With the presentation of the 2017–2018 Concert Series, the Blair School of Music gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations for their generous support.

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THE BLAIR KEYBOARD
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Jennie Smith · Judy Turner · Blair J. Wilson
A SEASON OF HOPE THROUGH MUSIC

At the Blair School, we are frequently privileged to host guest performers of the highest levels of artistry. This is amply demonstrated in our spring concert season, with guest appearances from baritone Nathan Gunn and pianist Julie Gunn, the Berlin Philharmonic Woodwind Quintet, conductor and composer Socrates Garcia—part of the new ¡Blair! Latin American music project—and more.

In addition, Blair is honored to participate in a citywide project that transcends individual performers and performances. Along with a diverse array of local organizations, including the Nashville Symphony, the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, the Nashville Public Library, the Nashville Ballet, the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, and many others, the Blair School is honored to participate in bringing the Violins of Hope to Nashville.

The Violins of Hope is a collection of instruments, of which the majority were played by Jewish musicians interned in concentration camps during the Holocaust. These instruments will arrive in Nashville from Israel in mid-March 2018. Restored and refurbished by Israeli luthiers Amnon and Avshi Weinstein, they will be the centerpiece of a months-long initiative designed to foster a citywide dialogue on music, art, social justice, and free expression. As part of this initiative, the Blair School is presenting a series of exhibits, lectures, and performances all connected to and inspired by the Holocaust and its musicians and composers.

It is always timely—and imperative—for every civilized society to renounce bigotry, hatred, and discrimination. That is especially true now, and we must advance the causes of freedom and of hope in all places, at all times. We embrace the message of hope through the universal language of music. While these instruments speak vividly of their dark history, they also remind us of the uplifting power of hope, and of our obligation to shine its light throughout the world.

We hope you will join us for this vital series of programs and for all of our concerts and programs this spring.

Mark Wait, Dean
NATHAN GUNN  
baritone

JULIE GUNN  
piano

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

Nathan Gunn has garnered a reputation as one of the most exciting baritones of the century. With an impressive international career ranging from opera to musical theatre, he has appeared with the Metropolitan Opera, the San Francisco Opera, the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, and the Chicago Symphony, as well as in critically acclaimed productions of Sweeney Todd, Camelot, and Carousel. Beyond the operatic classics, Gunn is also a champion of new opera, creating roles in new works by Jennifer Higdon, Jake Heggie, and more.

Pianist Julie Gunn is an in-demand recitalist and collaborative pianist, with appearances at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Boston's Jordan Hall, Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels, and many more. In addition to Nathan Gunn she has collaborated with artists such as Mandy Patinkin, Kelli O’Hara, and the Pacific Quartet.

The Gunns will also conduct a master class with Blair voice students at noon Wednesday, January 17, in Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall. Participation in the class is limited to Blair students by audition, but the public is welcome to attend and observe.

Sponsored by the Mary Cortner Ragland Master Series Fund
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY CONCERTO COMPETITION FINALS
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21
7:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

Our best and brightest go head to head. For the seventh year in a row, we open the final round of the Vanderbilt University Concerto Competition to the public. The judges will announce the winners at the end of the evening, and those talented musicians will perform as featured soloists with the Vanderbilt Wind Symphony on March 24 and the Vanderbilt University Orchestra on April 14.

BLAIR STUDENT SHOWCASE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

Selected by audition, the Blair School’s best student performers, from solo artists to string quartets, show off what they can do.

Presented with gratitude to the parents of a Blair School student for their generous support

TICKETED EVENT
chatterbird
TUESDAY, JANUARY 30
8:00 p.m.
Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

chatterbird presents an evening of music from its Composer-in-Residence, Wu Fei. A native of Beijing, China, Wu Fei is a genre-bending composer, virtuoso musician, and vocalist. She is a master of the guzheng, the ancient 21-string Chinese zither. Trained as a Western classical composer, Wu Fei mixes her Western and Chinese traditional sensibilities with a contemporary idiosyncratic, experimental dialect nurtured by years spent at Mills College and immersed in the New York downtown improvisation scene. She frequently collaborates across genres to create unique new work, with partnerships ranging from banjo virtuoso Béla Fleck to avant-garde composer John Zorn. Repertoire will include Wu Fei’s compositions for chamber ensembles and guzheng. The group will also present her tea ceremony improvisation to accompany historical film clips selected from the Nashville Public Library’s archives.

Tickets are $20 (free admission for Blair students and faculty), available at chatterbird.org or at the door.
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA
Robin Fountain, conductor

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

The orchestra takes on Hector Berlioz’s *Symphonie Fantastique*, a masterwork of the romantic era. The five-movement epic relates the tale of an artist driven to an opium-induced mania through his unrequited obsession with a beautiful woman.

