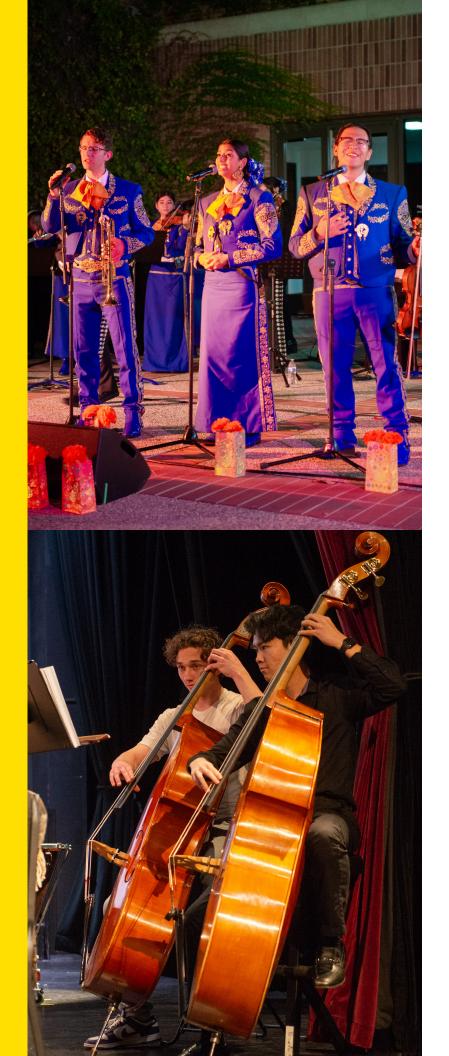
Ashley Dao is graduating with a bachelor's in Musicology and a minor in Film, Television and Digital Media. While at The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, Dao has served as president of the Undergraduate Student Advisory Board and editor-in-chief of MUSE, An Undergraduate Music Studies Journal. As an organizer of MUSE's annual conference, she has sought to foster values of community, intellectual engagement, and diversity. The 2024 conferenc/e featured keynote

speaker Corey Harris, American blues musician and McArthur genius grant winner. The conference has regularly drawn attendance from around the country.

In 2023, Dao became the first UCLA student in eight years to win a Beinecke Memorial Scholarship, a nationally-competitive scholarship that gives substantial support for graduate study in the arts, humanities and social sciences. She has also received the Edgardo and Francesca Acosta Endowed Scholarship, the Clifton Webb Scholarship of the Arts, the Herma and Celia Wise Musicology Award, the AMS Eileen Southern Travel Grant, and the UCLA Library Prize for best research on "Music after 1900." In 2024, she was awarded the UCLA EDI Student Leadership Award, becoming the first School of Music student to do so.

As a proud scholar-artist, Dao is a passionate pianist, harpsichordist, educator, and researcher. Dao's main research uncovers the nexus of nostalgia, trauma, and empathy in the musicking of Orange County's Little Saigon, while her secondary interests lie in music, affect, and media—particularly melodrama.

At UCLA, Dao is best known for her distinctive fruit-decorated backpack, sharp eyeliner, and advocacy for the Oxford comma.



Awards

Latin Honors

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Ashley Dao Fiona Mai

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Toby Menon Sophie Rose Pipia Tina Shigeyama

CUM LAUDE

Sophia Taylor Buraglio
Valerie Chang
Ai Deng
Yoni Beck Fogelman
Breanna Yu Jin Kim
Brendan Lockie
Danielle Marie Nollenberger
Gabriella Jolie Ruggeiro
Katsura Uthus
Nancy Xu

Dean's Medal Recipients

ETHNOMUSICOLOGY

Ai Deng, Undergraduate Mehrenegar Rostami, Graduate Wan Yeung, Graduate

GLOBAL JAZZ STUDIES

Dalton Marcellus Mumphrey, Undergraduate

MUSIC

Yoni Beck Fogelman, Undergraduate Brendan Lockie, Undergraduate Morgan Moss, Graduate Gabrielle Fay Sipen, Graduate Joung-A Yum, Graduate

MUSIC HISTORY & INDUSTRY

Scarlett Grace Long, Undergraduate Gabriella Jolie Ruggeiro, Undergraduate

MUSICOLOGY

Ashley Dao, Undergraduate James Ace, Graduate Ross Mitchell, Graduate

Department of ETHNOMUSICOLOGY

BACHELOR OF ARTS, ETHNOMUSICOLOGY

Gabriela R Acosta
Rise Barkan
Liv Ida Berg
Ai Deng
Dakota Luna Hawk Dry
Nataly Guadalupe Gonzalez
Ezra Alex Hapner
Sona Nalbandian
Carlos Moises Oliva
Alexis Kristina Romero
Remy Sher
Daisy Alexis Stephens
Gavin Hudner Thompson
Piper Leone Kincaid Thrams
Nancy Xu

