

The 2023-24 season of the Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles is made possible thanks to the generous contributions from Hans and Valerie Imhof, S.L. and Betty Huang, and Patrick Chen and Elaine Sarkaria.



Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings | Sonic Narratives, Nov. 19



Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band | Seeing Sound, Hearing Colors, Nov. 19



Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra | Indivisible, Nov. 20



Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble | Reaching Forward, Looking Back, Nov. 21

Welcome to the 2023-24 PSYE Concert Season!

It is with immense pride and pleasure that we welcome you to our 2023-24 Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles concert season!

This season will be one of celebration as we mark the 10th anniversary of Dr. Gregory Xavier Whitmore's tenure as Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble (PSYWE) music director.

We also celebrate the growth and success of our newest PSYE family member, Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band (PSYCB), embarking on their second season. Made possible by the **generous support and advocacy of Hans and Valerie Imhof, and John and Elizabeth Stahr**, this newest youth ensemble is led by renowned music educator and conductor Angela Woo.

Additionally, it is a joy to welcome Dr. Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen back for her second season as Music Director of Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings (PSSS), sure to be a resounding success.

And of course, our Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra (PSYO) under the brilliant leadership of Dr. Jacob Sustaita, will continue their exploration of musical heights in the upcoming season.

Looking ahead, we anticipate a rich and varied season of PSYE concert experiences in 2023-24, including celebrated guest artists, resident composers, a co-commissioned work, and we invite you to join us in these exciting musical adventures!

It is through the artistic vision and leadership of Pacific Symphony Music Director Carl St.Clair (PSYE Artistic Advisor and Guardian Angel), the support and advocacy of our PSYE and Pacific Symphony Boards of Directors, and **the extraordinary support of our many generous donors, including Hans and Valerie Imhof, S.L. and Betty Huang, Patrick Chen and Elaine Sarkaria, that this program is made possible.**

The inspiring involvement of our SoCal community of friends, family members and music lovers like you is deeply appreciated. Thank you so much, and please enjoy the music!



Shawne Natalia Zarubica
Managing Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles



Angela Woo, Conductor
Pacific Symphony
Youth Concert Band



Dr. Jake Sustaita, Conductor
Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra



Dr. Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen,
Conductor
Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings



Dr. Gregory X. Whitmore,
Conductor
Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble

PACIFIC SYMPHONY YOUTH ENSEMBLES (PSYE)

Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles (PSYE) is one of the largest pre-professional musical training programs in the nation, nurturing and inspiring young musicians in grades 6 - 12.

PSYE provides members with high-caliber and innovative artistic experiences, fostering musical development, personal growth, and lifelong learning through the art of classical performance.

The PSYE program is comprised of four performing ensembles (Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra, Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble, Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings, and Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band), all of which are united by the artistic vision of Pacific Symphony Music Director Carl St.Clair. Each ensemble focuses on advancing student musicianship in a nurturing environment through professional repertoire and unique performance experiences. Students enjoy clinics with Maestro St.Clair, regular coaching sessions with Pacific Symphony professional musicians, and interactions with world-renowned guest artists such as Yo-Yo Ma, Cho-Liang Lin, Narong Prangcharoen, Derrick Skye, Glenn Dicterow, and many more.

Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles primarily perform in the world-renowned Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall in Costa Mesa, CA, as well as in various additional venues across the region. These warmly received, and well attended performances are free to the public and touch the lives of thousands of Southern California residents each season.

Membership in PSYE is determined by annual auditions for all new and returning members and are held each spring, attracting on average between 600 - 650 candidates each season. The 300-plus students who are current members of the Youth Ensembles program represent over 75 school music programs in and around Orange County. Most if not all of PSYE's graduates pursue opportunities in higher education, attending such notable institutions as The Juilliard School, Johns Hopkins University/Peabody Institute, Harvard University, Brown University, Stanford University, University of California, Los Angeles, University of Michigan, and many more.

