

A Message from the President

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us for today's performance, part of Colburn's spectacular 2024–25 season. This year, we present an incredible series of concerts and events showcasing today's most celebrated artists and the next generation of musicians and dancers who will soon become household names. Over 350 performances will take place in our extraordinary venues on campus and around Southern California.

We are proud to present the critically acclaimed Calidore String Quartet, recital partners Will Hagen and Albert Cano Smit, and Afendi Yusuf, principal clarinet of the Cleveland Orchestra—all Colburn-trained artists who have gone on to worldwide success. Guest artists include sought-after performers such as cellist Steven Isserlis, who gives a rare West Coast recital in Zipper Hall, and conductor Stéphane Denève, who leads the Colburn Orchestra in a season-finale concert at The Soraya.



Throughout the year, the Colburn Orchestra performs a must-see series of concerts, appearing at Walt Disney Concert Hall this fall with Esa-Pekka Salonen, head of Colburn's Negaunee Conducting Program and the Maestro Ernst H. Katz Chair of Conducting Studies, and returning in 2025 for a grand performance of Mahler's "Resurrection" Symphony. Our Salonen Conducting Fellows also take the podium to lead the Colburn Orchestra in performances throughout the season.

For the first time, Colburn dancers will perform at L.A. Dance Project in their studio theater. Three presentations from the Trudl Zipper Dance Institute—See The Music, Hear The Dance; Counterpoint; and the Student Choreography Showcase—will take place at L.A. Dance Project, offering audiences a chance to experience these popular programs in an intimate space designed for dance.

Throughout the season, there are numerous opportunities to experience our gifted students right here on campus, from the McAllister Honors Recital to the Academy Virtuosi to our Community School orchestras, bands, and choirs. Be sure to join us for these phenomenal performances and many more. Thank you for being a part of the Colburn community and hope to see you again soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Sel Kardan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Sel Kardan
President and Chief Executive Officer

Philanthropy at the Colburn School

Thank You for Your Support

At the Colburn School, we are proud to offer over \$11 million of scholarship support annually for nearly 1,000 students from the Community School of Performing Arts, the Conservatory of Music, the Trudl Zipper Dance Institute, and the Music Academy. This is made possible in partnership with our generous donor community, whose philanthropy pays for over 75% of the Colburn experience. The School's comprehensive performing arts education includes access to more than 350 free or low-cost performances on campus, myriad opportunities to learn from guest artists in master classes, innovative career development curriculum, as well as inspiring and supportive rehearsal and performance spaces.

Gifts from individuals, institutional partners, our trustees, as well as the ongoing support from legacy gifts to the Colburn School endowment allow Colburn to continue to educate and inspire students from all around the world. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the individuals and organizations whose giving makes a lasting impact on the creative endeavors of our young artists. Thank you.

Individual Donors

Thank you to our community of donors who have supported Colburn annually with gifts of all levels. The following individuals contributed \$250 or more between January 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, in support of activities of our students and faculty.