MASTER OF ARTS, ETHNOMUSICOLOGY

Breana Mccullough Rane Prak

PH.D., ETHNOMUSICOLOGY

Larry Robinson Mehrenegar Rostami Dexter Story Wan Yeung

ETHNOMUSICOLOGY MINOR

Ricardo Dollero Raina Sinclair Markham Sapna Thaker Rita Weng



GLOBAL JAZZ STUDIES



BACHELOR OF ARTS, GLOBAL JAZZ STUDIES

Henry Leopold Baskin Haley Margaret Benedict Jordan Elise Casciato Miles Nohara Chen Rory Farrelly Gesner Dashiell Webster Goss-Post Haisem Khalfani Barrett Tsuyoshi Koontz Joyce Harin Lee Dalton Marcellus Mumphrey Seven Tyler Pappanastos Caden Thomas Potter Madeline Grace Rahn Coleman Seavey Yanaya Mei SIlva William Morris Werthimer Matthew Scott Wilson Kenneth Kai Zayas Xuanyi Zhou



Department of MUSIC

BACHELOR OF MUSIC, MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Rebecca Batzion Beerstein Madison Elizabeth Bottenberg Abigail E Brendza Valerie Chang Ashley Justine Chen Na Yeon Cho Diego Judy Dela Cruz Elisabeth Mariann Fortescue Adam Gabriel Rune Frary Julien James Fraser Isabelle Fromme Harrison Garff Gina Han Zachary Christopher Hauser London Elizabeth Hibbs Ethan Clement Holmes Erica Tachin Hou Habin Kim Breanna Yu Jin Kim Jasmine Lam Skyler Ivan Lee Subin Lee Matthew Scott Lefebvre Fiona Mai Reuben Tanzo Molina Eleanor Muhawi Esther Marie Myers Rory Christopher O'Regan Jocelyn Pon Madison Ane Prince Connor Douglas Ridley Lilia Carolina Salido Rico John Robert San Diego Santiago Shawronna Sengupta Christopher Joseph Shayota Tina Shiqeyama Sophia Shih Atticus Donald Graff Simmons Andrew English Slipka Shannyn Ji Hae Sul Sean Shintaro Takada Pearl Chaya Vaynman Peter Joseph Walsh Jocelyn A Wang Lukasz Daniel Yoder Ruitao Zhang

BACHELOR OF ARTS, MUSIC COMPOSITION

Yoni Beck Fogelman Harrison Garff Toby Menon Jahan Raymond

BACHELOR OF ARTS, MUSIC EDUCATION

Lucas Pierce Bollenbecker Sophia Taylor Buraglio Matthew Aurelius Chavez Christian Ivan Cruz Morales Breanna Yu Jin Kim Chloe Na-Eun Kim Taylor H Lee Subin Lee Brendan Lockie Raina Sinclair Markham Ana Lucia Martinez Sophie Rose Pipia Ella Lee Seo Bradley Michael Stires Emma Marie Cruz Surdilla

MASTER OF ARTS, MUSIC

Robby Good John Hollywood Morgan Kelly Moss Sergey Nesterov

MASTER OF MUSIC, MUSIC

Alejandro Barajas Kenneth Alan Brown Ginger Rose Brucker Carlos Antoni Castaneda Jacob Daniel Freiman Rachel Erin Hahn Benjamin Fleischacker Yuda Jiang Nicholas Michael Junker Hannah Jeong Lee Alisa Luera Kai Ronald Nakkim Gregory Ochotorena Errol Garth Rhoden Gabrielle Fay Sipen Joshua Marcus Valdes Damon Ryan Zavala

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS, MUSIC

Michael James
Jennifer Minsoo Jo
Troy Robertson
Jakub Dariusz Rompczyk
Alexandre Tchaykov
Rachel Nicole Wolz
Joung-A Yum

PH. D., MUSIC

Andreas Foivos Apostolou Elliona Li

BACHELOR OF ARTS, MUSICOLOGY

Jasmine Faith Bailey
Jasmine Yijun Chen
Ashley Dao
Senaido Dorado Jr
Kevin Han
Julieta Catalina Martinez
Mateo Lee Murphy
Danielle Ericka Nalangan
Camila Inez Wilson
Changheng Zhao

MASTER OF ARTS, MUSICOLOGY

Emmie Head

PH.D., MUSICOLOGY

James R Ace
Ramona Maia Gonzalez
Alexander James Hallenbeck
Thomas Hanslowe
Ross Leland Mitchell
Damjan Rakonjac
Kristie Valdez-Guillen

BACHELOR OF ARTS, MUSIC HISTORY & INDUSTRY

Indie Adamich Ivy Nicole Caneng Adaoag Julia Alanis Jennifer Alegria Alvarez **Emmon Amid** Wesley Lennart Bitgood Eduardo Thaddeus Cantu Huante Thomas Henry De Bourbon Jordan Christopher Feng Joshua Ham Christopher James Hastings Peter Jivotovski Tae Jeong Lee Scarlett Grace Long Danielle Marie Nollenberger Kamari Rain Parham Reed Allen Rosenbera Gabriella Jolie Ruggeiro Katsura Uthus Viet Trung Vo Trang Thi Thuy Vu



