

CSUSB Music Department Proudly Presents

# A Christmas Wish

HOLIDAY GALA 2023

December 6 & 7 2023 • 7:30 PM • PA Music Recital Hall

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Showcasing the CSUSB Coyote Music Society, CSUSB Early Music Ensemble, CSUSB Percussion Ensemble, CSUSB Saxophone Ensemble, CSUSB Jazz Ensemble, CSUSB Brass Ensemble, CSUSB Cello Ensemble, CSUSB Symphony Orchestra, and guest artists Jammie Hampton, Hazel Morales, Rhonert Pasqual, & Keinan Hernandez



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN BERNARDINO





On behalf of the CSUSB String & Orchestral Program it is our pleasure to welcome you to our annual Holiday Gala! This Gala has become a tradition in our department that we look forward to sharing with our campus and greater Inland Empire communities, and we are just so delighted that you are here with us this evening.

Over the last three years, we, like everyone else, have dealt with major challenges due to the pandemic, and a year ago on September 11 our Performing Arts Building flooded, and our Recital Hall and several of our instructional spaces were taken out of commission. The university worked hard to repair and restore our Performing Arts Building Recital Hall, and as of this past March, we have been absolutely thrilled to be back in our newly-refurbished performance space, and to be able to share our love of music with you, our audiences whom we treasure. You likely noticed as you walked toward our building this evening, that construction for our brand new Performing Arts Center is also moving right along. That building project is expected to be completed during the 2024-2025 academic year, and we are very much looking forward to sharing performances with you in these state-of-the-art facilities upon their completion.

This year's Holiday Gala theme is *A Christmas Wish*, and we hope you will enjoy feelings of warmth and nostalgia as we feature a spread of repertoire that includes classics such as Arcangelo Corelli's *Christmas Concerto*, Joseph Beal's *Jingle Bell Rock*, a medley of selections from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, Franz Gruber's *Silent Night*, and more!

Our performance tonight is the beautiful culmination of several weeks of dedication, passion, and collaboration amongst our string faculty, staff, and students, and we are delighted to be showcasing our CSUSB Early Music Ensemble under the direction of Jessica Getman and Esther Back, CSUSB Percussion Ensemble under the direction of Todd Johnson, CSUSB Saxophone Ensemble under the direction of Edgar Melendez, CSUSB Jazz Ensemble under the direction of Marlon Martinez, CSUSB Brass Ensemble under the direction of Angela Romero, CSUSB Cello Ensemble under the direction of Esther Back, and our CSUSB Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Lucy Lewis. Our featured soloists for the evening include alumni Jammie Hampton, Hazel Morales, Rhonert Pasqual, and Keinan Hernandez.

After the performance, please join us for a light reception with sweet refreshments and hot drinks, we would love to visit with you.

But for now-- please sit back, relax, enjoy, and thank you again for coming out to help us celebrate *A Christmas Wish*.

With holiday cheer and warmest wishes,

The Faculty, Staff & Students  
CSUSB Department of Music



# A Christmas Wish

## HOLIDAY GALA 2023



### ❄️ Program ❄️

#### **Coyote Music Society Holiday Gala Welcome CSUSB Percussion Ensemble**

*Song for My Father*..... Horace Silver  
(1928 - 2014)

*Jingle Bell Rock* ..... Joseph Carlton Beal  
(1900 - 1967)  
James Ross Boothe  
(1917 - 1976)

Todd A. Johnson, *director*  
Samantha Gonzalez, *marimba and drum set*  
David Lemoine, *vibraphone*  
Dylan Munger, *marimba*  
Kayte Otañez, *marimba*  
Jacob Shadle, *marimba and drum set*

#### **Jazz Ensemble**

*The Christmas Song*..... Mel Tormé  
(1925 - 1999)  
Robert Wells  
(1922 - 1998)

# ❄️ Program ❄️

*Christmas Time Is Here* .....Vince Guaraldi  
(1928 - 1976)

Marlon Martinez, *director*  
Evelynn Neuenswander, *double bass*  
Dylan Munger, *drums*  
David Lemoine, *vibraphone*  
Uriel Avila, *electric guitar*  
Alex Escobedo, *alto and tenor saxophone*

