



PRESIDENT'S HONOR RECITAL

Sunday, May 23, 2021 - 4 p.m.

RECORDED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS

Toccata in G Major Theodore Dubois
(1837-1924)

Connor Licharz, organ

Sonata in Bb for Clarinet and Piano (1962) Francis Poulenc
(1899-1963)
I. Allegro tristamente
(Allegretto - Très calme - Tempo allegretto)
II. Romanza (Très calme)
III. Allegro con fuoco (Très animé)

Jose Luis Becerra III, clarinet
Lara Urrutia, piano

Recitative and Romance (Juliet) Vincenzo Bellini
from *Romeo and Juliet* (1801-1835)

Anna Forgét, voice
Malcolm Swan, piano

Cello Suite No. 5 in C minor, BWV 1011 Johann Sebastian Bach
Prelude (1685-1750)
Sarabande
Gigue

Anthony Schnell, cello

Piece for Trombone and Piano (1908) J. Guy Ropartz
(1864-1955)

Marcelo Aguinaga, trombone
Sophie Tait, piano

Violin Concerto No. 1 in G Minor, Op. 26 Max Bruch
I. Vorspiel (Allegro moderato) (1838-1920)

Leslie Gonzalez, violin
Lara Urrutia, piano

Fuzzy Bird Sonata for Alto Saxophone and Piano (1995)
II. Sing, Bird Takashi Yoshimatsu
(b. 1953)

Emanuel Esparza, saxophone
Lara Urrutia, piano

UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS SCHOOL OF MUSIC LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are gathered on the land of the Serrano and Cahuilla peoples, and we acknowledge the important contributions of this community, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations. The University of Redlands School of Music is committed to continuing to learn about the land we inhabit, the people who have been displaced from this land, and building community with its original caretakers.

THE PRESIDENT'S HONOR RECITAL

Since 1983 the President's Honor Recital has provided a public showcase for outstanding performers in the University of Redlands School of Music. The students performing on today's concert are the winners of the 2020-2021 University of Redlands School of Music Auditions which were held in December 2020 and January 2021. All University students taking private lessons on an instrument or in voice with a School of Music faculty member are eligible to enter the annual competition.

ABOUT THE YOUNG ARTISTS

Connor Licharz, organ

Connor Licharz '20, '22 is a musician from Bonn, Germany with a background in classical voice, organ, and piano. In the last year Connor has completed his first year of the Master of Music in Vocal Chamber Music. He was very excited to return to the University of Redlands after completing his Bachelor of Music degree in May of 2020. Connor is proud to play organ in this recital as this is his newest musical venture. Since 2017 he has studied organ first with Philip Hoch and Frederick Swan, and then with Dr. Alison Luedecke. He has played organ with the University of Redlands Wind Ensemble in their performance of David Maslanka's *A Child's Garden of Dreams*, the University of Redlands piano studio's production of Saint-Saëns' *Symphony No. 3* arranged for 12 pianos and organ, as well as performed in churches both in California and Germany.

When coming into the University, Connor expected to continue his piano studies but changed his focus of study to classical voice after auditioning into Chapel Singers with whom he has sung for the past five years. Over his five years at the University, Connor has studied classical voice with Professor Cindy Snyder but still continued extracurricular piano studies with Professor Louanne Long.

Like most basses on the opera stage, Connor can be seen in roles playing the father, a cranky old man, God, or the occasional drunken sailor.

Over the last year during quarantine Connor has picked up playing golf and enjoys spending time outside. He has also started on the journey of adding harpsichord studies to his musical bag of tricks.

Jose Luis Becerra III, clarinet

Jose Luis Becerra III '24 is a first-year student pursuing a Bachelor of Music degree in Clarinet Performance. Luis has been playing clarinet for about 7 years now, and music has changed his life in so many ways; he has been able to perform in amazing venues such as Carnegie Hall, the Sydney Opera House, the Walt Disney Concert Hall, and Segerstrom Hall to name a few. Luis knows that playing classical music is what he wants to do for the rest of his life, so he appreciates every opportunity he gets to perform.

Anna Forgét, voice

Anna Forgét '21 just graduated from the University of Redlands with a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations and Music. During her time at Redlands, Anna has performed with Opera Workshop and Chapel Singers and has studied under Cindy Snyder.

Anna has been singing for 9 years and has enjoyed it immensely. She will be playing the role of Giulietta in the university's upcoming opera, Bellini's *I Capuleti e i Montecchi*. She would like to thank her family and friends for consistently supporting her throughout all of her endeavors and is honored to be a part of this year's President's Honors Recital. Anna intends to pursue a career in International Security.

