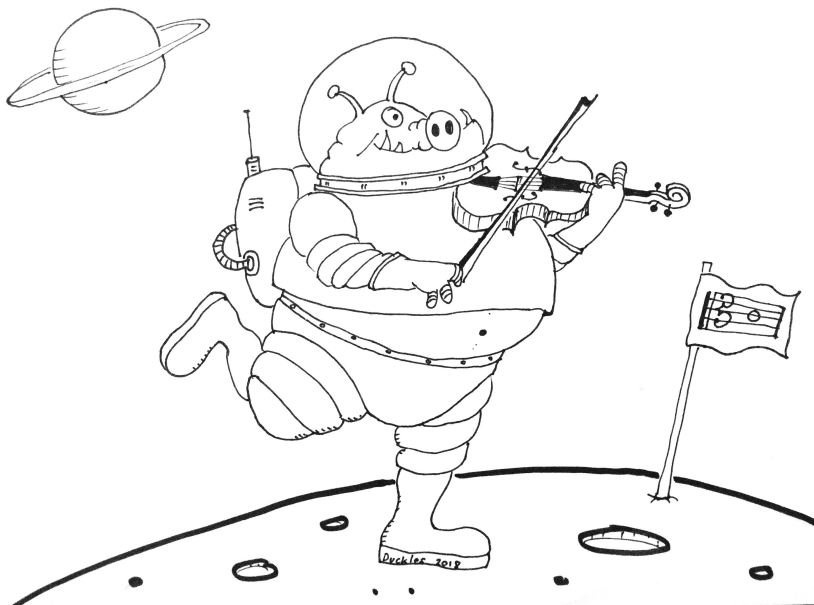


VIOLAFEST LOS ANGELES



Andrew Duckles, Artwork

Sunday, April 15, 2018
Herb Alpert Music Center
Los Angeles City College

Signature Guest Artist

Karen Dreyfus

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Dear ViolaFest Los Angeles participants,

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the 12th annual ViolaFest Los Angeles!

This year brings some exciting changes to ViolaFest, first and foremost our new home at the Herb Alpert Music Center at Los Angeles City College. This state of the art facility in the heart of Los Angeles makes ViolaFest even more accessible to students from all over LA County and provides us with much needed classroom and performance spaces as we continue to grow.

ViolaFest is truly a unique day, as over one hundred driven and passionate violists from across Los Angeles come together to learn from top local teachers, make music together in small ensembles, cheer on master class participants, and listen to a performance from leading American violist Karen Dreyfus. I hope that you return to your schools and orchestras after today not only with new musical inspiration, motivation, and insights, but also with new friendships.

As always, today would not be possible without the support of our community. Thank you to Christine Park and LACC, the Southern California Viola Society Board, Metzler Violins, Benning violins, Alex Luskotov Violins, Montecito International Music Festival, Idyllwild Arts, all volunteers and teachers, and to you for being a part of ViolaFest!



Sincerely,
Linnea Powell
ViolaFest Director

Dear Violists, Friends, and Family of ViolaFest,

On behalf of the Herb Alpert Music Center at LACC, we welcome you to the twelfth annual ViolaFest. It is our pleasure to host talented young violists from all over Southern California on our campus for 2018.

Founded in 1929, the LACC Department of Music was officially named the Herb Alpert Music Center in 2017. In 2016, we received an endowment of \$10.1 million from the Alpert Foundation, which offers free tuition, textbooks, instruments, and additional scholarships for all qualified, full-time music majors.

At HAMC, our Music Academy offers a full scholarship for individual applied lessons and gives opportunity for each student to experience the highest quality in performance, theory, and technology. Our new state-of-the-art facility includes a professional recording studio, recital hall, lecture hall, music technology and keyboard labs, and 35 practice rooms.

The Herb Alpert Music Center is honored to host the ViolaFest that bring together students from many different backgrounds to celebrate, learn, and perform in a positive environment. Congratulations to the Southern California Viola Society and to all violists participating.

Wishing you a fantastic day at the Herb Alpert Music Center!

