



education   
through **MUSIC** los angeles

18<sup>th</sup>  
year  
benefit  
*gala*

DECEMBER 5, 2023

Skirball Cultural Center

#ETMLA #MusicMakesMyLifeBetter #ETMLAgala2023



Dear Friends,

We are grateful to have you join us for Education Through Music-LA's 18th Year Benefit to help further music education in under-resourced schools while honoring those in service to our communities. ETM-LA is proud to recognize three Shining Star Honorees: Christophe Beck, Lydia Lee, and SEL4CA. Each honoree continues to affect positive change in the lives of others through music and the arts.

ETM-LA's mission is to provide and promote music education in systemically marginalized schools across Los Angeles County in order to nurture students' academic, social-emotional, and overall development. In 18 years, ETM-LA has grown from reaching two schools and 800 students, to 40 schools and approximately 19,000 students across Los Angeles County. Our approach - to provide sequential, comprehensive year-long music education in under-resourced schools and top-notch teacher professional development - has been recognized regionally and replicated nationally; its positive impact is undeniable.

We witness daily the joy and tangible effects in our schools: increased student motivation for learning, greater self-confidence, deepened empathy among peers, greater parent engagement, and more. Music is helping our youth build harmony and bridges to others at a critical age. Music is teaching our youth how to engage in this world as a public and global citizen.

Our collective work over nearly two decades has provided: 155,000+ music classes, 190,000+ students receiving music education, and 60,000+ professional development hours for teachers. Furthermore, our teacher career pathways, including a robust Music Teacher Intern Program, continue to respond to the wide shortage of music teachers in California and across the nation.

With your support, ETM-LA continues to offer a solution to create sustainable, year-long music programs for children who do not otherwise have the opportunity to receive formal music instruction. Through music, children develop into thoughtful leaders who are able to deepen their understanding of themselves and the world around them.

With Love and Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Victoria Lanier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "V" and "L".

Victoria Lanier  
Executive Director



# THANK YOU

## SHINING STAR HONOREES

Christophe Beck

*Shining Star Artist*

Lydia Lee

*Shining Star Music Educator*

SEL4CA

*Shining Star Corporate Partner*

## HOST

Jackie Tohn

## ARTISTS & PRESENTERS

Brooke Bailey

Kristen Bell

Chris Columbus

Bryan Cranston

Kait Dunton & Band

Melodica Men

Pamela Pouliot

ETM-LA & Muir Middle

School Students

## VIVACE

BTW Productions

Booker & Sarita White

Michael Giacchino

& Andrea Datzman

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Eastwood Scoring Stage

Mark Graham

Joann Kane Music

Nathan & Victoria Lanier

Lowdown Music

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Sherri Chung

Tim Davies

## GALA-LA-LA-LA SPONSOR

Aperture Music

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Congratulations  
**Christophe**  
and all of the  
**2023 Shining Stars**

Tom MacDougall



**THANK YOU,**  
**Christophe Beck**  
**Lydia Lee**  
**SEL4CA**  
**Our Shining Stars!**



**Booker and Sarita White**  
**&**  
**All of Us at**  
**Education Through Music-Los Angeles**

# EVENING PROGRAM

## WELCOME

### 2023 SHINING STAR MUSIC EDUCATOR

Lydia Lee

Presented by Pamela Pouliot

### STUDENT ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCES

#### "DO YOU WANT TO BUILD A SNOWMAN?"

*From the Motion Picture "Frozen"*

*Words & Music by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez*

*Arr. by Mark Brymer*

*Lydia Lee, Conductor*

*Westley Steele, ETM-LA Staff & Alumni, Accompaniment*

#### "CAN'T STOP THE FEELING"

*From the Motion Picture "Trolls"*

*Words & Music by Justin Timberlake, Max Martin & Shellback*

*Lydia Lee, Conductor*

*Westley Steele, Kait Dunton Band, ETM-LA Staff & Alumni, Accompaniment*

**Student Choirs:** Muir Middle School (Imaginations), Payne P-8 Steam Academy,  
Providencia Elementary, & Rio Vista Elementary

## FUND A NEED

Give the Gift of Music

### SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE

Brooke Bailey, *ETM-LA Alum*

## LIVE AUCTION

### 2023 SHINING STAR CORPORATE PARTNER

SEL4CA

Presented by Bryan Cranston

### SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE

Melodica Men

### 2023 SHINING STAR ARTIST

Christophe Beck

Presented by Chris Columbus

### SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCE

Kristen Bell



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Kristen Anderson-  
Lopez &  
Robert Lopez  
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Chris Columbus  
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Laura Engel  
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Michael Giacchino  
Michael Gorfaine  
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*In Memoriam*

