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#### International Society of Bassists June 2-7, 2025 Florida State University College of Music



#### FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF MUSIC

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**BE AN ISB REPORTER!** Please send your photos and your concert, workshop and masterclass reviews and convention impressions to the ISB office, info@ISBworldoffice.com, by July 1st, and be a contributor to the post-convention issue of *Bass World*.

2023-2025 Board of Directors

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#### Join us on our official event app

We're using (Ultowa, as our official event app to facilitate networking, host the event agenda, distribute documents, and send announcements!







#### Dear Guests,

On behalf of the Florida State University College of Music, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the 2025 International Society of Bassists Convention here in beautiful Tallahassee. As one of the nation's leading music institutions, the FSU College of Music is proud to host this gathering of exceptional performers, educators, students, and enthusiasts from around the world. With a long-standing commitment to excellence in performance, scholarship, and innovation, our college offers an ideal setting for the exchange of ideas and celebration of the double bass in all its forms.

Tallahassee, with its unique blend of southern charm, rich history, and natural beauty, provides a vibrant backdrop for this event. From our lush, canopied roads and nearby state parks to the welcoming spirit of our university community, we hope you'll find inspiration both on and off campus. Whether you're performing, presenting, or simply soaking in the artistry around you, we are honored to share this moment and look forward to an unforgettable week of music, camaraderie, and discovery.

Warm regards,

M. Todd Queen

Dean, College of Music Florida State University

# Welcome to Florida State University College of Music!

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We're excited to welcome you to Tallahassee for the 2025 International Society of Bassists Convention, the first to be held in the southeastern United States! As your co-hosts, it's a real honor to bring the ISB community to our home here at Florida State University. The FSU College of Music has long been a hub for creativity, collaboration, and top-tier performance, and we can't wait for you to experience it firsthand. Whether you're here to perform, learn, or connect with fellow bassists, we know this week will be full of unforgettable moments. Thanks for being part of this milestone event, we're so glad you're here!

Warm regards,

otessor ot Jazz Studies

Associate Professor of Double Bass

#### 2025 ISB Maker's Competition Audience Favorite Voting & Sound Off Event

HELP CHOOSE THE AUDIENCE FAVORITE: The 11th biennial ISB Maker's Competition, founded by competition chair Dustin Williams, offers new instruments for our appreciation. Once our Workmanship and Tone judges complete their work on Monday, the competition opens its doors to convention attendees for Audience Favorite Award voting on Tuesday, from 9 AM to 4 PM (times tentative). Go to Ukirk Tallahassee, 548 W. Park Ave., 32301, directly across Copeland St. from the College of Music, to see new basses made by luthiers from around the world and vote for your favorite! Maker's Competition medal and certificate winners plus Audience Favorite awards will be announced along with solo competition winners beginning at 7:30 PM on Tuesday night before the evening's concerts at the Ruby Diamond Concert Hall.

**HELP CHOOSE THE SOUND OFF WINNER:** On Wednesday, you'll be able to hear the competition basses played in HMU 114 from 9 AM to 12 PM in our Maker's Competition Sound Off Event. Winners will be announced on the spot!

# Thanks to Our 2025 ISB Maker's Competition Workmanship Judges

Pablo Alfaro Joey Naeger Bill Scott

# Thanks to Our 2025 ISB Maker's Competition Tone Judges

Jay Meder David Murray John Schimek

## WEAR YOUR BADGE AT ALL TIMES, it admits you to all concerts and classes!

# A Big ISB "Thank You" to Our 2025 ISB Sponsors & Supporters

Grateful Thanks to our Presenting Sponsor Florida State University College of Music

#### LEAD SPONSOR

ISB Harmon Lewis Collaborative Keyboard Artist Grant Program

#### GOLD SPONSORS

Miami String Haus Pirastro GmbH Upton Bass

#### SILVER SPONSOR

Anderson Musical Instrument Insurance Solutions, LLC Madeleine Crouch & Co., Inc.

#### BRONZE SPONSORS

Connolly Music Douglas Mapp Music

#### EXHIBITORS BRIDGE FUND

AWB Music LLC Gencarelli Bass Works/4Strings Joella Basses Metropolitan Music

#### FRIENDS OF THE 2025 ISB CONVENTION TO DATE

Jonathan Burns

Bodin Chompoosri

Laura Gayle Green

Tom Knific

Jay Meder

Tim Pearson

Ray Ramirez

Tracy Rowell & Henry Peyrebrune

Siheon Ryu

CeeCee Soderlin

Hans Sturm

Michael Trowbridge

Yang Yu

Ming Zhong

### THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS COMPETITION SPONSORS

#### Solo Competition

- The Gary Karr Prize of \$5,000 has been given by Peter & Chris Gallagher
- \$2,500 second prize has been given by an anonymous donor
- \$1,000 third prize has been given by an anonymous donor
- \$500 prize for best performance of the required piece by Andres Martin, commissioned by the ISB and supported by the David Walter Charitable Trust has been given by David Murray

#### **Orchestral Competition**

- First prize is an expenses-paid week with the Houston Symphony
- The Scott Haigh Prize of \$2,500 has been given by Unified Retirement Planning Group

#### Jazz Competition

• The Scott LaFaro Prize of \$5,000 has been given in part by the **family of Scott LaFaro** 

#### Age 15-18 Youth Solo Competition

- \$2,500 first prize has been given by an anonymous donor
- \$1,000 second prize has been given by an anonymous donor
- \$500 third prize has been given by an anonymous donor

#### Age 15-18 Youth Jazz Competition

• \$500 third prize has been given by Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Mapp

#### Age 15-18 Youth Orchestra Competition

- \$2,500 first prize has been given by **Orin O'Brien**
- \$500 third prize has been given by **David Murray**

#### Age 14 and Under Competition

- \$500 first prize has been given by an anonymous donor
- \$250 second prize has been given by John & Penny Schimek
- \$100 third prize has been given by an anonymous donor

#### Age 10 and Under Competition

- \$500 first prize has been given by Gaelen McCormick
- \$250 second prize has been given by Derek Weller
- \$100 third prize has been given by **Tracy Rowell & Henry Peyrebrune**

#### 2024 ISB/David Walter Composition Competition

- Solo Division prize of \$1,000 given by The Robert Black Foundation
- Bass Ensemble Division prize of \$1,000 given by The Robert Black Foundation
- Chamber Ensemble Division prize of \$1,000 given by The Robert Black Foundation
- Bass with Media Division prize of \$1,000 given by The Robert Black Foundation

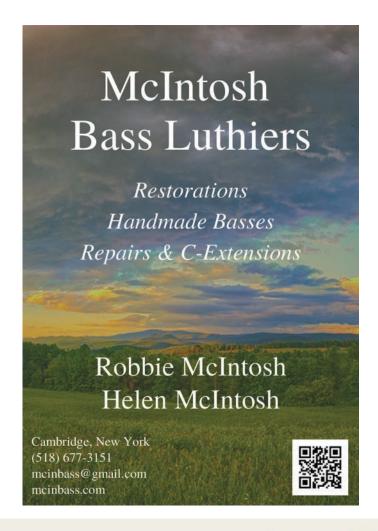
#### ISB Maker's Competition – Supporting the Creation of New Instruments for our New Century

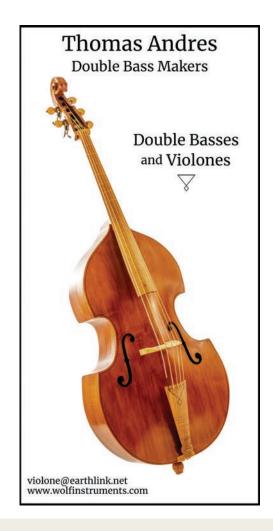
- Metropolitan Music
- Robertson & Sons Violin Shop

Proud Supporters of ISB!
Proud to Service Florida State University!



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JUST GET ONBOARD





# Thanks to Our 2025 Performance Competition Judges!

#### Mark Morton, 2025 Competition Chair Division Chairs and Judges Panels to Date

Solo Division

- Thierry Barbe, Chair
- · Zhaoyang Chang
- Wei Yung-Chiao
- Tian Yang Liu
- Marcos Machado
- Andres Martin

Jazz Division

- Marlene Rosenberg, Chair
- Lou Fischer
- Rodney Jordan
- Matthew Rybicki

Orchestra Division

- Scott Haigh, Chair
- Scott Dixon

- Davis Pierson
- Brian Perry
- Jack Unzicker
- Ron Wasserman

Youth Solo Division

- Christine Hoock, Chair
- Luis Cabrera
- Barry Green
- Jackie Pickett
- Dan Styffe
- Patricia Weitzel

Youth Jazz Division

- Mike Forfia, Chair
- Casev Lipka
- Martin Wind

Youth Orchestra Division

- Sean Casey, Chair
- Andrea Bever
- Renata Soares Caceres
- Andrew Moritz
- Sam Suggs
- Russell Thompson

Age 14 and Under Division Age 10 and Under Division

- Tracy Rowell, Chair
- Christian Abreu
- Susan Cahill
- Caroline Emery
- Johnny Hamil
- Nick Scales

# Thanks to Our 2025 Double Bass Competition Staff Collaborative Musicians!

Solo Division Pianists

- Dean Peiskee
- Zoey Zhou

Jazz Division

- Leon Anderson, Drums
- William Peterson, Piano

Youth Solo Division Pianists

- Jongsuk Kim
- Valerie Trujillo
- Zoey Zhou

Youth Jazz Division

- Nygel Anderson, Drums
- Asher Perreira, Piano

Age 14 and Under Division Age 10 and Under Division

• Lindsay Serdar



#### ISB Harmon Lewis Collaborative Keyboard Artist Grant Program

In honor and memory of the remarkable life and career of the pianist and organist Harmon Lewis (1940 – 2023), generous donors from around the world helped the ISB to create a grant program for bassists to hire collaborative keyboard artists for recording projects and live performances, including the 2025 convention. Our founder Gary Karr shared his wishes for remembering his husband and musical partner: "Harmon's dearest friends around the world have been the result of his association with the ISB."

Harmon's monumental contributions as a collaborative musician over more than 50 years helped propel the double bass onto the center stage as a solo instrument. We owe him a great debt.

# OUR VOLUNTIEERS AND STAFF HANKS TO ALI

#### 8TH BIENNIAL COLLEGE FAIR

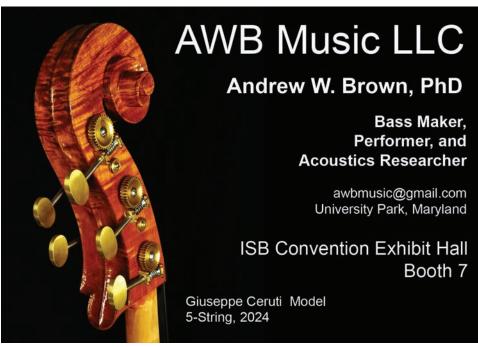
The ISB will host its eighth biennial College Fair Day, a networking event for college/university representatives and professors with students and their family members attending the 2025 ISB Convention, Saturday, June 7, from 8:30 to 10 AM, in the Turnbull Conference Center second floor atrium. If you're a student, make plans to be there and bring copies of your resume (list teachers, schools attended, honors, contact information). You'll have a chance to meet professors from schools across the country and around the world, and ask questions about their programs and opportunities!



#### Lemur Music Folding Performance Stool

The Official Bass Stool of the ISB Convention





#### WHERE TO EAT ON CAMPUS

If you purchased a meal plan, breakfast (7:30-8:30 AM), lunch (12:30-1:30 PM) and dinner (6:30-7:30 PM) will be served in the Suwannee Dining Hall adjacent to the FSU College of Music beginning with Monday night dinner on June 2, through Saturday evening dinner on June 7. A limited number of individual meal tickets will be available for sale at the convention registration desk for breakfasts, lunch, and dinner beginning Saturday morning, May 31. The Student Union Building is a 15-minute walk from the FSU College of Music, with a food court subject to summer hours and restaurants open and meals available for purchase with credit card.

Celebrating 30 Years

John Goldsby and the WDR Big Band

Congratulations to John Goldsby on his recent retirement from the WDR Big Band. We wish you all the best in your future musical endeavours!

From all of us at Discover Double Bass.

Discover DoubleBass.com





# SHORTBOW CHALLENGE HAUS SHORTBOWN CHALLENGE





GARY KARR & MIAMI STRING HAUS

# SHORT BOW CHALLENGE

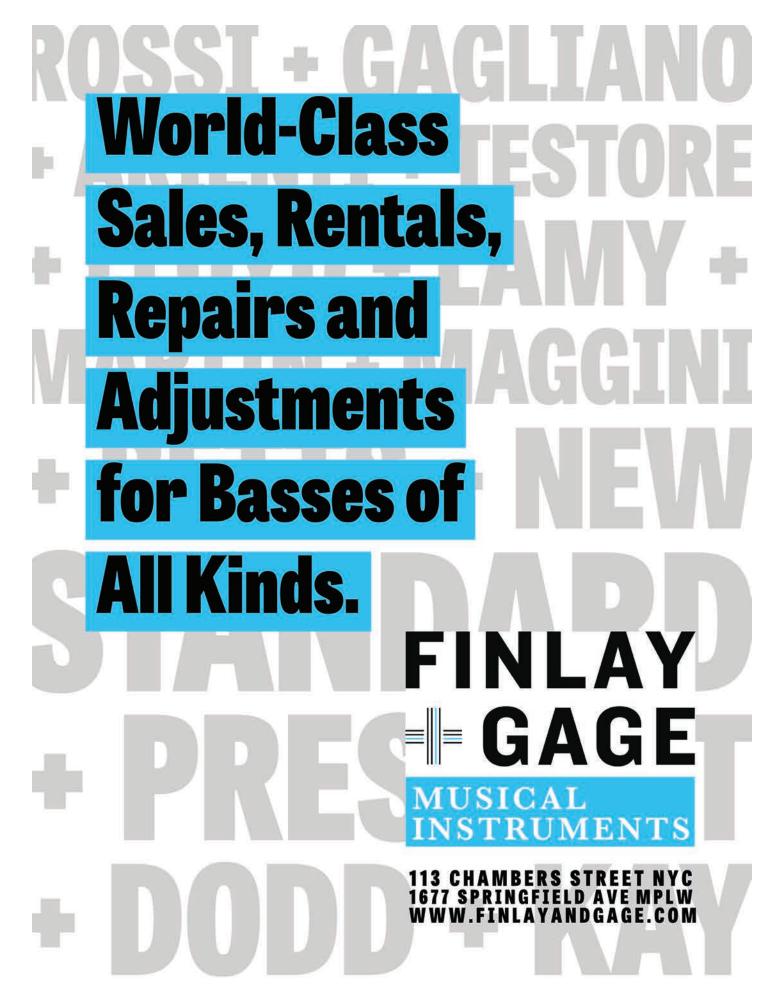




# SHORTBOW CHALLENGE HAUS SHORTBOW CHALLENGE



MIAMI STRING LLC | WWW.MIAMISTRING.COM | +1(786)322-6891



#### Thanks to Our 2025 Exhibitors!

Exhibits are open Tuesday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM, and Saturday, 9 AM to Noon

#### Convention badge required for admittance to Exhibit Halls

| 7           | 050Rosin                        | 18       | McIntosh Woodworks                |
|-------------|---------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Atrium      | Artemis Bass Initiative         | 4        | Metropolitan Music                |
| 7           | AWB Music LLC                   | Room 201 | Miami String Haus                 |
| 9           | Bass Bargain Barn               | 12       | Mountain Voice                    |
| 24,25,26    | Bass Violin Shop                | 6        | New Harmony Music                 |
| 27          | Christopher Brown Bow Broker    | Atrium   | New Jersey Performing Arts Center |
| 8           | Cecilia Rosin Collection        | 5        | Nick Lloyd Basses                 |
| 6           | CodaBow                         | 19,20    | O'Hara Fine Instruments           |
| 11          | Eastman Music Company           | 3        | Pirastro GmbH                     |
| 10          | GaiaTone Fingerboards           | Room 101 | Robertson & Sons Violin Shop      |
| 1,2         | Gencarelli Bass Works/ 4Strings | 3        | TalkBass.com                      |
| 13,14,15,16 | Guarneri House                  | 23       | Tempera Strings GmbH              |
| Atrium      | Interlochen Center for the Arts | Stage    | Tonewood                          |
| Atrium      | Jazz Education Network          | Room 205 | Upton Bass                        |
| 21          | Joella Basses                   | 22       | Wolf Instruments LLC              |
| 17          | Leatherwood Bespoke Rosin       |          |                                   |

# No recording or photography permitted during concerts unless you are official staff or pre-approved with the presenter.

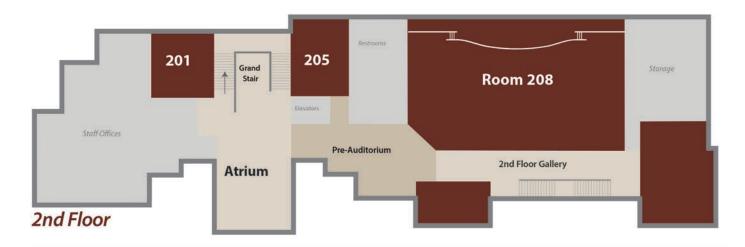
#### **NO SUITCASING OR OUTBOARDING**

Suitcasing is the act by suppliers soliciting business in the trade show aisles or other public areas of the show or in another company's booth without having purchased exhibit space. This includes distributing literature or marketing materials of any kind on the trade show floor. Outboarding is the act of conducting meetings with conference participants off the show floor (in hotels, restaurants, parking lots and other venues) without having purchased booth space at the show or securing advance permission of convention management. Please respect the exhibitors who support the ISB convention by investing significant time and money in the planning and execution of their exhibit.