PSYE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Huang* *Board Chair*

Elizabeth Stahr* *Lifetime Director & Distinguished Counselor Emeritus to the Board*

Directors

Rosalind Britton
Wendy Hua Castille
Sherry Chen
David Dunford
Tony Ellis
Paul Hahn

Joyce Hanson
Hans Imhof †
Sheng Jiang
Sarah Koo
Katie (Chung Min) Lee
Eric Lee

Suzu Lee
Michelle Li
László Mező
Dot Nelson
Herb Roth
Elaine Sarkaria

Walter Stahr
Peter Tan, Sr.
Alan Terricciano
MarlaJoy Weisshaar
Larry Woody
David Yeung

PSYE EX-OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

Carl St.Clair*
Music Director, Pacific Symphony

John Forsythe*
President, Pacific Symphony

Eileen Jeanette
Senior Vice President of Artistic Planning & Production, Pacific Symphony

Shawne Natalia Zarubica
Managing Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Ensembles, Pacific Symphony

Daniel Escobar
Manager of Governing Members, Pacific Symphony

Johanna Gamboa-Kroesen
Music Director, Pacific Symphony Santiago Strings

Jacob Sustaita
Music Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Orchestra & Assistant Conductor of Pacific Symphony

Gregory X. Whitmore
Music Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble

Angela Woo
Music Director, Pacific Symphony Youth Concert Band

Jonathan Bergeron
Youth Wind Ensemble & Concert Band Manager, Pacific Symphony

Mel Domingo
Youth Orchestra & Santiago Strings Manager, Pacific Symphony

Joshua Allen
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Danielle Liu
Youth Quartet & Octet Coordinator, Pacific Symphony

Julie Morimoto
Youth Concert Band Brass Coach Pacific Symphony

Cole Quizon
Youth Concert Band Saxophone Coach Pacific Symphony

Meri Sheegog
Santiago Strings String Coach, Pacific Symphony

Viraj Sonawala
Youth Concert Band Percussion Coach Pacific Symphony

Haiyang Wang
Youth Concert Band Wind Coach Pacific Symphony

Gabriel Haraldson-Decker
PSYE Program Intern Pacific Symphony

* Also member of Board of Directors for Pacific Symphony

† Pacific Symphony Life Director



REACHING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 @ 7:00pm

Dr. Gregory X. Whitmore, conductor
Dr. Andy Collinsworth, guest conductor
Kristen Lawrence, organ
Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Hans and Valerie Imhof, S.L. and Betty Huang, and Patrick Chen and Elaine Sarkaria for their generous support of this program and the entire PSYE organization. Your dedication to nurturing young talent is truly the cornerstone of our success and growth.

*Performance at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts
Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall*

PROGRAM

ANDREW BLAIR	<i>(anti)Fanfare</i>
BERNSTEIN	<i>SLAVA! A Concert Overture</i>
PERCY GRAINGER	<i>Colonial Song</i>
VIET CUONG	<i>Heart on Fire</i> Dr. Andy Collinsworth, guest conductor
MICHAEL DAUGHERTY	<i>Bells for Stokowski</i> Kristen Lawrence, organ
SOUSA	<i>The Pride of the Wolverines</i>



Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble

Dr. Gregory X. Whitmore • Music Director

Jonathan Bergeron • Youth Wind Ensemble Manager

FLUTE

Amy Choi*
Ceren Altintas
Siyu (Chelsea) Jiang
Jia Kim
Nicole Kim
Antonia Park
Lauren Peng
Hyeyum (Hannah) Rhim
Ouyue (Alice) Yu
Emily Zhao

OBOE

David Wong*
Joshua Lee
Teadora Grimberg

CLARINET

John Yang*
Ian Cho
Matthew Hsieh
Seongwon (Wonny) Jang
Matthew Kim
Kaden Lee
Ken Liu
Daniel O'Grady
Nicholas Park
Euan Park
Meitong (Annie) Song
Garrett Walker
Sean Yu

BASS CLARINET

Steven Ngo*
Dylan Rosen

BASSOON

Shannon Liu*
Sohrab Zarin

ALTO SAXOPHONE

William Xia, *principal*
Thomas Zhao*
River Bridson
Noah Chang
Megan Chou
Edward (Ben) Curley
Vincent Nguyen