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*Co-Chair*

## BENEFIT COMMITTEE

*(Continued)*  
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Lucia Cahuantzi

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Nori Durham

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Robert Lesoine

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Sean Marin ^

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Dominick Mustacato

Guadalupe Ortiz

Eric Romero

Westley Steele

Terri Walsh

Brandon Xue

## GALA VOLUNTEERS

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Noel Balacuit

Shilo Barrett

Mic Ferrante

Francis Lansang

Sonny Martinez

Sophie Raiszadeh

Sherri Ralph

Katie Romanovich

Beth Seeley

Susan Slamer

Antonio Vallejo Jr

## PARTNER SCHOOLS

54th Street

Elementary ^^

Aldama Elementary

Aragon Ave.

Elementary

Ascot Ave. Elementary ^^

Aspire Junior

Collegiate Academy

Aspire Titan Academy

Bursch Elementary

Cantara Street

Elementary

Carver Elementary ^^

Castelar Elementary

Centinela TK-8 School

Craig Williams

Elementary

Dickison Elementary

Dolores Mission School

Dorris Place Elementary

El Dorado Ave.

Elementary

Ernie Pyle Elementary

Fenton Primary Center

## PARTNER SCHOOLS (Continued)

Gil Garcetti Learning  
Academy ^^

Guardian Angel School  
Hazeltime Ave.

Elementary

Hooper Ave. Elementary

Kelso TK-6 Elementary ^^

LA Leadership Academy ^^

Primary & Secondary

McKinley Elementary

McKinley Integrated

Arts School

Norwood Street

Elementary

Oak Street TK-8 School ^^

Payne P-8 STEAM

Academy

Providencia Elementary

Ramona Elementary

Resurrection School ^^

Rio Vista Elementary \*

Roosevelt Elementary \*

St. Michael's School ^^

Toluca Lake Elementary

Washington Elementary

Bellflower USD

Washington Elementary

Burbank USD ^^

Washington Elementary

Compton USD

Woodruff Elementary

Worthington TK-6

Elementary

# Mark Graham & JoAnn Kane

music service

*are proud to support ETM-LA*

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## We love the sound of change.

Congratulations to tonight's honorees  
on their outstanding work.

Proud to support  
ETM-LA Benefit Gala

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WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT

# EDUCATION THROUGH MUSIC - LOS ANGELES

YOUR IMPACT ON MUSIC EDUCATION  
IS TRULY MEANINGFUL



# Foundation & Government Supporters

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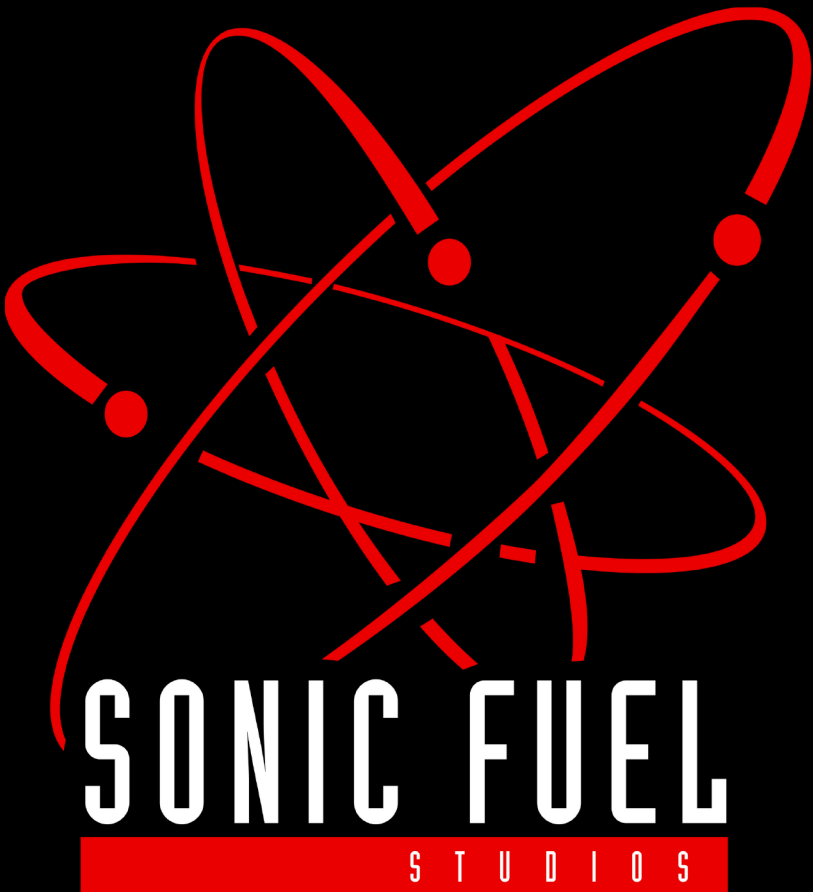
**The Simon-Strauss Foundation**

