

Gabriel Knights-Herrera
SENIOR RECITAL



Wednesday, May 8th, 2024
at 5:30 p.m.

CSUSB Music Recital Hall • PA 102

Gabriel Knights-Herrera is currently an undergraduate student at California State University, San Bernardino, where he is pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree with concentrations in Viola Performance and Music Education under Dr. Lucy Lewis, and a Bachelor of Arts in Music with a concentration in Music Composition under Dr. Kevin Zhang.

Gabriel holds membership in several of the ensembles at CSUSB. Currently, Gabriel is Principal Violist for the CSUSB Symphony Orchestra where he has previously held the Principal 2nd Violinist position for two consecutive years. Gabriel has also performed as a violist with other symphony orchestras such as the Coachella Valley Symphony under John Mario di Constanzo and the Southland Symphony Orchestra under Dr. Sylvia Mann. Gabriel is also a very active chamber musician, consistently participating in a wide variety of chamber ensembles within the university's chamber music program where he has received coaching's from Dr. Lucy Lewis, professor of violin/viola, and Dr. Wen-Ting Huang, professor of keyboard studies, in traditional performance practice, and then from Dr. Jessica Getman and Dr. Esther Back, in baroque performance practices. Gabriel has also shown interest in styles outside of traditional classical music, having played violin with the university's mariachi ensemble, Mariachi Los Coyotes, directed by Dr. Angela Romero, and as part of the New Music Ensemble directed by Dr. Kevin Zhang.

As part of the New Music Ensemble, Gabriel is able to work alongside other composition students in premiering their works and his own compositions. Gabriel is regularly programmed in the CSUSB Music Technology & Composition Showcases and is preparing for the premiere of his first orchestral suite *Acrylic Dreams*. This suite is scheduled to be premiered by the CSUSB Symphony Orchestra on May 9th, 2024 in the CSUSB Recital Hall. Gabriel has also been able to present his compositions in off-campus events. Recently, Gabriel had his compositions *Elegy* and *Adagio con Espressione* for violin and piano featured at *Mortification*, an art exhibit curated by artist/composer Priscilla Ibarra where he had the opportunity of collaborating with Priscilla Ibarra on the premiere of her graphic score *Rotting Away* for solo viola.

Gabriel is a dedicated studio teacher and is presently working on registering training with the Suzuki Association of the Americas. He currently is working towards completing several violin unit training courses and has plans to expand into viola teacher training afterwards. While he currently operates and manages a private studio, Gabriel also teaches students with *Through the Staff*, a non-profit volunteer-based organization dedicated to making private instruction more accessible by providing free lessons. He also currently holds a teaching position at Ontario High School, where he gives bi-weekly group lessons to the violin and viola students.

In the future, Gabriel plans to pursue a Master's Degree in Viola Performance, continuing to pursue high levels of performance training alongside the expansion of his pedagogical and compositional skills. Gabriel's career plans include performing with symphony orchestras and chartering professional chamber ensemble performances as both a violinist and violist. He will also continue to dedicate himself to growing a private studio that provides high quality musical education to violists and violinists.

Program

Gabriel Knights-Herrera, *viola*
Dr. Alastair Edmonstone, *piano*

Cello Suite No. 2 in D Minor, BWV 1008.....Johann Sebastian Bach

- I. *Prelude* (1685-1750)
- II. *Allemande*
- III. *Courante*
- IV. *Sarabande*
- V. *Minuet I & II*
- VI. *Gigue*

Viola Sonata in B-flat Major.....Carl Philipp Stamitz

- I. *Allegro* (1745-1801)

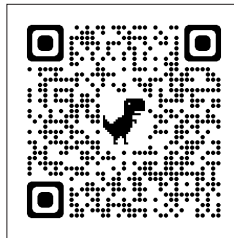
Sonata in E-flat Major, No. 2, op. 120.....Johannes Brahms

- I. *Allegro amabile* (1833-1897)

Adoration.....Florence Price

(1887 - 1953)

Program Notes





Special Thanks

The time spent completing my undergraduate studies has been an incredibly fulfilling experience in some many indescribable ways and has been supported by so many fantastic people. I'd like to first thank both Susan Barnes and Michele Tacchia, two music teachers that are near and dear to my heart as they helped me discover my love for music and encouraged me to pursue my dreams. I'd like to thank our amazing technician Cash Tijerina who not only helped produce an amazing production but who also has acted as a source of positivity through every hardship. I'd like to thank the amazing faculty members, Dr. Kevin Zhang, Dr. Jessica Getman, Dr. Esther Back and Dr. Wen-Ting Huang, all of whom I've been able to work with during my time here at CSUSB. I'd like to thank Dr. Lucy Lewis for being an amazing mentor, helping me discover my own voice as a musician, and for believing and seeing what I am capable of when I couldn't. I'd like to thank the amazing friends I've made here in the music department that have acted as the best support system and for making each day memorable. Lastly and most importantly, I have to thank my immediate family, my parents and grandma, for their unwavering support of me and my music career. They have and continue to work tirelessly to ensure that I can pursue any and every opportunity that comes my way and without them I would not have been able to grow into the musician I am today. Tonight is a culmination of hard work and dedication that wouldn't have been possible without all of you, thank you for everything you all have done.

Acknowledgements

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