

**PLU Weathermon Jazz Festival**  
**Guest Artist: Eric Marienthal**

Tuesday, March 19, 2024  
Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center

Pacific Lutheran University  
The College of Professional Studies and School of Music, Theatre & Dance present

## PLU Weathermon Jazz Festival

### Guest Artist: Eric Marienthal

*Mr. Marienthal's appearance is sponsored by the  
Richard and Helen Weathermon Joyful Noise Endowment for Jazz Studies*

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Welcome to Eastvold Auditorium.

Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the performance.

Use of cameras and recording equipment is not permitted in the concert hall.

Time	Event
8:20-8:35am	Spanaway Lake High School Jazz Band..... Bruce Leonardy, <i>director</i>
8:55-9:10am	Graham-Kapowsin High School Jazz Band II .....Robin Wessel, <i>director</i>
9:30-9:45am	Governor John R. Rogers High School Jazz Band ..... Stephen Pickard, <i>director</i>
10:05-10:20am	Auburn Riverside High School Jazz Band II ..... Meghan Wagner, <i>director</i>
10:40-10:55am	Gig Harbor High School Jazz Band I.....Eric Swanson, <i>director</i>
11:05-11:20am	Olympic Middle School Jazz Band (The Jazz Cats)..... Orlyn Carney, <i>director</i>
<b>12:00-12:40pm</b>	<b>University Jazz Ensemble with Eric Marienthal / Q&amp;A ..... Cassio Vianna, <i>director</i></b>
12:50-1:05pm	Graham-Kapowsin High School Jazz Band I..... Daniel Hendrick, <i>director</i>
1:25-1:40pm	Mount Rainer High School Jazz Band..... Ashley La, <i>director</i>
2:00-2:15pm	Auburn Riverside High School Jazz Band I ..... Meghan Wagner, <i>director</i>
2:35-2:50pm	Auburn High School Jazz Band..... Tony Paustian, <i>director</i>
3:10-3:25pm	Washington High School Jazz Band..... Sean Kaleb Armstrong, <i>director</i>
3:45-4:00pm	Steilacoom High School Jazz Band .....Matt Vegh, <i>director</i>
4:10-4:25pm	Aberdeen High School Jazz Ensemble ..... Dan Patterson, <i>director</i>

## UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

### Saxophones

\*Mitchell Huber, *alto sax 1*  
Kyrsten Campbell, *alto sax 2*  
Steven Blankenship, *tenor sax 1*  
Sophia Ramos, *tenor sax 2*  
Aidan Hille, *baritone sax*

### Trombones

\*Cassidy Stanhope  
Sabien Kinchlow-McConnaughey  
Cody Nutter  
Sarah Zundel, *bass trombone*

### Trumpets

\*Jonathan Holder  
Devin Bianchi-Rivera  
Danielle Poulin  
Connor Kaczkowski  
Jess Mason

### Rhythm Section

\*Felix Halvorson, *guitar*  
Eleanor Sherry, *piano*  
Fiona Ashton-Knochel, *piano*  
Madeline Cline, *bass*  
Molly Bliss, *bass*  
Cole Strichertz, *drums*  
Kyle Gough, *drums and percussion*  
\*Quinn Rasmussen, *vibraphone and percussion*

\* Section leaders

### Eric Marienthal

Eric Marienthal is a two-time Grammy Award winner and has been nominated nine times. At the Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA, Eric studied with the legendary saxophone professor, Joe Viola. In 1995, Eric was awarded the Berklee Distinguished Alumnus Award for outstanding achievements in contemporary music. He has since gone on to perform in over 75 different countries, and has played on hundreds of records, films, television shows, and commercial jingles. Eric has recorded fifteen solo CD's including his latest Grammy award-nominated CD entitled *Double Dealin'* with legendary trumpeter Randy Brecker.

Eric started his professional career in 1980 with famed New Orleans trumpeter Al Hirt. After returning to Los Angeles, he became a member of the famed Chick Corea Elektric Band. He recorded six CD's with the band and won two Grammy awards. Other artists Eric has performed with include Jeff Lorber, Elton John, Barbara Streisand, Billy Joel, Stevie Wonder, Dionne Warwick, Burt Bacharach, Aaron Neville, Johnny Mathis, Dave Grusin, Lee Ritenour, George Duke, David Benoit, The Rippingtons, The Gordon Goodwin Big Phat Band, Patti Austin, Lou Rawls, David Lee Roth, The Yellowjackets, B.B. King, Ramsey Louis, Patti Labelle, Olivia Newton-John, and many others.

Since 2015 Eric has maintained an online saxophone school with ArtistWorks. Eric has also written three instructional books, *Comprehensive Jazz Studies & Exercises*, *The Ultimate Jazz Play Along*, and *The Music of Eric Marienthal*, as well as three instructional videos, *Play Sax From Day One*, *Modern Sax*, and *Tricks Of The Trade*, all published by Warner Bros. Publications which is now Alfred Publishing/Belwin Jazz. For the past 25 years Eric has put on an annual fundraising concert for High Hopes. High Hopes is a non-profit organization in Orange County, California that works with people who have suffered traumatic head injuries. With the help of many guest artists who have donated their time to perform, these concerts to date have raised well over two million dollars for this charity.

