



SPECIAL EDITION  
DECEMBER 2022

# FAN FARE



CELEBRATING OUR  
**75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**  
SANTA BARBARA, CA

# THANK YOU

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# CATALYZING THE CHANGE



Dear Friends of the Music Academy,

During this milestone 75th anniversary year, we've been mobilized by our unifying purpose to catalyze the change that will propel classically trained musicians boldly forward. We were founded to be different, and we stand on the shoulders of all who created this welcoming place to forge exciting pathways of growth.

In this special edition of *FanFare*, we celebrate the ways we have helped artists grow and expand through their participation with the Music Academy. From our partnerships with the **London Symphony Orchestra** and the **Young People's Chorus of New York City**, to our **Fast Pitch** and **Alumni Enterprise Awards**, we are giving them tools to become not just great musicians, but great leaders.



Please enjoy this joyful photo essay of our many offerings this year that could only be made possible with a community like this one. Our supporters are central to our mission.

Thank you for helping us to chart a new direction.

Scott Reed *President & CEO*

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BASKING  
*in the*

# GLOW

MUSIC ACADEMY SIGNATURE BENEFIT



*Lehrer Vocal Institute fellows joined Sasha for a memorable encore*

Music Academy alumna and Lehrer Vocal Institute Co-Director Sasha Cooke, a GRAMMY Award-winning Metropolitan Opera star, headlined the Music Academy's annual gala. A magical night under the stars was enjoyed by all! Special thanks go to Co-Chairs Michele Brustin, Kandy Luria Budgor, and Val Montgomery.



Fellow Chi-Jo Lee enjoys time with Compeer Ashley Woods Hollister and friend

# COMPEERS

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY



**Compeers** shared their amazement at the connections

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*"I loved getting to know the fellows and hear about their lives. I also learned so much more from them about music and their experiences as performers."*

---

*"We built the foundation for lifelong friendships, the fellows helped us better understand what the mindset, lifestyle and concerns of a young person being a classically trained musician were. We felt like we had walked in their shoes a bit. This was incredibly impactful."*

**Fellows** loved their Music Academy experience, especially their Compeers!

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*"My experience with my compeers was life changing. Their generosity and kindness made my time at Music Academy absolutely wonderful, but also made me feel like I had my own little family in Santa Barbara."*

---

*"Having audience members that you know and love is a huge plus to being a performer. And my compeers did nothing but support me the entire summer."*

"We're pushing the boundaries for classical music to be accessible, welcoming, and fun."

– Scott Reed in the *Montecito Journal*

# COMMUNITY CONCERT

AT THE SANTA BARBARA BOWL

On June 25, the Music Academy welcomed a **sold-out audience** (including over 400 children!) to experience some of the most incredible music ever written at the outdoor grandeur of the **Santa Barbara Bowl**. The **Academy Festival Orchestra**, led by **Donato Cabrera**, performed an unforgettable program including Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5*.

The Music Academy provides transformative growth opportunities for Summer Festival fellows through competitions for artistry and entrepreneurship. Here are the proud winners of the Keston MAX, Duo, Marilyn Horne Song, and Solo Piano Competitions and the Fast Pitch Award winner.



# MEET THE 2022 COMPETITION WINNERS!



The Music Academy's competitions offered fellows opportunities to showcase their talents and receive incredible prizes. The six winners of the Fast Pitch, Solo Piano, Duo, and Marilyn Horne Song Competitions each received a cash award of \$5,000. The Duo, Solo Piano, and Song winners will also have a work from a composer commissioned on their behalf to perform in recital in the Music Academy's Hahn Hall at the opening of the 2023 Summer Festival. For each recital, the winners may utilize a \$1,000 stipend to produce and present their performances in new ways. Additionally, they're encouraged to use Hahn Hall's recently enhanced audio, lighting, and projection capabilities to craft innovative performances.