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Music Academy Showcase

November 2, 2024
Thayer Hall, 5 pm

“Four Cities” for Cello and Piano

FAZIL SAY
b. 1970

I. Hopa

Nathaniel Yue, Cello
Inyoung Huh, Piano 𠬞

Sonata for Viola and Piano

REBECCA CLARKE
1886–1979

I. Impetuoso

Samuel Tatsuki, Viola
Minhye Choi, Piano 𠬞

Violin Sonata No. 2 in A Minor, BWV 1003

JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH
1685–1750

I. Grave

Caprice for Solo Violin, Op. 1 No. 17

NICCOLÓ PAGANINI
1782–1840

Yxing Guo, Violin

Scherzo No. 1 in B Minor, Op. 20

FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN

1810–1849

Pinyi Lin, Piano

Subito for Violin and Piano

WITOLD LUTOSŁAWSKI

1913–1994

Holly Lacey, Violin

Inyoung Huh, Piano ✪

Fantaisie Pastorale, Op. 37

EUGÈNE BOZZA

1905–1991

Hannah Cho, Oboe

Minhye Choi, Piano ✪

Valse-Scherzo, Op. 34

PYOTR ILYICH TCHAIKOVSKY

1840–1893

James Birch, Violin

Hsin-I Huang, Piano ✪

Program Legend

✪ Colburn School staff

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Student Artists



James Birch, Violin

James Birch is an Australian/British violinist studying in the Colburn Music Academy with Robert Lipsett. He was born in Sydney, Australia, to an English father and Chinese mother. He began playing the violin at the age of four and a half and piano at five. He relocated to England with his family in 2019 to further his musical studies. While in England, he was granted an exceptional scholarship to the Junior Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Here, by special arrangement, he studied under the renowned David Takeno, becoming his youngest student. James also studied with So-Ock Kim from the Royal Academy of Music and was mentored by Nicola Benedetti, Rachel Podger, and Shlomo Mintz. In Australia, he was a scholar in the Rising Stars program at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, where he studied under Dr. Evgeny Sorkin and was mentored by Simon James. Competition accolades include the 2019 Zhuhai International Mozart competition, first prize at the 2020 London Grand Prize Virtuoso International Music Competition, New Talent Award at the 2021 British International Youth Music Competition and Festival, first prize at the 2022 ISA Young Musician of the Year, and the Hattori Foundation 2022 and 2023 junior award winner.



Hannah Cho, Oboe

Hannah Cho is a full merit-based scholarship recipient at the Colburn Music Academy and is currently studying with Eugene Izotov. She was recognized as a National YoungArts 2023 finalist (highest-level winner, later changed to Winner with Distinction from 2024) participating in the National YoungArts Week in Miami. She won first place in the 2023–24 Young Artist Competition of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and the U.S. Navy Band Young Artist Solo Competition; second place in the 2023–24 national final round of the MTNA Performance Competition and the U.S. Army Orchestra Young Artist Competition, among others. Hannah has participated as the principal oboist of the 2022 NAFME All-National Symphony Orchestra and in Carnegie Hall's NYO2 orchestra in 2022 and 2024. As a soloist, she performed the Marcello Oboe Concerto with the U.S. Navy Band in May 2023. She will perform Kalliwoda Oboe

Concertino with the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in January 2025. Hannah's love for music and the community inspired her to create Empowering Arts (www.empoweringarts.org), a non-profit organization that brings arts to the community with music concerts, in-person music lessons, and art classes throughout Orange County, California, and Alpharetta, Georgia. She enjoys running, hiking, baking, and reading.



Yxing Guo, Violin

Yxing Guo, 17, is a violinist currently studying at the Colburn Music Academy under Martin Beaver. She attended the Meadowmount School of Music under the tutelage of Ivan Zenaty, Kevork Mardirossian, and Gerardo Ribeiro, and also attended the Pacific Music Institute and the Hawaii Chamber Music Festival's Young Artist program. She was concertmaster of the Hawaii Youth Symphony Concert Orchestra and has participated in master classes with Sarah Chang, Joseph Swensen, Eric Silberger, Ryu Goto, Eugene Chukhlov, Chee-Yun Kim, Charles Yang, Moni Simeonov, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet. She won prizes at the HMTA Competition, MTNA Competition, Philadelphia International Music Competition, the Madeline Schatz-Harris Concerto Competition, the Osaka International Competition Semifinals, and the Maui Chamber Orchestra Youth Concerto Competition. In 2021, Yxing and her sister were featured on NPR's *From the Top* show. She is currently playing on a Guarneri model violin loaned from the Colburn School, generously donated by luthier Dr. Daniel Lu, and a Benoit Rolland bow, also on loan from the Colburn School, generously donated by violinist Anne Akiko Meyers. Outside of violin, Yxing has been playing piano since age five and she enjoys playing basketball.