Anthony Schnell, cello

Anthony Schnell '21 first picked up a cello when he was in the fourth grade, while taking part in an after-school enrichment program. As soon as he learned he could sit down while playing, he knew it was the perfect instrument for him. The following year, he attended his first Kadima Conservatory of Music Summer Music Seminar and began taking lessons with his mentor and friend, Lynn Angebrannt. He has been passionate about making quality music ever since.

Anthony has been the principal cellist of the Kadima Conservatory Philharmonic, Kadima Conservatory Senior Philharmonic, is the principal cellist of the University of Redlands Orchestra, and is a student substitute player for the Redlands Symphony Orchestra. He has also been a member of the CSUN Youth Orchestra Philharmonic.

While attending University of Redlands, Anthony is studying with Kyle Champion. He has had the privilege of being coached by Kira Blumberg, Louanne Long, Samuel Fischer, Sakura Tsai, and Lara Urrutia when playing chamber music. At the end of his freshman year, he was awarded the School of Music Freshman Honor Award for most outstanding freshman music major in scholarship, performance and service for the 2017-2018 Academic School Year. He performed in the President's Honor Recital during his Sophomore year in the Spring of 2019.

Anthony attended the Brevard Music Center Summer Institute and Festival in both the summers of 2018 and 2019, studying under Alistair MacRae. While there, he was able to hone his skills as a cellist and experience the rigorous lifestyle of being a musician. The two summers he spent there were life changing and eye-opening into the world of music.

Marcelo Aguinaga, trombone

A tenor trombone player from Los Angeles, California, Marcelo Aguinaga '21 has played with the University of Redlands Symphony Orchestra, the Colburn Youth Orchestra, and the Idyllwild Symphony Orchestra.

After a lively and busy experience with music in high school, he decided to study trombone at the University of Redlands starting in 2017. Marcelo has been studying to become a freelance and orchestral trombonist and has had great opportunities at the University of Redlands. Some Marcelo's most memorable experiences include performing at the 2018 International Trombone Festival with the University of Redlands Trombone Choir and being a participant in the Pokorny Low Brass Seminars in 2017 and 2018.

Leslie Gonzalez, violin

Violinist Leslie Gonzalez '23 is a 19-year-old residing in Los Angeles. For 11 years, she studied violin in her El Sistema program, The Harmony Project. At Redlands, Leslie is pursuing her bachelor of music degree in violin performance under Samuel Fischer. She has performed with international musicians within the Los Angeles Philharmonic, New World Symphony, Sistema Scotland, and the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. She's also participated in summer programs including Interlochen Arts Camp and YOLA National Festival. Leslie was part of the first cohort of 22 students at the YOLA National Institute. She hopes to grow into a musician who can bring change in the world of music and inspire others to do the same.

Emanuel Esparza, saxophone

Emanuel Esparza '22 is entering his senior year of undergraduate studies at University of Redlands in Music Education and saxophone under the direction of Dr. Eddie Smith. He currently resides in Menifee, California, but has lived throughout the Inland Empire

in Corona, Riverside, and Temecula. In the fifth grade, Emanuel joined the Norco Elementary School band starting on flute. He then picked up the saxophone in the seventh grade at Menifee Valley Middle School, before moving to Temecula and joining Temecula Valley High School's Marching Band in 2009. Along with Temecula Valley's Marching Band, he was also involved in their Wind Ensemble and participated in community groups such as the All-Valley Honor Band and the Valley Winds Community Band.

After graduating high school, Emanuel started working at Fender Musical in Corona as a janitor; at the same time, he became involved with La Sierra University's music department as a volunteer musician. Emanuel took private flute lessons under the direction of Dr. Martin Glicklick and saxophone lessons under the direction of Dr. David Brennan. At La Sierra University, he performed with their orchestra, wind ensemble, jazz band and jazz combo, and participated in their flute and saxophone studio quartets. It was his time at La Sierra University that inspired him to pursue Music Education.

Two years after his experiences at La Sierra University, Emanuel enrolled at Mt. San Jacinto College in 2014 as a Music Major and studied saxophone under Professor Craig Yancey, who also was Emanuel's middle school band teacher and has remained as his mentor to this day. Like at La Sierra University, he was involved with various groups at MSJC and in the community including College Singers, Jazz Ensemble and the Temecula Valley Chorus. He performed Alexander Glazunov's *Saxophone Concerto in Eb* with MSJC's Orchestra.

From learning to make a sound in elementary school band, to performing major concerto and sonata works in college, Emanuel Esparza is enthusiastic for the future and hopes to give back to his community by teaching music in the public schools.