### About the Clinicians

Louisville, Kentucky native **Conner Eisenmenger** is a newcomer to the Seattle area scene, and he seems to make a friend everywhere he goes. Always searching for ways to live a music-filled life, Conner keeps a busy schedule as a composer, bandleader, and clinician. Conner has performed with the Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra, the NY Afro Bop Alliance, The Harry James Orchestra, Johnny Mathis, The Abilene Philharmonic, and more. In 2022 he received the ASCAP Foundation Herb Alpert Young Jazz Composer Award for his piece, *Choice Paralysis*, played by his 5-piece ensemble, the Think Tank. Before moving out West, Conner earned a bachelor's degree at Western Kentucky University and received a master of music in jazz studies from the University of North Texas where he played for two years in the Grammy-nominated One O'clock Lab Band and served as a teaching fellow. KNKX describes Conner's passion for a life in music as "infectious in the best way."

**Susie Jones** is a jazz educator recently retired from Mt. Hood Community College. Under her direction, the MHCC Jazz Band performed at the IAJE convention in New York in 2007, received an IAJE award for “top ten campus CDs”, and has toured Taiwan six times on government sponsored tours. Susie served as the Jazz Chair for the Oregon Music Educators Association for eight years, is past president of the Oregon Unit of International Association for Jazz Education, and is president of the Board of Directors for the Mt. Hood Jazz Festival, producing that festival in 2008, 2009, 2013, and 2014. Susie directed the Community College All-Star Band at the IAJE convention in Toronto in 2008, and contributed a chapter in the book *Teaching Music Through Performance in Jazz*, GIA Publications. Prior to her appointment at Mt. Hood Community College, she taught for nine years in the North Clackamas School District and eight years in the David Douglas School District. Susie also served on the Board of Directors at Mt. Hood Community College and Multnomah Education Service District.

**Kate Olson** is an improvising saxophonist and music educator based in Seattle, Washington. She can be heard performing with her own projects KO SOLO and KO ELECTRIC, and as a collaborator with Syrinx Effect, Ask the Ages, the Seattle Rock Orchestra, the Royal Room Collective Music Ensemble, Electric Circus (led by Wayne Horvitz), the Seattle Jazz Composer’s Ensemble and with such Seattle staples as the Seattle Men’s and Women’s Choruses and cabaret producers Can Can Presents and Verlaine & McCann. Kate has a BA in Music (jazz emphasis) from the University of Wyoming and an MM in improvisation from the University of Michigan. Kate’s international resume continues to grow, including performances in Russia, Latvia, Turkey, Switzerland, South Korea, Cuba, and Slovakia. She has appeared on stage with Terry Riley, Stuart Dempster, Pauline Oliveros, Allison Miller, Bobby Previte, Skerik, Patricia Barber, and pop music icons Elvis Costello, Brandi Carlile, Sir Mix-a-lot, Matt Cameron, and Big Star’s Third (featuring members of REM, the Posies, and Nada Surf) among others. Kate was nominated in 2011 and 2013 for the Earshot Golden Ear Award in the Emerging Artist category, and in 2014 and 2016, she was nominated for the Best NW Instrumentalist Category, and in 2016 her band KO Ensemble was also nominated as best NW Alternative Group. In 2019, KO Ensemble won a Golden Ear Award for Best Acoustic Ensemble.

**Don Norton** is an Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies at the University of Portland. As a saxophonist and woodwind artist, he has performed throughout the United States and abroad in a variety of styles that include jazz, classical, world music, and musical theater. He also serves as a clinician with the Vandoren Artist-Clinician Program and has presented at conferences of the Jazz Education Network, the North American Saxophone Alliance, and the Oregon Music Education Association. He holds degrees from the University of Northern Colorado, the New England Conservatory of Music, and Northern Illinois University.

### **About the Director**

**Cassio Vianna** is Assistant Professor of Music and Director of Jazz Studies at PLU, where he directs the University Jazz Ensemble and teaches jazz classes and lessons. A native of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Dr. Vianna is a pianist, music educator, scholar, and an award-winning composer. His compositions and arrangements for jazz ensemble have received international recognition, including awards from the National Band Association, Jazz Education Network, Ithaca College Jazz Composition Competition, and the International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers (ISJAC). His works for jazz big band have been performed by artists such as Chris Potter, Ernie Watts, Martha Reeves, the United States Army Field Band (Jazz Ambassadors), and the Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra, among others. Dr. Vianna has been featured as a lecturer, adjudicator, and performer at festivals and conferences in the U.S., Latin America, and China. Dr. Vianna holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Rio de Janeiro, a Master of Music degree from Western Oregon University, and a Doctor of Arts degree in jazz studies from the University of Northern Colorado.

### **The Richard and Helen Weathermon Joyful Noise Endowment for Jazz Studies at PLU**

The Richard and Helen Weathermon Joyful Noise Endowment for Jazz Studies Fund was established by Dr. Richard H. (Dick) Weathermon (PLU, 1950) in October of 2016. Dick shared with the university: “Much of what has been good in my life can be connected back to PLC. At PLC I received my education and learned my vocation; met Helen, with whom I raised two wonderful daughters; and found my faith and was baptized. I have been loyal Lutheran and loyal Lute ever since.” This endowment recognizes Dick and Helen’s mutual love of jazz as well as their attachment to PLU. Both relished the “joyful noise” of jazz. The Weathermon family is very pleased now to share their love of jazz and of learning with new generations of high school and PLU students.

Find out more about jazz studies at PLU at [www.plu.edu/jazz](http://www.plu.edu/jazz), [www.plu.edu/soac/joyfulnoise](http://www.plu.edu/soac/joyfulnoise), or on Facebook: Pacific Lutheran University Jazz Studies.