# Visit the Exhibits!

#### In the Turnbull Conference Center 555 W Pensacola St, Tallahassee, FL 32306





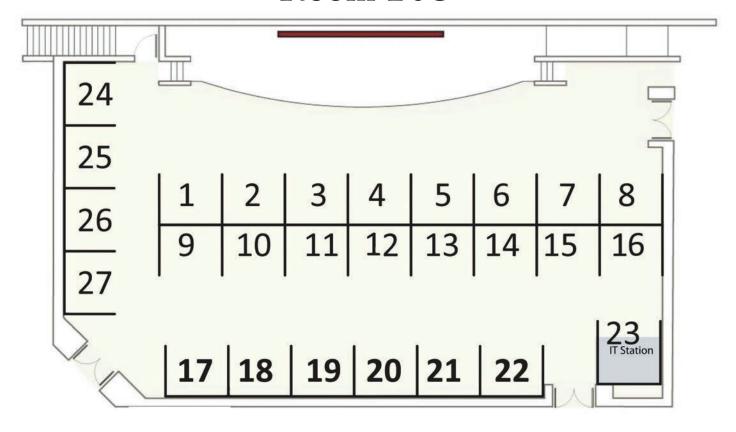


## WEAR YOUR BADGE AT ALL TIMES, it admits you to all concerts and classes!

# Visit the Exhibits!

#### In the Turnbull Conference Center 555 W Pensacola St, Tallahassee, FL 32306

#### Room 208



#### PARKING INFORMATION

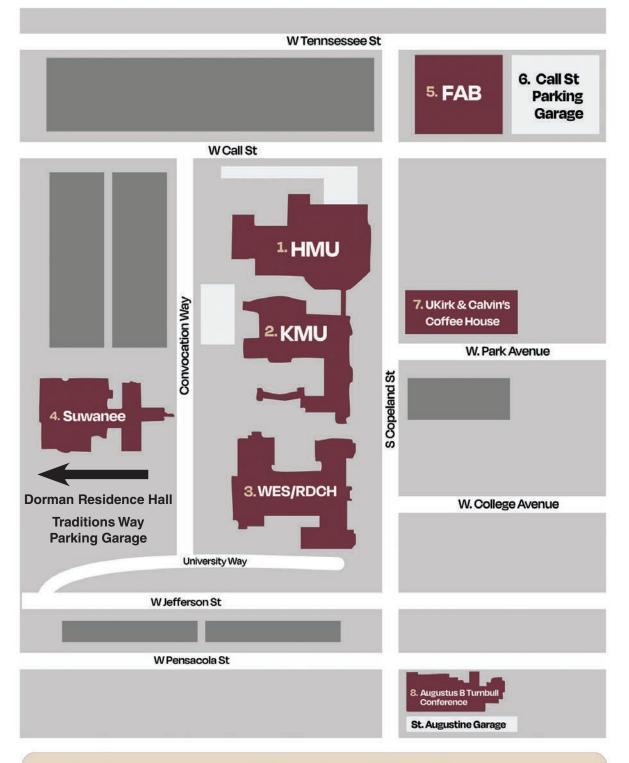
Park weekdays (Monday through Friday) with a Visitors Parking Permit. You may park in the Call Street, St. Augustine or Traditions Way garages or any surface lot where gates are up. Gates go up for most surface lots after 4:30 PM. Do not park in reserved spaces at any time. Those with a handicap hangtag or license plate may park in any handicap space. Parking is free on weekends in non-reserved spaces.

There are 4-hour meters along Park Street, pay via the parking app. You may also purchase a daily pass on the university parking website: https://fsupermits.t2hosted.com/cmn/auth.aspx.

**30-minute parking for check-in & registration:** To pick up your badge and parking pass, park in the Ukirk gravel parking lot, 122 South Copeland Street, across South Copeland Street from the Housewright Music Building. Enter Housewright and go to Rooms 125/126 (show office) to pick up your convention credentials, then immediately re-park your car in an approved space.

Purchase a Visitors Parking Permit hangtag from the ISB convention registration desk, \$35 for a day or a week, June 2 - June 7.

# Campus Map



#### **BUILDINGS**

- 1. Housewright Music Building (HMU)
- 2. Kuersteiner Music Building (KMU)
- 3. Westcott Building and Ruby Diamond Concert Hall (RDCH)
- 4. Suwannee Room Dining Hall

- 5. Fine Arts Building (FAB) Build a Bass Project
- 6. Call St Parking Garage
- 7. Ukirk and Calvin's Coffee House Maker's Competition
- 8. Augustus B Turnbull Conference Exhibits

#### Join us on our official event app!

- Personalize your agenda
- Receive event updates and notifications
- Connect with other attendees
- Create and join meet-ups



The Whova app makes attending conventions easier and more engaging. Users can view the schedule, create a personal agenda, connect with other attendees, and get real-time updates — all in one place. It also offers networking tools like messaging and discussion boards, helping users make meaningful connections throughout the ISB Convention.

Scan the QR code to download Whova for your iPhone or Android device, or go to https://www. isbworldoffice.com/convention.asp?action=whova for the link.

#### FSU Guest Wi-Fi

Select FSUGuest from the list of available networks: (If you are not automatically directed to the sign-in page, navigate to FSUGuest Sign In https://wiport.net.fsu.edu/captiveportalauth.php)

Enter your cellphone number - Click Register - Check your cellphone for a text message - Return to a web browser - Enter the Username (your cellphone #) and Password (the pin # that is provided in the text message) - Click Log In

#### **EDURoam**

In addition to FSUGuest, FSU is part of the EDURoam network. If your home institution participates in EDURoam, you can join using your institution credentials. Enter your email address and credentials from your home institution on the authentication screen.

#### FSUGuest WiFi support:

ITS Helpdesk

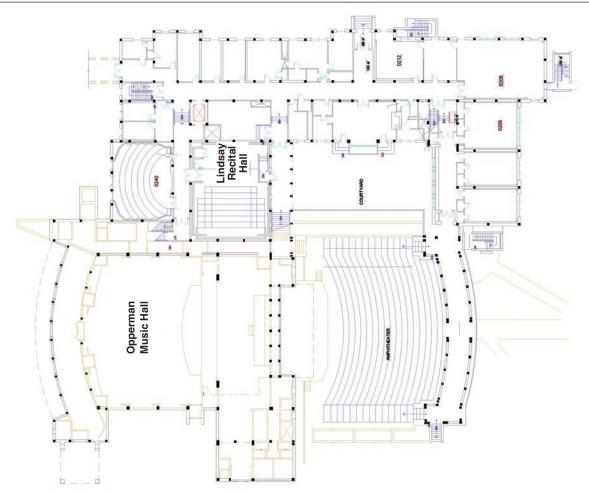
+1(850)644-4357 8a-5p M-F

#### EDURoam support:

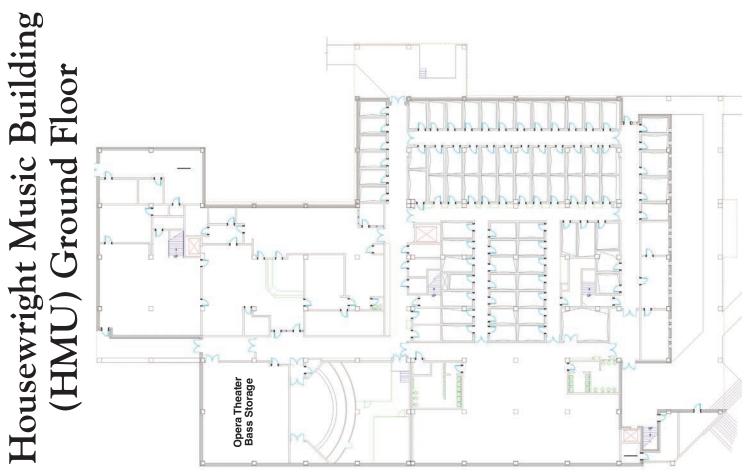
Contact your home institution IT Support.

# Kuersteiner Music Building (KMU) 2nd Floor





### Housewright Music Building (HMU) First Floor HMU114 Recital/ Rehearsal Hall HMU105 YB/ NextGen Rehearsal Hall YB/NextGen Classroom YB/NextGen Classroom Stairs Stairs Convention Offices Stairs Convention Offices



#### MEET OUR PRESENTERS



Coming off of a bold and unique new album quartet release, **Everything** and Nothing, Shane Allessio seeks challenge the listener to explore a wide range of emotions, characters, and personal stories.

It's a journey of highs, lows, and even the psychedelic. Shane mixes through-composed forms with giving his band the freedom to improvise. Shane is a disciple of renowned educator Jim Stinnett. He traveled the country helping to present Mr. Stinnett's Secret Chambers project, a book and presentation analyzing lines of the great Paul Chambers. Shane was also a faculty member of Mr. Stinnett's long running New Hampshire Bass Fest, featuring artists such as Eddie Gomez, Rufus Reid, Gary Karr, and more of the best bassists around the world. Now residing in New York City, Shane has made a splash on the scene playing with his original quartet at esteemed venues such as The Django, Room 623, and more. Shane opened his first guitar and bass school in St Albans, England in 2014. Soon after came G4 Guitar Schools in Brookline, Massachusetts in 2016, and in 2024 G4 Guitar Schools Brooklyn, NY was born.



Bassist and composer Gregg August spans the classical, avantgarde, jazz, and Latin jazz worlds, making him one of the most versatile musicians on the scene today. He is an associate member of the Orpheus Chamber

Orchestra as well as the former Principal Bass of La Orquestra Ciutat de Barcelona. As a jazz bassist, Gregg is a member of the JD Allen Trio and Arturo O'Farrill's Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra. In 2020, he released his album Dialogues on Race and received a GRAMMY nomination in the Best Large Jazz Ensemble category. An extended suite for 22 musicians and narrator, the work integrates poems to create musical conversations intended to foster awareness and understanding on the issues surrounding race relations in the United States. Gregg was awarded two Grand Prizes by the International Society of Bassists for the 2020 David Walter Composers Competition. He has also composed many full length concert works, including Variations on a Theme by Pérotin which was commissioned and premiered by the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra in 2021. He has performed and/or recorded with Ornette Coleman, Branford Marsalis, Steve Reich, Chick Corea, and the Bang on a Can All-Stars. Gregg is on faculty at New York University, Manhattan School of Music, and Williams College.



Dr. David Baker is currently serving as Assistant Professor and Area Coordinator of Jazz & Commercial Music at Utah Valley University and Director of Programs for non-profit 501(c) (3) Hot House West.

He received his Doctor of Arts from the University of Northern Colorado in Jazz Studies with an emphasis in both performance and composition. He has been an active performer for over fifteen years including performances at Jazz at Lincoln Center, Vail Jazz Festival, Moab Music Festival, The Jazz Education Network Conference, International Society of Bassists Convention, The Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, Dazzle Jazz & Supper Club, The Velvet Note, the Colorado Symphony, the Baltimore Old Time Festival, and the Gene Harris Jazz Festival. Along this journey, he has been thankful for opportunities to perform alongside jazz legends like Ulysses Owens Jr., Greg Gisbert, Bob Sheppard, Frankie Avalon, The Platters, Carmen Bradford, Drew Zaremba, and Corey Christiansen. David's talents were recognized in 2019 when he was awarded the First Alternate position in the International Society of Bassists' Jazz Performance Competition.



Thierry Barbé is a professor at the National Superior Conservatory of Music in Paris and former Principal Bassist in the Paris National Opera. Born in Metz, eastern France, Barbé studied piano

and double bass while simultaneously pursuing a degree in science, before devoting himself exclusively to music at the Paris Conservatory, studying harmony, counterpoint, music history, and music analysis. Barbé likes to perform recitals with piano, playing all types

of expressive music with the "French touch" sound and sense of phrasing. He has played and been featured in master classes in 24 countries. He has taught double bass at the Saint Maur Conservatory since 1982, near Paris, where he has advanced students from all over the world. He performs his own compositions, transcriptions, and creations (his first CD "Nomade" was released in 1998, DVD "French Impressions" released in 2016). Barbé has experimented with numerous technical approaches, from left hand position to bows, and reconciles them in his playing. Barbé was the French Bass Society President (ABCDF), has been a member of the ISB board, and organized with Riccardo Del Fra a successful international bass convention in Paris in 2008. He is Artistic Director of the summer camp Biarritz International Bass Academy. https://www. youtube.com/user/tbarbecnsmdp



Boston Symphony
Orchestra Principal
Bassist Edwin
Barker has
concertized in North
America, Europe,
and the Far East. He
has performed and
recorded with the
BSO, the Boston
Symphony Chamber

Players, contemporary music ensemble Collage, and is a frequent guest performer with the Boston Chamber Music Society. Barker graduated with honors in 1976 from New England Conservatory, where he studied double bass with Henry Portnoi. That same year, at age 22, while a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, he was appointed Principal Double Bass of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Other solo engagements have included appearances at Seiji Ozawa Hall, Carnegie Recital Hall, and major universities and conferences throughout the world, as well as concerto performances with the Boston Classical Orchestra and the Boston Symphony Orchestra in Boston and Europe. In 1995 he was chosen by Sir Georg Solti to lead the bass section of the United Nations' Musicians of the World, an ensemble made up of prominent musicians from the world's finest orchestras. Barker is an associate professor at Boston University College of Fine Arts, where he teaches double bass, orchestral techniques, and chamber music. He also teaches at BSO's Tanglewood Music Center where he is chairman of instrumental and orchestral studies, and at the National Orchestral Institute at the University of Maryland.



Bassist, composer, and educator Jared Beckstead was born Vancouver, Canada, and raised Antananarivo, in Madagascar, and Beijing, China. Now based in New York City, they hold a Master's of Jazz

Studies from Michigan State University, where they studied with Rodney Whitaker. In 2023, Jared was awarded first place in the Jazz division of the biennial International Society of Bassists Competition. They have performed in the United States, Canada, China, and Jamaica with such luminaries as Michael Dease, Quincy Davis, Jon Gordon, Randy Napoleon, and Juno Award-winning Guitarist Jocelyn Gould.



Born and raised in New Orleans, Chuck Bergeron's professional career spans over 40 years, including collaborations with many top artists in the field of jazz. He has toured, performed, or recorded with such legends as Randy Brecker, Stan Getz, Joe Williams, Arturo Sandoval, Elvis Costello, Wycliffe Gordon, Sheila Iordan, Dee Dee Bridgewater, James Moody, John Abercrombie, Jeff Hamilton, Janis Siegel and Cheryl Bentyne from Manhattan Transfer, Paquito D'Rivera, Kevin Mahogany, Bob Moses, Cyrille Aimee, Tom Harrell, Freddie Cole, John Abercrombie, Ed Calle, Peter Erskine, Rick Margitza, Dave Grusin, and many others. Chuck is also an alumnus of both the Woody Herman and Buddy Rich Big Bands. As a bandleader, Chuck directs The Miami Bass Quartet and the South Florida Jazz Orchestra, a criticallyacclaimed big band based in Miami. Their most recent release, Cheap Thrills, presents compositions and performances by Miles Davis saxophonist Rick Margitza, and features Grammy-winner Brian Lynch and John Hart. As an educator, Dr. Charles Bergeron is currently Professor of Jazz Studies and Program Director for Jazz Pedagogy at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music. He is also Program Director for the Jazz Aspen Academy, working in partnership with Artistic Director Christian McBride.



Nina Bernat was hailed by the Star Tribune as "standout" for her concerto debut with Minnesota the Orchestra, praising her performance as "exhilarating, lovely and lyrical... technically precise

and impressively emotive." In 2023, Nina was honored as a recipient of the Avery Fisher Career Grant and winner of the CAG Elmaleh Competition. Recent 1st prizes include the Barbash J.S. Bach String Competition, the Minnesota Orchestra Young Artist Competition, the Juilliard Double Bass Competition, and the 2019 International Society of Bassists Solo Competition. Engaged in all aspects of double bass performance, she has been invited to perform as guest principal bassist with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and Oslo Philharmonic, serving under the batons of conductors such as András Schiff and Osmo Vänskä. Nina is also in demand as a chamber musician. She began her involvement with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center as a member of the Bowers Program in 2024. She has spent summers at Marlboro Music Festival, Verbier Festival, Music@Menlo and Chamber Music Northwest. She is quickly becoming a soughtafter pedagogue, having given master classes at the Colburn School, Boston University Tanglewood Institute, and the University of Texas at Austin. She is on the faculty of Stony Brook University.



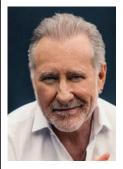
Hagai Bilitzky is a teacher at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. For the last two decades he has been crafting his Middle Eastern double bass art, while providing the low frequencies to some of the most

important traditional eastern music ensembles, such as the Algerian pianist Maurice El Médioni's trio, Piris Eliyahu's projects, Ladino singer Yasmin Levy's group, Amal Murkus, Mark Eliyahu, Taiseer Elias, Simon Shaheen, and many more.



Dr. Andrew Binder is a bassist, composer, and educator from St. Louis, Missouri. Andrew holds a D.M.A. from the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana in Jazz Performance with a cognate in Music Composition.