*Pictured Clockwise from up Left*

**SOLO PIANO COMPETITION**  
**ADRIA YE**

**DUO COMPETITION**  
**JOSHUA WILLIAMS TUBA**  
**YU-TING PENG COLLABORATIVE PIANO**

**MARILYN HORNE SONG COMPETITION**  
**JOANNE EVANS MEZZO-SOPRANO**  
**TZU-KUANG TAN VOCAL PIANO**

**FAST PITCH AWARDS**  
**ANGIE ZHANG SOLO PIANO**



“This event was the climax of a fortnight’s intensive coaching for young musicians from the Music Academy in Santa Barbara... I couldn’t imagine a better workout for them.”

– *London Independent*

# LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PARTNERSHIP

The 75th anniversary celebration launched in March with three performances by the LSO and Music Director Sir Simon Rattle. A family concert featured the children of the Music Academy’s *Sing!* program and All-Star Alumni Keston MAX Fellows performed jointly with the orchestra in music of Percy Grainger and Anton Bruckner.

## KESTON MAX

In its largest global exchange year to date, the 2022 Keston MAX winners joined winners from 2019-2021 in London this November for three performances with the London Symphony Orchestra and Principal Guest Conductor Gianandrea Noseda. They also performed at the United States Ambassador’s residence, participated in recording studio training, and reflected on what it is to be a 21st century musician in an LSO Discovery Workshop.



KESTON MAX WINNERS

“What an experience for the young professionals from the Music Academy in Santa Barbara, California, playing alongside the LSO musicians...honing their orchestral skills.”

– *London Telegraph*



The lead sponsors of the London Symphony Orchestra partnership are Linda and Michael Keston and Mary Lynn and Warren Staley. Additional support has been provided in remembrance of Léni Fé Bland.

# LEHRER

VOCAL  
INSTITUTE

## HAHN HALL 1922-2022: AN ORIGINAL CABARET

“Artists need to be making bold choices...  
I want to be part of training the next  
generation of singers to think that way.”  
— James Darrah in the *Montecito Journal*



Everyone raved about the immersive event of the summer, which shone a spotlight on the Lehrer Vocal Institute fellows. Through director James Darrah's vision and music direction by Craig Terry, audiences were transported to 1922 in an original music and theater experience inspired by the politically charged Weimar cabaret culture. Making full use of Hahn Hall's upgrades of enhanced video and lighting technology, generously funded by the Hind Foundation, the fellows performed their hearts out in characters they conceived and brought to life through each song. The sold-out house rose to a standing ovation!

**"AN EXPRESSIVE LOVE STORY** was flawlessly performed by the Music Academy Lehrer Vocal Institute and Festival Orchestra fellows in celebration of the Academy's return to fully staged opera. The principal cast... was extraordinary as a vocal collective, adept, with spot-on stagecraft. Conductor Candillari worked the Academy Festival Orchestra into a philharmonic of sound – intoxicating, lush, hugely attentive to color, balance, style, and musical subtext. Goosebumps!

– *VOICE Magazine*

## LEHRER VOCAL INSTITUTE OPERA **EUGENE ONEGIN**



Pyotr Tchaikovsky's romantic masterpiece came to life at the Granada Theatre in a production conducted by Principal Opera Conductor Daniela Candillari and directed by Peter Kazaras.



Music Academy Board Member PATRICK SPENCE  
CEO of SONOS with fellow Angie Zhang

# 2022 Fueling the pipeline for leadership in classical music and beyond INNOVATION INSTITUTE

## SEMINARS

This summer, our fellows participated in innovator sessions focused on entrepreneurial ideas and projects. They were led by industry leaders from institutions such as **Stanford's d.school**, **Lincoln Center**, **Apple**, **The Juilliard School**, and **Sonos**. These seminars prepped fellows for their Fast Pitch Awards submissions, inspiring ideas to propel classical music boldly forward!

This year, the Academy's Innovation Institute awarded \$75,000 to support four entrepreneurial alumni projects to seed the industry with bold, new ideas. Awardees also received training with an industry advisor and design thinking leaders.