**Stockdale Family Foundation**

Our music programs are supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency, the California Arts Council, a state agency, the City of Los Angeles, Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture.

Chris, Tim and the Sonic Fuel family are thrilled to  
celebrate this year's Shining Star Honorees:

**Christophe Beck**  
**SEL4CA & Lydia Lee**



[WWW.SONICFUELSTUDIOS.COM](http://WWW.SONICFUELSTUDIOS.COM)

We are proud to support  
Education Through Music-Los Angeles!



# Additional Thank You's

Tonight's gala would not be possible without the additional support of so many who have contributed their time and energy. Thank you for giving the gift of music!

## MUSIC & MEDIA

All the Amazing Parents  
Rick Austin  
Brooke Bailey  
Abigail Barrett  
Christophe Beck  
Kristen Bell  
Fernand Bos  
Lucy Cahuantzi  
Kait Dunton  
Nori Durham  
Franklin Gómez  
Emily Goldstein  
Andrew Hudson  
Sean Hurley  
Aaron Matthew Kaiser  
Arvi Lapuz  
Lydia Lee  
Danny Moloshok  
Devon Murray  
Deidre Racoma  
Rogelio Raya  
Renata Raya  
Tiffany Reckley  
Jake Reed  
Ryan Rowles  
José Santiago  
Megan Shung  
Farah Sosa  
Westley Steele  
Andrew Synowiec  
Richard Tamayo / Chico Studio  
Xina Yee

## ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

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Chris Columbus  
Dallas Crane  
Bryan Cranston  
Amy Cranston  
Tim Davies  
John Dennis  
Jackie Finnigan  
Kelly Froelich  
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Keren Holguin  
Nathan Lanier  
Francis Lansang  
Christopher Lennertz  
Danny Lopez  
Aurora Rowland-Martinez  
& Sonny Martinez  
Jamie Mikelich  
Greg Miller  
Nicholas Morelli  
Katie Moskovciak  
Michelle New  
Jim Nye  
Andrea Pessoni  
Chris Porteous  
Pam Pouliot  
Bree Seeley  
Susan Slamer  
Booker White  
Danielle Wilson  
Austin Wintory



Formosa Music warmly  
**CONGRATULATES**

Shining Star Honoree  
**CHRISTOPHE BECK**  
on this wonderful honor!

**LEIGH KOTKIN**  
Director, Formosa Music  
lkotkin@formosagroup.com

**STACEY KOZAK**  
Manager, Formosa Music  
skozak@formosagroup.com

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 **PROUDLY SUPPORTS**  
**ETM-LA's VITAL MISSION**  
**TO KEEP MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO TONIGHT'S HONOREES**

 **WE CREATE MUSIC**

**CONGRATS**

**SHINING STAR HONOREES**



**CHRISTOPHE BECK**

**LYDIA LEE**

**SEL4CA**

**& THANK YOU TO  
VICTORIA LANIER  
FOR 18 AMAZING YEARS.**



**MICHAEL GIACCHINO & ANDREA DATZMAN**

We're proud to support the wonderful work being done by ETM-LA to promote music education. With thanks and congratulations to everyone involved with this evening's event.