He also holds degrees from the University of Miami Frost School of Music and Bowling Green State University. In addition to the ISB, Dr. Binder has presented for the Jazz Education Network and the International Society of Jazz Arrangers & Composers. Dr. Binder currently teaches jazz and classical bass at Jefferson College in Hillsboro, MO and the Community Music School at Webster University. Dr. Binder's most recent album release called "Conspiracy Deliracy" features all original music inspired by conspiracy theories such as Beyonce is the Illuminati, Stevie Wonder Isn't Blind, Katy Perry is a Lizard Person, Bigfoot and more.



Brian Bromberg is a celebrated double bassist. composer, producer, and arranger. Hailing from Tucson, Arizona, Brian has spent the last 40 years as an A-lister of the L.A. music scene.

performed and recorded with world-renowned jazz and pop artists, including Anita O' Day, Herbie Hancock, Michael Brecker, George Benson, Freddie Hubbard, Michael Bublé, Sting, and more. Brian's introduction to the world stage came in 1979 when Marc Johnson (bassist of the Bill Evans Trio) recommended him to the legendary sax player Stan Getz. Brian had just turned 19 and spent nearly a year touring the world with Stan and his band. Since then, he has performed and recorded with some of the greatest artists of our time. As a bandleader, Brian Bromberg has released over 25 albums to critical acclaim, including Wood (2002), Jaco (2002), and the Grammy award-nominated Downright Upright (2007). LaFaro, released April 2024, is a tribute to the pioneering jazz bassist Scott LaFaro. The music on this recording is some of the most popular songs that the Bill Evans Trio recorded, as well as one of Scott's original songs and a song Brian wrote for this project. When talking about the record, he says "I did not try and emulate Scott LaFaro in any way on this recording. How could I, and more importantly, why would I? We recorded 14

songs in two days of live recording. We did a few takes of each song and then moved to the next song. It was a rewarding experience recording all these classic jazz standards and just going where the music took us".



Andrew William Brown studied bass with Ludwig Streicher and holds a Ph.D. in Music Acoustics. He made his first bass in 2015 and completed Nr. 6, his 3/4 Guarneri model, in 2023. From 1991-2005, he

made his living in Vienna, Austria as a founding member of Salonorchester Alhambra, as well as playing opera and contemporary classical music, pop, and jazz. He worked in the violin shop of Christine Eriks and his first tonewood acquisition was in 2003. He harvested a premium spruce dating from 1803 from the Italian Alps, had it felled, milled, and shipped to Baltimore. Poplar and maple have been sourced from Europe, upstate New York, and the west coast of the United States. His models include an enlarged copy of his 1878 Enrico Bajoni and the 3/4 Guarneri. Andrew is the definition of "hands-on," milling tonewood, brewing oil and spirit varnishes, and machining his own bass tuners and other hardware. He uses impulse input admittance measurements to tune the top and back plates of new basses.



Miles attended the Eastman School of Music for his undergraduate degree, earning a Bachelor of Music in Music Education and Jazz and Contemporary Media. In 2003, he

received a Master's degree in String Bass Performance from Mannes College of Music, and a Doctorate in Jazz Performance from Eastman in 2012. He is the bassist for contemporary ensemble Alarm Will Sound and has had his compositions performed at Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. In 2008, Miles was the Interim Gussman Director of Jazz at Cornell University. From 2009-2017, he served as the Jazz Program Coordinator and Applied Bass Instructor at Oakland University. For the 2017-2018 academic year, Miles taught at the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University and was on faculty at York College of Pennsylvania and the Community College

of Baltimore County. In Fall 2018, Miles joined the University of Delaware's full-time faculty as Assistant Professor of String Bass and Jazz where he teaches Applied String Bass lessons, Jazz History, Jazz Harmony, and Contemporary Literature.



Luis Cabrera became principal bass of the Netherlands Philharmonic Orchestra in Amsterdam at the age of twenty in 2006. Since then, he has been active as a chamber music

performer, soloist, and teacher, with engagements taking him to Portugal, France, Italy, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, Argentina, Mexico, Greece, Peru, Colombia, Hong Kong, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, and others. Luis joined the teaching staff at the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in 2012, and since 2018 is also a professor at the Rotterdam Conservatory (CODARTS). Luis has recorded for labels such as EMI Classics, NAXOS, and Pentatone, and has collaborated with BBC Radio 3's prestigious New Generation Artists program in addition to recordings for the Dutch classical channel NPO4 Avrotros. His album with the TRPTK label Canto Interno had great international acclaim including reviews from Grammophone, The Strad, and BBC classical music magazine. In 2021, Luis joined the online performance and educational platform String Virtuoso as a featured artist. Luis plays a double bass made by Carlo Ferdinando Landolfi, c.1770, kindly on loan from the Dutch Musical Instrument Foundation (NMF).



Susan Cahill holds position Associate Professor of Double Bass at the University of Colorado Boulder. Known for her dynamic performances and profound musicality, Susan has been a

member of the Colorado Symphony since 1997. Before joining the Colorado Symphony, Susan served on the faculty at the University of Denver and was the Principal Bassist of the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra in New Orleans. Her extensive experience also includes teaching at the Colorado College Summer Music Festival and participating in

prestigious events such as the Grand Tetons Music Festival, Festival Mozaic, and the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra. Susan's passion for music extends beyond performance and education; she has appeared on the PBS Masterworks series "Now Hear This" and collaborates with improvisational actor Jon Wilkerson to create engaging works that have garnered significant attention on YouTube. She performs on basses by Nick Lloyd and Guiseppe Santori.



A graduate of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris, Lorraine Campet was the second solo double bassist of the Orchestre Chilharmonique de Radio France from 2015 to 2022. She is

regularly invited as principal bass by ensembles such as MusicAeterna, Utopia, the London Symphony Orchestra, and the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra. She has performed under the baton of Teodor Currentzis, Daniel Harding, Gustavo Dudamel, Daniele Gatti, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Lahav Shani, Gianandrea Noseda, and Sir Antonio Pappano. Lorraine teaches at the IESM in Aix-en-Provence and regularly gives master classes worldwide. She has won several international competitions and performs in recitals and concerts both in France and abroad. She plays a bass by Pietro-Antonio Testore, generously loaned by Xavier and Joséphine Moreno. Lorraine is sponsored by the string brand Pirastro. Since October 1st, 2024, she has been principal solo bassist with the Paris Opera Orchestra and was named "Instrumental Soloist Revelation" at the 2025 Victoires de la Musique awards.



Ron Carter is one of the most influential bassists in jazz history, with more than 2,200 albums to his credit, an accomplishment honored with a Guinness World Record. He has recorded with Tommy Flanagan,

Gil Evans, Lena Horne, Bill Evans, B.B. King, the Kronos Quartet, Dexter Gordon, Wes Montgomery, Bobby Timmons, Jaki Byard, Eric Dolphy, and Cannonball Adderley, among many others. From 1963 to 1968, Ron was a member of the acclaimed Miles Davis Quintet. He was named Outstanding Bassist of the Decade by the Detroit News, Jazz Bassist of the

Year by Downbeat magazine, and MVP by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. He earned two Grammy awards, one in 1993 for Best Jazz Instrumental Group, and another in 1998 for "Call Sheet Blues" from the film Round Midnight. Ron has composed music for the films A Gathering of Old Men, The Passion of Beatrice, and Blind Faith. In 2014, Ron received the medallion and title of Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters, France's premier cultural award, by the French Minister of Culture. A bestselling author, Carter's books include Building Jazz Bass Lines and Ron Carter's Comprehensive Bass Method, an advanced level book pioneering the use of QR codes to demonstrate technique, and The Ron Carter Songbook, a collection of 119 original compositions. In 2017, Ron expanded his reach to his considerable worldwide following on Facebook, where he regularly posts helpful information and back-stories for bass players and fans alike. His "Facebook Live" events are enjoyed around the world. Ron gives frequent master classes, and has received five honorary doctorates, most recently from The Juilliard School. Ron continues to tour worldwide, playing to sold-out crowds across Europe, Asia, and South America.



Brian Casey is a jazz bassist, educator, and researcher based in Colorado. Brian serves as Associate Professor of Academic Jazz at the University of Northern Colorado and earned a DMA in Jazz Studies from

the University of Colorado Boulder where he taught courses in Humanities, Jazz Studies, and American Music. Brian earned a MM in Jazz Studies from the University of North Texas where he played with the Grammynominated One O'Clock Lab Band and served as a Teaching Fellow in Jazz Bass under the direction of Professor Lynn Seaton. Brian has performed and/or recorded with Pink Martini, Weber Iago, Henry Butler, and many others. Dr. Casey has presented original research in jazz-related fields at many national and international conferences including those of the College Music Society, the Jazz Education Network, and the International Society of Bassists. He has written the entry for Miles Davis in the Oxford Online Bibliographies in Music, articles for Jazz Education in Research and Practice as well as Jazz and Culture, and a chapter on "Post War Traditions" in Jerry Tolson's textbook African American Music: History and Heritage published by Great River Learning. Brian's current research focuses on jazz as a cultural phenomenon in New Orleans.



Sean Michael Casey teaches and performs double bass throughout the north Texas area. Sean began playing double bass at age 11 in Katy, Texas, where studied he with Andy Moritz throughout middle

and high school. Sean earned a Bachelor of Music from the Cleveland Institute of Music (2012), and a Master of Music from Arizona State University (2014), where he studied with Max Dimoff and Jeff Bradetich, and Catalin Rotaru respectively. In the fall of 2014, Sean relocated to the greater Dallas-Fort Worth area, and opened a teaching studio in Plano, before moving to Allen in 2017. Sean maintains a large private studio in Allen, TX, producing numerous first-chair TMEA All-Region and All-State students. Students have gone on to study at Juilliard and Baylor University. In 2021, Sean received The Foundation Award from The Foundation for Music Education, recognizing a career of exemplary music teaching, leadership, and passion for excellence in music. As a performer, Sean performs regularly as a member of the Allen Philharmonic and McKinney Philharmonic. Additionally, he substitutes regularly with the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra. Sean is an active member of the International Society of Bassists and the Local 72-147 of the American Federation of Musicians.



Gabe Condon is an internationally a c c l a i m e d researcher, educator, jazz guitarist, and composer. In July 2024, he began his appointment as Assistant Professor of Music at Hamilton College, where he

also serves as the Director of the Hamilton College Jazz Ensemble. In 2022, he traveled to Berlin, Germany to conduct research on Sinti jazz pedagogy. He presented the research at the College Music Society National Conference, the Jazz Education Network Conference, and the National Association for Music Educators Eastern Division Conference. In addition to his work as a researcher, Gabe is a passionate jazz educator. Prior to his appointment at Hamilton, he taught at the Washington State University School of Music, Theatre, and Dance. Gabe's accolades include three Downbeat Magazine Student Music

Awards and first place in the 2014 Wilson Center International Guitar Competition, Jazz Division. In 2017 and 2018, he accompanied the U.S. Presidential Scholars for performances at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. Gabe earned his D.M.A. in Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation from the University of Michigan, and his M.M. and B.M. in Jazz and Contemporary Media from the Eastman School of Music.



Shawn Conley is principal bass with the Hawaii S y m p h o n y Orchestra. He is also a member of the international tour group Silk Road Ensemble founded by Yo-Yo Ma, as well as the Brooklyn-

based chamber orchestra The Knights. Shawn is an active composer and improvising musician as well. He studied at Rice University with Paul Ellison and in Paris, France with François Rabbath. Shawn is a previous winner of the ISB Double Bass Competition Scott LaFaro Prize in the jazz division.



Joseph Conyers was appointed Principal Bassist with the Philadelphia Orchestra in 2023. He had served as acting Associate Principal Bass with the orchestra since 2017 and had served as Assistant

Principal Bassist since 2010, following tenures with the Atlanta Symphony, Santa Fe Opera, and Grand Rapids Symphony, where he was Principal Bass. Conyers has performed with numerous orchestras as soloist across the U.S., is an artist of the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, and has performed internationally. Recognized for his artistic and social entrepreneurial endeavors, awards include the Sphinx Organization's Medal of Excellence (2019); the C. Hartman Kuhn award (2018); and Musical America's 30 Top Professionals—Innovators, Independent Thinkers, and Entrepreneurs (2018). In 2015, Convers was the inaugural recipient of the 2015 Young Alumni Award from Curtis Institute of Music, where he received his bachelor's degree. An advocate for music education, he is the executive director of Project 440—an organization that helps young people use their interest in music to forge new pathways and change their

communities. He is also the music director of Philadelphia's All City Orchestra, which showcases the top high school musicians of the School District of Philadelphia. Conyers is on the double bass faculty of Temple University's Boyer College of Music and is a frequent guest clinician and lecturer presenting across the country from Yale University to the Colburn School.



maker Bass and restorer Trevor Davis began his career a professional upright bassist, studying with Tom Warrington and graduating with a degree in Jazz Performance from the University of

Nevada, Las Vegas, where he received multiple performance and academic scholarships, before playing full-time with various jazz ensembles. After a year spent living in France, he decided to quit playing bass and focus his energies into the art of lutherie. Trevor attended the Violin Making School of America under the direction of Charles Woolf and Sanghoon Lee, earning a Violin Society of America Scholarship. He left the program early to study with Christopher Jacoby, then at Kolstein & Sons in New York, then Lemur Music before ending up working with Lisa Gass at Los Angeles Bass Works. In Los Angeles, Trevor was able to really hone his craft and finish building his first double bass which earned a Certificate of Workmanship at the 2013 ISB Maker's Competition, and in the 2015 ISB Maker's Competition, his instrument earned a gold medal. Trevor's instruments are featured exclusively at Robertson and Sons Violin Shop.



Dr. Benjamin De Kock received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music under the instruction of professor Albert Laszlo, and his

doctorate at the University of Colorado Boulder under Dr. Paul Erhard. He received additional instruction with various faculty at the Aspen Music Festival and School. Dr. Benjamin plays with several orchestras and chamber groups across the United States. He is Principal Bassist of the San Juan Symphony in Durango Co, Principal Bassist of the

Colorado Bach Ensemble, Assistant Principal of the Steamboat Symphony Orchestra, a guest musician with the Charleston Symphony in South Carolina, assistant 3rd chair with the Greeley Symphony, a section member of the Boulder Philharmonic, and a regular sub the Colorado Symphony, Colorado Ballet, and Opera Colorado. In the summers Dr. Benjamin subs with the Breckenridge Music Festival and the Colorado Music Festival.



Glenn Dewey is a versatile instrumentalist who performs regularly on double bass and electric bass in virtually everv musical genre. He has performed in 49 of our 50 states as well as Canada,

Germany, Switzerland, and Austria in venues such as the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, Benaroya Hall in Seattle, Orchestra Hall in Chicago, and Carnegie Hall in New York City. Mr. Dewey has performed with artists such as Kenny Werner, Terrell Stafford, Arturo Sandoval, Lee Greenwood, Sammy Nestico, Jamey Aebersold, Manhattan Transfer, Toby Keith, Larry Gatlin, Steve Allen, Paul Winter, and Michael Feinstein. Mr. Dewey has also worked with artists such as Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, Joshua Bell, and Leon Fleisher and has played under the baton of Minnesota Orchestra's Music Director Osmo Vänskä, Detroit Symphony Orchestra conductor Leonard Slatkin, and Los Angeles Philharmonic conductor Gustavo Dudamel. Prior to joining Greenwood School of Music at Oklahoma State University in 2021, Glenn Dewey was Professor of Bass at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia and had completed an illustrious 28-year career as a member of "The President's Own" US Marine Band. In his short tenure in Oklahoma, Prof. Dewey has built a significant bass studio at OSU and has been in demand throughout the region both as both a performer and clinician.



Mark Dresser is a G r a m m y n o m i n a t e d, internationally-renowned bass player, improviser, and composer. At the core of his music is an obsession and commitment to expanding the sonic,

musical, and expressive possibilities of the contrabass. He has recorded over 150 CDs

including ten CDs as composer/bandleader, seven solo recordings and a DVD. His solo recording "Tines of Change" was listed in the "Best Recordings of 2023" by Downbeat Magazine. From 1985 to 1994, he was a member of Anthony Braxton's Quartet. He has also performed and recorded music of Ray Anderson, Jane Ira Bloom, Tim Berne, Anthony Davis, Dave Douglas, Osvaldo Golijov, Gerry Hemingway, Lei Liang, Denman Maroney, Bob Ostertag, Joe Lovano, Roger Reynolds, Henry Threadgill, Dawn Upshaw, and John Zorn. Since 2007 he has been deeply involved in telematic music performance and education. He was awarded a 2015 and 2018 Shifting Foundation Award and 2015 Doris Duke Impact Award. He is a former ISB board member. He is a Distinguished Professor of Music at UC San Diego. www.mark-dresser.com



Christie Echols is a performer, composer, and creative artist whose work highlights of complexities of contemporary performance through the mediums of upright and electric bass, vocals,

electronics, film, poetry, theater, and dance. Their music encompasses elements of free improvisation, singer-songwriter, avant-garde, contemporary jazz, classical, performance art, and funk to create versatile performances of unconstrained artistry. She has been commissioned by Hofstra University, MIRACOR FILMS, and Bassists with Boobs Ensemble. Prioritizing multi-disciplinary collaborations, recent projects include The Mercy Velvet Project (2024) with choreographer Alexis Robbins, Melodies of Certain Damage Opus 6 (2022) with performance artist Naama Tsabar, and The Modification of Oneself: for bass, vocals, electronics, and multimedia (2022) with poet Luisa Caycedo-Kimura. As a performer, Echols' has been featured at Lincoln Center, Make Music Day Hartford, the Buttonwood Tree Center, FREE CENTER, New Haven Underground Jazz, and the Women Composers Festival of Hartford. As a bassist they perform frequently with the Goodspeed Opera House, New Britain Symphony Orchestra, and the Hartford Symphony Orchestra. Likewise, she has recorded for NAXOS, Space Camp, Into the Light Ensemble, and Cassie's Crutch. Echols maintains an active private studio at Westfield State University, Loomis Chaffee, and the Hartt School Community Division.