*Presented with gratitude to the Strom family for their generous support of the Blair School*

VANDERBILT WIND SYMPHONY
Thomas Verrier, conductor

with FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL WIND ENSEMBLE
David Aydelott, conductor

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

EAST MEETS WEST
Franklin High School Wind Ensemble “opens” for the Vanderbilt Wind Symphony, which will perform an East–West-themed evening including Ron Nelson’s *Rocky Point Holiday*, Bernard Rogers’ *Three Japanese Dances*, Camille Saint-Saëns’ *Orient et Occident*, and Philip Sparke’s *Barn Dance and Cowboy Hymn*. 

Unless otherwise noted, all concerts are free of charge and open to all audiences. Dates subject to change. Please visit our website at blair.vanderbilt.edu for updated information.
BERLIN PHILHARMONIC WIND QUINTET

Michael Hasel, *flute*
Andreas Wittmann, *oboe*
Walter Seyfarth, *clarinet*
Fergus McWilliam, *horn*
Marion Reinhard, *bassoon*

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

The Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet continues to astonish audiences with its range of expression, tonal spectrum, and conceptual unity. Listeners and critics agree that the ensemble has redefined the sound of the classic wind quintet. The group’s repertoire not only covers the entire spectrum of wind quintet literature, but also includes works originally written for enlarged ensembles, such as the sextets of Janáček and Reinecke or the septets of Hindemith and Koechlin.

The program for this evening will include three fantasies for mechanical organ by Mozart—K. 594, K. 616, and K. 608—arranged by flutist Michael Hasel for wind quintet, as well as works by Pavel Haas and Henri Tomasi.

As part of our ongoing collaborative relationship, Blair is honored to welcome back these marvelous artists for several days of performance and private instruction.

*Presented with gratitude to Mark Dalton for his generous support of the Blair School*
TICKETED EVENT

ALIAS CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6
7:30 p.m., Ingram Hall

“UNBOUNDED CREATIVITY”

ALIAS presents “Unbounded Creativity,” a concert celebrating the legacy of composers who immigrated to America. Artistic Director Zeneba Bowers says, “We enjoy in this country a wealth of artistic expression drawn from all over the globe. We wanted to celebrate the fact that most of our beloved musical traditions are the result of immigrants to the U.S. bringing their creative culture to our shores. We as musicians benefit from having such a variety of music to choose from. Therefore, so do our audiences.”

The program features pieces by Bright Sheng, Ola Gjeilo, Yotam Haber, Mohammed Fairouz, Béla Bartók, and Irving Berlin. Special guests include Vox Grata Women’s Choir, mezzo soprano Gayle Shay, and a Blair School of Music student string quartet.

Tickets are $20, free for Blair students, available at www.aliasmusic.org

JARED HAUSER, oboe
PETER KOLKAY, bassoon
KAREN ANN KRIEGER and BEN HARRIS, pianos

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

CHROMA

The word “chroma” describes the purity, hue, or saturation of color. Paul Zonn’s Chroma for oboe and piano evokes just that, a sonic palette of varying intensities and purity to enliven one’s senses! Join oboist Jared Hauser, bassoonist Peter Kolkay and pianists Karen Ann Krieger and Ben Harris for a program of colorful works including Poulenc’s Trio for Piano, Oboe, and Bassoon, Peter Hope’s Four Sketches, and Arnold’s Sonatina for Oboe and Piano.
CHORAL PRISM
Featuring the Vanderbilt Collegiate Choral Ensembles
Tucker Biddlecombe, director
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9
7:30 and 9:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

Now in its sixth year, the annual Choral Prism concert is one of Blair’s most anticipated annual events. This year’s performance features the Vanderbilt Chorale, the Men’s and Women’s Choruses, the Symphonic and Concert Choirs, the Blair Vocal Jazz Ensemble, and some of Vanderbilt’s premier student-led a cappella groups, including The Melodores. Performances occur throughout the auditorium and in quick succession, making for a unique and engaging concert experience. The opening and closing works feature all students combined in song, enveloping the audience in thrilling surround sound.

Presented with gratitude to the parent of a Blair graduate for generously supporting the school

SIDE-BY-SIDE: A FACULTY-STUDENT CHAMBER MUSIC ENCOUNTER
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Blair’s performance faculty and student musicians come together on stage for a special evening of chamber music collaboration, with a focus on contemporary music.