Professor Christine J. Park
Chair, Herb Alpert Music Center
Los Angeles City College

TIME	EVENT
8:15-9:00	Check-in 1st Floor Main Lobby
9:00-9:50	Special Topics Session I Various Classrooms
10:00-10:50	Special Topics Session II Various Classrooms
11:00-12:00	Viola Ensemble Rehearsals, by level Various rooms
12:00-12:30	Lunch on the Quad Outside of Main Lobby
12:30-1:30	Masterclass with Karen Dreyfus Herb and Lani Alpert Recital Hall, 2nd Floor 210
1:30-2:15	Viola Ensembles Dress Rehearsal Herb and Lani Alpert Recital Hall
2:15-2:30	Presentation of Scholarship Awards Herb and Lani Alpert Recital Hall
2:30-3:00	Gala Concert featuring Small Ensembles Herb and Lani Alpert Recital Hall
3:00-3:45	ViolaFest Signature Recital featuring Karen Dreyfus Herb and Lani Alpert Recital Hall
3:45	Group Picture! Herp and Lani Alpert Recital Hall

SPECIAL TOPICS CLASSROOMS

Session I: 9-9:50am

Session II: 10-10:50am

Room	Session I	Session II
135	How to Eat an Elephant Avanti + Beginner	Techniques for Vivacious Viola Performance Avanti + Beginner
125	Scales: Our Musical Building Blocks Intermediate	Let's Get Comfortable! Intermediate
104	Bach to Baroque! Intermediate + Upper Intermediate	Bach to Baroque! Upper Intermediate
105	Amazing Grace: How the Sweet the Sound! Intermediate	Celtic Music for the Viola Intermediate + Upper Intermediate
204	Sensational Sound! Upper Intermediate + Advanced	Sensational Sound! Intermediate
200	Sight-reading Skills for Violists Advanced	Sight-reading Skills for Violists Upper Intermediate + Advanced
220	Using our Mind for Peak Performance Upper Intermediate + Advanced	Using our Mind for Peak Performance Advanced
140	Transitioning to the Dark Side: Viola for Violinists Violin Track	Transitioning to the Dark Side: Viola for Violinists Violin Track

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

How to Eat an Elephant (Practice Strategies that Work!)

Session I: Avanti + Beginner

Join this class to learn how to set up your practice space for success, how to be motivated to practice, how to organize your practice time, and how practice (with and without) your viola. Share your ideas on practicing and try out some new tips!

Instructor: Gail Acosta

Techniques for Vivacious Viola Performance

Session II: Avanti + Beginner

This class will introduce and experiment with some techniques that performers will need for solo, orchestral and chamber music. Come prepared to experiment with your viola and bow, and let's have some fun!

Instructor: Gail Acosta

Scales: Our Musical Building Blocks

Session I: Intermediate

In this class we will look at the simple patterns that underlie much of western music. With this foundational understanding, we will learn new techniques to help us get around the instrument with ease. We will play use these techniques to play in harmony and make a big, resonant sound together!

Instructor: Cynthia Fogg

Let's Get Comfortable!

Session II: Intermediate

Great, satisfying viola playing starts with a feeling of balance and ease all through the body. Big, gorgeous, deep rich viola sound can begin with the deep rich sounds of the C string. The C string is the heartbeat of the universe! In this class we'll play ensemble pieces and emphasize set up basics that help us make a beautiful sound on the viola with more ease.

Instructor: Cynthia Fogg

Bach to Baroque!

Session I: Intermediate + Upper Intermediate

Session II: Upper Intermediate

Have you ever wondered what the differences are between your modern viola and the viola of Bach's time? How might have Telemann's viola concerto sounded when it was written? Come experience the history of where your instrument and music comes from! Join early music specialist Dr. Lindsey Strand-Polyak as we explore the baroque viola how to read music like an 18th-Century musician.

Instructor: Dr. Lindsey Strand-Polyak

Alternative Styles Session

Amazing Grace: How the Sweet the Sound!

Session I: Intermediate

How do you give a song your personal flair? How do you turn simple notes into something that means so much more than just a dot on a music staff? In this session we will explore this exciting concept with Amazing Grace. Simple group exercises will be given that will help guide you to develop your own voice, and to explore improvisation and chords.

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Luther

Alternative Styles Session**Celtic Music for the Viola: No music needed!****Session II: Intermediate + Upper Intermediate**

We will learn a beautiful and haunting Celtic melody by ear, and discover Celtic ornaments to further explore a traditional and unique interpretation. Rhythmic, and driving accompanimental ideals will also be explored.