## MEET THE 2022 ALUMNI ENTERPRISE AWARDEES

### AMANDA CRIDER ('06 mezzo-soprano) *IlluminArts presents: To Reach the Light*

Vocal ensemble Variant 6 was presented in a performance of six commissioned pieces and choreography.

### CHRISTOPHER JANWONG MCKIGGAN ('09 solo piano) *Pain of Silence*

A feature length documentary in Thai focused on the struggles endured by traditional artists of Thailand.

### STEVE PARKER ('07 tenor trombone) *FIGHT SONG*

Uses the marching band to examine virtuosity, spectacle, labor, inequities, and traumatic injury in Texas football.

### SAEUNN THORSTEINSDÓTTIR ('04 cello) *The NOW Concerto*

A reimagining of the genre, reclaiming its art of improvisation and expanding the orchestral concerto experience.



(Pictured top right, clockwise, Crider, Throsteinsdottir, Parker and McKiggan)

Our 2023 awardees will be announced next month! Stay tuned to learn more!  
[musicacademy.org/aea](https://musicacademy.org/aea)

PERCUSSION FELLOW  
DAVID RICCOBONO

SIGNS  
WITH THE **LA PHIL**

We love sharing success stories as fellows launch their careers post-Festival. But sometimes, we get to celebrate these milestones *during* the Festival! This summer, fellow **David Riccobono**, who was already serving as principal percussion in the Long Beach Symphony, received the incredible news that he would become assistant principal of the timpani/section percussion in the LA Phil and a peer to his mentor Music Academy teaching artist and LA Phil principal **Joseph Pereira**.

Also joining the LA Phil this year is alum double bassist **Kaelan Decman**.



David Riccobono (center) with his Music Academy teaching artists Michael Werner (left) and Joseph Pereira (right)

OPPORTUNITY TO **MEET**  
THE **CONDUCTOR**



Auxiliary member Debra Cochrane-Vercammen meeting conductor Stéphane Denève

**NEW**

Audience members enjoyed the rare opportunity to hear directly from our Academy Festival Orchestra conductors this summer. These world-class artists shared career stories, spoke about that evening's performance, and welcomed questions. Their unique and entertaining personalities made for candid storytelling, as they were interviewed by the fellows in the concerts. What a treat!

*"Within an exploration of the music of Rachmaninoff, Alex Ross noted in The New Yorker that, "in July I caught a vibrant rendition by performers from the Music Academy, in Santa Barbara. The conductor was Stéphane Denève, who smartly paired Rachmaninoff with Ravel—the second suite from "Daphnis et Chloé." Bursts of kaleidoscopic orchestration in the symphony suggest Ravel's influence." He also added, "When classical-music organizations present Russian music these days, they often try to distance it, whether subtly or explicitly, from the brutal regime that is waging war on Ukraine. Denève, addressing the Santa Barbara audience before the Third, pointedly mentioned Rachmaninoff's international connections."*

Special thanks to **SULLIVAN GOSS - AN AMERICAN GALLERY** for supporting *Meet the Conductor*. Watch for new events in 2023!



NICO MUHLY



MOLLY JOYCE



JESSIE MONTGOMERY



SUSANNA PHILLIPS

OUR 2022

# GUEST ARTISTS

EDUCATING ENLIGHTENING

## Solo Piano fellows work with GUEST ARTIST NICO MUHLY

Solo Piano fellows trained side-by-side with one of the prolific composers of our time. **Nico Muhly's** *The Bell Études* was a large part of their Festival experience. He worked on the pieces individually with them, in a masterclass, and was even part of the culminating performance on a Picnic Concert. Many of these etudes received their west coast and even a world premiere, an invaluable experience for the fellows.

## VIOLINIST | COMPOSER | EDUCATOR MOSHER GUEST ARTIST JESSIE MONTGOMERY

Jessie Montgomery's works have been described as "turbulent, wildly colorful, and exploding with life" (*The Washington Post*). She performed her works side-by-side with select fellows in recital, offering them the rare insight of the composer's true vision in coaching sessions.

## COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE MOLLY JOYCE

As part of the Showcase Series, Molly took us on a journey in a program of her own works sharing her story and using her disability (she has an impaired hand from a car accident) as a creative source. She utilized her voice, toy organ, and electronic samplings in her powerful songs. The evening included the world premiere of *Imperfection*, performed by select fellows and commissioned by the Music Academy.

*"a powerful response to something (namely, physical disability of any kind) that is still too often stigmatized, but that Joyce has used as a creative prompt." - NEW SOUNDS*

## ALUMNA SUSANNA PHILLIPS SHEDS A LIGHT ON FEMALE COMPOSERS

Academy alumna and Metropolitan Opera favorite **Susanna Phillips** returned to the Summer Festival as a Mosher guest artist. The soprano mentored singers in lessons and a public masterclass. In a special recital, Susanna performed selected works written by female composers, such as **Hildegard von Bingen, Clara Schumann, Florence Price, and Amy Beach**. She shared their poignant personal stories along the way, noting how each woman made a remarkable contribution to classical music. May these women inspire future female composers to fearlessly pursue their art.



# Sing!

## SING! & YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHORUS OF NEW YORK CITY combine in FIRST-EVER RESIDENCY

YPC founder and composer in residence **Francisco J. Nuñez** was noted musing, “who is teaching whom?” reflecting on the partnership between our elementary school singers and the YPC’s high school choristers as they spent a weeklong residency joining their voices in song. The partnership culminated in a magical concert with all the singers on stage performing “Music of the Americas” – including two world premieres. Stay tuned for future collaborations!



*Sing!* has just begun its fifth season, which is chock full of performances in the community, including the Santa Barbara Symphony and Santa Barbara Choral Society.



BREAKING THROUGH

# SPERANZA SCAPPUCCI

FESTIVAL FINALE STARS  
ACADEMY ALUMNA

The final concert of the Festival brought the **Academy Festival Orchestra** and **Lehrer Vocal Institute** fellows together onstage for a riveting program of orchestral favorites paired with opera ensembles and Spanish zarzuelas! The performance was conducted by alum Speranza Scappucci, who recently made headlines as the first Italian woman to take the podium at the historic La Scala opera house in Milan and just made her Metropolitan Opera debut. It was the perfect way to close the summer.



Alum flutist Anthony Trionfo greeting Auxiliary member Patricia Haputman at a performance reception

In a historic move, the Music Academy Auxiliary has become the new name of a now gender-inclusive membership. This change is a significant breakthrough in the Music Academy's evolution during its 75th anniversary year. Committed to supporting music training at the highest level, the Auxiliary (formally Women's Auxiliary) - 135 people strong and one of the most successful volunteer fundraising and community engaging groups in Santa Barbara - collaborates to raise crucial funds central to the Academy's mission. Increasing membership year over year, 47 new members have joined this intergenerational group in the past year. These new members represent a wide variety of professions incorporating entrepreneurs, non-profit leaders, teachers, professors, visual artists, attorneys, and more.

**JOIN THE AUXILIARY** at [musicacademy.org/join](https://musicacademy.org/join)



“**INCLUSIVENESS MATTERS.**  
We're facilitating a more diverse membership that accurately reflects the vibrancy of our organization and our community.”

– Mally Chakola,  
Auxiliary Governance Chair &  
Music Academy Board Member

# AUX FOR ALL

**AUXILIARY CHANGES NAME  
TO BE GENDER-INCLUSIVE**



LEFT: ARKAI duo were featured at an Auxiliary meeting and at the Online Auction Kickoff

RIGHT: Mally Chakola and Auxiliary Chair Judy Astbury celebrating the launch of Aux for All

NEW SERIES!

# MARIPOSA



Music Academy alumna soprano **Michelle Bradley** performed to a sold-out crowd with former teaching artist, pianist Brian Zeger. Following a bouquet of American, French and German songs, the audience was in awe of her encore aria, *Vissi d'arte* from Puccini's *Tosca*, and her own arrangement at the piano of a medley of Whitney Houston hits. Upon her immediate return to New York City from Santa Barbara, Michelle was asked to step in for the complete run of the title role of Giuseppe Verdi's *Aida* at the Metropolitan Opera. We wish her many congratulations! We were so lucky to have her back with us for an intimate and special performance.