Michael Gorfaine & Sam Schwartz



# ETM-LA & STUDENT PERFORMERS

## MUIR MIDDLE SCHOOL (IMAGINATIONS)

Lydia Lee

*Vocal Music Director*

Sevana Abrahamian

Ana Andonian

Angelina Arustamyan

Grant Baker

Tiffany Chamichyan

Quinlan Cramer

Josh Ducore

Michael Fan

Syana Ford

Zachary Froelich

Marietta Gevorgian

Krisjanis Haddad

Lachlan Isabella

Ella Poghosyan

Jovie Rowe

## PAYNE P-8 STEAM ACADEMY

Arvi Lapuz

*Choir Teacher*

Jaslyn Andino-Ponce

Rosemary Barrera

Emma Cabrera

Alasia Fuller

Anabel Garcia Acosta

Isabel Garcia Acosta

Sylas Garcia-Maravilla

Omar Hernandez

Ashly Murguia

Nneoma Nwanyanwu

Jenavee Perez-Sheppherd

Christian Richards

Journie Saulter

Jayden Shelton

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Gabriella Carboni

Annika Crawford

Jonathan Fuentes-Sosa

Wiley Henry

Desmon Howard-Clark

Ethan Moore

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Krista Sims

Livia Thorburn

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Westley Steele

*Choir Teacher*

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Ollin Chavez

Kairi Ibe Chevez

Elsie Coons

Sofia Diaz

Dexter Louie Duarte

Jaelyn Eisenberg

Zinnia Gonzalez

Agniia Grigoreva

Hank Handy

Maggie Hentrich

William Holler

Moss Kohrmann

Abu Leon

Isabella Liguori Leon

Everleigh Lubbers

Penelope Lubbers

Manhattan Messina

Emmalene Ogawa

Jade Albert Refauvelet

Emmitt Schulz

Sarah Sfez

Eleanor Simpson

Gregory Stanley

Emma Stepanian

Lydia Sterling

Liza Tcheishvili

Philip Weig

Isla Yates

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*Music Teacher*

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& Partnerships*

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*Student Alum*

Megan Shung

*ETM-LA Music Teacher Alum*



# SHINING STAR HONOREES



## CHRISTOPHE BECK

### Shining Star Artist

Canadian composer Christophe Beck started piano lessons at five, and by eleven he was learning Bee Gees songs by ear and performing with his first-ever band, the unfortunately-named Chris and The Cupcakes. During high school he studied piano, saxophone, and drums, and wrote many tender 80's love ballads. While studying music at Yale, Beck wrote two musicals with his brother Jason (aka Chilly Gonzales), as well as an opera based on "The Tell-Tale Heart" by Edgar Allen Poe.

Upon graduation, Beck moved to Los Angeles to attend USC's prestigious film scoring program, where he studied with Jerry Goldsmith. A personal recommendation from the legendary Buddy Baker, then head of the USC Music Department, led to his first assignment for a Canadian TV series called White Fang. Several TV series later, he was asked to score the second season of WB Network's Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Beck received the Emmy Award for Outstanding Music Composition for his score to the Buffy episode, "Becoming, Part 1."

In 2000, the cheerleading comedy Bring It On launched Beck's film career, which includes such diverse credits as Under The Tuscan Sun, Edge of Tomorrow, Crazy Stupid Love, Pitch Perfect, and the Hangover trilogy. Beck is best known for his collaborations with Disney, which include composing the soundtracks of The Muppets and Muppets Most Wanted, Frozen and its sequel, Frozen II, the Marvel Cinematic Universe films Ant-Man, Ant-Man and the Wasp, and Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania as well as its TV miniseries WandaVision and Hawkeye for Marvel Studios, and Free Guy for 20th Century Studios, as well as the company's 100th anniversary logo. He also composed the music for the 2023 DC Extended Universe film Shazam! Fury of the Gods.

Christophe works out of his studio in Santa Monica, California and joined the Advisory Board of Education Through Music-Los Angeles in 2011.



## LYDIA LEE

### Shining Star Music Educator

Lydia Lee is the vocal music director at John Muir Middle School in Burbank, California. Born in San Francisco, she started taking piano lessons at age 4, when she discovered she had a great connection to music. Lydia lived all up and down the west coast in her youth, and therefore got to experience different school music programs. Some of them were rigorous, others weak. In high school, she developed a love for singing, and so she decided to focus her studies there. ...



## ***What SEL4CA does in California to support Social Emotional Learning***

- **Advocate** for Policy support and funding of SEL
- **Micro-grants** for teachers to support SEL in classrooms and schools
- **SEL Day:** SEL Day is a global, grassroots campaign for SEL to support children's academic recovery, mental health, and well-being. Since its inception in 2020, #SELday has reached over 40 million households. In 2023, all 50 U.S. states and 87 countries participated in SEL Day. Our advocacy efforts have resulted in SEL Day proclamations in fifteen states, a letter of support from the White House, and a bipartisan resolution for SEL Week introduced in the Senate. SEL4CA successfully obtained an SEL Day proclamation from Governor Newsom.
- **Provide Regional Coordinators** throughout the state for local support
- **Build Teacher-Pipeline** to off-set shortages and increase retention
- **Sponsor and host educator conferences** to increase educator capacity
- **Provide Free and discounted SEL resources** for all California educators
- **Provide Free Resource library** for educators to expand knowledge of SEL
- **Develop partnerships to increase educator resources and support**
- **Support other community-based organizations to expand SEL**

