

Kayo Iwama Voice Masterclass

Friday, May 1, 2026 at 3:30pm

Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

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

Kayo Iwama Voice Masterclass

Kayo Iwama, *pianist and vocal coach*

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Welcome to Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall.

Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.
Use of cameras, recording equipment, and all digital devices is not permitted in the performance venue.

PROGRAM

- Allerseelen**.....**Richard Strauss (1864-1949)**
from *Letzte Blätter*, op. 10
text by Hermann von Gilm
Coleton Davis, *tenor*
- Amabel**.....**Gerald Finzi (1901-1956)**
from *Before and After Summer*, op. 16
text by Thomas Hardy
Giacobbe Whitworth, *baritone*
- Sur les lagunes**.....**Hector Berlioz (1803-1869)**
from *Les nuits d'été*, op. 7
text by Théophile Gautier
Mariana Vargas, *mezzo-soprano*
- Im wunderschönen Monat Mai**.....**Robert Schumann (1810-1856)**
Ich grolle nicht
text by Heinrich Heine
from *Dichterliebe*, op. 48
Joaquin Makinster, *tenor*
- Villanelle**.....**Cécile Chaminade (1857-1944)**
text by Édouard Guinand
Madison Zantello, *soprano*

About the Artist



American pianist **Kayo Iwama** has concertized extensively with singers such as Stephanie Blythe, Kendra Colton, William Hite, Rufus Müller, Christòpheren Nomura, Lucy Shelton, and Dawn Upshaw throughout North America, Europe, and Japan; and has performed in many prestigious venues including the Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center, Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, The DiMenna Center, Merkin Hall, The Morgan Library, Boston's Jordan Hall, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Seiji Ozawa Hall at Tanglewood, the Kennedy Center, Tokyo's Yamaha Hall, and the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris. *The Washington Post* has called her a pianist "with unusual skill and sensitivity to the music and the singer," and the *Boston Globe* has praised her "virtuoso accompaniment...super-saturated with gorgeous colors".

Miss Iwama is the associate director of the innovative Graduate Vocal Arts Program at the Bard College Conservatory of Music, where she works alongside Stephanie Blythe, the Metropolitan Opera mezzo-soprano and recently appointed artistic director of the program. Miss Iwama has been with the program since its inception in 2006, working in tandem with the founding artistic director, the acclaimed soprano Dawn Upshaw. Other collaborations with Dawn Upshaw include masterclasses and a recital at the Britten-Pears Young Artist Program at the Aldeburgh Music Festival, and appearances at the International Vocal Arts Institute in Virginia, the University of Wyoming, Edward Pickman Hall at the Longy School of Music, and the Richard B. Fisher Center for the Performing Arts at Bard College. Ms. Iwama has been a faculty member of Songfest, and for over two decades taught at the Tanglewood Music Center, where she also served as the coordinator of the vocal studies program. There she worked with some of today's most promising young singers and collaborative pianists, and assisted Maestros James Levine, Seiji Ozawa, and Robert Spano in major operatic and concert productions. In addition, her teaching has also taken her to some of the foremost universities of the United States and Asia to give masterclasses and performance/demonstrations. A former resident of the Boston, Massachusetts area, she was a frequent performer on WGBH radio, and performed with such groups as the Florestan Recital Project, the Handel and Haydn Society, and Emmanuel Music. She was the founder, music director, and pianist of the critically acclaimed Cantata Singers Chamber Series, creating programs devoted to rarely-heard works of art song and vocal chamber music. She was formerly on the faculties of the Hartt School of Music, Boston Conservatory, and the New England Conservatory of Music.

Miss Iwama earned a bachelor of music degree at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and her master of music at Stony Brook University where she studied with Gilbert Kalish. She also attended the Salzburg Music Festival, the Banff Music Center, the Music Academy of the West, and the Tanglewood Music Center, where she worked with such artists as Margo Garrett, Martin Isepp, Graham Johnson, Martin Katz, and Erik Werba. She has served previously on the music staffs of the Steans Institute at the Ravinia Festival, and the Boston Symphony Orchestra. Miss Iwama can be heard on CD on the Well-Tempered label, with baritone Christòpheren Nomura in Schubert's *Die Schöne Müllerin*, two ISMM discs devoted to French mélodies and the songs of Schumann with tenor Ingul Ivan Oak, and on the *The Reckless Heart* with soprano Kendra Colton, a collection of 20th century American and British song. She will also be heard on a newly released CD with Miss Colton in the vocal music of John Harbison, honoring the composer's 80th birthday.

FEBRUARY

- 7 Sunday, 7:30pm**
Faculty Recital: Justin Lader with Guest David Helfand: Celtic Harp, Viola, and More, free admission
- 8 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Justin J. Murphy-Mancini, University Organist
- 12 Thursday, 7:30pm**
Choir of the West Tour Homecoming Concert
- 15 Sunday, 3pm**
Faculty Recital: Jennifer Rhyne and Friends, free admission
- 28 Saturday, 2pm**
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission
- 28 Saturday, 5:30pm**
Guitar Faculty Recital, free admission

MARCH

- 5 Thursday, 1:45pm**
Nicholas May Saxophone Masterclass, free admission
- 5 Thursday, 7:30pm**
Guest Artist Recital: Nicholas May, Saxophone. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission
- 8 Sunday, 3pm**
Choral Union
- 10 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
Faculty Recital: Craig Rine, Clarinet, free admission
- 15 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 17 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
Anat Cohen with the Pacific Lutheran University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 19 Thursday, 7:30pm**
University Symphony Orchestra: Student Showcase
- 21 Saturday**
Pacific NW Trombone Symposium 2026, Mary Baker Russell Music Center
- 22 Sunday, 1pm**
Rhythm Celebration concert. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center, free admission

APRIL

- 8 Wednesday, 4pm**
Christopher Theofanidis Composition Masterclass and Seattle Symphony Rehearsal Observation, Benaroya Hall, Seattle (**by invitation only – contact baldwin.giang@plu.edu*)
- 9 Thursday, 12:30pm**
Sandbox Percussion Lecture and Masterclass, free admission
- 11 Saturday, 10:30am**
Mehrddad Gholami Flute Masterclass, Mary Baker Russell Music Center Room 334, free admission
- 15 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Keyboard Students Recital, free admission
- 19 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Stephen Price, Organist
- 21 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
Steel Band, free admission
- 22 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Percussion Ensemble, free admission
- 26 Sunday, 3pm**
University Singers & Knights Chorus
- 28 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
University Chorale
- 29 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
University Symphony Orchestra
- 30 Thursday, 7:30pm**
Choir of the West

MAY

- 1 Friday, 3:30pm**
Kayo Iwama Voice Masterclass. Jennie Lee Hansen Recital Hall, free admission
- 1 Friday, 7:30pm**
Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission
- 2 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission
- 3 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 5 Tuesday, 6pm**
Saxophone Quartets & Jazz Combos. The Cave, Anderson University Center, free admission
- 7 Thursday, 7:30pm**
Composers Forum, free admission
- 8-9 Friday-Saturday, 7:30pm and 10 Sunday, 2pm**
Spotlight Series: *The Light in the Piazza the Musical*. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 9 Saturday, 3pm**
Woodwind Students Recital, free admission
- 9 Saturday, 4:30pm**
Brass Students Recital, free admission
- 11 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
PLUtonic/Gold Rush. The Cave, Anderson University Center, free admission
- 12 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
University Concert Band
- 13 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 14 Thursday, 6pm**
Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 14 Thursday, 7:30pm**
String Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 16 Saturday, 3pm**
Mariachi del Pacifico. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center
- 16 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Choral Union