## "A REMARKABLE FEAT OF ARDOR AND MUSICAL STAMINA

stunned a packed Hahn Hall when critically-acclaimed pianist **Conor Hanick** performed composer Hans Otte's *The Book of Sounds* on October 27th. The debut recital of the Music Academy's new Mariposa Concert Series, the evening proved a testament to music's power to individually impact listeners even when experienced in a shared, concert environment."

"When Hanick concluded his concentrated yet seemingly effortless performance, listeners remained still for the briefest of moments, savoring the final notes. Then, they all jumped to their feet in applause."

- Daisy Scott Voice Magazine



MICHELLE BRADLEY on December 4



CONOR HANICK on October 27

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# THANK YOU

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**Congratulations on the Music Academy's 75th Anniversary!**

**- Ani Maldjian, Owner & Music Academy Alumna '04/'05**



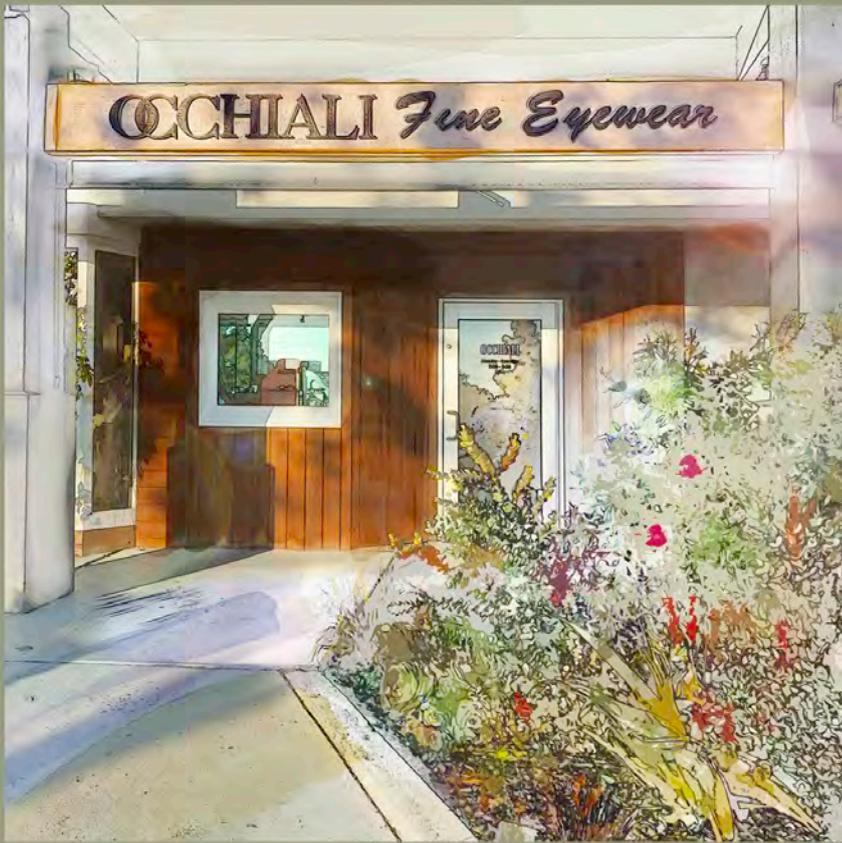
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Photo by George Wright

**UPCOMING PERFORMANCES**

**FRI, JAN 13, 2023, 7PM**

**LOS ANGELES REED QUINTET (LARQ)**

**Pat Posey** *saxophone*, **Claire Brazeau** *oboe*  
**Don T. Foster** *clarinet*, **Anthony Parnter** *bassoon*  
**Brian Walsh** *bass clarinet*