Paul Ellison is the Lynette S. Autrey Professor of Double Bass and Chair of Strings at Rice U n i v e r s i t y 's Shepherd School of Music, visiting artist-faculty at the University of Southern California,

Los Angeles (USC), and guest tutor at the Yehudi Menuhin School, the Royal College of Music, and Bass Club, England. His current summer positions include Principal Bass at the Grand Teton Music Festival, faculty/ performer at the Sarasota Music Festival and faculty/performer at Festival Domaine Forget, Quebec. Previously he served as Principal Bass of the Houston Symphony, Houston Grand Opera, Santa Fe Opera, and Aspen Festival Orchestras, Professor of Double Bass and Chair of Strings at USC, and President of the ISB. Ellison was the first to receive both a diploma and teaching certificate from the International Rabbath Institute in Paris. His former students hold titled positions in major ensembles and institutions of higher learning on five continents.



Upon graduation and subsequently gaining a teaching qualification, **Emery** Caroline became the leading exponent of the Mini-Bass Yorke Project from its inception in 1984. Caroline focuses on

training talented advanced students and young professionals while continuing to teach vounger students. She is Professor of Double Bass at the Royal College of Music in London. She also teaches at the Yehudi Menuhin School and Eton College as well as teaching privately and giving master classes internationally. Her publications are two "Bass is Best" books published by Yorke Edition and Bow Works, Progressive Technique by Almusik in Sweden. In 2019 she received the ISB Special Recognition Award for Teaching and received the ISB Special Recognition Award as Young Bassists Ambassador in 1997. Her students can be found in many orchestras, in Britain and abroad, and three London Principals.



George Fahlund was born and raised in Austin, Texas. He started playing double bass at the age of seven as a student in the University of Texas String Project. Mr. Fahlund is alumnus of The

University of Texas at Austin where he studied Lower Strings with both Dr. David Neubert and Mrs. Phyllis Young. Mr. Fahlund currently lives in San Antonio, Texas with his wife and is the Professor of Double Bass at the University of the Incarnate Word and is the Director of the Texas Hill Country Bass Collective. Professionally Mr. Fahlund has performed with: San Antonio Philharmonic Orchestra, SA Harmonie, The Dallas Opera, Austin Symphony Orchestra, Mid-Texas Symphony Orchestra, Central Philharmonic, Zachary Scott Theatre, Austin Playhouse, and Zilker Theatre Productions. As a music educator, Mr. Fahlund's students consistently receive top chairs and honors at both TMEA and UIL events. He has been a featured lecturer at the TMEA and TODA and is a proud member of the following organizations: International Society of Teachers Bassists, American String Association, Texas Music Educators Association, and the American Federation of Musicians, Local 23.



Sarah **Favinger** embraces both classical and popular music and is influenced by jazz, classic rock, and funk. She received her Bachelor Music degree from **James** Madison University in Music

Performance. In 2015 she graduated with a double major Master of Music degree in Double Bass Performance and Music History and Literatures at Baylor University. In 2016 she completed a year of intensive study at the International Rabbath Institute Paris with François Rabbath. Currently, Ms. Favinger resides in Brooklyn, New York, where she is carving out a space in a competitive musical environment performing on both upright & electric bass. She primarily performs in pit orchestras with theater companies throughout New York City. Most recently Ms. Favinger was the chair holder for the Off-Broadway productions "Empire: The Musical" and "FIVE: The Parody Musical" as well as subbing for Broadway productions.



Chris Fitzgerald is a professor of jazz bass and music theory at the University of Louisville, and also served as a member of the faculty of the Aebersold Summer Jazz Workshops for 23 years. In addition to performing as a

longtime member of local ensembles such as the Harry Pickens Trio and Liberation Prophecy, he has also performed and recorded with a long list of luminaries in the jazz field and beyond, including Dave Liebman, Lee Konitz, Donny McCaslin, Jean-Michel Pilc, and Norah Jones. As a clinician, Chris has presided over hundreds of master classes not only in the midwest, but nationally and internationally. He has published over twenty articles on double bass-related topics as a staff writer for Bass Gear Magazine, and for the past ten years has also served as a forum administrator at Talkbass.com, the world's largest online bass discussion forum. Chris' current educational passion is his online Jazz Bass Technique Series, a collection of extensive double bass and jazz tutorial videos published as a form of worldwide educational outreach. The series includes collaborations with notable bassists in the field including Rufus Reid, Lynn Seaton, and John Goldsby.



Bruce Gertz is a composer, bassist. educator, and author who has been a professor at Berklee College of Music 1976. since Throughout his career, Gertz has performed with renowned artists such

as Gil Evans, Dave Brubeck, Joe Lovano, Bill Frisell, and Maynard Ferguson. Gertz is the author of several influential bass instruction books, including Walkin', Mastering the Bass (Volumes 1 & 2), and 22 Contemporary Studies for Bass Vol. 1, and has contributed to method books published by Berklee Jazz Bass, Berklee Press, and Hal Leonard Publishing. He also serves as a contributing editor for Bass World magazine and is a member of the International Society of Bassists Advisory Board. In addition to teaching and performing, Gertz has received a National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Performance Grant and multiple recognitions from the International Association for Jazz Education and Jazz Education Network for outstanding contributions to jazz education. He is also involved with Quest TV Edu, a nonprofit founded by Quincy Iones. www.brucegertz.com



For the last 16 years Lloyd Goldstein has worked as a Certified Music Practitioner at the Moffitt Cancer Center Arts In Medicine (AIM) program in Tampa, Florida where he p l a y s unaccompanied bass

violin for patients, families, and visitors at the hospital and outpatient facilities. Prior to working in AIM, he played with the Florida Orchestra for 21 years as a section bassist. Goldstein's education includes Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music Performance from the University of Miami School of Music, as well as Performance and Teaching Diplomas from The Rabbath Institute. He has attended bass workshops almost every year for the past quarter century in Maryland with George Vance and François Rabbath as well as in Kansas City with Rabbath and Johnny Hamil. Through these workshops, he has the privilege to work with and learn from an extended family of fantastic bassists and amazing humans. Goldstein has written two volumes of music for his work in AIM as well as sharing this music online with people and bassists around the world.



Robert Goodlett II is a native of Frankfort, Kentucky. He received his B. M. degree in organ and church music from the University of Louisville and his M.M. in contrabass performance from Indiana University.

He has studied with Murray Grodner, Gary Karr, Larry Hurst, Warren Benfield and Julius Levine. Prior to joining the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra in 1972, he played four seasons with the Louisville Orchestra. In addition to his performing duties, he teaches many private students through the Quattro String Academy, which he and his wife, Chin Mi Kim (a violinist) formed in 2009. He also serves as a section coach in the ISO's Side by Side concerts. He was the recipient of an Artist Renewal Grant from the Indianapolis Arts Council in 2003. The father of three sons, Goodlett has been a coach, official and administrator for several soccer programs around Indianapolis and is the former organist/ choirmaster at All Saints Episcopal Church. Away from music he is an avid bicyclist.



Green, a Barry Californian, native served as Principal Bassist of the Cincinnati Symphony for 28 years. As former Executive Director of the International Society of Bassists, and formerly

Professor of Bass at The Ohio State University, the University of California Santa Cruz, and the University of Cincinnati CCM. Green has also written three bass method books and many solo recordings. As a soloist, Green has created three multimedia productions called Anna's Way, Anna's Gift, and Anna's Promise, composed by Andres Martin and based on inspirational stories for solo bass with combos, bands or orchestra. Green's latest multimedia concert program is a documentary style concert of Russian music called Music from Ukraine and a new multi-media narrated program based on the four elements: Fire, Water, Air and Earth. Green is author of three books dealing with the philosophy of music, the mind, body, and spirit: The Inner Game of Music (Doubleday, 1986), The Mastery of Music, Ten Pathways to True Artistry (Broadway/Doubleday 2003) and Bringing Music to Life! (GIA, 2009). Barry's most recent projects include an eight part video series with co-host Jason Heath called Buckeye Bass Bashes, a video string method called Stringersize, and the Bass Club Cincinnati.



Originality is what versatile drummer Jeff Hamilton brings to the groups he performs with, and is one of the reasons why he is constantly in-demand, whether he is recording or performing with his trio, Oscar Peterson,

Ray Brown, the Clayton Brothers or coleading the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra. <a href="https://hamiltonjazz.com/artist/jeff-hamilton/">https://hamiltonjazz.com/artist/jeff-hamilton/</a>



Jon Hamar began performing with the Jeff Hamilton Trio and the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra in 2018. As part of the Jeff Hamilton Trio and the CHJO Jon has been a featured performer on the Jazz

Cruise, Newport Beach Jazz Party, the Vail Jazz Party, the Tri-C Jazz Festival, and the Elmhurst Jazz Festival. Jon is a member of the faculty at the Centrum Jazz Workshop under Artistic Director John Clayton and is currently Associate Professor of Bass at the College of Music at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee. <a href="https://jonhamar.com/biography/">https://jonhamar.com/biography/</a>



John Hamil loves to teach and play music. He maintains a private studio of both double and electric bassists in the Kansas City area. His main focus is teaching young bassists (ages 3 and up), and was inspired

and guided by the groundbreaking pedagogue George Vance. John is the author of Jamming on the Bass, Vol. 1 which is a sequential method of teaching improvisation and composition in all styles of music, designed to help unlock the creativity of the student. He has published many bass orchestra pieces. John performed and recorded his own solo double bass album Thanks for Everything Solo Bass Video Game along with a large catalog of original albums under Mr. Marco's V7 and GAV7D. He also performs and tours with many original music artists. John graduated from Kansas University with a Bachelor of Music Education. He has studied double bass with Misha Krutz (K.C. Symphony), Lawrence Rice (Salt Lake Symphony), and François Rabbath (Paris, France). He also holds the Teaching and Virtuoso certificates from Institute Rabbath in Paris, France. He is founder and administrator of the week-long intensive double bass workshop Kansas City Bass Workshop (kcbassworkshop.com), and the concert series KCBassfest. https:// johnnyhamil.com/



Dr. Utah Hamrick is a jazz educator who holds Bachelor of Music Education and Master of Music degrees from Central Michigan University and a DMA in Jazz Performance from the University of Texas. He is the

Director of Jazz Studies at Texas State University, where he conducts the Jazz Ensemble as well as teaches jazz bass, graduate jazz history, and graduate jazz pedagogy. His bass teachers include Peter Dominguez, Ed Fedewa, Davis Neubert, and John Fremgen. Utah has been in central Texas for the last 21 years, performing with a wide range of ensembles. For the last 14 years he has been performing with composer Graham Reynolds, including his work with Golden Arm Trio, Austin Ballet, Forklift Danceworks, the motion picture soundtracks for Bernie and All is Bright, and touring internationally with his opera Pancho Villa from a Safe Distance. Utah has also performed with jazz luminaries such as Houston Person, Byron Stripling, Larry Ham, Bill Watrous, and Tommy Igoe, and with Willie Nelson for the opening of the ACL Live. He can be heard recently on Altin Sencalar's Reconnected from Outside in Music, Hank Hehmsoth's Blu-Escape on Time Space Fabric Records, and Graham Reynolds' Music for Prophet parts 1-4 on Fire Records.



Kieran J. Hanlon is Associate Professor of Bass and Jazz at The State University of New York at Fredonia. He is also Section Bass with the C h a u t a u q u a Symphony (acting Assistant Principal in Summer 2024) and

Principal Bass of the Erie Philharmonic. In addition to his engagements as a classical bassist, Kieran is a first call jazz bassist, and is a regular member of house bands with world-stage guests for engagements at Fredonia and in the surrounding area. As a guest clinician, Kieran has presented master classes and workshops at Oberlin Conservatory, San Diego State University, The Frost School of Music at The University of Miami, The University of Houston, Southern Methodist University, Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music, The Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Duquesne University, The Eastman School of Music, The University of Colorado Boulder, and Colorado State University. Kieran holds both a M.M. in Double Bass Performance and Literature degree and an Orchestral Studies Diploma from the Eastman School of Music where he studied with James Van Demark. He also holds a B.M. in Double Bass Performance and a B.F.A. in Jazz Studies - Bass from the University of Michigan, where he studied with Diana Gannett, Stephen Molina, and Robert Hurst.



Houston bassist and composer Thomas Helton is a multifaceted improviser and skilled interpreter of contemporary bass repertoire. Equally adept at playing jazz, classical, and

avant-garde music, Helton continues to push and redefine the possibilities of his instrument embracing extended performance techniques and new compositional forms. Helton has studied with several bass masters, including Eric Late, Dennis Whittaker, Mark Helias, Rufus Reid, Lynn Seaton, and William Parker, and performed with such celebrated musicians as Tim Hagans, Milt Jackson, Daniel Carter, Monty Alexander, Frank Gratkowski, Ernie Watts, William Parker, Weasel Walter, Robert Boston, Damon Smith, and Steve Swell. Helton has composed music for solo bass as well as small and large ensembles, including several pieces for choreographer Michele Brangwen and the experimental dance company Group Acorde.



Olivier Holland is a bassist, composer, arranger, and educator based in Auckland, New Zealand. His long career has seen him perform and record with top artists from all over the world. He earned his DMA

in 2017 from the University of Auckland and currently teaches at the University of Auckland Jazz Department in a variety of subjects. www.olivierholland.com



As an acclaimed double bass soloist chamber and musician, Christine Hoock inspires audiences around the world with her performances and master classes. The fascinating possibilities

making music with the double bass, also as a soloist, are carried into concert halls world-wide by this native of Germany with ease and virtuosity. A versatile musician, Christine Hoock can be heard in a wide variety of innovative constellations of jazz, electronic, and world music. This is also reflected in her

varied discography. In 2021, Christine was honoured with a Special Recognition Award for Solo Performance by the International Society of Bassists. Christine Hoock holds a professorship for double bass at the renowned Mozarteum University in Salzburg. Previously, she taught at the Robert-Schumann Music University in Düsseldorf and at the Folkwang University in Essen. In 2014 she received a guest professorship at the China Conservatory in Beijing. In addition to concert tours, master classes, and jury work, Christine Hoock is active as a mentor in the international music scene. She is founder and Artistic Director of the International Rhodius Academy for Double Bass. www.christinehoock.de



Ethan Jodziewicz is a versatile bassist and producer currently living in N a s h v i l l e , Tennessee. He has toured with Aoife O'Donovan, Sierra Hull, The Milk Carton Kids, Lindsay Lou, Maya de Vitry,

Molly Tuttle, Darol Anger, Mark O'Connor, and many others. He is also a member of fusion band John Mailander's Forecast, and regularly performs with jazz pianist/composer Pascal Le Boeuf. Ethan has played on late night television, National Public Radio, and in concert halls and on festival stages across North America and Europe. In the studio, he has contributed to over 100 albums and soundtracks as a bassist, producer, engineer, arranger, and composer. His playing was heavily featured on Sierra Hull's GRAMMY nominated 2016 release Weighted Mind. Ethan holds a B.M. from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia where he studied bass with Hal Robinson and Edgar Meyer. He also studied with Nicholas Walker and Shawn Conley at Ithaca College School of Music.



Coordinator of Jazz and Commercial at Florida Music State University, Rodney Jordan is a native of Memphis, Tennessee. He grew up playing the bass in church and with his high school orchestra. Jordan

received his Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education from Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi where he studied with Dr. London Branch, Alvin Fielder, and Andy Hardwick. During his college years, Jordan joined the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra where he served as Assistant Principal Bassist. After graduating, he became Chair of the String Department at the Dougherty County Public School and served as Principal Bassist with the Albany Symphony Orchestra in Albany, GA. Teaching has always been an important part of Mr. Jordan's life and career. In addition to teaching strings in Dougherty County, he also taught in the DeKalb County School Systems.



lifelong woodworker and Seth musician, Kimmel earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Oberlin College in 1992 where his roommate played bass. As well as working in biological

illustration and making pottery Seth ran his own construction business for close to 20 years. He put together his first double bass for himself in 2007. Popular demand led Seth to start building basses full time in 2009 and he has been building basses to meet the diverse needs of today's bass players since then. Seth's broad array of award-winning instruments are made in Eugene, Oregon, largely from local salvaged trees. <a href="https://www.sethkimmel.com/">https://www.sethkimmel.com/</a>



Andrew Kohn is the chair of the research competition for this convention. He is a professor of string bass, music theory, and music composition at West Virginia University. The former Principal Bassist of the

National Chamber Orchestra (now the National Philharmonic) and the Harrisburg Symphony, he is currently a member of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and Opera Orchestras. He has performed, lectured, and adjudicated at several ISB conventions as well as at the Third World Bass Festival (Wrocław, Poland), the European Bass Community convention (Lucca, Italy) and at festivals of women composers. His compositions and editions for double bass are available through Jason Heath's website and Sheet Music Plus. His work concerning bass repertoire and pedagogy has addressed Bach, Chihara, Koussevitzky, Marcello, Rabbath, Rossini, Simandl, and several pedagogical topics, as well as over 40 reviews for American String Teacher. This work has been published in Bass

World, American String Teacher, Música Hodie, Muzyka, Strad, and by Music Minus One. He also edited *The Collected Writings of Theron McClure* (Morris, 2013). His recordings include Allan Blank's song cycles with string bass (Albany, 2012).