LIVING SOUNDS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

New works by Blair’s composition majors, performed by their peers. Living Sounds concerts are always engaging and highly eclectic evenings of music. Come hear the next generation of classical composition!
BLAIR STRING QUARTET

Stephen Miahky and Cornelia Heard, violins
John Kochanowski, viola
Felix Wang, cello

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

The Blair String Quartet completes its tour of Haydn’s groundbreaking Op. 71 quartets with the second quartet in D Major. Among the first quartets to be performed for a concert-going public, Op. 71, No. 2, is a joyful example of Haydn’s superb creativity. Also on the program is Steve Reich’s landmark Different Trains—a powerful work containing an intense tapestry of prerecorded string quartets, as well as sounds and speech from Holocaust survivors. The program concludes with Ravel’s dazzling Quartet in F Major, one of the true masterpieces in the genre.

Presented with gratitude to the Sartain Lanier Family Foundation, Inc., for its generous support of the Blair School

BLAIR BIG BAND

Ryan Middagh, director
With guest composer and conductor Socrates Garcia

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

LATIN JAZZ WITH A DOMINICAN TINGE

The Blair Big Band’s spring opener includes the world premiere of a new work composed and conducted by Socrates Garcia, director of music technology at the University of Northern Colorado. A Dominican Republic native, guitarist and keyboardist Garcia is an internationally acclaimed performer and recording artist.

Presented with gratitude to Marianne and Andrew Byrd for generously supporting the Blair School
Unless otherwise noted, all concerts are free of charge and open to all audiences. Dates subject to change. Please visit our website at blair.vanderbilt.edu for updated information.

MASTER CLASSES

MARTIN KATZ

collaborative pianist

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17–SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Internationally renowned collaborative pianist Martin Katz has been dubbed “the gold standard of accompanists” by the New York Times. His 45-year career has taken him to five continents, collaborating with the world’s most celebrated singers in recital and recording. Marilyn Horne, Frederica von Stade, Kathleen Battle, David Daniels, Karita Mattila, and José Carreras are among his regular partners, and he has recorded for RCA, CBS, BMG, EMI, and Decca labels.

Katz comes to Blair to lead our annual weekend of collaborative master classes, working with teams of student singers and pianists.

Master classes will be held 10:00 a.m.–noon and 1:00–3:00 p.m. on Saturday, and noon–2:00 p.m. and 3:00–4:30 p.m. on Sunday. Participation in the classes is limited to Blair students by audition, but the public is welcome to attend and observe.

Sponsored by the L. Michelson B.Mus. ’11 Fund for Collaborative Master Classes and by the Mary Cortner Ragland Master Series Fund

VANDERBILT PERCUSSION GROUP

Ji Hye Jung, director

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

Vanderbilt Percussion Group is the Blair School of Music’s premier percussion ensemble, performing contemporary classical works for unconduted ensemble. The Spring VPG program includes pieces by Charles Peck, Glenn Kotche, Christopher Rouse, Alejandro Viñao, and Adam Silverman.

NORMAN KRIEGER

piano

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Pianist Norman Krieger is highly regarded as an artist of depth, sensitivity and virtuosic flair. According to the Los Angeles Times, “Krieger always knows exactly where he is going and what he is doing. He never for an instant miscalculates. He communicates urgently but with strict control. He is alert to every manner of nuance, and at every dynamic level his tone flatters the ear.” He is the founding artistic director of the Prince Albert Music Festival in Hawaii and serves on the summer faculty at the Brevard Music Festival. For this program, he’ll present works by Beethoven, Lazaroff, and Chopin.

Krieger will also conduct master classes with Blair piano students at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 21, and 5:00 p.m., Thursday, February 22, also in Turner Hall. Participation in the classes is limited to Blair students by audition, but the public is welcome to attend and observe.

Presented with gratitude to Delphine and Ken Roberts for their generous support of the Blair School
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA
With Amy Jarman, soprano
Robin Fountain, conductor
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

The Vanderbilt University Orchestra is joined by soprano Amy Jarman for the world premiere of *Again, the Sea*, written for Jarman by composition professor Michael Slayton. They’ll also perform Franz Joseph Haydn’s Symphony No. 22, “The Philosopher,” and Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 2.

Presented with gratitude to an anonymous friend for generously supporting the Blair School

LAUREN JACKSON COPLAN
*piano*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25
3:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

LIGHTS BEFORE SLEEP

Coplan returns to Turner Hall with a diverse program of solo piano music, beginning with a musical tribute to late Blair flutist Philip Dikeman, with Bach’s “Siciliano” from Sonata No. 2, a flute and harpsichord work arranged for solo piano. Coplan will also present a new movement from the Aaron Jay Kernis cycle she began last year, performing “Lights Before Sleep” as prequel to the well-received “Before Sleep and Dreams.” Mozart, Chopin, Shostakovich, Bolcom, and Confrey round out the program.