Instructor: Dr. Christopher Luther

Sensational Sound!**Session I: Upper Intermediate + Advanced****Session II: Intermediate**

Learn new techniques to improve both your confidence and sound! The more you love how you sound, the more you will love to play! Learn how to perform and practice with a full, rich and focused sound, and to get VIOLA POWER out of your instrument, no matter what kind of instrument you might be playing on. The violists in this class will learn how to project, how to play at all dynamics with confidence and to open up their ears to really perform what they hear in their heads and hearts!

Instructor: Laura Pearson

Sight-reading Skills for Violists**Session I: Advanced****Session II: Advanced + Upper Intermediate**

Need better sight-reading skills? Of course you do. We ALL do! This 1-hour seminar will highlight strategies that will improve your ability to improve your sight-reading. We'll be reading viola parts from exciting film scores such as *Star Wars*, *Minions*, *Coco*, and more. This class will also emphasize the benefits of enabling a rich, chocolately viola sound with a high-functioning bow arm and bow hold.

Instructor: Andrew Duckles

Using our Mind for Peak Performance**Session I: Advanced + Upper Intermediate****Session II: Advanced**

Have you ever noticed some days you play better and other days you don't? Some practice sessions are full of creative ideas and new insights while others seem to be borderline stressful? In this class we will talk about the effects our mind (its thoughts) has on our ability to learn, create and perform.

Instructor: Jason Bonham

Transitioning to the Dark Side: Viola for Violinists**Sessions I and II for Violinists**

Violinists come one, come all to experience the chocolate sound of the viola (and who doesn't like chocolate????). You don't even have to own a viola, thanks to Metzler's Shop in Glendale. Violas will be provided for all interested violinists. Save the Galaxy and join the Dark Side to unlock the mysteries of the Alto clef!

Instructor: Mary Kelly

VIOLA ENSEMBLE REHEARSALS

11:00-12:00

Avanti + Beginners 135

Intermediates 104

Upper Intermediates 105

Advanced 125

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MÄRCHENBILDER I. Nicht Schnell

Robert SCHUMANN

Nicolas Perkins

ARPEGGIONE SONATA I. Allegro moderato

Franz SCHUBERT

Isaac Siebelink

VIOLA SONATA III. Adagio - Allegro

Rebecca CLARKE

Johanna Linna

Nicolas Perkins, 16, resides in Long Beach and is currently attending the Colburn School of Performing Arts, where he studies with Gina Coletti. He is in the Ed & Mari Edelman Chamber Music Institute at Colburn and is currently in a piano quartet. Nicolas has performed in prestigious venues including Walt Disney Concert Hall, Zipper Concert Hall, and Segerstrom Hall. Nicolas has been selected for California Orchestra Director Association All-State Orchestra, and the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association Honor Orchestra where he served as principal. Last summer, he attended the summer music festival at Idyllwild, where he played in the Symphony Orchestra and Chamberfest program. This summer he will attend the Boston University Tanglewood Institute Young Artists Orchestra.

Isaac Siebelink, 18, has been studying violin for eleven years with several different teachers. He is currently studying viola under Michael McLean at the Colburn School in downtown Los Angeles. Former mentors include Anna Weller, Gabriel Bolkosky, and Nicolette Solomon of the Suzuki Institute of Dallas. Isaac comes from a musical, home schooled family where all three of his siblings play an instrument. He is also a regular performer in his church band, gives monthly recitals at assisted living homes, and has a seat as a violist in the Colburn Chamber Orchestra. In addition, Isaac also has a small Suzuki violin studio where he teaches from home in Corona. He is planning to pursue a double major at Westmont College in computer science and music performance in viola. When he is not practicing or studying, he enjoys building small robots, writing novels, and developing software for computer applications.

Violist **Johanna Linna** won first place at the 2017 American String Teacher Association Solo Competition in Fullerton, CA, and was selected to advance to finals. She was also a semifinalist at the Mondavi Competition of 2017. She won first place in the Rotary Club of Glendale's 2016 Music Contest. As a co-principal of Idyllwild Art's 2017 Chamberfest Orchestra, Johanna performed works of Mahler and Bernstein in Walt Disney Concert Hall. She has participated in All Southern (SCSBO) and All State (CODA) Honors Orchestras, Lake Avenue Church Chamber Symphony Orchestra, and Colburn Chamber Orchestra. In addition to being a violist, Johanna is an award-winning composer: her piece, "A Day in the National Park," earned an honorable mention at "Pageant of the Arts" competition sponsored by the Rotary Club International. She has taken master classes with Paul Coletti, Che-Yen Chen, Geraldine Walthers, and Roberto Diaz, and her former teachers include Margaret Shimizu and Chi-yau Lee. Currently, she is co-principal of the Colburn Youth Orchestra, and the violist of the Honors Quartet. She attends Herbert Hoover High School and studies viola with Gina Coletti at the Colburn School of Music. She enjoys science, and reading murder mysteries.