Luke Toner

Jared Wang
William Wu

TENOR SAXOPHONE

Edward Kim*
Sophie Nguyen

BARITONE SAXOPHONE

Jacobo Herrera Monteon*

HORN

Andrew Fung*
Ian Cheng
Yujia (Aurora) Li
Devon Pope
Michael Prunean
Cameron Rhees
Samuel Wang

TRUMPET

Myles Sanjuro*
Matthew Huerta
Matthew Morikawa
Jayden Peng
Ian Yoon
Bryson Young
Eric Zhu

TROMBONE

Licheng (Jerry) Xu*
Marie Bocanegra
Kecheng (Kenneth) Gong
Sierra Greany
Caroline Hsu
Kaden Kwak
Parker Medvitz

BASS TROMBONE

Harrison Chiang*
Ryan Kim

EUPHONIUM

Hsin-Ju (Lucy) Wu*
Tehmina Zarin

TUBA

Bishop Plaza*
Yosef (Violet) Dif

PERCUSSION

Audrey Lee*
Savannah Tweedt*
Matthew Blam
Momoka Hayashibe
Oliver Shiwota
David Wong

PIANO

Ziyuan (Steven) Mo*

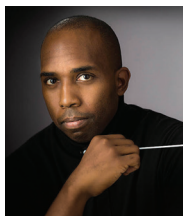
HARP

Amber Chui*

PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Arnold O. Beckman High School
Capistrano Valley High School
Cren Lutheran High School
Cypress High School
Diamond Bar High School
Eleanor Roosevelt High School
Fairmont Preparatory Academy
Fountain Valley High School
Irvine High School
Legacy Magnet Academy
Los Altos High School
Marina Highschool
Mission Viejo High School
Northwood High School
Orange County School of the Arts
Portola High School
Richard Gahr High School
Sage Hill School
San Marcos High school
Santa Monica High School
Santiago High School
University High School

ABOUT THE MUSIC DIRECTOR



Gregory Xavier Whitmore is Conductor of the University Symphonic Winds at California State University Fullerton (CSUF).

In addition to this artistic responsibility, Dr. Whitmore is an Assistant

Professor of Instrumental Music Education and serves as Area Coordinator of the CSUF Music Education Department. Dr. Whitmore is also in his 10th season as Music Director of the Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble, one of only a handful of youth wind ensembles connected to a group one professional symphony orchestra (Pacific Symphony) in the United States.

Dr. Whitmore's previous appointments in higher education include tenure as Director of Bands at Irvine Valley College (Irvine, CA), Mt. San Antonio College (Walnut, CA), and College of the Desert (Palm Desert, CA). Prior to his work in higher education, Dr. Whitmore spent 13 years as Director of Bands at Cathedral City High School (Cathedral City, CA).

A proud Midwesterner and native of Ann Arbor, Michigan; Dr. Whitmore earned his bachelor's degree in instrumental music education from The University of Michigan School of Music, Theater and Dance. While a student at Michigan, Dr. Whitmore performed in the University of Michigan Symphony and Concert Bands; and led the University of Michigan Marching Band as "Michigan's Man Up Front" - Drum Major - from 1999 to 2001 - becoming the second Black Drum Major in the history of the University of Michigan. Dr. Whitmore received his master's degree in music with an emphasis in wind conducting from California State University, Fullerton. Dr. Whitmore holds a master's degree, and a doctorate in music and music education from Columbia University (Teachers College) in the city of New York.

A Second Place Winner of the 2017 American Prize in Conducting, Dr. Whitmore has conducted ensembles around the world in such notable concert venues as The Golden Hall of The Musikverein (Vienna), The Wiener Konzerthaus (Vienna), The MuTh (Vienna), Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall (Costa Mesa), Symphony Hall (Chicago), The Kennedy Center (Washington,

D.C.), Carnegie Hall (New York City), Walt Disney Concert Hall (Los Angeles), Meng Hall (Fullerton, California), Holy Trinity Church (Stratford, England), St. John's Smith Square (London), Chateau Vaux le Vicomte (Paris), and Heidelberg Castle (Germany). Under Dr. Whitmore's direction, the Cathedral City High School Symphony Band was selected to perform as the showcase ensemble during the 2008 California Band Directors Association Annual Convention. Dr. Whitmore is a conductor for the World Strides Honors Performance Series.