YOUNG ARTISTS CORNER CHAMBER CONCERT
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25
3:00 p.m.
St. George’s Episcopal Church
(4715 Harding Road)

Several of Blair’s best student ensembles will perform an afternoon concert of chamber music at the lovely St. George’s Episcopal Church in Belle Meade, as part of the In Excelsis Concert Series.

BLAIR WOODWIND QUINTET

Leslie Fagan, flute
Jared Hauser, oboe
Bil Jackson, clarinet
Leslie Norton, horn
Peter Kolkay, bassoon

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26
8:00 p.m.
Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

The Blair Woodwind Quintet presents a concert of established and new classics for the winds. In addition to a quintet by Franz Danzi (a contemporary of Beethoven’s), the ensemble performs a miniature gem by Vincent Persichetti and a masterpiece by twenty-first-century wind genius David Maslanka.
ON GOING

The Ingram Hall display cases will feature special displays of materials from the Francis Robinson Collection related to Jewish string players. The exhibit is coordinated by Education and Outreach Librarian Sara Manus.

The Blair School of Music joins a diverse array of local organizations—including the Nashville Symphony, the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee, the Nashville Public Library, the Nashville Ballet, the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, and many more—to bring a rare collection of instruments called the Violins of Hope to Nashville this spring.

The Violins of Hope, of which the majority were played by Jewish musicians interned in concentration camps during the Holocaust, arrive in Music City from Israel in mid-March. Restored and refurbished by Israeli luthiers Amnon and Avshi Weinstein, these instruments will be the centerpiece of a months-long initiative designed to foster a citywide dialogue on music, art, social justice, and free expression.

Presented with gratitude to the Valere Blair Potter Trust and the Blair Keyboard for their generous support.

CHAMBER MUSIC

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

The Blair School honors the presence in Nashville of the Violins of Hope with a program of chamber music. Faculty and students will join forces to present music by composers who perished in the Holocaust, including Gideon Klein’s Lullaby, Pavel Haas’s Sonata for Oboe and Piano, and Erwin Schulhoff’s String Sextet. The program will also include the Quartet for Four Violins, by Grażyna Bacewicz, a Polish violinist and composer who performed clandestine concerts during the Nazi occupation, and the haunting song cycle by American composer Ellwood Derr, I Never Saw Another Butterfly, based on poetry written by children imprisoned at the Terezin (Theresienstadt) concentration camp.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

5:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

The precollege and collegiate violin students of Carolyn Huebl present music in honor of the Violins of Hope.

Unless otherwise noted, all concerts are free of charge and open to all audiences. Dates subject to change. Please visit our website at blair.vanderbilt.edu for updated information.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18
8:00 p.m.
Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Blair faculty and Nashville Symphony members come together for a concert of chamber music by composers who were profoundly affected by the Holocaust. Pavel Haas and Erwin Schulhoff died in concentration camps. Dmitri Shostakovich used Jewish themes in his music to commemorate the Holocaust and to demonstrate resistance to the Soviet regime. And the music of current Blair composer Michael Alec Rose embodies his Jewish heritage.

MUSIC ON FILM
SUNDAY, APRIL 29
3:00 p.m.
Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

SCHINDLER’S LIST
Presented by Mitchell Korn

SUNDAY, APRIL 22
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

Sylvia Samis, violin
With Michael Samis, cello
Amy Dorfman, piano
and others

SILENCED VOICES

The daughter of Holocaust survivors, violinist Sylvia Samis, assistant concertmaster emerita of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, will present a program featuring music that was written in the concentration camps and ghettos. These melodies will be performed while words are spoken that were written by Samis’s mother, Sabina Rosenzweig, revealing her terrifying experiences in Auschwitz and other camps. In this way, the voices silenced by the war, those of the victims, the composers, and the instruments, will now be heard again. Samis will be joined by her son, cellist Michael Samis, pianist Amy Dorfman, and others in a special commemoration of the “Silenced Voices.”

BLAIR GIRLS CONCERT CHOIR
Mary Biddlecombe, director
and VOX GRATA WOMEN’S CHOIR
Jeanette MacCallum, founder and conductor
TUESDAY, MAY 15
7:30 p.m., Ingram Hall

ANNE FRANK: A LIVING VOICE

Vox Grata Women’s Choir and Vanderbilt’s Blair Girls Concert Choir will perform Linda Tutas Haugen’s Anne Frank: A Living Voice, accompanied by string quartet. An emotional tour de force, this multi-movement work is based on selected excerpts from The Diary of Anne Frank. Spanning more than two years during which the Frank family hid in the Secret Annex, the texts and music portray a psychological progression from fear and despair to strength and hope. Vox Grata will also perform Daniel J. Hall’s Reflections from Yad Vashem, which was written following the composer’s visit to a children’s Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem. The concert will conclude with several short pieces of atonement. Vox Grata Women’s Choir is unique among choral groups, in that all of its concerts directly benefit the needs of women in the Middle Tennessee area.
VANDERBILT WIND SYMPHONY

Thomas Verrier, conductor

With Jose Sibaja, trumpet

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

SPANISH EYES

The works of contemporary Spanish composer José Serrano Alarcón are spotlighted at this special performance that includes the world premiere of Alarcón’s Trumpet Concerto, featuring trumpeter Jose Sibaja. The wind symphony will also perform Alarcón’s Invocación, and will present the world-premiere performance of contemporary composer Jack Stamp’s Variations on “Spanish Eyes.”

