

UPCOMING AT THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Wednesday – October 18 at 7:00pm

Concert Band

*Works by Ayatey Shabazz, Randall Standridge,
Ralph Vaughn Williams, John Mackey,
Zo Elliot, John Zdechlik, Gary Gilroy,
and David Shaffer*

\$15 gen., \$10 sen., \$5 student

Thursday – October 19 at 7:00pm

Jazz Ensembles

\$15 gen., \$10 sen., \$5 student

Saturday – October 28 at 7:00pm

Piano Series Guest Artist: Young Kim

*works by Beethoven, Florence Price, Chen Yi,
and Schumann, including Beethoven's Six Bagatelles, Op. 126
and Schumann's Fantasie in C Major, Op. 17*

\$20 gen., \$15 sen., \$10 student

Symphony Orchestra

Ryan Murray, conductor

Greg Brucker, grad. student conductor

THURSDAY, 7:00 P.M.

OCTOBER 12, 2023

CAPISTRANO CONCERT HALL

Noah Blevins is principal clarinetist of the Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Symphony Orchestra at Sacramento State. He has been playing the clarinet for thirteen years and started primarily on bass clarinet, under the direction of Charlene Harrison. Noah continues to study under Professor Sandra McPherson and is president of the Klarinet Klub at Sacramento State. He has been awarded the John Philip Souza award and the Benny Goodman scholarship. Noah intends to continue his education in graduate school and have a career performing music.

Ryan Murray is the Director of Orchestra & Opera at Sacramento State, as well as the Artistic Director of Music in the Mountains and the Principal Pops Conductor of the Modesto Symphony. He is also newly appointed Music Director and Conductor for the Auburn Symphony, and the conductor for the Sacramento Youth Symphony's Premier Orchestra. An award-winning opera conductor, Ryan is currently the Music Director of Opera Modesto. He has served as assistant conductor for opera productions at the Sacramento Philharmonic and is the past Music Director of Fresno Grand Opera.

Ryan is a past winner of the Vienna Philharmonic's prestigious Ansbacher Fellowship for Young Conductors and spent the summer in residence at the 2014 Salzburg Festival. Ryan was awarded second place in the 2019 American Prize for Professional Orchestral Conducting, and has garnered national recognition for his dynamic, compelling performances of contemporary opera as the winner of the 2017 American Prize in Opera Conducting.

With an enthusiasm for film scores, Ryan enjoys the unique challenges of conducting movies in concert and was recently added to the *Disney & ICM Approved Conductors* list. Recent and upcoming performances include Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*, Pixar Animation Studios' *Pixar in Concert*, and *Star Wars: A New Hope*.

Ryan holds degrees, *summa cum laude*, in Bassoon and Voice Performance from Sacramento State and holds a master's degree, with distinction, in Music Business from the Berklee College of Music. Ryan has previously attended the Cabrillo Festival's Conductors Workshop and was one of just eight conductors worldwide to be invited to the *Musiikin aika* Masterclass in Finland. He previously attended the Contemporary Music Symposium led by Alan Gilbert featuring the New York Philharmonic, the

Aurora Chamber Festival in Sweden, the Lucerne Festival's Conducting Masterclass in Switzerland and the Eastman School of Music's Summer Conducting Institute.

Starting in 2004, **Greg Brucker** has spent his career teaching orchestral music and string performance in Davis. Mr. Brucker has also been conducting the Vivace Strings Orchestra of the Sacramento Youth Symphony and Academy of Music since its inception in 2007. Also in 2007, he earned a master's degree in education and a teaching credential. Under a shared baton as director, his Davis Combined Jr. High Advanced Orchestra was accepted into the ASTA National Orchestra Festival in 2010. They also were named Best Jr. High Orchestra from Downbeat Magazine. From 2010-2022, Mr. Brucker directed The Emerson, Da Vinci & Harper Combined Jr. High Orchestra Program in Davis. The Advanced Orchestra was thrice accepted into, and twice earned Unanimous Superior Ratings at California Music Educators Association's All State Band and Orchestra Festival. In 2012, Mr. Brucker was selected as CMEA-Capitol Section Honors Orchestra Conductor for the Middle School Orchestra, continuing his involvement as the organizer of regional event until 2018. In January 2022, Mr. Brucker was accepted into the Orchestral Conducting Master's Program at the Sacramento State School of Music, under the guidance of Maestro Ryan Murray. In Fall of 2022, Mr. Brucker began his next chapter in music education as the new music director of Frances Harper Junior High School in Davis, California.

Outside of education and orchestral direction, Mr. Brucker has been the Principal Double Bass for The Folsom Lake Symphony since 2010, and has performed with, among others, the Stockton, Apollo, and Solano Symphony Orchestras. He also runs the Davis Bass Studio, with students who have been accepted into conservatories such as Sacramento State, Shenandoah College, University of Puget Sound, San Francisco Conservatory, Colburn, and more. As a tribute to his passionate advocacy for arts education funding that continues today, Mr. Brucker was recognized as a "Forward Thinker" by the organization, California Forward, in 2012, for his efforts to preserve music and arts education in public schools during a time of statewide financial crisis.

Mr. Brucker, wife Laura, daughter Maya, and son Ben, currently reside in Davis, California.