With a research interest in music educator values as operationalized into pedagogy, in addition to investigating the concert band as an artistic medium; Dr. Whitmore has presented research at music education symposia in the United States and abroad. Dr. Whitmore's research has been published in *Visions of Research in Music Education*. Dr. Whitmore has been recognized in four editions of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* and he has been included in the 2005-06 Edition of the National Honor Roll's *Outstanding American Teachers*. Dr. Whitmore was selected to represent the State of California by *School Band and Orchestra Magazine* in the 2008 edition of "50 Band Directors Who Make a Difference."

Dr. Whitmore belongs to professional organizations that include College Band Directors National Association, Kappa Kappa Psi Honorary Band Fraternity, Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, Pi Kappa Lambda Honor Society, The National Association for Music Education, Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association, and the California Music Educators Association. Learn more about Dr. Whitmore at gwhitmore.com

ABOUT THE GUEST CONDUCTOR



R. Anderson "Andy" Collinsworth is the Director of Bands at Sonoma State University (SSU), where he leads the university Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Concert Band.

Dr. Collinsworth earned his Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting at Arizona State University, where he studied with Gary W. Hill. He holds a Master of Music in Saxophone Performance and Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Nevada at Reno.

Now in his 33rd year of teaching, Dr. Collinsworth brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the ensembles he leads and the courses he teaches in conducting pedagogy and music education. In addition to teaching duties, he serves as Chair of the Department of Music at SSU.

Dr. Collinsworth maintains an active schedule as a guest conductor, adjudicator, and rehearsal clinician throughout the western states. He is conductor and artistic director for the Saint Helena Community Band, an ensemble established and sponsored by director Francis Ford Coppola. He is the founder and director of the Sonoma Summer Wind Band Conducting Symposium, an annual weeklong conducting seminar for music educators. He is the artistic director and coordinator of the Sonoma Invitational Wind Band and Orchestra Festival—a signature three-day event that brings over 2,500 high school and community college students to campus each year.

ABOUT THE ARTIST



Classically trained pipe organist Kristen Lawrence has been called the Queen of Halloween for writing and producing elegant, fun, and melodic music for the Halloween season—but enjoyed all year by fans.

Rue Morgue Magazine's music editor described Lawrence's music this way: "With sweeping string arrangements, handsome lyrics and layers of her

own graceful voice, Lawrence spins ethereal tales with a balance of macabre elements and kid-friendly whimsy ... that give her creations an instantly classic, fun-for-all-ages feel."

Lawrence's music and lyrics are unique and eclectic, colored by the diversified influences of Bach, Tori Amos, Loreena McKennitt, Elfman & Bartek, Ralph Vaughan Williams, and Nightwish. Kristen incorporates these folk, classical, and rock genres to create her Halloween Carols.TM If Christmas has its carols, why not Halloween!

In addition to her original compositions, Lawrence has researched traditional folk songs and arranged them for organ. Her two versions of the English "Souling Song" are based on the older roots of Halloween traditions—one from pagan Samhain and the other from the Christian tradition of soul cakes that evolved into trick-or-treating. Her two versions of the American folk tune "Ghost of John" are loved by kids and their parents who sang it in grade school. Because of this research, Lawrence was asked to write about the music of Halloween for Halloween history expert Lesley Bannatyne's book, *Halloween Nation: Behind the Scenes of America's Fright Night*.