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GALA CONCERT

Herb and Lani Alpert Recital Hall

2:30-3:00

Ode to Joy

L.V. Beethoven, arr. Red Balloon

ViolaFest Avanti and Beginners

Gail Acosta, coach

Mozart Duet. K 487, no. 2

W.A. Mozart , arr. Mark Feezell

ViolaFest Intermediates

Mary Kelly, coach

Nimrod Variations

Edward Elgar arr. Daniel Kelley

Duet no. 16

Bela Bartók arr. Peter Bartók

ViolaFest Upper Intermediates

Kate Vincent, coach

Concerto for Four Violas

George Phillip Telemann

Happy

Pharell Williams arr. Eliana Haig

ViolaFest Advanced Viola Choir

Christopher Luther, coach

ViolaFest Los Angeles

SIGNATURE RECITAL

Karen Dreyfus, viola
Vivian Fan, piano

Herb and Lani Alpert Recital Hall
3pm

Viola Sonata Op. 11 no. 4

- I. Fantasie
- II. Thema mit Variationen
- III. Finale

Paul Hindemith
(1895 - 1963)

Suite Populaire Espagnole

1. El paño moruno
2. Nana
3. Canción
4. Polo
5. Asturiana
6. Jota

Manuel de Falla
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Beau Soir

Claude Debussy
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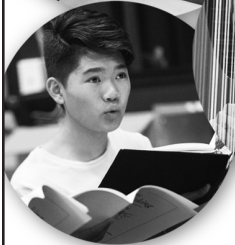


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Bootcamp*

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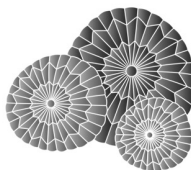
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- Performances with Los Angeles Opera Orchestra
- Performances with Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra
- Film scoring at Los Angeles Studios
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- Guest artist on the Dilijan Concert Series
- Fromm Foundation Players at Harvard
- Principal Violist of Opera Boston
- Assoc. Principal Boston Modern Orchestra Project
- Boston Pops Symphony Orchestra
- Former violist of the Arden String Quartet

VIOLAFEST PARTICIPANTS

AVANTI and BEGINNERS

Joseph Antos
Elizabeth Hayden
Daniel Miles

INTERMEDIATES

Parmida Amjadi
Ashley Avalos
Emma Blanck
Keilani Adina Bolhuis
Sorcha Cleary
Emmeline Clougherty
Christopher Chacon Diaz
Alam Fariyan
Andrea Galindo
Heidi Garcia
Cristina Garcia
Allison Gee
Ashley Guevara
Raela Jayasekara
Jordan Lam
Soyoon Lee
Katie Lee
Ryan Lee
Grace Mabee
Priyanka Manley
Clare Maurer
Sofia Motto
Angela Park
Sheyla Portillo
Jannina Pujada
Uriel Rendon
Joana Ruiz
Noah Shifter
Abigail Soriano
Richard Stevenson
Fanny Thomas
Melia Valentine
Mia von Haam
Jocelyn Zarate

UPPER INTERMEDIATES

Declan Carney
Ruby Chew
Cooper Chew
Neena Chick
Sydney Cohon

Amalia Eulate
Madison Freeman
Mellory Gutierrez
Kyra Harada
Zephania Hartojo
Ferris Haukom
First Last
Daniela Losoya
Arwen Louie
Joaquin Martinez Devis
Christopher Orozco
Hanah Park
Spencer Quarles
Mauricio Rivas
Isaac Rivera
Gwendolyn Rothenmel
Gael Saldana
Nandita Shetty
Naomi Sills
Seth Sills
Haven Tan
Taiyo Uyeda
Alen Zadorian

ADVANCED

Fiona DeFrance
Jasmine Frey
Kaitlyn Hahn
Isiah Hughes
Heather Jensen
D'aci Knight
Madeleine Knight-Weber
Ian Lee
Johanna Linna
Elaina Marriot
Scarlett Meisse
Andy Park
Nicolas Perkins
Lydia Plaut
Lola Quinn
Sarah Salloway
Isaac Siebelink
Samuel Tatsuki
Albert Zhou