CELTIC CELEBRATION

Crystal Plohman Wiegman, director

SATURDAY, MARCH 3
7:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

Get into the St. Patrick’s Day spirit with this kickoff concert for Music City Irishfest, celebrating the Celtic roots of some of our favorite music. Local talent, special guests, and Blair faculty and students come together with local dance troupes, pipers, fiddlers, and more for an unforgettable spring festival! This concert is a benefit for the Jerome “Butch” Baldassari Precollege Scholarship Fund at the Blair School. Donations will be accepted at the door but are not required.
**SUZUKI GRADUATION AND FESTIVAL CONCERTS**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 4**
2:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

**CURB YOUTH SYMPHONY**

Carol Nies, conductor

**MONDAY, MARCH 5**
7:30 p.m., Ingram Hall

_Presented with gratitude to an anonymous friend for generously supporting the Blair School_

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**THE PERCUSSION COLLECTIVE ROBERT VAN SICE**

**MONDAY, MARCH 12**
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

In its inaugural season, The Percussion Collective Robert van Sice brings its star lineup of percussionists into the world with an energetic program featuring two masterpieces for six players. Steve Reich’s Sextet is a cornerstone of the repertoire, composed of five continuous movements ranging from lush to jarring to groovy.

Also on the program is a new work written specifically for the Percussion Collective. The 30-minute piece, for six percussionists and video projection, is at the nexus of the percussive art soundscape and the visual celebration of our endangered oceans, combining the talents of Emmy-winning composer Garth Neustadter and water photographer/videographer Kjell van Sice.
EMANUELE BUONO
_guitar_

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Renowned Italian guitarist Emanuele Buono opens the spring 2018 Virtuoso Classical Guitar Series at the Blair School. Buono has earned top prizes in competitions around the world, including the Gold Medal at the Christopher Parkening International Competition in Malibu, California. His recordings are available on the Naxos and Brilliant Classics labels. For more information, visit middletennesseeguitaralliance.org.

Buono will also conduct a master class at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 15, in Choral Rehearsal Hall. Participation is limited to Blair students by audition, but the public is welcome to attend and observe.

THE BLAKEMORE TRIO
_Amy Dorfman, piano_
_Carolyn Huebl, violin_
_Felix Wang, cello_

FRIDAY, MARCH 16
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

The magical intimacy of Franz Schubert’s music serves as the pillar for the Blakemore Trio’s spring program. The Notturno in E-flat Major, D. 897, has qualities reminiscent of an evening guitar serenade, with muted and tender melodies unfolding in the strings. The trio then journeys to a fantastical 2009 work by Danish composer Hans Abrahamsen titled _Traumlieder (Dreamsongs)_.

Abrahamsen draws from two earlier compositions, _Ten Piano Studies_ and _Six Pieces for Horn Trio_, to concoct this trio. The program ends with Schubert’s Trio in B-Flat Major, of which Robert Schumann said, “One glance at Schubert’s Trio and the troubles of our human existence disappear and all the world is fresh and bright again.”

Presented with gratitude to an anonymous friend for generously supporting the Blair School
THE VOICE FACULTY
SATURDAY, MARCH 17
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall
“I HATE MUSIC! BUT I LIKE TO SING...”
CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF LEONARD BERNSTEIN
The Blair voice faculty—Amy Jarman, Tyler Nelson, Tucker Biddlecombe, Gayle Shay, Jennifer McGuire, Ben Harris, and guest Mark Whatley—invite you to join them for an evening dedicated to the music of Leonard Bernstein and those he influenced. Ingram Hall’s stage will become a salon, and coffee and birthday cake will be served during the performance. Join us as we celebrate the 100th anniversary birth year of an American giant of the lyric theatre stage!
Presented with gratitude to the parent of a Blair graduate for generously supporting the school

TICKETED EVENT
chatterbird
SUNDAY, MARCH 18
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall
chatterbird is a Nashville-based chamber ensemble, founded in 2014 with a mission to explore alternative instrumentation and stylistic diversity to create thoughtful and inventive musical experiences. The group performs classical music that skirts traditional boundaries, sliding between classical and jazz, hip-hop, rock, avant-garde, and country.
Tickets are $20 (free admission for Blair students and faculty), available at chatterbird.org or at the door.