An accomplished musician, she has been guest organist for *Halloween Spooktaculars* as well as many of Pacific Symphony's family programs, writing an accompanying *Jurassic Park* organ score for their *Dinosaurs!* program to highlight the 4322-pipe "monster" concert organ. Lawrence was also commissioned to compose organ music to accompany the Lon Chaney silent film classic, *Phantom of the Opera*, playing her counterpointed themes live on the oldest pipe organ in Orange County. Her musical setting of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven" for strings and organ reflects her serious analysis of Poe's famous poem and has been called "exquisite" by Poe scholars. It has been featured for the National Endowment of the Arts' *THE BIG READ: Short Stories and Poetry of Edgar Allan Poe*. A *Keyboard Magazine* review, reporting about Lawrence's elegant use of pipe organ, harpsichord, piano, and vocals in her Halloween carols, foretold a spooky coincidence by stating, "If the Halloween Town of Tim Burton's *The Nightmare Before Christmas* had a resident keyboardist, it would be Kristen Lawrence." Who would have guessed that the planets would align so that Steve Bartek—orchestrator for *Nightmare* and other Danny Elfman film music—would be playing guitar

ABOUT PACIFIC SYMPHONY YOUTH CONCERT BAND

Established in 2007, the Pacific Symphony Youth Wind Ensemble (PSYWE) has quickly become the premier youth wind ensemble in Orange County, California. As one of only a handful of youth wind ensembles connected to a group one professional symphony orchestra (Pacific Symphony) in the United States, PSYWE is a high-level, pre-professional wind ensemble for dedicated and talented high school wind, brass, and percussionists from throughout Southern California.

Current Music Director Dr. Gregory X. Whitmore's began in the 2014-15 season, and under Dr. Whitmore's visionary artistic guidance, PSYWE has undertaken commissions and world premieres of over six new works for band by renowned and emerging composers, including a world-premiere collaboration with composer Jules Pegan that won the 2019 College Band Directors National Association Frederick Fennell Composition Award. PSYWE continues to explore new music initiatives, and in the last ten years, PSYWE has welcomed over twelve guest conductors to Orange County for residencies with the ensemble, including top wind conductors at leading university schools of music. PSYWE has also held over 11 composer residencies with composers such as Narong Prangcheron, Viet Cuong, Jules Pegan, Adam Schoenberg, Derrick Skye, Alex Shapiro, and many more. PSYWE has also collaborated in concert with over 13 guest artists from across the United States.

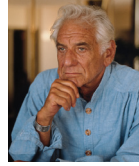
In 2016-17, PSYWE celebrated its 10th anniversary season, culminating in a tour to Salzburg, and participation in the Summa Cum Laude International Youth Music Festival in Vienna, Austria, where the PSYWE took first prize in its category, with performances in the Golden Hall of the Musikverein, the MuTh Concert Hall, and Vienna's legendary Konzerthaus.

Representing over 30 schools in the Southern California region, PSYWE offers performance opportunities to instrumentalists in grades 9-12 and is one of four Youth Ensemble programs offered by Pacific Symphony.

PROGRAM NOTES



Andrew Blair has seen his compositions performed widely throughout the United States. **(Anti-)Fanfare** was inspired by a music lesson with band conductor Cynthia Johnston Turner at the University of Georgia.



Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) led a multifaceted career over the course of his life that few if any other musicians could match. Composed in 1977, **Slava! A Concert Overture** is based on his 1976 Broadway show *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*.



Born in Australia, **Percy Grainger** (1882-1962) was perhaps one of the 20th century's most idiosyncratic composers. **Colonial Song** features an original melody that is inspired by folk music.



Born in California and raised in suburban Atlanta, **Viet Cuong** (b. 1990) received an MFA and PhD in composition from Princeton University. **Heart on Fire** was inspired by a Mary Jane Oliver poem.



Born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, **Michael Daugherty** (b. 1954) began his musical education playing keyboard in jazz, rock, and funk bands. Originally written for orchestra, **Bells for Stokowski** is a tribute to Leopold Stokowski (1882-1977), the renowned conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra.



John Phillip Sousa (1854-1932) remains to this day one of the most well-known names in music. **The Pride of the Wolverines** was composed and published in 1926. Sousa dedicated the work to the city of Detroit and its mayor.