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Karen Dreyfus ranks high among the leading American violists of the current era. She maintains a richly varied career, dedicated to concertizing in solo, orchestral and chamber music settings, to her wide-ranging recordings, and to teaching. Dreyfus graduated from Curtis Institute of Music, where she studied with Karen Tuttle and Michael Tree. Maintaining an international performance schedule, among such groupings as Musicians From Marlboro, the New York Philomusica Chamber Ensemble, Theater Chamber Players of the Kennedy Center, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic. Dreyfus has collaborated in recital with Yehudi Menuhin at Carnegie Hall, and has concertized alongside such artists as Rudolf Serkin, Alexander Schneider, Leon Fleisher, Chick Corea, and members of the Guarneri Quartet. She is also a founding member of the Lyric Piano Quartet and the Amerigo Trio.

Dreyfus has recorded extensively as a recitalist, an orchestral soloist, and as a chamber musician. Her premiere recital recording, entitled *Romanze*, for Bridge Records, was received with substantial critical acclaim. Her subsequent recording highlights include the William Walton Viola Concerto with the Warsaw National Philharmonic Orchestra, and Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante, in tandem with violinist Glenn Dicterow and the same orchestra. With the Lyric Piano Quartet, she has recorded Strauss, Turina and Dvorak. Dreyfus was invited to join the viola faculty of the Manhattan School of Music in 1991, she since added an affiliation at the Juilliard School, teaching a sonata class and chamber music. Dreyfus's festival participations are numerous, including performances at the Marlboro Music Festival, Casals, Tannery Pond Concerts, the Seattle Chamber Music Society Summer Festival, and Lorin Maazel's Castleton (Virginia) Festival. In the summer of 2015 Karen Dreyfus joined the viola faculty at the Music Academy of the West where she is also co-director of chamber music. She has distinguished herself as a recipient of many prizes both in this country and abroad, including the Naumburg Viola Competition (1982), the Lionel Tertis Competition (1980), and the Washington International Competition (1979). Karen Dreyfus joins the faculty of the USC Thornton School of Music in 2013 as Director of Chamber Music and Associate Professor of Viola.

Gail A. Acosta, a native of Indiana, began her musical studies at the age of 8. Coming from a family of violinists, she was awarded scholarships to Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan, University of Illinois String Festival, the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and the University of Southern California. A B.M. was awarded from UNC-Greensboro where she studied with Marla Mutschler, was awarded the Tom J. Stone Award for performance excellence, and was winner of the University Concerto Competition. The University of Southern California granted her a teaching assistantship to study with Eudice Shapiro and perform with the USC Graduate String Quartet. Her M.M. *summa cum laude* was completed in 1981 and she was honored the String Chamber Music Ensemble Award for 1981. An active performer, Ms. Acosta has performed with the Santa Barbara Symphony, The Orchestra of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Mozart Camerata, the Los Angeles Philharmonic Green Umbrella Series, the Ernest Bloch Music Festival, Oregon, the Ojai Music Festival, California, Burbank Philharmonic Orchestra, Gold Coast Chamber Music Festival, California and La Folia Chamber Ensemble. An avid teacher, Ms. Acosta is a member of the American String Teachers Association, Suzuki Music Association of California-Los Angeles Branch, and Suzuki Association of the Americas. Gail is Suzuki String Coordinator at Evergreen Music Conservatory, maintains a private studio of violin and viola students, coordinates and teaches the K-1 Suzuki String Program at Colfax Charter Elementary (180 little violinists!) and is an Adjunct Violin/Viola Professor at Glendale Community College. Her home in Valley Village, CA with her husband, Jerry and son, Michael is filled with music!