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA
Robin Fountain, conductor
and VANDERBILT WIND SYMPHONY
Thomas Verrier, conductor
SATURDAY, MARCH 24
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall
The orchestra performs Felix Mendelssohn’s Sinfonia No. 10 and Joaquin Turina’s Danzas Fantásticas.
The wind symphony accompanies the winner of the Vanderbilt Wind Symphony Concerto Competition.
Presented with gratitude to the Valere Blair Potter Trust for its generous support of the Blair School
ARASH AMINI  
cello

HEATHER CONNER  
piano

SUNDAY, MARCH 25  
3:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

AN AFTERNOON OF ROMANTIC FAVORITES

Arash Amini, cellist with the New Jersey Symphony and Lenape Chamber Players, joins Blair pianist Heather Conner for an afternoon of romantic classics, including the monumental Rachmaninoff Cello Sonata, Op. 19, and Mendelssohn’s Sonata No. 2 in D Major, Op. 58.

Amini will also conduct a master class with Blair cello students. Visit the Blair website for details.

BLAIR JAZZ COMBOS

SUNDAY, MARCH 25  
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

The jazz combos’ spring program is a delightful blend of jazz standards, favorites from the Great American Songbook, and new student compositions and arrangements.

MASTER CLASSES

DOUGLAS WEEKS  
piano

MONDAY, MARCH 26–TUESDAY, MARCH 27  
Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Douglas Weeks is Babcock Professor of Piano at Converse College and Coordinator of Piano Studies at the Brevard Music Festival in Brevard, N.C. He has performed extensively throughout the Southeastern United States as well as in England, Switzerland, the Czech Republic, and Panama, as a soloist and as the pianist in the Converse Trio. He has also performed solo recitals and duo recitals with Furman University violinist Thomas Joiner in Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia, under the auspices of the U.S. State Department.

Weeks conducts master classes with Blair piano students at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 26, and at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 27, in Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall. Participation in the classes is limited to Blair students by audition, but the public is welcome to attend and observe.

BLAIR BRASS QUINTET

Jose Sibaja and Jeff Bailey, trumpets  
Jeremy Wilson, trombone  
Leslie Norton, horn  
Gilbert Long, tuba

MONDAY, APRIL 2  
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

The quintet performs a wide range of works for brass ensemble, ranging from standards to the avant-garde, as well as some brand-new works and arrangements.
BLAIR JAZZ CHOIR
Christina Watson, director

TUESDAY, APRIL 3
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

The Blair Jazz Choir performs a mix of jazz standards and contemporary pop, including Kerry Marsh’s powerful arrangement of Sara Bareilles’ “Brave.” In addition to the group pieces, each member of the choir will present a solo performance of a favorite tune from the Great American Songbook.

LIVING SOUNDS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

New works by Blair’s composition majors, performed by their peers. Living Sounds concerts are always engaging and highly eclectic evenings of music. Come hear the next generation of classical composition!

BLAIR BIG BAND
Ryan Middagh, director

with DYNAMO

THURSDAY, APRIL 5
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

The Blair Big Band joins forces with Dynamo to close out the spring season. Dynamo is a Nashville-based, nationally touring band whose music fuses jazz, rock, and funk with soul and R&B for a sound that’s both spontaneous and composed and an energy that’s undeniably infectious!

Presented with gratitude to an anonymous friend for generously supporting the Blair School

Unless otherwise noted, all concerts are free of charge and open to all audiences. Dates subject to change. Please visit our website at blair.vanderbilt.edu for updated information.
CRAIG NIES
piano
FRIDAY, APRIL 6
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall
VARIATIONS I—BEETHOVEN AND RACHMANINOFF
Pianist Craig Nies has a long history performing works by Rachmaninoff, from his Third Concerto with the Los Angeles Philharmonic when Nies was a teenager, to the Second Piano Trio last summer at the Brevard Music Festival. This season, he presents sets of variations, including Rachmaninoff’s monumental variation on a theme by Chopin, and Beethoven’s Eroica Variations, with themes from his Third Symphony. The program will also include a set of short works by Chopin.

Presented with gratitude to Delphine and Ken Roberts for their generous support of the Blair School

SANKOFA
Gyane Kwame Ahima, director
SATURDAY, APRIL 7
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall
Vanderbilt’s acclaimed African dance and drum ensemble provides adventure in rhythm, movement, and music. Take a few hours to escape to another land!