***Learn more @ [sel4ca.org](https://sel4ca.org)***

# SHINING STAR HONOREES

**Lydia Lee (continued)** Lydia began teaching choir in 2001, shortly after graduating from USC with a Bachelor's of Music in Vocal Performance. Her program includes over 160 students from 6th-8th grade, divided into 4 choirs. They perform 4 school concerts a year. Incorporating choreography along with their vocals, her show choirs have won numerous competitions, placed superior at music festivals, and have been invited to sing with famous bands like Foreigner, and musician Gene Simmons. Aside from teaching music full time, Lydia has performed with the LA Opera and has participated in various vocal recording projects.

Lydia is indebted to the many music teachers, private and public, who have taught her how to find joy in learning music. She endeavors to instill this joy in her own students. When not busy with school rehearsals, fundraising and performances, Lydia enjoys spending time with her husband, 16 year-old daughter, 5 year-old son, and 15 fruit trees.



## SEL4CA

**Shining Star Corporate Honoree  
Social Emotional Learning Alliance for  
California**

The Social Emotional Learning Alliance for California (SEL4CA) is a Non-Profit Organization that advocates for the well-being of our schools, educators, and students through the advancement of transformative SEL as the cornerstone of how we educate in California.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is the process by which children develop critical life-skills needed to navigate successfully in school and beyond; skills such as empathy, compassion, resiliency, responsibility, collaboration, critical thinking, healthy relationships, and good decision-making. Decades of research inform us that SEL is foundational to all learning, and SEL is proven to support academic success.

SEL4CA works with strategic partners in both the public and private sectors to bring evidence-based and innovative opportunities, programs, and curriculum - in the arts, music, dance, and beyond - that support the well-being of both students and teachers. We do this through engaging all stakeholders in the advocacy of SEL policy and practice, educator support and training, and grant-making for teachers and SEL providers to expand on the great work already happening in California schools.

Our current initiatives include addressing the youth mental health crisis and teacher burnout and shortages. We support educators through free training and resources, professional learning opportunities and discounted tuition for further education, teacher well-being resources and events, and by providing micro-grants for educators working to bring SEL to their schools and classrooms.

# GUEST ARTISTS & PRESENTERS



## JACKIE TOHN HOST

Jackie Tohn is an actress, writer, comic, singer/songwriter, host and show creator. Acting professionally since the age of nine and doing stand-up comedy as early as fourteen, Jackie is no stranger to the stage. You can currently see her in *OLD DADS*, the #1 movie on Netflix, starring opposite Bill Burr and Bobby Cannavale and on the Amazon show *GEN V* where she reprises the role she played on *The Boys*. Most

notably, Jackie played 'Melrose' on the hit Netflix series *GLOW* and hosted the cooking competition *BEST LEFTOVERS EVER!*

Jackie has also guest starred on *The Good Place*, *It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia*, *The Sopranos* and many more. She had the honor of playing one of her heroes, Gilda Radner, in the Netflix feature *A FUTILE AND STUPID GESTURE* directed by David Wain.

Jackie co-created Amazon's animated preschool musical series, *DO RE & MI*. She wrote all 50 songs for the show's massive first season pickup that she executive produces and stars in alongside Kristen Bell.



## Brooke Bailey

Brooke Bailey, 18, recently graduated from John Burroughs High School where she performed with the national award-winning choir *Powerhouse*, directed by Brendan Jennings. She received the honor of Grand Prize finalist of The Music Center's 2023 Spotlight Awards and served as president of the Neo Chromatics acapella group. Brooke studies voice with Joyce Warman. Roles include: Witch in *Into the Woods* and Joanne in *RENT*. Awards include: Best Soloist at Burbank Blast, Hart Encore and Eastern Show Choir competitions (2023); and a Jimmy

Award nomination for *Into the Woods* (2022). Brooke is now studying Music at College of the Canyons and couldn't be more excited to begin her journey there.