Steeped in the groove-stomping tradition of her mentor Ray Brown, bassist and vocalist Kristin Korb brings that joyful drive and passion into everything she does. When the raccompanying her

singing or arranging gems curated from The Great American Songbook or pop culture, audiences can count on uplifting vibes and sounds that make feet tap. London Jazz News rightfully notes that "she has a way of taking anything and making it sound cool." Kristin's first ISB experience was playing a recital for the Iowa City convention in 1999. She was immediately blown away by all the bass love. Over the years, Korb has served as a member of the ISB Board, directed the Young Bassists program (2011), was Artistic Director for ISB 2013 (Eastman School of Music), and served as ISB President (2013-2015). Love led her to Denmark, where she now resides with her Danish husband, continuing to inspire budding musicians through her concerts and educational outreach programs across Europe and the US. www.kristinkorb.com



Jay Leonhart has been recognized as a very accomplished bass player for a long time now. He has been named the Outstanding Bassist In the Recording Industry three times and is always mentioned when the

discussion turns to the outstanding. At age thirteen, while playing banjo with his brother in a Dixieland band in Baltimore, Jay watched and listened to the bass player and knew that the bass was the instrument he would play forever. Since that time Jay has been privileged to play with the likes of Judy Garland, Duke Ellington, Thad Jones, Buddy Rich, Jim Hall, Peggy Lee, Mel Torme, Marian McPartland, Kenny Barron, Sting, James Taylor, Papa Joe Jones, Roy Eldridge, Jim Hall, Louie Bellson, Dick Hyman, Luciano Pavoratti, and many more. Over the years, Jay Leonhart has been writing and singing his own individualistic

songs about his life as a bass player. He performs his music to receptive audiences worldwide.



Described by APM as "the flying fingers!", bassist **Tianyang Liu** has won internation for winning first prize and the best performance of a required new work in the 2013 ISB Solo

Competition, Grand Prize of the 2012 International Double Bass Competition in Singapore, and Honorary Prize and Audience Favorite Award in the 2010 Bradetich Foundation International Double Bass Solo Competition. Mr. Liu frequently appears in solo performances around the world, giving performances and master classes at international festivals and conservatories. He recorded his solo album Prayer in 2019. He has also been featured on radio and magazines including The Strad, APM, and BBC. Mr. Liu is a former Assistant Principal of the Houston Ballet Orchestra. He has been a faculty member at Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing since 2019. Mr. Liu received a B.A. from the Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing, Artist Certificate from University of North Texas, and a M.M. from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. He was the first double bassist to receive the prestigious Artist Diploma from Rice University's Shepherd School of Music. His primary instructors were Paul Ellison, Scott Pingel, Jeff Bradetich, Junxia Huo, Da Fu, and Zhenan Yang.



Marcos Machado is renowned Brazilian-American double bassist, celebrated for his virtuosic performances and inspiring stage presence. The Strad praised has his "incredibly fluid"

left-hand technique, while Fanfare commended his "musicianship and technical prowess." Dr. Machado is a Professor of Music at The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) and has organized fourteen editions of the "Southern Miss Bass Symposium." He founded the Pampa International Music Festival (FIMP) in Brazil and Bass by the Sea, a national double bass competition. Machado's career includes active performing and teaching schedules, tours throughout the USA, Europe, and South America, and three

Grammy® nominations. His versatility has inspired many composers to write works for him, and he has premiered several pieces. Machado authored "Tao of Bass," a multivolume technique book. He also created the "Integral Technique" online course, published by "Discover Double Bass." In January 2024, he introduced "Keen Bass: The Mindful Bassist's Journey," a weekly booklet series. Machado's discography includes two CDs with the Duo Machado-Fialkow and collaborations with various ensembles. He performs on a David Tecchler double bass, c. 1700, and a custom-built double bass by Andrea Spada.



Szymon Marciniak's desire is to share musical experiences with the audience at the highest level through giving every piece of music authenticity and freshness. Through his original approach to his instrument

and lively interpretations of classical bass repertoire as well as transcriptions, he receives acclaim and enthusiastic reactions from listeners and critics alike. A winner of 1st prize at the Sperger International Bass Competition in Germany (2004), and 2nd prize at the International Bradetich Solo Bass Competition in Texas (2017), Szymon is recognized as one of today's leading young soloists. Szymon has performed around Europe as well as Asia, the UAE, Canada, and the US. His solo recordings of Adolf Mišek's Sonatas and Miniatures as well as the CD and DVD "New Music for Double Bass" have received great critical acclaim. Szymon has been Principal Bassist for the Residentie Orkest Den Haag (NL) and Dortmunder Philharmoniker (DE). Szymon has worked with a variety of ensembles, covering a range of musical styles from traditional to contemporary, crossover genres, improvisation, and elements of theatrical performance. In 2019, with Gerold Genssler and Jan-Ole Fabian, Szymon founded SOG Trio, a project devoted to free improvised music. Szymon has taught at conservatories in Groningen (NL), Rostock, and Berlin. In 2020, Szymon was appointed as a professor at the University of Music in Saarbrücken, Germany. Szymon plays on instruments by Charles Quenoil and Alain Herard. www. szymon-marciniak.co



Native of Buenos Aires, Argentina, Andrés Martín is a distinguished bassist, arranger, composer, and producer renowned for his performances across the globe. Upon settling in Tijuana, Mexico, Andrés has

dedicated himself to a dual career of teaching and performing, both as a soloist and a chamber musician. As the Principal Bassist of the Orquesta de Baja California from 2002 to 2023, he played a pivotal role in the orchestra's success. Andrés is also a prolific composer. Annually, he composes new works that are performed and commissioned by globally recognized soloists, chamber ensembles, and orchestras. Currently, Andrés serves as the bassist and composer in residence for The Hutchins Consort and Camarada, esteemed chamber ensembles based in southwest California. Despite his extensive involvement in performance and composition, Andrés maintains a demanding schedule as a chamber musician, soloist, teacher, and composer, frequently traveling across Mexico, the United States, Europe, and South America. Andrés Martín's career is a testament to his dedication to music, marked by his significant contributions as a performer, teacher, and composer. His work continues to inspire and resonate with audiences and musicians alike, bridging cultures and connecting people through the universal language of music.



Gaelen McCormick's career started on stage with the R o c h e s t e r P h i l h a r m o n i c Orchestra. After 23 years, she "retired" due to deafness and now is making a new path in the arts in healthcare field,

leading the Eastman Performing Arts Medicine program at the University of Rochester. Her twin passions for music and healthcare are mirrored in her nonprofit board service: she is the President of the International Society of Bassists and Vice President of the National Organization for Arts in Health. Pedagogy is an integral part of her career, whether helping new bass players to find their voice and learn to play without injury, or helping teachers create bass studios and school programs that are sustainable. Gaelen recently celebrated 20 years on the faculty of the Eastman Community Music School. She is the author of three pedagogy

books for developing bow technique, Mastering the Bow, Volumes 1-3, and a book of duets for developing bassists, Double Trouble, all published by Carl Fischer. She recently completed a three-year-long project to review and compile the history of pedagogy for the instrument which was published in late 2023 by Routledge, Teaching Violin, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass: Historical and Modern Pedagogical Practices.



Mariechen Meyer is a prominent figure in South Africa's double bass performance and education music scene. Holding roles a freelance as performer, private instructor, and parttime lecturer at

institutions in Gqebera, including Nelson Mandela University, she exudes a passion for the double bass that began in her youth. This passion has led her to diverse musical endeavors, from presenting at the International Society of Bassists Convention to performing with renowned ensembles like the Bassinova Quartet and iPalpiti Artists International in the United States. Her musical journey has seen her participate in international competitions, attend workshops across the US and Europe, and collaborate as a soloist with orchestras such as the University of North Texas Symphony Orchestra, Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra, Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra. Starting her studies with Peter Guy and completing her undergraduate degree with Roxane Steffen, she further honed her skills with master's and doctoral degrees from the University of North Texas with Jeff Bradetich. Beyond her performance and teaching, Mariechen founded the South African Strings Foundation, dedicated to advancing string performance, pedagogy, and research in Southern Africa.



Originally from Bretagne, France, Sam Morel is a skilled double bass maker and restorer, blending years of expertise with a passion for fine craftsmanship. After studying at the prestigious

Mirecourt School of Luthiery, Sam spent five years working alongside the renowned luthier Patrick Charton, where he not only crafted over 30 double basses for musicians on four different continents, but also performed highend restorations on a multitude of antique instruments. Today, he splits his time between restoring instruments at Finlay & Gage in New York City and crafting new, custom double basses in his home studio in Brooklyn. Since establishing his own studio, Sam has continued to create instruments for prestigious clients, including the US Air Force and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), as well as independent musicians across North America and Europe. Recognized with prizes at the VSA Competition and the ISB Maker's Competition for both workmanship and sound quality, Sam's instruments are renowned for their tonal richness, playability, and meticulous craftsmanship.



Andy Moritz is a double bass educator in Houston, TX. He is the director of an intensive lesson studio, an active clinician throughout Texas, has served as an ASTA master class clinician, and is a frequent presenter

at both the Texas Music Educators Association and Texas Orchestra Directors Association. Andy holds a Master of Double Bass Performance and Pedagogy and a Bachelor of Music Education from the University of Houston, a lifetime Texas teaching certificate from TEA, and has registered Suzuki Bass training with the Suzuki Association of the Americas. Andy is the author of Scale Skills: A Systematic Approach to Skills Development for the Double Bass.



Kyle Motl is a bassist, composer, and improviser described by The Wire as spectacularly." adventurous and dynamic musician" whose playing is noted for both "iridescent delicacy

as well as abrasive force". His solo music "promise[s] to change us by revealing things we could never have imagined" (Free Jazz Collective). Kyle's work includes projects with Keir GoGwilt, Earl Howard, Clucas/Motl/Hubbard, a trio with Anthony Davis and Kjell Nordeson, and work with ensembles such as International Contemporary Ensemble and Ghost Ensemble. Hydra Nightingale features premieres of solo bass works by

Caroline Louise Miller, Anqi Liu, Jessie Cox, and Asher Tobin Chodos.



David Murray has an international reputation as a solo bassist and teacher. His principal teacher was Gary Karr, with whom he studied in high school and at the Hartt School in Hartford, CT,

graduating in 1980. David is Professor of Bass at Butler University. He is principal bassist of the Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra, the Bear Valley Music Festival (California) and Sinfonia da Camera (Illinois). He was Assistant Principal Bass in the New Orleans Philharmonic during the 1980-81 season. He won the 1980 Aspen Concerto Competition and the 1988 International Society of Bassists Solo Competition and made his solo debut at Carnegie Hall. He is a past president of the ISB and is currently historian on the board of directors after many years as secretary. David has performed as soloist and given clinics and masterclasses throughout the United States, Canada, South Korea, Brazil, Israel, and throughout Europe. He has recorded three solo CDs and a DVD. In June 2017 he was the recipient of the ISB Special Recognition Award for Solo Performance. In June 2018 he became Director of the School of Music at Butler University. He received the Distinguished Faculty Award from Butler in 2024.



Joey Naeger expertly repairs and crafts basses for players throughout the Houston, Texas area and beyond. Beyond his luthier work, Joey is an bassist, active performing with ensembles like the

Symphony of Southwest Texas. Joey attended the University of Houston where he studied bass with Dennis Whittaker. During his studies, he apprenticed as a bass setup specialist at Lisle Violin Shop under Dorian Barnes, gaining extensive experience setting up and repairing hundreds of double basses for schools across the greater Houston area. In 2019, he left the Lisle Violin Shop to open his own workshop. He hones his luthier skills by attending prestigious workshops like the Oberlin Bass Maker's Workshop, Rodney

Mohr Bow Rehair workshop, and the UNH Bass Restoration Workshop. His mentors include esteemed luthiers such as Dorian Barnes, Arnold Schnitzer, and Raymond Schryer. His basses have received a Certificate of Merit for workmanship at the 2016 VSA competition, a Certificate of Merit for tone and a Silver Medal in workmanship at the 2019 ISB convention, and a Silver Medal for tone at the 2023 ISB convention.



Paul Nemeth joined The Florida Orchestra as Associate Principal Bass in 2023. Born in Syracuse, NY, Paul grew up in Princeton, NJ, and studied at the Juilliard School, Yale University, and Northwestern University, where he

received his DMA. His principal teachers and mentors have been Orin O'Brien, Donald Palma, Andrew Raciti, and Paul Ellison. In addition to performing with The Florida Orchestra, Paul has performed with orchestras that include the National Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Washington National Opera, Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, Charleston Symphony Orchestra, Richmond Symphony Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, Naples Philharmonic Orchestra, and New World Symphony. Paul previously served as Principal Bass of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra in Annapolis, MD, and performed in their first European tour of Spain. His festival performances include the Lucerne Festival Academy, Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Britten-Pears Young Artist Programme, Pacific Music Festival, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, White Mountains Music Festival, and Aspen Music Festival. As a music educator, Paul has held teaching positions at the State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota, Bard College Conservatory of Music Preparatory Division, the Juilliard-Nord Anglia Performing Arts Program, and Yale College, where he taught undergraduate students.



Nix Daniel completed Bachelor of Music the degree at University of Victoria, studying with legendary bassist Gary Karr. He further refined his skills by completing a Master of Music

degree at the University of North Texas, studying with master teacher and esteemed bassist Jeff Bradetich. His critically acclaimed debut album, Silva Caledonia, praised as "stunningly beautiful" by Presto Music, showcases Nix's lyrical playing through enchanting interpretations of works written for him by English composer, Gavin Bryars. His recent release, Robert Xavier Rodriguez's Romance with a Double Bass, commissioned as a gift for Nix, is a playful, virtuosic and tender musical setting of the comic short story by Anton Chekhov. Nix is a founding member of ensembles like the Bravura Duo and the Bassinova Quartet, showcasing his versatility and leadership. As a laureate member of iPalpiti Artists International, an organization that promotes and develops the careers of exceptionally gifted musicians, Nix has performed worldwide with extraordinary talents from twenty countries. When he's not inspiring the next generation of musicians or performing on stage, Daniel Nix can be found refining his own skills at the gym or enjoying quality time with his furry companions-Ginger, Molly, Einstein, and Toby.



Sandor Ostlund serves as Professor of Double Bass at Baylor University. He has performed a soloist, chamber, early music, and orchestral musician. He recently released a solo CD titled *Leap* 

of Faith and is currently the Principal Double Bassist of the Waco Symphony, the River Oaks Chamber Orchestra, and the Chamber Orchestra of San Antonio. Other ensembles he has played with include the Houston Grand Opera, the Detroit Symphony, and the Australian Chamber Orchestra. As an active member of the International Society of Bassists, he has performed, adjudicated, and taught at several conventions, has served on the board of directors, as the classical recordings editor, and is currently the Chair of Competitions. He studied at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (BM) with Richard Davis, and Rice University (MM and DMA) with Paul Ellison. He has also earned both the performance diplôme and the teaching certificate from L'institut International de Contrebasse with François Rabbath. Dr. Ostlund has also held teaching appointments at West Texas A&M University and Shenandoah Conservatory.



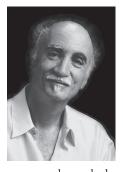
Brian Perry joined the bass section of the Dallas Symphony Orchestra in 2013 following 9 seasons with the Fort Worth Symphony. He has also appeared with the Cleveland, Minnesota, and National Symphony

Orchestras, and often performs with the Boston Symphony at Tanglewood. Brian often collaborates throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area with both Dallas and Fort Worth Chamber Music societies and has also appeared with the Vermeer String Quartet. With DSO harpist Emily Levin, he presented a recital of duos for double bass and harp bv Ginastera's inspired Variaciones Concertantes featuring a world premiere, Three Shapes for Brian, by Justin Casinghino during the virtual 2021 ISB Convention. Brian studied with Jeff Bradetich and Edwin Barker, and has served as a board member for the ISB and the Bradetich Foundation. He is currently an Associate Professor at SMU's Meadows School of the Arts (Dallas) and on faculty at Boston University Tanglewood Institute in Lenox, Mass.



In addition to being a founding member of the League of Women Bass Players, Jacqueline Pickett is Principal Bassist of the LaGrange and C o l u m b u s S y m p h o n y Orchestras in Georgia. She teaches

Double Bass at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia and is a member of the Global Leaders Institute 2025 cohort where she is pursuing an Executive MBA in Arts Innovation.



Frank Proto began studying piano and double bass at an early age. A student of David Walter at the Manhattan School of Music, Proto performed the first solo double bass recital at the school. Self-taught as a

composer, he worked as a freelance bassist and pianist in New York during the 1960s. Proto was a member of the American Symphony Orchestra under Leopold Stokowski and served as solo double bassist with the Robert

Shaw Chorale. In 1966, Proto joined the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, where he stayed for 30 years. Proto has composed for artists such as Dave Brubeck, Eddie Daniels, and François Rabbath, and his music has been performed around the world. Proto's recent works include The Dalí Gallery, commissioned by the Louisiana Philharmonic, and Bridges -Eddie Daniels Plays the Music of Frank Proto, a Grammy-nominated DVD. Since 1977, he's collaborated with François Rabbath, composing five major works, including the Carmen Fantasy. Proto began working with poet and playwright John Chenault in 1993. Their works include Mingus - Live in the Underworld and Pulitzer-prize winning Ghost in the Machine - An American Music Drama for Vocalist, Narrator, and Orchestra, which was commissioned by the Cincinnati Symphony in 1995. In 2009, Proto and Chenault completed Shadowboxer, an opera about boxer Joe Louis, which premiered in April 2010.