## **CSUSB Brass Trio**

*Deck the Halls* .....Traditional  
Paul Nagle  
(b. 1947)

*We Wish You a Merry Christmas* .....Traditional  
Paul Nagle  
(b. 1947)

Samuel Crowther, *trumpet*  
Jacob Hellon, *trumpet*  
Jorge Treviño, *tuba*

## **CSUSB Saxophone Ensemble**

*Silent Night* .....Franz Xaver Gruber  
(1787 - 1863)  
Danillo Porto

*Studio Ghibli Medley* ..... Joe Hisaishi  
(b. 1950)

Oscar Munoz, *soprano saxophone*  
Jaden Garcia, *alto saxophone*  
Anabella Garcia, *alto saxophone*  
Claudia Mayorga, *alto saxophone*  
Andres Urrutia, *tenor saxophone*  
Alex Escobedo, *tenor saxophone*  
Daniel Kinoshita, *baritone saxophone*

# ❄️ Program ❄️

## **CSUSB Early Music Ensemble**

Concerto Grosso in G minor, "Christmas..... Arcangelo Corelli  
Concerto," Op. 6, No. 8 Largo (1653 - 1713)

Amy Macias, *violin concertino I*  
Anna Caracosa, *violin concertino II*  
Annabelle Su, *violoncello concertino*

Heather Lee, *violin I*  
Edgar Villegas, *violin II*  
Dr. Jessica Getman, *director, oboe*  
Gabriel Knights-Herrera, *viola*  
Kellen McNeil, *bassoon*  
Dr. Esther Back, *director, cello*  
James McConnell, *contrabass*  
Allie Morones, *harpsichord*

## **CSUSB Cello Ensemble**

*Carol of the Bells* .....Mykola Leontovych  
(1877-1921)  
Arr. by The Piano Guys

Jason Sanchez-Cardenas, Esther Back, Director, *cello I*  
Adeline Epstein, Kayla Manansala, *cello II*  
Annabelle Su, *cello III*  
Karina Gomez-Torres, Leonardo Sgambelluri, *cello IV*  
Camila Vega-Espinoza, Lyla Castro, *cello V*  
Evan Hesskamp, Milena Andreola, Shannan Bates, *cello VI*



# Intermission



# ❄️ Program ❄️

## CSUSB Symphony Orchestra

*Christmas Rocks at the Pops* ..... Arr. Ralph Ford  
"Deck the Halls!" (b. 1963)

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

"Joy to the World"

"Hallelujah Chorus"

*How the Grinch Stole Christmas* ..... Arr. Jerry Brubaker  
"You're a Mean One Mr. Grinch" (b. 1946)

"He Carves the Roast Beast"

"Welcome Christmas"

*Sheep May Safely Graze* ..... Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685 - 1750)  
Arr. Matt Riley  
(b. 1982)

Austin Terry, *violin solo*

Deja Chandler, *student guest conductor*

*Ukrainian Bell Carol* ..... Ukrainian Folk Song  
Arr. Andrew Wainwright  
(b. 1981)

*Christmas Waltz* ..... Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky  
(1840 - 1893)  
Arr. William Bullock  
(b. 1943)

Allie Morones, *piano solo*

*Carillon on "Forest Green"* ..... English Folk Tune  
Arr. Charles Edward Peery  
(b. 1954)

# ❄️ Program ❄️

*I Will Light Candles This Christmas*..... Kim André Arnesen  
(b. 1980)

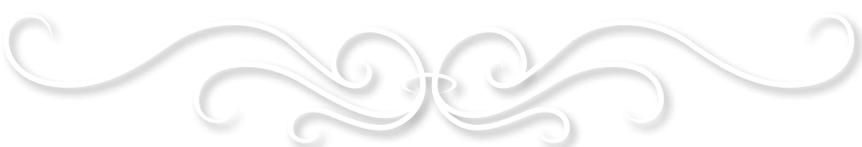
*A Christmas Wish*.....Michael McElroy  
(b. 1967)