Brooke is an ETM-LA student alumna (Providencia Elementary) in which she received music and cello classes and participated in the string orchestra. She would like to thank her parents, teachers, ETM-LA, and mentors Brendan Jennings, Jennifer Oundjian, and Tony Redman for their support and encouragement.



CHRIS —

CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS YEAR'S  
SHINING STAR AWARD

HERE'S TO MANY MORE YEARS OF MUSIC AND FRIENDSHIP

LOVE,  
JAKE, LEO, ZACH AND JEFF





**IMPACT24 PR IS  
PROUD TO SUPPORT  
THE MISSION OF  
ETM-LA  
IN ENSURING  
EVERYONE HAS  
ACCESS TO MUSIC  
EDUCATION.**

**WE CONGRATULATE ALL OF  
THIS YEAR'S HONOREES.**

**IMPACT24**  
PUBLIC RELATIONS

[WWW.IMPACT24PR.COM](http://WWW.IMPACT24PR.COM)

Dear Chris:  
I had the benefit of some great music teachers in my early school years, something that sadly not all in our community have today. Thank you for your generous support of ETM-LA who are working to change that for those most in need.

**Congratulations on being  
named the 2023 Shining Star  
Artist Honoree!**

  
**Casey Stone**  
Score Mixer

**25 YEARS  
58 MOVIES  
119 EPISODES  
1 SHINING STAR**

**...AND WE'RE NOT DONE YET**

**CONGRATULATIONS, CHRIS!  
FER**



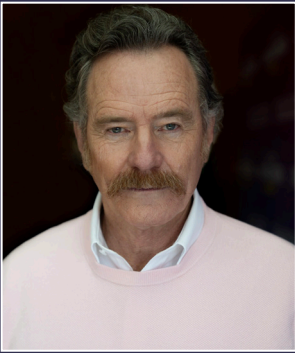
# GUEST ARTISTS & PRESENTERS



## Kristen Bell

Kristen Bell is an actress, philanthropist, author, and entrepreneur. Kristen voiced Princess Anna in the global blockbusters *Frozen* and *Frozen 2*. She most recently starred in the critically acclaimed Netflix series, *The Woman in the House Across the Street from the Girl in the Window* and the Amazon Prime Video original film, *The People We Hate at the Wedding*. She is well known to television audiences for her roles on NBC's hit series, *The Good Place*, as well as Showtime's *House of Lies*, and her star making role as the title character in *Veronica Mars*.

Her feature film credits include: *Bad Moms*, *Bad Moms Christmas*, *Like Father, Like Chips*, *The Lifeguard*, *Hit & Run*, *You Again*, *Couples Retreat*, and *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*. Her Broadway credits include *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* and her Off-Broadway credits include *Reefer Madness* and *A Little Night Music*. Kristen is actively involved in many charities including Alliance of Moms, Baby2Baby and Charity Water. She is also a global advocate for the UN's Women's Peace & Humanitarian Fund.



## Bryan Cranston

An Academy Award nominee, and an Emmy, Screen Actors Guild, Tony, and Olivier Award winner. He most recently starred on the second season of Showtime's hit drama series, *Your Honor*, which he also executive produced. On the big screen, Cranston re-teamed with Wes Anderson in the critically acclaimed ensemble feature, *Asteroid City* - which premiered at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival. Additionally, Cranston will star in Matthew Vaughn's *Argylle*, which will be released in February.

Cranston made his Broadway debut as President Lyndon B. Johnson in *All the Way* and produced the HBO film adaptation through his production company, Moonshot Entertainment. In 2018, Cranston starred as the iconic Howard Beale in Ivo van Hove's *Network* on London's West End and on Broadway. Cranston is best known for his portrayal of two very different characters - Hal on the sit-com *Malcolm in the Middle*, and Walter White on the drama series, *Breaking Bad*. Cranston is a New York Times bestselling author with, *A Life in Parts*, a memoir of the many parts he's played on and off camera. In 2019, Cranston and his *Breaking Bad* co-star, Aaron Paul, released an artisanal Mezcal, "Dos Hombres", which has grown to become the 5th bestselling mezcal in the United States.

