

University Jazz Ensemble

Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 7:30pm
Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

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

University Jazz Ensemble

Cassio Vianna, *director*

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Welcome to Eastvold Auditorium.
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 concert hall.

PROGRAM

- Count Bubba** **Gordon Goodwin (1954-2025)**
Jaden Pulido-Hughes, *trombone* • Angel Rodriguez Gil, *baritone sax* • Justin Mendoza, *trumpet*
- Mira, Mira** **Matt Harris (b. 1959)**
Max Minjares, *trombone* • Martin Teague, *tenor sax*
Devin Bianchi-Rivera, *trumpet* • Ben Hegge, *drums*
- It Only Happens Every Time** **Thad Jones (1923-1986)**
Devin Bianchi-Rivera, *trumpet* • Eleanor Sherry, *piano*
- JJ's Friends**..... **David Caffey (b. 1950)**
Eleanor Sherry, *piano* • Sabien Kinchlow-McConnaughey, *trombone*
Cassidy Stanhope, *trombone* • Ben Hegge, *drums*
- A Child is Born**..... **Thad Jones**
Danielle Poulin, *flugelhorn*
- Extensions** **Patty Darling (b. 1962)**
Steven Blankenship, *alto sax*
- Hard Sock Dance**..... **Quincy Jones (1933-2024) & Ernest Bailey (1925-2005)**
arr. Quincy Jones & Sammy Nestico
Joshua Green, *trumpet* • Syd Thayer-O'Brien, *tenor sax* • Elizabeth Williams, *trumpet*
Kyle Gough, *vibraphone* • Ben Hegge, *drums*

About the University Jazz Ensemble

The University Jazz Ensemble (UJE) is the critically-acclaimed large ensemble representing jazz and creative music at Pacific Lutheran University. The ensemble performs four concerts per season on the PLU campus. Every four years, the UJE takes an international tour with the University Wind Ensemble and University Symphony Orchestra. Past tours have included Scandinavia, China, Australia, Spain, Portugal, and Ireland. The ensemble repertoire includes traditional jazz big band works from all eras of the music, as well as new compositions and arrangements by contemporary composers and PLU students.

About the Director

Cassio Vianna is Associate 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 a Latin Grammy-nominated 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, Eric Marienthal, Ernie Watts, Martha Reeves, the United States Army Field Band (Jazz Ambassadors), and the Colorado Jazz Repertory Orchestra, among others. Vianna has been featured as a lecturer, adjudicator, and performer at festivals and conferences in the U.S., Latin America, and China. Vianna holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the Universidade do 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.

UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Saxophones

^Steven Blankenship
Syd Thayer-O'Brien
Martin Teague
Madelyn Mitchell
Angel Rodriguez Gil

Trombones

*^Sabien Kinchlow-McConnaughey
Max Minjares
Jaden Pulido-Highes
*Cassidy Stanhope, *bass trombone*

Trumpets

*^Devin Bianchi-Rivera
Justin Mendoza
Joshua Green
*Danielle Poulin
Elizabeth Williams

Rhythm Section

Eleanor Sherry, *piano*
Cameron McLennan, *bass*
Jarin Szewczyk, *bass*
Ben Hegge, *drums*
*^Kyle Gough, *vibraphone and drums*

*graduating seniors

^section leader

Find out more about jazz studies at PLU at www.plu.edu/jazz,
on Facebook: Pacific Lutheran University Jazz Studies;
and subscribe to our Youtube channel: Pacific Lutheran University Jazz Studies.

Want to skip the line at the door?

Tickets are available for purchase online with no processing fees up until the start time of each ticketed performance.

Visit www.plu.edu/musictickets prior to any event to purchase your tickets ahead of time.

Simply select the event you'd like to attend and click the "Tickets" button.

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