Holly Lacey, Violin

Holly Lacey studies the violin with Margaret Batjer as a Kohl Scholar at the Colburn Music Academy. In 2024, she was a grand-prize finalist of the Music Center's Spotlight Competition and made her solo debut at Walt Disney Concert Hall. Holly also has soloed with the Colburn Youth Orchestra and the Colburn Chamber Orchestra as winner of the Colburn Concerto Competition. A dedicated orchestral musician, Holly served as the concertmaster of the Colburn Sinfonietta, Colburn Youth Orchestra, and Colburn String Orchestra. As violinist for the Nth Trio, she was awarded the inaugural Horszowski Trio Prize at the 50th Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition in 2023. Holly is an ardent advocate for integrating music and other disciplines, and is a fellow with NPR's *From the Top* Musicians and the Environment Initiative. She has been a co-regional director of Back to BACH Greater Pasadena since 2021. For the past four summers, Holly has studied at the Meadowmount School of Music. She is a senior at South Pasadena High School.



Pinyi Lin, Piano

Born in Wenzhou, China, 14-year-old Pinyi Lin has been studying piano at the Colburn Music Academy with Fabio Bidini since 2023. Since his enrollment, he has been awarded the Kohl Scholarship in both 2023 and 2024. In 2024, Pinyi won the grand prize at the Valencia International Performing Arts Summer Festival and the Absolute First Prize at the Malaga International Piano Festival, among other accolades. He has been invited to perform at numerous events, including Counterpointe in 2024, the California Club Concert in 2023, the German Blüthner Piano Concert in 2023, and the closing ceremony of the Yangtze River Piano Music Festival in 2020. Pinyi has participated in master classes with renowned piano professors and pianists such as Jean-Yves Thibaudet, Boris Slutsky, Edith Fischer, Vanessa Latache, Juan Lago, Michael Leuschner, Thomas Just, and Agata Nowakowska-Gumiela.



Samuel Tatsuki, Viola

Samuel Tatsuki was born in Los Angeles and currently studies with Tatjana Masurenko at the Colburn Music Academy, where he is a recipient of the Kohl Scholarship. Past teachers include Teng Li, Eddy Malave, and Michael Larco. He has won numerous prizes for his viola performance including Southern California Viola Society Competition, Bach Festival, and the Pasadena Showcase. He performs with the Evie Quartet and has won top prizes at the Coltman Chamber Music Competition, the Enkor International Competition, and the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. He has performed for renowned artists including Steve Ansel, Jessica Meyer, Midori, Philip Setzer, and Lawrence Dutton. In his free time, Samuel enjoys listening to music, playing chamber music with friends, and reading.



Nathaniel Yue, Cello

Nathaniel Yue is currently studying at the Colburn Music Academy with Clive Greensmith. He has also studied with Ronald Leonard. As a soloist, he is the 2023 Music Center Spotlight grand-prize finalist and is a 2024 and 2023 YoungArts Award recipient. He has been awarded first-prize wins in numerous competitions including the Stillman Kelley Award, Gustav Mahler Prize Cello Competition, California Music Teachers National Association State and Southwest Region Competition. In 2023, his chamber group, the Nth Trio, won the inaugural Horszowski Trio Prize at the 50th Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition as well as first place in the Music Teachers Association of California VOCE, State Finals. For the 2022–23 season, Nathaniel was the Anne Warsaw Cello Chair of the American Youth Symphony. He has also played in master classes for esteemed artists and teachers such as Steven Isserlis, Laurence Lesser, Gautier Capuçon, Johannes Moser, Ralph Kirschbaum, Jessie Montgomery, and Jean-Yves Thibaudet. Nathaniel plays on a 1790 Thomas Dodd cello on loan from Georg Eittinger of Hans Weissshaar Violin Makers and Restorers in San Marino, California. Since 2021, he has been the co-regional director of the Back to BACH Project Greater Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley and president of the Tuesday Musicales Juniors.