Sonia Ray is Professor of Double Bass at the Federal University of Goiás in Brazil. She holds an undergraduate degree in conducting and composition from State University of São Paulo, and master's

and doctoral degrees from the University of Iowa in Double Bass Performance and Pedagogy under Dr. Diana Gannett. Ray performs regularly in Brazil and abroad taking both Brazilian and contemporary repertoire as a priority. As a guest artist of the International Society of Bassists since 1993, she received fellowships for research projects on double bass performance and pedagogy from the Brazilian Government in 2008 (University of North Texas) and in 2016 (Université Paris 8 and NSCMDP, France). Ray is a co-founding member of several music societies in Brazil, particularly the Brazilian Society of Music Performance and the Brazilian Society of Bassists.



Rufus Reid is one of a handful of true renaissance figures in the arts. This bassist and composer has been an active presence in the jazz world since the 1970's. The 2022 CD release Celebration features

his jazz trio with a string quartet. Reid can be

heard on recordings with Dexter Gordon, Andrew Hill, The Thad Jones/Mel Lewis Quartet, Kenny Barron, Stan Getz, J.J. Johnson, Lee Konitz, Jack DeJohnette, and many others. His reputation as an educator is equal to that of his musical achievements. His book The Evolving Bassist remains the industry standard for double bass methodology. Reid and Dr. Martin Krivin created the Jazz Studies and Performance Bachelor of Music Program at William Paterson University. In 2008, he received the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship for Composition and two MacDowell Colony Grants for composition, among others. His 2024 duo recording It's the Nights I Like features the brilliant pianist Sullivan Fortner. Rufus Reid continues to evolve as a bassist.



Catalin Rotaru joined the School of Music at Arizona State University in 2005. In demand as a performer and clinician, Catalin has appeared in recital or as a guest soloist with numerous symphony

orchestras and given master classes at prestigious institutions and festivals in the U.S., Asia, Europe and South America. He is a graduate of the National University of Music from Bucharest, Romania and holds a master's degree in music performance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He served as associate principal bass in the Romanian National Radio Orchestra, and principal bass with the Sibiu Philharmonic Orchestra, Virtuosi Chamber Orchestra of Bucharest, Sinfonia Da Camera, and Orchestra Sinfonica Europea. He received the second prize in the solo division of the 1997 ISB Double Bass Competition as well as the Jury's Special Award for the best performance of the required piece. He received the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts Debut Recital Award in 1997, the Central Illinois Chapter of the National Society of Arts and Letters Award in 1996, and in 2013 was honored with the ISB's Special Recognition Award for Solo Performance. Catalin's debut CD, "Bass\*ic Cello Notes," was released by Summit Records, and in 2010 released his second CD, "Juliana D'Agostini + Catalin Rotaru," recorded in Sao Paulo, Brazil. His third CD in collaboration with the National Symphony Orchestra of Paraguay includes the world premiere of a double bass performance of Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5. In 2014 he released a special CD/DVD package with works by Frank Proto, which

includes the world premiere recording of Frank Proto's Sonata No. 2, dedicated by the composer to Catalin. He performs on a modern instrument made by Luciano Golia with a bow made by Marco Pasquino, and is a Pirastro Strings endorsing artist.



Tracy Rowell is
Associate Professor
of Bass at Oberlin
Conservatory. She
teaches at summer
programs such as the
Sarasota Music
Festival, the BUTI
Bass Workshop, and
Bassworks Maryland.
Tracy regularly

presents classes at schools such as Colburn, USC, Northwestern, Peabody, and Rice University. While serving on the ISB Board of Directors as Education Chair, Ms. Rowell codirected the Young Bassists Program at ISB Conventions in 2019, 2021, and 2023. She led the fundraising effort in 2019 to create the George Wellington and George Vance Scholarship Fund. Tracy is a founding member of the Project for All Gender Equality (PAGE) and League of Women Bassists (LOW-B). Formerly the Assistant Principal Bass of the National Arts Centre Orchestra, Tracy currently serves as principal bassist of Citymusic Cleveland Chamber Orchestra and also performs with Apollo's Fire, Cleveland's baroque orchestra. An active chamber musician, Tracy founded the Pantheon Ensemble and has performed with ensembles such as the Cavani, St Lawrence, Jasper, and Parker Quartets. Tracy received her Bachelor of Music from Rice University, studying with Paul Ellison. She received her Master of Music from Boston University, studying with Edwin Barker. In 2022, she received the Performance Diploma and Teaching Certificate from the Rabbath Institute.



Dr. Robert Sabin is bassist, double author, composer, and educator specializing in jazz contemporary and music. He has appeared alongside Oliver Lake, Jean-Michel Pilc, Dick Oatts, Donny

McCaslin, Ingrid Jensen, John Riley, Louis Bonilla, Tony Moreno, Rich Perry, John Yao, Matt Panayides, John Schapiro, and Brian Lynch. He has presented workshops for the International Society for Music Education, International Society of Bassists, Association for Popular Music Education, University of Miami Frost School of Music, City College of New York, Rowan University, Drew University, Manhattan School of Music, and the Jazz Education Network as well as being featured in the Online Journal of Double Bass Research. Sabin's Ph.D. dissertation Gary Peacock: Analysis of Progressive Double Bass 1963-1965 was written while studying with Peacock and doing extensive research on the early 1960s New York City Avant-Garde. He is the author of Progressive Jazz Double Bass Repertoire, a compendium of over 300 bass lines, solos, melodies, and technical studies accessible for free via robertsabinbass.com. Sabin currently serves on the faculty of the Manhattan School of Music Precollege and Molloy University.



Stefano Sciascia is a soloist, teacher, and composer. Stefano began studying the double bass at the age of sixteen. Soon after, he began to collaborate with the Rai Orchestra of Turin, with Claudio Scimone's Solisti Veneti, and the Chamber Orchestra of Padova e del Veneto, with which he played in major European and world capitals. He played solo performances in Europe, Japan, and the United States, and released 20 CDs with Rivo Alto, Naxos, and King Records Japan. He has taught master classes in Italy, Japan, Oslo University of Music, Helsinki Sibelius Academy, London Trinity College, Riga Academy Latvia, Copenhagen Bass2012, Mozarteum University Salzburg, Lugano Conservatory, University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna, Zagreb Academy of Music, Beograd Academy, The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, Prague Bass2016, Lucca Bass2018, and Gothenburg Academy of Music and Drama. Stefano Sciascia composed the soundtrack of the award-winning film Across the River. Sciascia is head teacher of the double bass class at the Conservatorio Tartini of Trieste, Italy. He plays an Italian Ruggeri bass.



Tyler Shepherd has performed, recorded, and toured across Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the United States. Formerly Principal Double Bassist of the Welsh National Opera, he has also appeared as Principal

Bassist with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Bergen Filharmoniske Orkester, BBC Scottish Symphony, and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Tyler has also performed with the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony Orchestra, and Dallas Symphony Orchestra. Prior to his appointment with WNO, Tyler served two seasons as Principal Bassist of the Chattanooga Symphony and Opera, where he appeared as a concerto soloist. Tyler studied at Boston University, Boston Conservatory, and Walnut Hill School for the Arts. His primary teachers were Edwin Barker, Dennis Roy, and Steve Zeserman. During his time in Boston, he was a member of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra and a Tanglewood Music Center fellow for two summers, where he won the Maurice Schwartz Prize. He is currently on faculty at the University of Texas at Arlington and has appeared at the University of Colorado Boulder, the Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music, the Royal Scottish Conservatoire, and the Trinity-Laban Conservatoire of Music and Drama. He has also been a tutor for the Britten-Pears Festival Orchestra in England.



Bebo Shiu currently performs as the Assistant Principal Bassist of the Boston Pops Esplanade, teaches as Double Bass Artist Faculty at the Longy School of Music as well as at the Killington Music Festival, and is Vice

President of AFM Local 9-535. He recently earned his doctoral degree to become the first and only DMA Double Bass graduate under Edwin Barker at Boston University. Dr. Shiu is currently the Director of String Ensemble at Bridgewater State University where he teaches various music theory, music history, and anthropology courses.



George Speed is Associate Professor of Bass at Florida State University and artist faculty member the of Brevard Music Center. Principal of Bass the Oklahoma City Philharmonic from

2005-2019, Mr. Speed has also performed with the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, Atlanta Symphony, Boston Symphony, and Dallas Symphony. He has recorded two solo albums for Centaur Records: Vivaldi Cello Sonatas (2018) and Bass Favorites and Transcriptions from the 18th Century (2023). A native of Spartanburg, South Carolina, Mr. Speed earned degrees from Vanderbilt University and Boston University.



Originally from Lima, Peru, six-time Grammy winner Oscar Stagnaro studied at the Conservatory of Music in Lima. He worked extensively doing studio work and live performances

many international artists and local bands before moving to the United States in 1979. He studied harmony and improvisation with pianist Mike Marra and the great jazz saxophone player Jerry Bergonzi. Since then, Oscar has been an active performer and one of the most versatile bass players on the east coast. His mastery of playing different music styles from jazz and fusion to Latin jazz, Brazilian jazz, and South American music has helped him travel the world performing with the very best Latin jazz artists. Mr. Stagnaro has been a professor at Berklee College of Music at the Performance Division since 1988. In 2016, he won the Award for Distinguished Professor for the Performance Division. Bass Player magazine describes "Oscar's technical agility, advanced harmonic and melodic knowledge, and grounding in funk and R&B as well as his dedication to Latin traditionsgive him the ultimate flexibility when it comes time to lay down a groove."



Indi Stivín is a Czech solo double bassist, conductor, and composer. Born in Prague into a musical family, he has won many internations. He made his solo debut performance at the

age of 12 with Domenico Dragonetti's Concerto for Double Bass and Orchestra. Since then he has performed with numerous orchestras including Janácek Philharmonic Orchestra, Moravian Philharmonic Orchestra, Slovak State Philharmonic Košice, Bohuslav Martinu Philharmonic Orchestra, and South Czech Philharmonic. At the age of 15 he became the youngest prizewinner in the history of the International Instrumental Competition in Markneukirchen in Germany. In 2018 he made his solo debut performance at the Prague Spring International Music Festival with his solo recital. As the only double bassist he became a finalist of the Eurovision Young Musicians 2018 and his composition Bohemian Suite was performed by BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra with their chief conductor Thomas Dausgaard at the Edinburgh International Festival, Indi Stivín is the founder and Artistic Director of the Collegium Stivinum Chamber Orchestra.



Dr. Hans Sturm is the Hixson-Lied Professor Emeritus of Double Bass and Jazz Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Director of the Meadowlark Music Festival, and two-time President of the

International Society of Bassists. For forty years he has toured five continents, performing a wide range of music. Hans has contributed performances and compositions to over fifty jazz and chamber music recordings. His most recent release, Voyage, Unaccompanied works of François Rabbath (2022), features seven previously unrecorded works by Rabbath. Among his recent releases are The Nebraska Project (2021) and Rose Fingered Dawn (2017) both featuring sets of original works he wrote for his wife, celebrated jazz vocalist Jackie Allen, and A Day In Paris (2016) featuring original works in collaboration with jazz composer Tom Larson. Hans is the author of the authorized biography of François Rabbath, 75 Years on 4 Strings. Hans is also the producer of two award-winning François Rabbath DVDs that feature biomechanics animations and

user-selectable camera angles. He has served on the juries of numerous international competitions including the ISB Double Bass Competition and the American String Teacher's Association Solo Competition.



Born in Sweden, bassist Dan Styffe is Professor of Bass at the Norwegian Academy of Music and Barratt Dues Institute of Music in Oslo, Norway. He studied with Göran Nyberg, Knut Guettler, and Gary

Karr. He worked as Karr's assistant in 1981-82 before he accepted the position as Principal Bassist with the Norwegian Opera Orchestra and later the same position in the Norwegian Chamber Orchestra. Styffe was Co-Principal Bassist of the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra for many years. Styffe played in the chamber ensemble Borealis and regularly performs at international chamber music festivals and conventions as a soloist and chamber musician. He records for SIMAX Classics, and has worked with composers to commission over 40 new works. He has given master classes in Europe, the United States, South America, and Asia.



Acknowledged for his "precise technique, interpretive vision, and impeccable musicianship" (Boston Globe), Sam Suggs cultivates a versatile career as a collaborative and creative bassist. Sam

is one of Strad Magazine's "five up-and-coming bass players" and a winner of the International Society of Bassists and Concert Artists Guild solo competitions. As a performer-composer, he breaks boundaries with "brilliant and compelling programming" (*The Strad*) and bass playing that "quite simply boggles the mind" (*Oregon Arts Watch*). An alum of the Greater Buffalo Youth Orchestra, Northwestern University, and Yale School of Music, he lives in the Shenandoah Valley and serves on the faculties of the Yellow Barn Chamber Music Festival, BassWorks, Sewanee Music Center, and James Madison University.



Equal parts passion, grit, and musical ecstasy, Sybarite5 is an intoxicating cocktail of genrebreaking artistry expressed through the virtuosity of violinists Sami Merdinian & Suliman Tekalli, violist Caeli Smith, cellist Laura Andrade, and double bassist Louis Levitt. It's the first ensemble of its kind to win the prestigious Concert Artists Guild competition and the group is constantly evolving, defying categorization, and keeping audiences on their toes. The group has performed in 44 states and counting, from the Library of Congress (Washington DC) to Anchorage Concert Association (Alaska) as well as concerts in Sybarite5's home of New York City at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, National Sawdust, Le Poisson Rouge, the Cell Theatre, and in late 2023, as part of Death of Classical's "The Crypt Sessions" series. Sybarite5 has also appeared at festivals including Ravinia, Grand Teton, Aspen, Caramoor, Wolf Trap, Interlochen, Chautauqua and many others. International appearances include Canada's Tuckamore Music Festival and ChamberFest Ottawa, the New Docta International Music Festival in Cordoba, Argentina, and the Osaka Festa in Osaka, Japan. Dubbed "the millennial Kronos" (Theater Jones), Sybarite5 is chamber music's most dynamic ensemble taking listeners on a musical journey of staggering breadth and depth with new works by living composers.



Live from Washington DC, The Joint Force Bass Quartet is The United States military's only jazz bass ensemble! Comprised of bassists from US premier jazz bands, including The United States Army, The Army Blues, The United States Air Force Airmen of Note, The United States Navy Commodores, and The United States Marine Band, the JFBQ represents the excellence of the US military

and highlights the strengths of each service in a joint force setting. Armed with original arrangements of jazz standards and compositions, the JFBQ's repertoire spans the jazz canon offering something for everyone. Don't miss the rare opportunity to hear the JFBQ in action at ISB '25!



Master Sergeant
Regan Brough
began playing
electric bass at age
eleven for his family
steel band, Pan Jam.
As a teenager, Regan
received awards
culminating at the
2005 International
Society of Bassists

Convention where he was awarded second place in the Jazz Solo Division. Soon after, he graduated from Brigham Young University magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in bass performance. In 2006 he became the bassist for the premiere jazz ensemble of The United States Army, The Army Blues. He has performed at the White House, the Vice President's home, for heads of state, and for various military leaders around the world. Regan has performed with artists such as Wayne Bergeron, Eric Marienthal, John Clayton, and Jeff Lorber, among others. Regan continues to perform actively in the D.C. area and can often be heard with The Capitol Bones, the Ben Patterson Group, and on Saturday evenings at The Prime Rib in Washington D.C. An active composer and arranger, Regan has written for big band, choral groups, and various chamber ensembles. He received his master's in music composition from George Mason University in 2013.



Master Sergeant Ben Thomas is the bassist of the prestigious United States Air Force Airmen of Note jazz band in Washington D.C. since 2020. Originally from Windsor, CT, Ben joined the Air Force

and served at Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield, CA, and Ramstein Air Base in Kaiserslautern, Germany. While in Germany, he performed in 23 countries with the USAFE and AFCENT bands and taught jazz bass at the University of Mannheim. Prior to the Air Force, Ben lived in New York City performing with Tony Malaby, Ari Hoenig, Ted Poor, Clay Jenkins, Ethan Helm, and Owen Broder. He is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music (BM '10, MM

'12) having studied with Jeff Campbell and James VanDemark. His recent performances with the USAF Airmen of Note include Walter Smith III, Dave Kikoski, Melissa Aldana, and Pasquale Grasso. Ben Thomas is the jazz bass professor at George Mason University.



Musician First Class William Ledbetter, a native of Hampton, Virginia, is a multi-instrumentalist specializing in the upright bass. He graduated from UNCG Miles Davis Jazz Studies program in 2019, where he

studied double bass and blended jazz with his foundations in the Blues, Gospel, and R&B. In December 2021, Ledbetter joined the U.S. Navy Band Commodores becoming their first African American bassist. Before joining the Navy, he played with The Piedmont Triad Jazz Orchestra, The Camel City Jazz Orchestra, and the John Coltrane All-Stars. Anyone who has worked with or heard "MoBetta" knows that he is a driving force while performing. His drive and love for music and performance has captured the attention of many worldrenowned artists. Ledbetter has worked with a plethora of artists including, Branford Marsalis, Delfeayo Marsalis, Sean Mason, and many more. He can be heard on Delfeayo's latest album Uptown on Mardi Gras Day. He also performed at the historic Newport Jazz fest in 2023 with the Branford Marsalis Quartet.