Jason Bonham is known as a recitalist, chamber musician, orchestral musician and educator. Currently, Jason is the Principal Violist with Las Vegas Philharmonic and Viola Faculty at UNLV. He has performed with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Elgin Symphony Orchestra, the Fort Wayne Philharmonic and Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra. In 2016 he performed as guest principal violist of the Pacific Northwest Ballet for the 2016 live radio broadcast of "Coppelia." He also has performed as guest principal viola of the Berkeley Symphony Orchestra and the Santa Barbara Symphony. As a chamber musician he has performed with members of the Emerson Quartet, Boston Chamber Society, Chicago Pro Musica, Cavatina Trio, Eastman Trio and the Fry Street Quartet. In education, Jason was the Director of Orchestras at Tuacahn High School for the Performing Arts and was the founder and Artistic Director of the Tuacahn Summer Arts Institute. Additionally, Jason served on various boards including the American Viola Society, Kayenta Arts

Foundation and the Chamber Music Society of Southern Utah. Currently he teaches viola at University of Nevada Las Vegas and in the past has been a faculty member at Brigham Young University and Dixie State University. In Fall of 2017 he will join the faculty at California State University, Long Beach. His articles (both music and non-music related) have been published and discussed in the Journal of the American Viola Society, Time Magazine, the Wall Street Journal, NPR, and many others.

Canadian-born violist **Andrew Duckles** leads a diverse musical life as a recording artist, chamber musician, soloist and teacher. From a very tall family of musicians, Andrew is the “runt” of the Duckles family, standing at mere 6’4”. Formerly principal viola of the Houston Grand Opera and Houston Ballet orchestras, Duckles now makes his home in Southern California. Duckles began his orchestral career with the Los Angeles Philharmonic and has made appearances as principal viola of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra, the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, the Long Beach Symphony, and the New West Symphony. An enthusiastic chamber musician, Duckles appears regularly as a guest artist on a number of chamber music series throughout the United States and Europe and shares the stage frequently with the Alexander String Quartet and the Capitol Ensemble. Andrew teaches viola and chamber music at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB). For over ten years, Mr. Duckles has been featured regularly as a recording artist on television and motion picture soundtracks. Duckles has been featured as a performer on programs such as Saturday Night Live, The Grammys and the Tonight Show. Andrew has degrees from both the Eastman School of Music and the New England Conservatory and recently finished paying back the small fortune he borrowed to pay for his musical education. His hobbies include cartooning, following international soccer and collecting great music. Andrew Duckles is married to culinary genius, master educator and French horn player extraordinaire Laura Strand. Together they live in Belmont Shore, California with their two young sons.

Cynthia Fogg received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Sarah Lawrence College and a Master of Music degree from the University of Southern California. She has played with a variety of groups, including the Pasadena Symphony, Emmanuel Music of Boston, and Monday Evening Concerts, and has appeared as a guest violist with the acclaimed Kronos and Alexander quartets. Ms. Fogg is a member of Quartet Euphoria, and she and her husband, composer/cellist Tom Flaherty, perform together as the duo Celliola, and have performed new repertoire at venues including Indiana University and the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage as well as festivals in Austria and Romania. Ms. Fogg has recorded chamber music for Naxos, Albany, Opus One, Cambria, Klavier, and SEAMUS, as well as soundtracks for motion pictures and television. She has extensive teacher training in the Suzuki method, as well as Kato Havas’s New Approach and the Inner Game of Music. Her students have placed in local competitions and been admitted to fine schools including New England Conservatory. She is one of the founding members of Pasadena Conservatory and has taught here since 1984. She also teaches at Pomona College.

Mary Kelly, Viola/Violin joined the Pasadena Conservatory of Music community as chair of strings in 2009 after serving as Director of the Bethel College Academy of Performing Arts (BCAPA) Suzuki Strings program in Newton, KS. In Kansas she was assistant principal viola of the Wichita Symphony and principal viola of the Wichita Grand Opera. Ms. Kelly received her Bachelor of Music in viola performance from University of Texas at Austin and her Masters in viola from Wichita State University. She has worked with teachers across the country including Roland Vamos, Roger Myers, Donald McInnes, Catherine Consiglio, and Christine Rutledge. While studying in Austin, she received Suzuki pedagogy instruction from Phyllis Young and Lori Scott as part of the Strings Project Program. That experience led her to start Suzuki pedagogy training at Ottawa Suzuki Institute in 2004. Since then, she has completed training through book 7 in Suzuki violin with teachers Elayne Ras, Ed Kreitman, Susan Kempter, Julia Hardie, Joanne Melvin, Alice Joy-Lewis, Carol Dallinger, and Ed Sprunger. In the summers, she teaches and performs at several Suzuki Institutes and festivals around the country. She is currently President of the SMAC-LA board.