Arr. Joseph Joubert and Beryl Red  
(b. 1958)/(1936 - 2013)

Jammie Hampton, *soprano*  
Hazel Morales, *alto*  
Rhonert Pasqual, *tenor*  
Keinan Hernandez, *bass*



*Our heartfelt gratitude to The Office of the President for their generous support of these Holiday Gala performances! Thank you so much for your support of the arts on our campus and in our community, you are a blessing to us.*



# CSUSB Orchestra

Lucy Lewis, *director*

## 1ST VIOLIN

Austin Terry, *concertmaster*  
Anna Caracosa  
Amy Macias  
Carissa Rajagukguk  
Noah Bartlett

## 2ND VIOLIN

Heather Lee, *principal*  
Edgar Villegas  
Caitlin Fernandez  
Ruben Sarmiento

## VIOLA

Gabriel Knights-Herrera, *principal*  
Adam Arroyo

## CELLI

Annabelle Su, *principal*  
Karina Gomez-Torres  
Jason Sanchez-Cardenas  
Adeline Epstein  
Evan Hesskamp  
Milena Andreola

## DOUBLE BASS

James McConnell, *principal*  
Evelynn Neuenswander  
Anastasia Brubaker

## HARP

Katelin Heimrick\*

## PIANO/ELECTRIC KEYBOARD

Ian Granada, *principal*  
Allie Morones

## FLUTE

Anaiya Blackmon, *principal*  
Alexandra Cain

## PICCOLO

Susan Addington

## CLARINET

Wendi Schaffer, *principal*  
Kevin Zhang^

## BASS CLARINET

Steven Olmos

## OBOE

Alonzo Hernandez-Diaz, *principal*  
Jessica Getman^

## BASSOON

Kellen McNeil, *principal*  
Dennis Robertson\*

## FRENCH HORN

Joseph Marquez-Nieblas, *principal*  
Brian Hollett^  
Anderson Moore

## TRUMPET

Adam Pacheco-, *principal*  
Rogelio Arredondo  
Brady Omar

## TROMBONE

Phillip Soriano, *principal*  
Manny Tejada-

## BASS TROMBONE

Aaron Wharton-

## TUBA

Jorge Trevino, *principal*

## PERCUSSION

David Lemoine, *principal*  
Jacob Shadle  
Dylan Munger  
Edward Deyon

\*Guest artist

^Faculty/Staff

-Alumni

## ❄️ Bios ❄️

**Dr. Esther Back** is an acclaimed cellist known not only for her solo, orchestral, and chamber performances but also as an avid educator and outreach advocate. A pupil of world-renowned Baroque cellist and viol player Jaap ter Linden, Back studied at Frankfurt U. as a youth and came to America years later. Dirk Tenbrock of the *Trierischer Volksfreund*, referring to Back's Baroque cello playing, wrote "Deep-rooted musicality, passion, and interpretive beauty meet Baroque music." An avid teacher, Back serves as a faculty member at CSU/San Bernardino and has a large private studio; her students have won top awards at various music competitions. In addition, she is the founder, artistic director, and conductor for the CSUSB Cello Ensemble. Under her numerous years of direction, her former Orange County Cello Ensemble—which she also founded—performed live on 88.9 KUCI frequently, as well as at Walt Disney Concert Hall and prestigious venues in France. Back also produced the recording, *Miracle of the Cellos*. She is tenured as cellist with the San Bernardino Symphony and plays with other noteworthy ensembles. She holds BM (CSU/Fullerton) and MM (U. of Redlands) degrees and is working toward DMA and PhD degrees at Claremont Graduate U.

**Dr. Jessica Getman** is a film musicologist with emphasis in television studies and science fiction media. Her PhD dissertation at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, was on music and social discourse in the original series of *Star Trek*, and she has recently published a co-edited collection of essays on music in that franchise for the publisher Routledge. In her prior position, she was the Managing Editor of the *George and Ira Gershwin Critical Edition* at the University of Michigan, and is the volume editor for the forthcoming critical edition of the orchestral arrangement of *Rhapsody in Blue*. She studied baroque performance at Boston University, with acclaimed musicians like Peter Sykes and Martin Pearlman. She's excited to share her diverse interests and skills with our students at CSUSB, and looks forward to seeing our early music program grow!