Staff Sergeant Kevin Thompson has been a member of "The President's Own" Marine Band since March 2022. Prior to joining the Marine Band, he was enrolled with "The Orchestra Now," a full-time pre-professional

training orchestra at Bard College. Originally from Fairfax, VA, he received his Bachelor of Music from Ithaca College and a Professional Studies Diploma from The Cleveland Institute of Music, both in classical performance. Kevin has performed with the Akron Symphony, Canton Symphony, Firelands Symphony, Annapolis Symphony, National Philharmonic Orchestra, American Festival Pops Orchestra, and Alexandria Symphony. He freelances in all genres of music around the Washington metro, both on upright and electric bass. His primary teachers have included Ira Gold, Nicholas Walker, and Scott Dixon.



Due to his lyrical and technical mastery of the instrument, double bassist Hector Tirado is recognized todav's most talented bass soloist Puerto Rico. Especially notable

accomplishments while overcoming a hearing condition. He is praised by his mentor, the legendary bassist Gary Karr, who states that "his innate sense of musicality and great understanding of bowing techniques makes master Tirado one of the most important string players of the world of string music today." Born in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, Tirado studied at the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music and at Yale University where he earned his Bachelor and Master of Music degrees, respectively. His most notable teachers and mentors have been Gary Karr, Diana Gannett, Manuel Verdeguer, and Orlando Cardenas. He is a former member of the Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra and was on faculty at the Conservatory of Music of Puerto Rico and the Interamerican University of San German. Maestro Tirado has a YouTube Channel where he shares his musical skills and personal experiences with the audience.



Dr. Jack Unzicker is an award-winning performer, educator, and scholar. He is Associate Professor of Double Bass at The University of Texas at Arlington and has extensive experience in all performance areas,

from early music to contemporary, solo, chamber, and orchestral, jazz, and electric bass. Dr. Unzicker recently released a recording of five commissioned works for double bass and violin, The Diaries of Adam and Eve, on Albany Records. Recently, Unzicker performed concertos by Bottesini, Rota, and Hindemith with the Dallas Chamber Symphony, Holland Symphony and Midland-Odessa Orchestra, the Symphony. He performs frequently with the Dallas Chamber Symphony, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, The Dallas Opera, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, American Baroque Opera, and Santa Fe Pro Musica. He has worked with conductors Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Jaap Van Zweden, Fabio Luisi, Robert Spano, Gunther Schuller, Emmanuel Villaume, Marin Alsop, Kevin John Edusei, James Conlon, and many more. Dr. Unzicker's

students have been accepted to the Colburn School, Juilliard School, Rice University, New England Conservatory, University of Southern California, Boston University, University of North Texas, Indiana University, New World Symphony, Aspen Music Festival and School, Domaine Forget, Curtis Institute of Music Summerfest, National Orchestral Institute, and National Repertory Orchestra.



Gary Upton came from working-class roots in England, studied double bass in the U.S. and started his own string repair shop in rural Connecticut. A short 25 years later, Upton Bass has grown to be a unique

U.S.-based workshop designing and building volume double basses and cellos with a devoted worldwide



C u r i o s i t y , commitment, and collaboration define Jacob Warren's dynamic career as a multi-style double bassist, composer, and educator. He won first prize in the 2023 International Society of Bassists

Soloist Competition with a program featuring an original transcription of Debussy's Cello Sonata, an original composition, and a Canadian fiddle tune arrangement. Jacob is a member of three nationally touring ensembles and performs at a wide range of venues. He is currently on faculty at Bowling Green State University and has presented master classes at institutions including the Curtis Institute of Music, Indiana University, Wabass, and Jacobs String Academy. He has maintained a thriving private studio since 2015 and regularly publishes educational videos and online workshops. Jacob has also presented at multiple International Society of Bassists conventions, often focusing on his original music and techniques. He began studying bass at age 10 with Robert Rohwer and earned his Bachelor of Music in Performance from the University of Michigan in 2017, studying with Dr. Diana Gannett. He also holds master's degrees in Improvisation and Chamber Music from the University of Michigan. Jacob composes regularly for solo bass and his ensembles, and his work has been featured by The Strad, The Violin Channel, and others.



Ron Wasserman has been principal bassist of the New York City Ballet Orchestra since 1988, and continually and tirelessly reinvents himself as arranger, c o m p o s e r, c o n d u c t o r,

bandleader, curator, producer, videographer, songwriter, vocalist, and soon to be podcaster. He has played with virtually every kind of musical group in venues around the world. His 17- piece jazz orchestra, The New York Jazzharmonic, has played in concerts as well as for the dance at the Joyce Theater, Symphony Space, and Washington Square Music Festival. His major composed works include several long form pieces for solo piano, orchestra, and jazz big band. Never one to repeat himself, and always looking for new challenges, Ron recently finished a cabaret song cycle that he performs as singer. As a commissioner of music, choreography and visual art, he has a special affinity for works by women, including pieces by composers Miho Hazama and Courtney Bryant, choreographies by Ashley Bouder and Liz Gerring, and illustrations by Andrea Selby and Julia DeRosa. During the pandemic shutdown Ron was asked by the musicians and the dancers of the New York City Ballet to direct and produce two dance videos. The resulting "Curbside Nutcracker," and "Backstage Pass: Carnival of the Animals," became viral hits.



Hailed by the *New York* Concert Review
as "phenomenal"
and "a two sidedt a l e n t — a
c o m p e t i t i o n winning pianist
turned double bass
virtuoso" by Miami
Herald, **Yung-chiao Wei** is Professor of

Double Bass at Louisiana State University, cofounder of the Connect2Music Project, Artistic Director of the Louisiana Bass Festival, and author of Uncover Effortless Ways of Playing the Double Bass. A frequent adjudicator in major competitions such as the ISB and International Sperger Competitions, Wei also enjoys her students' success in national and international competitions (National YoungArts, ISB, Stulberg International String Competition), orchestra and university positions both in the US and abroad, and Grammy nominations. Wei's honors include Awards to Louisiana Artists and Scholars, the LSU Teaching Award,

Taiwan Young Concert Artists, and both 2nd prize and audience prize in the inaugural Izuminomori International Double Bass/Cello Competition (Japan). As a chamber musician, Wei has collaborated with Leon Fleisher and James Ehnes. She has served as Principal Bassist of the New World Symphony, New York String Orchestra (Carnegie Hall), Chamber Metamorphosen Orchestra (Boston), and has traveled to four continents to give concerts and master classes at sites include Opera Bastille (Paris), Eastman School of Music, Yale School of Music, New England Conservatory, and Boston University.



Luthier Dustin Art
Williams opened
Williams Fine
Violins & Luthier
Studios in June of
2004. Dustin holds a
Bachelor of Music
Education degree
with a double major
in double bass and
classical guitar and a

double minor in violin and cello from Abilene Christian University and a Master of Arts degree in Music Education from West Texas A&M University where he studied with David Murray. After six years teaching in the McAllen, Texas, Public School District, Dustin changed careers to become a professional luthier. Dustin is a graduate of the prestigious Violin Making School of America in Salt Lake City, Utah. With sponsorship from the Gary Karr Double Bass Foundation, Dustin spent nine months studying the concepts and ideas of double bass maker James Ham in Victoria, B.C., Canada before moving to Tennessee. Over the years, Dustin has performed with many orchestras including the Abilene Philharmonic, Corpus Christi Symphony, New American Symphony, and Victoria Chamber Orchestra. He has also served as conductor of the Lincoln Youth Orchestra of Northern Utah, classical guitar instructor at South Texas Community College and Howard Payne University, sales manager of Peter Prier & Sons Violin in Salt Lake City, and interim conductor of the Head Magnet M.S. Orchestra in Nashville. In 2012 he became a Charter Member and Treasurer of the Southern Violin Association. Dustin founded and serves as chairman of the Luthier's Competition for the International Society of Bassists. During the ISB 2011 convention in San Francisco, Dustin was honored as a "Friend of the Bass" in recognition of the work he has done promoting modern double bass making.



Bassist and composer Martin Wind was born in Flensburg, Germany in 1968 and has been living in the New York City area since 1996. He earned a diploma as an orchestra musician at the Cologne Conservatory and

completed his master's degree in jazz composition and performance at NYU. In 1995 Martin came in third at the International Thelonious Monk Bass Competition in Washington, D.C., and in 1996 he won the first Cognac Hennessy/Blue Note Jazz Search in Germany. In 2000 he was the first jazz musician to win the Cultural Award of his home state Schleswig-Holstein. Martin has released more than 20 albums as leader or co-leader including his debut album Gone with the Wind (1993), as well as the orchestral album Turn out the Stars music written or inspired by Bill Evans (2014), which Paquito D'Rivera called "disgustingly beautiful." Martin Wind has recorded and/or performed with the following artists: Guidon Kremer, Christoph Eschenbach, Mstislav Rostopowitch, Lalo Schifrin, Monty Alexander, Pat Metheny, and Clark Terry. Since 2015 he's been part of the Kennedy Center Honors Gala, backing up world stars such as James Taylor, Reneé Fleming, John Legend, Chaka Khan, Aretha Franklin, Herbie Hancock, and others. In 2018 he premiered his bass concerto Legacy with his hometown orchestra.



Dr. Will Yager is a double bassist committed to experimental music, improvisation, and collaborating with other artists to create new solo and chamber repertoire for the double bass. He is a founding

member of LIGAMENT, a chamber duo with soprano Anika Kildegaard, and the improvising trio Wombat with Justin Comer and Carlos Cotallo Solares. Performance highlights include appearances at Bang on a Can's Long Play 2024, Big Ears Festival, High Zero Festival, Omaha Under the Radar, University of Iowa Center for New Music, Experimental Sound Studios' Quarantine Concerts, International Society of Bassists Convention, Nief-Norf Summer Festival, New Music on the Point, Cortona Sessions for New Music, and the Bang on a Can Loud Weekend. In addition to his varied performing activities, Yager previously held teaching positions at Maryville College, the University of North Alabama, and

is currently on faculty at the North Carolina Governor's School West. He is based in Baltimore, Maryland.



Double bass soloist Masashi Yamamoto was born in Kakegawa, Japan, and completed his studies at Tokyo University of the Arts. He studied double bass under Osamu Yamamoto (Tokyo Metropolitan

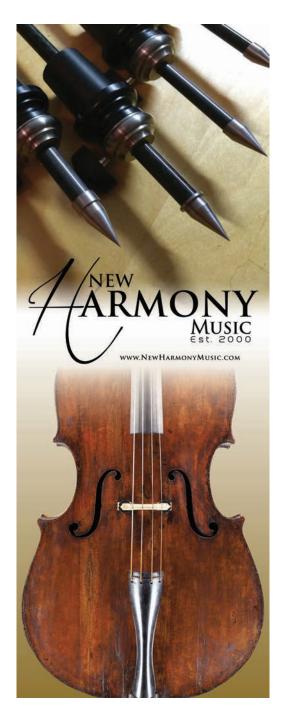
Symphony Orchestra), jazz bassist Hiroshi Yoshino, and Nicolas Crosse of the ensemble Intercontemporain. He has performed in master classes with Thomas Martin, Catalin Rotaru, Thierry Barbe, and Artem Chirkov. Masashi Yamamoto has performed in prominent contemporary music concerts in Japan and has premiered many solo pieces. He is also active in commissioning composers both at national and international level, expanding the new repertoire of the double bass. In 2022 he was invited by composer Pierre Jodlowski to give a solo performance in Warsaw, Poland. In August 2023, he received the Kranichstein Special Award for his performance at the Darmstadt Summer Course. He was formerly an associate player of the Hyogo Performing Arts Center Orchestra, and is currently Principal Double Bassist of the string orchestra Acanthus II.



Bassist Jiaying Zhang began her musical journey in Shanghai at age four, starting with piano before transitioning to bass. At 15, she gained admission to the Affiliated High School of Shanghai Conservatory of

Music under the mentorship of Bing Luo. She pursued undergraduate studies at the Shanghai Conservatory of Music before coming to the United States for graduate studies under Derek Weller at Eastern Michigan University. Currently, she is a doctoral candidate at Louisiana State University, studying classical double bass with Yung-Chiao Wei and jazz with Dr. Molly Redfield. In 2023, she participated in Yung-Chiao Wei's Beethoven project at the ISB. Additionally, she arranged and performed Beethoven's Cello Sonata No. 3 in A Major on double bass. In 2024, she achieved third place at the Louisiana Bass Fest. Trained in the Suzuki method, she now teaches at the Louisiana Kid's Orchestra.







# 2024 RESEARCH COMPETITION WINNERS



**Dr. Seungyoung Hong** is Visiting Assistant Professor of Jazz Studies at Potsdam State University of New York's Crane School of Music. A performer, bandleader, composer, arranger, scholar and educator, he has studied with Bill Charlap, Jeff Campbell, Harold Mabern, Bill Dobbins, Mike LeDonne, Steve LaSpina and Christine Jensen, among others. Dr. Hong has shared stages with artists such as Bill Charlap, Cecil McLorin Salvant, Trio da Paz, Joe Lovano, John Pizzarelli and Nancy

Marano. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in jazz studies from William Paterson University and holds a Doctor of Musical Arts in jazz studies from the Eastman School of Music. He won Grand Prize in the Professional Category for his paper *The Heartbeat of Jazz - The Multifaceted Role of the Jazz Bass through the Eyes of Jazz Architects*.



Victoria Bakewell is a DMA student at the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami where she studies with Brian Powell. She earned her Master's of Music at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she studied with Paul Erhard, and her Bachelor's Degree in Music from Concordia College, where she studied with Gregory Hamilton. She won Grand Prize in the Student Category for her paper The Double Bass: Becoming the Foundation of the Orchestra.

# 2024 COMPOSITION COMPETITION WINNERS



Max Winningham won Grand Prize in the Unaccompanied Bass Category for Manifestations. Max received a BMA in Double Bass Performance from Northwestern University, under the guidance and mentorship of Andrew Raciti. In 2018, Max spent a year in Paris studying with François Rabbath, and was awarded the International Rabbath Institute de Paris (IRIP) performance and teaching certificates, as well as one of the Artist-in-Residence positions at the Cité

Internationale des Arts Paris. Max recently completed a double MM degree in double bass performance and composition at Baylor University, studying with Sandor Ostlund and Scott McAllister. https://www.maxwinningham.com/



Jean-Patrick Besingrand won Grand Prize in the Chamber Ensemble Category for Yurei (soprano and double bass). Jean-Patrick is a French composer and musicologist based in Washington DC and New York. Jean-Patrick has won numerous awards and his music has been performed at festivals around the world. After studying musicology at the University of Bordeaux and writing, analysis and composition at the Conservatoire de Bordeaux with Jean-Louis Agobet, Jean-

Patrick continued his training at Carnegie Mellon University and the Graduate Center, CUNY (New York) where he earned a doctorate in composition under the direction of Jason Eckardt. He is also co-artistic director and co-founder of the composers collective Tesselat. His music is published by Editions musicales Artchipel and Babelscores. https://jeanpatrickbesingrand.com/



David John Roche won Grand Prize in the Bass Ensemble Category for Thousandth Hymnal (bass septet). A string of international performances and commissions form the backbone of his work, including the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, Florence Philharmonic, Zheiiang Symphony Orchestra, Tanglewood Music Center, Psappha Ensemble, and the Solem Quartet. David has been nominated for an award by

the American Academy of Arts and Letters and received the Arts Council England Developing Your Creative Practice Grant and a Lithuanian Arts Council grant. He has completed an electric guitar concerto for Sean Shibe, Sinfonia Cymru, and Britten Sinfonia, and is currently finishing his first symphony-length work for orchestra, funded by Aberystwyth University, Ty Cerdd, and the Arts Council of Wales. https://www.davidjohnroche.com/



Double bassist Masashi Yamamoto won Grand Prize in the Bass and Electronics Category for Real Time - The Elf in Big F. He focused on contemporary music and improvisation. In 2023 he was awarded a Kranichsteiner Prize honorable mention for his solo performance at the Darmstadt Summer School of Contemporary Music. In 2024, he organized a three-day, four performance "Unplugged Theatre" with two different programs of unaccompanied solo

performances, and premiered a new concerto for double bass by Yasunoshin Morita. In addition to reviving rarely performed works, he has been actively commissioning composers in Japan and abroad to expand the solo bass repertoire. He is a graduate of the Tokyo University of the Arts. https://masashiyamamoto.net/

# Thanks to the 2025 ISB Young Bassists / Next Gen Program Faculty!

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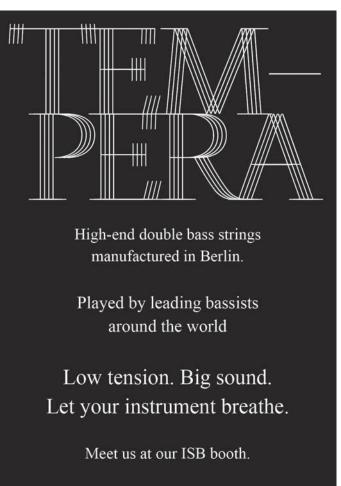
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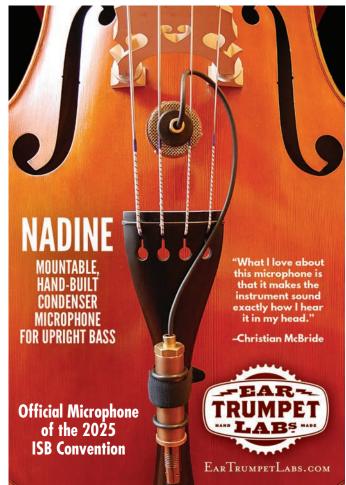
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# COLLABORATIVE MUSICIANS



Pianist Steve Allee is a Yamaha Performing Artist and has performed with a who's who of jazz greats. Steve has been a member of the Rufus Reid Out Front Trio for twelve years. As a composer, Steve has written

soundtracks for the documentaries "New York in the Fifties" and "Something To Cheer About." Steve's big band compositions have been performed by the Disneyland Honor All-Star Bands in Anaheim, CA. His percussion concerto "Passages" was premiered in Washington DC and performed by the US Army Pershing's Own Wind Ensemble. As an educator, Steve has been a professor of jazz studies at Indiana University and the College-Conservatory of Music, at the University of Cincinnati.