# GUEST ARTISTS & PRESENTERS



## Chris Columbus

Academy Award®-nominated director, writer and producer Chris Columbus is best known for having written, directed and produced some of the most successful and iconic box-office hits, including HOME ALONE, HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE, where he cast newcomers Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint in the leading roles, HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS, MRS. DOUBTFIRE, STEPMOM and RENT, among many other critically acclaimed films. Columbus first gained prominence by writing several original

scripts produced by Steven Spielberg, including GREMLINS, THE GOONIES and YOUNG SHERLOCK HOLMES. In 2011, Columbus produced the blockbuster hit THE HELP, which received four Academy Award® nominations, including two for Best Supporting Actress and one for Best Picture. In 2013, he teamed up with his daughter, Eleanor Columbus, to form Maiden Voyage Pictures, where they produced PATTI CAKES and MENASHE, both nominated for "Best First Feature" at the Film Independent Spirit Awards. Maiden Voyage's other film credits include Robert Eggers' THE WITCH and THE LIGHTHOUSE, Sara Colangelo's LITTLE ACCIDENTS, Sian Heder's TALLULAH and Karen Maine's "YES, GOD, YES". Maiden Voyage won the 2022 Sundance Grand Jury Prize for Violet Columbus and Ben Klein's documentary, "THE EXILES" and are now in production on Robert Eggers' latest film, "NOSFERATU". Columbus most recently directed, co-wrote and produced through his production company 26th Street Pictures, the fan favorite film THE CHRISTMAS CHRONICLES 2. Starring Kurt Russell and Goldie Hawn, the film was released on Netflix in November 2020.



## Kait Dunton

KAIT DUNTON is a Los Angeles-based keyboardist, composer and bandleader with eight albums of genre-pushing original music and hundreds of thousands of followers on social media and Spotify. Kait's joyful energy and playful spirit combined with her raw emotional style have garnered her a devoted fanbase whom she invites to live in the moment right alongside her. Starting with her first album, Real & Imagined—now a fan favorite with over three million streams—Kait has continued to cultivate her signature sound over many subsequent

albums and releases, including her latest single featuring her evocative improvisational style—and with nearly three million views on Instagram: "this one's for you". Her band with Andrew Synowiec on guitar, Sean Hurley on bass and Jake Reed on drums is the driving force behind her latest music and a wellspring of inspiration, support and friendship. Together this year they released two full length albums, enjoyed a residency at the famed Baked Potato jazz club, and toured and performed at the 66th Monterey Jazz Festival. ...

# GUEST ARTISTS & PRESENTERS

**Kait Dunton (continued)** In addition to composition and performance, Kait is also an active recording artist and educator. Her playing appears extensively on the Mister Rogers movie, A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood, as well as in The Lego Movie 2, Downsizing, Empire, and ABC's The Little Mermaid Live! Kait was an early member of Snarky Puppy during their formative years in Texas, appearing on their sophomore record, The World is Getting Smaller. She records often for film, television and other artists, and has taught at the University of North Texas, USC's Thornton School of Music, Musician's Institute, Chaffey College, and most recently at Los Angeles College of Music (LACM) in Pasadena, where she developed their new Piano Performance program and served as the inaugural chair.



## Pamela Pouliot

Pamela Pouliot earned her Bachelor's Degree in music and teaching credential at the University of Nebraska at Kearney and her Masters at Cal State Northridge.

After teaching band and chorus for five years in Florida she married a Burbank native and was hired to teach vocal music at John Muir Junior High in Burbank. This became a dream job for Pam and in her 27 years there she helped lead her choirs to many first place trophies, she traveled yearly with students to perform and a high light

was singing for visitors at the White House. She made life long friends with her parent volunteers and enjoys the musical successes of her former students today.



## Melodica Men

What started off as two guys playing toy instruments on the streets of Seattle and Paris is now an internationally-acclaimed internet sensation. The Melodica Men first went viral in 2016 with their video of Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring," which gained 1.5 million views in a day. Since then, Tristan Clarke and Joe Buono, graduates of the Juilliard School and Peabody Conservatory, have gathered over 1.5 millions followers across social media and over 250 million views worldwide for their fun and virtuosic melodica videos.

The musical duo bridges the worlds of classical and popular music, having been featured with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Philly POPS and also on ABC's "The Gong Show". Their broad appeal and versatility has taken them around the world from South Korea to Lithuania, and soon The Barbican with the BBC Symphony Orchestra. Their videos and performances uphold the integrity of classical music while making it fun and accessible, and also includes a wide variety of genres from film music to rock. Drawing from their experience...

# GUEST ARTISTS & PRESENTERS

**Melodica Men (continued)** ...busking on the street, they feed off the energy of the audience in ways that keep the show fresh and engaging for people of all ages.