**SUN, FEB 19, 2023, 4PM**

**TAKÁCS QUARTET**

**Edward Dusingberre** *violin*, **Harumi Rhodes** *violin*  
**Richard O'Neill** *viola*, **András Fejér** *cello*

**WED, MAR 1, 2023, 7PM**

**CONOR HANICK** *piano*

**SAT, MAY 13, 2023, 7PM**

**DEMARRE MCGILL** *flute*  
**RODOLFO LEONE** *piano*

Performed at  
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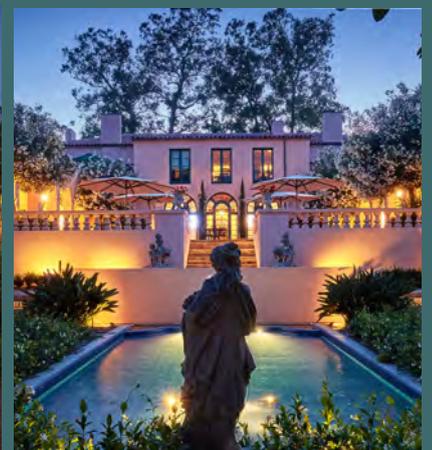
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MUSIC ACADEMY

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# BRAVO TO OUR BRILLIANT FRIENDS AT THE MUSIC ACADEMY

Here's to an incredible collaboration that's allowed us both to stretch, experiment, improvise, and of course, play. We are so honored to have been entrusted with the creation of your new brand identity.

Congratulations on a magnificent 75 years!

**MY BRILLIANT**  
*friend* —————

[mybrilliantfriendla.com](http://mybrilliantfriendla.com)

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SANTA BARBARA  
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## A STANDING OVATION FOR THE MUSIC ACADEMY!

Congratulations on seventy-five years of excellence! We are grateful to the Music Academy for providing our community with world class music and generations of musicians with the opportunity to advance and perfect their craft.

For over 94 years, the Santa Barbara Foundation remains your trusted philanthropic partner for Santa Barbara County. Whatever cause is near and dear to your heart, whether its the performing arts, the environment, helping our most vulnerable neighbors, and beyond, we are here to help you make a lasting impact!

**Learn more at [SBFoundation.org](https://SBFoundation.org)**

THANK YOU, MUSIC ACADEMY for 75 years of nurturing musical careers!