One of few teachers that can fully teach and perform classical and non-classical styles at the highest level, **Dr. Chris Luther** combines both worlds for exciting, innovative performance, and to revolutionize the process of music education. Recent performance examples include a free-improvisation performance for the Showcase Concert at the 2016 American Viola Society National Festival, and as the only performer of non-classical styles (a composition for solo viola based on Well, You Needn't by Thelonious Monk) at the 2017 International Viola Congress, in addition to the performance of his classical arrangements. Dr. Luther elevates his students with a tailored teaching approach to all ages and all abilities. Certified for the entire Suzuki Violin Method from the Suzuki Association of the Americas, Dr. Luther understands the importance of structure and thoughtful sequencing of technique and repertoire. More recently, Dr. Luther has used his abilities as a teacher and pedagogue to teach String Teaching/Pedagogy classes, and String Literature classes for the graduate and undergraduate levels at the University of Northern Colorado. With his experience in alternative styles, improvisation, and theory, Dr. Luther can teach and stimulate his students in a more comprehensive, complete, and modern approach.

Laura Pearson has been highly praised for her virtuosity, musicality, and sound. She graduated with her Master's Degree from the University of Southern California as a full scholarship recipient after getting her undergraduate degree in viola performance at the Oberlin Conservatory, also on scholarship. She has continued performing as a soloist, chamber musician, recording artist, and orchestral player in the Los Angeles area. Laura performs with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, LA Opera, has played acting Associate Principal of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra and has been principal violist of the Chamber Orchestra of the South Bay, Hollywood Chamber Orchestra, the Glendale Philharmonic, West Los Angeles Symphony and other orchestras in the LA area. She has performed with the Capitol Ensemble on "Sundays Live" on KUSC and has performed with the Salastina Society as well. Laura can be heard on many movie soundtracks, television shows, video games, and albums, as she performs regularly as part of the Hollywood Studio Symphony. As a studio artist, she works and has worked with composers such as John Williams, Hans Zimmer, and James Newton Howard, recording their music for motion pictures. She tours with Andrea Bocelli and has been on tour with the LA Phil. In addition to performing, Laura is in high demand as a private instructor and maintains a private teaching studio of advanced viola students who have gone on to receive scholarships at top conservatories and music schools and are known for their powerful sound, musicality, and technique.

Praised for her "rococo gracefulness", **Dr. Lindsey Strand-Polyak** is active throughout the West Coast as a baroque violinist and violist. Nationally, she performs with ensembles such as the American Bach Soloists, Seattle Baroque Orchestra, Pacific MusicWorks and Bach Collegium San Diego, and Austin Baroque Orchestra; and has appeared at the Oregon Bach Festival, Twin Cities Early Music Festival, and the Fringe Series of both Boston and Berkeley Early Music Festivals. In her home base of Southern California, she can be heard with her own group, Ensemble Bizarria, as well as Musica Angelica, Con Gioia Early Music Ensemble, Tesseræ, and Concordia Clarimontis. Dr. Strand-Polyak was the assistant director for the UCLA Early Music Ensemble from 2011-2015, and is artistic director of Los Angeles Baroque—Southern California's first community Baroque orchestra. She earned her PhD/MM in musicology and violin performance from UCLA as served on the faculty of the Colburn School and the Herb Alpert School of Music at UCLA, and was recently appointed adjunct professor of baroque violin and viola at Claremont Graduate University.

Pianist **Vivian Fan** currently coordinates staff pianists at Colburn Conservatory and teaches Collaborative Piano Class at Colburn Academy. She has taught Sonata Class and coached chamber music at Colburn Conservatory, and taught Piano Master class at the Adult Studies Program. Prior to her Colburn position, she was on the piano faculty at the Idyllwild Arts Academy. Vivian has performed with conductors Jorge Mester, Jung Ho Pak, Mario Miragliotta, Sharon Lavery, Peter Askim, and Marc Riley. Recent performances include Los Angeles Philharmonic's "Brahms Unbound" concert in 2011 at Walt Disney Hall and Weill Hall in NY with violist Matthew Cohen. She has appeared in recitals with artists such as Andrew Bain, Arnold Steinhardt, Wen-Sinn Yang, Sang Yoon Kim, Paul Coletti, etc. Her collaboration with Paul Coletti on Paul Chihara's *Sonata* was released by Bridge Records in 2013.

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Karolina Naziemiec
musician
-violist
-jazz vocalist
-teacher; viola, violin, piano

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