Building Our Future, Campaign for Colburn

We are profoundly grateful to our campaign supporters whose unwavering commitment and enthusiasm have propelled us to the pivotal moment at the Colburn School. Their belief in our project and willingness to join us in the early stages have set the foundation for its success. We would like to take a moment to celebrate our generous donors for being champions of this journey. Together, standing on the precipice of transformative change in the heart of Downtown Los Angeles, we look forward to forging ahead and achieving incredible heights through this project.

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Music Academy

Established in 2010, the Colburn School Music Academy is a pre-college program designed to prepare gifted young artists for conservatory study and careers as well-rounded professional musicians. The comprehensive curriculum includes private instruction, studio classes, chamber music, music theory and history, and ear training, as well as enrichment studies in career development and personal presentation skills.

Students enjoy a multitude of performance opportunities, both on campus and throughout Los Angeles, and participate in master classes. Alumni have gone on to study at top music schools, including the Juilliard School, the Curtis Institute of Music, and the Conservatory of Music at the Colburn School.

Music Academy Scholarships

The Colburn Music Academy is honored to welcome students of all backgrounds and nationalities to our Los Angeles campus. With “access to excellence” at the core of what we do, we aim to reduce financial barriers and recognize the excellence of our students through a robust scholarship program, which is made possible by our generous donor community.

Kohl Scholars receive significant scholarship support along with pre-professional guidance and performance opportunities to support their total Colburn experience. Terri and Jerry Kohl created this scholarship to make Colburn accessible to and competitive for students across the Music Academy.

Greendale Scholars are supported by the Moe and Arlene Greendale Endowment Fund. The Greendale Fund was established to memorialize and honor the Greendales, who, through their gift, desire to perpetuate access to musical excellence, which at one time was generously extended to Mr. Greendale.

The Thibaudet Scholars, named for renowned pianist Jean-Yves Thibaudet, have received discretionary scholarships to make their studies more accessible. These awards recognize the generosity of our donors and Mr. Thibaudet’s continued artistic involvement and dedication.

Scholarships help attract the very best students to the Music Academy from all around the world. And, the need consistently outweighs our available funds. If you would like to help us do more to support the futures of these exceptional students by providing philanthropic support to the Colburn Music Academy, please contact philanthropy@colburnschool.edu.



Dr. Herbert Zipper leads a concert at the 32nd Street Magnet School in Los Angeles.

Herbert Zipper, Champion of Community Music

Dr. Herbert Zipper, for whom the Colburn School's Zipper Hall is named, was a pioneer of the community music movement in the United States. Remembered as a dedicated activist, Dr. Zipper was known for his work in music education and his deep commitment to students. He believed a performing arts education should be available to everyone, a philosophy on which Colburn's mission of "access to excellence" was built.

Born in Vienna in 1904, Zipper was accepted into the Viennese Academy of Music where he studied with Richard Strauss and Maurice Ravel. Later in life, after his release from the Dachau concentration camp, he accepted a conducting position with the Manila Symphony Orchestra where he reunited with his future wife, Trudl Dubsky. The two later migrated to the U.S. where Zipper expanded his efforts in music education. On August 26, 1980, the groundwork for the Colburn School was secured after Zipper approached Richard D. Colburn with the idea of making the University of Southern California's preparatory school independent.

One of the very finest halls for chamber music in the U.S., our beloved 430-seat performance hall is named after Herbert Zipper. Colburn proudly welcomes students, faculty, staff, families, and other members of the community to Zipper Hall each year.

The image from the Herbert and Trudl Zipper Archive is reproduced with permission from Celia Pool and Gavin Perry.



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about Zipper's life

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Celebrate Colburn Gala

Sunday, April 6, 2025

Join us for the Colburn School's annual gala and support the next generation of artists! This hallmark event helps to raise vital funds to provide students with access to excellence through scholarships and academic programs. The matinee celebration on Sunday, April 6, 2025, will include dazzling performances and a jubilant luncheon on the Colburn Plaza. Be the first to get your tickets when they go on sale later this year. For more information, contact us at events@colburnschool.edu.



Mark your calendar for April 6, 2025, and be on the lookout for your invitation coming soon!

To learn more visit, colburnschool.edu/gala