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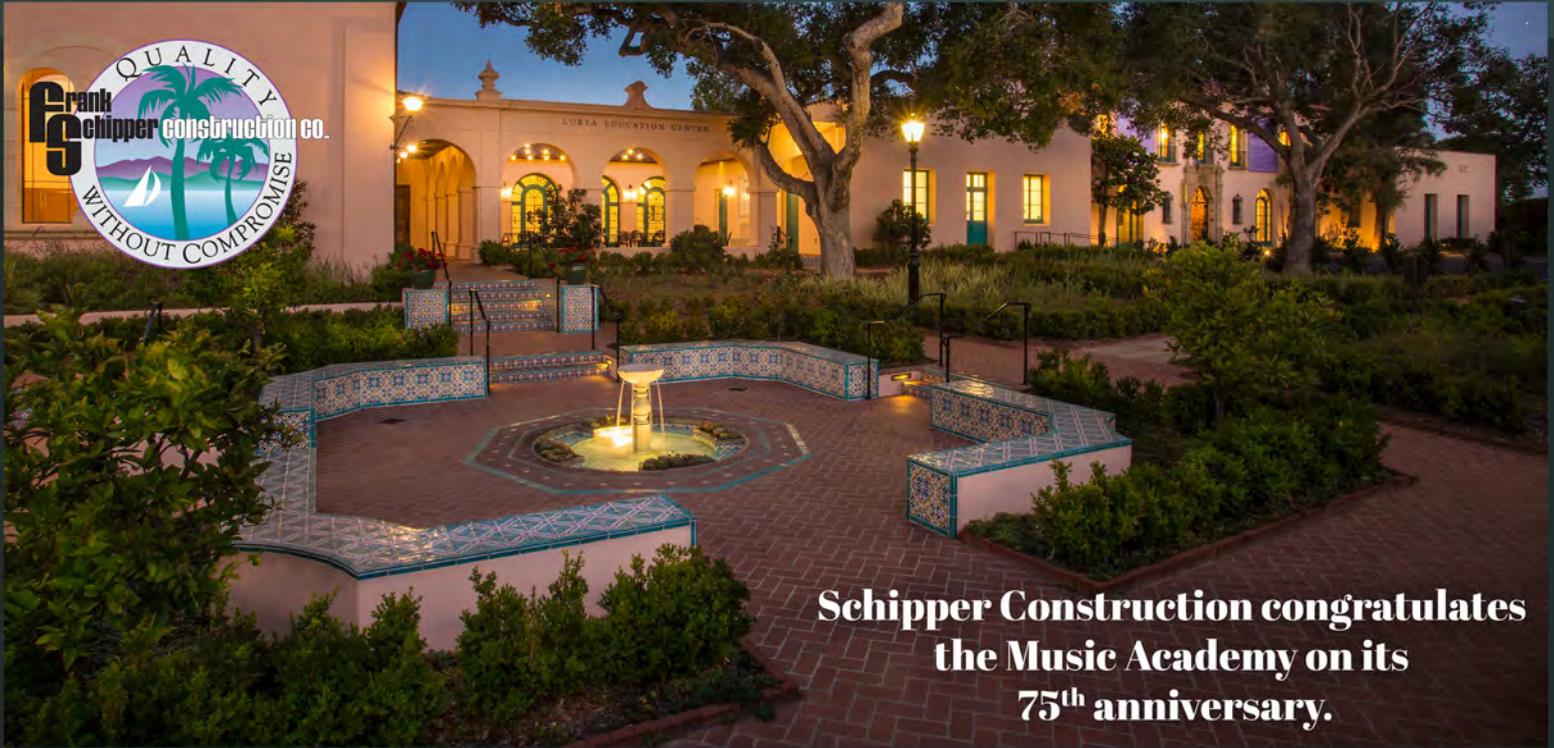
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On March 24, 2022 CAMA partnered with the Music Academy to co-present the **London Symphony Orchestra** with **Sir Simon Rattle** at the Granada Theatre, in celebration of the **Music Academy's 75th Anniversary**. CAMA extends continuing congratulations and appreciation to the Music Academy for 75 years of providing pivotal learning opportunities for the future great musicians of the classical music world.



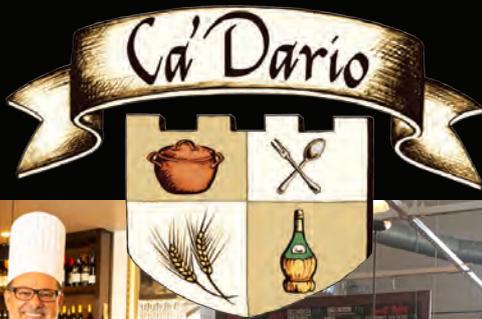
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to the  
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for 75 years of providing  
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**Lang Lang, piano**