**Jammie Hampton** graduated with a degree in Vocal Performance from CSUSB. Jammie has been singing and performing for over thirty years. She is experienced in a variety of vocal styles including opera, musical theater, jazz, pop and gospel. She has been teaching voice and piano for twenty-five years. Jammie can be heard on the world premiere recording of Manuel del Pópulo Vicente García's opera, *Le Cinesi* (Harmonicorde, 2009). She has also played the roles of Sarah in *Guys and Dolls*, Polly Peachum in *The Threepenny Opera*, Cinderella in *Into the Woods*, Mabel in *Pirates of Penzance*, Hope Harcourt in *Anything Goes* and Asaka in *Once on this Island*. She has vocal directed and choreographed shows such as, *Grease* and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. You can find Jammie on FB, IG and YouTube @JammieHampton



**Keinan Hernandez**, CSUSB alumni, graduated with a BA degree in Music Education. Keinan is well versed in a variety of vocal projects ranging from the 2015 E3 conference opening ceremony in Los Angeles to opera premieres in various Southern California cities. He has appeared in many CSUSB operas including a Tarantino inspired variation of Gaetano Donizetti's *Don Pasquale*, Kurt Weill's *Seven Deadly Sins*, and the west coast premiere of Robert Xavier Rodriguez's *Monkey See, Monkey Do*, a children's opera. A San Bernardino local, Mr. Hernandez is regularly a guest artist with the CSUSB Performing Arts department and always delighted to get the chance to share his passion for vocal music with the community.

**Dr. Todd A. Johnson**, CSUSB's percussion teacher, joined the Music Department's faculty in 2006. He previously taught percussion and music history at McMurry University in Texas, and at James Madison University, Washington and Lee University, and Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia. His performance career includes solo premieres of David Maslanka's *Concerto for Marimba and Percussion Ensemble* and Michael Colgrass's *Déjà Vu for Percussion Quartet and Wind Ensemble*. His orchestral background includes positions with the Oklahoma City Philharmonic Orchestra, the Chicago Civic Orchestra, and numerous regional orchestras in Michigan, Texas, Oklahoma, Virginia, and California. He has also performed with the internationally recognized Millar Brass Ensemble of Chicago, the Robert Hohner Percussion Ensemble, and California's Inland Percussion Group. Currently Dr. Johnson performs regularly with Spark Percussion, a professional ensemble with members drawn from CSUSB's percussion faculty and alumni. The group has performed at many regional venues including the Southern California Day of Percussion, the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library, and Walt Disney Hall, and has collaborated with a variety of artists, including world renowned marimbist Naoko Takada and the Orange County Cello Ensemble. Dr. Johnson also is an active researcher and guest lecturer on the subjects of muscle activity in snare drumming and four-mallet marimba transcriptions. He has lectured extensively in Texas, Oklahoma, Virginia, and California at venues including many universities, the Texas Music Educators Association convention, and the National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy.

**Dr. Lucy Lewis** currently serves as the Music Director and Conductor of the Orchestral Studies Program at California State University, San Bernardino. She is a dedicated interdisciplinary collaborator, and her innovative season programming has featured the CSUSB Opera Theatre Program, Concert Choir & Chamber Singers, and Vocal Jazz Program, in



addition to multiple guest artists. An avid supporter of the development of young musicians, Dr. Lewis founded the CSUSB Young Artist Competition and annually commissions new works by the faculty and students of the CSUSB Composition Program. Dr. Lewis is frequently engaged as an orchestral clinician and has guest conducted orchestras in California, Michigan, Tennessee, Maine, and Florida. In the fall of 2019, Dr. Lewis led the CSUSB Orchestra on an international tour to South Korea where they performed in the Seoul Center for the Arts IBK Chamber Hall. An active soloist, chamber, and orchestral musician, Dr. Lewis has performed in the United States, Canada, South America, Europe, and Africa. Dr. Lewis holds a cognate in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Iowa, she is the Concertmaster of the Coachella Valley Symphony Orchestra, she serves on the board of, and subs with, the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra, and also subs with the Redlands Symphony Orchestra.