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY CONCERT CHOIR
David Binns Williams, conductor
SUNDAY, APRIL 8
2:00 p.m., Ingram Hall
The Vanderbilt University Concert Choir is the university’s oldest performing arts ensemble, delighting audiences with choral works of all genres, from classical to Broadway, spirituals to popular song. Join the choir for a musical celebration of spring, including a nod to New Orleans, their tour destination in 2018.

BLAIR STUDENT CHAMBER ENSEMBLES SHOWCASE
MONDAY, APRIL 9
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall
Students in the Blair School’s very best collegiate chamber ensembles, including strings, woodwinds, and brass instruments, perform familiar masterworks and rare and new chamber music gems.
SOLODUO
THURSDAY, APRIL 12
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Hailed by the Washington Post for its “profound and unforgettable musicianship of the highest order,” SoloDuo will conclude the Spring 2018 Virtuoso Classical Guitar Series at Blair. The duo has performed throughout Europe, Asia, the U.S., Canada, and Latin America and has been acclaimed from New York’s Carnegie Hall to Seoul’s Sejong Chamber Hall, from Kiev’s Hall of Columns to Vienna’s Konzerthaus. For more information, visit middletennesseeguitaralliance.org.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

Jung and Huebl team up for an exciting evening of chamber music for marimba and violin. The varied program will include fresh new music including Hot Pepper by Bright Sheng (2010) and Through the Looking Glass (2016) by Steven Snowden, for marimba, violin, and electronics. Cellist Felix Wang will join the fun in Patter (2009) by Robert Hornstein. Finally, Jung and Huebl will present the always evocative Histoire du Tango by Astor Piazzolla (1986).

CAROLYN HUEBL
violin
JI HYE JUNG
marimba
with FELIX WANG
cello
Unless otherwise noted, all concerts are free of charge and open to all audiences.
Dates subject to change. Please visit our website at blair.vanderbilt.edu for updated information.

BACH’S St. Matthew Passion
VANDERBILT CHORALE AND SYMPHONIC CHOIR
BLAIR CHILDREN’S CHORUS
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA

Tucker Biddlecombe, conductor
Tyler Nelson as the Evangelist
Gayle Shay, director

FRIDAY, APRIL 13
7:30 p.m., Ingram Hall

AND

SUNDAY, APRIL 15
3:00 p.m., St. George’s Episcopal Church (4715 Harding Pike)

Johann Sebastian Bach’s St. Matthew Passion, first performed on Good Friday in 1727, is widely considered one of the crowning artistic achievements of Western civilization. Bach’s interpretation of the Last Supper and the crucifixion of Christ is the perfect marriage of music and text, incorporating chapters 26 and 27 of the Gospel of Matthew. Vanderbilt’s production is unusual in that it is a full staging of the work featuring Blair professor Tyler Nelson playing the role of the Evangelist. The work will be sung in multiple languages—English, German, French, and Arabic—representing the universal appeal this work has had for diverse audiences over the centuries. Performed with English supertitles.

Presented with gratitude to Mark Dalton for his generous support of the Blair School

VANDERBILT COMMODORE ORCHESTRA

Caleb Harris, conductor
Emily Krasinski, associate conductor

SATURDAY, APRIL 14
2:00 p.m., Ingram Hall

MUSIC INSPIRED BY DISTANT LANDS

The Vanderbilt Commodore Orchestra brings together undergraduate and graduate students from all of the schools of Vanderbilt, as well as members of the Nashville community, all of whom are united in their love of making great music. This program will include far-flung inspiration, from John Williams’ Star Wars Suite for Orchestra to Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov’s Scheherazade and Felix Mendelssohn’s “Scottish” Symphony No. 3.
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA
With the winners of the Vanderbilt University Concerto Competition
Robin Fountain, conductor
SATURDAY, APRIL 14
8:00 p.m., Ingram Hall
The winners of the annual concerto competition are the featured soloists at this special performance, accompanied by the orchestra.

BLAIR SUZUKI VIOLIN PERFORMING GROUP
Zachary Ebin, director

BLAIR CHILDREN’S CELLO CHOIR
Kirsten Cassel Greer, director
SUNDAY, APRIL 15
2:30 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall

VANDERBILT STEEL BANDS
Mat Britain, director
SUNDAY, APRIL 15
7:30 p.m., Ingram Hall
An island-flavored celebration of spring from the Vanderbilt Steel Bands. Calypso, reggae, soca, and more!

BIL JACKSON
clarinet
TUESDAY, APRIL 17
8:00 p.m.
Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall
A DUE
Clarinetist Bil Jackson presents an exciting and eclectic program exploring the complexity of Alban Berg, with pianist Mark Wait; the seductive and melancholy texture of Rebecca Clarke, with violist Kathryn Plummer; the inventiveness of Bach, with saxophonist Brian Utley; and the capriciousness of Francis Poulenc, with James Zimmermann, principal clarinetist of the Nashville Symphony.