Mon, Feb 27 / 7 PM / Granada Theatre

**Attacca Quartet**

Sun, Mar 5 / 4 PM / Hahn Hall

**Alisa Weilerstein, cello**

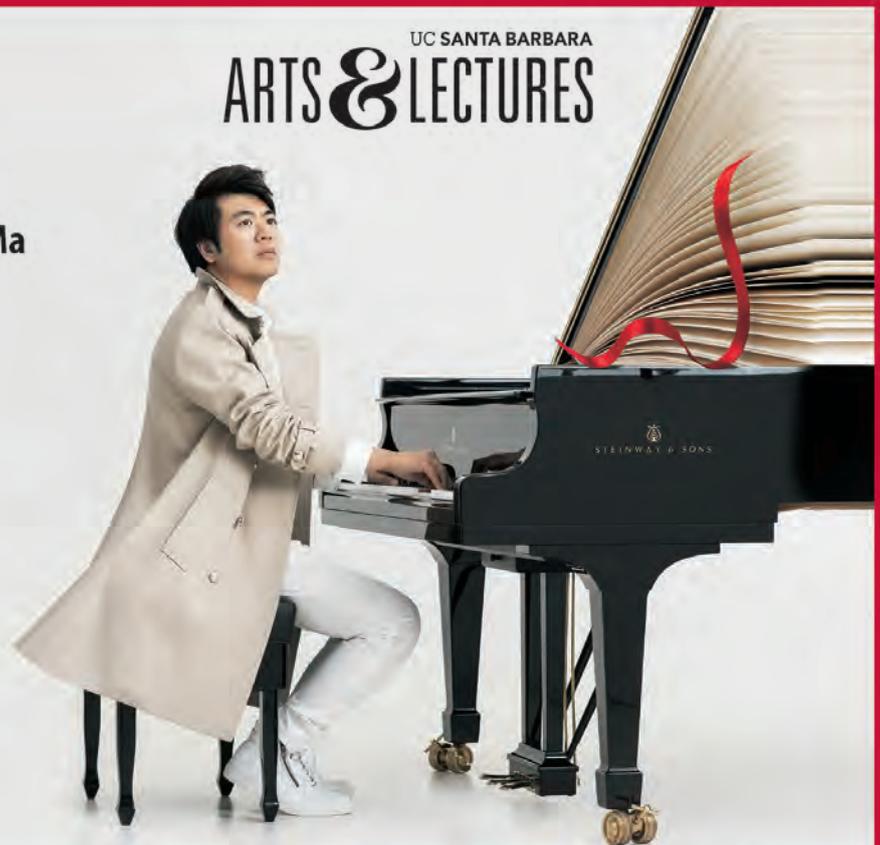
*FRAGMENTS*

Fri, Mar 10 / 7 PM / UCSB Campbell Hall

**Víkingur Ólafsson, piano**

Thu, May 11 / 7 PM / Hahn Hall

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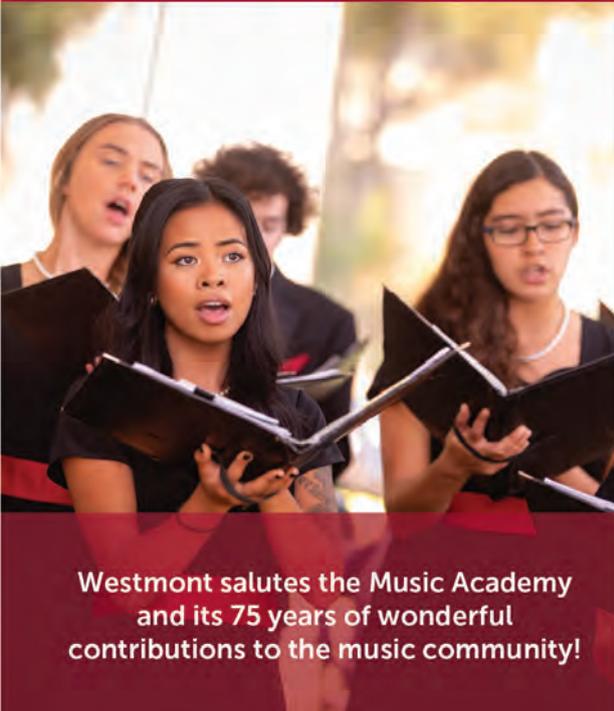


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2022-2023

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7 p.m., Friday, January 27  
7 p.m., Sunday, January 29  
Center Stage Theater

**CHORAL  
MASTERWORKS**

7 p.m., Sunday, March 5  
First Presbyterian Church

**ORCHESTRA  
CONCERTO  
CONCERT**

7 p.m., Saturday, April 29  
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# FAN FARE

SPECIAL EDITION

Fellows Abigail Lopez, Aislin Carpenter, and Sophia Jean

Photography by Zach Mendez, with contributions by Mark Allen (p.6), Phil Channing (p. 1), and courtesy of artists (p. 9)