**Marlon Martinez** is a virtuoso double bassist, composer and educator who has toured with genre-blurring artists, notably Stewart Copeland, Mike Garson and Quatuor Ebène. Martinez is the protégé of Stanley Clarke, a classical music graduate from the Colburn Conservatory of Music, and he studied with legendary jazz bassist Ron Carter in New York City. Marlon's big band Marlonius Jazz Orchestra presents his original compositions and revitalizes the music of Billy Strayhorn, including lesser known masterpieces. As a 2022 Amplify Series Artist-In-Residence at the Colburn School, Martinez showcased his love for Billy Strayhorn via performances and produced an educational video series with Colburn called *Ever Up And Onward: A Tribute To Billy Strayhorn*. He was a guest lecturer at the *Strayhorn Symposium: Known and Unknown* at the Library of Congress in June 2023, and spoke about Billy Strayhorn's music as a guest faculty member at the Centrum jazz workshop in Port Townsend in July 2023. Martinez' debut album *Yours Truly* is available on all streaming platforms, and Marlonius Jazz Orchestra's current single is Billy Strayhorn's *All Day Long*.

**Dr. Edgar Melendez** is a professional freelance saxophonist based in the Los Angeles/ Inland Empire areas. He currently serves as the adjunct professor of saxophone and sax ensemble director at CSU San Bernardino. He has performed with the Santa Barbara and Redlands Symphony among other reputable Collegiate organizations; like the University of Southern California Wind Ensemble and the University of California Los Angeles Philharmonia. His saxophone quartet, Kintsugi quartet, is an award-winning quartet, where he performs as the soprano saxophone chair. Melendez holds a DMA degree from the University of Southern California in Performance with an emphasis in music education, theory pedagogy and jazz studies.

## ❄️ Bios ❄️

**Hazel Morales** attended CSUSB in 2008, where she majored in both Music Education and Vocal Performance. She has since sang solos in Beethoven's Mass in C Major, and John Rutter's "Magnificat". She has been a member of the VVC Master Arts Choral since March of 2017, and joined them in performing at Carnegie Hall in 2019. She lives in Victorville CA with her husband Erick and their three children.

**Rhonert Pasqual** is currently the parish musician at Holy Innocents Catholic Church in Victorville, CA. Rhonert's stage credits include Capt. Walker/Tommy understudy (*The Who's Tommy*), the Steward (*Into the Woods*), Ernst Ludwig (*Cabaret*), and Sundeep/Nikos (*Legally Blonde*). An alum of CSUSB ('12), Rhonert previously sang with the CSUSB Chamber Singers and Concert Choir for three years, as well as a featured soloist with the Banning Pass Chorale for 10 years. In addition to composing and arranging choral music Rhonert's other hobbies include musical theater and out door activities. Rhonert hopes you have a joyful holiday full of love and good food!

**Dr. Angela Romero**, a native of Southern California, began playing trumpet at age 13. Angela received her BA in music from Cal State Fullerton, and went on to receive a MM in performance from Mannes College of Music in New York City. While in New York, Angela held a position with the Da Capo Opera orchestra. Upon returning to California, she continued her studies at the University of Southern California, earning a DMA in 2011. In 2009, Angela held a position with the Atlanta Opera Orchestra in Georgia. As an active freelance player in Los Angeles, she has performed with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Pacific Symphony, Pasadena Symphony, Long Beach Symphony, and renowned artists, such as Elton John, Earth Wind and Fire, Michael McDonald, Itzhak Perlman, Mariachi Divas de Cindy Shea, and John Williams. In her spare time, Angela enjoys cooking, camping, fishing, tennis, kayaking, and spending time with her toddler and husband.

**Cash Tijerina** is currently the Instructional Support Technician at CSUSB. He studied under Scott Vance at California State University, San Bernardino, and graduated in 2014 with a Bachelor of Arts in Music with an emphasis in Music Technology.



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