Department of MUSICOLOGY

MUSICOLOGY MINOR

Sophia Madeleine Adams Evie Allain Samantha Hope Appleton-Sackett Chloe Madison Chang Sebastian Leonardo Diaz Sahaj Dole Claire Michele Doucet Raizel Nerine Echevaria Ferrer Robin Tammy Fong Damien Mai Ha Xzandalyn Rachelle Kallstrom Hannah Jessica Lin Rachael Adetutu Odebunmi Celeste Theresa Parrish Grace Elizabeth Remphrey Kiran Sandhu Singh Holland James Smith Kailani Marie Tokiyeda Pauline Vartany Annemarie Adriana Pagaduan

Vekuylen

MUSIC INDUSTRY MINOR

Eliza Michal Aiken Emma Al Falah Laine Marie Allison Jame Frusciante Arechiga Abigail Marlene Arne Zachary Michael Ashkar Rise Barkan Ava Celeste Bogart Violet Louise Bretz Aiden Chan Valerie Chang Ashley Mikyong Choi Naomi Grace Crandall Johnathan Jerome D'Aquilar Grace Hannah Dimond Emmarose Angi Driver Georgia Casey Figueiredo Guta Yirga Fufa Miguel Efrain Galvan Kiran Gill London Elizabeth Hibbs Neeti Indiresan

Amber N Jordan Clarissa Nicole Lanting Trent Anthony Lawson Subin Lee Alexander Ausubel Levin Thomas John Liautaud Samantha May Lim Annie Liu Logan James Longmuir Terence Conon Ma Jennifer Michelle Malsch London Jacqueline March Justina Martelli Dalton Marcellus Mumphrey Artin Muradyan Kaytlyn Ombogo Thomas Christian Palmer Caden Thomas Potter Anastasia Lee Preston Jacob Matthew Rajacich Kanchan Raju

Elise Roberts Reeder Ruben Rodriguez Cesar Romero Miranda Chelsea Alicia Rose Shanya Rostami Santiago Sanchez Alec Ladd Scott Aidan Seidle Ela Semerci Ethan Chase Silverman Guffey Anjay Sanjiy Christian Singh Andrew Jordan Tanenbaum Gavin Hudner Thompson Agatha Vance Michael Jared Vargas Anita Yin Wong Nancy Xu Kate Marie Yerkes Gracie Young Gabrielle Jane Ziemacki Iris Michelle Zietlow

PROCESSIONAL MUSIC

UCLA Commencement Brass Ensemble | West African Drum Ensemble

FACULTY DIRECTORS: Travis J. Cross | Francis Kofi Akotuah COMPOSERS: Francis Awe and Steve Loza PARTICIPATING MUSICIANS: Emma Breen, John Cao, Carlos Castaneda,* Saúl Gutierrez, Daniel Harris III, Ryan Heisinger, Sam Kredich, Hannah Lee,* Leigha Linder, Alexander Marshall, Rueben Molina,* Remy Ohara, Aziel Ressler, Haru Sakurai, Nicholas Washburn *

ALMA MATER

DIRECTOR: Troy Robertson*

PARTICIPATING MUSICIANS: Diego Dela Cruz,* Julien Fraser,* Rachel Hahn,* Gina Han,* London Hibbs,*
Chloe Kim,* Habin Kim,* Madison Prince,* Lilia Salido Rico,* Christopher Shayota,* Joshua Valdes,* Pearl Vaynman*

RECESSIONAL MUSIC

Mariachi de Uclatlán

FACULTY DIRECTOR: Jesús "Chuy" Guzmán

PARTICIPATING MUSICIANS: Bobby Alvarez, Camila Cordero, Aleah Delgado, Enrique Rodriguez Gonzalez, Saúl Gutierrez-Sandoval, Carlos Oliva,* Paulina Pérez, Alexis Romero,* Sylvia Rutkowski, Aviv Schifrin, Ariel Villaroya, Charlie Zheng

RECEPTION MIXTAPE

PARTICIPATING MUSICIANS: Bella Andrews, Jasmine Bailey,* [Band Called Sex: Kyndall Long, Ben Whitley], Megan Bober, Naomi Crandall, Bryce Fleming, Bella Ghassemi, Ella Gibson, Ashley Nicole Greene,* Hasitha, Hour Haven: Simon Perez, [Infrared: Nate Price, Kyla Villarama, Keedan, and Elijah Davis], Learn to Forget: Eddie Huante,* Brianna Manning, Maya Mougey,* Dani Nollenberger,* Jay Satten, [ScatterTones: Reed Rosenberg, Sabrina Williams, Janie Ziemacki, Quentin Kelley, Danny Smith, Ciabel Querol, Rhea Verghesse, Mia Papadakis, Ella Gibson, Lily Zager, Shannae Bernales, Amelie McGrath, Mason Murray, Ian Escalante], Katie Simpson, UNIVERSE EAT3R: Samuel Miller, Vedika, Katrina Weissman, Lily Zager and the Zager Band