JEREMY WILSON, TROMBONE
SATURDAY, APRIL 21
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall
PERSPECTIVES
Blair trombonist Jeremy Wilson presents a new spin on the traditional faculty recital with a concert experience he calls “Perspectives.” Using multimedia, storytelling, and a highly collaborative program of new music, Wilson explores the idea of perspective, a concept that has fascinated artists and thinkers of all kinds throughout history. From the far reaches of space to the mysteries of the human heart, Wilson will take the listener on a diverse musical journey that includes world premieres of works by Kerry Turner, Rob Deemer, David Faleris, and Ryan Middagh, as well as existing works by Eric Ewazen, W. Gregory Turner, and others.

MYRA JACKSON BLAIR HONOR SCHOLARS GRADUATION RECITAL
SATURDAY, APRIL 28
5:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall
The Myra Jackson Blair Honor Scholars represent the very best of our precollege solo performers. For this special afternoon, we celebrate the graduating seniors from the MJB program as they move on to the next chapter in their performing and educational lives. These talented students will perform a varied program of works for piano, strings, woodwinds, brass, and voice.
Presented with gratitude to the Valere Blair Potter Trust for its generous support of the Blair School

BLAIR SUZUKI SOLO RECITALS
Zachary Ebin, director
SUNDAY, APRIL 29
1:00 p.m., Choral Hall
Unless otherwise noted, all concerts are free of charge and open to all audiences. Dates subject to change. Please visit our website at blair.vanderbilt.edu for updated information.

NASHVILLE YOUTH REPERTORY ORCHESTRA  
Craig Madole, director

YOUTH STRINGS ORCHESTRAS, READING ORCHESTRA, AND BEGINNING READING ORCHESTRA  
Celeste Tuten, director

TUESDAY, MAY 8  
7:30 p.m., Ingram Hall  
Presented with gratitude to the Valere Blair Potter Trust for its generous support of the Blair School

BLAIR CHILDREN’S CHORUSES  
Mary Biddlecombe, director

SUNDAY, MAY 13  
2:00 p.m., Ingram Hall  
Presented with gratitude to the Valere Blair Potter Trust for its generous support of the Blair School

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA  
Carol Nies, director

THURSDAY, MAY 17  
7:30 p.m., Ingram Hall  
Presented with gratitude to the Valere Blair Potter Trust for its generous support of the Blair School

VANDERBILT COMMUNITY CHORUS  
David Binns Williams, director

SATURDAY, MAY 5  
8:00 p.m., Steve and Judy Turner Recital Hall  
Leonard Bernstein was and remains one of the twentieth century’s most popular composers. The Vanderbilt Community Chorus celebrates the centennial of his birth performing some of the composer’s best-known choral works, highlighted by his much-beloved Chichester Psalms.

CURB YOUTH SYMPHONY  
Carol Nies, director  
with SHAWN ZHENG horn

MONDAY, MAY 7  
7:30 p.m., Ingram Hall  
Blair’s top precollege ensemble performs, featuring horn player Shawn Zheng, the winner of the Curb Youth Symphony Concerto Competition.  
Presented with gratitude to the Valere Blair Potter Trust for its generous support of the Blair School
Seating
All seating, unless otherwise indicated, is general admission. Seats in both Ingram and Turner Halls are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Hall doors generally open 30 minutes before concert time or at the discretion of the stage manager. Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the ushers. The facilities are wheelchair accessible, and hearing devices are available upon request. For special needs accommodations, contact the concert manager or technical director at (615) 322-7651.

Ushers And House Management
Blair is assisted with any seating needs by a professional house management team, and ushering services are provided by the women of Sigma Alpha Iota music fraternity.

Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of the ushers. All concert information is SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Look for updated information on all Blair events at the Blair website: blair.vanderbilt.edu

For more information about events, call the Blair main office at (615) 322-7651.

Parking Information
Complimentary valet parking is available for many Blair School events, provided by the men of Phi Mu Alpha music fraternity.

For self-parking, Blair School of Music concertgoers are encouraged to park in the West Garage, directly across Children’s Way from the main entrance to the school. West Garage is open to Blair School patrons all day on weekends and after 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.

Please note the following information concerning where to park in West Garage:

· Two entrances are available. Enter from 24th Avenue South or Children’s Way. (The 25th Avenue entrance is not available for concert parking.)

· All concert parking is at ground level or below. Parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis, as spaces are available.

Important note: You may NOT park in the lots on either side of the Blair School of Music (lots 103 and 104) at ANY time. These are university-owned lots, and only vehicles with the appropriate Vanderbilt-issued parking permit may park in them. The lots are patrolled 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and violators will be ticketed and/or towed.