Jackie Allen's voice has taken her around the world for international music festivals from Edinburgh to Sao Paulo. She attended the University of Wisconsin Madison studying voice and jazz. She began her

recording career in Chicago for Naxos and Blue Note Records and others, recording thirteen critically acclaimed CDs, including My Favorite Color (USA Today's Top 10 List). She opened for Aretha Franklin at The Chicago Theater and performed at Ella Fitzgerald's 90th birthday celebration at Chicago's Auditorium Theater. She released a live concert DVD and CD in 2019, "A Romantic Evening with Jackie Allen" featuring tenor sax legend Bob Sheppard. Jackie has served on the Board of Governors and Jazz Nominating Committee for the Recording Academy, "Grammy Awards" and has recorded with numerous Grammy winning artists and producers. "Allen's greatest strength is her sheer musicality and the way in which she both frames and interprets her songs." - Los Angeles Times



Leon Anderson, Jr.,
Professor and
Director of Jazz
Studies at Florida
State University, is a
classical and jazz
percussionist,
educator, clinician,
and composer.
Anderson currently
teaches drum set,

jazz ensembles, jazz combo, and jazz history at the FSU College of Music. Anderson has performed at the International Association of Jazz Education Conference with Bunky Green, Ellis Marsalis and the New Orleans Jazz All-Stars, and has served as an artist/clinician for several jazz festivals in the United States, including the Bill Evans Jazz Festival; Savannah Music Festival (Swing Central Jazz); Loyola University (New Orleans) Jazz Festival; Governor's Honors Jazz Camp; Broward County All-City Jazz Ensemble; "Jazz in the Schools" program in Jacksonville, FL; Florida Music Educators All-State Jazz Ensemble; Louisiana Music Educators All-State Jazz Ensemble, and numerous All-County Jazz Ensembles throughout the state of Florida.



Born in Moscow, pianist Artem Arutyunyan entered the Tchaikovsky S t a Conservatory in 2003, where he studied under the tutelage of acclaimed pianist and Tchaikovsky

Competition prizewinner Arkady Sevidov. Following his move to the United States, Artem received a full scholarship to study with Evelyne Brancart and pursue his Master of Music degree at Indiana University. In master classes and festivals, Artem has performed at the London Masterclasses, the International Holland Music Sessions and has had lessons with Norma Fisher, Jacques Rouvier, Pavel Gililov and Carol Leone. Among notable recent performances, Artem played a duo recital in collaboration with violinist Nune Melikyan at the DiMenna Center for Classical Music in Manhattan, NY. Artem has completed the Performer Diploma program at the SMU Meadows School of the Arts, studying with Carol Leone.



Grant Flick is a performer, recording artist, composer and educator based in Ann Arbor, MI. He is a multi-instrumentalist who plays violin, mandolin, tenor guitar, nyckelharpa, tenor banjo and

viola. His current original music projects, Westbound Situation, Warren & Flick, and Hannah O'Brien & Grant Flick, explore the fusion of chamber music with jazz, swing, bluegrass and Americana. He was a finalist in the 2015 Walnut Valley Festival Fiddle Competition and the 2017 Freshgrass Fiddle Competition. He has taught workshops throughout the U.S., including Augusta Bluegrass Week, Charm City Django Fest, the Tenor Guitar Gathering, and River of the West Mandolin Camp. Grant has played at numerous music festivals including Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival, ROMP Fest, Telluride Bluegrass Festival, and the Savannah Music Festival. Grant recently completed a Master's degree at University of Michigan in Improvisation.



After more than 30 years playing in New York City and three years working in the Nashville music scene, **Joel Frahm** has joined the music faculty at Texas State University. He has honed his craft working alongside

top jazz artists such as Betty Carter, Kenny Barron, Freddy Cole, Dianne Schuur, Kurt Elling, Jane Monheit, Bill Charlap, Brad Mehldau, Matt Wilson, Cyrille Aimee and many others. He has played as a leader or sideman on more than 100 recordings and has appeared at jazz festivals in the United States, Europe, Israel, Canada and South America. In addition to his work as a performer, he has taught jazz classes in clinics at the University of North Carolina, the University of Connecticut, New York University, Wichita State University, the University of North Texas, Baylor University, Colorado State University, Furman University, the University of Toronto, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, the University of Manitoba and others.

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South Korean-born pianist Jongsuk Kim is much in demand as a chamber music partner and soloist. She has won prizes at various international competitions. Her fresh, lively interpretation and playing style have

delighted audiences in the largest halls in her home country as well as in renowned concert halls in many countries.



Violist Laura
Menegozzo studied at
the Conservatories of
Venice, Naples, and
Bologna, graduating
with honors under
the guidance of A.
Farulli. She attended
the master courses of
Quartet and
Chamber Music with

Prof. P. Farulli, M. Jones, D. De Rosa, A. Baldovino at the Fiesole School of Music, of Chamber Music with M ° F. Ayo at the National Academy of Santa Cecilia in Rome and Orchestral Courses within the Italian Youth Orchestra-Fiesole. She was awarded the second prize at the 1995 International Competition of Stresa for Viola Solo and has performed extensively as a soloist and chamber musician in Italy and abroad. She has released a number of acclaimed recordings.



Mitchell is Evan Assistant Professor of Piano at the University of Florida. His schedule nearly 100 performances per vear includes solo recitals, concerti, chamber music, outreach,

orchestral keyboard work. His solo debut album American Century was recently released on the Centaur label. He has soloed with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Lima Symphony Orchestra and Victoria Symphony, and collaborated in recital with clarinetists Corrado Giuffredi and Michael Webster, flutists Leone Buyse and Jim Walker, and double bassists Gary Karr and Szymon Marciniak. He was a featured artist for eight years on the Texas Touring Roster and performed more than 300 concerts over ten years for Cliburn in the Classroom. Evan has been a regular presence at ISB

conventions since 2015. He has been engaged by the International Women's Brass Conference, Myrna Brown Flute Competition, and Cliburn Junior International Piano Competition. Evan is a Steinway Artist and was inducted into the Steinway & Sons Teacher Hall of Fame in 1921.



Pianist, improviser and composer Naomi Nakanishi is currently based in Brooklyn, NY. As a bandleader and sideperson, Naomi has performed at notable venues including R o u l e t t e Intermedium, The

Kennedy Center, Bar Bayeux, Dizzy's Club, and Birdland. In 2023, Naomi was commissioned to write an original film score for the film, "Oath of the Sword," performed live at the Academy Museum in Los Angeles, CA. Additionally, they were selected for the 2023 Mutual Mentorship for Musician's fifth cohort and the 2021 Betty Carter Jazz Ahead residency. Naomi leads a piano trio called Whimsy and a bass-less quartet, exploring free improvisation and original compositions.



Dr. Geoffrey Neuman is an experienced conductor, music educator and musician. He currently serves as Director of Instrumental Music at The State College of Florida, where he conducts both The

Bradenton Symphony. With over 29 years of experience as a music educator, he has extensive experience in both string pedagogy and conducting. He is a sought-out clinician for both bass and conducting. Dr. Neuma n previously served as the Director of Orchestras at the College of Southern Nevada and Associate Conductor of The Henderson Symphony. He has completed a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Conducting and bachelor's and master's degrees in music education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. His ensembles have performed at prestigious conferences such as The Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic and National Association for Music Education, and American String Teachers Association National Conference. As a bassist, Geoff is known for his versatility with both the electric and string bass across classical, rock and jazz genres. Neuman plays string bass in the Las Vegas Philharmonic and with his jazz trio.



Bill Peterson is Professor of Music in Jazz Studies and Music Theory/Composition at Florida State University, where he teaches jazz piano, jazz arranging and jazz combo. He holds the M.M. degree

from the Eastman School of Music and the B.M. from the University of Cincinnati. He has released his own jazz trio recording on Summit Records and has also recorded on the Unity label. He has performed at the Monterey Jazz Festival, Blue Note Jazz club NYC, Paraguay International Jazz Festival and Savannah Music Festival. He has been a clinician and performer at the University of Miami, University of Denver, the Lafayette Jazz Workshop (California), the University of Alabama, and Eastern New Mexico University.



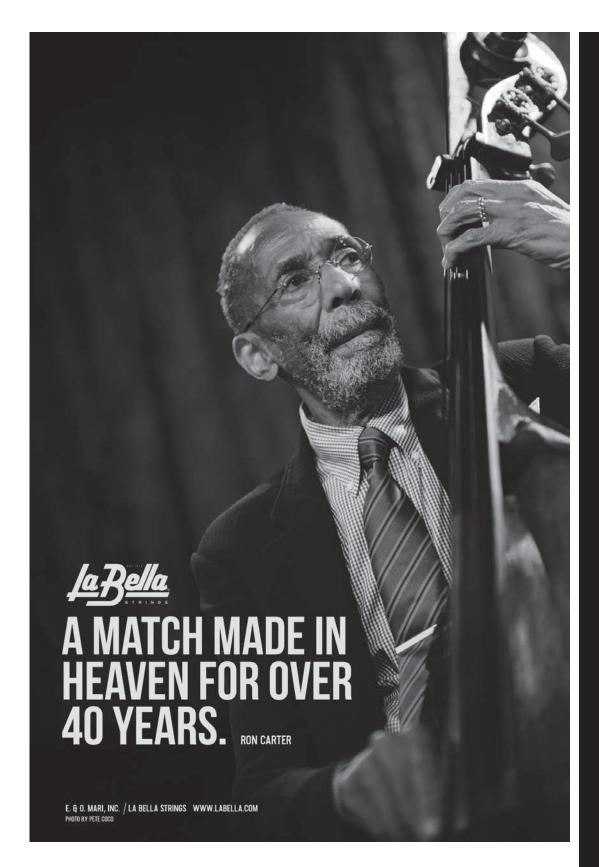
Charles Ruggiero was born to be a drummer. The son of world-renowned jazz musician Vinnie Ruggiero, Charles spent his early years surrounded by the "who's who" of Jazz. In 1994, Charles joined Chuck

Mangione's group, touring with the jazz superstar for the next four years. 2008 saw Ruggiero move to Los Angeles. He immediately began working as a "session drummer", making pop and rock records. He also got back to his jazz roots, playing with the finest musicians in LA. During this time he was also the head drum teacher at 311 drummer Chad Sexton's Drum City in North Hollywood. Now back in NYC, Ruggiero has made the list of top 100 Jazz Albums of 2015 with his debut as a bandleader "Boom Bang, Boom Bang!", a tribute to the jazz of the '70s. www.ruggierodrums.com



Eliza Salem is an indemand drummer, educator and composer currently based in Brooklyn, New York. Eliza has played in acclaimed performance spaces locally and nationally such as Lincoln Center, The

Stone, Mezzrow, Smalls, Birdland Jazz Club, the Detroit Jazz Festival, the Newport Jazz Festival, SFJAZZ, PDX Jazz Festival, and DC



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Jazz Festival, among others. Eliza has taken part in multiple national and international tours including pianist Marta Sánchez's trio featuring bassist Or Bareket. In 2024, Eliza was a finalist and awardee for Next Jazz Legacy, a transformative program that creates a more future for those inclusive underrepresented across the different contexts of jazz and improvised music. Through this program Eliza has had the opportunity to work closely alongside mentors Cindy Blackman Santana, Ambrose Akinmusire, and program founder Terri Lyne Carrington.



Kenn Salters is a three-time Grammy nominated composer and international to uring percussionist. He is a graduate of the University of South Carolina with a percussion on performance degree,

is a professor at the Borough of Manhattan Community College and teaches steel pan to elementary students for Arts Connection, a nonprofit organization. His performance experiences include Rufus Reid, Tivon Pennicott, Andy Akiho, ArcoIris Sandoval, Don Byron, Chris Potter, Aretha Franklin, the Carolina Crown Drum and Bugle corps, the Phoenix Symphony, the Toledo Symphony, the Boston Pops, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Cincinnati Philharmonic, and with Broadway stars Leslie Odom Jr. and Renée Elise Goldsberry. You can listen to his original compositions on his debut album "Enter To Exit" on all digital platforms.



Born to a musical family in San Juan Puerto Rico, Javier Tirado's first cello lessons were with his aunt Brenda Tirado. In 2011 Javier entered the Escuela Libre De Música Ernesto Ramos Antonini in Hato

Rey, Puerto Rico, where he met with his next teachers Fermin Segarra and Harry Almodovar. Javier then studied at the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music with Dr. Luis Miguel Rojas and obtained a bachelor's degree in Cello Performance. Now Javier teaches in the Conservatory and for three years with the 100x35 System of Puerto Rico, where he teaches strings, mainly cello and double bass, to low income kids of the community. Javier is

also a professional freelance cellist in Puerto Rico playing all kinds of music. He has played with the Puerto Rico Philharmonic (Fundación Arturo Somohano) and Camerata Pops Orchestra.



Donald Vega was trained classically in piano in his native Nicaragua. He emigrated to the United States at age 14 and found a musical home with the Colburn School of Performing Arts (CSPA). Vega began

learning the language of jazz from mentor Billy Higgins at The World Stage and continued at CSPA with Jeffrey Lavner, then later with bassist John Clayton at the University of Southern California. He went on to graduate from Manhattan School of Music and The Juilliard School where he studied with piano great Kenny Barron, Phil Markowitz and Gary Dial. Vega currently performs internationally as the pianist for world renowned bassist Ron Carter's Golden Striker Trio, with whom he has recorded several albums. Mr. Vega is also a professor at The Juilliard School and Hofstra University and sits on the board of BackCountry Jazz, a non-profit organization that provides music education programs and performances to underprivileged youth.



Dr. Patricia Weitzel is a dynamic figure in the world of music, boasting a multifaceted career as a teacher, performer, and arts a dministrator. Currently serving as Assistant Professor of Double Bass and

Chamber Music at Penn State University, she also holds the esteemed position of Dean of Faculty and Artistic Affairs at the Sphinx Performance Academy, a full-scholarship summer program emphasizing cultural representation in chamber music and solo performance. With a rich background, Weitzel has made notable contributions to the field, including her impactful time as a board member of the International Society of Bassists, where she championed pivotal inclusion initiatives.



Wan-Ting Yu started playing piano at age 3 and double bass at age 10 in her native Taiwan, and later served as a member of the Taipei Symphony Orchestra. She is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in

collaborative piano at Arizona State University. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance from National Taiwan University, and a Master of Music in Double Bass from Taipei National University. She is currently pursuing a DMA in collaborative piano. She has performed as both a pianist and a double bassist in Germany, Italy, France, Mexico, Japan, and Korea. She is featured on the last three studio albums with her husband, the double bassist Catalin Rotaru.



Pianist and Grammynominated arranger

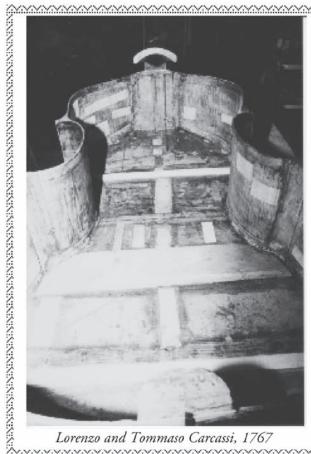
Tom Zink has
performed throughout the
Southern California
area for nearly 30
years. A long time
Yamaha artist, his
piano recording can
be heard on

hundreds of Yamaha Disklavier disks including solo piano and combos. His performances range from intimate club settings to performing arts centers (Carpenter, McCullum) as well as larger corporate events that include ATT, Lexus, and Disney. His group comes in many sizes including solo piano, trio, quintet and beyond. Tom has performed with and recorded for a host of jazz and pop artists including Dave Koz, Richard Elliot, Michael McDonald, Brian Bromberg, Ronnie Laws, Plas Johnson, and Steve Tyrell.



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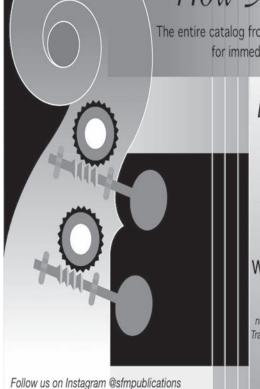
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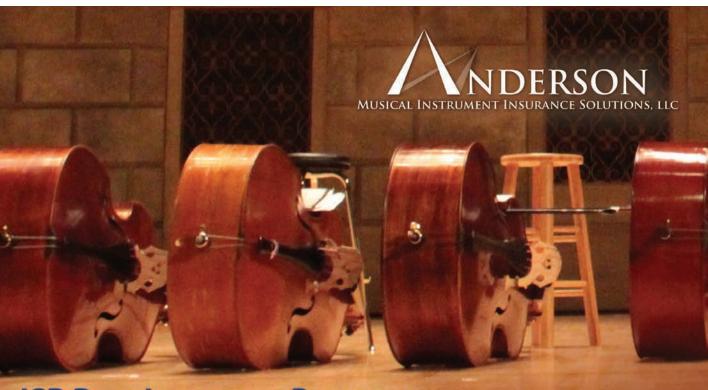
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