Tristan is a graduate of the Juilliard School and is currently working as a film composer and assistant to composer Jeff Morrow. Before his time in LA, Tristan spent 7 years playing trumpet professionally as principal trumpet of the Jacksonville Symphony. Joe has earned two Master's degrees from the Peabody Conservatory and is using his experience as a software programmer and music teacher to create the ultimate music education app for young learners.



## Sean Hurley Kait Dunton Band

Bass player for John Mayer, Lana Del Rey, Jason Mraz, Lukas Graham, and Lady A, among others. Sean has also played on records by Gwen Stefani, Colbie Caillat, Alanis Morissette, Robin Thicke, Idina Menzel, Vertical Horizon, Michael Bublé, and many others. During his 18+ years in the LA session scene, Sean has also played on many film scores and TV shows.



## Jake Reed Kait Dunton Band

Jake Reed is an LA-based drummer and top call recording artist for nearly any musical situation, from big band swing to contemporary hip hop. Artists and producers worldwide are drawn to his deep love and knowledge for all things drum, his mastery of craft, and his extensive knowledge of drum recording methods and techniques. Jake's signature sample pack "Super Dead Drums Vol. 1" has garnered global reach and was recently sampled by the rapper Logic.

Jake has performed/recorded with Katy Perry ("All You Need is Love" cover single), Seth MacFarlane, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Larry Goldings, Anthony Wilson, Adam Levy, Bob Mintzer, Bill Holman, Johnny Mandel, Bill Cunliffe, Bruce Forman, Les McCann, Freda Payne, the Long Beach Symphony Orchestra, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Andrew Synowiec, Kait Dunton, Mako, Ellis Hall, Tommy Torres and others. Jake also records frequently for film & TV, including the movie Paint (starring Owen Wilson) and streaming series Cobra Kai and The Old Man.

He has a BM in Jazz Studies from the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music ('07), as well as, an MM and DMA from the University of Southern California ('13), where he was Peter Erskine's teaching assistant for five years. He is the author of Jazz Drumset Etudes, Vol. 1 (Alfred Publishing, Inc). He plays Gretsch drums, Zildjian cymbals, Vic Firth sticks, and Remo drumheads.



# GUEST ARTISTS & PRESENTERS



## Andrew Synowiec *Kait Dunton Band*

You may not know Andrew Synowiec by name, but chances are you've heard his guitar playing. Andrew is a multi-faceted musician with credits like The Who's #1 album *Who*, the blockbuster film *Frozen* (including "Let It Go"), and countless commercial and indie projects. With his collection of over 90 stringed instruments, he has recorded for artists ranging from M83 to Barbra Streisand and producers from Bob Rock to David Foster. Andrew has contributed to albums selling over 10 million copies worldwide and more than 25 Grammy-

nominated recordings, including his own 2015 Grammy Award as a member of the acclaimed LA Big Band "Gordon Goodwin's Big Phat Band."

Andrew's live performances cover the globe from Madison Square Garden to the Hollywood Bowl. He has appeared on all the major networks and accompanied artists such as Ariana Grande, Elton John and the LA Philharmonic.

In 2014, Andrew completed construction of his private recording studio "House of Syn," designed and built from the ground up by legendary acoustician George Augspurger. Recent credits include Josh Groban's new album *Harmony*, the motion picture *Call Of The Wild*, and the iconic TV show *The Simpsons*.

Andrew recently released his first full length album, *Second Story*. Recorded in a historic Hollywood studio with a band of renowned musicians, the entire record was cut live in just six hours. *Second Story* is an instrumental mixture of Rock, Jazz and Blues with an emphasis on the feel of celebrated players doing what they do best. The record has received wide-ranging air play and praise from notable fans such as Steve Vai.



"Music has changed so much of my life, it's made me build confidence."

- Gio, *ETM-LA Student*  
(shared at ETM-LA 17th Gala)

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Sherri Chung  
Joe Lisanti  
Chris Bacon  
Melia Bacon

Dear Chris,

Congratulations on being ETM-LA's  
2023 Shining Star Artist

from Tim, Ryan, Jeremy, Lorenzo, Jordan,  
and all the others who have made your  
crotchets look, sound, and taste great

Congratulations to all of tonight's honorees, especially our friend and client Christophe Beck for allowing the voices of youth to be heard through the creation of music!

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**\$500**

Provide a child with music for an entire year and a new violin.

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Warm wishes for a Happy Holiday!





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*Education Through Music-Los Angeles' mission is to provide and promote music in under-resourced schools as part of the core curriculum for every child to enhance students' academic achievement, creativity, and overall development.*

